

Youth in Transition: Obstacles and Potential in the Kootenays

April 21, 2016

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Project Overview

1. What are the key relationships between youth and regional development?
2. What are the critical issues related to training, retention, and engagement that face rural youth?
3. What action is needed to address youth training, engagement, and retention from a regional scale?

Overview: Literature

- **Learning from others:**
 - Get them early and often
 - Engagement matters
 - Encourage them to leave - give them a reason to return
 - Multiple, collaborative efforts
 - Focus on assets and opportunities
- **Key factors:**
 - Evidence
 - Change & Flexibility
 - Place & Context
 - Inclusivity
 - Collaboration

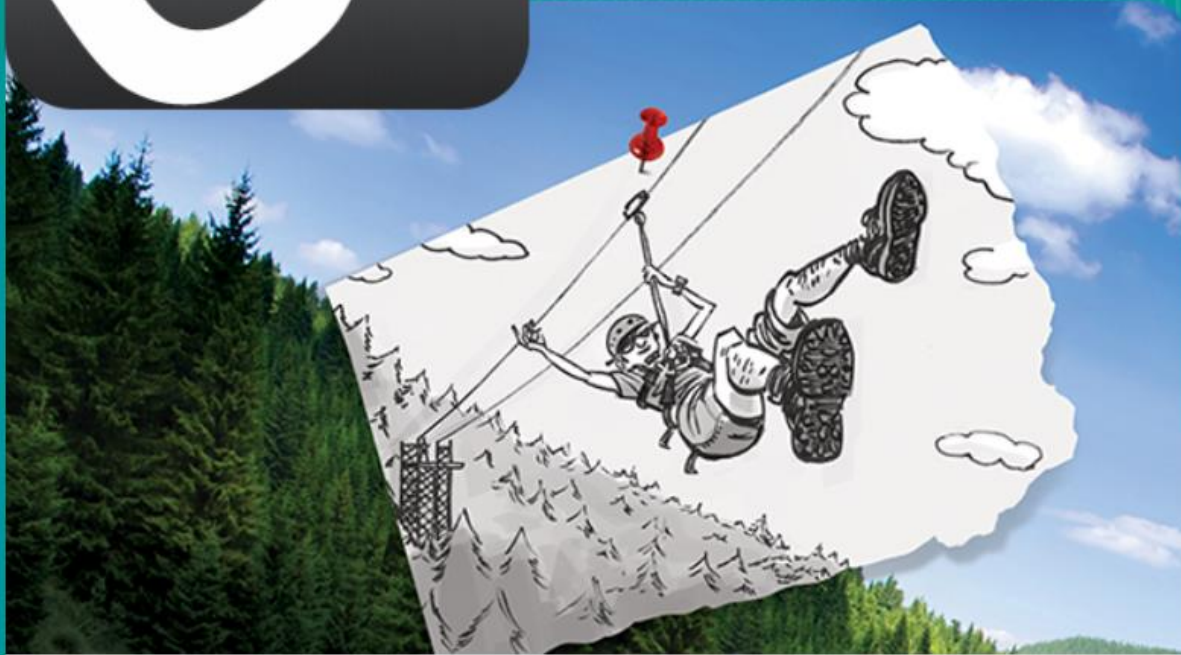


Description:



Office of Public Engagement

Who We Are | Get In Touch | Programs and Services | Resources



Getting the Message Out (GMO)



MyHome Relocation Guide



Resources for Youth Engagement



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Consultation Findings

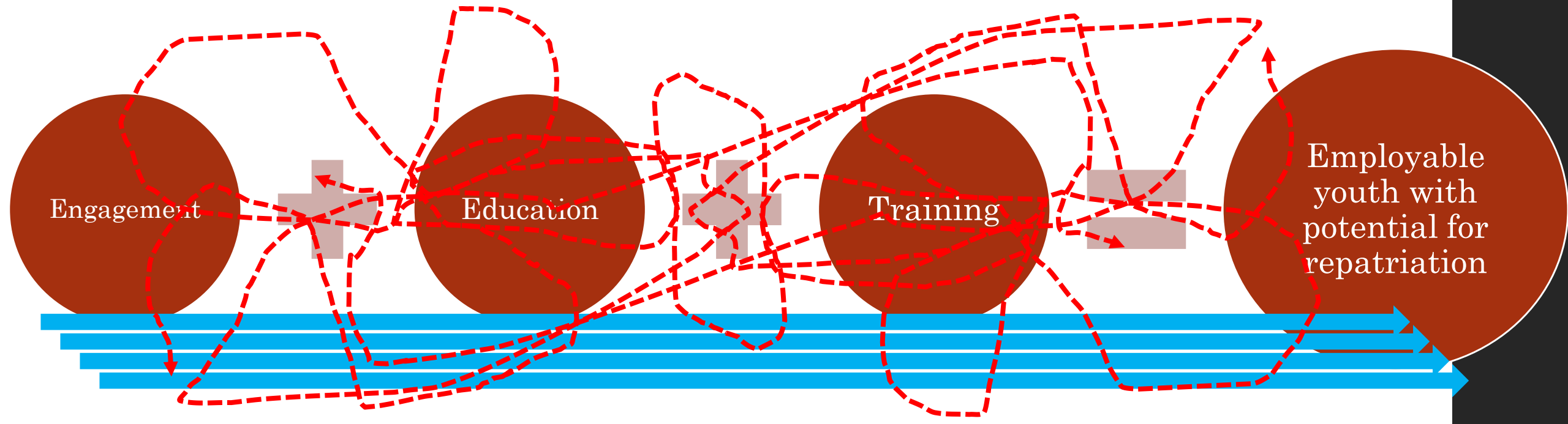
- Active Engagement
- Easy Access
- Reducing Challenges
- Improving Perceptions and Narratives
- Change & Adaptation

Challenges – Part 1

- Earlier is better
 - Avoid creating “floaters”
- Individual challenges
 - When we hear workforce development we think training and job experience but...
- Institutional and other overarching challenges
 - ‘A’ for effort, ‘D’ for execution

Challenges – Part 2

- Perceived versus underlying challenges
- What's missing?



Opportunities

- Current + Up and Coming Initiatives
 - Youth asset mapping
 - Enhancing and connecting service providers
- “We really need...”
 - A liaison between institutions
 - Consolidated access to information
 - Ground transportation
 - A range of opportunities
 - To work together

Resources

1. Examples and Resources: <http://www.cbrdi.ca/research-areas/applied-research/workforce-development/>
2. Research Briefs: <http://www.cbrdi.ca/news/youth-training-retention-engagement-explored/> Youth Training, Retention & Engagement Explored

3. Consultation Report

Title	Author	Key Words	Place / Scale	Summary
RURAL AND URBAN EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT : AN INVESTIGATION OF PATTERNS AND TRENDS	Alasia, A.	Statistics	Canada wide. Macro regional comparisons.	Fact sheet highli
Creating quality jobs. Transforming the economic development landscape	Anderson et. Al.	Existing Program, Literature, Training	Generic, USA, regional	Literature review the role of econ
Rural Research Report: Attracting and Retaining Young People as an Economic Development Strategy	Andresen, W.	Retention, Literature	Rural USA, Illinois, community	Overview of ame what makes rura

JANUARY 28, 2016

Youth are vital to the success of rural communities and regions, however rural youth can face a range of challenges. A recent RDI research project in partnership with the Lower Columbia Initiatives Corporation (LCIC) and Simon Fraser University (SFU) explored what action is needed to address youth training, engagement, and retention on a regional scale. This research partnership was designed to inform the [Kootenay Workforce Development Initiative](#), specifically the goal to help people upgrade and upskill.



A small advisory group that included the Kootenay Workforce Development Coordinator, the Columbia Basin Trust, the RDI, LCIC, and SFU recognized that in order to effectively support the youth 'floaters' population (17-25 year olds who have finished high school, remain in the region, and are underemployed or unemployed) we need to better understand their barriers to employment.

The research involved the production of a series of Knowledge Briefs that synthesize the academic literature on topics related to [youth engagement](#), [retention](#), [training and education](#), and [youth workforce development](#). In an effort to better understand the local context a series of focus groups and expert interviews were also conducted in November and December 2015.

Thank you! Questions?

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