

EDITED BY LAURIE BRINKLOW AND RYAN GIBSON

FROM

**BLACK  
HORSES**

TO

**WHITE  
STEEDS**

*Building Community Resilience*



From  
Black Horses to  
White Steeds

Laurie Brinklow and Ryan Gibson, Eds.



Emerged from the  
**2015 CRRF-North Atlantic**  
Forum Conference  
held in Summerside, PEI

Save the date!

September 17-19, 2015

Summerside, Prince Edward Island

10<sup>th</sup> North Atlantic Forum

AND

27th CRRF Rural Conference

## Building Community Resilience

Innovation, Culture &  
Governance in Place

Co-hosted by the Institute of Island Studies  
in association with  
the Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation

Inviting applications of “dark horses” —  
those sustainable development practices  
that create liveable futures in small and  
peripheral communities.

Call for papers, panels, workshops at  
[www.upei.ca/iis/naf-2015](http://www.upei.ca/iis/naf-2015)

**NAF 2015** invites explorations of how various “dark horses” in the broad North Atlantic – including minorities, small towns, peripheries, aboriginal communities, those with little money, status, voice or political leverage – can rise to the occasion and chart liveable futures.



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**NAF 2015** will examine opportunities for sustainable living that are more likely to emerge from small and peripheral communities – rural, coastal or island – that would otherwise struggle in a McWorld driven by scale economics.

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**NAF 2015** will serve as a platform for the critical and inter-disciplinary discussion of experiences where those living “on the edge,” however defined, show unexpected ingenuity and mettle; and respond cleverly to dire economic straits or public policy negligence.





- 3 keynotes
- 60+ paper presentations
- 12 posters
- 160 delegates
- 4 community tours
- half-day session on location at Slemon Park

1

celebrates and critiques  
the dynamics of  
innovation, governance,  
and culture in place

2

focused on the strength  
of local initiatives, the  
impacts of collective  
power, and re-  
envisioning local assets

3

explores how various  
“dark horses” can rise to  
the occasion and chart  
livable futures

## Central Themes

# Contributors

- Randy Angus
- Peter Dehne
- Shawn McCarvill
- H. Carolyn Peach Brown
- Derek Armitage
- David Douglas
- Virginia McGowan
- Angela Pollak
- Brian Beaton
- Ryan Gibson
- Joshua MacFadyen
- Kyle Rich
- Hannah Bell
- Andrew Jennings
- Franz Seibel
- Laurie Brinklow
- Kim Kennedy
- Emily Thomas
- Shandel Brown
- Luna Khirfan
- Lyle Thomas
- Anthony Charles
- Paul Kraehling
- Maura Walsh
- Peter Clancy
- Mario Levesque
- Brendan O’Keeffe



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*From Black Horses to White Steeds* celebrates and critiques the dynamics of innovation, governance, and culture in place. Case Studies from the both sides of the North Atlantic illustrate episodes of “turning around,” evolution, transformation and visionary strategy that breathe new life to the hackneyed term “think global, act local.”



They offer a narrative focused on the strength of local initiatives, the impacts of collective power, and re-envisioning local assets. They explore how various “dark horses” including minorities, small towns, peripheries, Aboriginal communities, those with little money, status, voice, or political leverage can rise to the occasion and chart livable futures.



*From Black Horses to White Steeds* is a companion book to *Remote Control* (ISER 2009) and *Place Peripheral* (ISER 2015).



# Bill Reimer

Professor Emeritus, Concordia University

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Like so many collections of case studies, this book provides plenty of inspiring examples. Unlike many, however, it includes useful international comparisons—with thoughtful interpretations, methodological transparency, and respect for the limits of the techniques—that make the cases useful for critical analysis as well as activism.



# Honourable Diane Griffin

Senate of Canada (Prince Edward Island)

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Rural folk have always been both resilient and resourceful. The narratives in this book are truly inspiring on ways to deal with the current and future pace as new technology and environmental change presents challenges and opportunities. Local communities everywhere will benefit from the insights contained herein.





# Godfrey Baldacchino

UNESCO Co-Chair in Island Studies and Sustainability,  
University of Malta and University of PEI

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That remote rural and island communities should thrive in this day and age might fly in the face of conventional wisdom. Yet, there is clear evidence of and from vibrant communities that creatively exploit the opportunities presented by their geographical predicament.

No horsing around here: these are narratives of leadership, vitality, and resilience; crafted out of grit, imagination, and public/private/voluntary-sector partnerships.

