Creating Regional Partnerships in New & Different Ways

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presented by

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Overview

- Communities planning, coordinating and working together regionally
- A multi-community collaboration model developed in Manitoba and taken elsewhere in Canada
- Challenges for regional planning and governance
- Discussion
Communities Planning, Coordinating & Working Together Regionally

*Harold Baker’s findings from his 1991-92 study on multi-community collaboration in the US, Ireland, France & Spain:*

- Multi-community activity appears to be undertaken in order for smaller communities to survive in difficult times and to enhance development opportunities under these circumstances.
- There is a place in the community for both competition and collaboration, if they are kept in appropriate balance.
- Central resource agencies have important policy, facilitating, resource, and education functions to play.
- Although local government bodies should be considered important...it is equally important to involve other civic, private and voluntary groups.
- Community leaders will need time and patience to convince communities that it is beneficial to work together.
Leaders…should be selected with care, with attention to the scope of their vision and their collaborating skills.

It is essential that a leadership development program be initiated as an integral and ongoing feature.

The most difficult period in the formation…is the “formation period”, especially during the second to fifth year.

The success of the microregion that is involved in multi-community collaboration appears quite dependent on the support of other developmental entities, especially the more central sub-province, province and national levels.

Multi-community collaboration experience…appears to have had little influence on local government boundaries.

The conventional sectorial development approach should be balanced appropriately with the territorial development which is fostered by multi-community collaboration.
The Hudson Bay Neighbours Regional Round Table (RRT) formed in 2002 and is a unique partnership among northern Manitoba and Nunavut communities. [http://hbn.cimnet.ca](http://hbn.cimnet.ca).

Formed in October 1999, the Northern Vision Regional Round Table was the first RRT: [http://northernvision.cimnet.ca](http://northernvision.cimnet.ca).

Formed in 2001 Bayline Regional Round Table took its name from the Bayline rail line which connects the communities: [http://baylinerrt.cimnet.ca](http://baylinerrt.cimnet.ca).

The Southwest Round Table emerged as an agro-Manitoba RRT in April of 2000: [http://swrrt.cimnet.ca](http://swrrt.cimnet.ca).
Vision

To encourage communities to explore and develop processes to increase their ability to address change and work toward becoming more sustainable.
Established in 2005

WaterWolf RRT

Facilitated a Tourism Corridor Highway Partnership -- A First Nation Community, rural municipalities, and the province have come together with resources in common to fund the redevelopment of #219 highway as a tourism corridor between Saskatoon & Lake Diefenbaker.

Using GPS Technology to make road data information available to emergency response vehicles to help better evaluate road conditions -- 2 rural municipalities have equipped their road graders, & there are plans to expand throughout the region.
Yukon RRT

First-ever Yukon organization of First Nation, Incorporated and Unincorporated communities.

Tourism Marketing Partnership, designed to leverage individual communities' tourism marketing efforts & promote regional travel. This includes a collaborative hub tourism website that will link to every communities' own webpage.

Community Asset Inventory, to build a shared knowledge base of community economic, social & partnership opportunities for strategic planning & community development.
CCP Study Group

Purpose and Opportunities

- Provide feedback on the evaluation frameworks that were developed by the RRTs and Advisory Groups.
- Provide feedback on the roll-up of all the evaluation frameworks of the CCP Model project.
- Explore linkages to existing and future research in multi-community collaboration and regional governance.
- Provide a forum for researchers to discuss multi-community collaboration and regional governance.
CCP Study Group Membership

Ken Bessant  (Brandon University)
David Douglas  (University of Guelph)
Mark Drabenstott  (Rural Policy Research Institute, USA)
Tom Johnson  (University of Missouri-Columbia)
Diane Martz  (University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon)
Bill Reimer  (Concordia University, Montreal)
Nicole Vaugeois  (Malaspina University-College, Nanaimo)
Robert Annis  (Rural Development Institute, Brandon University)
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Outcomes

The CCP Model has provided multi-year funding without fiscal year-end constraints:

- enabled community collaboration processes to continue uninterrupted throughout the project
- provided funding resources for processes enabling members of RRTs to meet, establish organizational processes & structures and leverage for other funding.

CCP Model Cash & In-Kind Contributions as of 09/30/07

40%
34%
26%

- Rural Secretariat
- Other Governments & RDI
- RRT Communities
Communities and governments are collaborating in new and different ways:

- creating new and different partnerships and trusting relationships between and among communities and governments
- strengthening capacity in the RRTs, communities and regions
- strengthening leadership capacity
- exploring new decision-making and governance models
- evaluating, documenting and communicating progress
Challenges for Regional Governance

- What are the ‘voids’ that serve as trigger conditions for emergent regional systems?
- What are the critical phase change(s) factors in rural regional governance systems?
- What is the influence of negotiated power-sharing process(es) for local governments?
- How do rural regional governance systems design decision-making processes in rural regional governance systems?
- How does tension and resolution between legacy and emergent negotiated power of rural regional governance get resolved?
- How are assets, conditions, initial contexts and changes of communities collaborating together and/or involved in new governance systems measured?
References

RDI Publications


Websites

RDI: [www.brandonu.ca/rdi](http://www.brandonu.ca/rdi)
WaterWolf RRT: [www.waterwolf.org](http://www.waterwolf.org)
Yukon RRT: [www.brandonu.ca/rdi/yrpert.asp](http://www.brandonu.ca/rdi/yrpert.asp)
Rural Secretariat: [www.rural.gc.ca](http://www.rural.gc.ca)

For Additional Information

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