

Sustainable Rural Communities in an era of Population Change

Thursday, February 8, 2018 @ 4:30pm CST

To Register click: http://ow.ly/vqCx30hOpR4

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ABSTRACT

What can rural communities teach us about how to meet the challenges and opportunities of population aging? One of the most important 'rural lessons' is the crucial yet uncertain role of volunteers and voluntarism organizations in supporting older people and in sustaining rural communities. Drawing on insights from community-based research in Canada and internationally, this presentation examines the evolution of volunteerism in aging rural communities and the dynamic ways in which rural leaders, service providers, volunteers and older residents are responding to rural change in an era of population aging. Implications for rural community sustainability are discussed and rural insights for aging communities across Canada are shared.

PRESENTER



Mark Skinner, a Trent University professor, holds the Canada Research Chair in Rural Aging, Health and Social Care and is founding director of the Trent Centre for Aging & Society. He is a health geographer appointed to the Trent School of the Environment and was recently inducted into the Royal Society of Canada College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. Dr. Skinner's research examines how rural people and places are responding to the challenges and opportunities of population aging, particularly the evolving role of the voluntary sector and volunteers in supporting older people and sustaining rural communities. His recent publications include two Routledge books: "Ageing Resource Communities: New Frontiers of Rural Population Change, Community Development and Voluntarism" (2016) and "Geographical Gerontology: Perspectives, Concepts, Approaches" (2018).



