



HOLD THE DATE: IMAGINE RURAL FUTURES CONFERENCE BY RDI, JUNE 18 - 19 2020 WINNIPEG, MB

RDI Research Update Fall 2019

With partners in communities, agencies, and among academics and students, RDI continues to initiate new outreach activities, research, and learning options, and contributes to addressing rural development issues and responding to opportunities. The Institute builds on a strong history of collaborative activities while enhancing resource capabilities. As a leading source of information on rural areas, RDI continues to deliver new knowledge of rural issues and helps create opportunities for vibrant rural communities and regions.

RDI has five strategic research directions: *Rural Immigration, Regional Economic Development, Governance and Capacity Building, Rural Infrastructure & Services and Rural Innovation.*

New RDI Internship Opportunities

RDI is recruiting student volunteers who will gain experience by contributing directly to RDI activities as an Intern. After volunteering 20 hours, students will be eligible to have a Service Learning designation on their transcript.

SMEs are motivated to hire Newcomers

With over 100 surveys, we examined the motivations of small business owners across the prairies to hire newcomers. They identified related benefits and challenges. With provincial partners, the results clearly show employers hire newcomers because of their skills, positive community impacts, financial reasons and

newcomer behaviors. These motivations of the employers are also activated by personal attitudes and beliefs.

See <https://www.brandonu.ca/rdi/files/2019/07/RDI-Exploring-Motivations.pdf>

Newcomers on the Prairies



The integration of newcomers on the Canadian prairies project aims to support the transition of international and domestic migrants starting a new life in a prairie community.

The project seeks to better understand newcomers' experiences when relocating. This includes employment, housing, relationship building as well as adapting to a new culture. This place based project enables the migrants and settlement practitioners to learn about practices and stimulate reflections to improve integration of newcomers and to retain them.

See <https://www.brandonu.ca/rdi/files/2019/09/Integration-Newscommers-Factsheet-06.18.19-.pdf>

Indigenous Contributions to the Manitoba Economy

\$9.3 billion. That's the amount indigenous people in Manitoba spent in 2016 through their businesses, governments, household spending, and spending on infrastructure. The Indigenous contribution to Manitoba's GDP is more than either manufacturing, accommodations and food services, or mining and oil and gas extraction.

Short video report:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=296238774429639>

Northern MB report:

<https://www.brandonu.ca/rdi/projects/look-north-indigenous-economy-report/>

Assessing business start-up program for Newcomers

The Aurora Business Leadership project is equipping newcomers with tools for launching their new business. In doing so, the project contributes to job creation, and adds leadership capacity to the local economy. Facilitating entrepreneurial pursuit can improve newcomers' well-being, their sense of belonging and have a positive impact on the regional economy.

See https://www.brandonu.ca/rdi/files/2019/05/Aurora-Factsheet_v4.pdf

3D Printing at RDI

For the last several years, Mike Malazdrewicz, Associate Professor, has been encouraging students, businesses, and others (including youth attending Mini-U) to tap into his expertise to experience 3D printing.

mikem@brandonu.ca



Contact Us

Rural Development Institute, Brandon University
270-18th Street, McMaster Hall, Lower Level
Brandon, Manitoba R7A 6A9

Phone: 204-571-8515

Email: rdi@brandonu.ca

www.BrandonU.ca/rdi



Imagine Rural Futures Conference coming June 2020.
Visit RDI at: 2020.icrps.org