

Rural Mobility and Public Transit across Canada

Tuesday, December 7th
11:00 am Central (CST)

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Research Abstract: Mobility and transit are critical for rural communities and rural residents. However, sustainable transit systems are a struggle for many communities. Similarly, mobility and access to services are complex challenges for many.

In 2020 The Federal Government put out a call for research projects related to Mobility and Public Transit, including Rural Mobility. This webinar presents the findings of four of these projects:

Navigating Rural: Place-Based Transit Solutions for Rural Canada

This presentation will discuss the role that place specific factors play in transit – from general trends across rural to how demographics, local economies, and social factors influence transit. Additionally, it will summarize innovative rural transit systems across Canada and discuss how innovations vary.

Presenters: Mark Trueman and Courtney Sutherland

Here today, Gone tomorrow: Public Transportation and Vulnerabilities in Rural and Remote Canada

The lives of people living in rural and remote places are often constricted and made more vulnerable by the absence of accessible transportation. This presentation explores how the presence or absence of public transportation contributes to people's vulnerability in rural and remote locations.

Presenters: Cindy Hanson and Jo Ann Jaffe

Missing the Bus: Indigenous Women, Two-Spirit People and Public Transit in Western Canada

The erosion of options for public transit over the last two decades has obvious implications for the safety, or lack of it, for Indigenous women and Indigenous two-spirited people. This presentation explores the connections between uneven mobility, mobility justice, and the particular context of Indigenous women and Two-Spirit Plus people in Western Canada.

Presenter: Karine Duhamel

Equity and Justice in Public Transit

It is critically important that public sector investments are not only distributed equitably but also work to promote social inclusion. This presentation focuses on understanding the experiences of equity-seeking groups when it comes to public transit.

Presenter: Sheryl-Ann Simpson

Get to know your speakers!

- **Courtney Sutherland** is a candidate in the Masters of Rural Planning and Development program at the University of Guelph. She is currently working as a research assistant with the *Navigating Rural* project. Her interests lie in social geography, as well as access to transit and transit-oriented development and their impacts on facets of wellbeing. Courtney currently lives in Toronto, Ontario.
- **Mark Trueman** resides in the small community of Nelson, BC where he divides his time between owning a local GIS/Web Development Company and working as a research assistant for Selkirk College's Department of Applied Research and Innovation. Among other rural focused projects, the *Navigating Rural* project has furthered his personal and professional interest in the spatial context governing Canada's rural landscape.
- **Cindy Hanson** teaches community engaged scholarship; sociology of gender and sexuality; and ethnic and cultural diversity in Canada. She is an interdisciplinary scholar with experience in Sociology, (Adult) Education, Human Resource Development, women and gender studies, and anthropology. Her research contributions draw attention to community and equity issues.
- **Jo Ann Jaffe** is a professor of sociology and social studies at the University of Regina. Her research interests include: sociology of development and underdevelopment; sociology of the environment; sustainable/alternative development; gender; farming systems research; and rural household studies.
- **Karine Duhamel** is Anishinaabe-Métis and was Director of Research for the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, drafting the Final Report, as well as managing the Forensic Document Review Project and the Legacy Archive. She is now a public servant working full time on the implementation of the National Inquiry's Calls for Justice as well as a variety of research projects related to Indigenous histories and contemporary realities.
- **Sheryl-Ann Simpson** is an assistant professor of Geography and Environmental Studies at Carleton University. Her research and teaching are informed by an interest in the ways in which states and communities interact in place. So for example, how are government policies and programs implemented or translated into everyday experiences; how do community members use, narrate and shape their environments; and in turn how do those actions and stories influence new government policies and programs.

