



**PROJECT
SUPPORTED BY WORK
STUDY PROGRAM THROUGH:**



BUSU
BRANDON UNIVERSITY
STUDENTS' UNION

**Rural Development Institute
Brandon University
270-18th Street,
Brandon, MB R7A 6A9**

204-571-8513

brandonu.ca/rdi



Project Overview

The Changing Nature of Rural: THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

WHAT IS THE PROJECT?

Both external and internal forces greatly impact rural and remote communities on a daily basis. Whether because of corporate consolidations, shifts in natural resource sectors, or the inadequate updates to infrastructure as years go by. These impacts have only increased since the COVID-19 pandemic. A preliminary literature review has been conducted through Brandon University and the University of Winnipeg where six overarching themes reflective of specific challenges have been identified: aging populations, immigration and outmigration, reconciliation, economic development, infrastructure, and technology and the digital divide. This project will aim to identify deliberate components of each specific challenge so we can begin to address these challenges by means of community development projects.

WHO ARE THE PROJECT PARTNERS?

This initial exploration into the changing nature of rural will be conducted through the Rural Development Institute and the Canada Research Chair in Human and Environment Interaction at the University of Winnipeg.

WHY IS THIS PROJECT IMPORTANT?

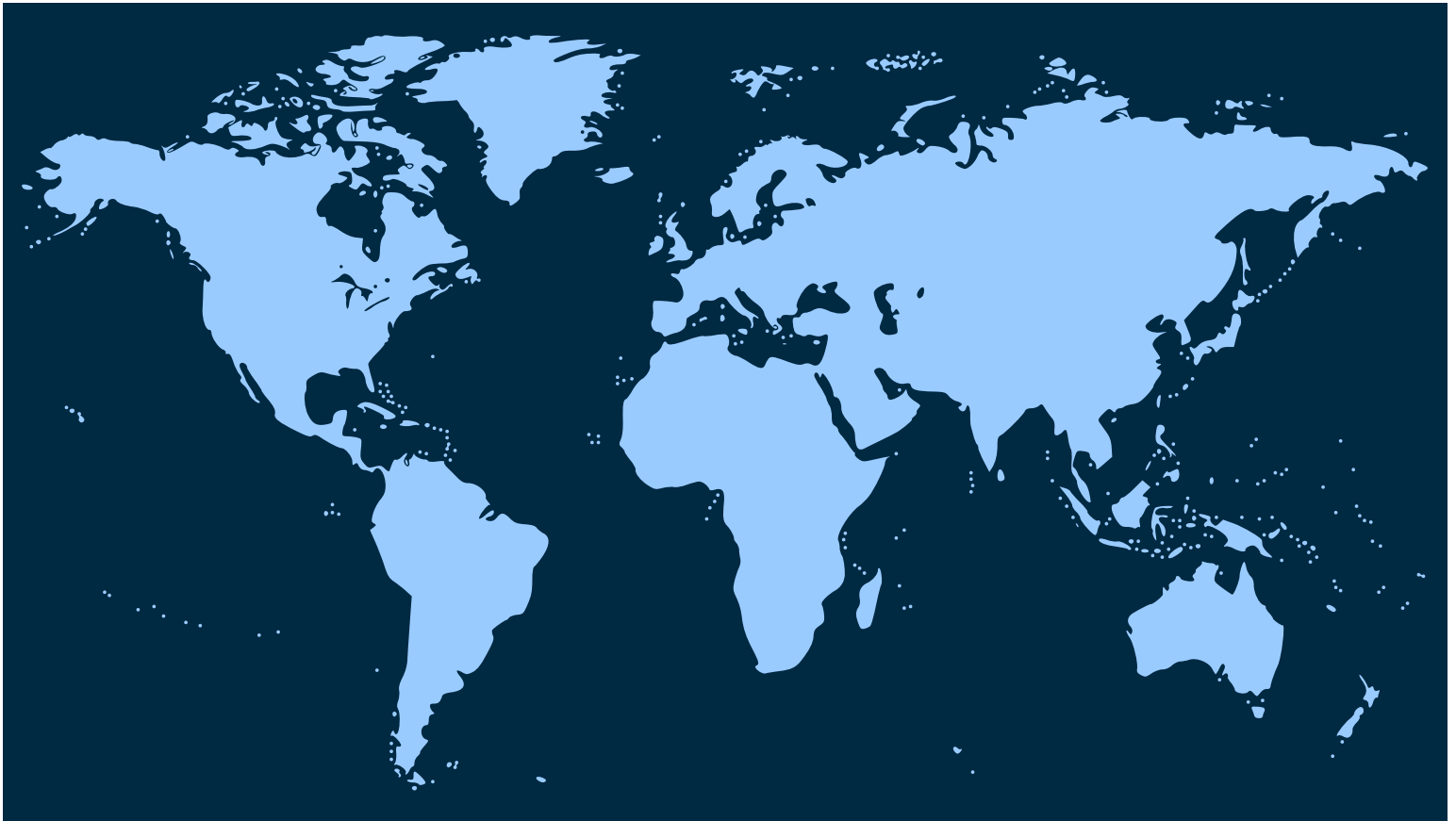
This project will forge regional connections between municipal, governmental, business, and a broad cross-section of organizations and community groups from Manitoba's eastern and western rural regions. These connections will contribute to new regional rural research networks where then rural issues can be explored by experts and community needs can be addressed.

WHAT IS RDI'S ROLE IN THE PROJECT?

The Rural Development Institute will focus on examining the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on an international scale. These contexts will provide new understandings for the multitude of changes occurring in rural Canada.

HOW IS RDI CONTRIBUTING TO THE PROJECT?

To enhance the current understanding of challenges faced by rural communities, an international literature scan will be conducted and provide more insights on how rural life have changed since the pandemic on a global scale. Funding to assist in this project has been granted through the Brandon University and Brandon University Students' Union's (BUSU) Work-Study program, and this literature scan will continue to the end of August, 2023.



With partners in communities, agencies, and among academics and students, RDI continues to initiate new outreach activities, research, and learning options. These partnerships also contribute to addressing rural development issues and responding to development opportunities. The Institute builds on a strong history of collaborative activities while enhancing resource capabilities and programming. 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.