Knowledge Network on Mining Encounters and Indigenous Sustainable Livelihoods: Cross-Perspectives from the Circumpolar North and Melanesia/Australia

SSHRC – Partnership Grant (2016-2022)
NETWORK HISTORY

• Evolved from a Partnership Development Grant
• Developing a research agenda with the Partners
• Producing research that can be used by the communities and organization
  • Relations between Mining Companies and Communities (FPIC and social acceptability)
  • Sabrina Bourgeois, MA: The role of the Cree in the Québec Uranium Moratorium
  • Jonathan Blais, MA: Understanding the social impacts of Raglan
  • Deogratias Safalli, MA: Measuring the economic impact of Voisey’s Bay on Nunatsiavut communities
  • Jeanette Carney, MA: Abestos Hill History and Akulivik Toxic Legacies
OBJECTIVES

• Create a knowledge network on the impact of mineral exploration and extraction for Indigenous sustainable livelihoods;

• Develop comparative analysis on the impacts of mining activities on the recognition of Indigenous rights and indigenous self-government;

• Training (indigenous) students and postdocs

But also

• Sharing knowledge and experiences amongst Indigenous People and other partners
THE NETWORK

- Dean Carson
- Sharon Hardwood
- Allan Dale
- P.-Y. Lemeur
- C. Demmer
- L. Horowitz
- Séverine Bouard

- P. Sköld
- P. Bjerregard
- A. Merrild Hansen

Développement durable, Environnement et Lutte contre les changements climatiques

理事會 of the health and social services of the James Bay

Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay
In this work package, the Network will **identify gaps in knowledge**

The team will also **compare the different legal and political environments of mining.**

Dean Carson and Elena Nuikina examining mining heritage in Burra, South Australia on the country of the Ngadjuri people.
WP2. THE INTERRELATIONS OF SOCIAL, CULTURAL, WELL-BEING AND NATURAL IMPACTS

This package’s focus is on the social, cultural, well-being and environmental impacts of extractive industries, the ways they are interrelated, how they affect community well-being and influence Indigenous sustainable livelihoods.

Inukjuak, Nunavik, Québec
Photo: Thierry Rodon
WP3. WORK REGIMES AND INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT

In this package, the Network will map the challenges and successes of Indigenous employment in the mining sector and document the ways to develop best practices.

Nickel Mine, New Caledonia.
Photo: Christine Demmer
WP4. MINING REGIME AND INDIGENOUS LEGAL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

The Network will look at the different legal and political environments in the circumpolar regions as well as in Oceania and how they impact and are being impacted by resource developments.
WP5. SUSTAINABLE REGIONAL AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

This work package will address the “resource curse” and the key factors to maximise positive and lessen negative impacts of resource development for Indigenous communities.

Iqaluit beach at -35, Nunavut, Canada
WP6. GLOCAL ENCOUNTERS

The Network will study the challenges encountered by communities when negotiating IBAs with transnational mining organizations. It also studies the role of transnational Indigenous organizations in mediating these ‘glocal’ encounters and their ability to mitigate power imbalances.

Ship being loaded at Rio Tinto Weipa operations with bauxite stockpiles
Photo: Rio Tinto
KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION: GUIDES

• 1) The different legal and political environments for mining and for recognition of Indigenous rights

• 2) The impacts of resource development on the social environment, health and well-being

• 3) The different types of extractive and refining mining processes and their impacts on natural capital

• 4) The best practices in indigenous training, employment and retention

• 5) Best practice on FPIC and social acceptability

• 6) The impact of resource revenue systems on community development
Some examples of Research Projects

**Fly-in Fly-out: Impacts on Women and Northern Communities**

The work shift system called “fly-in, fly-out” (FIFO) brings important impacts on women and Indigenous employment, work-family balance and indigenous and non-Indigenous communities’ vitality. In...

**Northern Communities, Provincial Governments, and Negotiating the Mining Life Cycle — Cases from Australia, Canada and Sweden**

In the sparsely populated northern areas of Australia, Sweden, and Canada, the physical distance between Indigenous communities, governments and companies makes it difficult to adapt mining...

**Comparing Consultation, Consent and Negotiated Agreements in Arctic Extractive Industries**

This project aims to carry out a comparative baseline analysis of the theory and practice of consultation, negotiation of consent or the absence thereof and agreements between local/indigenous...

**Northern Voices in Environmental Impact Assessment Database**

Created by Christopher Fletcher, professor at Université Laval, this database identifies the different concerns voiced by citizens during the public hearings of about 15 development projects...

**Shattering the Myth of the Good Mining Job: Job Desirability for Inuit Workers**

Proponents of resource development often cite wage employment as a key benefit that Indigenous communities will receive from participating in resource development based on the assumption that...

**At the Heart of Nickel Mining Corporations in New Caledonia: The Labor Question**

Studies on nickel mining in New Caledonia have mostly focused on how mining activities have been translated into a political issue, Kanak mobilizations to regain control over mining sites and...