Findings of the ReSDA Project and their Relevance for MinErAL

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Principal Investigator, ReSDA
“Are resources an answer to Northern well-being?

“...there is some indication that the worst aspects of the resource dependence can be countered through the introduction of new policies and models of development that increase local control of development and ensure a higher share of resource rents are passed on to northern communities...”

“Resource development has often been linked to an increase in the disruption of these communities leading to a variety of social and health challenges...”
ReSDA?

- Currently involves 57 researchers at 31 universities in 9 countries.
- Core funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada – 2011 to 2019.
- The main focus of ReSDA’s research is on finding ways to ensure that a larger share of the benefits of resource development stay in the region with fewer costs to communities.
- Main coordination office at Yukon College with regional coordinators in Labrador, Nunavut, and NWT.
## ReSDA First Projects – Gap Analyses

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Resources and Sustainable Development in the Arctic

Edited by Chris Southcott, Frances Abele, David Natcher, Brenda Parlee

Description

Over the past thirty years we have witnessed a demand for resources such as minerals, oil and gas which is only set to increase. This book examines the relationship between Arctic communities and extractive resource development.

With insights from leading thinkers in the field, the book examines this relationship to better understand what, if anything, can be done in order for the development of non-renewable resources to be of benefit to the long-term sustainability of these communities. The contributors synthesize circumpolar research on the topic of resource extraction in the Arctic, and highlights areas that need further investigation such as the ability of northern communities to properly use currently regulatory process, fiscal arrangements, and benefit agreements to ensure the long-term sustainability of their
Project 1: Resource Development Impacts Indicators (Andrey Petrov)
   How can we develop better, community controlled, indicators of change linked to resource development?

Project 2: Measuring the fiscal linkages (Lee Huskey)
   How can we maximize the amount of money that stays in a region?

Project 3: Distribution of financial benefits within communities (Thierry Rodon)
   What are the various ways that funding is distributed within communities and what are the impacts of these?

Project 4: Long distance commuting and Arctic communities (Gerti Elmsteiner-Saxinger)
   What are the best options for Arctic communities in dealing with long distance commuting?

Project 5: Impact Benefit Agreements and Beyond (Ben Bradshaw)
   What are the best ways to deal with negative impacts arising from current Impact Benefit Agreements?

Project 6: Resource Development and Subsistence Activities (David Natcher)
   How can resource development enhance the subsistence economy of northern communities?

Project 7: Community Wealth Funds and Resource Development (Greg Poelzer)
   Which forms of community wealth funds are communities most comfortable with?

Project 8: Educational and Training Benefits (Andrew Hodgkins)
   What are the best examples of resource-related employment, training, and education programs?

Project 9: Community Well-being and Resource Development (Brenda Parlee)
   What are the best measures of well-being for northern communities impacted by resource development?

Project 10: Best practices in Industry/Government/Community relationships (Frances Abele)
   What are the best practices in developing relationships and how do these relationships influence success?

Project 11: Gender and Resource Development in the North (Emilie Cameron and Suzanne Mills)
   How can resource development enhance gender equality?

Project 12: Environmental Impacts of Resource Development (John Sandlos and Arn Keeling)
   How can environmental impacts be best mitigated to the benefit of communities?

Project 13: Housing and Resource Development (Lisa Freeman and Julia Christensen)
   How can resource development improve housing and reduce homelessness?

Project 14: Waste Management and Resource Development (Catherine Keske)
   How can resource development improve waste management in northern communities?
Knowledge Sharing: ReSDA Atlas

ReSDA
A Northern Social Science Research Partnership Program

Set Filter
- Display All
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- Employment
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- Long Distance Commuting
- Impact and Benefit Agreements
- Culture, Traditions and Subsistence
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- Education and Training
- Remediation, Reclamation and Monitoring
- Impact Assessments

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RESULTS

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Findings of ReSDA and Relevance for MinErAL

- If communities can’t control the situation social suffering will increase
  - Communities need to be able to say ‘no’
- Capacity continues to be an issue in northern communities
  - Difference between having a right to control the situation and being able to control the situation
- Culturally appropriate institutions still need to be developed
  - Conflict within communities and perceptions of corruption can cause problems within regions
- Dependence on a non-renewable resource
  - How can the benefits of non-renewable resource development be used to enhance renewable resource development?
Thank you Nakurmiik Merci

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Contact the ReSDA coordination office

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ReSDA is a Major Collaborative Research Initiative funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.
Future directions?

- How do we use the short-term benefits of extractive resource development but avoid dependency?
- New research proposal: “Social Innovation for Sustainable Arctic Resource Development” (SISARD)
  - How can we seize the opportunity offered by extractive resource development?