

**Alberta Centre for
Sustainable Rural
Communities**

Annual Report

July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012

Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities

Annual Report 11/12

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About

Established in 2008, the ACSRC is partnership between the Augustana Faculty and the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences of the University of Alberta. The ACSRC fills the gap for research and policy in rural areas by fostering constructive dialogue, promoting interdisciplinary and collaborative research, and developing partnerships between the University of Alberta and rural communities in Alberta and beyond.

For more information, please visit the ACSRC's website

<http://www.augustana.ualberta.ca/centres/acsrc/>

Vision

The vision of the ACSRC is of resilient rural communities across Canada linked closely to the discovery, dissemination, and application of new knowledge at the University of Alberta through teaching and learning, research and creative activity, community involvement, and partnerships. Such resilient rural communities will hinge on informed citizens actively participating in community governance and development in order to support and sustain the people, livelihoods, regional and local capital, economic development and long-term social viability of rural communities as a key element of the Canadian economy, the natural environment and as home to many Canadians.

Mission

The mission of the ACSRC is to link the research, outreach and educational capacity of the University of Alberta with students, researchers, rural communities, rural community organizations and policy makers at multiple levels across the province, nationally, and internationally in order to support the improved sustainability of rural communities and populations.

Values

- **Collaboration:** The ACSRC recognizes the contributions and capacity of individual citizens, private, public, community and other non-governmental organizations, faculty, staff and students of post-secondary institutions in Alberta, in collectively advancing the development and sustainability of rural communities.
- **Methodological and theoretical rigour and pluralism:** The ACSRC encourages both theoretical and methodological pluralism, and the critical reflection upon the suitability and implications of the theories and methods used;
- **Capacity building:** The ACSRC is committed to supporting the ability of rural communities via research, outreach and knowledge transfer; to not only govern themselves, but to participate in a meaningful and efficacious manner at and with all levels of government and administration.
- **Transparency:** The ACSRC seeks to adopt best practices in all of its activities in order to ensure fair and open operations, and to comply with the appropriate FOIPOP legislation, etc.

- **Local Knowledge:** The ACSRC recognizes that the sustainability of rural communities in Canada varies from region to region, from community to community, and that factors such as culture, geography, natural environment, socio-economic context and political history can all lead to varying outcomes. The ACSRC, therefore, recognizes that the knowledge, experience and expertise present within communities has equal value and standing to that generated within an institution (university or college) setting.
- **Evidence-informed decision-making:** While keeping to all other values listed here, the ACSRC supports the application of systematically gained knowledge to guide the decisions, policies and programs of (1) the Centre; (2) rural communities; (3) regional, provincial and national policy-makers.

Goals

The ACSRC has established 5 goals which, through their accomplishment, will move the Centre toward achieving its mission in a fashion consistent with its vision and values. Each goal is supported by key objectives (bulleted) which, in turn, will guide the day-to-day operations of the Centre:

1) Research

Stimulate, support and conduct research on the multiple elements of rural community sustainability.

2) Education

Stimulate and support innovative education in rural community development, sustainability and policy.

3) Outreach

Generate greater interaction and collaboration with rural community stakeholders.

4) Knowledge synthesis, translation and exchange

Stimulate, support and conduct KSTE to support evidence-informed decision-making and governance at multiple levels, from the local to the international.

5) Sustainable Operations

Challenges

The ACSRC has four challenges:

- 1) to provide research leadership, profile and coordination to the University's commitment to rural engagement;
- 2) to foster research of relevance to rural communities, including interdisciplinary and inter-Faculty collaborative research, that may be regional, national, or international in scope;
- 3) to think respectfully and reciprocally with, not just for, rural communities, and to facilitate knowledge transfer;
- 4) to develop collaborative relationships with other university-based rural centres in Canada and elsewhere in the world.

Message from the Director

On a day when the sun is shining, the grass is green and the sky blue over Camrose, it is hard to remember that only a few short months ago we battled with the usual conditions of an Alberta winter. But, as the crops begin to emerge from the ground, another spring cycle is underway, and the same holds true for the ACSRC. The past year has seen continued success and growth on a number of different fronts – we continue to build our profile and reputation at the regional, provincial, national and potentially international levels, both as a research centre, and as a valuable source of access to rural research and knowledge translation at the University of Alberta. The past year has seen a number of projects grow new or additional legs, and we will hear in short order if these legs will have the potential to translate into significant opportunities over the next 12 months. At the same time, I am saddened to see that we have been unable to further develop programs such as the Rural Capacity Internship program or the Rural Sustainability Field course, but I remain optimistic that we will find new venues and resources to support this kind of work.

Sitting on the cusp of the Canada Day Long Weekend, I am gladdened, and somewhat reassured, to hear new Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development identify rural development as a priority area, and to see continued and increased opportunities for collaboration, input and partnership with rural communities, municipalities, governments and organizations from across the province, and in fact the country. The next year will mark a transition for us, as we strive to build on the work of the last 3 years, and shift our focus to slightly larger-scale operations and impact. I look forward to, and welcome, the challenges that this will present.

Communities and Ecosystems

Ongoing Projects

What makes rural Alberta communities successful? Water Management (Alberta Rural Development Network (ARDN))

Beginning in October 2011, this project seeks to identify, synthesize and categorize the initiatives that have been undertaken within Alberta to reconcile the pressures of economic and population growth with issues of water supply and policy. It is combining conventional research methods with a more innovative approach to knowledge sharing and problem solving - crowdsourcing. The project will conclude with a workshop (tentatively scheduled for late Summer 2012) to assess, validate, edit and contribute to the results of both the crowdsourcing and scoping review phase.

Water Policy Innovation Forum (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC))

This Forum (scheduled to take place in Camrose in August 9 & 10, 2012) strives to bring together researchers, policy actors and representatives from specific watersheds to bring greater clarity and collaborative capacity to collectively recognizing: (1) the multiple dynamics and functions that complicate watershed-level analyses, programming and public policy; (2) the need to acknowledge and work within watersheds in a fashion that acknowledge integrative watershed management and planning; (3) the need to better and more clearly address a core issue of both horizontal (across policy domains) and vertical (across levels of authority or governance) integration that is often acknowledged rhetorically, but is rarely and explicitly included in policy-making and programming in Canada.

Augustana Faculty Miquelon Lake Sustainability Centre (University of Alberta's Office of Sustainability - Sustainability Enhancement Fund)

Augustana's Miquelon Lake Sustainability Centre (MLSC) is proposed as a significant resource for researchers and educators in the area of 'sustainability science'. The MLSC will explore how environmental, social, health, and agricultural domains affect each other in increasingly industrialized, urbanized, and ecologically sensitive landscapes. This environmental research station will provide researchers and educators with computer technology and infrastructure for biological, social, policy, and applied health science research and teaching. Opportunities and outputs will provide valuable contributions to communities, researchers, and decision-makers across the province and country. The broad research plan to address this question includes biophysical inventories and monitoring, inter-sectoral public policy analyses, public opinion assessments, and policy impact assessments, all with a focus on environmental sustainability. The teaching opportunities provided by this facility for graduate and undergraduate students will include field trips, research assistantships, directed studies courses, and field studies courses. The MLSC will be unique in Alberta due to its ecology and location (at Miquelon Lake Provincial Park), facilities (Geographic Information System capabilities analyses, interview rooms, and wet/dry laboratory), integrative approach, and set of partners (Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation, Camrose County, Beaver Hills Initiative). The MLSC will produce peer-reviewed journal articles, conference presentations, community engagement, web-based resources, and public policy analyses.

Alberta Watershed Toolkit (ARDN)

The Alberta Watershed Toolkit Project is an initiative that will include 3 levels of community engagement. (1) Regional Water Experts will be engaged in 5 watershed specific regions across Alberta in an initial exposure to an Inventory and Assessment of Water and Water Management Intervention Resources (resources) in a crowdsourcing engagement session with both interactive online tool exposure and in session feedback on the utility, scope, and accessibility of the resources (already supported via the ARDN scoping review); (2) Regional Workshops will be hosted in these same 5 watershed specific regions to provide a broader range of community water leaders, stewards, decision makers and stakeholders an opportunity to engage with an online crowdsourcing tool, inventory of best management practices and knowledge resources, facilitated through interactive sessions that offer opportunities for providing further input into the project (identifying capacity needs, tools, and information needs); and (3) A second series of Regional Workshops will deliver actual capacity building seminars along with an introduction to water leaders and stewards on how to access the Watershed Toolkit and the various resources provided by other organizations throughout Alberta.

Top 20 Research Questions -(Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation – Parks Division)

The ACSRC will be facilitating a research project during the Summer/Fall 2012 to create a list of relevant, feasible and implementable Parks priority research questions. The focus of this project is to explore how the department is able to adapt to change and better themselves in the areas of health, environmental, education, and many other factors.

This project is in part a result of a Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2009 between the Augustana Faculty (University of Alberta) and Tourism, Parks, and Recreation. This Memorandum established a cooperative working relationship that seeks to assist student training, applied research, business and development.

Unfunded Project

Canadian Partnerships Small Grants for Innovative Research and Knowledge-Sharing (IDRC)

The ACSRC submitted an International Development Research Centre (IDRC) proposal entitled: Determining policy-relevant research priorities to facilitate the adaptation of people, communities, and societies to changing water flow patterns in the Brahmaputra River. The proposal aimed to generate funds to use a collaborative science-policy 'big questions' exercise to identify and prioritize policy-relevant research questions related to river ecosystem services, particularly the conservation of biological diversity, and their relationship to human well-being in Assam, India.

Communities and Society

Social Economy, Community Resilience and the Transition to Sustainability (co-applicant) (SSHRC)

The goal of this partnership development project is to develop a new community-university research partnership to study the scaling up and scaling out of innovations that strengthen the resilience and sustainability of communities and regions. The project would build upon the strong community-university research partnership model developed by the BC-Alberta Social Economy Research Alliance (BALTA - 2006-2012), but would engage significant new partners and participants.

While the primary focus of the partnership would be in Alberta and BC, there are also national and international partners. Key findings from BALTA's earlier research reveal the strategic importance of the social economy or third sector in advancing sustainability and meeting basic needs on a more local-regional basis. With sixty per cent of the planet's ecosystems at risk and continued reliance on fossil fuels making inevitable a future of severe and irreversible climate change, populations are rendered more vulnerable and the communities and regions they live in more subject to environmental, economic and social dislocation. BALTA's earlier research examined the potential contributions of the social economy to advancing sustainability and studied examples of current best practice in addressing sustainability objectives. This new research partnership would build upon that base to study how to adapt and scale up the essence of successful innovations in one context to a wider range of contexts. Such scaling of innovation is absolutely critical to addressing effectively the sustainability challenges facing the World and Canadian communities.

Completed Projects

Continuing Care Networking Event* (ARDN)

Slave Lake and High Prairie Region

The ACSRC and the Institute for Continuing Care Education and Research (ICCER) hosted a networking event in Slave Lake to discuss local issues in continuing care in the Slave Lake and High Prairie area.

This event provided both ICCER and the ACSRC with an opportunity to reach out to rural communities. ICCER's vision is to "be a partnership of practitioners, researchers, educators and learners collaborating to provide the best care and quality of life for those served by the continuing care system." Its mission is to enhance the quality of life for those served in the continuing care system by creating a continuum of learning and research, and by ensuring excellence in education for students. It assisted ICCER in reaching out to the larger community and helped to identify gaps in the rural regions and to link the rural communities and PSIs with researchers and educators from elsewhere. The networking also gave the ACSRC the opportunity to extend its mandate, which includes research, education, knowledge transfer and collaboration with rural communities, on the ground in northern Alberta, and to foster collaboration of faculty from both the University of Alberta and NorQuest College within the broader principals and contexts of social justice, community engagement, deliberative and evidence-based decision-making and

practice, the social determinants of health and integrated public policy and programming that contributes to the sustainability, resilience and quality of life in rural Albertan communities.

This event had originally been scheduled for May 2011, but due to the tragic wildfire that afflicted Slave Lake had to be postponed to April 3, 2012.

**Due to a midstream change in funding policy at the ARDN, Principal Investigator status was transferred from the ACSRC to a collaborator.*

Projects in Development

Enhancement of the Institute for Continuing Care Education and Research's Community Needs Driven Research Network for Continuing Care in Alberta LOI (Collaborative Research and Innovation Opportunities (CRIO))

This CRIO project will build on previous ICCER experience, including:

With funding from the Alberta Rural Development Network - ICCER, the UofA's Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities and three PSIs (Keyano College, Grande Prairie Regional College and Northern Lakes College) held community consultations to identify continuing care needs in rural areas. Local representatives of seniors organizations, CCPs, and representatives of provincial departments attended. Outcomes included identification of issues, needs, and possible joint activities. Examples of research needs identified in these sessions were research on informal/family care giving, research into how to attract and retain health care workers in northern communities, and research on technology and how it can be effective; research into why 'growing your own staff' (keeping people in rural and remote communities) isn't successful. While some of these have been studied, others have not. The diversity of issues is large.

Continuing care needs reference group with ICCER (AIHS, held by Capital Care)

The primary role of the Community Needs Driven Research Network for Continuing Care Needs Reference Group is the identification of issues, challenges, practices with insufficient formal evidence, and areas that need information to inform practice in continuing care.

The primary activities of the Needs Reference Group are to: establish working relationships with continuing care providers throughout Alberta, consult with provider organizations regarding needs at the front-line worker, clinician and management levels, provide a forum to identify issues facing continuing care, aggregate, characterize and prioritize input from consultations, recommend a prioritized set of issues judged to be appropriate for further investigation to the CNDRN Research Reference Group, evaluate and monitor outcomes and results, evaluate best practices in KT and the most appropriate methods for each of the target audiences (e.g. front line workers, management, clinicians, etc.), oversee Knowledge Translation from the Research Reference Group to the providers of the province, and act as an advocate and champion for providers in the Network.

Rural Palliative Care (CRIO)

This study will contribute to the refinement of the Living with Hope Program that may improve quality of life of persons receiving palliative home care. The findings will also increase our understanding of the factors influencing hope, quality of life in a vulnerable, understudied population that is increasing in numbers with the aging of Canada's population. The outcome of this study will be an implementation kit for palliative home care services to use as a value added approach to their current services. Effective psychosocial supportive interventions, such as the LWHP are critical for their support and well-being of persons with advanced disease. The preliminary work of the research team in conjunction with clinicians and terminally ill patients and families has resulted in a promising, practical psychosocial supportive hope intervention that may improve the quality of life for thousands of Canadians.

Human Services and Integration (Jasper pilot) (CRIO)

This project is an evaluation of the Jasper Collaborative Team (JCT) pilot. The JCT was created to improve and coordinate healthcare and social service delivery in Jasper town, and the rural/regional areas of their responsibility. One year after full functioning of the JCT, in 1998, the first limited evaluation was done. Four year later, in 2002, a second evaluation of the JCT recommended quality improvements for service delivery, collaboration and sustainability. Informed by these early evaluations, we propose a 15-year evaluation of the Jasper Collaborative Team Model, the most inclusive, comprehensive, and sustainable community intersectoral collaboration to date. Other communities have expressed interest in adopting the Jasper model, albeit modified to meet local needs, but require evidence from a long-term systematic evaluation. This is what we propose to do. A preliminary step has been taken from a participatory research perspective—a day-long consultation of the research team with JCT to explore their evaluation questions about structure, function, outcomes and cost/benefits of the model.

Living with Hope: Evaluation of a Patient-Centered Hope Intervention for Persons Receiving Palliative Home Care (Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR))

This study will contribute to the refinement of the Living with Hope Program that may improve quality of life of persons receiving palliative home care. The findings will also increase our understanding of the factors influencing hope, quality of life in a vulnerable, understudied population that is increasing in numbers with the aging of Canada's population. The outcome of this study will be an implementation kit for palliative home care services to use as a value added approach to their current services. Effective psychosocial supportive interventions, such as the LWHP are critical for their support and well-being of persons with advanced disease. The preliminary work of the research team in conjunction with clinicians and terminally ill patients and families has resulted in a promising, practical psychosocial supportive hope intervention that may improve the quality of life for thousands of Canadians.

Unfunded Projects

Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HRSDC)

This project, proposed to the Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC), was a two-pronged research and knowledge transfer initiative that would (a) evaluate the impacts of the Open Door as a rurally-based homelessness initiative, particularly as it makes the transition to new infrastructure and programming; (b) situate that evaluation in terms of both prevention and reduction; (c) link that evaluation to the broader context and dynamics of new ruralism; and (d) combine the results and evidence-base of both the work of the Open Door and similar initiatives across Canada via a scoping review focused upon rural youth homelessness programs and interventions in the large, federal systems of Canada, the USA and Australia.

Canada Research Development Fund Proposal (WUN)

The ACSRC submitted a Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) Research Development Fund (RDF) proposal entitled: Aging in Rural Populations: A Pathway to Sustainability. The proposal aimed to generate funds to host two events in 2012-13 in Canada that would bring together researchers from WUN membership and other Universities who are interested in exploring how aging affects the sustainability of rural communities, and what aging might look like as part of a sustainable rural community. It has been suggested that the ACSRC re-submit this application in the next round of WUN funding.

Communities, Planning and Policy

Completed Projects

Top 20 Rural Policy Research Questions (ARDN)

The ACSRC conducted a research project to identify the top 20 research questions that can inform public policy in rural Alberta. Invitations to submit policy questions via an online interface were distributed via email in October 2011 to a wide range of organizational representatives working in rural research, policy and development across the province of Alberta. Invited participants were encouraged to circulate the online form within their organization, or to other organizations you feel should contribute.

Following the completion of the data collection phase, the ACSRC hosted a one-day workshop at the Augustana Campus on February 24, 2012. During the course of the workshop, participants from research, policy, non-governmental and rural communities engaged in an internationally recognized consensus-based exercise that generated a list of top 20 rural policy research questions in Alberta from an edited list of submissions collected.

The results may help researchers focus on projects that contribute to how rural Alberta is able to adapt to change and better themselves in the areas of health, environmental, education, and many other factors. In a broader sense, it could ultimately result in improved public policy to promote community autonomy and resiliency in rural areas. The responses will be compiled and presented in a report. They may also be published in academic journals.

Rural Research Workshop

The 2nd Annual Rural Research Workshop (RRW) took place on May 23-25, 2012 in Ottawa, Ontario. The aim of the workshop was to promote networking among rural researchers and to provide a forum for the discussion of rural research and rural policy. Rural researchers from all over Canada attended the conference and research papers were presented on topics such as: place-based policy, tourism support for rural community development, measuring social capital, and changing paradigms in agricultural policy. Dr. Lars Hallström sat on the steering committee for the RRW, and presented the results of the ACSRC's assessment of rural community capacity in Alberta.

Ongoing Projects

Rural Capacity Internship Program (Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development (AARD)) (Completed June 30, 2012)

This summer, the ACSRC and the Augustana Campus' Learning and Beyond office's Rural Capacity Internship Program are hosting one Augustana undergraduate student intern.

To conclude this pilot program, the ACSRC & LaB embarked on a two prong evaluation process.

1. Capacity Surveys

The ACSRC conducted a study to assess how communities in Alberta are able to self-motivate and create capacity to implement change to meet their goals. Over 140 communities across the province participated in this study via a web-based and paper survey.

2. Program Evaluation

For the duration of the Fall 2011 academic term, two ACSRC/LaB staff members conducted an intern program evaluation. This review produced a community university collaborative capacity building guidebook.

Taking the Next Steps: Phase 2 (SSHRC)

SSHRC granted a second 1-year extension to the 'Taking the Next Steps' project (TTNS). As a result, the ACSRC hired two University of Alberta students (1 in the Winter semester & 1 for the Spring/Summer) to continue an on-going assessment of sustainability plan implementation in communities across Canada. As a result of the students work, the ACSRC has developed an archive of sustainability plans from across the country and in partnership with other organizations worked on identifying common themes, and 'emerging practices' from the work being done in rural communities. The ACSRC plans on launching an online database of Canadian sustainability plans in late Summer 2012.

In addition, TTNS organizers hosted a second meeting to discuss the results of the aforementioned assessment and to further explore how community-university relationships working in this area (of sustainability planning, policy and implementation) could consider moving forward, including the possibility of funding for a national rural initiative, increased knowledge transfer, and networking between rural communities, researchers and policymakers. The event took place in Toronto (due to ease of transport in the winter and "centrality") January 23 and 24, 2012.

Community-based factors influencing the development and content of Integrated Community Sustainability Plans in rural Alberta and Canada - (ARDN) with Dr. G. Hvenegaard

If funded, this project will analyze the factors that determine the content and direction of ICSPs in Alberta and across the country. The research team seeks to understand the role of community variables (eg. size, age structure, income levels, type of employment, gender ratio) in developing ICSPs and in influencing the relative emphases on sustainability plan objectives (3 dimensions: social, economic, ecological; or 5 dimensions: social, economic, culture, environment, governance). And understanding of these factors will help us understand and potentially predict aspects of future ICSP development and implementation.

Projects in Development

Partnership Development Grant LOI (SSHRC) (awarded June 2012)

This partnership grant will link a series of established and on-going community-university relationships across Canada that are focused on rural sustainability. Starting from the current "policy window" of recent sustainability planning as an entry point to the formal and informal politics and policies of Canadian rural communities, the thesis of this project is that while planning and policy are important elements of furthering the sustainability and resilience of rural Canada, at best they represent a core, linear and rational model for sustainability action that is surrounded by a broader complex of formal, informal and highly political citizen and community action. This broader complex is multi-faceted and dynamic, and not necessarily connected to the planning-policy ideal. In turn, rural communities face a dual challenge -- one of both working within a federally-endorsed linear context of transforming planning to public policy, but also reconciling that context with the social "mess" and the pressures of social, environmental, economic, cultural and political dynamics of community sustainability.

ACSRC

Operations

Staff

Director - Lars K Hallström, PhD

Dr. Hallström is an Associate Professor at the University of Alberta (U of A) and the inaugural Director of the Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities. He is committed to overseeing the ACSRC's efforts to advance the U of A's rural-focused research and to forging practical connections to rural communities.

His research has been diverse and includes issues relating to small-scale forestry and woodlots, eco-health, water policy and the comparative politics of environmental movements. He holds a MA & PhD from Purdue University and a BA from the University of Calgary.

Administration and Research

Devin Keay - Executive Assistant

Naomi Finseth – Research Assistant

Jennifer Stonechild – Research Assistant

Erika Heiberg – Research Assistant

Nurlan Isaev – Graduate Research Assistant

Training

The ACSRC supported the following student positions via external and internal funding and in-kind support:

- 17 undergraduate students
- 1 graduate level student
- 2 Community Service Learning Students

Funding

The ACSRC receives funding from:

- The University of Alberta – Augustana Faculty
- The University of Alberta – Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences
- The Province of Alberta – Agriculture and Rural Development
- The Province of Alberta – Tourism, Parks and Recreation
- The Alberta Rural Development Network
- The Social Sciences and Humanities Council of Canada

Executive Council

Dr. Allen Berger (2011 -)

Dean and Executive Officer, Augustana Campus

Dr. John Kennelly (2009 -)

Dean, Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences

Dr. Karsten Mündel (2009 -)

Director, Learning and Beyond, Augustana Campus

Dr. John Parkins (2009 -)

Associate Professor, Rural Sociology, Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences

Dr. Jeremy Mouat (2011 -)

Professor, History & Chair of Social Sciences Department, Augustana Campus

Past Members:

Dr. Roger Epp (2008 - 11)

Dean, Augustana Campus

Dr. Glen Hvenegaard (2008 - 11)

Professor, Geography and Environmental Studies, Augustana Campus

Dr. Norah Keating (2009 -)

Professor, Family Gerontology, Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences

Public Presentations and Workshops

“Modeling Capacity in Rural Alberta: Results from the 1st Provincial Community Capacity Survey”
Presented at the 2nd annual rural Research Workshop. Ottawa, ON. May 24, 2012

“Emerging Scarcity in a Land of Plenty: Water and Water Policy in Canada” Presented at Alberta Scholars Series at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars’ Canada Institute. Washington, DC. April 17, 2012.

“Assessing Rural Capacity for Sustainability and Resilience in Western Canada” 2012 Meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Portland OR. March 23, 2012

“Rural Communities in Alberta and Canada: The Three Pillars of Sustainability” Presented at University of Alberta Calgary Centre Lecture Series. March 21, 2012

“The Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities: Collaboration and Opportunities for Rural Camrose” Presented to the Camrose Chamber of Commerce. Camrose, AB. November 2, 2011

“Community and University Collaboration: Building Capacity for Rural Alberta” presented at 3 NorQuest College networking events (Keynote Speaker) in October, 2011:

- Stony Plain, AB – October 12, 2011
- Fort Saskatchewan, AB – October 13, 2011
- Leduc, AB – October 25, 2011

“The Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities: Linking research and engagement with rural Alberta” presented at the City-Region Studies Centre’s Directions in Regional Research Workshop. University of Alberta – Faculty of Extension. September 15, 2011

ACSRC Sponsored Guest Lectures

Lee Foote (Nov. 28, 2011) Director, Devonian Botanic Garden Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences University of Alberta

Rob Shields, Henry Marshall Tory Chair Director, City-Region Studies Centre University of Alberta & Kevin Jones, Research Associate City-Region Studies Centre University of Alberta (Jan. 27, 2012)

Debra Davidson (April 13, 2012) Director, Environmental Research and Studies Centre Assistant Professor Department of Resource Economics & Environmental Sociology Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences University of Alberta

Appendix A

ACSRC Individual Collaborators

<u>Name</u>		<u>Title</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Dr. Bill	Ashton		Brandon University
Dr. David	Baugh	Instructor	Red Deer College
Dr. Mary	Beckie		University of Alberta - Faculty of Extension
Rachel	Bocock		AUMA
Dr. Devashis	Bose		DDR College
Dr. Martin	Bunch	Associate Dean (Research) and Associate Professor	York University
Dr. Wayne	Caldwel		University of Guelph
Meredith	Carter		Otonabee Region Conservation Authority
Dr. Sean	Connelly		University of Regina
Dr. Albert	Cook	Associate Dean (Research) and Professor	University of Alberta - Faculty of Extension
Dr. Jon	Corbett		University of British Columbia
Rose	Dacyk		Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA)
Jeff	Dixon		Queen's University
Holly	Dolan		Rural Secretariat
Dr. David	Douglas		University of Guelph
Donna	Dube		Northern Lakes College
Dr. Wendy	Duggleby	Professor	University of Alberta - Faculty of Nursing
Peter	Ernst	Mayor	High Level
Albert	Floodman		Lethbridge County
Lisa	Fox	Executive Director	Sustainability Resources Ltd.
Anita	Gillard	Mayor	Village of Clive
Dr. Joyce	Gould	Science Coordinator	Albert Tourism, Parks & Recreation
Allyson	Goyette		Northern Lakes College
Dr. Greg	Halseth		University of Northern British Columbia
Kim	Heyman		Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMDC)
Lorne	Hickey	Reeve	Lethbridge County
Dr. Glynnis	Hood	Assistant Professor	University of Alberta - Augustana Campus
Robert	Hornbrook		Alberta Agriculture & Rural Development (AARD)

Rodger	Hunter		Cowichan Watershed Board
Dr. Glen	Hvenegaard	Professor	University of Alberta - Augustana Campus
Dr. Kevin	Jones		University of Alberta
Dr. Jill	Konkin	Associate Dean (Community Engagement)	University of Alberta - Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
Gerald	Kuefler		County of Flagstaff
Dr. Elizabeth	Lange		St. Francis Xavier University
Stephen	Litke		Fraser River Basin Council
Dr. Terri	MacDonald		Selkirk College
Patricia	Macklin		AARD
Lorna	Medd		Cowichan Watershed Board
Julia	Melnyk		Northern Lakes College
Dr. Karen	Morrison		University of Guelph
Dr. Karsten	Mündel	Assistant Professor & Director, Learning and Beyond	University of Alberta - Augustana Campus
Cynthis	Neudoerffer		Network for Ecosystem Sustainability and Health (NESH)
Randal	Nickel	Executive Director	Camrose Open Door Association
Hussien	Oumer		Dalhousie University
Dr. Margot	Parkes	Canada Research Chair in Health, Ecosystems and Society	University of Northern British Columbia
Dr. John	Parkins	Associate Professor	University of Alberta
Dr. Brenda	Parlee		University of Alberta
Dr. Murray	Rudd		York University
David	Samm		Battle River Watershed Alliance
Ashley	Shelton		Community-Based Environmental Monitoring Network
Dan	Small		Lac La Biche County
Christine	Smith	Mayor	Village of Chauvin
Debra	Smith	Mayor	Village of Loughheed
Dr. Deborah	Stiles		Nova Scotia Agricultural College
Darren	Swanson		International Institute for Sustainable Development
Dr. Laura	Taylor		York University
Dr. Tony	Tremblay		St. Thomas University
Paul	Watson		Alberta Rural Development Network (ARDN)
Jason	Waywood	Director, Policy & Advocacy	AUMA

Dr. Douglas	West		Lakehead University
Bill	White		Natural Resources Canada
Reginald	Whiten		City of Dawson Creek
Dr. Kyle	Whitfield	Assistant Professor	University of Alberta - Faculty of Extension
Arlene	Wolkowycki		NorQuest
Sandra	Woodhead Lyons	Executive Director	Institute for Continuing Care Education and Research (ICCER)

Appendix B -

ACSRC Organizational Collaborators

Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development
Alberta Ecotrust
Alberta Rural Development Network (ARDN)
Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation
Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA)
Battle River Alliance for Economic Development (BRAED)
Battle River Watershed Alliance (BRWA)
Beaver Hills Initiative (BHI)
Boomtown Trail
Camrose County
Canadian Rural Research Network
Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation
City of Camrose
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Fraser Basin Council
Institute for Continuing Care Education and Research (ICCER)
International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)
Lakehead University
Land Stewardship Center
Learning and Beyond Office (LaB)
Lesser Slave Lake Watershed Council
Municipality of the County of Cumberland
Network for Ecosystem Sustainability and Health (NESH)
NorQuest College
Northern Lakes College
Nova Scotia Agricultural College
Otonabee Region Conservation Authority
Queen's University
Return to Rural
Rural & Coastal Communities Network
Rural & Small Town Programme (Mount Allison University)
Rural Development Institute (Brandon University)
Rural Ontario Institute
Saskatchewan Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development

Selkirk College
South Central Ontario Region
South East Alberta Watershed Council
St. Francis Xavier University
St. Thomas University
Sturgeon County
Sustainability Resources
The Monieson Centre (Queen's School of Business)
Town of Dalhousie
Town of Hobbema
Town of Nipawin
Town of Smoky Lake
Town of Sundre
True North Community Cooperative
Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities
University of Alberta
University of Alberta - Augustana Campus
University of Alberta - Faculty of Agricultural, Life, and Environmental Sciences
University of Guelph
University of Northern British Columbia
University of Regina
Village of Edgerton
Village of Forestburg
Village of Hay Lakes
York University