



**Social Economy and Sustainability Research Network**  
**Partenariat sur l'économie sociale et la durabilité**

Bridging, Bonding, and Building / Renforcement des liens et des capacités

## Research relating to the Social Economy and Indigenous Communities: An Annotated Bibliography

Prepared by

Melissa Russwurm, Communications Assistant (2010-11)

Social Economy and Sustainability Research Network

November 2010



Social Sciences and Humanities  
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en  
sciences humaines du Canada

Canada



## **About the Network**

The Social Economy and Sustainability Research (SES/ESD) Network is the Atlantic Node of the Canadian Social Economy Research Partnerships (CSERP) – one of six regional research centres across Canada, funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), 2005-2010. The Network has a wide variety of academic, community and government partners representing Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador. [www.msvu.ca/socialconomyatlantic/](http://www.msvu.ca/socialconomyatlantic/)

For more information, contact us:

Social Economy and Sustainability Research Network, c/o Research House, Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3M 2J6

Tel: 902-457-6748

Fax: 902-457-5547

E-mail: [seproject@msvu.ca](mailto:seproject@msvu.ca)

## **About CSERP**

The Canadian Social Economy Research Partnerships (CSERP) is a collaborative effort of six regional research centres (nodes) across Canada, their community partners, and the national facilitating research hub. CSERP reaches out to practitioners, to researchers and to civil society, through the regional research centres and their community partners. It undertakes research as needed in order to understand and promote the social economy tradition within Canada and as a subject of academic enquiry within universities. [www.socialconomyhub.ca](http://www.socialconomyhub.ca)

### **Copyright © 2010 – Social Economy and Sustainability Research Network**

Any portion of these materials can be freely available for information and educational purposes, but cannot be re-published in any format that may entail fees or royalties without the express permission of the copyright holders.

### About this Annotated Bibliography:

This annotated bibliography was prepared as a resource for all who are interested in the social economy and indigenous communities. It lists the projects funded through the Canadian Social Economy Research Partnership, which encompasses six regional networks and the Canadian Hub on the social economy. These networks were all funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

Organized by network, you will find both projects that are completed (19 projects in total) and projects that are still in progress (20 projects in total), as well as links to the appropriate websites. As these websites will continue to be updated over the coming year, readers are encouraged to keep checking the sites for any added documents, or to ask for further information about specific projects.

For more information about this annotated bibliography, or about Social Economy research in Atlantic Canada, please contact:

The Social Economy and Sustainability Research Network,  
c/o Research House,

Mount Saint Vincent University,

Halifax, Nova Scotia B3M 2J6

[www.msvu.ca/socialeconomyatlantic/](http://www.msvu.ca/socialeconomyatlantic/)

E-mail: [seproject@msvu.ca](mailto:seproject@msvu.ca)

## Table of Contents

Atlantic Node – Social Economy and Sustainability Research Network	p. 5
Completed Projects	
Projects still in progress	
L’Alliance de recherche universités-communautés en économie sociale (ARUC-ÉS) et le Réseau québécois de recherche partenariale en économie sociale (RQRP-ÉS)	p. 7
Completed Projects	
Southern Ontario	p. 8
Completed Projects	
Northern Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan Social Economy Regional Node – Linking, Learning and Leveraging	p. 9
Completed Projects	
Projects still in progress	
B.C.-Alberta Social Economy Research Alliance (BALTA)	p. 14
Projects still in progress	
Social Economy Research Network of Northern Canada	p. 15
Completed Projects	
Projects still in progress	
Canadian Social Economy Hub	p. 19
Completed Projects	
Websites for each of the Social Economy Research Networks	p. 21

### Atlantic Node:

*(Scroll down on each page to see links to final reports where available)*

#### Completed Projects with links to available reports:<sup>1</sup>

D'Ambrogi, Kim; Novaczek, Irene. (2009)

“‘We are people of the island’ Social and Cultural Microenterprise on the Small Island of Chiloe, Chile.”

<http://dc.msvu.ca:8080/xmlui/handle/10587/631>

#### Abstract:

This research report examines the phenomenon of microenterprise on the small island of Chiloe in southern Chile, and asks how microentrepreneurship can be a motive force for empowerment and inclusion of people who tend to be at a disadvantage with regards to economic development. A position of disadvantage, it is important to note, is both circumstantial and in the eye of the beholder in that it depends on how marginal and disadvantaged are defined, and on the relationship between the people and that which seems to define them as marginal. Often, a perceived disadvantage may in some ways and at particular times be an advantage. The complex interplay of perceived marginality with product and business development is explored with reference to the insularity involved with being situated on an island; the constraints and opportunities related to living in a rural district; issues of gender; and the entrepreneurial potential of indigenous people faced with the struggles of cultural survival and access to resources of the land and sea.

Le Vangie, D. (2008)

“Aboriginal Wisdom: Medicinal Seaweeds of the Mi’kmaq and Williche. A Comparative Study of Two Island Cultures: From the North to the South: PEI and Chiloe”

<http://dc.msvu.ca:8080/xmlui/handle/10587/635>

#### Abstract:

Issues of inclusion and empowerment are critical to the economic development and cultural survival of aboriginal peoples throughout the Americas. The importance of economic development is highlighted because many Indigenous people around the world live in poverty and are losing their ancestral lands. Even though Indigenous people are entitled to have access to their ancestral lands, outside sources who seek to use or purchase Native lands and more importantly the natural resources that are attached to them are able to take advantage of Indigenous people because they have been disempowered and lack political clout; they are often the only ones fighting for their human rights.

McMillan, L. J., L. Brown and K. Prosper. (2008)

Mapping the Social Economy with Mi’kmaq communities

<http://people.stfx.ca/ljcmill/Overview.htm>

#### Sharing Circle Event:

This project mounted a one-day working seminar, Made with Mi’kmaq Hands, which took the form of a sharing circle and which took place at the community complex in Paqtnekek First Nation. The sharing circle was a component of a larger project focused on exploring craft cooperative potential in Paqtnekek First Nation. By consulting with community members regarding their ideas about creating and maintaining a craft cooperative, the forum took a participatory action research approach to developing networks in the local social economy. It also pulled together the SES/ÉSD network members who are doing research with Aboriginal communities as well as others not affiliated with the Network.

---

<sup>1</sup> Keep checking the website as other publications may be added.

## Projects in Progress :<sup>2</sup>

Chouinard, O. and N. Gauvin

« Changements climatiques et plantes médicinales dans les communautés Mi'kmaq d'Eel River Bar et d'Elsipogtog » 4.6

<http://www.msvu.ca/socialeconomyatlantic/pdfs/projects/4.6.pdf>

### Project Description :

Vulnérabilité des plantes médicinales face au réchauffement causé par les changements climatiques.

McMillan, L. J., K. Prosper, R. Julien, M. J. Paulette, D. Ginnish and L.J. Bernard.

“Contribution des coopératives d’artisanat autochtone à l’économie des Premières Nations aux provinces maritimes” 4.7

<http://www.msvu.ca/socialeconomyatlantic/pdfs/projects/4.7.pdf>

### Project Description :

This project explores Indigenous values and their relation to the social economy. By understanding the elements of the social economy in Mi'kmaq First Nations and their differential impacts, we will be able to raise awareness of alternative social economic strategies, create collaborative networks in solidarity for change and inform policy toward capacity building. This research will help delineate the possibilities for co-operative development in First Nation, band council operated communities.

Novacek, I., R. Angus, A. Franco, Hillsborough Promoters, Williche Council of Chiefs

“Indigenous Community Development: Phase III – Youth Engagement with Community and Natural Resources” 2.7(c)

[http://www.msvu.ca/socialeconomyatlantic/pdfs/projects/Project%202.7\(c\).pdf](http://www.msvu.ca/socialeconomyatlantic/pdfs/projects/Project%202.7(c).pdf)

### Project Summary:

The main research question for this project is: how can youth be engaged, included and empowered in their community with a focus on sustainable resource management? The goals of this project are to foster youth engagement with the natural resources that are found around them, while also promoting an awareness of the relationships between such resources and their communities at large. Through research and work with community partners an understanding of an appropriate approach to youth engagement will be developed for small islands and indigenous communities. A key objective of this project is to empower Williche and Mi'kmaq youth through participatory action research that builds their self confidence; documents their needs and aspirations with respect to fisheries and aquaculture; and helps them find a place in the community development process. The focus of this project is to encourage and promote a healthy and educational relationship between youth and their environment, with an added element of cross-cultural documentation and sharing of knowledge and experience.

---

<sup>2</sup> Publications will be added as they become available.

**L'Alliance de recherche universités-communautés en économie sociale (ARUC-ÉS) et le Réseau québécois de recherche partenariale en économie sociale (RQRP-ÉS) :**  
*(scroll down on each page to see links to final reports where available)*

**Completed Projects with links to available reports:<sup>3</sup>**

Atleo Jr., Cliff. (2008)

“From Indigenous Nationhood to Neoliberal Aboriginal Economic Development: Charting the Evolution of Indigenous-Settler Relations in Canada”

<http://www.socialeconomyhub.ca/?q=content/indigenous-nationhood-neoliberal-aboriginal-economic-development-charting-evolution-indigeno>

**Abstract:**

While Indigenous people have struggled to overcome the legacy of colonialism in Canada, Settler governments have struggled with their own past, and ongoing role in the colonial project. What to do about the “Indian Problem” is a persistent question that remains unsatisfactorily answered. Early treaties between Indigenous peoples and Settlers invoked the spirit of the Two Row Wampum, and a respect for peaceful co-existence through noninterference. This spirit of noninterference remained constant in Indigenous rhetoric through till the latter half of the twentieth century. Since 1991, however, the discourse of Indigenous-Settler Relations has taken a dramatic shift away from respect for distinctiveness towards the language of neoliberalism. Evidence of this shift in discourse can be found in the reports of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, The Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development, and the Senate Standing Committee on Aboriginal Peoples. Recurring crises in Indigenous-Settler relations have often been followed by years of co-opting processes to the extent that certain Indigenous leaders are now increasingly acting upon and advocating for the neoliberal discourse. This paper is a warning to those who would wittingly or unwittingly choose the path of neoliberalism, forsaking their own unique Indigenous worldviews and values.

Langevin-Tétrault, Alexis. (2006)

« Les Autochtones et l'économie sociale au Québec : un portrait exploratoire »

<http://www.aruc-es.uqam.ca/Portals/0/cahiers/C-09-2006.pdf>

**Abstract :**

Ce rapport de recherche émane d'un questionnement portant sur la représentation inégale de populations sociologiques au sein du secteur québécois de l'économie sociale. Pour les populations formées par des personnes appartenant à différents groupes culturels autres que ceux de la société d'accueil, par des personnes handicapées, par des personnes jeunes et par des populations autochtones, il est possible de poser l'hypothèse que ces populations, sans être absentes du secteur de l'économie sociale, s'y trouvent présentes sur des bases non équivalentes au poids démographique qu'elles occupent dans la société.

Afin de faire le point sur cette hypothèse, nous avons entrepris une recherche exploratoire sur une période de six mois entre les mois de janvier et de juin 2006. Cette recherche nous a permis d'enquêter sur l'état d'intégration, d'insertion ou de présence de populations non traditionnelles dans ce secteur économique. L'enquête avait pour objectif de puiser dans les données existantes pour valider notre hypothèse. Rapidement, nous nous sommes rendu compte que peu d'écrits portaient sur la présence de populations non traditionnelles dans ce secteur. En fait, rares sont les rapports de recherche ou les rapports d'enquête qui se penchent sur la question de l'utilisation de cette économie par des populations dites jeunes, handicapées, autochtones ou de communautés culturelles. Nonobstant le peu d'information, nous avons recueilli des données, somme toute intéressantes, pour deux populations : les jeunes et les communautés autochtones. Le présent rapport fait le point sur la population des Autochtones vu sous l'angle de l'économie sociale.

<sup>3</sup> Keep checking the website as other publications may be added.

**Southern Ontario:**

*(scroll down on each page to see links to final reports where available)*

**Completed Projects with links to available reports:<sup>4</sup>**

McMurtry, J. J. (2009). Introducing the social economy in theory and practice. In J. J. McMurtry (Ed.), *Living economics: Canadian perspectives on the social economy, co-operatives and community economic development* Emond Montgomery Publications. Retrieved from <http://www.emp.ca/university/livingecon/livingecon-01-1-34.pdf>

Wuttunee, Wanda (2009). Aboriginal Perspectives on the Social Economy. In J. J. McMurtry (Ed.), *Living economics: Canadian perspectives on the social economy, co-operatives and community economic development* Emond Montgomery Publications. Retrieved from <http://www.emp.ca/university/livingecon/livingecon-07-1-38.pdf>

---

<sup>4</sup> Keep checking the website as other publications may be added.



**Northern Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan Social Economy Regional Node:**  
*(scroll down on each page to see links to final reports where available)*

**Completed Projects with links to available reports:<sup>5</sup>**

Findlay, Isobel M., Robert Dobrohoczki, & Kim Brown. (2008)

[“Community Resilience, Adaptation, and Innovation: The Case of the Social Economy in La Ronge”](#)

[http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/files/LLL\\_Posters/Poster\\_CL4\\_03\\_SK.pdf](http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/files/LLL_Posters/Poster_CL4_03_SK.pdf)

**Abstract:**

This case study on the social economy in the northern Saskatchewan community of La Ronge has three key objectives: to identify social economy actors in La Ronge; to document the economic, social, and cultural contributions of the social economy to the community; and to highlight the opportunities and challenges facing the social economy in La Ronge.

Findlay, Isobel M., Julia Bidonde, Maria Basualdo, & Alyssa McMurtry. (2009)

[“South Bay Park Rangers Employment Project for Persons Living with a Disability: A Case Study in Individual Empowerment and Community Interdependence.”](#)

[http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/files/LLL\\_Final\\_Reports/South\\_Bay\\_Park\\_Rangers.pdf](http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/files/LLL_Final_Reports/South_Bay_Park_Rangers.pdf)

**Project Summary:**

This case study tells the story of the South Bay Park Rangers employment program for people with disabilities in the Northern Saskatchewan Village of Ile-a-la Crosse. The program allows individuals to achieve on-the-job training, seasonal employment, work skills and experience, and independence without leaving their home community. This report discusses the situation in Canada for people with disabilities, issues facing Aboriginal people with disabilities, and particular issues in the North. It also suggests ways to build on program strengths to make it more effective and a model for other communities.

Lynch, Karen, Cara Spence, and Isobel M. Findlay. (2007)

[“Urban Aboriginal Strategy Funding Database”](#)

[http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/files/LLL\\_Final\\_Reports/Report\\_CL1\\_14\\_SK.pdf](http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/files/LLL_Final_Reports/Report_CL1_14_SK.pdf)

**Abstract:**

The data collected during this project informs the amount of funding and granting resources that are available for organizations who deliver programming for Aboriginal people living in Saskatoon. The funding database has the potential to become an important tool for community-based organizations and policy makers to direct change in Saskatoon.

PARO Centre for Women’s Enterprise, Gayle Broad, Madison Saunders, Kirsti Tasala, Rosalind Lockyer, and Marg Scott. (2008)

[“Northern Ontario Women’s Economic Development Conference Report”](#)

[http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page\\_id=171](http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page_id=171)

**Abstract:** PARO and the Canadian Women’s CED Council recognized the special challenges experienced by women living in Northern Ontario while working to achieve economic sustainability. Women entrepreneurs struggle to keep up with technology, market their business, build relationships, balance their lives, and ask a price that will generate a fair profit. It is the hope that this Northern Ontario Women’s Economic Development Conference 2008 has provided the motivation, learnings, networking, and information that they require to help start and grow their business, while generating the kind of jobs and income needed to keep their families in the North.

---

<sup>5</sup> Keep checking the website as other publications may be added.

Pattison, Dwayne & Isobel M. Findlay. (2009)

“Self-determination in Action: The Entrepreneurship of the Northern Saskatchewan Trappers Association Co-operative.”

[http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/wp-content/uploads/report\\_cl3\\_01\\_sk.pdf](http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/wp-content/uploads/report_cl3_01_sk.pdf)

Abstract:

This project explores and makes recommendations regarding collaborative governance models, organizational communications, transparency and accountability, and the integration of traditional trapper values and worldviews.

Spence, Cara & Isobel M. Findlay. (2007)

“Evaluation of Saskatoon Urban Aboriginal Strategy”

[http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/files/LLL\\_Final\\_Reports/Report\\_CL1\\_23\\_SK.pdf](http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/files/LLL_Final_Reports/Report_CL1_23_SK.pdf)

Abstract:

In consideration of the UAS mandate to identify local needs of Aboriginal people and to develop innovative ways to address these needs, this research aims to evaluate whether the UAS project was managed and delivered as it was designed; in turn, meeting the needs of the people it was intended to serve.

Tasala, Kirsti & Rosalind Lockyer. (2008)

“Northern Opportunities for Women: REPORT #2, 2008: Into the new decade” (Jessica Notwell, Ed.)

<http://www.paro.ca/resources/Research/NOW%20Report%202008%20Into%20the%20New%20Decade%20FULL%20REPORT.pdf>

## Projects in Progress :<sup>6</sup>

Broad, Gayle & Christine Sy.

“Indigenous Women and Work” *CLI-08-NO*

[http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page\\_id=230](http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page_id=230)

### Project Summary:

This project raises and celebrates the profiles of indigenous women involved in community economic and business development.

Broad, Gayle. Sheila Gruner, Fort Albany First Nation, Economic Development Officer  
Christopher Metatawabin & Community advisory groups

“Knowing Traditional Territory: An Inter-Generational Dialogue” *CLI-10-NO*

[http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page\\_id=176](http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page_id=176)

### Project Summary:

In the spirit of oral tradition, an audio documentary will be produced by community youth and others who will interview elders, adults, and their peers concerning the importance of traditional territory for economic and social well-being.

Findlay, Isobel, Arlene Bear, Dwayne Pattison, Marie Prebushewski & Thickwood Hills Business Learning Network.

“Sharing our gifts: The Story of Ohpahow Wawesecikiwak Arts Marketing Co-operative Limited” *CLI-20-SK*

[http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page\\_id=187](http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page_id=187)

### Project Summary:

The Artisan Co-operative of Big River First Nation is responding to the need of communities to establish business enterprises to create income and build capacity within the community of artisans. The resulting report documents the ways in which the Arts Marketing Co-op is responding to the need of its community to establish business enterprises to create income and build capacity among its artisans.

Findlay, Isobel & Northern Village of Ile-a-la Crosse.

“Building a Long Term Strategy for People with Disabilities: The Case of Ile-a-la Crosse” *CL5-19-SK*

[http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page\\_id=724](http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page_id=724)

### Project Summary:

This project will explore and facilitate partnerships between the Northern Village of Ile-a-la Crosse and cognitive disability workers in Northwest Saskatchewan. It will explore the opportunities that the social economy can create for improving the quality of life for people with disabilities in Northern Saskatchewan.

---

<sup>6</sup> Publications will be added as they become available.

Findlay, Isobel, Darlene Lanceley, Gloria Lee, Nicola Chopin, Susan Verbeke & Saskatchewan Economic Development Association.

“Investing in the Successful Reintegration of Aboriginal People Returning from Incarceration in Federal, Provincial, and Youth Institutions” *CL1-19-SK*

[http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page\\_id=204](http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page_id=204)

**Project Summary:**

This study provides a literature review and environmental scan of existing programs and support for those returning from incarceration in federal, provincial, and youth institutions. The research intends to recommend initiatives and new programs and services to fill gaps.

Findlay, Isobel & Northern Saskatchewan Tappers Association Co-operative.

“Lessons Learned on the Justice Trapline” *CL5-18-SK*

[http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page\\_id=729](http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page_id=729)

**Project Summary:**

The purpose of this project is to conduct research across Canada and other jurisdictions on the lessons learned about placing Aboriginal people awaiting trial on the trap lines. The study will focus on convicted people with disabilities, and convicted youth offenders. Lessons learned from other places will support the efforts of NSTAC to develop a program that would suit the Northern Aboriginal people.

Hammond Ketilson, Lou & Gayle Broad

“Mapping the Nature and Extent of the Social Economy in Aboriginal Communities” *CL4-12*

[http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page\\_id=220](http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page_id=220)

**Project Summary:**

This project intends to document the types of social economy organizations in Northern Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan.

Leviton-Reid, Catherine, Erin Nicolas & Duck Lake Primary Health Team.

“Mapping Health Disparity: The Role of the Social Economy in Duck Lake” *CL1-26-SK*

[http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page\\_id=731](http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page_id=731)

**Project Summary:**

The goal of this project is to improve access to health services in the Duck Lake area and understand barriers and disparities between groups accessing health care within the Duck Lake school division boundary (town, rural municipality, and reserve). It will also explore the opportunities that the social economy can create for improving the quality of life of people living in this area.

Sy, Christine, Natalie Waboose, Derek Rice, The Aboriginal Development Centre & The Sault Ste. Marie Learning Circle.

“Urban Aboriginal Economic Development: Learning Circles” *CL1-29-NO*

[http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page\\_id=967](http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page_id=967)

**Project Summary:**

Learning Circles facilitate knowledge exchange and capacity building; they feature discussions on particular issues, themes, or questions that are central to the lives of participants. This research aims to establish an effective and supportive policy context that can enable the success of community efforts through learning circles.

Wuttunee, Wanda & Alon Weinberg.

“Anishinaabek Communities of the Boreal and the Impacts of Roads: Paving the Way Towards a Social Economy?” *CL5-12*

[http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page\\_id=979](http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page_id=979)

**Project Summary:**

This research project will involve looking at long-term changes to land use by members of 2-3 Anishinabek communities of the boreal forest of eastern Manitoba and Northwest Ontario, especially as it pertains to the access to the community by year-round roads, or lack thereof. The outcomes will be used to further critique and evaluate stated governmental policies in this region, with an eye on cultural continuity and long-term health and social well-being of the communities with whom research shall be conducted.

[Garden River First Nation Performance of Hiawatha](#) (CL1-04-NO)

**Project Summary:** This project provided youth with training in writing, acting, and producing community arts events and developed youth knowledge of Anishinaabe history and mythology.

[Inuit Harvesting, the Social Economy, and Political Participation](#) (CL5-22)

**Project Summary:** As the nature of harvesting economies and Inuit views of development appear to be largely consistent with the aims of social economy, there is considerable opportunity for social enterprises to learn from Inuit communities and world views. Furthermore, by including Inuit harvesting in the social economy dialogue, it provides an avenue for Inuit harvesting – an often neglected sphere of the economy of Nunavut - to receive additional attention in discussions of community development. This study will explore the issues harvesters have when attempting to engage the regulatory process, and the methods used to overcome these barriers.

[Sioux Lookout Anti-Racism Committee: A Case Study in Respectful Relations, Anti-Racism, and Solidarity in the Social Economy](#) (CL4-17-NO)

**Project Summary:** This case study will explore how an anti-racism committee has developed and grown over the past 20 years, building relationships across cultures and within the community itself. It looks at the experiences of Sioux Lookout Anti-Racism Committee in order to better understand the process of building respectful relations in the social economy.

Please refer to the topical index to projects to find links to additional project information:

[http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page\\_id=995#Indigenous\\_Communities](http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/?page_id=995#Indigenous_Communities)

**B.C.-Alberta Social Economy Research Alliance (BALTA):**  
*(scroll down on each page to see links to final reports where available)*

**Projects in Progress :<sup>7</sup>**

Gordon, Doug, Mike Lewis & Nadine Pinnell.

“Leveraging Social Ownership of Proprietary Trademarks related to the Golden Mussel as a Base for Expansion of Social Enterprise in Coastal B.C. Aboriginal Communities” D2

<http://www.socialeconomy-bcalberta.ca/research/cross-cutting-research.php>

**Project summary:**

This project is linked to an initiative to use a trademarked aquaculture product, the golden mussel, as a basis for social economy based community economic development in Coastal Aboriginal communities in British Columbia, Canada. The BALTA project includes two aspects: research on questions of relevance to the development of the golden mussel initiative; and research tracking the golden mussel initiative as a social economy development system case study.

---

<sup>7</sup> Publications will be added as they become available.

**Social Economy Research Network of Northern Canada:**  
(*Scroll down on each page to see links to final reports where available*)

**Completed Projects with links to available reports:<sup>8</sup>**

Bennett, Nathan and Harvey Lemelin. (2009)

“Maximizing Lutsël K’e Community Benefit from the Proposed National Park”

[http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca/stories/storyReader\\$56](http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca/stories/storyReader$56)

**Abstract:**

The primarily Dene First Nation community of Lutsël K’e, Northwest Territories, located 200km east of Yellowknife on the East Arm of Great Slave Lake, is questioning the implications of the creation of a national park in their traditional territory and on the local community and how to maximize local benefit. This document explores the results of a collaboratively developed research project that focused on: 1) perceived and desired community development outcomes related to the creation of a national park; 2) capacity building for the maximization of local benefit; and 3) the role of the social economy in facilitating social and economic development related to park creation.

Prior to exploring these three areas of focus, the first section explores the context of this study and provides a brief history of the national park proposal for the East Arm of Great Slave Lake. The research process, methodology and methods are also outlined in this section. The second section of this document explores community perceptions of the reasons that the community initially opposed the formation of a national park and the factors that may have caused the community’s position to change and provides an overview of the perceived and desired community benefits of the park’s creation. A discussion of emergent themes related to capacity building for tourism development, for capitalizing on potential employment and contract opportunities, and for non-economic development is provided in the third section. The fourth section examines the role of the social economy in facilitating community development related to the creation of the park.

Recommendations for applying the results of this research are highlighted throughout the document. The goal of this document has been to provide information for the Lutsël K’e Dene First Nation and the Parks Canada agency and to support the maximization of local community development as the formation of the national park proceeds.

Lionais, Doug and Kim Hardy. (2010)

“Co-operation in the North: Understanding Co-operatives in the Yukon”

[http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca/stories/storyReader\\$57](http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca/stories/storyReader$57)

**Abstract:**

Co-operatives are often promoted as an appropriate development model for peripheral regions and isolated communities. Co-ops are a proven successful tool for local economic development in regions across Canada, particularly the north; home to fifty-two co-operatives. The Yukon, making up a third of northern Canada’s population, at the time of this research had four operating co-operatives.

This paper explains the lack of cooperative development in the Yukon by examining influences in other regions that are benefiting from the model and comparing them to the context of the Territory. By analyzing co-operative activity through interviews with past and present co-operatives, this research draws out considerations for co-operative development in other isolated areas and identifies opportunities to better support their development.

---

<sup>8</sup> Keep checking the website as other publications may be added.

McClelland, Carrie, Dr. Margaret Johnston and Tracy Erman. (2008)

“Contributions of volunteering in outdoor recreation to the social economy in Whitehorse.”

[http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernoca/stories/storyReader\\$31](http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernoca/stories/storyReader$31)

**Abstract:**

Volunteers play a significant role in providing important services to a community. Not only do these services create opportunities for community members to participate in a variety of activities, but they also offer numerous benefits for the individual volunteer. This study investigates the views of volunteers in outdoor recreation regarding their contributions to community and personal well-being, and was explored within a social economy framework in order to effectively understand the place of volunteering in community processes. Using a qualitative approach, 13 exploratory interviews were conducted with outdoor recreation volunteers in Whitehorse during the spring and summer of 2007. The open interview format allowed study participants the freedom to discuss how they felt their volunteer work contributed to their personal well-being, as well as to the greater community. The findings from this study are grouped under five areas of interest: *Lifestyle, Personal benefits, Community benefits, Pressure, and The influence of money*. It was found that individuals receive benefits such as increased knowledge, social connections, and empowerment from volunteering in outdoor recreation and that the community receives these benefits through their work. These benefits relate to the social economy through their contributions to community development and exchanges in social capital.

**Projects in Progress :<sup>9</sup>**

Castro, Damian & Dr. David Natcher.

“Hunting Support Programs and Sustaining Locally-based Livelihoods in the North: Meat Distribution Networks in Sheshatshiu, Labrador (Innu Nation, Labrador)” *4a*

[http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernoca/stories/storyReader\\$98](http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernoca/stories/storyReader$98)

**Description:**

Despite experiencing profound social economic change, Inuit communities in Labrador continue to harvest, process, and consume considerable volumes of country foods annually.

In the Innu community of Sheshatshui, Labrador, hunting and gathering food on the land (nutshimit) has significant mental, spiritual and physical health and other social benefits. Using data obtained by ethnographic method in outpost camps and after surveying a sample of 38 households on caribou hunting and meat sharing, it is possible to show these benefits in detail. Outpost life engages everyone and demands high intensity physical activity while acquiring fresh, wild food. Upon return people are visibly healthier, having lost excess body weight. And given that a big part of the food is shared with the community, these trips to the land offer an opportunity to strengthen links with relatives and friends, many of whom are unable to participate in the outposts.

---

<sup>9</sup> Publications will be added as they become available.



Keeling, Arn, John Sandlos & Jean-Sebastien Boutet  
 “Mining and the Social Economy in the Canadian North” 6  
[http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca/stories/storyReader\\$54](http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca/stories/storyReader$54)

**Description:**

Through the investigation of case studies in western Labrador and northern Quebec, we plan to examine the impact of mining development on northern communities and their local environments and economies. Through archival and community-based research, this project intends to illuminate how major mine developments affect existing social economy organizations and practices. We are also interested in how the community instability associated with mine closures impacts these organizations, as well as the broader social economy. In particular, our project will address the impact of social and economic changes associated with large-scale capitalist enterprises on indigenous and Northern communities. Primary research will be undertaken by a master’s student, contributing to training and the development of research capacity. We plan to work closely with several organizations that have expressed support for this project, including local First Nations, community groups and mining companies active in the region.

This research will provide a distinctive regional and thematic counterpart to a SSHRCC-funded project (led by the investigators) examining the environmental and social impacts mining developments in Aboriginal communities across Canada’s territorial north. Our research will develop social economy capacity by helping Native and non-Native communities identify key problems related to single-industry developments. It will also contribute to government efforts to develop and define appropriate policies and programs to assist social economy development. This work will also inform contemporary debates about on how to promote community sustainability through social economy activities that run parallel to the ephemeral economic life of mineral developments.

MacPherson, Ian, Jennifer Alsop & Mary Nirlungayuk.  
 “The Creation of a Galleria of Arctic Cooperatives” 11  
<http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca/project11>

**Description:**

The intention of this work is to create a Galleria to provide an introduction and historical account of the Arctic Co-operatives similar to the Co-operative Galleria developed by the British Columbia Institute for Co-operative Studies (BCICS) for co-operatives in British Columbia (details of this at <http://www.bcics.org/resources/galleria>). In the North much of the history of the Arctic Cooperative development is unknown with little research done to provide an understanding of their development and operations. This project like the BC Cooperative Galleria will have a primary aim to provide a comprehensive introduction to the Arctic Cooperatives in the Nunavut and the Northwest Territories.

Natcher, David, Tobi Jeans, Norma Kassi & Jody Butler Walker.  
 “Food Security and the Cross-Border Dimensions of the Vuntut Gwich’in Social Economy”  
 4c  
<http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca/Project4c>

**Description:**

A key project for this research work will be undertaken to examine the social economy of indigenous populations through a case study on food security and cross border dimensions of the Vuntut Gwich’in Social Economy.

Natcher, Larry Felt, Jill McDonald, Andrea Procter & Nunatsiavut Government.

“Subsistence and the Social Economy of Nunatsiavut, Labrador” *4d*

[http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca/stories/storyReader\\$100](http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca/stories/storyReader$100)

**Description:**

In 2006, the Nunatsiavut Government entered into a partnership with researchers from the University of Saskatchewan and Memorial University to document the non-commercial use of country foods by Inuit residents in the communities of Nain, Postville, Hopedale, Makkovik, Rigolet and Upper Lake Melville in Nunatsiavut, Labrador (Map 1). A survey was designed to systematically gather information on the harvest, use, and distribution of country foods by Nunatsiavut households. In total, 665 out of 842 Nunatsiavut households were surveyed (79 percent coverage).

Rodon, Thierry & Harry Tulugak.

“The Role of Inuit Land Claim Organizations in the Northern Social Economy” *10*

[http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca/stories/storyReader\\$58](http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca/stories/storyReader$58)

**Description:**

Land Claim Organizations (LCOs) are powerful players in northern politics, and social and economic development but their role has not been well conceptualized or studied even if these organizations involve a wide range of activities: defending the rights of beneficiaries; managing land claim compensation funds and land holdings; negotiating resource development on these lands and collecting royalties on resource development. This gives them an important financial leverage that is used for a variety of purposes.

This research intends to analyze the role of two LCOs, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and Makivik Corporation in the development of the northern social economy in the Inuit region. This study will first describe briefly the state of social economy in each of these regions and examine the policies and investment strategies of these two organizations and develop indicators to measure their effect on the social economy in each of these regions. The most successful experiences in developing the Northern social economy will also be identified...

Simmons, Deborah & Sarah Gordon.

“Language, Place and Governance in Deline, Northwest Territories: Monitoring Persistence and Change in the Social Economy” *13*

<http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca/projects>

**Description:**

The social economy of the over 100 small, predominantly Aboriginal communities of Canada’s north is distinctive. It is sustained in part by some of the same institutions that dominate the southern social economy (cooperatives, small and not-for-profit enterprises, volunteer and charitable organizations and practices). Underlying these organizational forms and far more important for the sustenance of the social economy of small communities is the northern mixed economy.

During the recent period of rapid industrialization in the Northwest Territories, the Dene community of Déline has maintained a remarkably vital mixed economy. Dene language and cultural practices embody the complex of traditional knowledge, social relationships and spirituality that structures and sustains Dene people’s ongoing land-based harvesting economy.

The dual objectives of capitalist economic development and maintenance of community well-being and sustainability through the traditional economy are the essence of the mixed economy. However, in this recent phase it is not clear how the two objectives can be appropriately balanced. As the Déline First Nation renews its role in resource management and self-governance, it is necessary to develop an understanding of the programs and processes that can support and enhance the less easily quantifiable traditional sector of the economy. The core of this collaborative research program is the exploration of Dene narratives, language and traditional harvesting practices as indicators of a healthy social economy. The past, present and potential impact of language, cultural, and on-the-land programming will be investigated as responsibility for these programs is devolved to the self-governing Déline First Nation.

**Canadian Social Economy Hub:**  
(*Scroll down on each page to see links to final reports where available*)

**Completed Projects with links to available reports:<sup>10</sup>**

Atleo Jr., Cliff. (2008)

“From Indigenous Nationhood to Neoliberal Aboriginal Economic Development: Charting the Evolution of Indigenous-Settler Relations in Canada” Janel Smith (ed.)

<http://www.socialeconomyhub.ca/hub/wp-content/uploads/2009/01/catleocsehubpaperoct2008v2.pdf>

**Abstract:**

While Indigenous people have struggled to overcome the legacy of colonialism in Canada, Settler governments have struggled with their own past, and ongoing role in the colonial project. What to do about the “Indian Problem” is a persistent question that remains unsatisfactorily answered. Early treaties between Indigenous peoples and Settlers invoked the spirit of the Two Row Wampum, and a respect for peaceful co-existence through noninterference. This spirit of noninterference remained constant in Indigenous rhetoric through till the latter half of the twentieth century. Since 1991, however, the discourse of Indigenous-Settler Relations has taken a dramatic shift away from respect for distinctiveness towards the language of neoliberalism. Evidence of this shift in discourse can be found in the reports of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, The Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development, and the Senate Standing Committee on Aboriginal Peoples. Recurring crises in Indigenous-Settler relations have often been followed by years of co-opting processes to the extent that certain Indigenous leaders are now increasingly acting upon and advocating for the neoliberal discourse. This paper is a warning to those who would wittingly or unwittingly choose the path of neoliberalism, forsaking their own unique Indigenous worldviews and values.

McBride, J E. (2004)

“Aboriginal community economic development: Overcoming barriers to Aboriginal entrepreneurship”

<http://www.socialeconomyhub.ca/?q=content/aboriginal-community-economic-development-overcoming-barriers-aboriginal-entrepreneurship-1>

**Abstract:**

This study explores the question: how can Aboriginal communities foster a supportive climate for Aboriginal entrepreneurs and business start-up? The literature review finds a high degree of compatibility between the characteristics and strategies of community economic development and Aboriginal economic development. The unique aspects of Aboriginal economic development are further examined, including the history of Aboriginal communities, challenges faced, the importance of long-term approaches, cultural issues that impact Aboriginal economic development, and critical success factors. The review then addresses the question, Do these differences affect the role the entrepreneur plays in Aboriginal economic development? It makes the case that the prominence of the family and the overriding importance of cultural preservation require a different entrepreneurial behaviour. From this analysis, a series of research questions are developed and answered, using data from three First Nations communities: (1) What are the barriers experienced by Aboriginal people who attempt to start-up businesses in Aboriginal communities? (2) What has been done in Aboriginal communities to overcome these barriers? (3) How can Aboriginal communities assess their capacity to support Aboriginal businesses?

---

<sup>10</sup> Keep checking the website as other publications may be added.

Myskow, S. (2008)

“Sustainability in Canadian and indigenous policy-making”

<http://www.socialeconomyhub.ca/?q=content/sustainability-canadian-and-indigenous-policy-making-0>

**Abstract:**

Building on the premise that Canadian government thus far has been incapable of enacting a working model of how to implement sustainability, this thesis defines Canada’s basic environmental position and takes it as a starting point to a prospective shift in our national value system. Using a case study of a the Detroit River International Crossing Project, a government-initiated development project in Windsor, Ontario, and a careful analysis of publicly available documents, it measures Canada’s stated values with respect to the environment against the project’s actual pathways of action, thereby unearthing the embedded value system which governs environmental ethics and policies in Canada. Also, this thesis will draw comparisons with the value system of the Walpole Island First Nation – a representative Indigenous community located near Windsor – in order to present alternative ways of relating to the earth and of conceptualizing environmental ethics and policies.

## **Websites for each of the Social Economy Research Networks**

### **Atlantic:**

Social Economy and Sustainability Research Network

<http://www.msvu.ca/socialeconomyatlantic/>

### **Québec:**

l'Alliance de recherche universités-communautés en économie sociale (ARUCÉS)  
et le Réseau québécois de recherche partenariale en économie sociale (RQRPÉS)

<http://www.aruc-es.uqam.ca/>

### **Southern Ontario:**

<http://sec.oise.utoronto.ca/english/index.php>

### **Northern Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan:**

Linking, Learning, Leveraging: Social Enterprises, Knowledgeable Economies, and Sustainable Communities

<http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy/>

### **British Columbia and Alberta:**

B.C.-Alberta Social Economy Research Alliance (BALTA)

<http://www.socialeconomy-bcalberta.ca/>

### **Northern:**

Social Economy Research Network of Northern Canada

<http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca/overview>

### **Canadian Hub:**

<http://www.socialeconomyhub.ca/>

## SES/ESD Network Research Goals

- . Contributing to the theory and practice of social economy in the Atlantic region
- . Internal bridging, bonding, mentoring & capacity building
- . Encouraging use of the “social economy” as a framing concept in the region
- . Linking Atlantic partners with other parts of Canada and the world

## SES/ESD Network Research Themes and Questions

### *Conceptualizing & describing the social economy in Atlantic Canada*

- . What does the social economy look like? What needs does it address?
- . How can we best capture this sector conceptually?
- . What, if anything, makes it distinctive or innovative? How interconnected are its facets, & to what effect?
- . What are the characteristics of social economy organizations?
- . What are the implications for government policy?

### *Policy inventory and analysis*

- . How are different understandings of “social economy” reflected in government policy?
- . What needs are not being met, & what changes are needed in regulatory environment?
- . What indicators can we develop to aid in policy development?

### *Community mobilization around issues of common concern (natural resources; food security; inclusion and empowerment)*

- . Do social economy organizations contribute to social inclusion, the democratization of the economy, & empowerment?
- . What inputs are needed to overcome obstacles & build capacity?
- . What can we learn from research on mobilization around food security, empowerment & inclusion, community management of natural resources & energy?

### *Measuring and Financing the Social Economy*

- . What can social accounting, co-operative accounting, social auditing, & other techniques contribute towards a better understanding of the work and contributions of social economy organizations?
- . Where do social economy organizations obtain the financing that they need?
- . What do social economy organizations contribute toward financing the social economy?

### *Modeling & researching innovative, traditional, & IT-based communication and dissemination processes*

- . How can social economy actors best communicate?
- . What can our Network team members contribute by developing & modeling processes and techniques?
- . What can be gained from exploring technology as an equalizer vs. technology as a barrier?



## Network Director:

Dr. Leslie Brown, Professor, Sociology/Anthropology, Mount Saint Vincent University

## Network Co-Directors:

- . Mr. Seth Asimakos, Manager, Saint John Community Loan Fund
- . Ms. Penelope Rowe, Chief Executive Officer, Community Services Council Newfoundland and Labrador
- . Dr. Luc Thériault, Professor, Sociology, University of New Brunswick

## Sub-node Coordinators:

- . SN1: Mapping and Policy Analysis  
Dr. Luc Thériault, Professor, Sociology, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, NB
- . SN2: Mobilization : Inclusion and Empowerment in the Social Economy  
Dr. Irené Novaczek, Director, Institute of Island Studies, University of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown, PEI
- . SN3: Mobilization : Food Security and Community Economic Development  
Dr. Patricia Williams, Assistant Professor, Applied Human Nutrition, Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax, NS
- . SN4: Mobilization : Natural Resources and Livelihood  
Dr. Omer Chouinard, Professeur, Sociologie, Université de Moncton, Moncton, NB
- . SN5: Financing and Measuring the Social Economy  
Dr. Sonja Novkovic, Associate Professor, Economics; and Dr. Judith Haiven, Associate Professor, Management, Saint Mary's University, Halifax, NS
- . SN6: Communication Practices and Tools  
Ms. Penelope Rowe, Chief Executive Officer, Community Services Council Newfoundland and Labrador, St. John's, NL; and  
Dr. Ivan Emke, Associate Professor, Social/Cultural Studies, Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Corner Brook, NL

## Network Coordinator:

Noreen Millar, M.A.

<http://www.msvu.ca/socialeconomyatlantic/>