

International Centre for Northern Governance and Development Status Report

<http://artsandscience.usask.ca/icngd/>

Mission: Since fall 2008, the International Centre for Northern Governance and Development (ICNGD) has refocused its mission and mandate to concentrate on the Circumpolar North and its relationship to Northern Saskatchewan.

Goals and Objectives of the Centre: With an emphasis on innovation, the goal of the ICNGD is to further research, graduate training, and capacity building around the issues of governance and development – economy, environment, social and health – in partnership with Northern and Aboriginal communities, industry, and government.

Types of activities undertaken to achieve mandate:

January 2009

The ICNGD had its initial Stakeholder Meeting to chart a new course and mandate with a revised vision to focus on the North (Saskatchewan, Canada, and the Circumpolar North). Those in attendance were academics from Canada, including Nunavut Arctic College, and also from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and Bodø University College (Norway). Key northern partners included First Nations – Prince Albert Grand Council and Meadow Lake Tribal Council; New North (Saskatchewan Association of Northern Communities); industry – Cameco, Areva, and Suncor; and, the Government of Saskatchewan.

February 2009

Greg Poelzer, Bonita Beatty (Department of Native Studies), and Hayley Hesseln (Department of Bioresource Policy, Business, and Economics) and Chiefs Ron Michel (PAGC) and Guy Lariviere (Canoe Lake Cree Nation) traveled to Bodø, Norway and Umeå, Sweden to set the foundations for research collaboration and cooperation on a joint masters program on northern governance and development.

March 2009

The ICNGD and the International Institute for Sustainable Development (a UArctic partner) hosted delegates from Winnipeg, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit delegates from northern communities (as far away as Yukon and Rankin Inlet), colleagues from the Edwards School of Business, and partners from Cameco, Areva, and Suncor to discuss and collaborate on Northern Entrepreneurship training, studies, and issues. Funding was provided by INAC.

2009 & 2010 (term 2)

The ICNGD hosted a one-day Symposium involving Canadian Graduate Student Fellowship Recipients (who came from all over Canada and Iceland) to present their research on and to discuss Canada's Role in the Circumpolar World and Related Issues. Bridget Larocque, a permanent participant of the Arctic Council (Gwich'in Council International), was in attendance and gave the key note address at the evening dinner. Post-Symposium, the graduate students established a set of recommendations that were presented in person in Whitehorse to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

2009 & 2010 (term 2)

The ICNGD, through funding provided by the provincial government, Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment, and Labour (AEEL), facilitated a pilot graduate course (POLST 824.3 Topics in Northern Governance) with Bodø University College, Norway. Professor Joe Garcea, the instructor for the course, traveled with seven students from Political Studies, Native Studies, School of the Environment, and the School of Public Policy.

January 2010

The ICNGD held a collaborative workshop with Umeå University (Sweden) from January 25th – January 28th, 2010. A series of meetings transpired with industry, Northern First Nations and municipal leaders in Northern Saskatchewan. The focus of these activities was to continue collaboration and discussion around common concerns in Northern governance and development to support mechanisms for program delivery for graduate training and research.

Fall 2010

The Centre will be launching its new Master's degree in Northern Governance and Development. The Master's degree will be a cutting edge program providing leadership training—including built-in workplace internships and international study courses—in Northern governance and development.

Governance:

Executive Committee
Greg Poelzer (Director)
Maureen Reed (Co-Director, Research)
Bonita Beatty

Centre members:

Alec Aitken
Loleen Berdahl

Lalita Bharadwaj
Robert Bone
Keith Carlson
Ken Coates
Douglas Clark
Joseph Garcea
Hayley Hesseln
Eric Howe
Mark Johnston
Roger Maaka
Tom Molloy
Bram Noble
Bob Patrick
Peter Phillips
Lee Swanson
Ryan Walker
Warren Weir
Karal Jessen Williamson
Karen Tanino