
School of Environmental Design and Rural Development Symposium

Landscape Architecture Building, Room 143
September 16, 2016 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm



Please join us on September 16th for a symposium to introduce SEDRD's newest faculty members. Talks will take place from 2:00 – 3:00 pm. Reception and discussion at 3:00 pm.



RYAN GIBSON

Assistant Professor

School of Environmental Design & Rural Development

Re-embedding Wealth? Place, Philanthropy, and Policy

Rural communities are at a critical turning point in Canada after having witnessed decades of dramatic changes. The future of rural communities is largely viewed as dependent on external actors and external funds. At the same time, rural communities are sites of substantial wealth. Although rural areas are sources of wealth, it has largely been redirected out of rural regions to larger urban centres. Globalization further facilitates the hyper-mobility of finance to the point that many argue finance is no longer tied to place. Finance has become 'disembedded' with increasing interconnections and advancements in Internet technologies. This presentation examines why rural communities should be concerned with the hyper-mobility of wealth and how they can re-embed wealth to place. Implications for rural planning, public policy, and research are discussed from both the Ontario and the Canadian perspectives.

Ryan Gibson holds the Libro Professorship in Regional Economic Development for Southwestern Ontario.



SHERI LONGBOAT

Assistant Professor

School of Environmental Design & Rural Development

First Nations Water Security and Collaboration

Inequity between Aboriginal communities and non-Aboriginal communities in Canada has significantly impacted the health, well-being and development capacity of Aboriginal communities. One of the most poignant examples of this disparity and its effect is the water crisis on First Nations reserves. Generally characterized by a lack of safe drinking water, inadequate water infrastructure and contaminated water sources, the water crisis has persisted in many First Nations for years, and several communities for decades. To address the water crisis in an effective, culturally appropriate and sustainable manner requires an understanding of the historical context as a critical driver for current relations, and solutions that support broader community goals of self-determination, self-governance and self-reliance. As policy and law now require greater participation of Aboriginal people in the processes and activities that may impact Aboriginal and treaty rights, research can play critical role by investigating and addressing overarching implementation challenges related to knowledge integration, institutional arrangements, collaborative models, and capacity-building.