



LIBRO PROFESSOR OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**2019-2020
ANNUAL
REPORT**

The Libro Professor
of Regional Economic
Development was
established in 2016 through
the generous donations
from Libro Credit Union,
the Klosler family, and the
Roberts family. Together, a
\$1 million gift was created
to serve as a catalyst
for enhancing regional
economic development in
Southwestern Ontario.



I am delighted to present the 2019-2020 Annual Report of the Libro Professor of Regional Economic Development. The past year has been exciting, with many activities, outputs, and achievements. The Libro Professorship engaged in teaching in regional planning and economic development, mentoring graduate students, connecting with communities and businesses, and conducting research. Through the Libro Professorship, a number of critical topics for the long-term prosperity of our communities are being examined, including local economic development, immigration, workforce development, place-based development, non-profit organizations and charities, and migrant agricultural workers.

This fourth annual report of the Libro Professorship, provides a snapshot of the activities for the past year. Further details of these activities can be found at www.ruraldev.ca.

The COVID-19 global pandemic impacted activities throughout the end of winter, spring, and summer. Teaching, research, and engagement activities were all impacted to adhere to pandemic guidelines. This resulted in postponing community meetings, moving some activities online, and re-scheduling other activities. At the same time, COVID-19 was a catalyst for new research initiatives. We have initiated investigations into the impacts of COVID-19 on agricultural production and temporary workers, rural employment trends, and rural economic development.

I look forward to reflections on the 2019-2020 Libro Professor of Regional Economic Development Annual Report.

Ryan Gibson.



SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The School of Environmental Design and Rural Development brings together major academic fields concerned with creating strong communities in Canada and around the world. The four highly respected units that have come together to form the School share many common goals but approach them in different and complementary ways. This model reflects the imperatives in building authentic communities where planners, leaders, communicators, landscape architects, the citizens, and politicians all play important interdependent roles in strengthening communities. For more information, visit www.sedrd.uoguelph.ca.

Ontario Agricultural College (OAC) Dean's Office
Johnston Hall Boardroom
OAC Student Space and SFOAC Offices and Boardroom
Environmental Design & Rural Development Offices
Fine Art & Music Offices

BUILDING STUDENT CAPACITY

Over the past year, the Libro Professor provided opportunities for graduate students to enhance their skills and capacities. These opportunities include engagement as research assistants, support networking with key partners in the region, and financing attendance at regional, national, and international conferences, events, and workshops.

15 students hired as research assistants



22 students supervised at Master or doctoral level

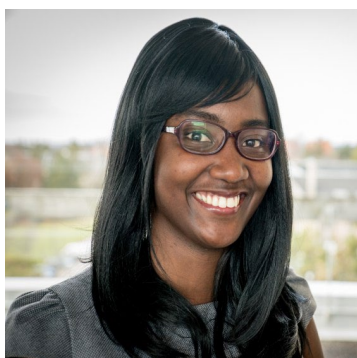


30 opportunities for students to attend conferences & workshops



GRADUATE STUDENTS & RESEARCHERS

The Libro Professor supervises graduate students in three graduate programs at the University of Guelph: the Master of Science in Rural Planning and Development, Master of Planning, and PhD in Rural Studies. A total of 22 graduate students were supervised in 2019-2020. In addition, the Libro Professor also engaged two researchers to support activities and initiatives. Further information about graduate students and researchers can be found at www.ruraldev.ca.



**Victoria
Agyepong**

*Master of Science in Rural
Planning and Development*



**Joshua
Barrett**

PhD in Rural Studies



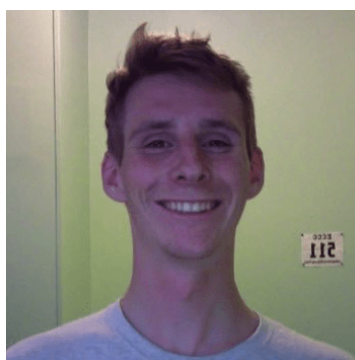
**Tracey
Harvey**

PhD in Rural Studies



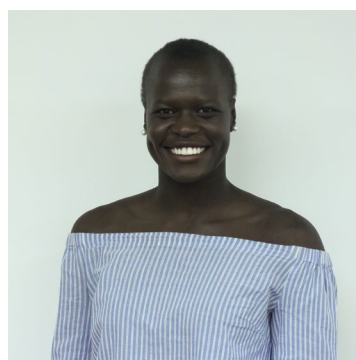
**Louis
Helps**

*Master of Science in Rural
Planning and Development*



**Timothy
Hunting**

*Master of Science in Rural
Planning and Development*



**Emmanuela
Jada**

*Master of Science in Rural
Planning and Development*



**Sean
Jeffrey**

*Master of Science in Rural
Planning and Development*



**Shannon
Labelle**

*Master of Science in Rural
Planning and Development*



**Melanie
Lang**

PhD in Rural Studies



**Koren
Lam**

*Master of Science in Rural
Planning and Development*



**Yanjun
Liang**

*Master of Science in Rural
Planning and Development*



**Ourlaine
Pashley**

*Master of Science in Rural
Planning and Development*



**Sarah
Parish**

*Master of Science in Rural
Planning and Development*



**Brandon
Raco**

*Master of Science in Rural
Planning and Development*



**Matthew
Rapke**

*Master of Science in Rural
Planning and Development*



**Niva
Shrestha**

*Master of Science in Rural
Planning and Development*



**Gursewak
Singh**

*Master of Science in Rural
Planning and Development*



**Mallory
Smith**

*Master of Science in Rural
Planning and Development*



**Chloe
Spears**

*Master of Science in Rural
Planning and Development*



**Ashleigh
Weeden**

PhD in Rural Studies



**Vinit
Yadav**

Master of Planning



**Menakah
Yoharaja**

*Master of Science in Rural
Planning and Development*



**Lissel
Hernandez-Gongora**

*Postdoctoral Fellow
(in partnership with the Rural
Ontario Institute)*



**Alex
Petric**

Researcher

ILLUSTRATIVE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

ECONOUS CONFERENCE

Six graduate students participated in the 2019 Econous Conference. The conference highlighted how the new ideas that will be most transformational will be those that are created by and carried out by communities. [Click here to learn more.](#)

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE

Katie Allen, Josh Barrett, Tracey Harvey, Sarah Parish, and Ashleigh Weeden shared research findings at the CRRF 2019 Conference in St John's. [Details and copies of their presentations, can be found by clicking here.](#)



Five graduate students participated in the 2020 Rural Symposium, sharing their research initiatives with government, business, and community partners. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Community leaders from across Ontario discussed immigration strategies, challenges, and opportunities for small communities. Nine Rural Planning and Development students facilitated these discussions and compiled a summary report. [Click here to learn more.](#)

2020 RURAL SYMPOSIUM

ONTARIO GOOD ROADS ASSOCIATION

INFLUENCING PUBLIC POLICY

Influencing change in public policy is a key activity of the Libro Professorship. Over the past year, the Professor has met with community-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, provincial governments, and national governments to provide evidence, knowledge, and insights on rural and regional economic development. Four key activities from the past year are outlined below.

1 LEADERSHIP COUNCIL, LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

Dr. Gibson was appointed to the Leadership Council of the [Guelph-Wellington Local Immigration Partnership](#). The Leadership Council provides strategic directions to strengthen local capacity to attract newcomers.

2 THE ROLE OF THE SENATE IN RURAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN CANADA

Dr. Gibson hosted a discussion with Senator Robert Black, Senator Mary Coyle, and Senator Diane Griffin exploring how the Senate is currently advancing rural and regional development across Canada and how local leaders and researchers can better provide experiences and knowledge to the Senate to support their work.



3 COVID-19 RESPONSES AND RECOVERY OPTIONS

Dr. Gibson participated in a number of initiatives focused on advancing the understanding of how rural and small towns are impacted by the global pandemic, responses to the pandemic, and potential strategies for post-pandemic recovery. Activities include an [Arrell Institute Webinar](#), contributing to four [CRRF Rural Insights papers](#), and participating in [The Recovery Project podcast](#).

4 CONNECTING GOVERNMENT ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

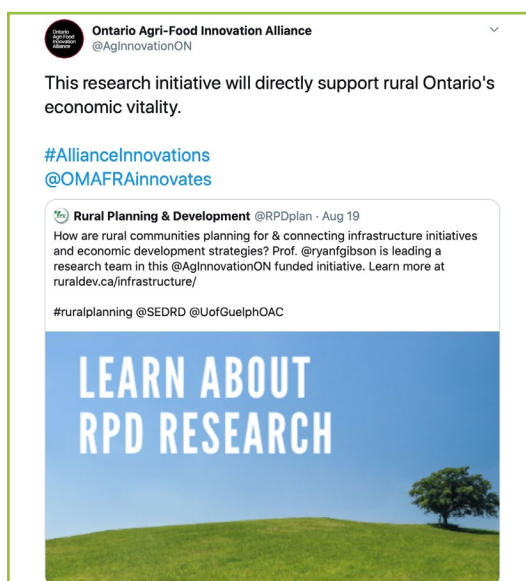
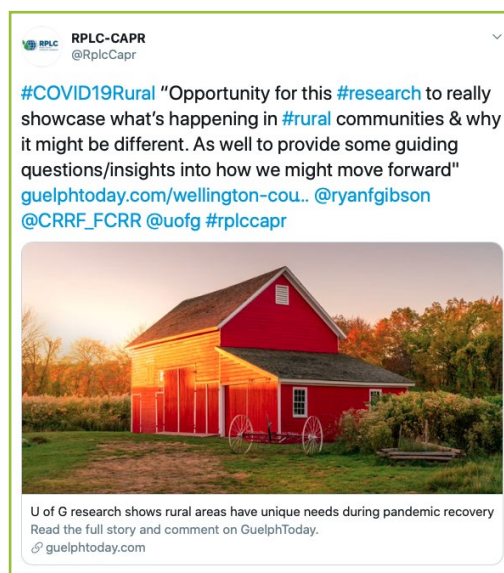
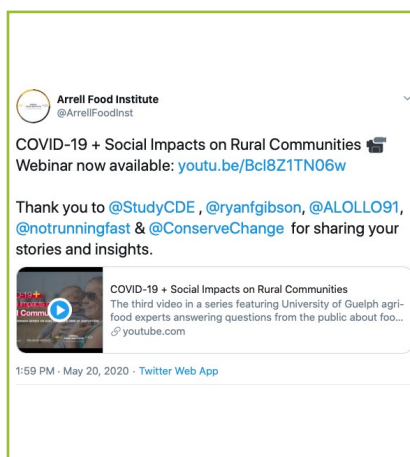
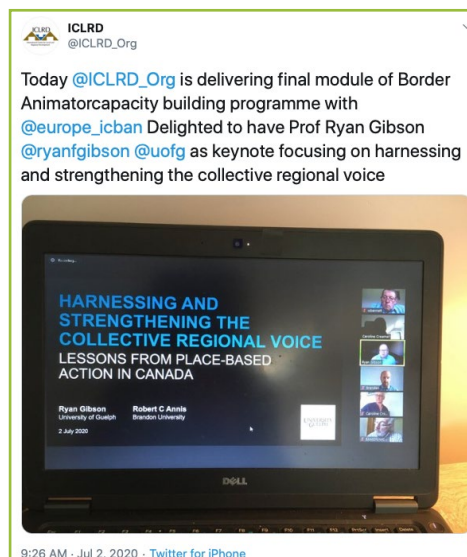
Over the past year, Dr. Gibson has facilitated a round table of federal, provincial, and territorial government departments responsible for rural development. The meetings are an opportunity for governments to share perspectives on rural development, rural policies, rural programs, and rural priorities.



STAY CONNECTED ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Many of the Libro Professor's activities, achievements, and engagements are documented through social media, both on Twitter ([@ryanfgibson](https://twitter.com/ryanfgibson)) and LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com/in/ryanfgibson). A sample of recent social media messages mentioning Dr. Gibson are presented below.

Follow Dr. Gibson on Twitter and LinkedIn for the most recent updates.





The Libro Professor is actively engaged in research initiatives focused on critical topics in regional and rural development. The following projects are currently underway:

- [Building for the Future: Rural Infrastructure and Regional Economic Development](#)
- [Charting a New Course for Regional Economic Development: A Comparison between Ontario and Ireland](#)
- [Economic Implications of Policy Change in Rural Regions: Implications of Legalizing Cannabis in the Kootenay Region](#)
- [Evaluating Sustainable Governance for Non-Profit Organizations in Rural Canada](#)
- Entrepreneurialism and Small Local Governments
- [Évaluation du rôle et des actions de fondations subventionnaires canadiennes en réponse à l'enjeu des inégalités sociales et des défis environnementaux](#)
- [Exploring the Role of Place-Based Collective Endowments in the Canadian Periphery](#)
- Housing Integration of Mexican Seasonal Agricultural Workers in the Ontario Economy
- [Improving the Effectiveness of Advisory Services for Facilitating Information Sharing, Accessibility and Adoption of Sustainable Farm Management Practices in Ontario](#)

- [Innovations in Corporate Social Responsibility and Impacts on Mine-Community Relations: Case Studies from Canada and the Philippines](#)
- [Making a Difference? Evaluating Rural Development Policy Interventions](#)
- Rural Immigration: Strategies for Rural Economic Development and Labour Force Planning
- [Rural Policy Learning Commons](#)
- [The Labour Crisis in Rural Ontario](#)

Each of these research initiatives engages a series of partners, including communities, organizations, nonprofits, local governments, Indigenous communities, provincial government ministries, federal government ministries, and international partners. Graduate students are engaged in each of these research initiatives, providing them opportunities for gaining employable skills, building networks, and enhancing their knowledge.

Dr. Gibson also supervises graduate students conducting research on critical regional and rural development topics.

A few illustrative research projects are listed on the following pages. Further information on all research initiatives can be found at www.ruraldev.ca.



BUILDING THE FUTURE: RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Are rural Ontario communities capable of responding to infrastructure pressures and opportunities? How does that capacity – or lack thereof – affect a community's current and future long-term economic development? Using surveys, workshops, content analysis, and case studies, this research initiative is examining the capacity of different communities in rural Ontario to respond to infrastructure pressures and how these responses impact their short and long-term economic well-being. Findings will be utilized to develop recommendations for addressing these issues through both immediate and long-term policy alternatives.

Communities of all sizes must balance fiscal realities, changing economies, aging infrastructure, changing demographics, and a challenging climate as they work to manage their core infrastructure assets and accommodate and/or address new infrastructure and service demands. Over the past year, a province-wide survey was circulated to all local governments to assess their capacities and experiences in planning for and connecting infrastructure initiatives and economic development strategies. This researchers are also conducting case study analysis of innovative local strategies, both in Ontario and internationally.

This research initiative is funded through the [Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance](#). For more information visit <http://ruraldev.ca/infrastructure/>.

Housing Arrangements of Seasonal Agricultural Workers

2019 - 2020

The Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program is a major component of Canada's agricultural labour pool which has gained academic attention due largely to concerns over the exploitation and poor mental and physical health outcomes of migrant workers. It has been suggested by multiple authors that the housing provided to workers, which is often on farm properties in rural areas, could be part of the problem, yet there has been little in-depth research about the effects of various housing arrangements. This research presents the results of an investigation into these effects through a series of key informant interviews with Mexican Seasonal Agricultural Workers. It presents findings that workers who live further from settlements have poorer ability to access services by themselves and are more socially isolated, but also that this largely depends on the willingness of employers to recognize and respond to their needs.

This initiative was led by Louis Helps and funded by Mitacs Globalink Grant in partnership with Universidad Autonoma del Estado de Mexico. [For more information click here.](#)



Agritourism as a Solution to Rural Revitalization?

2019 - 2020

The agricultural industry has a long-standing history as a successful cornerstone in Ontario. This historical prevalence stands true for the Regional Municipality of Durham's three northern townships: Brock, Scugog, and Uxbridge. Agriculture is a driving force within the three township's economies. Over the last three decades, agricultural production in Ontario's rural townships have been negatively impacted by vertical integration, globalization, and the intensification of land-based activities. This research examines the role of agritourism as a solution to revitalizing the agricultural sector in north Durham region. This study utilized in-depth interviews with farm operators who have diversified their farming practices to understand

these questions; the motivations to diversify farms through agritourism, how agritourism assists farming businesses, and strategies to implement agritourism into their current practices. This research is imperative to ensure farms are able to remain economically competitive against the pressures of urbanization and changing global markets.

This initiative was led by Sarah Parish. [For more information click here.](#)

OUTPUTS

ARTICLES, BOOKS, AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- Gibson, R.** (2019). Seeking Multi-Level Collaborative Governance. In Vodden, K., Douglas, D. Markey, S., *Minnes, S., & Reimer, W. (Eds.), [The Theory, Practice and Potential of Regional Development: The Case of Canada](#) (pp. 80-97). London: Routledge.
- Gibson, R., & Annis, R.** (2020). Negotiating the culture of care. In A. Vollman, & S. Jackson (Eds.), *Canadian Community as Partner: Theory & Multidisciplinary Practice* (5th Ed). Philadelphia: Lippincott, Williams, and Wilkins.
- Gibson, R., & Annis, R. C.** (2019). Rural immigration and welcoming communities. In M. Vittuari, M Pagani, J. Devlin, J. I. Stallmann, & T.G. Johnson (Eds.), [Routledge Handbook of Comparative Rural Policy: Theories, Methods, and Case Studies](#). London: Routledge.
- *Levatt, K., Markey, S., **Gibson, R.**, Vodden, K., & Furst, B. (2020). [New Foundations: Mobilizing the Potential of Place-Based Philanthropy for Rural Planning and Development](#). Plan Canada, 60 (1), 31-34.
- *Sousa, E., Caldwell, W., & **Gibson, R.** (2020). [Rural Demographic Opportunities: Insights for Planners](#). Y Magazine: Ontario Professional Planners Institute, 5, 34-35.

REPORTS

- *Agyepong, V., **Gibson, R.**, & Bollman, R. (2020). [COVID19: Impacts and Opportunities for Rural Employment](#). Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation/Fondation canadienne pour la revitalisation rurale.
- Hall, H., **Gibson, R.**, Markey, S., & *Weeden, A. (2020). [Supporting Rural Recovery and Resilience After COVID-19](#). Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation/Fondation canadienne pour la revitalisation rurale.
- *Helps, L., Silvius, R., & **Gibson, R.** (2020). [Supporting Newcomers and Migrants in Rural Canada During and After COVID-19](#). Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation/Fondation canadienne pour la revitalisation rurale.
- *Maloney, J., Kraehling, P., *Tolsma, K., *Weeden, A., Markey, S., & **Gibson, R.** (2020). [Rethinking Infrastructure Investments: Supporting Post-Pandemic Rural Recovery and Climate Resilience Through Green Infrastructure](#). Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation/Fondation canadienne pour la revitalisation rurale.

* student contributor

PRESENTATIONS

- *Abdulai, A., **Gibson, R.**, Hambly, H., Laporte, J., & Loring, P. (2020, May). [COVID-19 and Social Impacts on Rural Communities](#). Agri-Food in a Time of Disruption Webinar.
- *Agyepong, V. (2020, February). Towards Smarter Growth: Readiness and Deliberative Democracy in Mid-size to Rural areas. Rural Symposium, Guelph, Ontario.
- *Allen, K., Minnes, S., & **Gibson, R.** (2019, October). Discussion on Evaluating Sustainable Governance for Non-Profit Organizations in Rural Canada. Building Sustainable Communities, St John's, Newfoundland and Labrador.
- Gibson, R.** (2019, July). Going, Going, Gone? Disappearing Rural Development Strategies in Canadian Public Policy. Working Landscapes and Liveable Communities: 9th Quadrennial Conference of British, Canadian, and American Rural Geographers, Burlington, Vermont.
- Gibson, R.** (2020, January). Rural Economic Development and Infrastructure: Building the Future presentation at Rural Ontario Municipal Association Annual Conference, Toronto, Ontario.
- Gibson, R.** (2020, February). Rural Research at SEDRD. 2020 Rural Symposium, Guelph, Ontario.
- Gibson, R.**, Black, R., Griffin, D., Coyle, M., & Wells, D. (2019, October). The Senate Factor. Building Sustainable Communities, St John's, Newfoundland and Labrador.
- Gibson, R.** & Minnes, S. (2020, September). Rural Insights on COVID-19. Rural Ontario Institute Annual General Meeting, Marsden, Ontario.
- Gibson, R.** & Annis, R. (2020, July). Harnessing and Strengthening the Collective Regional Voice: Lessons from Place-Based Action in Canada. International Centre for Local and Regional Development Cross-Border Collaboration Conference, Newtownabbey, Northern Ireland.
- *Liang, Y. (2020, February). The Applicability of the Impoverished Reconstruction Model in Canada. Rural Symposium, Guelph, Ontario.
- Markey, S., **Gibson, R.**, Vodden, K., & Fürst, B. (2019, October). Rural Engagement: Rural Philanthropy and Place-Based Development. Building Sustainable Communities, St John's, Newfoundland and Labrador.
- *Parish, S. (2020, February). Agritourism as a Solution to Rural Revitalization: The Case Study of North Durham Region. Rural Symposium, Guelph, Ontario.
- *Shresta, N. (2020, February). Challenges of Immigrant Families to Take their Children to Recreational Activities. Rural Symposium, Guelph, Ontario.
- *Weeden, A. (2020, February). Re-Imagining Rural Futures: Developing Foresight through Future Scenarios Planning for Rural Policy. Rural Symposium, Guelph, Ontario.
- van Assche, K., Vodden, K., **Gibson, R.**, Deacon, L., & Fürst, B. (2019, October). Rural Community Reinvention: The Role of Governance and Institutions and Strategies for Expanding Autonomy. Building Sustainable Communities, St John's, Newfoundland and Labrador.
- Vodden, K., Minnes, S., Douglas, D., **Gibson, R.**, & Markey, S. (2019, October). The Theory, Practice and Potential of Regional Development in Canada: Key Learnings and Policy Recommendations. Building Sustainable Communities, St John's, Newfoundland and Labrador.

* student contributor

POSTERS

Petric, A. (2019, October). A Glimpse of Rural Philanthropy in Canada. Sustainable Communities: An International Conference of the Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation and North Atlantic Forum, St John's, Newfoundland and Labrador.

CONFERENCE AND EVENT ORGANIZING

2020 Rural Symposium
Guelph, Ontario | Member of the Planning Committee

Building Community Sustainability Conference
St John's, Newfoundland and Labrador | Member of the Planning Committee

Canada-Ireland Rural Development Forum
Killarney, Co. Kerry, Ireland | Chair of Planning Committee

North Atlantic Forum 2021
Letterfrack, Ireland | Member of the Planning Committee

Provincial-Territorial Rural Development Forum
St John's, Newfoundland and Labrador | Chair of Planning Committee

RESEARCH GRANTS

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

Building for the Future: Rural Infrastructure and Regional Economic Development
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (2018-2021 | \$143,000)

Charting a New Course for Regional Economic Development: A Comparison between Ontario and Ireland
Connections Grant, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (2019-2021 | \$49,000)

Economic Implications of Policy Change in Rural Regions: Implications of Legalizing Cannabis in the Kootenay Region
Mitacs Accelerate Program in partnership with Community Futures Central Kootenays (2018-2020 | \$60,000)

Evaluating Sustainable Governance for Non-Profit Organizations in Rural Canada
Mitacs Accelerate in partnership with the Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation (2019-2020 | \$15,000)

RESEARCH GRANTS

Exploring the Role of Place-Based Collective Endowments in the Canadian Periphery
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Insight Grant (2017-2021 | \$205,726)

Housing Integration of Mexican SAWP Workers in the Ontario Economy
Mitacs Global Link (2019-2020 | \$6,000)

Making a Difference? Evaluating Rural Development Policy Interventions
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (2017-2020 | \$139,000)

Rural Immigration: Strategies for Rural Economic Development and Labour Force Planning
Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance Knowledge Mobilization Research Grant (2019-2020 | \$38,000)

The Labour Crisis in Rural Ontario: A Co-operative Solution
Ontario Cooperative Association (2020-2022 | \$32,500)

CO-INVESTIGATOR

Entrepreneurialism and Small Local Governments
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Partnership Grant (2020-2023)
Primary Investigator: Greg Halseth (University of Northern British Columbia)

Évaluation du rôle et des actions de fondations subventionnaires canadiennes en réponse à l'enjeu des inégalités sociales et des défis environnementaux
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Partnership Grant (2018-2024 | \$2,500,000)
Primary Investigator: Jean-Marc Fontan (Université du Québec à Montréal)

Improving the Effectiveness of Advisory Services for Facilitating Information Sharing, Accessibility and Adoption of Sustainable Farm Management Practices in Ontario
Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance Knowledge Mobilization Research Grant (2019-2021 | \$68,912)
Primary Investigator: Atahural Chowdury (University of Guelph)

Innovations in Corporate Social Responsibility and impacts on mine-community relations: case studies from Canada and the Philippines
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Insight Grant (2018-2021)
Primary Investigators: Nicolas Brunet (University of Guelph)

Rural Policy Learning Commons
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Partnership Grant (2015-2021 | \$2,500,000)
Primary Investigator: Bill Ashton (Brandon University)

GRADUATE STUDENT-LED RESEARCH

RECENTLY COMPLETED

[Agritourism as a Solution to Rural Revitalization?: A Case Study of North Durham Region](#)

Sarah Parish (Master of Science in Rural Planning and Development Thesis)

[Local Trail Development along Rural Canada's Share of The Great Trail \(2019\)](#)

Timothy Hunting (Master of Science in Rural Planning and Development Thesis)

[Rural Telecommuters in Southwestern Ontario](#)

Koren Lam (Master of Science in Rural Planning and Development Major Research Paper)

[The Opioid Epidemic and Rural, Remote Northern Ontario First Nation Communities \(2019\)](#)

Shannon Labelle (Master of Science in Rural Planning and Development Major Research Paper)

[The Role of Housing in the Integration and Wellbeing of Foreign Labour in the Canadian Agri-Food Sector: Experiences of Mexican Seasonal Agricultural Workers in Canada](#)

Louis Helps (Master of Science in Rural Planning and Development Thesis)

[Understanding Challenges of Nepali Immigrants to Enroll their Children in Recreational Activities in Guelph, Ontario](#)

Niva Shrestha (Master of Science in Rural Planning and Development Major Research Paper)

[Understanding the Dynamics of Rural Immigration: The Case of Perth County \(2019\)](#)

Mallory Smith (Master of Science in Rural Planning and Development Major Research Paper)

[Workforce Planning in Rural Southwestern Ontario: Immigration as a Solution to Shrinking Population and Labour Force?](#)

Emmanuela Jada (Master of Science in Rural Planning and Development Major Research Paper)



LOOKING AHEAD ...

1 BUILDING THE FUTURE PROVINCIAL SURVEY RESULTS

Analysis from the provincial survey of local governments on infrastructure and regional economic development will be released in the late fall 2020/early winter 2021. The results will influence policy discussions and local development practice.

2 PROVINCIAL-TERRITORIAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT MEETING

Throughout the fall 2020 and winter 2021 a series of meetings with federal, provincial, and territorial governments will be hosted to discuss rural development strategies related to rural policy creation, rural economic development, and responses to COVID-19.

3 PLACE-BASED ENDOWMENTS

Research on the role of place-based endowments from across Canada will be released in the winter 2021. The research focuses on rural endowments in Ontario, British Columbia, and Atlantic Canada.

4 NEW RESEARCH INITIATIVES

A series of new research proposals have been submitted for adjudication. In the coming months, it is anticipated a number of new research initiatives will commence focused on building local capacity, prosperity, and sustainability. Stay tuned to www.ruraldev.ca for updates on new initiatives.



STAY CONNECTED



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[@ryanfgibson](https://twitter.com/ryanfgibson)



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ryanfgibson/>

IDEAS FOR RESEARCH? QUESTIONS THAT NEED TO BE RESOLVED?

Do you have a question that you would like answered? Could your organization benefit from someone examining an issue you are encountering? If so, let us know! We encourage individuals and groups/organizations to propose ideas that could be pursued by students and faculty at the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development at the University of Guelph. The submission of an idea does not need to be lengthy. Rather, it should provide enough information for someone to understand the current issue and why it is important. All ideas will be shared with students and faculty members. Should someone be interested in your idea, they will contact you directly. Unfortunately, we can not guarantee someone will be able to take up your question. [Click here to submit an idea!](#)



**School of
Environmental Design
& Rural Development**

**LIBRO PROFESSOR OF
REGIONAL ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

www.ruraldev.ca