

Agenda

Wednesday, May 15th

3-5 pm

Baker's Brook Walkabout

Trina Reid, a local storyteller, will take participants on an interactive tour of the resettled community of Baker's Brook (participation fee: \$25). Please meet at Cottage Hospital at 2:30 to carpool to location.

7-9 pm

Informal Welcome & Potluck Supper

All participants are welcome to a potluck-style meal at the Cottage Hospital, where the informal kick-off to the forum will take place.

Thursday, May 16th

Morning Session: Understanding the Assets of Rural Communities

9 am

Official Welcome to the Forum

Location: Norris Point Lions' Club

Welcoming of all participants by forum organizers. Participants are invited to introduce themselves and share their aims for the forum for their community or organization.

9:30 am

Rural Youth Workshop

Location: Norris Point Lions' Club

Students from local schools in the Gros Morne region share presentations about their communities.

Choices For Youth will facilitate a discussion on the importance of youth in rural communities and how community development programming can support youth retention and skills development.

10:30 am

Participant Community Development Initiatives

Location: Norris Point Lions' Club

Sharing of community development initiatives by local community groups in the Gros Morne region and other communities and organizations. Participants are invited to bring poster presentations to display in the community hall to share their own community development initiatives with other participants and community members.

11:30 am

Announcement of 'Situation Room' Design Teams

Location: Norris Point Lions' Club

Joanie Cranston of the Bonne Bay Cottage Hospital Heritage Corporation will announce the formation of 'Situation Room' teams and invite participants to join a team. More details will be provided.

12 pm

Lunch

Location: Norris Point Lions' Club

Prepared by Norris Point Lions Club and Senior's Club

Afternoon Session: Mobilizing Community Assets to Tell New Rural Narratives

1:30 pm

Presentation on the PLACE Model

Location: Old Cottage Hospital

Dr. Natalie Slawinski, Professor in the Department of Business Administration at Memorial University, will share lessons from her eight-year research partnership on Fogo Island, including her framework for rural community development - the PLACE Model. The key ingredients of this model will frame the remainder of the afternoon session's discussion on harnessing rural community assets.

2 pm

Panel Discussion: Women in Rural Community Development

Location: Old Cottage Hospital

Women have always been crucial to the survival of rural communities in Newfoundland and Labrador, and continue to play strong roles in rural community development. This panel discussion will invite women leaders from a variety of backgrounds to share their perspectives on the history of women in rural community development, ongoing issues surrounding gender in rural communities, and actions needed to further support female leaders in rural communities.

3 pm

Asset Mapping in Rural Development and Policy*

* *Participants who choose to participate in this session will need to give their informed consent as per research ethics guidelines. More information will be provided during the session.*

Location: Old Cottage Hospital

PhD student Brennan Lowery will share the findings of ongoing research on community and regional asset mapping initiatives in rural NL, followed by a participatory discussion about the role of asset mapping in development and governance in rural NL. Following a presentation on research findings from an analysis of rural asset mapping initiatives (in which several of the forum participants were involved), participants will engage in an action-oriented workshop aimed at sharing the key lessons learned from these initiatives and exploring different options for how asset mapping may be incorporated into rural policy-making and development in Newfoundland and Labrador. Situation room teams will be encouraged to share how their design challenge can incorporate asset mapping and/or consider how the issue(s) they are working on fits into the big picture of regional policy and development.

5 pm

Wrap-up of Afternoon Session

7 pm

Supper

Location: Old Cottage Hospital

Prepared by the Old Cottage Hospital

9 pm

Shed Talk on Participatory Communications:
“Telling Rural Stories to the Right Audiences”

Location: Zach’s shed (directions will be provided)

This informal discussion will highlight different strategies that rural communities and support organizations can take to convey the value of rural community assets to different audiences. Community radio will be highlighted among these strategies, with examples provided by the Voice of Bonne Bay, Kitchen Table Communications, and Ryakuga Grassroots Communications. Creative practice will also be shared as a medium for telling the story of rural

communities, with demonstrations from artists and creators working with rural partners.

Friday, May 17th

*Morning Session: “Wicked Questions and Real Answers” -
Discovering New Tools for Rural Community Development*

9 am

Introduction to Social Enterprise in Rural Communities

Location: Old Cottage Hospital

Nicole Helwig, Manager of the Centre for Social Enterprise at Memorial University, will introduce the concept of social enterprise and share some examples of how rural communities have employed it as a tool in the community development toolkit.

9:20 am

Rural Making as Community Innovation

Location: Old Cottage Hospital

Dr. Maria Kilfoil, Manager of the Makerspace at Grenfell Campus of Memorial University, will share examples of how rural communities are using makerspaces to build on their heritage while engaging with novel technologies.

9:40 am

Situation Room Team Presentations

Location: Old Cottage Hospital

Situation Room Teams will present their design solutions for tackling the wicked questions facing rural NL. More details will be provided.

10:45 am

Next Steps

Location: Old Cottage Hospital

Participants will engage in an action-oriented discussion about how to follow through on strategies proposed by the Situation Room teams. Innovative engagement approaches will be explored, as well as effective strategies from the past. Recommendations will be made for building on the forum's outcomes in the future.

12 pm

Wrap-up, Lunch

Location: Old Cottage Hospital

Prepared by the Old Cottage Hospital