



Rural Policy Forum - February 17-19, 2005

Policies to Support Healthy and Sustainable Rural Communities

The Coastal Communities Network (CCN) and the Atlantic Health Promotion Research Centre (AHPRC) at Dalhousie University, partners in the Rural Communities Impacting Policy (RCIP) Project, are co-hosting the 2nd Annual Rural Policy Forum, *Policies to Support Healthy and Sustainable Rural Communities*, on February 17-19, 2005 at the Tatamagouche Centre. The Forum will be of interest to people in communities, universities, colleges, and governments who are working on issues affecting rural communities in Nova Scotia.

Thursday, February 17th

- 5-7PM Light Supper and Registration
 7 PM Official Opening
The Rural Policy Challenge – A Discussion Paper
(pre-distributed and available online at: www.ruralnovascotia.ca)
 Presentation of Discussion Paper by Rick Williams - Praxis Research
 Open Discussion – Do we need a comprehensive policy framework for sustainable rural communities?
 Identification of issues for action (Friday workshops)
 9 PM Reception

Friday, February 18th

- 9AM ***National Rural Policy Framework Update***
 Wayne Easter - Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Development
 9:45AM ***Policy Change in Nova Scotia - Project Updates***
- Co-management of Wharves and Harbours; Healthy and Sustainable Community Development; Retention of Health Professionals in Rural Communities; Coastal Zone Management; Sustainable Fisheries Policies; Food Security
- 11AM ***Policy Change Workshops***
(Backgrounders pre-distributed and available online at: www.ruralnovascotia.ca)
- Co-management of Wharves and Harbours
 - Healthy and Sustainable Community Development
 - Rural Health
 - Coastal Zone Management
 - Sustainable Fisheries Policies
 - Thought About Food? Food Security and Influencing Policy
 - A Comprehensive Policy Framework for Sustainable Rural Communities
- Additional workshops as identified Thursday evening
 12:30PM Lunch
 1:45PM Policy Change Workshops (continued)
 3:30-5PM ***Plenary: Next Steps for Policy Change and the Future of RCIP***
- Policies to support sustainable communities
 - Community access to data
 - Building community capacity for policy change
 - Community/academic/government partnerships
- 6PM Reception
 6:30PM Dinner
Making Room at the Table: Food as a Human Right
 Cherise Ajodha, Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group (to be confirmed)
 8:30 PM Entertainment

Saturday, February 19th

- 9AM ***A Call to Action***
 RCIP Work Group Meetings – open to all participants
- Policy; Community Training; Student Training; Community Data
- 10:45-12 ***Talking Circle***
 How did the Forum go for participants?
 12PM Lunch

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