The Community Impacts of E-RGM Communities and the Muskrat Falls Project

Kelly Vodden and Leanna Butters
Grenfell Campus, Memorial University

Heather Hall
University of Waterloo

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The Community Impacts Team

- Kelly Vodden, Grenfell Campus MUN (Team Lead)
- Rob Greenwood, MUN (Co-Investigator)
- Nicole Power, MUN (Co-Investigator)
- Sandrine Jean, MUN (Co-Investigator)
- Heather Hall, U. of Waterloo (Co-Investigator)
- Doug Lionais, Cape Breton U. (Co-Investigator)
- Joshua Barrett (Trainee)
- Leanna Butters (Trainee)
- Julia Lawler (Research Assistant)
CI Team Research Questions

1) What are the impacts of E-RGM for the communities of E-RGM (source, host, hub)?

2) What are the respective responses to these impacts by companies, union leaders, policymakers, and non-government organizations at the local level?

3) How does context (i.e. legislation, community history, proximity to work sites, corporate policies, labour policies, etc.) influence E-RGM and related impacts and responses?
CI Methods in Labrador

Data Collection:
- 29 interviews with key informants and community stakeholders
- Business 12; Municipal 8; Aboriginal Orgs 2; Provl/Fedl 2; Health 1; NGO 2; Labour 1; Transportation 1

Data Analysis (ongoing):
- Thematic content analysis (Nvivo)
Dominant Themes, Labrador

INFRASTRUCTURE/SERVICES

Housing – affordability, availability, types (25 of 29 sources, 118 references)

ECONOMIC

Employment (25 sources, 112 references)
Spending (23 sources, 70 references)
Impacts on other sectors (22 sources, 45 references)
Business development (19 sources, 56 references)
Wages (19 sources, 41 references)
## Dominant Themes, by Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LABRADOR STRAITS/SOUTH COAST (12 interviews)</th>
<th>HV-GB (9 interviews)</th>
<th>LABRADOR WEST (8 interviews)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spending</strong> (12 sources, 46 references)</td>
<td><strong>Housing</strong> (7 sources, 26 references)</td>
<td><strong>Housing</strong> (7 sources, 51 references)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Employment</strong> (11 sources, 40 references)</td>
<td><strong>Employment</strong> (7 sources, 23 references)</td>
<td><strong>Employment</strong> (6 sources, 38 references)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Impacts on Other Sectors</strong> (11 sources, 24 references)</td>
<td><strong>Impacts on Other Sectors</strong> (7 sources, 12 references)</td>
<td><strong>Municipal Council Challenges</strong> (6 sources, 21 references)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Housing</strong> (10 sources, 28 references)</td>
<td><strong>Business Development</strong> (6 sources, 22 references)</td>
<td><strong>Spending</strong> (6 sources, 14 references)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wages</strong> (9 sources, 22 references)</td>
<td><strong>Sustainability</strong> (6 sources, 9 references)</td>
<td><strong>Community Dynamics</strong> (6 sources, 13 references)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Business Development</strong> (9 sources, 20 references)</td>
<td><strong>Community-Corporate Relationships</strong> (5 sources, 17 references)</td>
<td><strong>Community Planning</strong> (5 sources, 12 references)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Economic** | **Infrastructure/Services** | **Planning/Governance** | **Social-Cultural** | **Sustainability**
ECONOMIC IMPACTS
“We’re competing with the other project for everything. Yeah, that’s the biggest thing the project does …For business, it makes it harder to attract workers, but it also, the spinoffs brings lots of money back”

(Labrador Straits)
“Yeah, I had a fellow that I know in St. John’s calling me to say he just got an e-mail... It’s just your room is gone... You know, we’ve let the room out to contractors. Sorry, your room is not available anymore.”

(Labrador Straits)
“We did interviews there a couple days ago for—we want to hire another housekeeper. And the lady walks in, and she was like, “If it’s less than $40 an hour, I don’t want it.”

(Happy Valley-Goose Bay)
INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICE IMPACTS
“We went from maybe $600 for a two-bedroom apartment to $2000 for a two-bedroom apartment.”

(Happy Valley-Goose Bay)
...I know the percentage of flights that are now commercial versus military has completely switched. I believe like 90 percent of the airport traffic now is commercial, where in Goose Bays past it used to be primarily military flights.

(Happy Valley-Goose Bay)
We’re having to deal with the spinoffs of a lot of the employment medical screening stuff. Which has been a real pain in the ass for us. We’re already ... we’re very taxed in terms of our access to primary care here as it is.

(Happy Valley-Goose Bay)
Only thing Muskrat did was tore up the road and blocked the ferry

(Labrador Straits)
SOCIAL CULTURAL IMPACTS
The clients are, you know, they tell us lots of horror stories of just—they’re just walking down the road, people are trying to get them in the truck all the time. (Happy Valley-Goose Bay)
I think it’s become more of a divide in who’s for Muskrat Falls, who’s against Muskrat Falls. The protests are affecting everyone. You can’t sit down to a supper table in this town without someone bringing up, “Where do you stand on Muskrat Falls?”

(Happy Valley-Goose Bay)
PLANNING AND GOVERNANCE IMPACTS
“If you look at whether it’s with the municipality, with the aboriginal groups, just the community in general, everything was done the wrong way. It was like we don’t need to talk to you, we’re not going to talk to you so leave us alone. That’s really what it’s been for years.”

(Happy Valley-Goose Bay)
SUSTAINABILITY
...I don’t think we’re prepared for what that looks like and what that means when...the project is over, you’re done. What do they do, right?”

(Labrador Straits)
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