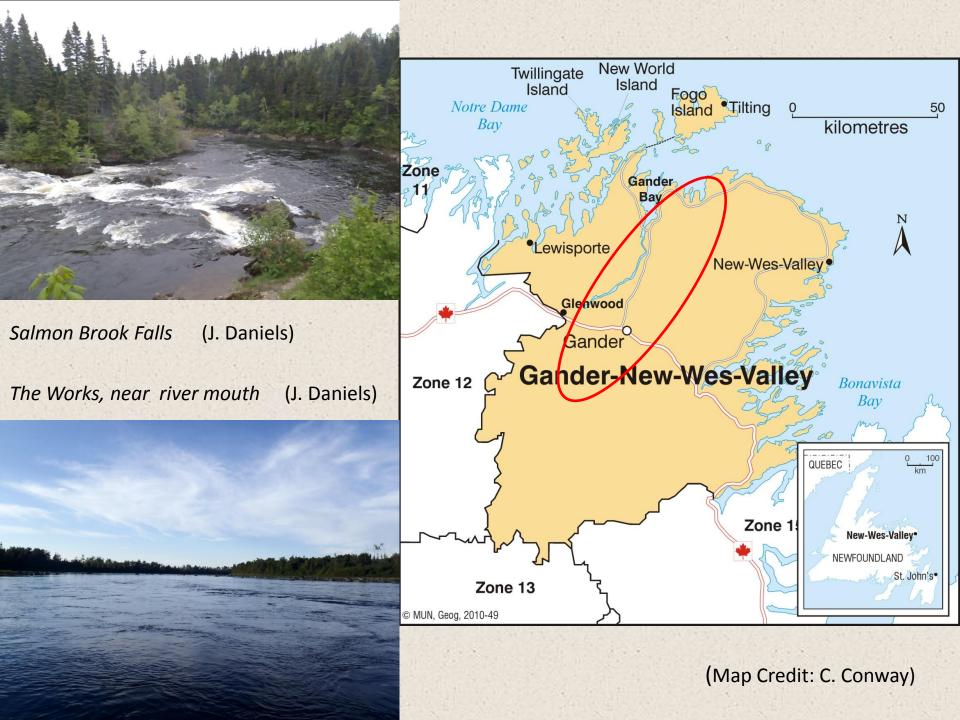
What of the place in place-based development?

Identity, territory and place: Exploring regional governance of the Gander River, central Newfoundland

Jen Daniels Memorial University 14 October 2011

http://www.ganderriver.com/fishing.html



The Gander River



•Guiding, fishing, hunting, logging, dev't of Nfld. railway (Glenwood)

 "Highway" between Gander Bay and Glenwood

Angling and commercial outfitting

http://www.fni.nf.ca

The Gander River

 Integrated Non- Status & status Mi'kmaq and non Aboriginal communities

Formation of landless
 band: Qalipu Mi'kmaq First
 Nation (Sept. 2011)



QALIPU MI'KMAQ FIRST NATION BAND

Research Approach

- Postcolonial and Indigenous methodologies
 - 24 Semi-structured and unstructured interviews:
 - Regional planner (1); DFO (2); Dept. NR (1); Private business sector (3); Municipal/Local Service District councillors (2); Mik'maq Band members (3); FNI-River Guardians (3); Gander Bay and Glenwood Band chiefs (2); Local residents (3); Gander River Mgmt Assoc. Board (3); Gander Chamber of Com. (1);
 - participant observation
 - research diary
 - Review of PB dev't, resource geographies, place & identity lit.

Place-based Development

- Reaction to more conventional forms of development
- Territorial approach to planning and development
- Associated with 'bottom-up' or grass-roots modes of governance
- What place? Whose place?

Questions

- Is your home where you live? (i.e. do you consider the place you are living as home?)
- What is your history with the river?
- In what ways has this environment affected your personal identity, livelihood and /or sense of wellbeing?
- What are the top 3 strengths or unique aspects of the region?
- What are the future opportunities and challenges for you/your organization in the Gander River Watershed?

Understanding place

- Multiple meanings of place as a key component in understanding place politics (incl. natural resources)
- Geography-people's interactions and experience in the world
- Place vs. space
- Bio-physical element of place- key in territorypeople's lifeway(s)
- Place cannot be limited to spatial locality

...multiple places



...multiple places



 the resource (river and salmon) to be managed and regulated

•One of the area's biggest assets

 Place for local economic ventures (both "above board" and "underground") and development

Source of program funding

...multiple places

- "the run"
- family lived, worked, traveled and played here
 "Riverman", river child
 Link to town- GB
 "Irving meetings" and Kitchen chats
 "Where I do what I love"
- •Less travelled than before; cleaner than in the past



Region and Identity

- Who bounds the region? For what purpose?
- Who perpetuates regional identity?
- Identity as All My
 Relations- Msit Nogma
- Shared identities around river



Gander River Boats, Appleton (J. Daniels)

Forth Pond, Main Stem

(J. Daniels)



Making places become



Counting fish, Salmon Brook Falls (J. Daniels)

 Places have complex histories and geographies

 People's relationships (with people and environment) are diverse

•Revealing place in our place-based research;

-opening places up and moving PB dev't beyond a reaction to conventional forms of dev't and mgmt

Thank you!

- Marie, Calvin, the Smith's, the River Guardians in Glenwood, GMFN & GB Band members, GRMA Board members, Howard, Lil and Matt
- Drs. Kelly Vodden and Charles Mather
- CRRF and NAF

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Canadian Regional Development A Critical Review of Theory, Practice, and Potentials



Développement régionale canadienne

Un examen critique du théorie, de pratique et des potentiels