Association of Kootenay Boundary Local Government Convention

Small
Business
Development
in the
Cannabis
Sector

Tracey Harvey, PhD student April 28th, 2019

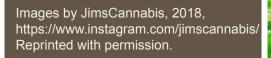














Acknowledgement and Thanks























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PhD Project Framework



- Using theories from Transitioning Economies and Stakeholder Participation
- To identify Risks, Strategies and Opportunities

Two assumptions:

- 1. Cannabis industry is substantial in rural B.C.
- 2. Transitioning is a rural issue in B.C.

Two key problems:

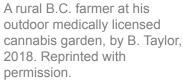
- 1. Prohibition is all we know, so how do we plan for the future?
- Rural B.C. cannabis stakeholders were not considered during senior policy formulation

Research Question



"How can the Kootenay region effectively transition to the new rural cannabis economy?"







"From the harvest Fall 2018", by JimsCannabis, 2018, https://www.instagram.com/jimscannabis/. Reprinted with permission.

Transitioning economies



Typified in the B.C. hinterlands since the 1980s

Known originally as "instant towns", "single industry towns", "company towns", and "resource based towns" (Halseth & Sullivan, 2003)

Previously dependent on a 'staples' economy (Innis, 1933)



Stakeholder Participation



Inclusive stakeholder participation is critical (Freeman, 2004; Arnstein, 1969)

Exemplified by the 1990s "War in the Woods"

"...opposed to the industrial-scale forestry being practiced and the complete lack of consultation..."

(Pierce, 2018, p. 5)



"In 1993 protesters blocked an access road, preventing MacMillan Bloedel from continuing its Clayoquot Sound logging operations. Police arrived to read a court injunction, demanding the road be cleared. The order was summarily ignored by protesters. Photos: Ademoor" (Pierce, 2018, p. 8)

Opportunities









"Amnesia Haze cola" by JimsCannabis, 2018, https://www.instagram.com/jimscannabis/. Reprinted with permission.



"Ice cream pho live resin" by JimsCannabis, 2018, https://www.instagram.com/jimscannabis/. Reprinted with permission.

Cluster Development



"Knowledge, relationships, motivation - that distant rivals cannot match" (Porter, 1998, p.2)

- Extend laterally among interlinked industries as well as downstream within sectors
- Involve entities more than just related industries: community supporting organizations, NGOs, academic institutions, government

Supported by entrepreneurial & small business development for flexible specialization

Ensure dollars turn over as many times as possible within a region

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Questions?



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