

**Presentation by Chris Southcott,
Resources and Sustainable Development in the Arctic Project
Conference Room, Inuvik Research Centre,
Aurora Research Institute, Inuvik NT
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***Resource Development and Sustainable Communities in the
Western Canadian Arctic: Results of the ReSDA Project***



Resource exploitation remains a primary source of potential economic and social sustainability for most communities in Canada's north. Yet past experience has showed that many of the social and economic challenges of communities in this region have been linked to the negative impacts of extractive industries. While problems continue to exist between extractive industries and Indigenous communities in other areas of the world, in northern Canada there is some indication that the worst aspects of resource dependence can be countered through the emergence of new relationships between communities, national governments, and industry such as new land claim agreements, impact-benefit agreements, co-management boards and other tools. The Resources and Sustainable Development in the Arctic (ReSDA) project brings together researchers and community representatives to conduct and mobilize research aimed at the sustainable development of natural resources in a manner that will improve the well-being of northern communities while preserving the region's unique environment. This presentation will present initial findings of research conducted by ReSDA researchers and what it means for the Western Canadian Arctic. We invite you to learn about the research that has been done in the region and welcome your comments and recommendations to help develop new research that supports community needs and interests. More details about the ReSDA network at www.resda.ca

Bio of Presenter

Chris Southcott is the Principal Investigator for the SSHRC MCRI sponsored research network Resources and Sustainable Development in the Arctic (ReSDA). Its mandate is to develop ways to ensure that a larger share of resource development benefits stay in the region for the people of North with fewer costs to communities. Raised in Northern Canada he has been involved in community-based research in the Circumpolar North for over 30 years. During these years he has published over 100 scientific reports, books, book chapters, and articles dealing with social and economic change in Northern Canada and the rest of the circumpolar world. Over the past 10 years he has led several major Canadian and international research initiatives dealing with social and economic development in northern regions and has played a leading role in research development for the University of the Arctic.

