



Centre for Community
Disaster Research

Annual Report 2015-2016

Timothy J. Haney, Director

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ABOUT THE CCDR

Mission

The Centre for Community Disaster Research is a trans-disciplinary centre for research, education, and outreach related to natural, social, technological and economic disasters. The Centre is mandated with promoting rigorous academic research that is led by community need and involves university researchers, students, community groups, government stakeholders, and end-users of research as meaningful partners.

The Need

Following the catastrophic Southern Alberta flood of 2013, the CCDR grew out of widespread recognition that communities across Alberta, Canada, and the world will increasingly need to plan and prepare for extreme events. The Centre strives to generate academic research, sustained discussions, programming, and policy recommendations that will help to mitigate disaster risk, lessen vulnerability, and contribute to community resilience. Catastrophic events create new questions – the CCDR creates the answers.

Through our events and projects, the CCDR hopes to reduce community vulnerability to disasters, catastrophes, and crises, while promoting just and equitable recoveries when unfortunate events do occur.

What We Do

The CCDR works to fund, support, and promote research projects on disasters, disaster recovery, and post-disaster resilience. We also support initiatives that teach about disasters and crises, including field schools, internships, honours thesis projects, and service-learning projects. Finally, we are a hub for community debate about public policy, resilience initiatives, the needs of first responders, and best practices for communication during times of disaster. We host frequent seminars, brown-bags, guest speakers, symposia, and panels that promote this crucial dialogue.



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Unlike in 2014-2015, when the CCDR was still working to establish itself, the past year represented a period of growth and entrenchment. During 2015-2016, the Centre added new staff, funded several new and innovative start-up projects, responded in multiple ways to the catastrophic Fort McMurray wildfire, and shared our findings widely and with diverse audiences. The Centre's website now features detailed information on our personnel, our achievements, and our findings.

The year started off with our second annual Fall Lecture, delivered by Dr. Kristen Barber on the topic of gender inequality in disaster. Following that well-attended event, we had eight more seminar events through the year, which included talks by a noted geologist, an emergency manager, researchers, and students, as well as a book launch and a symposium.

The CCDR funded several new and innovative projects this year, as well. This includes a youth mentorship program for Fort McMurray, a neighbourhood preparedness project for High River, a project on the stories of scientists and experts involved with the Fort McMurray wildfire, a project on social responses to hydraulic fracturing in Southern Alberta, and a project on the evacuation of pets from Fort McMurray. We also continued to support our projects funded in past years, including projects teaching children about disaster risk, studying images of suffering in the classroom, the evacuation of Calgarians following the Southern Alberta Flood, risk and environmental change following the flood in Calgary, and the experiences of parents in High River following the flood.

The year was truly remarkable in terms of knowledge dissemination. CCDR staff did 27 conference presentations, panels, or workshops during the year, and produced 14 published articles or chapters on disaster. We also produced two student theses, 6 videos highlighting our work and our projects, and did 5 media interviews about disaster.

CCDR Director Tim Haney was also honoured this year with a Humanitarian Award from Vigor Awards International, at their 2015 award gala. The award is meant to recognize his work in disaster-affected communities such as New Orleans. He was also selected as the "Outstanding Scholar" by the MRU Faculty of Arts for 2016.

Finally, the Centre worked closely with numerous community partners, including the Red Cross, Alberta Health Services, the ResilienceByDesign Lab at Royal Roads University, and the Emergency Social Services Network of Alberta, to launch and support innovative projects related to disaster risk and recovery.

With these achievements under our belt, we believe that the CCDR has transformed Mount Royal University into Canada's disaster research hub. And, we are proud to be at the leading edge of this innovation.

ACTIVITIES

Expanding our Core Staff

Faculty Affiliates are the intellectual drivers of any research centre. This year, the CCDR expanded to a core staff of 18 individuals, including 15 Faculty Affiliates, one Research Associate, an Office Manager, and Director. During 2015-2016, we added three Faculty Affiliates (Kim Williams, Kristen Barber, Debra Davidson) and one Research Associate (Eva Bogdan). Dr.'s Williams, Davidson, and Ms. Bogdan are all Principal Investigators on CCDR-funded projects, and Dr. Barber is collaborating with Dr. Haney (Director) and Dr. McDonald-Harker on a project looking at the experiences of single mothers following the High River flood.

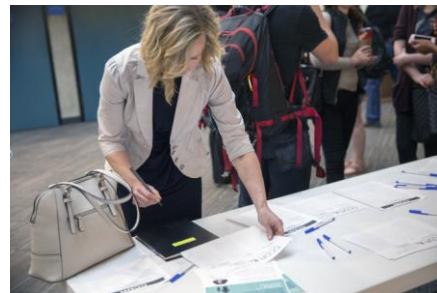
To date, approximately 27 students have worked with the Centre as Research Assistants. This includes our Office Manager (n=1), as Research Assistants on the Calgary Flood Project (n=7), the High River Family Study (n=7), Alberta Resilient Communities (n=7), as a photographer and videographer (n=1), and on the remainder of our funded projects (n=4).

Events

Fall Lecture

This year's Fall Lecture was delivered by Kristen Barber of Southern Illinois University. It was titled "Were the Women Washed Away? The Gender of Vulnerability and Resilience in Disaster." The full talk can be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zbg79aWwrUE&feature=youtu.be>



Seminars

As part of its mission, the CCDR seeks to increase dialogue about disasters and catastrophic events. One way that we do this is by hearing from speakers doing cutting-edge disaster work. Our seminars, more formal lecture-style events, allow participants to both learn and engage with this work. During the 2015-2016 year, we held eight seminar events, including:

“Planning for Spontaneous Volunteers.” Carly Benson Directory of Emergency Management, Town of High River. May 13, 2016.

"Redefining Basic Needs for Families: Analysis of Services Provided After the Flood." Kathryn Wells, Office Manager. April 21, 2016.

"Calgary Under Water: Climate Change, Resource Dependence, and the Southern Alberta Flood." Travis Milnes, student Research Assistant. April 21, 2016.

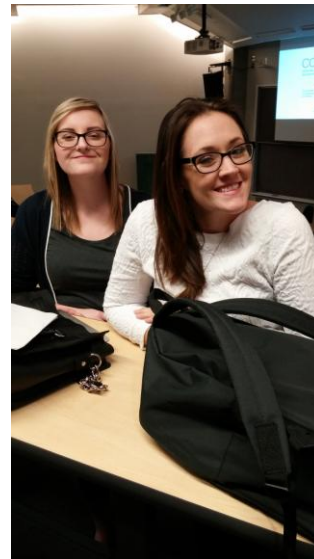
"Door to Door, Person to Person: Stories of Connection and Gratitude." Cathy McFee and Eric Howey of Alberta Health Services. April 8, 2016.

"Flood Hazard Identification Program: What You Need to Know About Hydrologic Analysis, Hydraulic Modelling, and Flood Mapping in Alberta." Peter Onyshko. February 19, 2016.

“Welcome to Earthquake Country: Southern California as a Natural Earthquake Laboratory.” Bob de Groot. February 3, 2016. The talk also brought more than 100 school-aged children to campus for an interactive workshop on geologic disaster risk.

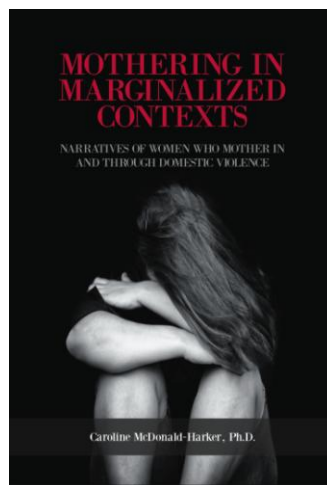


“Beyond Disaster Recovery: A View from New Orleans Post-Flood.” Ben Callaghan, Rachael Paulson, Kathryn Wells, and Melissa Wigness (MRU Students). October 2, 2015.



Book Launch

On April 1, the CCDR hosted a book-launch event for our Faculty Affiliate, Caroline McDonald-Harker. Her new book is titled “Mothering in Marginalized Contexts.” The launch brought together more than 80 people, including community partners of the Centre, students, faculty, and MRU administrators, to celebrate the launch of her book. At the event, Dr. McDonald-Harker announced that all proceeds would be donated to the YWCA of Calgary.



Calgary Emergency Management Agency Symposium

“Protecting Critical Infrastructure From Domestic Terrorism.” October 20, 2015. Event held at MRU and Co-hosted with the City of Calgary, this event drew more than 100 people and was held in MRU’s Ross Glenn Hall.

Innovative Research

This year was a landmark yet for the Centre in terms of launching and funding new start-up projects. Spurred by the destructive Fort McMurray wildfire, the CCDR launched its “Quick Response Grant Program” for the Fort McMurray fire. Interest was immediate and sustained, and we now have 11 ongoing projects, either funded by or supported by the CCDR, discussed below:

“A Peer Support and Mentoring Pilot Project for Community Service Providers and Children/Youth in Fort McMurray, Alberta: Developing Collaborative Support for Community Resilience and Disaster Recovery”

Principal Investigators: Julie Drolet, Robin Cox, Caroline McDonald-Harker

Description: The May 2016 wildfires in Fort McMurray will be recognized as among the worst natural disasters to affect the province of Alberta. Recent events such as the 2013 Southern Alberta flood and the 2011 Slave Lake wildfire demonstrate the risks and vulnerabilities experienced by some members of society, as well as their strengths and resiliency capacities. There is an important need to further knowledge of disasters in the Canadian context in order to strengthen long-term disaster recovery efforts. Communities affected by natural disasters increase their capacity to deliver services and programs to meet human and community needs in the recovery period. However, it is not known how local communities with disaster recovery experience may contribute to resilience-building processes in partnership with other disaster-affected communities. Since the evacuation of approximately 100,000 individuals and family members from Fort McMurray, there is great interest in supporting those community members who will be tasked with the recovery efforts. Specifically, community service providers and children/youth would like to engage with those affected to share their experiences in support of recovery and reconstruction efforts. The goal of this study is to better understand community resilience through a peer support and/or mentoring pilot project between two disaster-affected communities. Community service providers (practitioners) and youth (ages 13-25 with input from children ages 5-12) from High River will be recruited to participate in a peer-support and/or mentoring pilot project to share lessons

learned in a collaborative and supportive environment. The study aims to support disaster recovery processes and efforts by sharing knowledge and experience between those most affected in the delivery of key community and social services, as well as create linkages between children/youth using digital story methods. A pilot study will contribute to building community resilience by creating peer support and mentoring opportunities between community service providers (practitioners) and children/youth in Fort McMurray and High River.

“Fort McMurray - Stories of Rejuvenation from the People, the Forests, and the Scientists.”

Principal Investigator: Sarah Hewitt

Description: This is a science communication project that will focus on stories of rejuvenation after the fires in Fort McMurray. Science communication is a branch of journalism that primarily tells stories from the scientist’s or science’s perspective. With help from the CCDR Quick Response Research Grant, Dr. Hewitt is researching and telling stories about the rejuvenation of the forests around the city and how the fires impacted the scientists working in those forests.

The goal is to relate stories about how people cope with the loss of their physical surroundings in the natural world from a personal and scientific perspective and look at how they re-build in the aftermath.

“Evacuating Family Pets from the Fort McMurray Wildfire”

Principal Investigator: Kim Williams

Description: Utilizing the Quick Response Research Grant from the CCDR, Dr. Kim Williams is recruiting adults (18+) who were/are involved in saving family pets from the Fort Mac wildfire for short, informal interviews of approximately 45-60 minutes each. She is talking with anyone from official emergency management personnel and first responders to representatives from animal rescue organizations and the owners/guardians of pets affected by the evacuation of Fort McMurray.

The goal is to hear about what’s working and what’s not from those who are directly involved so that, together, we can help create province-wide best practices for emergency pet evacuation from community disasters.

Website: <http://fortmacpets.weebly.com/>

“We’re Ready! Neighbourhood Disaster Preparedness and Response Program Pilot Project”

Principal Investigators: Eva Bogdan and Stephanie Sodero

Description: The We’re Ready! Community Disaster Preparedness Pilot Project was successfully implemented May 28 and 29, 2016 in the Town of High River for an ethnic community and a geographic community. Participants rated the activities highly, which were designed to be fun and engaging to build social connections, expressing they want more of these workshops and to continue working with their communities to further develop emergency plans. Participants felt they learned a lot, including that "It is better to be together, than alone."

<http://www.wereready.org/>.

<http://www.evabogdan.ca/community-engagement---were-ready.html>

See announcement from Town of High River: <http://hrready.ca/town-to-host-two-community-disaster-preparedness-workshops/>

“Hydraulic Fracturing: Social Responses and Community Outcomes”

Principal Investigator: Debra Davidson

Description: Hydraulic fracturing activities have been expanding rapidly across the globe in recent years, and many citizens and organizations have begun to express concern about the social, environmental, and health effects of such activities. Very little social scientific research has been done, however, that could provide scientific confirmation of the nature of social impacts, and the capacity of local communities to contribute to decision-making regarding such activities. This project is intended to offer a social scientific understanding of the impacts of hydraulic fracturing in Alberta, adopting a qualitative approach that involves personal interviews. A small sample of local residents living in communities in Alberta near recent hydraulic fracturing development are being invited to share their personal perceptions, impacts, and responses to hydraulic fracturing development activities in their communities.

“Fort McMurray Fire – Caring and Volunteering”

Principal Investigators: Shelley Boulianne, Joanne Minaker, and Timothy Haney

Description: Working with colleagues from MacEwan University and the University of Alberta’s Population Research Lab, Tim Haney is undertaking a project on social media use, caring, and donating during and after the 2016 Fort McMurray fire. The researchers

have had several questions about the fire added to the 2016 “Alberta Survey” and are awaiting data to begin performing analyses.

“Increasing Preparedness in Calgary’s Youth for Natural Disasters”

Principal Investigator: Katherine Boggs

Research Assistants: German Contreras, Courtney Strange, Jason Droboth

Description: This project developed two outreach programs designed to guide local high school and elementary school students towards preparing themselves and their families in case of natural disasters in the local area and when traveling.

Description: These two outreach programs were modified from a class project in the MRU GEOL 1101 and GEOL 1109 courses – where MRU students develop their own models for surviving natural disasters. In 2015-2016, Boggs hosted Bob deGroot, who ran workshops with 1,400 children in Calgary, and presented at MRU to more than 300. Dr. de Groot brought two important areas of expertise to this new collaboration: i) how to guide K-16 students as citizen scientists as they study earthquakes through a seismic sensor network; ii) links to two significant US research initiatives – Earthscope and ShakeAlert. Earthscope (2004 to ~2019) is a major research initiative that involves academic analysis of earthquakes through a temporary seismic sensor migrating array. ShakeAlert represents one possible model for providing seconds to minutes warning before the arrival of the more damaging earthquake waves. The first three seismic sensors installed during Dr. de Groot’s visit could represent the start of a similar model for the west coast of BC, Iceland, and/or Ontario/Quebec.

“Depicting Suffering: The Student Experience”

Principal Investigator: Pat Kostouros

Research Assistant: Julia Wenzel

Description: This project is helping us understand experiences of students who have witnessed the suffering of others in a post-secondary classroom. This inquiry will be posed to a particular population of students; those already interested in the sociology of disaster. The main question under investigation is: what can students’ experiences of encountering the suffering of others, in their course curriculum, tell us about learning and inform

teaching practice in relation to using materials that depict the suffering of others? Questions to assist in gaining this information as a starting point for interviews would be: what worked in the delivery of materials that depict suffering and what could have been done differently in a pedagogical sense?

During Fall 2015, the PI and a student research assistant collected data in two post-secondary classrooms where students were learning about disaster. They have analyzed data and are now preparing for disseminating findings.

“Alberta Resilient Communities”

Principal Investigators: Robin Cox, Julie Drolet, Caroline McDonald-Harker.

Research Assistants: Alex Christison, Isabelle Sinclair, Sierra Shaw, Imogene Roulson, Sean Colvin, and Maddie Engel.

Dr. Caroline McDonald-Harker from MRU (Faculty Affiliate) has teamed up with Dr. Julie Drolet from the University of Calgary (Faculty Affiliate) and Dr. Robin Cox from Royal Roads University to conduct a research study on disaster resilience in the wake of the devastating and costly 2013 Southern Alberta Flood Disaster. This collaborative interdisciplinary research partnership has been formed in order to explore the complex interrelationships between vulnerability, risk, and resilience among children, youth, and their communities impacted by the 2013 Southern Alberta Flood Disaster. Their research study entitled “Alberta Resilient Communities Research Project: Engaging Children and Youth in Community Resilience Post-flood in Southern Alberta.” This research study examines and focuses on the lived realities of flood-impacted children, youth, and their communities in order to better understand the social, economic, health, cultural, spiritual, and personal factors that contribute to resiliency. The partnership also includes academic and community-based researchers, knowledge end-users, government stakeholders, and numerous community partners (schools, social service agencies, community organizations, etc.) from Calgary, High River, and the outlying Foothills region. This community-based research is grounded in a child- and youth-centered participatory approach in which children and youth are engaged and empowered as active participants in the research process.

During the year, the project launched and began data collection. The project held a team meeting with all researcher, collaborators, and community partners at MRU on September 17, 2005 to officially introduce the study. Researchers submitted research ethics protocols, hired student research assistants, and began collecting data. The portion of the project run by Dr. Caroline McDoanald-Harker is taking place in High River and is currently collecting data from flood-affected children and families.

“The High River Family Study”

Principal Investigators: Caroline McDonald-Harker and Timothy Haney

Research Assistants: Alex Christison, Emilie Bassi, Imogene Roulson, Kathryn Wells, Kaylea Schwengler, Zachary Cox, Sylvia Ulatowski

This research study explores family members' struggles, difficulties, coping strategies, and needs resulting from the 2013 floods in the community of High River. This research examines communication, coping, and caring in family life post-disaster in order to determine how family life is altered by the disaster context, how experiencing a disaster influences family interactions and relations, and how families manage and function during and after a disaster. This study uses a qualitative research approach, which consists of 105 face-to-face in-depth interviews with parents in High River who have child/children under the age of 18 yrs and who were directly impacted by the 2013 High River, Alberta floods, as well as 10 focus group interviews with community agencies within High River, Alberta who directly provide services, resources, and assistance to residents in the town, particularly during and post-flood. This research study consists of a highly involved, cooperative, and equitable collaboration with several key community partners in High River, Alberta. The central purpose and immediate goal of the research is to use the research findings and results to influence, shape, and structure the programs, services, and resources that local community organizations offer to families residing in the community of High River who have been impacted by the flood disaster. The long term goal of the research is to provide a useful tool to assist families in other communities who have experienced major disasters, or who may in the future experience major disasters in Canada or internationally to best prepare for, respond to, cope, and prevent environmental disasters. Importantly, the work also includes nine community partner organizations from High River, all of whom help to move the project forward and will hopefully benefit from its findings.

Data collection on the project wrapped up during Fall 2014, and since then, researchers have been working on coding and data analysis. Research Associate Eva Bogdan joined the team during Fall 2015 to work on coding the interview data. Similarly, several analysis are coming out of the project, including presentations at the Canadian Sociological Association, an article submitted by Haney and McDonald-Harker for publication, and several new collaborations. McDonald-Harker, Haney, and Barber are working together on an analysis of the experiences of single mothers after the flood. And, McDonald-Harker and Haney have teamed up with Tom Buchanan (Chair of MRU's Department of Sociology and Anthropology) for a study on helicopter parenting after the flood.

Project website: <http://www.highriverfamilystudy.ca>

Presentation from the project:

http://mtroyal.ca/cs/groups/public/documents/pdf/ccdr_riverisnotthesame.pdf

Sociodemographic outcomes report:

http://mtroyal.ca/cs/groups/public/documents/pdf/ccdr_highriverfamilydemographi.pdf

“The Calgary Flood Project”

Principal Investigator: Timothy Haney

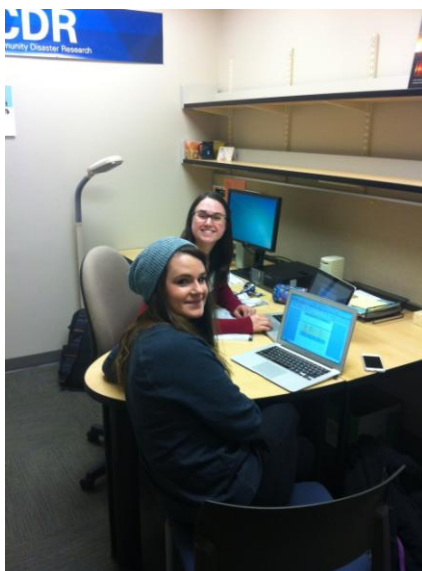
Research Assistants: Travis Milnes, Angela Laughton, Victoria Stamper, Isabelle Sinclair, Priya Kaila, Morah Mackinnon, Grace Ajele

Description: This project is helping to reveal how families and households make difficult decisions during a disaster, what factors (gender/household composition, physical vulnerability, race/ethnicity/nativity, income/wealth, religion, etc.) predict timely evacuation, and how affected people mobilize their social networks to secure needed resources (housing, clothing, childcare, and so forth) during evacuation and displacement. To do this, Dr. Tim Haney and five Research Assistants collected a unique set of survey data from 4078 residents of all 26 of Calgary's evacuated and/or flooded neighbourhoods. The project follows the experiences of evacuated households through the temporal arc of the disaster: warning, evacuation, displacement, and in some cases, return and rebuilding, to help us better understand how households mobilize both economic and social resources in a time of need.

In Fall 2015, the project began work on second phase: interviewing 40 affected residents about issues related to the environment, development decisions, and risk. The team has now completed interviews and is coding and analyzing the data.

Presentation: “How do Social Capital and Place Attachment Emerge in a Post-Disaster Community?”

http://mtroyal.ca/cs/groups/public/documents/pdf/ccdr_troubleinparadise.pdf



Student RA's
Isabelle Sinclair
(back) and
Victoria Stamper
(front) working in
the CCDR office,
scheduling
interviews for the
Calgary Flood
Project.

Pursuit of New Project Funding Opportunities

To support our partners and Faculty Affiliates, undertaking new and innovative projects, the CCDR writes letters of support and commits some in-kind resources to these new and emerging opportunities. During the 2015-2016 year, we supported applications or letters of intent for the following opportunities:

Drolet, Julie. “Rebuilding Lives Post-Disaster.” Application to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada for funding. Application submitted February 2016.

Cox, Robin. “Community Disaster Resilience Youth Service Corps.” Application to Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC). Submitted May 2016. CCDR listed as “collaborative partner.”

Partnerships

The Centre involves a number of Community Partners in its research and events, including staff from the City of Calgary, Alberta Emergency Management Agency, Red Cross, and others. Below are a few of the ways we worked with our partner organizations this year:

Emergency Social Services Network of Alberta

During the 2016 Fort McMurray wildfire, our partners at the Emergency Social Services Network of Alberta (ESSNA) reached out and asked for help on best-practices for resident re-entry planning. Within only 24 hours, the Centre mobilized 9 faculty affiliates and 6 student research assistants. The team researched best-practices, and in less than one-day, turned around our report “After the Fire is Out: Coming Home to Fort McMurray.” The head of ESSNA distributed the report to many decision-makers working in Fort McMurray and remarked via email that it has been a “game changer.”

Red Cross

In response to the catastrophic Fort McMurray wildfire in May 2015, the Centre launched a fundraising and social media campaign designed to raise money for the Red Cross’ Alberta Fires appeal. Interested people took a photo of themselves with the hash-tag #Alberta4YMM, and then posted it to our facebook and twitter sites. After doing so, they were instructed to follow a link and donate to the Red Cross. To date, we have raised \$1,115. Our Red Cross link can be

found here: www.redcross.ca/ccdr



Alberta Health

Several students associated with the Centre volunteered as data collectors for Alberta Health Services' "Door to Door" campaign in Bragg Creek and Redwood Meadows, which culminated in these reports:

Redwood Meadows report: <http://www.redwoodmeadows.ab.ca/wp-content/uploads/Redwood-MeadowsD2DRReport2015.pdf>

Bragg Creek report: <http://www.braggcreekwellness.ca/resources/BCAWC-BraggCreekDoortoDoorReport.pdf>

It also culminated in the "Door to Door Toolkit," created by AHS: <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/healthinfo/mh/hi-amh-prov-mhpi-post-disaster-door-to-door-outreach-toolkit.pdf>

Alberta Status of Women Committee

Several representatives from the Alberta Government's Status of Women committee attended Dr. Barber's Fall Lecture on gender inequalities in Disaster. Following the talk, they asked Dr. Barber to deliver a similar talk to their committee via Skype. During the catastrophic Fort McMurray wildfire, they again reached out and asked Centre staff (including Barber and Haney) for recommendations to achieve gender inclusivity in evacuation and reception centres set up in Alberta. And, in summer 2016, we contributed several research questions for the committee in regard to gender inequalities during disaster. During the year we established what we hope will be a strong and enduring partnership with the Status of Women committee, and we are hopeful this joint work will lead to collaborative projects that helps us better address the needs of women during catastrophic events in Alberta.

ResilienceByDesign Lab, Royal Roads University

The RBD lab at Royal Roads ran several youth-centered innovation workshops in Southern Alberta this year, including their “Resilience Innovation Challenge” in Banff in October 2015. CCDR staff (including Haney and McDonald-Harker) attended, and CCDR students made up a significant portion of the youth attendees of the workshops.



Teaching, Learning, and Professional Development

The CCDR identified 15 courses on campus related to disasters, many of them taught by our Faculty Affiliates. Although 2014 saw the launch of MRU’s new Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery certificate in Continuing Education, this year saw interesting and useful cross-fertilization of ideas. As one example, the certificate students in Continuing Education attended many of our events, including our Fall Lecture. And, many graduates from our degree programs entered the Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery certificate program.

Workshop Attendance

In July 2016, our Office Manager (and student RA), Kathryn Wells, attended the Natural Hazards Center’s annual workshop in Broomfield, Colorado. There, she liased with other Center directors, learned about the landscape of disaster and hazards research, and otherwise brought back a tremendous amount of knowledge to the Centre. She also attended the International Research Committee on Disasters’ annual meeting, held in sequence with the NHC workshop.

Alumni Achievements

Emilie Bassi (former RA on the High River Family study), is the recipient of a very competitive SSHRC graduate scholarship. Emilie is now a graduate student in Resource Economics and

Environmental Sociology (REES) at the University of Alberta, working on a MA project on sustainable agriculture in Alberta

Travis Milnes (RA on the Calgary Flood project) has been accepted for admission and is now attending graduate school in sociology at Colorado State University.

Victoria Stamper (RA on the Calgary Flood Project) has been accepted for admission and is now attending graduate school in sociology at the University of Calgary.

Lynne Hogan (attendee on the first New Orleans field school in disaster) is working toward her MSW degree at the University of Ottawa. Prior to that, Lynne worked for the Red Cross in High River.

Zachary Cox (former RA on the High River Family Study) is has finished his Master's Degree in Disaster and Emergency Management at Royal Roads University. He is working as a business continuity planner for IBM.

Melanie (Gracy) Putic recently began a new role with the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, DC, where she looks forward to assisting in the advancement of socially and environmentally-sustainable development projects. Before that, she worked at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, focusing on the mitigation of drought impacts in the Middle East and sea level rise in Small Island States. After graduating from MRU in 2014, she completed a Master's Degree Environment, Sustainable Development and Peace at the United Nations University for Peace in Costa Rica.

Communicating

Communicating results of our work is at the heart of what we do at the CCDR. Besides our internal seminars and brown-bags, CCDR Faculty Affiliates gave 28 presentations to external stakeholders, published 14 articles, wrote reports collaboratively with our partners, and otherwise worked to create and advance knowledge in the field.

Presentations and Workshops

Timothy Haney (Director). "Trouble in Paradise: How do Social Capital and Place Attachment Emerge in a Post-Disaster Community?" Canadian Sociological Association meeting, Calgary, Alberta. May 2016.

Timothy Haney (Director). "Rebuilding Community After Disaster." Guest talk for City of Chestermere, Alberta, community meeting. September 15, 2015.

Timothy Haney (Director). "Evacuation, Displacement, and Post-Flood Return: Findings from the Calgary Flood Project." Keynote talk for the annual meeting of the Emergency Social Services Network of Alberta. April 19, 2016.

Caroline McDonald-Harker (Faculty Affiliate). "Parent-Child Relationships in the Aftermath of Disaster: Family Challenges, Complexities, and Opportunities Resulting from the 2013 High River Flood." Canadian Sociological Association meeting, Calgary, Alberta. May 2016.

McDonald-Harker, Caroline, Julie Drolet and Robin Cox. "Engaging Children and Youth in Community Resilience Post-Flood in Southern Alberta." Canadian Association for Social Work Education, Calgary, Alberta. June 2016.

Miller, Janet (Faculty Affiliate). "Individual Response to Disaster – Relapse, Recovery, Resistance and Resilience. Symposium on Children, Youth, and Disasters: Risk Reduction, Recovery & Resilience" Canadian Psychological Association annual conference. 2016.

Carter-Snell, Cathy and Janet Miller (Faculty Affiliates). "Courage in the Creek and in the Wood." Workshop/presentation, co-facilitated for residents of Bragg Creek and Redwood Meadows. The event was organized by the Bragg Creek Ladies Auxiliary and the Bragg Creek and Area Wellness Committee. 2016.

Also see article about the presentation in the High Country News (page 6):
http://www.highcountrynews.ca/pdfs/HCNews_Apr16.pdf

Miller, Janet and Cathy Carter-Snell (Faculty Affiliates). "Courage in the Creek and in the Wood Part II - continued sharing, stories of courage and recovery." Presented to Bragg Creek and Redwood Meadows residents. Saturday, May 7, 2016, Bragg Creek.

Davidson, Debra (Faculty Affiliate). "What the Frack?! Observations on the Rapid Development of, and Growing Resistance to, Hydraulic Fracturing." World Forum of Sociology. Vienna, Austria. 2016.

Kostouros, Pat (Faculty Affiliate). "Depictions of Suffering and Trigger Warnings." Presentation at the International Journal of Arts and Science conference. Las Vegas, NV.

Guthrie, Brian (Faculty Affiliate). "Psychosocial Emergency Response: Team Perception of Preparedness and Response pre and post Mobilization to the 2010 Winter Olympics." Presented at the International Disaster Psychosocial (DPS) Conference. Vancouver, BC. March 21-23, 2016.

Guthrie, Brian (Faculty Affiliate). "Single Session Therapy Post-disaster in Low and Middle-income Countries. Presented at *Capturing the Moment 2*. International Conference on SST and Walk-in Clinics. Banff, AB, CAN.

Eva Bogdan (Research Associate). "We're Ready! Community Disaster Preparedness and Response Pilot Program." Canadian Sociological Association meeting, Calgary, Alberta.

Bogdan, Eva (Research Associate) and Stephanie Sodero. "We're Ready! Community Disaster Preparedness Pilot Project in the Town of High River, Alberta." Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, CSA, Calgary, AB.

Bogdan, Eva (Research Associate), Bennett, A., & Yumagulova, Lily. "Public Engagements in Forward Looking Recovery Efforts Following the 2013 Floods in High River and Calgary." Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, CSA, Calgary, AB. May 2016.

Bogdan, Eva (Research Associate). "Adapting the Dutch Room for the River approach in Alberta, Canada." European Association of Geographers (EUGEO), Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary. August 30, 2015.

Bogdan, Eva (Research Associate). "Disaster Governance: An Investigation of the 2013 Flood in High River, Alberta." European Association of Geographers (EUGEO), Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary. August 30, 2015.

Bogdan, Eva (Research Associate). "Disaster Governance: An Investigation of the 2013 Flood in High River, Alberta." European Sociological Association, Prague, Czech Technical University, Czech Republic. August 25, 2015.

Bogdan, Eva (Research Associate). "Doing it the Dutch way?: An Investigation of Flood Management in High River, Alberta." Canadian Risk and Hazard Network Symposium, Calgary, Alberta. November 4, 2015.

Isabelle Sinclair (student Research Assistant). "Gendering the Flood: Examining Heterosexual Spousal Experiences During the Calgary Flood." Canadian Sociological Association meeting, Calgary, Alberta. May 2016.

Kathryn Wells (Office Manager and student Research Assistant). 2016. "Redefining Basic Needs for Families: A Qualitative Analysis of Services Provided After the Flood." Canadian Sociological Association meeting, Calgary, Alberta.

Travis Milnes (student Research Assistant). 2016. "Calgary Under Water: Climate Change, Resource Dependence, and the Southern Alberta Flood." Canadian Sociological Association meeting, Calgary, Alberta.

Victoria Stamper (student Research Assistant). 2016. "Like Rubber, Bouncing Back: The Impact of Income on Redevelopment and Resiliency." Canadian Sociological Association meeting, Calgary, Alberta.

Kathryn Wells, Roxy Trask, Alex Christison, and Imogene Roulson (students from the New Orleans field school): Panelists on youth and resilience at Canada's National Roundtable on Disaster Risk, organized by Public Safety Canada. Calgary, Alberta. November 3, 2015.

Wells, Kathryn (Office Manager and student Research Assistant). 2016. "Saddlebrook in Print: A History and Analysis of the 2013 Southern Alberta Flood." Presentation at the Transformations undergraduate conference at MacEwan University in Edmonton.

Wells, Kathryn (Office Manager and student Research Assistant). 2015. Presentation on the CCDR to Dr. Ted Hewitt, President of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada.

Boggs, Katherine (P.I. of a funded project). 2015. Presentation about EarthsCAN (October 2015, Ottawa) at the annual meeting of the Canadian Chairs of Earth Sciences Departments (CCESD).

Boggs, Katherine (P.I. of a funded project). 2015. Presentation about EarthsCAN (March 2016, Toronto) at the annual meeting of the National Geological Surveys of Canada (NGSC – meeting between the Director Generals of the GSC and the heads of the provincial/territorial geological surveys).

German Contreras (student Research Assistant). Poster on his work in Katherine Boggs's earthquake risk project at 2016 Faculty of Science & Technology Research Day.



Canadian Sociological Association annual meeting, where 4 students, 1 research associate, 1 Faculty Affiliate, and the Director all presented.



Student RA's Roxy Trask, Imogene Roulson, and Kathryn Wells at Canada's National Roundtable on Disaster Risk. With Robin Cox of Royal Roads University (session organizer)

Publications

CCDR Faculty Affiliates were very successful in having their work published this year. Below is a list of citations from CCDR Faculty Affiliates from this year:

- Kristen Barber (Faculty Affiliate) and Timothy J. Haney (Director). 2016. "The Experiential Gap in Disaster Research: Feminist Epistemology and the Contribution of Local Affected Researchers." *Sociological Spectrum* 36(2): 57-74.
- Deitz, Shiloh and Kristen Barber (Faculty Affiliate). 2015. "Geographies of Inequality: Urban Renewal and the Race, Gender, and Class of Post-Katrina New Orleans." *Race, Gender & Class*: 134-159.
- Barber, Kristen (Faculty Affiliate) and Shiloh Deitz. 2015. "Missing in the Storm: The Gender Gap in Hurricane Katrina Research and Disaster Management Efforts." In *Rethinking Disaster Recovery: A Hurricane Katrina Retrospective*, edited by Jeannie Haubert. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.
- Barber, Kristen (Faculty Affiliate). 2016. "The Objectivity Myth in Research." *Feminist Reflections* (and reposted by the *Society Pages*). Specifically mentions collaborations and research going on at the CCDR:
<https://thesocietypages.org/feminist/2016/06/08/the-objectivity-myth-in-research/>
- Haney, Timothy J (Director). and Caroline McDonald-Harker (Faculty Affiliate). "The River is Not the Same Anymore": Environmental Risk and Uncertainty in the Aftermath of the High River, Alberta Flood." Under Review – Revise and Resubmit decision.
- Haney, Timothy J. (Director). 2016. Review of *Children of Katrina*, by Alice Forthergill and Lori Peek. *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters* 34(1): 170-172.
- Haney, Timothy (Director). 2015. "Centre for Community Disaster Research – Readers Explain their Organizations." *Natural Hazards Observer*. Available here:
<https://hazards.colorado.edu/natural-hazards-observer>
- McDonald-Harker, Caroline (Faculty Affiliate). 2016. *Mothering in Marginalized Contexts: Narratives of Women who Mother In and Through Domestic Violence*. Demeter Press.
- McDonald-Harker, Caroline, Timothy J. Haney, and Alex Christison (Student Research Assistant). 2016. "Community Organization Focus Group Report: The Effects and Implications of Environmental Disasters on the Family: Communicating, Coping, and Caring Among Families Impacted by the 2013 High River, Alberta Floods." Mount Royal University, report written for the community partners involved in the study, 55 pages.
- McDonald-Harker, Caroline, Timothy Haney, and Alex Christison (Student Research Assistant). 2015. "Data Summary: Preliminary Correlations - The Effects and Implications of Environmental Disasters on the Family: Communicating, Coping, and Caring Among Families Impacted by the 2013 High River, Alberta Floods." Mount Royal University, report written for the community partners involved in the study, 28 pages.
- McDonald-Harker, Caroline, Timothy J. Haney, and Alex Christison (Student Research Assistant). 2015. "Data Summary: Sociodemographic Variables - The Effects and Implications of Environmental Disasters on the Family: Communicating, Coping, and

Caring Among Families Impacted by the 2013 High River, Alberta Floods.” Mount Royal University, report written for the community partners involved in the study, 29 pages.

McDonald-Harker, Caroline, Timothy J. Haney. 2015. Raging Waters: Coing Together as a Family Following the 2013 Alberta Floods. Mount Royal University, research snapshot written for the community partners involved in the study and general public, 3 pages.

Guthrie, Brian (Faculty Affiliate). 2016. “Single session therapy post disaster in low and middle-income countries.” *Intervention; International Journal of Mental Health, Psychosocial Work and Counselling in Areas of Armed Conflict*. Intervention, (14) 1. pp 18-32.

Guthrie, Brian (Faculty Affiliate). 2016 . “Reflections on providing Single Session Therapy in post-disaster Haiti.” *One At a Time: Single Session Therapy by Walk-In or Appointment*. M. Hoyt, A. Slive, M. Bobele, J.Young, & M.Talmon, (Eds.).

Kostouros, Pat (Faculty Affiliate). In Press. “Depicting the suffering of others.” *Journal of Teaching Excellence*.

Bogdan, Eva (Research Associate), Rutledge, A., & Yumagulova, L. Accepted for publication. “Public engagements in forward looking recovery efforts following the 2013 floods in High River and Calgary.” In G. Marsh (Ed.), *Community Engagement in Disaster Management*. Routledge.

Student Theses

This year, for the first time, we were pleased to facilitate and advise two student honours theses related to disasters. They are:

Travis Milnes: "Calgary Under Water: Climate Change, Resource Dependence, and the Southern Alberta Flood." B.A. (Hons.) in Sociology.

Kathryn Wells: Redefining Basic Needs for Families: Analysis of Services Provided After the Flood." B.A. (Hons) in Sociology.

Media Interviews

Eva Bogdan: Interview on charitable giving during disaster: <https://uofa.ualberta.ca/news-and-events/newsarticles/2016/may/the-generosity-of-albertans-and-the-spectacle-of-giving>

Timothy Haney. “Don’t Give up: Lessons for Fort McMurray’s Long Road Ahead.” CBC’s (national program) “The Current.” May 9, 2016. Link: <http://www.cbc.ca/radio/thecurrent/alberta-under-fire-a-special-edition-of-the-current-for-may-9-2016-1.3573093/don-t-give-up-lessons-for-fort-mcmurray-s-long-road-ahead-to-rebuilding-1.3573331>

Timothy Haney. “Fort McMurray Wildfire: What’s the Right time to Evacuate from a Disaster?” Global News. May 5, 2016. Link: <http://globalnews.ca/news/2681678/fort-mcmurray-wildfire-when-is-the-right-time-to-evacuate/>

Timothy Haney. “Fort McMurray wildfire.” The Weather Network. May 9, 2016.

Caroline McDonald-Harker. “Study Focused on Resiliency in Southern Alberta.” Newspaper interview with High River Times, July 2016.

Caroline McDonald-Harker. “Social Media During the Fort McMurray Wildfire.” Interview with CBC Radio Calgary, June 2016.
<http://www.cbc.ca/player/play/2690108279>

Caroline McDonald-Harker. “Chinook Leaves Leo Dicaprio Concerned – Climate Change.” Television interview with CTV News Calgary. December 9, 2015.
<http://calgary.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=766850&binId=1.1201914&playlistPageNum=1>

Multimedia

The Centre produced five student-led videos this year, highlighting the contributions of our undergraduate student Research Assistants: Isabelle Sinclair, Kathryn Wells, Travis Milnes, Angela Laughton, and Imogene Roulson. We submitted all five videos to SSHRC’s annual “Storytellers” competition. All were created with the help of Design4Change, a marketing and design firm based out of MRU’s Bissett School of Business. The videos can now be found on our “Stories” page:

<http://mtroyal.ca/ProgramsCourses/FacultiesSchoolsCentres/CentreforCommunityDisasterResearch/Students/Stories/index.htm>

The Centre also produced a video, narrated by Director Tim Haney, on our overall mission and achievements. The video particularly highlighted our support from the MRU Faculty of Arts. It can be found at:

<https://vimeo.com/172476282>

Lastly, several of the CCDR students who attended the 2015 Field School to New Orleans, to learn about recovery from Katrina and the BP oil spill, made the following video for residents affected by the 2016 Fort McMurray wildfire (video designed principally by Maddie Martin):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8F6l3naGjDk&feature=youtu.be>

Website Maintenance and Updating

We continued to create new content for our website, to use the website to communicate about our projects, and we have now started to place reports, infographics, and other output from our projects, on our website. In the last year, our website has become a hub for collaboration, information archiving, and sharing our success stories.

The site can be accessed at:

www.mtroyal.ca/ccdr



HOME ABOUT PROJECTS COMMUNITY STUDENTS GET INVOLVED



What We Do



The Centre for Community Disaster Research is a trans-disciplinary centre for research, education, and outreach related to natural, social, technological and economic disasters. The Centre is mandated with promoting rigorous academic research that is led by community need and involves university researchers, students, community groups, government stakeholders, and end-users of research as meaningful partners.

[Learn more >](#)

Our Projects

The CCDR is undertaking a number of pathbreaking projects including research initiatives, innovative courses and curriculum, policy development, and outreach activities. From crisis communication to family coping strategies, to business continuity in a post-disaster environment, our Faculty Affiliates and Partners are advancing the field in numerous ways.



[Learn more >](#)

Community Partners



Get Involved!

[Click here to find out how you can get involved.](#)

Upcoming Events

JUL 10 **41st Annual Natural Hazards Research and Applications Workshop**

Since 1975, the Natural Hazards Center has hosted the Annual Natural Hazards Research and Applications Workshop for 400 federal, state, and local emergency officials; representatives of nonprofit and humanitarian organizations; hazards researchers; disaster consultants; and others dedicated to alleviating the impacts of disasters. Runs July 10-13 in Broomfield, Colorado.

OCT 14 **3rd Annual Fall Lecture**

Dr. Jeannie Haubert (Winthrop University): "Now Where are We Sunscreen to Live? How Natural

Our innovative and user-friendly website highlights our future and past events, profiles our core staff, and provides reports and findings from our recent and ongoing research projects.

Stories

As part of its mission, the CCDR strives to take a leading role in educating students and preparing them for exciting careers emergency management, non-profit/NGO work, or government work in the context of disasters or emergencies. Most students receive this training through working as Research Assistance on various CCDR-affiliated projects, going on a disaster field school, or taking a course from one of the Centre's Faculty Affiliates.

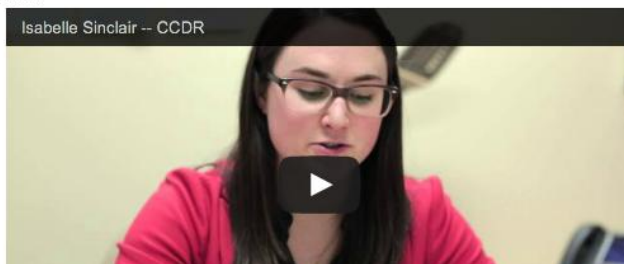
On this page, we highlight stories of a few of the CCDR alumni who have left MRU and pursued careers in disaster-related fields and students who have worked on amazing projects.

Kathryn Wells



Our website also highlights stories from our students and alumni, highlighting their work for the Centre and the incredible learning experiences they have had at CCDR.

Isabelle Sinclair



BUDGET AND SPENDING

The following information on our budgeting and spending activity is drawn from the Statements of Account provided to the Director of the CCDR by MRU's Office of Research Services. Amounts are accurate as of the June 24, 2016 statement date. It includes our first two years of spending, covering the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 years.

CCDR Budget and Spending To Date

Sources	Amount Available	Amount Spent	Allocated
The Calgary Foundation	\$60,000	\$21,849	\$8,420
SSHRC Aid to Small Universities	\$58,760	\$32,325	\$12,499
Institute for Environmental Sustainability	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$0
TOTAL	\$148,760	\$84,174	\$20,919

Budget Narrative

To date, the CCDR has had \$148,760 available to spend (half in each year, 2014-2015 and 2015-2016). Of that amount, we have spent \$84,174. We have also committed \$20,919 to CCDR-funded projects which have not yet spent the funds. When this is added to our total expenditures of \$84,174, it reveals that we have used \$105,093 over our first two years, out of the \$148,760 we had to spend. We are therefore carrying over a budget of \$43,667 into the 2016-2017 year.

In the line reading "Institute for Environmental Sustainability," you will note that we have spent the entire \$30,000 allocated to the CCDR. We originally intended to spend \$10,000 each year for three years. Because of our Quick-Response grant program for Fort McMurray, many of which projects are environmental in nature, we used these funds to cover many of the projects and spent the entire \$30,000 this year. Since these funds were already available to spend, this is not a budgetary issue. But, it does mean we will have no funding from IES in 2016-2017.

The CCDR's budget for the coming year will include our Year 3 funding from SSHRC and the Calgary Foundation. 2016-2017 will also include some large expenditures, including a large dissemination event, travel for dissemination, and new project funding. Though the Centre is carrying over funds from the prior year into 2016-2017, it is likely we will use these funds during the year. Still, this analysis reveals that the CCDR is most certainly financially sustainable, with income surpassing expenditures.

LOOKING FORWARD

With several of our projects now wrapping up data collection, 2016-2017 should be our most exciting year for knowledge creation and dissemination. We are poised to release several reports, hold numerous seminar events, and toward the end of the year, to host a large knowledge dissemination event, which should attract international attention. Although we have established ourselves as a Canadian leader in disaster research, in the coming years we hope to show the world how the knowledge created at the CCDR can inform best-practices for responding to disasters and catastrophes all over the globe. We also see a strategic opportunity to become a leader in disaster research focusing on children, youth, and families, as well as in facilitating bottom-up, community-driven responses to disaster.



One of our well-attended Seminar events



CCDR Office Manager,
Kathryn Wells



