

INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNITY PROSPERITY

2018 · 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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Director's Report: What's in a Name?

Community prosperity: It's what everyone wants, right? Who doesn't want to prosper in some way? Who doesn't long for some form of community? And yet...



"Community prosperity" is a phrase that elicits all manner of curious looks and responses. Academics rightfully approach the ambiguous nature of these terms with some skepticism. "It's not in my literature", some declare. Some bristle at the word "prosperity": Is that code for predatory neo-liberalism? Others roll their eyes at "community"; Just more fuzzy, idealistic do-gooder speak. Like a Rorschach test, "community prosperity" reflects back either the commodification of social justice and the relentless commercialization of civic life or, alternatively, the utopian quest to seek a perfect blend of social equity and economic wealth; The sweet spot between doing good and doing well; Between the right to thrive and the responsibility to the common weal; between cosmopolitan freedom and communal bonds (or, as sociologists might cast it, between Gesellschaft and Gemeinschaft).

Despite all this, in April of 2015, we took the leap of faith to replace "non-profit studies" with a term that nobody was using and few had heard of. "Community prosperity" to us, is the "why": It is about the flourishing of human potential within a flourishing web of life. Four years on, we now witness this concept popping up in many realms and sectors; public, private, non profit, academia, and the interstices between.

This Annual Report chronicles our latest year of achievements and milestones in the service of a borderless campus, where faculty, students and community organizations share in a vibrant learning ecosystem.

The Institute for Community Prosperity, financed exclusively from community-raised philanthropic and earned revenue, ensures that students and citizens have access to high impact, immersive learning and undergraduate community-partnered research opportunities that build their confidence and capacity to lead transformative change in their communities. Advancing MRU's mandate to provide an exceptional undergraduate educational experience, The Institute is committed to supporting students as they unlock their potential, and flourish as learners, changemakers, and human beings.

The Institute seeks to blend community knowledge, wisdom and experience with academic problem-based learning and scholarly insight. We are a place to try out new ideas and approaches, and to foster inspiration for the next generation of social impact leaders as they use 21st century skills and mindsets to respond to the complex challenges the world, and that our communities face.

Our work is made possible through an extraordinary team of staff, students, Changemakers in Residence, and faculty colleagues. Congratulations in particular to Changemaker in Residence Walter Hossli, who received the Lifetime Distinguished Achievement

Award as an MRU alumnus this year (Social Services Diploma, 1985). Walter is perhaps best known as the Founder of Momentum, but he is an exemplar of changemaking in so many ways, from cultivating his award-winning garden to cultivating citizen action and policy change at the provincial and municipal levels.

This past year also saw the Institute publish some major new contributions to changemaker learning in Canada:

- In Search of the Altruism: AI and the Future of Social Good
- Student Guide to Mapping a System
- The Problem Solver's Companion: A Practitioners Guide to Starting a Social Enterprise in Canada
- Training the Archer: Accelerating Student Changemaking Through Testing Assumptions
- The Future is Made: 2019 Environmental Scan

This coming year we are also rolling out a Fellowship program for students from across campus. The Catalyst Fellowship will offer a unique opportunity for students to work with a community partner through applied research in systems change. This blending of scholarly learning with community action and insight is what defines our impact as a catalyst for 21st century learning. We believe that universities can, and must, have social impact, and that we can, and must, help create conditions for community prosperity to thrive, well beyond the campus green.

James Stauch,
Director, Institute for Community Prosperity



Institute for
Community Prosperity



COMMUNITY PROSPERITY requires...

Problem-based, systems-focused learning

We activate MRU's mandate to provide personalized learning, helping students in any program on campus become deeply engaged in their educational experience and invested in their journey to personal, career and civic success. We complement MRU's high-quality in-class curriculum with an extraordinary suite of co-curricular and undergraduate research, scholarship and community-engaged learning opportunities.

We help students think about who they are, the change they want to see in the world, and how to connect the dots in between.

Map the System

The Institute manages this annual co-curricular challenge, which provides an opportunity for students in any program on campus to showcase their research and system mapping skills related to complex social and environmental issues. Dr. Katherine McGowan also runs an aligned credit-based curricular support for students in the Challenge, through the course *Social Innovation 3303: Storytelling and Systems*.

Beginning this past 2018/2019 season, the Institute also manages the Canada-wide edition of Map the System. Since taking this on, we have increased the number of competing teams 3-fold, to over 700 teams from 15 schools across Canada.

A new component we introduced this year, in partnership with the Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning at the University of Calgary, and the Calgary Public Library was hosting a showcase of the top 3 student teams from UCalgary and MRU.

Another new element we created was a Map the System booklet, showcasing the systems challenges from each of the 15 schools competing at the Canadian Final. The sponsoring Trico and McConnell Foundations subsequently distributed a copy of this booklet to every MP in Canada and ever MLA in Alberta, outlining how this competition is a prime example of socially-relevant problem-based learning, and noting the international strength of competing Canadian teams.

MRU students have consistently placed among the top teams in Canada in this competition. For the third year in a row, MRU students went on to compete in the global challenge at the University of Oxford. Team Kistoonon, comprised of students in Anthropology, Education and Information Design, focused on the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women. Team Kistoonon emerged from a strong field of finalists on campus, which included teams focusing on the challenge of moving from provider-centered to patient-centered care in the Alberta health care system, existential threats from climate, urbanization, and farming to the Colorado River basin, the resurgence of violence in Northern Ireland, post Brexit, and barriers to integration for female immigrants into Canadian society.



A Student Guide to Mapping a System (PUBLICATION)

With support from the McConnell and Trico Foundations, the Institute partnered with the Skoll Centre for Social Entrepreneurship at Oxford University to produce a Student Guide to Mapping a System. Co-authored with the founder of the Competition, Daniela Papi-Thornton, this Student Guide has been shared with 3500 students at over 40 universities worldwide. As a public resource (free to download as a PDF), this guide is useful to anyone investigating or illustrating a complex social or environmental challenge. As such, we have also received feedback from practitioners, including civil servants, noting how useful the guide is in their daily work. In the coming year, we plan to create an interactive web-based resource based on the Guide.

Catalyst Fellowship (launching September 2019)

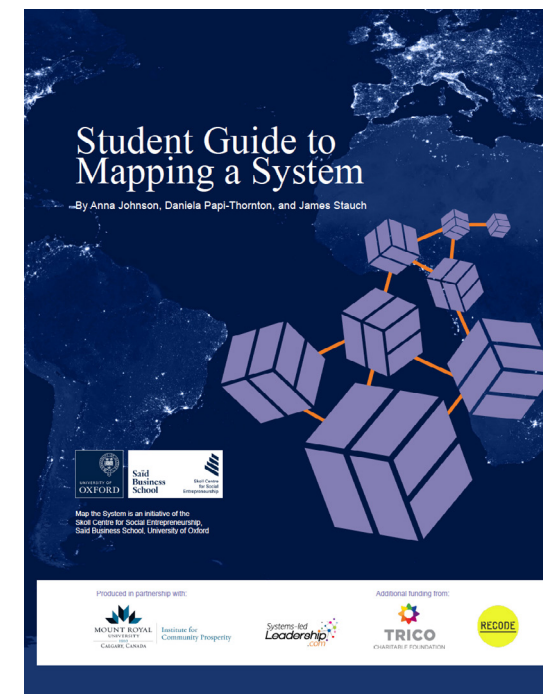
This new 8-month long undergraduate research and "systems leadership" opportunity, will provide a cash award and many hours of co-curricular training, mentorship and support to engage with a community organization on a complex systems challenge, over the course of the academic year. This is a unique opportunity for senior MRU students in any program to "apprentice" with a community-defined issue, with mentorship from a faculty member with related subject matter knowledge, researching, informing and engaging the public in understanding the challenge.

Training the Archer: Accelerating Student Changelmaking (PUBLICATION)

Produced in partnership with the Trico Charitable Foundation, this report sets out to understand if, and how, Canadian post-secondary students can use tests, experimentation and effective learning to advance a social or environmental cause they are passionate about. The lead author and principle investigator was recent MRU Arts graduate and 2018 Valedictorian Alexandra Daignault. Alexandra has subsequently been hired by the Trico Foundation to lead Canada-wide student outreach.

"So many awesome quotes in this document. Also, perfect timing, as I'm drafting a course manual for my computer science class. A lot of good stuff in here that I can use!"

Computer Science professor, University of Guelph



COMMUNITY PROSPERITY requires...

Economies, markets and enterprises that put life before profit

Economics of Social Change

This 5-part workshop series, designed in partnership with Thrive/Momentum, was introduced in 2018, and is running for a second time in 2019 at the new Central Library (due to its economic and transit accessibility vis-à-vis MRU's Lincoln Park campus). The workshops are for individuals passionate about community and curious how to apply an economic lens to social issues. The sessions help participants grow their understanding of the connections between the local economy, community development and social change in areas such as food security, affordable housing and local job creation. Workshops can be taken independently or completed in full to earn a certificate of completion. This workshop series will also be packaged into a 15-hour course in the Social Innovation Certificate, offered through the Faculty of Continuing Education and Extension.

Thrive

"As a growing entrepreneur the five course program highlighted how easy it can be to shift my thinking on how to do business differently. The principles I learned from the various experts were vast, the value of sustainable partnerships, various business models and the connections I made with other like-minded Calgarians was awesome!"

Tyson Bankert, Founder of Recess Calgary



Economic Reconciliation & Social Enterprise: A Workshop for Changemakers & Problem Solvers

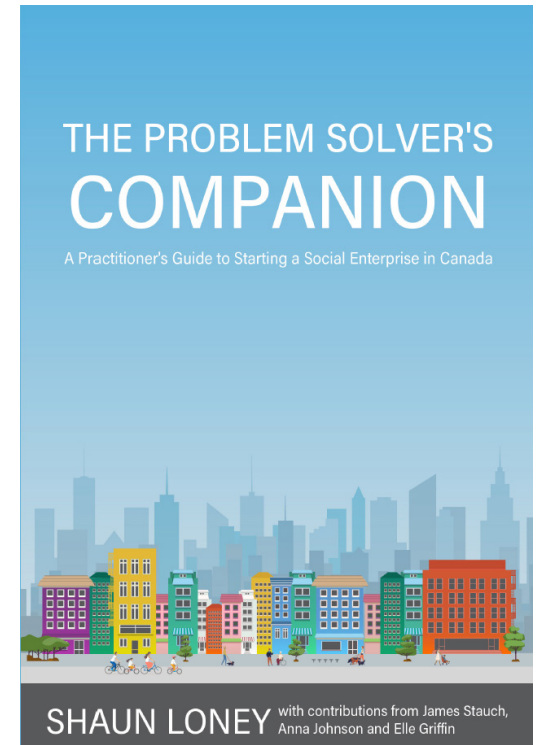
The Institute hosted this second annual workshop for students and practitioners in September, 2018, delivered by Winnipeg-based social entrepreneur and Ashoka Fellow Shaun Loney. The workshop drew from Loney's practical insights as well as from his most recent book, *The Beautiful Bailout: How a Social Innovation Scale-up Will Solve Government's Priciest Problems*. A number of attendees from the Tsuut'ina First Nation were among the attendees. As a result, Shaun was invited to engage in a learning process with Tsuut'ina leadership and community members.

The Problem Solver's Companion (PUBLICATION)

An idea that emerged directly from these two workshops, this his guidebook is for changemakers, practitioners, students and anyone interested in "social enterprise". Channeling the voice and lived experience of Loney, it is meant to serve as an approachable, easy-to-read handbook to accompany one's social enterprise journey, which is not a linear series of "steps", but rather a pattern of loops and slopes, with no clear beginning or end point. The Companion offers many tips and lessons from the field, and at many scales, from the mindset and motivations of the individual to the entire system one may be trying to shift. It contains links to many helpful resources as well as examples of social enterprises from coast to coast to coast. The Companion is co-produced with Encompass Co-op.

"I am so grateful to you for creating this ultimate guide for social entrepreneurs in Canada. You have such a strong grasp of what it takes to make a positive impact in this field,"

Khalidah Aderonke Bello, CEO and Founder, Káàbó Group, Toronto



Corporate Social innovation

Changemaker in Residence Cathy Glover has been working on her forthcoming book, *Love the Problem: How investing in social innovation opens doors for transformational change*. The book will highlight interviews, anecdotes and promising practices from companies that have made bold leaps beyond transactional corporate philanthropy or social responsibility. *Love the Problem* shares the experiences of the Suncor Energy Foundation as it strategically shifted how it provided charitable investments to organizations dealing with some of Canada's most entrenched systemic issues. Sharing stories of the process of social innovation that connected leaders and helped to address issues of community resiliency, the future of energy, success for Indigenous youth and leadership in the social sector, this book will help business leaders find ways to impact transformational social change and build trust. Cathy, James Stauch and 2018 practicum student Kelli Stevens have also written a chapter on the changing role of business in community for an upcoming textbook on the nonprofit sector in Canada.

Social Procurement

Social procurement leverages the purchasing power of public governments and large institutions to increase community benefits, which can include targeted employment or training of marginalized people, local economic development, and environmental benefits. The Institute is proud to partner with Buy Social Canada, The Canadian Poverty Institute, Calgary Economic Development, Vibrant Communities Calgary, Edmonton Community Foundation, Imagine Cities, Fuse Social, End Poverty Edmonton, and the United Way of Calgary and Area in a Momentum-led initiative to advocate for municipal and provincial adoption of a social procurement. Social Impact Lead Barb Davies is also part of the City of Calgary's Social Procurement Task Force.

COMMUNITY PROSPERITY requires...

Future scanning and sense-making

The Future is Made: 2019 Scan of Trends and Emerging Issues (PUBLICATION)

Our fourth annual scan of community issues, trends and controversies, this year entitled The Future is Made, has become an indispensable planning, discussion and provocation tool, not only for the commissioner of this project, The Calgary Foundation, but also for many others in Calgary and across Canada.

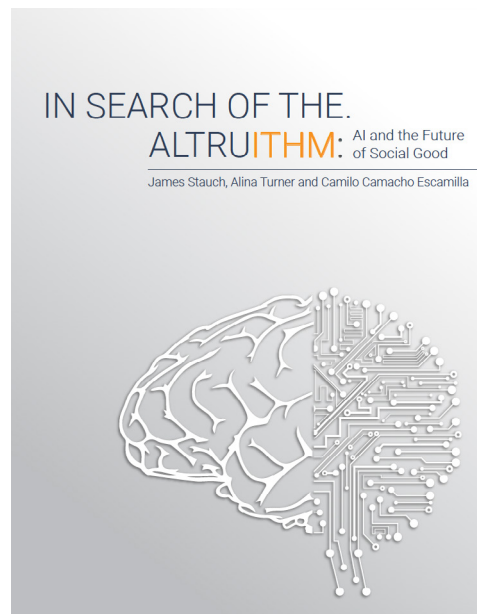
"A timely and masterful piece of work that deserves broad distribution. It is so very rich with insights, it could form the basis for an annual conference or gathering."

David Mitchell, Calgary Chamber of Voluntary Organizations

In Search of the Althruithm: AI and the Future of Social Good (PUBLICATION)

This special research project emerged from the previous two scan documents, as we recognized how profound, yet under-profiled, the issue of artificial intelligence (AI) was within the realm of social purpose work.

While we are still years, or even decades, away from realizing the full impacts of AI, the transformation for society, and for the social sector, will be profound. While dystopian versions of a machine-dominated future cloud the horizon, this paper argues that there is reason for guarded optimism. The careful combination of machine super-intelligence with human learning, as we are seeing in many social purpose uses and fields already, has significant potential to help us solve even our most complex social and environmental challenges. Peppered with many real-world examples of existing and in-development AI and socially-purposeful applications, this paper argues that the development of AI must not merely be ethical, but also inclusive and common-good focused. Indeed, it is the most important existential, public policy and social goal we can possibly pursue.



COMMUNITY PROSPERITY requires...

Youth involvement in changemaker learning

MRU Youth Changemakers Camp

Concern for equitable access to participation in university is an emerging pillar of the Institute for Community Prosperity. It also speaks to a root cause of a growing urban-rural divide in Canada, particularly with respect to active citizenship and sharing in future prosperity. The rate of participation of rural students in university education is substantially lower than that of urban students, where just over 30% of rural students enroll vs. nearly 45% of urban students (Statistics Canada. Youth in Transition Survey. Cohort A. Cycle 4.).

In response to this gap, the Institute has piloted an initiative entitled the MRU Changemaker Leadership Camp, a unique program that invites youth from rural Alberta to stay on campus for 5 days, exploring their passions and interests, and deepening their knowledge and skills to become successful students, and future potential changemakers and leaders in their community.

The program has been piloted twice with students from the Livingstone Range School Division (May, 2019 and May, 2018). The costs of these pilots have been born partially by student fees (to cover a portion of the cost of food), by the School Division itself (in-kind personnel and transportation) and the by the Institute's contribution of re-allocated staff and summer student time. We are hoping to extend and expand this initiative in 2020.

"We can't thank you enough for making the MRU Changemakers Camp happen again this year. Your commitment to social innovation, education and shining a light upon the emerging trends of our time is inspiring."

John Taylor, Off Campus Coordinator, Livingstone Range School Division

SHAD Workshop: Social Innovation & Systems Change

For most high school students, July usually means holidays; time to relax and decompress from months of hard work. For Shad students, July means the beginning of a new and valuable learning experience separate from their regular classes. Shad immerses students in Grades 10 to 12 in a one-month STEAM and entrepreneurship program that consists of lectures, workshops, projects, and activities. As part of the program, students are challenged to solve a complex social or environmental issue that encourages them to realize their important role as tomorrow's innovative leaders and changemakers. This year's theme was centered on helping Canadians reduce their waste.

For the second year in a row, the University of Calgary engaged the Institute to support the SHAD Calgary program through the delivery of a hands-on workshop focused on systems thinking to the cohort of 64 students. Dr. Katharine McGowan and Community Engagement Strategist Anna Johnson co-led a workshop on social innovation and systems thinking, tasking students with the opportunity to "love the problem" before they jump to crafting a 'solution'.



COMMUNITY PROSPERITY requires...

Thinking differently about our food and energy systems

Nourish Yourself: The Community Mobile Food Market (CMFM)

MRU's Lincoln Park campus is in the middle of an urban food desert. Students are challenged to eat healthy while on campus or living in residence. Fresh Routes' Community Mobile Food Market (CMFM) is a community-driven grocery store on wheels that increases the availability of healthy and affordable foods in underserved neighbourhoods. The CMFM is a collaboration between the City of Calgary, the Institute for Community Prosperity, Leftovers foundation, local vendors, and community groups.

Community Owned Renewable Energy

The (now previous) Alberta Government's renewable energy strategy promised to provide real reductions in greenhouse gas emissions while creating jobs and economic diversification. This initiative provided a once-in-a-generation opportunity to create energy policy that includes community-based options that will benefit a broad range of Albertans beyond large utility companies, helping Albertans become producers, not just consumers of electricity, not just large utility companies. Although the future of this policy is uncertain under the new government, we have been proud to partner with the Alberta Community & Co-operative Association, Alberta Co-operative Energy, Alberta Green Economy Network, Alberta Solar Co-operative, Alberta Federation of REAs, EQUS, Federation of Alberta Gas Co-operatives, North Parkland Power, Rocky REA and Starland County.

Mend the Gap: How to Have a Constructive Climate-Energy Conversation

Few issues facing Canada are as divided – and divisive – as climate change and energy. Building on the success of last year's Mind the Gap regional leaders forum, George Marshall returned to Calgary to unpack the insights and perspectives of the Alberta Narratives Project – a year-long initiative involving nearly 500 Albertans to uncover new ways of talking about climate and energy in our province that are built on common ground and respect for different ways of seeing the world.

Across the spectrum, Albertans are calling for more honest and open conversation and consistently reject language that sets one group against another. They want a new kind of conversation, with new voices, especially from leaders they trust. At this interactive breakfast event, held at the Glencoe Club, participants discovered what Albertans had to say, ranging from farmers, oil sands workers, business leaders, youth groups, environmental activists and New Canadians. What values do we share? What language works well and – crucially – what language poses an obstacle to a productive conversation?

The event was co-hosted by the Canada West Foundation, Pembina Institute and MRU's Institute for Environmental Sustainability.

SevenGen2019

Student Energy's MRU Chapter designed and hosted SevenGen2019, the First Indigenous Student Energy Summit, in January, 2019. The summit brought together 200 Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth (ages 18-30) from across Canada to Calgary, exploring how to unite communities, build relationships and break social barriers in the energy conversation. The Institute, alongside our colleagues at the institute for Environmental Sustainability, was proud to sponsor student participation in this unique future-focused gathering.

COMMUNITY PROSPERITY requires...

Paying attention to where we live

Reconciliation in Action

Over the past few months our team has engaged in facilitated conversations and have challenged ourselves with the question "What does it mean to actively engage in reconciliation?" While the institute provides many educational and co-curricular opportunities, we hope to create a space that promotes success and relevant opportunities and supports for Indigenous students. Through these conversations we have utilized various resources such as Mount Royal University's Indigenous Strategic Plan, The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, and Reconciliation Canada as a launchpad.

In July, we were accompanied by Daniel Mistaken Chief of the Kainaiwa First Nation and Bob Montgomery of Metis Region 3, to Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park for a day long interactive learning day. Daniel guided us through Blackfoot traditional teachings about roles and responsibility, the significance of Treaty 7 and treaty relationships, and impacts of colonization on First Nation Communities. While we are still in the beginning stages of our learning journey, all of our learnings have thus far have highlighted the importance of people, place and land and the need for more localized knowledge and understanding of local history, people and contemporary issues. It is our goal to continue learning and building reciprocal relationships that foster respectful relationships with Indigenous students, faculty and communities.



#keepcalgarystrong

The Institute joined this coalition of 34 anti-poverty, faith, labour, non-profit, social enterprise and common good research groups, led by the Calgary Alliance for the Common Good, which was started in response to \$60 million in proposed annual cuts to transit, housing and support services in the municipal budget. We supported MRU students in designing and building a campaign website, as well as help coordinate communications. The campaign mobilized over 300 Calgarians to be present at City Hall during 2019 budget deliberations, and was instrumental in preserving many essential services for Calgarians, especially those who are most vulnerable.

COMMUNITY PROSPERITY requires...

Social innovation, new networks, and new ways of working

ABSI Connect

Alberta Social Innovation (ABSI) Connect is a collective of organizations and individuals working to get better at solving complex social and environmental problems in our province. ABSI Connect works to connect, align, celebrate, strengthen, and learn from Albertan changemakers who are finding innovative ways to address the complex problems their communities face. This happens through sharing stories and evidence, connecting and aligning changemakers, and helping people grow in their ability to innovate and create impact. The Institute for Community Prosperity is proud to provide the administrative backbone for ABSI Connect.



ABSI Connect is also one of six regional partners in the newly launched Social Innovation Canada, which aims to provide the collaborative infrastructure to strengthen Canada's social innovation ecosystem.

Trico Changemakers Studio

Created in partnership with the Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, the Trico Changemakers Studio is a vibrant on-campus co-working and learning space. We are thrilled to be partnering on many fronts with the Studio, from our Changemakers in Residence to shared personnel, to collaborating on community engagement, student work experience and co-curricular learning opportunities. Please find the Studio's Annual Report as a supplementary attachment.



COMMUNITY PROSPERITY requires...

New conversations

In the past, the Institute ran a regular monthly dialogue series involving citizens, leaders, innovators, students, and story tellers to discover, dream and design a prosperous community for all. It was a chance to surface or connect disparate topics which may be under-profiled, or around which there is an urgent craving for conversation. This year, rather than a regular monthly series of pre-selected topics, we hosted the following events:

September:

- **Economic Reconciliation & Social Enterprise:** A Workshop for Changemakers & Problem Solvers, in partnership with Momentum/Thrive and the Calgary Public Library
- **Mend the Gap 2.0: How to have a constructive climate-energy conversation,** in partnership with the Canada West Foundation, Pembina institute, MRU Institute for Environmental Sustainability and others, Glencoe Club

October:

- **Advocates for Advocacy,** In partnership with Disability Employment Awareness, SAMRU Hub
- **Common Good Retirement Plan: Employer Roundtable,** in partnership with the Calgary Chamber of Voluntary Organizations and Common Wealth, Riddell Library and Learning Centre

January:

- **Map the System 2019 - Student Bootcamp,** in partnership with the Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning, University of Calgary
- **Social Shift Documentary Screening,** in partnership with the Trico Changemakers Studio and the Riddell Library and Learning Centre

March:

- **Women in Leadership During a Time of Disruption,** in partnership with the Faculty of Business and Communications Studies, ATB Financial and Chevron
- **Institutes Distilled,** in partnership with MRU's other Institutes and Centres, Trico Changemakers Studio

April:

- **Amplify Your Research Impact: Lunch & Learn with PolicyWise,** in partnership with the MRU Centre for Child Well-Being
- **Map the System MRU Final,** Riddell Library and Learning Centre
- **Map the System YYC,** in partnership with the Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning, University of Calgary, Central Public Library

May:

- **Map the System Canada Final,** in partnership with Ryerson University and the McConnell Foundation, Toronto

COMMUNITY PROSPERITY requires...

Walking the talk: Learning and community involvement

Institute team members have been involved in either delivering or participating in a wide variety of community or scholarly events, locally and beyond, in order to communicate our learning to a wider audience of practitioners, citizens and academics as well as to ground our thinking in feedback, experience and application.

Workshops Delivered

The Institute designed and delivered the following workshops and ‘think tank’ discussions over the past year:

- Economics of Social Change 5-course Certificate Program (in partnership with Thrive/Momentum) (Barb Davies, James Stauch, Latasha Calf Robe, Walter Hossli, Anna Johnson, MRU Alumnus Danielle Gibbie, and Jeff Loomis, CEO of Momentum)
- Educators Workshop, Map the System Canada (James Stauch, with Gianna Goulding, Oxford)
- Leading Transformative Change as a Systems Thinker, Student workshop – Map the System Global Final, Oxford (Anna Johnson and Roisin Dillon)
- Making Changemaker Education Count: New Models for Immersive Education – Ashoka U Exchange, San Diego (Anna Johnson)
- Mapping Alberta’s Basic Income Ecosystem, Make It B.I.G. Basic Income Summit (James Stauch and Anna Johnson)
- Social Innovation & Systems Thinking – SHAD Workshop, Calgary (Anna Johnson and Dr. Katharine McGowan)
- Systems Thinking 101, Student workshop – Map the System Canada Final, Toronto (Anna Johnson and Roisin Dillon)

Courses Taught

- CRN 90546: Strategic Community Investment (Cathy Glover)
- GNED 1304: Communities and Societies (James Stauch)
- XNPC 20200: Social Innovation and Changemaking (James Stauch)

Presentations

- Bissett Networking Day (Latasha Calf Robe and Cathy Glover)
- Bissett School of Business’ Dean’s Advisory Council (Latasha Calf Robe & Anna Johnson)
- Calgary Youth Foundation (James Stauch)
- Canopy Group Presentation, Corporate Sponsorship Conference, Toronto (Cathy Glover)
- "Changemaking 101", Fig Tree Foundation, Calgary (James Stauch)
- Communications class - COMM 4221 (Professional Communications: Understanding Diversity) (Latasha Calf Robe, guest speaker)
- Entrepreneurship class – ENTR 3730 (Special Topics in Innovation and Entrepreneurship) (Anna Johnson and James Stauch, guest speakers/judges)
- First Nations Colleges (Old Sun, Red Crow, Blue Quills) (Latasha Calf Robe)
- "Food Security and Food Systems", Limits to Local Forum, Calgary (Anna Johnson)
- General Education class - GNED 1304 (Communities and Societies) (James Stauch, instructor; Walter Hossli and Latasha Calf Robe, guest speakers)
- "Improving Food Security in Post-Secondary Institutions" AMICCUS National Conference, Calgary (Anna Johnson)
- International Women’s Day, MRU (Cathy Glover)
- Invisible Heart Film Screening and Panel on Social Impact Bonds (James Stauch)
- "Rescuing Food & Increasing Access", The Calgary Foundation (Anna Johnson)
- "Social Innovation", Olds College (James Stauch)
- "Social Innovation", UCalgary Speakeasy Night (James Stauch)
- Social Venture Institute Alberta, Hollyhock Leadership Institute, Banff (Barb Davies)
- "Systems-led Leadership", Emerging Leaders Conference, Calgary (Anna Johnson)
- "The Role of Artificial Intelligence in the Philanthropic Sector", Community Foundations Canada webinar (James Stauch)
- "Think Global, Act Local: Food Justice in the City" University of Calgary’s "Women’s Leadership Conference" (Anna Johnson)
- "Understanding Priorities and the True Cost of Food" – SAIT HOSPO Culinary Conference Keynote Presentation (Anna Johnson)
- "Wasted" Documentary Film Screening, Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking, University of Calgary (Anna Johnson)
- Youth Leadership Conference hosted by WYEE (World Youth Education and Empowerment) (Anna Johnson & Latasha Calf Robe)

Awards

- Walter Hossli: Lifetime Distinguished Achievement Award, MRU Alumni Association

Media Coverage

- "Calgarian and recent MRU valedictorian wins Oxford competition for opioid presentation" 660 News
- "The Invisible Heart" YYC Scene, Oct. 17, 2018
- "Calgary non-profit has social impact bond in the works" LiveWire Calgary Oct. 17, 2018
- "Brooks: Changemaking takes flight at MRU" Calgary Herald, Vancouver Province Oct. 29
- "Donor dollars debate" CTV News, Nov. 1, 2018
- "Can we create changemakers by design?" UToday, Nov. 7, 2018
- "Care or confusion? 3 organizations vie for veterans food donations ahead of Remembrance Day" Global News, Nov. 9, 2018
- "A different approach to donating to charity?" CTV News, Nov. 13, 2018
- "Trend shows fewer Canadians donate to charity, according to Fraser Institute" CBC News, Jan. 2, 2019
- "Students hosting energy summit SevenGen 2019: Leader brings together Indigenous youth to talk about future of energy" Education News Canada, Jan. 21, 2019
- "Even a map needs a starting point: Mount Royal staff co-create student guide for Map the System Challenge" Education News Canada, April 1, 2019
- "MRU Institutes... exposed: Students lead research and community engagement" Education News Canada, July 11, 2019

Training & Professional Development

The Institute encourages and supports its team to engage in continuous learning through conferences, training and professional development opportunities. Some of the opportunities we have taken part in over the past year are listed below:

- ABSI Connect Gathering, Edmonton (multiple team members)
- Alberta College of Social Workers Conference (Coleson Proudfoot)
- All My Relations 2019, Circle on Philanthropy and Indigenous Peoples (James Stauch)
- AshokaU Exchange (multiple team members)
- CCVO Connections Conference (multiple team members)
- Community Futures Treaty 7 Symposium (James Stauch)
- Exploring Possible Futures for and in the 21st Century, Foresight Canada (James Stauch and Coleson Proudfoot)
- Evaluating Systems Change, Tamarack Workshop, Calgary (Anna Johnson)
- From Corporate Social Responsibility to Corporate Social Innovation Certificate, Babson College (Cathy Glover and Anna Johnson)
- Inistsit 141 - 141 Commemoration of the Signing of Treaty 7 (Latasha Calf Robe)
- 2019 Indigenous Curriculum Development Gathering, MRU (Latasha Calf Robe)
- Innovation in Evidence: Improving Evidence-Informed Policymaking, Mowat NFP and the University of Regina (James Stauch)
- Liberal Education Conference 2019, MRU Department of General Education (James Stauch)
- Make it B.I.G Conference (Coleson Proudfoot)
- MRSA PD Days (Tracy Pfeifer)
- Partnership Brokers, Community of Practice (James Stauch)
- Reconciliation in Action, Institute for Community Prosperity + Trico Changemakers Studio (core team)
- Rethinking Social Entrepreneurship, Trico Charitable Foundation (multiple team members)
- Shared Value Summit, FSG, Boston (Cathy Glover)
- Social Innovation in Canadian Higher Education, Breuninger Foundation/RECODE/AshokaU, Wasan Island, Ontario (James Stauch)
- Soul of the Next Economy, Ambrose University (multiple staff members)
- Suncor Gathering: Foresight Workshop (James Stauch)
- Systems Educators Summit, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver (James Stauch)
- Tsuut'ina Nation Building Community Tour and Dinner (James Stauch)

Service

Institute staff also volunteer or serve on many other boards and committees, and are encouraged to find synergies between these involvements and their work at the Institute:

- A Novel Bunch – MRU Bookclub (Coleson Proudfoot)
- ATB Women in Leadership (Anna Johnson, Elle Griffin)
- Alberta Animal Rescue Crew Society, Volunteer (Anna Johnson)
- ANVSI Gathering Planning Working Group, Alberta Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women (James Stauch)
- Calgary Arts Development (CADA) Aisinna'kiiks Steering Committee, Committee Member (Latasha Calf Robe)
- CalgaryCAN, Board Co-Chair (Anna Johnson)
- City of Calgary, Social Procurement Advisory Task Force (Barb Davies)
- Conference Board of Canada, Corporate Responsibility & Sustainability Faculty (James Stauch)
- Common Good Retirement Plan, Champions Council (James Stauch)
- Fresh Routes, Co-founder (Anna Johnson)
- Future of Good, Contributor (James Stauch)
- Indigenous Gathering Place, Volunteer Facilitator (Latasha Calf Robe)
- KCI Philanthropy, Philanthropic Trends Advisory Board (James Stauch)
- #KeepCalgaryStrong, Web development and public mobilization (Coleson Proudfoot, Mason Benning, Elle Griffin, Anna Johnson)
- Leftovers Foundation, Board Liaison and Director of Strategy and Fund Development (Anna Johnson)
- Local Investing YYC, Co-founder and director (Barb Davies)
- Metcalf Foundation, Advisor (James Stauch)
- MRU Changemaker Council (Anna Johnson, James Stauch)
- MRU Human Resources Classification Committee, MRSA (Tracy Pfeifer)
- MRU Alumni Council (Anna Johnson)
- MRU Map the System Final, Judge (Cathy Glover)
- MRU University Alumni Collaboration Team (Anna Johnson)
- MRU Women in Leadership Advisory Committee (Anna Johnson)
- SAMRU Community Mobile Food Market (Anna Johnson)
- Social Work Student Society, President (Coleson Proudfoot)
- Soul of the Next Economy, Ambrose University, Advisor (James Stauch)
- UpSocial/RECODE project on post-secondary social impact innovations, Juror (James Stauch)
- Vivacity Civic Innovation Showcase, Judge and Speaker (James Stauch)
- Volunteer Canada, Corporate Canopy Council (Cathy Glover)
- Warrior Woman Screening event: The role of Indigenous Women in social change (Latasha Calf Robe)

The people who make it happen

The Team

The Institute’s work and accomplishments were made possible in 2018/19 by an outstanding team of individuals, including 4 MRU students, 3 MRU alumna, staff shared with either the Trico Changemakers Studio and Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and a group of social entrepreneurs who bridge their (part-time) work at ICP with their work in community as respected practitioners and agents of change.

- Mason Benning, Summer Student (Journalism)
- Latasha Calf Robe, Community Engagement Strategist (cross-appointed with the Trico Changemakers Studio)
- Barb Davies, Social Impact Lead (cross-appointed with the Trico Changemakers Studio)
- Elle Griffin, Summer Student (Information Design)
- Anna Johnson, Community Engagement Strategist and Manager, Map the System Canada
- Naomi Mahaffy, ABSI Connect Facilitator
- Elise Martinoski, ABSI Connect Information Designer
- Tracy Pfeifer, Administrative Assistant
- Coleson Proudfoot, Summer Student (Social Work)
- James Stauch, Director
- Kelli Stevens, Practicum Student (University of Calgary, Masters of Social Work) UNTIL SEPTEMBER, 2018
- Changemakers in Residence:
 - Cathy Glover, Corporate Social Innovation
 - Walter Hossli, Leadership and Community Economic Development

Work-Integrated Learning

The Institute hires casual and summer students, as well as occasional research assistants. This past year, we have employed students majoring in English, Journalism, Information Design, Social Work. We also work with Career Services to identify cooperative learning opportunities for students enrolled in Social Innovation programs to embark on career-related work semesters.

Supporters

Our revenue is 100% supported by donors external to MRU: Foundations, philanthropists, socially responsible companies and earned revenue. We thank all of our community partners for supporting the Institute and making our work possible:



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