Rural – Resources – Policy and Forestry

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Pre-Conference Session on Natural Resources & Rural Development

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Outline

- Rural development
- Resource development
- Forestry
- Policy
Rural Development I

- Seeking sustainable and resilient communities and economies
  - Social, economic, political, demographic, and environment change

- Challenges in capacity

- Need to be clear about “context”
Rural Development II

• Support place-based approach
  – Assets / aspirations
  – Economic benefits allocation
  – Investment mindset
  – Governance

• Mobilize a place-based approach
  – Collaboration
  – “Readiness”
  – Supportive, and flexible, public policy
Resource Development I

- Critical issue for rural place and regions
- Key contributor to national economies
- Supports rural AND urban
• Contested “remapping”:
  – Commodity prices over time
  – Restructuring
  – Environmentalism
  – Aboriginal rights and title
• Mirrors other resource sectors:
  – Remapping pressures hit home
  – Industry had to adjust
  – Government deregulation and re-regulation
  – Climate change
Forestry II

• Ongoing issues:
  – Innovation
    • Within existing sectors
    • Across existing sectors
    • New sectors
    • Up and own the value chains
  – Re-bundle / re-imagine resources
  – Pressure for community ownership / benefit
Policy I

• Crucial need for attention
• Limited capacity
• Change our policy mindset
• Neoliberal & Keynesian policy approaches exist simultaneously
Policy II

• Mindful of a pragmatic approach
  – Physical infrastructure
  – Human infrastructure
  – Community infrastructure
  – Economic infrastructure
Core principles:
- Place-appropriate public policy approach
- Place-appropriate public investment
- Place-appropriate mixes of partnerships
- Attentive to the flow of benefits
- Attentive to the 4 bottom lines
Policy IV

Where to go:

• Innovative next generation products

• Attention to:
  – Assets
  – Markets
  – Research and development
  – Skills and Training
  – Education
  – Community Development foundations