

Innovation and Creativity on the Periphery: Challenges and Opportunities in Northern Ontario

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The Creative Rural Economy – From Theory to Practice
Presentation by Tom Dodds, CEO
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OVERVIEW:

- Northern Ontario
- 2009 Heather Hall & Betsy Donald Martin Prosperity Institute - Working Paper:
 - Challenges and Barriers
 - Creative Class Opportunities
 - Periphery Engenders Creativity
 - Innovation & Creativity
- Conclusions



Northern Ontario



Hall & Donald Working Paper

- Challenges prevailing perception about the region
- Focuses on strengths, creativity and innovation and community resilience
- Recognizes Northern (periphery) innovation enterprises need to be viewed from a different lens
- Their perspective resonates with Northerners

Challenges and Barriers



Perception versus reality



Urban – centric



policy perspectives



Practical
Considerations



Opportunities for the Creative Class: Quality of Place

- Natural, Cultural and Recreational Amenities



- Sense of community: tolerant and supportive
- Kindred spirits
& perspectives



Challenges of the Periphery Engenders Creativity

Economic hardships



Creativity and innovation



Innovation and Creativity: Conclusions for the North

- New Perspectives in Natural Resource Development
- Driven by Global Competitiveness
- Community and Organizational Development
- Increasing Arts and Culture Focus
- Changing the public/private sector relationship

Thank You



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