

# Outline

- q What is CRRF and the NRE?
- q What have we learned?
- q Role of Government Agencies
- q Conclusion





# What is CRRF?

- q Researchers, Policy-Makers, Business-People, Activists, Rural People
- q Established in 1987
- q Research and Education
- q Spring Workshops, Fall Conferences
- q Not-For-Profit
- q Improve Quality of Life for all Rural Canadians

# Why establish the NRE?

- q Lack of appropriate information
- q Lack of comparisons
- q Lack of communication and collaboration



# What is the NRE?

- q 5-year project (began 1998)
- q collaborative
- q comparative
- q comprehensive





# Objectives of the NRE

- q provide access to information
- q facilitate the use of this information
- q conduct research
- q develop strategic options
- q build a learning culture
- q establish research and education infrastructure
- q inform policy-makers



# Four Themes of the NRE

- q Spatial dynamics of settlements and activities
- q Processes of inclusion and exclusion
- q Changing structure of enterprises and institutions
- q Processes of change in natural resources and their communities

# Activities of the NRE

- q Macro-level analysis
- q Field site research and education (32 sites)
- q Communication and education (workshops and conferences)



# What have we learned about rural Canada?

- q It is diverse
- q It can no longer depend on natural resource economies
- q It has become marginalized
- q It is pluriactive
- q Information matters
- q It is globally exposed
- q Networks matter
- q It is complex





# Three Rural Canadas

- q Rural Canada 1: Corporate; global; mobile; urban
- q Rural Canada 2: Domestic; national; large to SME
- q Rural Canada 3: Marginalized; local or regional; vulnerable



# Role of Government Agencies

- q Collaborate
- q Maintain the national infrastructure



# Conclusions

- q NRE is a major accomplishment and opportunity
- q International Collaboration
- q Enthusiastic regional and local response

