

OCTOBER 2020

UBC/ACARN PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT

FACILITATING AGRICULTURAL ADAPTATION TO A CHANGING CLIMATE



UBC/ACARN PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT - UPDATE OCT. 2020

We are pleased to provide our October 2020 newsletter for the Partnership Development Grant (PDG) research project.

This document summarizes progress from August - October 2020.

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PROGRESS AUG.-OCT. 2020

1. Finalized revised PGD Work Plan
2. Revised interview questions
3. Began second phase of interviews
4. Held meeting to discuss future Partnership Grant application

PROGRESS AUG.-OCT. 2020

PROJECT SUMMARY

NOTE: this has been revised (July-Aug 2020)

This social science research project will examine agricultural adaptation to climate change in two diverse regions in BC: the Cariboo and the Okanagan.

The revised research objective is to explore how the regulatory environment in BC affects agricultural adaptation to changes in water supply resulting from climate change.

Research questions:

- 1) What are the goals of existing water supply regulation and policies in BC?
- 2) How do these regulations and policies apply to agricultural activities?
- 3) How was agriculture considered in the development of these regulations and policies?
- 4) How does the implementation of these regulations and policies affect adaptation activities of
- 5) What key challenges and what key opportunities exist for agricultural adaptation to changing water supply in the two study regions?

Questions 1-3 will be explored primarily through a review of existing regulations and policies in BC related to water supply, such as the Water Sustainability Act. Semi-structured interviews will be used to follow-up on this analysis and to explore questions 4 and 5.

A more detailed description of the project and deliverables is available in the "PDG Project Workplan" which has been distributed to the PDG Team. Please contact Lauren Arnold to request a copy

1. Finalized revised PGD Work Plan

- An first set of interviews were completed between April 1 and May 30 2020, and a preliminary analysis was conducted to identify emerging themes and re-evaluate the research focus (June/July 2020)
- A meeting was held with the PDG Advisory Committee and Partners to discuss these initial interviews and results (July 2020). Based on this discussion we determined that it was necessary to further refine the research focus to ensure that the results are specific, pragmatic, and novel
- A consensus within the PDG team was reached to focus on water supply as it relates to agricultural adaptation to climate change and BC's regulatory environment
- This focus is also supported by the preliminary results where the expected impacts of climate change to water supply was a key issue identified by all interviewees in respect to agricultural adaptation
- A revised work plan and set of research questions were defined with additional feedback from the team in preparation for a second round of interviews
- To request a copy of the Work Plan please contact Lauren Arnold
- For questions about the revised focus, please contact Dr. Joanne Taylor

2. Revised interview questions

- To align with the refined focus on water supply, additional background research was completed on water regulation, planning, and agriculture practices in the study regions
- A revised set of interview questions was produced with feedback from the Advisory Committee

3. Began second set of interviews

- A second phase of data collection began in October and will include approximately 40-50 new interviews

5. Held meeting to discuss Partnership Grant application

- The Partnership Development Grant (PDG) that we hold to fund this project makes our team eligible to apply for a full Partnership Grant (PG) from SSHRC. Please consult SSHRC's website for application details
- A consensus was reached during a meeting (Oct. 23) that our team will work toward developing a PG application in 2022
- A key goal of the remainder of the PDG project will be to establish strong partnerships and draft research ideas
- For a copy of the meeting notes please contact Lauren Arnold

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