ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16: Institute for Community Engaged Research (ICER)
ICER as a place of:

The strategic goals of ICER are to:

- Build effective interdisciplinary teams to conduct relevant, high quality, impactful research in our areas of research focus.
- Support existing partnerships, facilitate new partnerships, and support a network of interested communities and scholars to share information, opportunities and expertise in an ongoing way.
- Secure funding for training and research; provide undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral training opportunities.
- Enhance UBC Okanagan’s visibility and reputation locally and internationally.

- Over $1.5 Million in research funding
- Over 40 peer-reviewed articles
- Partnerships with more 24 community partners
- Hosting the Cultural Safety Symposium in partnership with ONA and IHA with over 120 participants
- Hosting the Immigration Symposium in partnership with ONA, Okanagan College, RAMA over two days with over 200 participants
- Launching the Conversation Starters Series
- ICER events have been attended by more than 1150 participants
- Okanagan Refugee Community Resources Geolive Map
ICER Goals and Challenges

2015-16:

- Form an editorial board for ICER press
- Develop editorial policies for ICER press
- Foster relationships with the community at large to facilitate opportunities to address social issues through research and KT opportunities (press, symposiums etc.)
- Pilot relationship with Student Learning Services around community research opportunities
- Work with the UBC Okanagan Development office to pursue other funding opportunities
- Continue to pursue excellence in Community Engaged Research
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1. ICER STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

1.1 Vision
The Institute for Community Engaged Research (ICER) at UBC is dedicated to knowledge creation and exchange that promotes equality, equity, and justice at the local, national, and international levels.

1.2 Mission
The Institute for Community Engaged Research (ICER) supports socially engaged research with communities internationally, nationally, and in the Okanagan Valley. Sharing a commitment to research that supports diversity, equity, and social justice, the Institute facilitates the participation of community members, organizations, students, and academics as co-researchers. ICER is a hub for building relationships, collaboration, and effective knowledge creation and exchange through research clusters operating across disciplinary and institutional boundaries. ICER operates fluidly in response to and in recognition of changing social issues.

1.3 Links with UBCO Research and Strategic Plans
The ICER mission and vision are closely aligned with the UBC Okanagan Strategic Research Plan (2009-2014). That plan emphasizes the importance of interdisciplinary partnerships and excellence in research. The research cluster structure of the Institute is designed to facilitate inter-disciplinary excellence, impact, and relevance. Both the approach and the research foci we have articulated track very closely to the recently developed UBC Okanagan document, Aspire: Envisioning our Future. In the Aspire document research excellence and community engagement (in local and global terms) figure prominently, as they do here.

COHERENCE WITH UBC Okanagan ACADEMIC PLAN

Our mission and vision also align well with the UBC Okanagan Academic plan. The Institute contributes to the ongoing and iterative development of “an integrated research community” by virtue of bringing together a number of interdisciplinary configurations of scholars in research defined quite specifically in, by, and for “a locally responsive, globally conscious community.” By creating research opportunities that articulate diverse points of view, and facilitating new and various solutions to social problems, our research also contributes to “a flexible, adaptable, and sustainable community.” Individually and collectively, the members of the Institute have demonstrable track records for producing high quality scholarship that effectively and respectfully builds on community partnership.
COHERENCE WITH UBC ABORIGINAL STRATEGIC PLAN

Much of the work conducted by the antecedent CSSEJ has been undertaken in collaboration with Aboriginal communities, and several of the new members of the Institute have their own very impressive track records of working in Aboriginal and Indigenous communities, in support of issues relevant to those communities. (Not the least of these are Jeannette Armstrong, Mike Evans, Stephen Foster, Ashok Mathur, and John Wagner). In addition, we have as founding partners for the Institute, ONA’s and the En'owkin Centre; the inclusion of organizations and individuals from the Traditional Territory holders, the Okanagan as a strong foundation for future work.
2. ICER OPERATIONS

2.1 Governance
Current Steering Committee Members:

- Dr. Mike Evans, Institute Director
- Dr. Jeannette Armstrong
- Dr. Lawrence Berg
- Dr. Jon Corbett
- Dr. Judy Gillespie
- Dr. Rachelle Hole
- Dr. Leyton Schnellert
- Dr. Jessica Stites-Mor

2.2 Membership
As of March 2016, ICER membership is as follows:

22 Full members (Faculty)
9 Associate members (3 of whom became full members in April 2016)
7 International / National Collaborating Centers and Institutes
44 Students
1 Technician
1 Staff

Over the past year, 4 new faculty members have joined the Institute:

- Dr. Michael Burgess, (ADD Affiliations)
- Dr. Ken Carlaw
- Dr. Allison Hargreaves
- Dr. Sue Frohlick
- Dr. Margaret MacIntyre Latta

For a detailed list of faculty, please consult Appendix 1
2.3 Staff and administration

Dr. Mike Evans is the current director of the Institute.

Joanne Carey is the current institute coordinator (.5 fte), who is responsible working in conjunction with the director in the areas of planning, coordination, and communication re the ICER Institute by:

- Organizing ICER-supported symposia, guest speakers, conversation starters series, quarterly meetings, AGM, general meetings
- Preparing the Institute’s annual activity reports
- Monitoring the budget (in conjunction with Barb Thomspn)
- Promoting ICER research to the broader community in collaboration with university media relations officers
- Assisting with HR related to work-study, undergraduate, graduate student and staff appointments
- Developing and maintaining the ICER web site, and social media (Twitter and Facebook)
- Coordinating the production of ICER Press publications
3. ICER RESEARCH

3.1 Context
ICER was developed by elaborating and extending networks that have been forged through the work of the Centre for Social, Spatial, and Economic Justice (CSSEJ). The CSSEJ had, since the advent of UBC Okanagan, developed a range of partnerships with communities across BC, and a host of international ties that facilitate the sharing of local knowledges more widely, and international insights more locally. ICER builds on these successes, and expands the scope of practice in terms of communities, faculty, and other researchers involved 4 fold. By adding a number of community engaged scholars to the membership of ICER, each with their own research relationships, we add their partnerships and perspectives into the mix, and thus multiply the opportunities for ourselves and others, creating a critical mass of research in the CER space. This fundamentally extends UBC Okanagan's capacity to work with partners in the Okanagan Valley and beyond.

3.2 Research Themes:
Our scope of practice includes teaching, research, and the integration of both into community engaged relationships. We are committed to:

- conducting cutting-edge research in our identified research themes
- providing world-class training opportunities for graduate, postdoctoral and community researchers
- offering substantial opportunities for undergraduate research experience
- fostering a vibrant local community of researchers from within and beyond the University, and facilitating linkages into a wider community of international scholars and scholarship.

Faculty and associate members of ICER conduct research across a very broad range of issues and employ any number of methods and methodologies in their research. As an Institute, we are committed to being flexible and responsive to community priorities and interests as well as those of university members. Our research focus, beyond research that engages and contributes to solutions and positive outcomes for communities, is necessarily open-ended. Nonetheless, we and our community partners have developed a number of “research clusters” which operate within the ICER. These clusters, like ICER itself, include community, faculty, and student participants working on related projects. The intention of the clusters is to provide clarity around our research interests and strengths, and to define smaller more focused communities of practice within a wider Institute.
Figure 1 Community Engaged Research Clusters

- Adaptation, De-colonization, and Indigeneity
- Social, Spatial, and Economic Justice
- Pedagogy and Participation
- Social Inclusion and Equity
- Communication, Community, and Representation
3.3 Record of Publications, Students and Research Funding 2014-2015

The Institute for Community Engaged Research Press was created this year, enabling ICER to publish a variety of media. [See page 16-17]

Figure 2 ICER Research Records 2015-16

- Published more than 40 peer reviewed journal articles
- 30 Other publications: books, book chapters, government reports, films, and exhibitions
- Over $1.5 million in research funding
- Research trainees including: postdoctoral fellows, graduate and undergraduate students

2015 – 16 ICER Members’ publications:

Please see Appendix 2 for a list of selected publications

3.4 Space and existing resources

Currently located on the third floor of the Arts building (Rm 368), ICER has 10 workstations (7 in ICER proper and 3 in the Centre for Inclusion & Citizenship (CIC)) and four offices. ICER also shares a small video conference room (Arts 370) with CIC. ICER members and affiliated students use these resources to conduct their research. Arts 368 and 370 are where many of the aims of ICER are fulfilled. The space is a meeting place to facilitate serendipitous connections and exchange of ideas between students, staff, community members and faculty.

Technology resources added in this fiscal year:
- Video conference equipment in Arts 370
- Purchase of three new desktop computers for RA workstations

1 Based on 15 of 22 full members
3.5 Partnerships

ICER exists to enhance university and community engagement. Partnerships include activities such as joint research projects, funding agreements, student supervision, and knowledge exchange.

We have been actively collaborating with the Centre for Inclusion & Citizenship and the Institute for Healthy Living & Chronic Disease Prevention inside the UBC System. In addition we have collaborated with numerous research partners in primary research and knowledge translation activities, including: Kelowna Community Resources (Okanagan Refugee Geolive Map); Community Futures Revelstoke; Central Okanagan Foundation; United Way; Mitacs; Kairos; Okanagan College: Dioceses of Nelson; Okanagan Nation Alliance; South Okanagan Immigrant and Community Services; and a number of others mentioned below.

3.6 Interdisciplinary Research

ICER researchers work in various communities and locations around the globe. They maintain active affiliations with many partner organizations. ICER is committed to engaging with community to promote research partnerships and to carrying out interdisciplinary research that focuses on local, adaptive responses to community issues.

Affiliated research groups: Please see Appendix 1, p. 19
4. ICER ACTIVITIES

4.1 Speakers Series, Workshops, Conferences and Symposia

HOSTED by ICER

4.1.1 ICER Conversation Starters Series
The Conversation Starters series is an opportunity for ICER affiliates to share aloud some of their research ideas, methodologies, questions or findings with an interested audience of students, peers and community members. While hosted on campus, they are made more widely available via video conferencing. Videos of the talk, are made available on the ICER website.

WINTER 2016 ICER CONVERSATION STARTERS:

February 16, 2015: 'When we can't agree: Deliberative public engagement on controversial policies.'

Speaker: Dr. Michael Burgess
Hosted by: Dr. Jon Corbett
Co-presented by: The Institute for Healthy Living & Chronic Disease Prevention
Attendance: 19 (14 in-room, 5 via the web)
4.1.2 Distinguished Guest Speakers:

- “Conducting a Research Ceremony, or how to catch Fish.” By Dr. Shawn Wilson, October 15, 2016
  
  Hosted by: Dr. Mike Evans
  Co-sponsored by: FCSS, Unit 1, Aboriginal Programs & Services
  Attendance: 25+

- “Security For Sale: The Causes And Consequences of the Global Rise (and Rise) Of Private Security” by Rita Abrahamsen and Michael C. Williams, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Ottawa
  
  Hosted by: Dr. Lawrence Berg
  Co-sponsored by: Unit 1, Attendance: 100

4.1.3 Cultural Safety Symposium
“Okanagan Approaches to Cultural Safety: Promoting Well-being for All.” Organized by Okanagan Nation Alliance, and hosted by the Institute for Community Engaged Research with support from Interior health. May 28, 2015. Attendance: 200

4.1.4 Immigration Symposium
“Immigration Symposium 2015” was a two day symposium at Okanagan College and UBC Okanagan in partnership with: Kairos; Okanagan College; Okanagan Nation Alliance; Kelowna Community Resource; Radical Action with Migrants in Agriculture; Roman Catholic Diocese of Nelson; South Okanagan Immigrant and Community Services and the Institute for Community Engaged Research. September 25-26, 2016. [N.B – planning for this symposium began in June, 2015 based on a community member’s request for a public discussion on this topic] Attendance: 233

4.1.5 'Insecurities: Bodies, Polities, Beliefs', Colloquium session
An colloquium series co-hosted by Dr. Bonar Buffam and ICER members, Drs. Lawrence Berg and Jessica Stites-Mor. The group held 10 noon-hour sessions in the ICER space during term two to discuss and provide feed-back on research papers. Attendance 10

**SPONSORED by ICER**

4.1.7 Community Based Research Symposium (sponsored)
“Community-Based Research in Practice: A Symposium.” Organized and hosted by the UBC Okanagan Community-Based Research Steering Committee May, 19, 2015. Attendance:

4.1.8 Claiming Full Citizenship: Self Determination, Personalization, and Individualized Funding 2015 International Conference Vancouver, BC.
4.2 Outreach

4.2.1 Okanagan Refugee Community Resources Geolive Map
ICER partnered with Kelowna Community Resources to create the Okanagan Refugee Community Resources Map in response to the need to coordinate volunteers and donations for the anticipated influx of refugees (mostly, but not exclusively from Syria).

4.2.2 Social Media
ICER has developed a website and social media presence that it uses to promote the activities of ICER affiliates and to share items of interest. The website can be found here: http://icer.ok.ubc.ca/welcome.html

4.2.3 Knowledge Translation
ICER members were involved in conference presentations, invited talks, performances, meetings and workshops, symposia and publications, among other activities:

More than:

- 65 Conference presentations
- 2 Symposia hosted
- 2 Conferences supported
- 3 Exhibitions
- 10 videos of symposia keynotes

4.2.3.1 ICER Press

ICER continues to house the Centre for Social, Spatial and Economic Justice and the publications issued by this press are available through the ICER website. However, ICER has also registered a new press identity with Library & Archives Canada as The Institute for Community Engaged Research. Over the past year we have published 10 videos and 1 digital media publication.

ICER Press - Digital Media Productions


ICER Press - Video Productions

Cultural Safety Symposium Videos:


Immigration Symposium Videos:


Conversation Starters Video:

Institute for Community Engaged Research (Producer). (2016, February 25). Conversation Starters with Dr. Michael Burgess - When we can't agree: Deliberative public engagement on controversial policies. [to be uploaded].

Stand Alone Video Projects:

5. ICER CONTACT INFO

For general information or inquiries about ICER, please visit our website at: http://icer.ok.ubc.ca/ or contact:

**Dr. Mike Evans**
Director, The Institute for Community Engaged Research
Tel: 250-807-
E-mail: Michael.evans@ubc.ca

Or

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Coordinator, The Institute for Community Engaged Research
*(in the office Tuesdays & Thursdays)*
Tel: 250-807-9667
Email: joanne.carey@ubc.ca Or icer.ok@ubc.ca
APPENDIX 1: ICER MEMBERS

Full Members:

1. Luis Aguiar
2. Jeannette Armstrong
3. Lawrence Berg
4. Michael M. Burgess
5. Shirley Chau
6. John Corbett
7. Aleksandra Dulic
8. Michael Evans
9. Stephen Foster
10. Judy Gillespie
11. Rachelle Hole
12. Susan Holtzman
13. John Janmaat
14. Gareth Jones
15. Ruthann Lee
16. Virginie Magnat
17. Ashok Mathur
18. Colin Reid
19. Leyton Schnellert
20. Christine Schreyer
21. Jessica Stites Mor
22. John Wagner

Associate Members

23. Kenneth Carlaw*
24. Sabre Cherkowski
25. Sue Frohlick*
26. Ayumi Goto
27. Allison Hargreaves*
28. Margaret Macintyre Latta
29. Pamela Richardson
30. Mary Stockdale
31. Constance Crompton**

*Became full members at April 12, 2016 AGM
** Became an associate member in April, 2016
Community Partners

32. Alternator Centre for Contemporary Art
33. Canadian Mental Health Association
34. Central Okanagan Food Policy Council
35. City of Vernon
36. Community Service Learning Program (UBC Okanagan)
37. Community Engagement Strategist (UBC Okanagan)
38. Disability Resources Centre (UBC Okanagan)
39. En’owkin Centre
40. Independent Living Vernon
41. Interior Health
42. Inn From the Cold
43. Kelowna Community Resources
44. Living Positive Resources Center
45. Okanagan Fruit Tree Project
46. Okanagan Nation Alliance
47. Pathways Society
48. School District 10
49. School District 23
50. School District 67
51. School District 74
52. School District 83
53. South Okanagan Immigrant Community Services (SOICS)
54. UBC Okanagan Equity and Inclusion
55. Vernon Community School

International / National Collaborating Centers and Institutes

1. Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship, UBC
2. CRUSH – Criticha Urban Sustainability HUB, Lund University Sweden
3. Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Faculty of Education (UVIC)
4. Faculty of Education (UBC Vancouver)
5. Icelandic Tourism Research Center (University of Akureri & University of Iceland)
6. SPaCE – Sustainability, Partnerships and Community Engagement (Southern Cross University)
7. Wageningen University and Research Centre, The Netherlands
APPENDIX 2: ICER SELECTED LIST OF PUBLICATIONS by ICER Members²


² Based on 15 of 22 full members reporting


