

JUNE, 2023

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023



**Institute for
Community
Engaged
Research**

Director's message

JON CORBETT

HIGHLIGHTS 2022-2023

The Institute for Community Engaged Research (ICER) connects researchers from a diverse range of disciplinary backgrounds. We share a commitment to research that supports diversity, equity, and social justice. The Institute facilitates the participation of community members, organizations, students (both graduate and undergraduate, domestic and international), and academics in undertaking effective community engaged research. It is a hub for building relationships, collaboration, mentoring and effective knowledge creation and exchange.

This past year, ICER returned to a fully in-person environment. However, we have learnt from, and retained some of the affordances of, hybrid delivery and online engagement, which now comprise of a permanent component of the Institute's activities. This annual report demonstrates ICER's ability to achieving its core mission - including developing strategic partnerships with international and national colleagues, continuing to develop closer relationships with students in the CESCE IGS theme, and working directly with our community partners on a range of projects. Furthermore, we continue to make a vital contribution to realizing the vision outlined in UBC's Strategic Plan, making the UBC Okanagan campus more resilient through strengthening its role in the local food system and contributing to developing cross-campus policies for addressing the climate emergency.

A notable achievement of this year has been the completion of ICER's five year review and the strategic visioning process for 2023-28. The document describing the process and results is included in Appendix B to this annual report. Between November 2022 and January 2023, we conducted interviews with a total of 23 individuals associated with ICER, comprising 12 faculty members, 4 graduate students, 3 UBCO staff members, and 4 community partners. Twenty interviews were conducted in person, while 3 were carried out using Zoom. We organized two in-person focus groups: one with faculty members and staff, and another with graduate students. Subsequently, we collated the findings from all the interviews and focus groups, and categorized them based on common

themes. These themes were used to structure the invaluable document. The review provides a timely reflection on our strengths and the challenges that we continue to face. It also provides a clear road map of how our membership envision the Institute moving forward in the next five years.

This year, both ICER and ICER Press received Work Study program funding, allowing us to hire several research assistants (RAs). Daniella Harrison assisted the ICER press over the summer of 2022, with Dr. Fiona McDonald leading the initiative. From September to December, 2022, Aimee Lezard added her support by helping to conceptualize how the Press might support the work of the Nsyilxcn Language Fluency Degree students. The Work Study program also supported two RA students who developed and implemented the ICER Local Food Champions Project a collaboration with Land to Table, a regional food focused NGO, and UBC Okanagan Food Services. Grace Kyle (undergraduate student) worked with Dr. Mary Stockade over the summer of 2022 as a research assistant to help plan events for the fall and winter semester. From September, 2022 to April, 2023, Grace was joined by Sierra Lammi (graduate student). Grace and Sierra collaborated with on-campus partners at Campus Wellness with the opening of Picnic, the UBC Okanagan food hub, and supported local food promotion events organized by UBC Okanagan Food Services, and at the campus farmers market.

ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

- We completed our five year review and strategic visioning process for 2023-28 (See document *ICER: Review and Strategic Priorities 2023 - 2028*).
- Completed the Local Food Champions project with Liz Blakeway (Land to Table), Dani Korven, Chef Brad and Kristen Thompson (UBCO Food Services), Dr. Mary Stockdale (UBCO), Casey Hamilton (Campus Health), Robyn Bunn (Community Service Learning), and work study students Grace Kyle and Sierra Lammi.
 - Co-facilitated the Local Food Champions field trip taking UBCO students to visit Curlew Orchard, Okanagan Beverage Co., and Cambium Cider Co. With 20 students.
- Co-hosted the UBC Okanagan teach-in for Climate and Justice attended by over 100 participants

- Worked with Drs. Jeannette Armstrong, John Lyons, Mike Evans and Mandy Jimmy to discuss the the possibilities of the Nsyilxcn publications with the ICER Press
- Hosted three FASS Brown Bag Lunch Talks organized by Associate Dean, Alison Conway attended by over 70 participants
- Hosted the Starting a Conversation series with 4 speakers from April 2022 – March 2023 attended by 65 community members, students, staff and faculty
- Hosted two open house at the start of the fall and winter semesters welcoming grad students, community partners, staff and faculty
- Developed and implemented a drop-in time (twice a week) for students and ICER members to meet informally to network and discuss their research
- Continued the ICER Scholarship Program, awarding two UBC Okanagan Graduate Students \$1000 each

OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

- We held our inaugural Advisory Committee meeting with community and university members
- Partnered with more than 31 community organizations and other research institutes
- Hosted events that have been attended by more than 250 participants
- We have continued to nurture relationships with other UBC Okanagan institutes and departments who work in the realm of community engaged research.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2023-2024

- We will welcome a new editorial advisory board at ICER Press
- We will work to support Land to Table and the Work Study student hired as the Local Food Champion as they continue *Building a Value Chain Partnership (farm to institution)* project funded by FEED BC

- We will continue to pursue excellence in Community Engaged Research and growing the Institute to include, represent and support researchers and community partners working in our fields of research.

ICER researchers work in communities around the globe and throughout the Pacific Rim. We maintain active affiliations with many partner organizations. We have sustained our commitment to strong research partnerships that support knowledge creation and exchange. Partnerships which in turn promote equality, equity, and justice at the local, national, and international levels. As this Annual Report demonstrates, these broad objectives are clearly represented in the activities that ICER has initiated, supported and facilitated over the past year.



Jon Corbett PhD
Director of the Institute for Community Engaged Research

ICER respectfully acknowledges the Syilx Okanagan Nation and their peoples, in whose territory we live and work.

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ICER PRESS

Message from the Director of ICER Press



Dr. Fiona McDonald

April 1 2022- March 31, 2023

The ICER Press continues to establish the best practices in peer-review, open access, and accessibility. We continue to be active in expanding its editorial office to include a team of amazing Editorial Assistants, Editorial Consultants, and collaborators. Starting in May 2022, we were successful with our second Work Study award with Dr. Jeannette Armstrong. This was to focus on creating a new series in ICER Press focused on the nsyilxcən Language. In this effort, Dr. McDonald hired two Indigenous students to work with ICER press on the development of the Series. Daniella Harrison and Aimee Lezard (whose role as also connected to Indigenous Studies Internships program) joined the team. Daniella began in May 2022 and worked closely with Dr. McDonald to prepare meetings with Dr. Jeannette Armstrong during June and July 2022 with key language stakeholders identified by Dr. Armstrong. These meetings continued through to December 2023. And progress on the series continues as it requires a lot of care and cultural safety to ensure it meets the needs of the Syilx community.

In January 2023, Dr. McDonald prepared a new Work Study application that would focus on the accessibility dimensions of ICER Press. This application was successful. This Work Study application was planned as a joint effort with ICER's other needs. Therefore, the Summer Work Study was dedicated to ICER Press and we were fortunate to hire Malorie Rusk, a fourth-year undergraduate student. Dr. McDonald and Malorie Rusk worked on several items over the summer. These include: (1) An accessibility audit of ICER Press's website and documents; (2) Setting up the Open Journal Systems to use as a manuscript management system for launch in late-2023 (with support from UBCV); and (3) Advancing 5 publications into the peer-review process (which included establishing peer-review feedback guidelines) that included training the Work Study in copy-editing best practices. This has been a very busy summer that has set us up for a successful Fall with future publications coming soon!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This past year, ICER has directly engaged in and supported a number of important community initiatives and events. Among others, these include:

ACROSS THE POND : SYMPOSIUM ON CO-PRODUCING REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEM NETWORKS

On September 7, 2023, ICER delivered a collaborative UBCO-Exeter symposium titled *What does it mean to re-imagine the food system?* This event provided an opportunity to share experiences and knowledges on the issues of regional food networks in British Columbia and Devon, UK. Speakers explored similar and divergent experiences, existing challenges, actions for change and the role of networks in supporting pathways to co-create sustainable food systems. The event included speakers from Land to Table, BC, and Organic BC, as well as with Food Exeter and The Devon Food Partnership, UK. The symposium highlighted the tensions and opportunities for regional food systems in the face of climate change, COVID recovery, cost of living crises, legacies of land based injustices and more. Rebecca Sandover (University of Exeter) and Mary Stockdale (University of British Columbia, Okanagan) lead a roundtable discussion between the speakers and audience members. We also arranged a number of other events with Exeter colleagues. Included a tour of the City of Kelowna (arranged by Lawrence Berg) and Helen's Acres Community Farm (arranged by Eric Li).

TEACH-IN FOR CLIMATE AND JUSTICE

On March 13, 2023, 100 UBC Okanagan faculty, staff and students came together for a dialogue on climate and justice research and an open space on climate action in the UBCO community. ICER members helped facilitate and promote the event, as well as present on their research. Two of our members, Bill Cohen and Katrina Plamondon, delivered the keynote addresses. This initiative directly supports the UBC Okanagan Climate Action Plan 2030, which establishes a course of action to accelerate the reduction of core operational emissions by 2030 and also identifies measures to reduce emissions from our day-to-day activities, including commuting, food, waste and business air travel.

LOCAL FOOD DIALOGUE SERIES

ICER supported and hosted three panel based dialogues as a way for the UBCO community to more clearly identify and define the environmental and social values the university uses when purchasing local food from Okanagan food producers. These were:

March 9, *Sustainability-related Values* a panel consisting of Eva-Lena Lang, Organic BC, and Lia McKinnon, Okanagan Similkameen Stewardship.

March 16, *Dialogue on Justice-related Values*, a panel consisting of Robyn Bunn, Radical Action with Migrants in Agriculture (RAMA), and Anna Westhover, National Farmers Union (NFU).

March 23, *Dialogue on How to Confirm these Values*, a panel consisting of David Speight, Executive Chef and Culinary Director for UBC Food Services, and farmers supplying UBCO.

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

We have continued to reach out into the community through a series of notable projects and ongoing events.

STARTING A CONVERSATION SPEAKER SERIES

Increasingly UBC Okanagan is inviting distinguished speakers to our campus to share their research. This is greatly enriching the research ethos on our campus. However, often these talks are formal in their nature and delivery, and there is little opportunity for graduate students and faculty members to engage in a dialogue with these visitors. The Starting a Conversation series is an opportunity for ICER members and affiliates to share their research ideas, methodologies, questions or findings with an interested audience of students, peers and community members in a relaxed and collegial atmosphere.

Because of this relaxed and engaging format, we are increasingly using the 'Starting a Conversation' Speaker Series to also showcase important research being done by our faculty, graduate students and community partners. In 2022-2023, ICER hosted five speakers as a part of the series.

- Eric Solland & Kirstin Pulles, Transit, Community, and the Power of a Strike October 28, 2022
- Tori Stranges, ICER 2021-2 Graduate Award Recipient, Characterizing Brain Injury in 2S/LGBTQIA+ Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence
- Dr. Farrah Bérubé, Intercultural Communication in the Digital Age. Jan. 17, 2023
- Hanna Paul, ICER 2021-2 Graduate Award Recipient Métis Moon Time and Decolonizing Women's Body Image. Jan. 25, 2023

Each discussion was held in a hybrid format and was attended by up to 27 students, staff, faculty and community members. We resumed the option of joining us in-person on campus. The hybrid



model offers flexibility and we will continue with this format. This year 65 participants attend the talks, fewer than last year.

WEBINARS

We continue to develop our hybrid and virtual webinar format and take the experiences learned during the pandemic and apply it to increasing attendance at all our events. This year we collaborated with Dr. Lawrence Berg and the students of Geography 480 to host the **Critical Geography Speakers Series: Academic Knowledge Production**, which ran weekly from March 2 - April 13, 2023.

Academic Knowledge Production

Organized by Students of Geography 480: Advanced Seminar in Critical Geography

Interested to learn about academic publishing from editors of international journals and internationally renowned scholars? Join the students of Geography 480 for their speaker series: Cultural Economies of Academic Publishing. This series will allow students and others interested in publishing in scholarly journals, in podcasts, via social media, and using the popular media, to gain a solid understanding of the structural systems in which such knowledge production occurs. The presentations are purposely short so that there will be lots of time in each session for questions. Students in GEOGRAPHY 480 will act as interlocutors for a short period, then the presentations will be open to questions from the floor.

- **March 2nd @ 8:30PM (Pacific Time)**
Dr. Mary Gilmartin, National University of Ireland, Maynooth
Former Editor-in-Chief, *Social & Cultural Geography*;
- **March 9th @ 7:30PM (Pacific Time)**
Dr. Eugene McCann, Simon Fraser University
Managing Editor, *Environment & Planning C: Politics & Space*;
- **March 16th @ 7:30PM (Pacific Time)**
Dr. Jessica Stites Mor, University of British Columbia Okanagan
Editor-in-Chief, *Canadian Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies*;
- **March 23rd @ 7:30PM (Pacific Time)**
Dr. Karis Shearer, University of British Columbia Okanagan
Principal's Research Chair in Digital Humanities, *Scholarly Publishing in the Digital Realm* (Podcasts, Social Media and other venues);
- **March 30th @ 7:30PM (Pacific Time)**
Dr. Reuben Rose-Redwood, University of Victoria
Managing Editor, *Dialogues in Human Geography*;
- **April 6th @ 7:30PM (Pacific Time)**
Dr. Onyx Sloan Morgan, University of British Columbia Okanagan
Editor-in-Chief, *ACME: An International Journal for Critical Geographies*; and,
- **April 13th @ 8:00 PM (Pacific Time)**
Dr. Minelle Mahtani, University of British Columbia
Brenda and David McLean Chair of Canadian Studies, *Popular Media for Scholarly Knowledge Mobilization*.

Moderator: Professor Lawrence D. Berg (former co-editor: *SITES: A Journal for South-Pacific Cultural Studies*; co-founding editor: *ACME: An International Journal for Critical Geographies*; and former editor-in-chief: *The Canadian Geographer*.)
Interlocutors: Students from GEOG 480

The series will be available via Zoom

NETWORKING ACTIVITIES AND FUNDING

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

LAND TO TABLE PARTNERSHIP - UBCO WORK STUDY: LOCAL FOOD CHAMPION

Dr. Mary Stockdale and ICER partnered with Land to Table (L2T) on a successful grant from the UBC Okanagan Work Study which will run from May 2022- April 2023.

L2T is a regional network of community partners working to create a prosperous, sustainable and accessible food system. This grant will enable a student to work with the L2T and the Community Service Learning program to greater awareness among the student population of the importance of supporting local food initiatives on composing and introducing them to the concept of the food value chain, from farmers to processors, distributors, food services, and consumers, that may enable these partners to overcome challenges to local food procurement.

ICER GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

2022-23 saw ICER continue its commitment to supporting students in their pursuit of community engaged research through its student scholarship program. This program provides two graduate students with a \$1,000 research fellowship to help them undertake their graduate research.

Congratulations to **Cara Basil** and **Fernanda Novoa** the 2023 recipients of the Institute for Community Engaged Research award.

Cara's research focuses on the project *Nav-CARE Indigenous Feasibility Study*. Working with the Esk'etemc First Nation. Supervised by Dr. Barb Pesut. Fernanda's research examines *Mexican Migrant Agricultural Workers' Experiences of the Public Health Measures During COVID-19 in the Okanagan Region*. Working with Radical Action with

Migrants in Agriculture (RAMA Okanagan) and Kelowna Community Resources (KCR).
Supervised by Dr. Joan Bottorff

In addition to offering students financial support, scholarship recipients are also invited to talk about their research during the Starting the Conversation lunch-time speakers series. Students can choose to give a paper presentation, discuss their methods or findings, or undertake some other form of public engagement with ICER's membership.

We look forward to hearing about their community engaged research projects later in the year.

ICER SOCIAL MEDIA

ICER continues to reach students and the broader community, thru Instagram, Facebook and X (formerly known as Twitter):

@icer_ubco

ICER NEWSLETTER

In 2022-23, we continued to produce a monthly newsletter from September through to May. The newsletter reaches our membership (community members, faculty, graduate students and staff) and highlights research undertaken by our membership; provides information about upcoming events on campus and in the community, as well as potential funding opportunities. The newsletter currently has over 220 registered recipients.



GOVERNANCE AND MEMBERSHIP

GOVERNANCE

Steering Committee Members 2022-2023:

- Jon Corbett, Institute Director
- Jeannette Armstrong
- Lawrence Berg
- Alison Conway
- FHSD Dean's Rep currently vacant
- Rachelle Hole
- Virginie Magnat
- Leyton Schnellert
- Member at large seat - Allison Hargreaves

The steering committee met in November 2022 and June 2023 to discuss the Strategic plan.

As of March 2023, ICER membership was as follows (for a detailed list of the ICER membership, please consult Appendix C below).

- 53 Full members (Faculty) representing the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, the Faculty of Critical and Creative Studies, Faculty of Health and Social Development, the Faculty of Management, the Faculty of Medicine, and the Faculty of Science.
- 16 Associate members representing non- UBC Faculty researchers, staff and alumni
- 26 Community partners
- 7 International / National Collaborating Centers and Institutes
- 1 Part-time staff

NEW MEMBERSHIP

Over the 2022-23 year, ICER welcomed the following members:

- Kerrie Charnley*, Research Member
- John Cinnamon*, Research Member
- Heather Gainforth *, Research Member
- Delaney Tedesco, Associate Member
- Shawn Wilson*, Research Member
- Helen Yanacopulos*, Research Member

*Invited as associate members and approved as research members at the June 2023 AGM.

SPACE AND FACILITIES

ICER has an inventory of multimedia equipment (video, photographic and audio devices) that have been used extensively to support research and ICER related events. These have also been made available and used by faculty members, their graduate students and community partners. ICER, in Arts 368, is a welcoming and accessible space that hosts both informal and more formal meetings, while maintaining work stations for students, and visiting scholars.

WHO WE ARE

Dr. Jon Corbett is the current director of the Institute. Jon's research explores how digital maps can be used by communities to document, store and communicate their spatial knowledge. Specifically, he is interested in how using these technologies can increase community influence over decision-making and amplify community voices in place related issues.

Joanne Carey is the current institute coordinator (0.5 FTE). Joanne works in conjunction with the director in the areas of planning, coordination, communication and management regarding the Institute.

APPENDIX A: INSTITUTE MEMBERS

RESEARCH MEMBERS

- | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Adeniyi Asiyambi | 17. Heather Gainforth* | 33. Virginie Magnat |
| 2. Luis Aguiar | 18. David Geary | 34. Margaret MacIntyre Latta |
| 3. Jeannette Armstrong | 19. Judy Gillespie | 35. Lise Olsen |
| 4. Shelly Ben-David | 20. John Graham | 36. Tim Paulson |
| 5. Lawrence Berg | 21. Allison Hargreaves | 37. Ilya Parkins |
| 6. Bonar Buffam | 22. Ross Hickey | 38. Karen Ragoonaden |
| 7. Mike Burgess | 23. Rachelle Hole | 39. Colin Reid |
| 8. Kenneth Carlaw | 24. Susan Holtzman | 40. Jim Rochlin |
| 9. Kerrie Charnley* | 25. Bowen Hui | 41. Marlowe Sam |
| 10. Shirley Chau | 26. John Janmaat | 42. Leyton Schnellert |
| 11. Sabre Cherkowski | 27. David Jefferess | 43. Christine Schreyer |
| 12. Jon Cinnamon* | 28. Ruthann Lee | 44. Donna Senese |
| 13. Bill Cohen | 29. Gabrielle Legault | 45. Deanna Simonetto |
| 14. Jon Corbett | 30. Eric Li | 46. Onyx Sloan Morgan |
| 15. Mike Evans | 31. John Lyons | 47. Jessica Stites-Mor |
| 16. Sue Frohlick | 32. Fiona McDonald | |

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 48. Braden Te Hiwi | 51. Tania Willard |
| 49. Paul Van Donkelaar | 52. Shawn Wilson* |
| 50. John Wagner | 53. Helen Yanacopulos* |

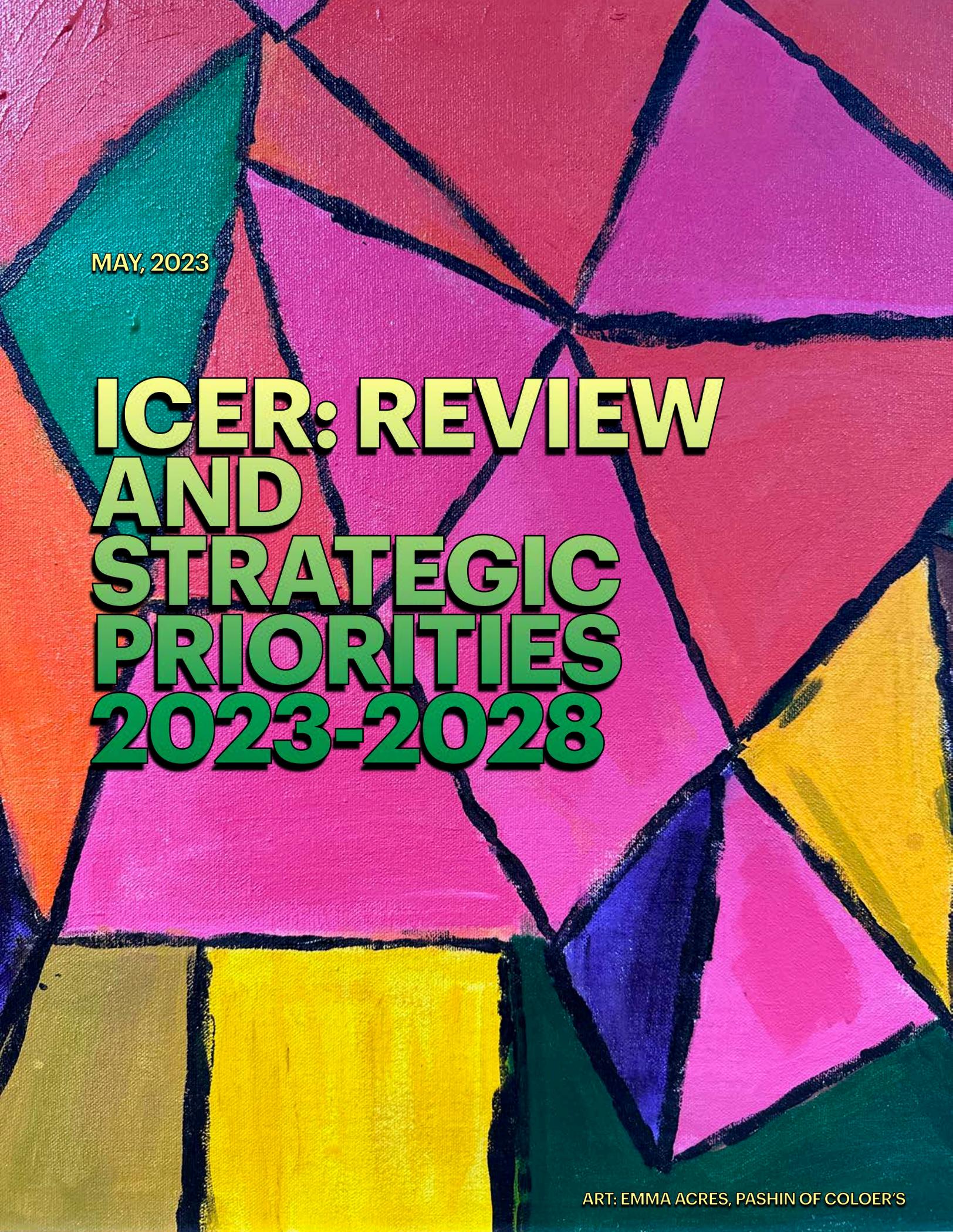
* Moved from associate to research members at the 2023 AGM (June 26)

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Shelley Cook | 9. Ashok Mathur |
| 2. Constance Crompton | 10. Michelle Nilson |
| 3. Heather Deegan | 11. Kerry Rempel |
| 4. Stephen Foster | 12. Pamela Richardson |
| 5. Ayumi Goto | 13. Mary Stockdale |
| 6. Nelson Jatel | 14. Delacey Tedesco |
| 7. Sandra Kochan | 15. Adrienne Vedan |
| 8. Donna Langille | 16. Jill Worboys |

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

1. Alternator Centre for Contemporary Art
2. Canadian Mental Health Association
3. Central Okanagan Food Policy Council
4. City of Vernon
5. Community Service Learning Program (UBC Okanagan)
6. Community Engagement Strategist (UBC Okanagan)
7. Disability Resources Centre (UBC Okanagan)
8. En'owkin Centre
9. Independent Living Vernon
10. Indigenous Programs and Services (UBC Okanagan)
11. Interior Health
12. Inn From the Cold
13. Kelowna Community Resources
14. Land to Table
15. Living Positive Resources Center
16. Okanagan Fruit Tree Project
17. Okanagan Nation Alliance
18. Organic BC
19. Project Literacy Central Okanagan Society
20. Pathways Society
21. School District 10
22. School District 23
23. School District 67
24. School District 74
25. School District 83
26. South Okanagan Immigrant Community Services (SOICS)
27. UBC Okanagan Equity and Inclusion
28. Vernon Community School

An abstract artwork featuring a complex pattern of overlapping, irregular geometric shapes in vibrant colors including magenta, teal, yellow, and blue. The shapes are outlined with thick, dark, hand-drawn lines, creating a textured, layered effect. The overall composition is dynamic and colorful.

MAY, 2023

ICER: REVIEW AND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2023-2028

ART: EMMA ACRES, PASHIN OF COLOER'S



REPORT OBJECTIVES

This report provides a comprehensive account of ICER's mandatory five-year review process, including its procedures and outcomes. Initially scheduled for 2020, the review was postponed to October 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which necessitated a shift to an exclusively online environment deemed unsuitable for conducting the review.

Moreover, taking advantage of this review, we took the opportunity to engage in a strategic visioning exercise. The purpose of this exercise was to employ the insights gleaned from interviews as a guide and framework for ICER's upcoming five-year period.

Between November 2022 and January 2023, we conducted interviews with a total of 23 individuals associated with ICER, comprising 12 faculty members, 4 graduate students, 3 UBCO staff members, and 4 community partners. Twenty interviews were conducted in person, while 3 were carried out using Zoom. We organized two in-person focus groups: one with faculty members and staff, and another with graduate students.

Subsequently, we collated the findings from all the interviews and focus groups, and categorized them based on common themes. In this document, we have presented these findings in a prioritized bullet-point format. Our aim in doing so is to ensure that the report is easily comprehensible, conveying the interview outcomes in a transparent and accessible way.

To enhance clarity and organization, the report is divided into three main sections:

1. **Current Demonstrated Strengths of ICER:** This section focuses on the existing areas where ICER exhibits strength and excels.

2. Challenges Confronting ICER: Here, we outline the obstacles and difficulties that ICER faces at present.
3. Future Directions and Priorities for ICER in the Next Five Years: This section presents the recommended areas of focus and priorities that ICER should concentrate on during its upcoming five-year period.

WHAT STRENGTHS DOES ICER CURRENTLY DEMONSTRATE?

THE SPACE AND RESOURCES

- ICER provides a flexible, welcoming, non-institutional setting that directly supports connecting and networking. The physical space is a vital component of the Institute's recognition and success.
- ICER is known as being a supportive space (physically and socially) for graduate students and their supervisors. It actively works to demystify the graduate student academic journey, and is a place that encourages cohort building (especially for graduate students in the IGS theme on Community Engagement, Social Change and Equity (CESCE)).
- ICER facilitates and supports justice related teaching and research events on campus that are of relevance to students, staff and faculty (for example the *Climate Teach-in* event).
- ICER helps students through providing resources (for example the ICER graduate CER scholarship) and workplace experience (for example hiring of students through the Work Study program).
- ICER Press presents enormous potential for the entire ICER membership, including community scholars, to publish their findings in a sympathetic and principled way.

MENTORING

- ICER has become a place of mentorship for students and new faculty. ICER's staff work intentionally to help foster relationship building, sharing of ideas & resources, and broker introductions between like minded researchers on campus, as well as between the Okanagan community and the university.
- ICER offers safe and supportive opportunities for graduate students and community members to practice and deliver research presentations (for example the *Starting a Conversation* speaker series).
- ICER helps lend credibility to graduate students affiliated with the Institute, this contributes to building their CVs.

RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

- ICER creates relevance for the university by delivering research symposia and presentations involving visiting scholars and Okanagan community members (for example the *Across the Pond: Co-producing regional food system networks* symposium in collaboration with the University of Exeter held in September 2022).
- ICER's membership, including faculty, students, staff and community partners, noted their appreciation of our email communication. In particular, the newsletter was identified as a resource that faculty used to augment their teaching content. The newsletter further helps to create connections across other institutes, programs and offices on both campuses (for example the Community Service Learning program in the Okanagan and the Community Engagement office in Vancouver).
- ICER has developed robust relationships with Indigenous community organizations (most notably the En'owkin Centre).

WHAT CHALLENGES DOES ICER FACE?

INTERNAL CHALLENGES

- ICER needs to continue to strengthen on-campus relationships with the CESCE, IGS, various labs, institutes and the Deans of ICER's constituent faculties.
- ICER needs to improve how we collaborate with UBC Okanagan staff to connect, champion and amplify Community Engaged Research (CER) and projects that exemplify ICER's mission and values.
- ICER already works closely with a number of Indigenous partners; we need to build on these experiences and assume a more central role in the implementation of the Indigenous Strategic Plan and the Inclusion Action Plan in the CER space.
- ICER has focussed on supporting research activities and events, our membership noted that they would like us to support more social events to help build informal mentorship, foster relationships of support and facilitate networking opportunities.
- ICER deals with significant challenges around supporting the diverse and aspirational needs of our entire membership because of the limitations related to funding and the consequent time constraints of our lone part time projects manager (Joanne Carey).
- ICER faces a critical issue of the press being underfunded, there are no incentives for the Executive Editor (for example a teaching release) and an over reliance on Work Study students whose positions are not guaranteed year to year.

MENTORSHIP AND CAMPUS NETWORK (COMMUNITY/CULTURE BUILDING)

- ICER recognizes the challenge to creatively manage the use of the space in order to support the diverse needs of its membership, in particular how to balance the Institute being a quiet place to work, a vibrant center to network, and an active space for panel discussions and presentations.
- ICER needs to promote the Institute as a network of scholars, not just a space or distributor of the newsletter.
- COVID has created numerous barriers to all its members accessing the space. ICER needs to more proactively reach out to all faculty member, and especially new faculty. Onboarding new faculty might also present an opportunity to re-energize our entire membership.
- ICER needs to be more active in providing graduate students, and especially international students working in CER, a place to come together, build relationships, and provide a welcoming and safe space.

ICER FUNCTIONING

- ICER acknowledges the need to be less rigid, but rather recognize and build on opportunities, events and aspirations of our membership, because we recognize these organic opportunities are authentic and present direct support for our membership and thus energize the entire Institute. (See Internal Challenge #5).
- ICER needs to more effectively define and communicate the purpose and Terms of Reference for both our steering and our advisory committees, membership, the ICER Press Director, as well as the Institute Director.
- ICER needs to explore ways to more effectively work with staff, offices related to community engagement and undergraduate students, not just faculty, graduate students and community organizations.

- ICER needs to revisit how faculty, students, staff and community partners engage with the institute. In particular we need to more clearly define how they can become more involved, and the vetting process in place in regards to membership.
- ICER has focussed on facilitating and supporting small research projects. We recognize the need to seek out funding, develop effective working partnerships and manage larger, multi-year projects.

WORKING WITH EXTERNAL COMMUNITY

- ICER recognizes the inherent challenge of CER's lengthy time requirements to build authentic research relationships being incongruent with the limitations of our one part-time staff member.
- ICER recognizes the need to build greater awareness of the Institute within the community, as well as create more spaces for community members to engage with the university and its CER researchers.
- COVID has shown that the future of post-secondary teaching and research is hybrid. ICER needs to be even more effective using virtual networking tools, especially when reaching out into the community.
- ICER recognizes that the location on UBCO's north Kelowna campus is less than ideal for community meetings. ICER needs to Increase our capacity to become an entry point by increasing our visibility and relationships within the three urban centers of the Okanagan.
- Our community partners identified that scholarly and other resources often remained locked within the university. ICER might play a role in facilitating community access to them.

WHAT DIRECTIONS AND PRIORITIES SHOULD ICER FOCUS ON IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS?

EXTENSION

- Work with community organizations and government to identify relevant and important community research - including planning, fire, water, flooding, social determinants of health, climate issues, income inequality and the structural issues.
- Explore the potential to develop an Okanagan wide research program. Start to focus on the significance of place, land, livelihoods and the relationship with Okanagan Indigenous groups within this research.
- Use public fora as a focus of research and use them to elevate the conversation on issues of local significance.
- Support community researchers through sharing university based resources (for example library, networking and computational resources).
- Develop frameworks in collaboration with our membership that help understand the true impacts of CER projects.

TRAINING

- Develop, deliver and support ‘best practices’ training workshops, panel discussions, and speaker series related to intersectional CER. These include:
 - Providing empirical examples of CER in action in the community.
 - Academic estate planning for CER.
 - Developing robust systems for archiving community information.
 - Working with the entire membership to develop and implement novel approaches to knowledge mobilization of CER.
 - Improving professional communication.
 - Navigating the UBC bureaucratic structures.
 - Training related to commonly used CER tools (including Indigenous methodologies, Qualtrics training, ethics protocols, and Nvivo training).
 - Supporting a graduate student conference for those working in CER.

RESEARCHER SUPPORT

- Increase ICER’s inclusivity through developing a speaker series that focuses on undergraduate students.
- Evaluate the benefits and challenges of relaunching the Okanagan Research Portal, a tool designed to create networks and support communication between ICER members and the local community.
- Use the networking potential of ICER to more proactively broker, support and build partnerships and partnership development for CER on the UBCO campus.

- More actively bring ICER to the Kelowna downtown (for example using the innovation library as a space of connection).
- Start to compile information, ideas and methods related to CER and the outputs of training workshops (identified in the Training section above) and use them to populate an accessible online Canvas site.

ICER INTERNAL

- Build out the ICER newsletter to showcase individual researchers/students and their research.
- Align ICER's messaging more closely with 'place'. This includes positioning a reference to place (relationships and land acknowledgement) more centrally on the Institute's website, newsletter, communications etc.
- Continue to develop working relationships, deliver joint events and seek potential funding with other institutes, relevant centers and labs on the UBCO campus (for example working on the Okanagan Research Forum with the new BRAES director, or co-hosting workshops on Indigitization with the AMP lab).
- Deliver information sessions to the DVC, provost, University Relations, the deans and other UBCO administrative units (for example Research Ethics and Finance) so that they collectively understand the mandate, missions and principles of the Institute, CER and the research being carried out by ICER members.

ICER CULTURE

- Our membership identified the need to 'demystify' the Institute. This includes giving an orientation to new faculty members, staff and students,
- Explore the potential benefits for an annual retreat/event (not focused on reporting, which occurs during the AGM) to develop synergies and a collective vision for ICER.

- Introduce more informal events, for example friday film night, reading and discussion groups, or games nights. These will offer the opportunities for more chaotic and informal intersections where good ideas are often generated.
- Further develop, explore and support novel forms of knowledge mobilization.

THE PRESS

- Promote the Press and how to publish through it to faculty, staff, students (graduate and undergraduate), and community partners. This includes sharing the submission process for students, community and academic researchers, and the types of media and formats the press publishes.
- Leverage the Press to provide template documents to support researchers in effectively navigating the research ethics process, develop consent forms, collaborative research agreements, etc.
- Continue to align the Press with the best practices of Open Education and Open Access. This includes actively promoting the principles of making scholarship open, accessible and public.
- Develop terms of reference for the Press director, editorial board and administrators.