

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE

## BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

**Ryan Gibson**

University of Guelph

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The logo of the University of Guelph, featuring the text "UNIVERSITY of GUELPH" in a serif font, with "of" in a smaller, italicized font. The logo is set against a white square background.

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# Libro Professorship

- \$1 million gift from Libro Credit Union and two rural families
  - Rural economic development
  - Community investment funds
  - Immigration/newcomers
  - Wealth and philanthropy
  - Workforce development
  - Rural policy evaluation
  - Place-based development

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# Local Realities

- challenging fiscal realities
- changing economies
- aging infrastructure
- changing demographics
- addressing complex challenges
- innovative stories of success
- new models
- new thinking
- not everything has worked

# Building the Future Initiative

- examine how rural communities vary in their capacity to respond to infrastructure pressures;
- investigate how those varying capacities affect short- and long-term economic development;
- provide insights on how to develop infrastructure policy, programming, and investments to build rural community capacity and support economic development



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# Emerging themes

- Place matters
- Connecting economic development and infrastructure challenging
- Uncertainty on the horizon



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# Ongoing Work

- Connections of green infrastructure and economic development from rural British Columbia
- Understanding how Scandinavian countries approach rural economic development and infrastructure
- Documenting innovative approaches and outcomes from across rural Ontario



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# We Need Your Help

1

Complete the  
online survey

2

Identify innovative  
stories from across  
Ontario

# Contact

 gibsonr@uoguelph.ca

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