

ᑕᑭᑭᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦ ᑎᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦ ᑎᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦ  
ᑎᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦ ᑎᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦ

CHAIRE DE RECHERCHE SUR LE  
DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE DU NORD

NORTHERN SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CHAIR

---

## Mining and Indigenous Livelihood



---

Thierry Rodon  
Université Laval



# Questions

- What are the economic, social, cultural, and health impacts of mining on indigenous livelihood
- Can mining contribute to the sustainable development of indigenous communities
- What is the relationship between EIA, IBA, social license to operate and social acceptability



# Economic impacts

- Positive
  - Provide revenues through salaries and royalties
  - Diminish social transfer payment
  - Foster the creation of local businesses
  - Training and skill development
- Negative
  - Impact on local business and public service
  - Not sustainable
    - market based: boom and bust cycle
    - resource depletion: intergenerational inequalities
  - Income inequalities (intragenerational equity)
  - Regional disparities (regional equity)
  - Very limited spin-off effect in small communities
  - Negative externalities (royalties distribution, relocation of indigenous workers)



# Employment issues

- Low percentage of Indigenous people
- High turnover
- Relocation in the south
  
- Research Gaps
  - Understanding better the change in the mining employment
  - Relation between mining employment and land based economy
  - Impact of zero tolerance policies



# Mine Closure and Reclamation

- Impact of loss of income for individual and local companies
- Difficult reconversion
- Indigenous worker mobility?
- Reclamation of infrastructures (Gagnonville, Schefferville, Nanisivik)





# Social Cohesion

- Community conflicts about project
- Impact on value transmission
  - Food sharing
  - Land based activities
- Impact of fly-in fly-out
  - Alcohol, drugs, gambling, violence,
  - Impact of shift work on families and land based activities
  - Relocation of Indigenous workers in transit centre
  - Pressure on language, culture and identity







# EIA, IBA and social acceptability

- Environmental consultations and assessments evaluate impacts and define mitigation measures
- IBAs minimize impacts (accommodation) and maximize benefits (compensation, jobs and economic and social development)
- IBAs constitute de facto consent for a project, and therefore must involve the communities, not just Aboriginal organizations
- EIA and IBA do not guarantee a community's social cohesion or economic development, nor its sustainable development



# Competing Logics

Logic	Instrument	Deciders/stakeholders	Measure
<b>Legal (process)</b>	Consultation	Courts and governments	Taking into account and accommodation
<b>Evaluative (process)</b>	Env. Assessment	<b>Governments</b> , industry, interest groups, Aboriginal organizations, communities	Consultation and Impact study
<b>Economic (outcome)</b>	IBA negotiation	<b>Industry and Aboriginal organizations</b>	Accommodation agreements and consent
<b>Social (outcome)</b>	Deliberation	<b>Aboriginal communities</b>	Level of acceptance





# IBA Issues

- Power relationships (financial and human resources, information, cooptation)
- Pressure from companies to sign an IBA as quickly as possible (link between consent and market funding)
- Agreements linked to market performance and the project life cycle (unsustainable)
- No relationship between the amount of royalties and communities' economic and social development



# How to Benefit from an IBA

- Rebalance power relationships (community's role)
- Choose the right moment
- Build social acceptability in the process
- Need for benefits that go beyond the life cycle of the project (community planning)
- Obtain compensation levels that are not totally linked to the ups and downs of the market
- Use and distribution of compensation (intra- and intergenerational equity)
- Ability to have the IBA implemented



# How to create sustainability from a mine

- Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development
  - Decision-making power
  - Good governance
  - Legitimacy and culturally relevant
  - Vision
  - Leadership
- Some other tips
  - Addressing the social issues
  - Addressing closure issues
  - Long term planning and land use planning
  - Creating a more sustainable development
    - Education (not only training)
    - Diversify the economy: creating infrastructure and local businesses that can survive the mine (tourism, etc.)