Newsletter of *On the Move*'s Newfoundland and Labrador Field Team



On the Move on the Rock

June 2017

ISSUE 8

On the Move on the Rock is a biannual newsletter that aims to share the progress of ongoing research, training, and activities by members of the On the Move Partnership.

Research for the *On the Move Partnership* is taking place over seven years all across Canada. This newsletter highlights the exciting research being conducted here in Newfoundland and Labrador (NL).

The NL field team is comprised of university researchers, students, and partners, including government departments, community organizations, industry, and labour. Together we hope to better understand employment-related geographical mobility (E-RGM) in our province, how it is changing, and how it impacts individuals, families, businesses, and communities.

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What's On the Go?

13.4

Congratulations to On the
Move Partnership Advisory
Board member Dr. Caroline
Brettell on her election to the
American Academy of Arts and
Social Sciences!

Do you work in human resources and have a responsibility for mobile employees who need to spend extended time away from home to do their jobs? Do workers in your union spend extended periods of time on the move to do their jobs?

If so, you are invited to participate in an online survey. Please visit www.onthemoveparternship.ca for more information!

For more on what **On the Move** is up to, please visit <u>www.onthemovepartnership.ca</u>

Partner Article

The Digital Research Centre for Qualitative Fieldwork

By Derek Norman

The Memorial University Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Digital Research Centre for Qualitative Fieldwork (DRCQF) is a facility dedicated to meeting the digital research needs of faculty members and graduate students engaged in qualitative research. The Centre usually styled FHSS FILM UNIT for short, ensures that researchers have access to high quality digital audio recorders, cameras, video equipment, software and training to support the collection. preservation, processing and analysis of qualitative field research data. The Centre also makes it possible for researchers to disseminate their research results back to the communities where they work and to wider audiences in innovative ways.

As a partner with On the Move, the Centre is providing audiovisual recording equipment and training to the Partnership team; researchers also have access to the Centre for post--production activities and analysis of audiovisual data. As well, the Centre provides support for the audiovisual portion

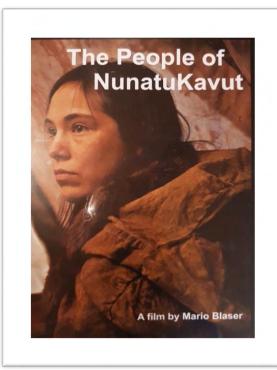
of www.onthemovepartnership.ca and assists with generating digital materials for other forms of knowledge mobilization.

Over the last few years there are some good examples of the possibilities for Knowledge Mobilization based on Field Research and Community Involvement and Engagement that show the breadth of possibilities for OTM Partnership researchers and their projects. A good case in point would be Labrador CURA "Understanding the Past to build a Future" http://www.mun.ca/labmetis/cura_movies.html

During the course of this project there had been many uses of equipment and facilities of the FILM UNIT to gather Qualitative Field Data; still and moving images, and audio files. And lots of it. It is the very nature of these data that lends itself to the production of audio-visual products to disseminate the ideas to an audience in a form often referred to as Digital Storytelling.

These stories can run from high school students in a coastal community telling stories about their weekend ice-fishing trip or a son's story about his father's part time trap line. They can be a collectively scripted short drama about high school bullying. They can also be a short doc created by researchers and their research assistants about the specifics of an archaeology dig to share the research activity and its aims and preliminary findings to nearby communities. Or, it could be a full length Docu-drama such as Mario Blaser's People of NunatuKavut, incorporating field recordings, dramatized scenes, animated still images and archival film gathered and edited into a film to be broadcast on CBC television and featured in festivals internationally. That's the gamut.

With our On the Move Partnership we have a great opportunity here now that the field research phase is winding down and the *preservation*, *processing and analysis of qualitative field research data* phase is underway. The challenge now is to seriously consider what stories are emerging. Who are these stories going to interest, engage and effect? What is the best way to do this? This is where the chickens come home to roost. Let's talk about this over the next few months and get crackin. I look forward to talking to the NL component members and exploring the possibilities with you.



Our Researchers

Julia Lawler

Julia Lawler is a Research Assistant with On the Move working with Dr. Kelly Vodden and Dr. Nicole Power. Since January, Julia has worked on the Community Impacts as well as the Apprenticeship. Youth, and Mobility aspects of On the Move, exploring how people commute for employment and training and how that may impact communities. Though a series of focus groups, one-on-one interviews, and door-to-door surveys, Julia has looked at mobile work in host, source, and hub communities. This research has taken Julia to Placentia. Long Harbour, Sunnyside, Arnold's Cove, Clarenville, Marystown, and Parker's Cove. Julia has been asking community leaders, youth, and skilled trades students about their experiences and any changes they've observed in their communities related to mobile work, and how that has impacted their lives and their decision-making. Involvement in volunteering, access to housing and affordability, family dynamics, and future opportunities are all topics frequently discussed. In addition, Julia conducted an economic spending survey in the town of Parker's Cove, where much of the community is involved in mobile work. This survey aims to deter-



mine spending patterns of mobile workers. Aspects of these studies are still ongoing. Hailing from Ontario by way of Manitoba after completing her M.Sc. in forestry policy at The University of Winnipeg, *On the Move* has been an inspiring way for Julia to learn more about her new home in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Marie Hogan

Having travelled from Carleton Place, Ontario to Newfoundland to complete a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Political Science at Memorial University in 2013, Marie has strong ties to the theme of mobility for school and work. She is currently completing her



Master of Education in Post-Secondary Studies part-time and working full-time as a Student Recruiter at the Marine Institute.

Under the supervision of Dr. Christine Arnold, Marie's research focuses on how graduates with a Bachelor of Arts from Memorial University navigate the transition from school-to-work. Given the aging and declining population in Newfoundland, Memorial University is significant when it comes to attracting, training, retaining its population. Therefore it is important to ask if the institution is adequately preparing students for school-to-work transitions across all disciplines. While current research investigates employment rates for graduates with a Bachelor of Arts in Canada, this research delves deeper and examines the preparation and programming students receive for successful school-to-work transitions and the impact this has on mobility in their post-graduate pursuits within the specific context of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Sherine Khattab

Sherine is an interdisciplinary PhD student at Memorial University and a trainee with on the Move Partnership. Combining the disciplines of geography, economics, and political science, Sherine is studying the relationship between the gender pay gap, women's mobility and their place attachment in Newfoundland and Labrador. Sherine is planning on conducting her research by analysing census and labour force survey data as well as interviews in order to enhance our understanding of why the

province has a high gender pay gap and relatively low mobility for women. Her thesis entitled "Geographical Mobility and its Relationship to Gender Wage Inequality in the Newfoundland and Labrador Labour Market" will shed light on the constraints that women in Newfoundland and Labrador face with regard to wages, and mobility. Policies that could be put in place to help overcome these barriers and lead to a more diversified and more equitable labour market in the province will also be presented.

Team Updates

Apprenticeship, Youth and **Mobility Project Update**

By Nicole Power

The Apprenticeship, Youth and Mobility team has been very busy in the last year talking to young people about their employment-related geographical mobility (ERGM) experiences. To date, the project has focused on young people pursuing skilled trades apprenticeship training and we have talked to nearly 100 pre-apprentices, apprentices and skilled trades workers, and a number of experts involved in apprenticeship training and certification, and employment support. In the last year, we developed a pilot project examining the ERGM of university students, and together with our partner, Edwina McCarthy (Community

Youth Network), we have extended our research to include a focus on rural youth. To date, we have talked to nearly 60 rural and university youth. Preliminary findings were presented at the Canadian Sociological Association's annual meeting at Ryerson University in June of 2017. Our research to date suggests that young people's ERGMs are complex, and that individual mobility responses must be understood in terms of the broader social and economic context. including the temporary nature of much employment related to large scale industrial projects, social and familial connections, and access to affordable transportation and child care. The team looks forward to wrapping up our field work in the next year and sharing our findings with partners and the wider community!

On the Move On the Go

The On the Move Partnership in NL has been busy conducting surveys, interviews, and focus groups with stakeholders and residents of several communities including Parker's Cove, Seals Cove, Placentia, and Deer Lake.







Top: College of the North Atlantic, Placentia (photo by Julia Lawler)

in Parkers Cove (photo by Kelly Vodden)



Top: College of the North Atlantic, Seals Cove (photo by Julia Lawler)

Bottom: Research Assistant Julia Lawler, Kelly Vodden and Heather Hall surveying Bottom: Kelly Vodden, trainee Leanna Butters, and survey assistants Brennan Lowery and Sean Manners in Deer Lake (photo by Sean Manners)

Picture Profile



Left: Trainee Josh Barrett at his graduation, May 2017 (photo by Kelly Vodden)

Right: View of Bull Arm (photo by Heather Hall)

Bottom Left: For rent ads in Arnolds Cove (photo by Kelly Vodden)







Above: View of Parker's Cove (photo by Heather Hall)

What We've Been Doing...

- "(Re)constructing Rurality
 Through Skilled Trades Training" by Nicole Power has been published in Discourse: Studies in the Cultural Politics of Education, Taylor & Francis Online.
- Sara Dorow participated in a panel discussion on "Mobilizing Around Oil: The Promise and Peril of Petroleum Work in the Americas" at Contesting Energy: Labour, Culture and Politics Symopsium, Pittsburgh PA, March 2017.
- Sandrine Jean presented at the American Association of Geographers Conference on 5 April 2017. Her presentation was titled: "Between Mobility and Attachment: Practices of Home and Home Making Among Mobile Workers in Newfoundland and Labrador and in Alberta, Canada."
- Katherine Lippel attended the 70th Congrès des Relations Indusrielles in Quebec, 4 May 2017, presenting: "L'effectivité de la législation en matière de santé et sécurité du travail et les défis de la GRH dans un marché du travail en mutation."

New report "Forum on Housing and the Mobile Work Force in Newfoundland and Labrador" was published in January 2017. Please visit

<u>www.onthemovepartnership.ca</u> for more information.

Questions about *On the Move*? Please feel free to contact:

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