

Social Development and Source Communities: How Mobile Workers Spend Time in their Permanent Place of Residence

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Outline

- Research Project
 - Research Questions
 - Case Study
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- Investments of Time in Source Communities
 - Volunteerism
 - Community Engagement
 - Friends and Family
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 - How does E-RGM affect a worker's involvement in their community?
 - How does E-RGM affect community development?

On the Move Partnership



- Working in seven Canadian provinces and abroad
 - British Columbia
 - Alberta
 - Ontario
 - Quebec
 - Nova Scotia
 - Prince Edward Island
 - Newfoundland and Labrador
 - Norway, Iceland, the United Kingdom, the United States
- Multiple sectors
 - Oil and gas
 - Mining
 - Nickel processing
 - Retail service
 - Health
 - Construction
 - Trucking
 - Shipping
 - Tourism
 - Forestry
 - Fisheries

Research Questions

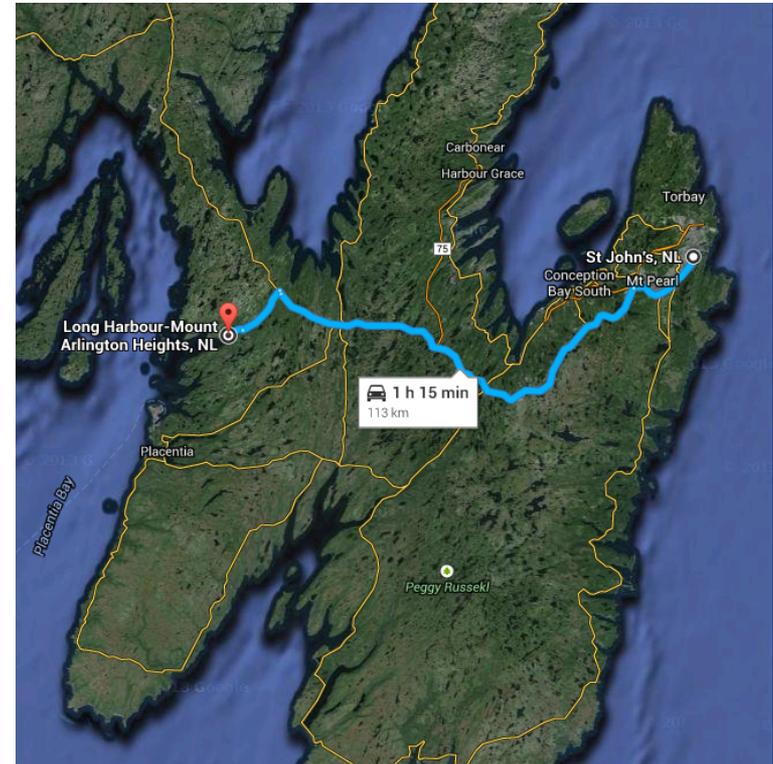
1. What factors influence a worker's decision to stay in their source communities and commute rather than relocate closer to their worksite?
2. How do mobile workers invest their time in their source communities?
3. How do mobile workers financially invest in their source communities?



Case Study



VALE



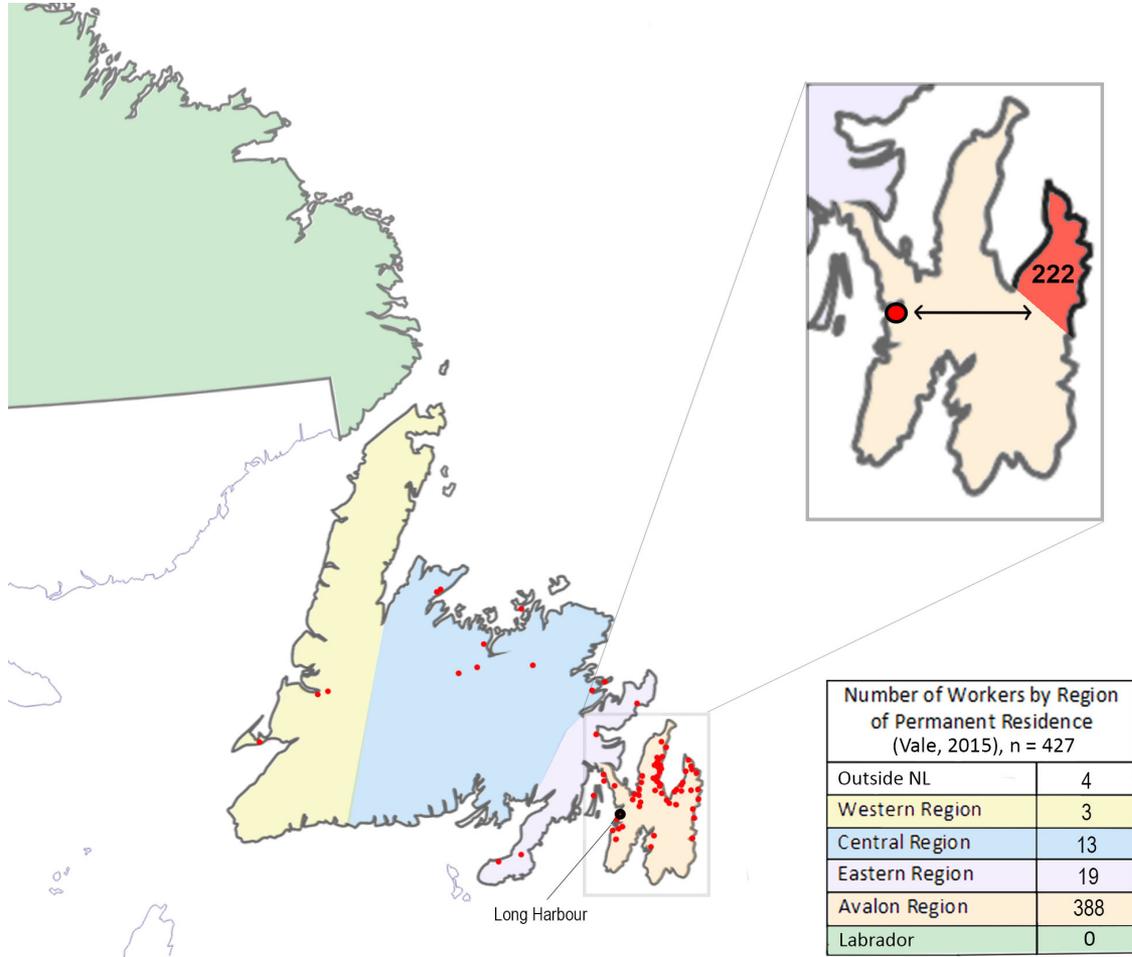
Methodology

- Distributed 400 questionnaires to nickel processing employees, 131 were completed
- 21 semi structured interviews conducted
- Participant observation



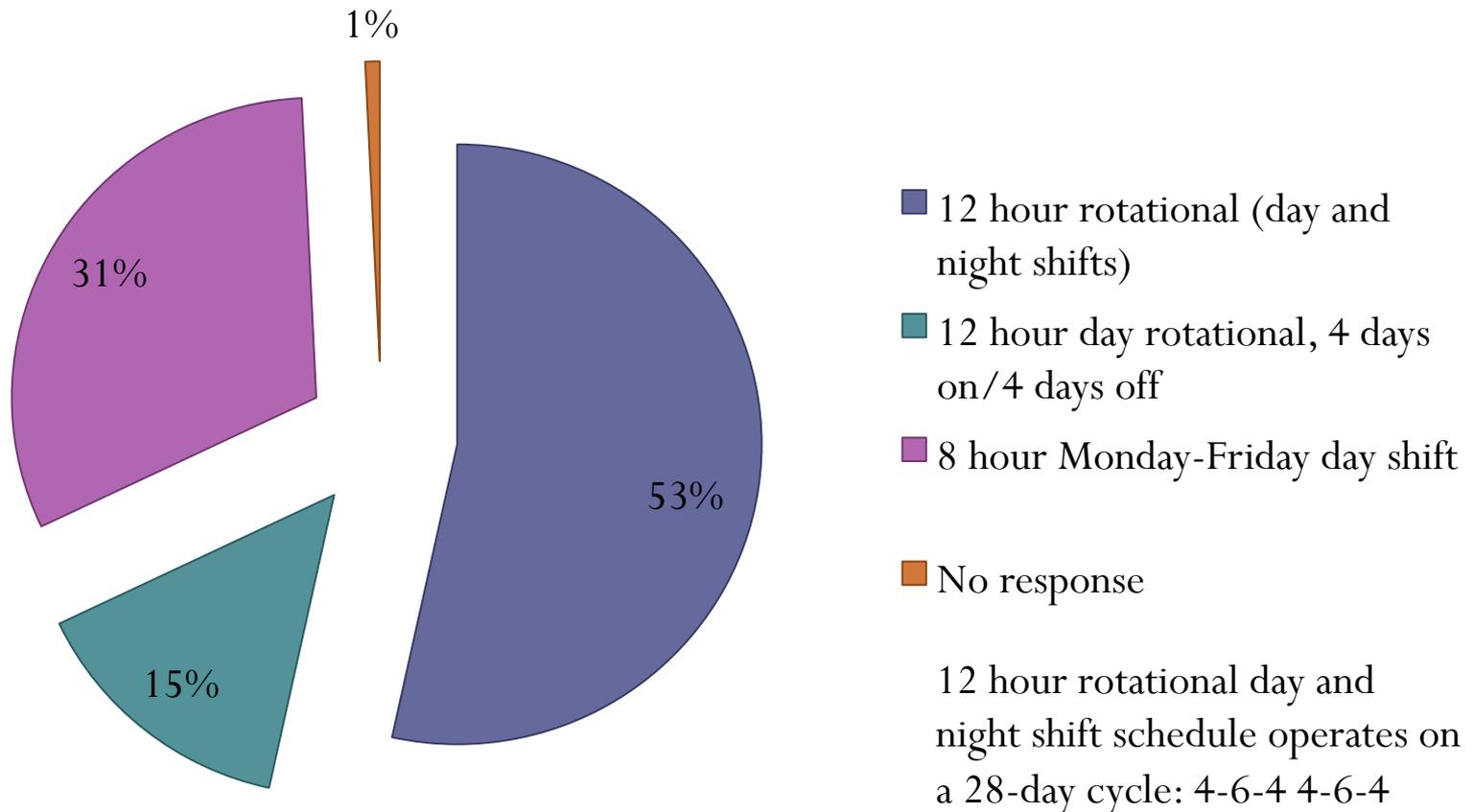
Long Harbour, NL (Hall, 2014)

Source Communities



Work Schedule of Respondents

Work Schedule of Questionnaire Respondents



Volunteerism and Community Engagement



Do you spend less, the same, or more time volunteering and participating in community events since you have started working at the nickel processing facility?

Volunteering

<i>Amount of Time</i>	<i>Percentage of Respondents</i>
Less time	26%
Same time	36%
More time	1%
Not applicable	34%
No response	3%

Community Engagement

<i>Amount of Time</i>	<i>Percentage of Respondents</i>
Less time	29%
Same time	41%
More time	6%
Not applicable	22%
No response	2%

Volunteerism

Have you volunteered in your local area in the past six months?

<i>Response</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Number of People</i>
Yes		37 (28%)
	<i>Recreation</i>	23
	<i>Church</i>	9
	<i>Other</i>	9
	<i>School programs</i>	6
	<i>Fire department</i>	6
	<i>Lions / Service Club</i>	2
	<i>Municipal Politics</i>	2
No		94 (72%)

That limits it. We're trying to get involved with some things [...] you don't have much time besides the weekends and that's usually running errands (LES20151109).

Community Engagement

Areas questionnaire respondents participate in their local area.

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Number of Respondents</i>
<i>Recreation</i>	68
<i>Community Festivals</i>	50
<i>Holiday Parades and Festivities</i>	43
<i>Fundraisers</i>	27
<i>Church</i>	20
<i>Other</i>	5
<i>Bingo</i>	2
<i>No response</i>	36



The Works – a large recreation facility in St. John's (The Works, 2016).

Time Spent with Friends and Family



Do you spend less, the same, or more time with friends and family since you have started working at the nickel processing facility?

Friends

Family

<i>Amount of Time</i>	<i>Percentage of Respondents</i>
Less time	44%
Same time	31%
More time	22%
Not applicable	1%
No response	2%

<i>Amount of Time</i>	<i>Percentage of Respondents</i>
Less time	39%
Same time	32%
More time	27%
Not applicable	1%
No response	1%

Examples

James

- Lives in Blaketown (35km away)
- 8-hour Monday-Friday shift
- Plays basketball weekly
- Volunteers with children's program
- Volunteers with church

Lincoln

- Lives in Paradise (108km away)
- 12-hour rotating shift
- Unable to attend community events due to work/commute
- Quit recreation commitments due to tiredness from work/commute

Implications for Community Development

- Commuting allows Vale plant workers to remain in their permanent place of residence

However...

- A combination of the commute and the work schedule prevents many from being active in their community
- Can negatively affect relationships with other community members, camaraderie, and sense of place in their community

Key Points

- Source communities for Vale plant workers are distributed all across NL, with 52% located in the St. John's CMA
- Vale plant workers typically volunteer less than the provincial average (28% vs. 46%)
- While seldom workers have more time for extra-curricular activities, several have more time for friends and family because of the commute
- While communities benefit by retaining their residents, the reduction of social capital can be difficult, especially within rural regions

Questions?
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