

Regional Sustainability in a Mobile World: Reflections from Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada

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Outline



- Research Project
 - Research Questions
 - Case Study
 - Methodology
- Factors Influencing the Commute
 - Lack of Amenities and Services Nearby
 - External Factors
- Sustainability in Source Communities
 - Spending Time in Source Communities
 - Spending Money in Source Communities

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



- 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 Region











Methodology



Distributed 400
 questionnaires to nickel
 processing employees,
 131 were completed

 21 semi structured interviews conducted



Participant observation

Long Harbour, NL (Hall, 2014)

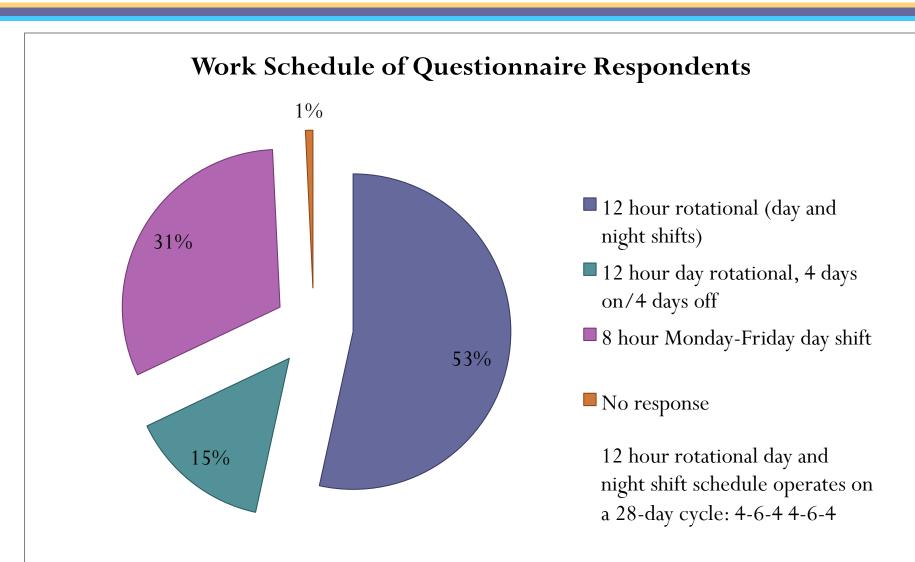




Community of Primary Residence	Percentage of Respondents
St. John's	23%
Conception Bay South	11%
Paradise	9%
Mount Pearl	6%
Placentia	5%
Bay Roberts	5%
Long Harbour	3%
Torbay	2%

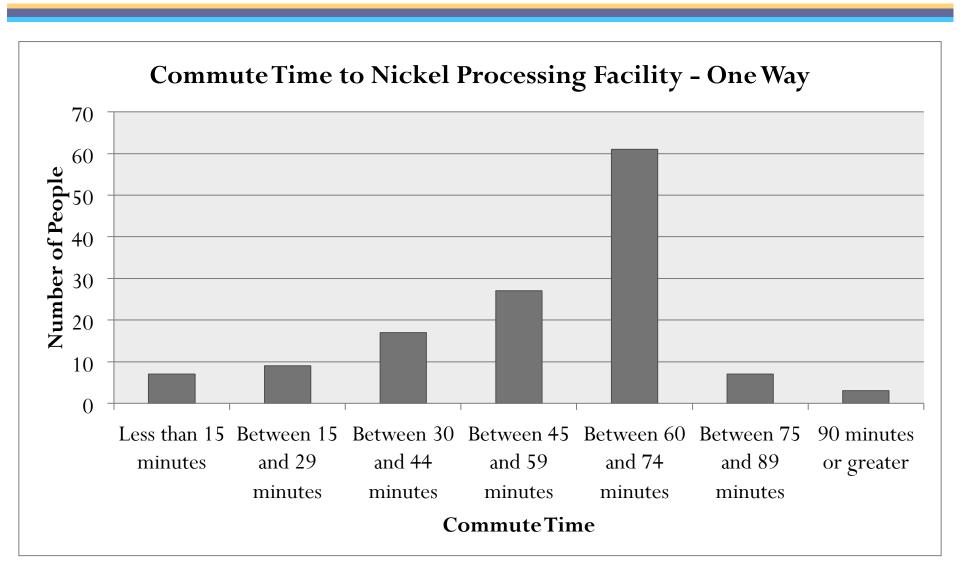






Length of Commute





Factors Influencing The Commute on the move partnership

Amenities and services needed near the worksite to influence relocation

Amenity	Number of Responses
Entertainment	64
Grocery stores	60
Shopping malls/centres	51
Nothing	43
Job opportunities for partner	40
Housing	38
Education facilities	32

Amenity	Number of Responses
Competitive recreation programs	31
Gas prices	24
Daycare	21
Other	8
No response	4
Live in LH	3

Factors Influencing The Commute on the move partnership

What factors delay or prevent you from getting to the worksite?

Factors	Percentage of Respondents
Weather	84%
Road and traffic conditions	36%
Family issues	19%
Transportation issues	12%
Not applicable	11%

You have to deal with it. If that means getting up at 2am to shovel your driveway because you have to leave by 4 so you can get there for 7, I've done that. (BP20150831, August 2015).

Spending Time in Source Communities



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

Response	Activity	Number of P eople
Yes		37
	Recreation	23
	Church	9
	Other	9
	School programs	6
	Fire department	6
	Lions/Service Club	2
	Municipal Politics	2
No		94

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, November 2015).

Financially Investing in Source Communities

Norman's Cove



Communities questionnaire respondents purchase gas.

	-	-	0
Community	Number of People	Community	Number of People
St. John's	46	Carbonear	2
CBS	18	Blaketown	2
Whitbourne	17	Clarke's Beach	2
Placentia	11	Goulds	2
Paradise	8	Green's Harbour	1
Bay Roberts	8	Harbour Grace	1
Mount Pearl	7	South River	1
Holyrood	5	Summerford	1
Clarenville	4	Eastport	1
Chapel Arm	3	Stephenville	1
New Harbour	3	Salmonier Line	1

...purchase automobiles.

Community

Number of People

2		<u> </u>	<u></u>
St. John's	46		
Gander	3		
Mount Pearl	2		
Carbonear	2		
Bay Roberts	1		
Clarenville	1		
Portugal Cove	1		
Halifax	1		
Montreal	1		
Toronto	1		

Implications for Source Communities on the move partnersh



How employment mobility enhances sustainability:

- Allows residents to remain in permanent place of residence
- Stimulate local economic development opportunities in local communities

How employment mobility *deters* sustainability:

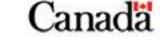
- Losing human resources for local opportunities
- Negatively affecting social development, camaraderie, and sense of belonging



Questions? jbarrett@mun.ca



Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada



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