

New Rural Economy in Seguin Review of the 2001 Household Survey

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Acknowledgements:

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- Ray – General picture: Pressures affecting how we got here
- Peter – Focus on rural economy: implications for policy-makers and their programs
- Bill – Focus on implications for community members

Thanks & Acknowledgements

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Outline of Presentation

- ◆ The NRE Project
- ◆ The Household Survey 2001
- ◆ Seguin Results and Issues of Interest
- ◆ General Discussion
- ◆ What's Next?

Outline

- Before getting to the action part: The New Rural Economy Project of CRRF
- What have we learned about community capacity?
- What can communities do?

What is the NRE Project?

- ◆ 5 year research and education program
- ◆ Collaborative project among communities, universities, and governments
- ◆ Mission:
 - ◆ gain an understanding of the context and systems of rural Canada
 - ◆ provide useful insights and options for communities
 - ◆ offer policy advice to governments

NRE Objectives

- NRE a project of CRRF
- Established in 1997 – 5-year project
 - Provide grounded, comparative, and comprehensive analysis of the new rural economy in Canada
 - Establish a collaborative research and education network that will build capacity to improve the quality of life for all rural Canadians
 - To develop insightful, documented recommendations for long run rural business performance, inclusive development, and public policy
 - To establish a long-term research and education infrastructure to serve the above objectives

Pressures Identified by the NRE

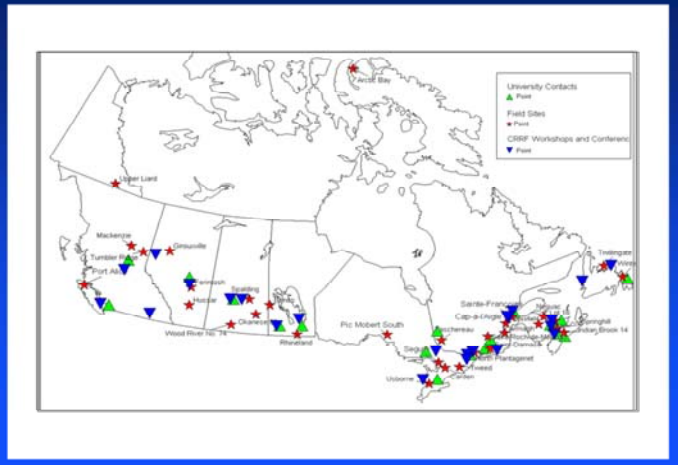
Rural Pressures

- Strong global competition
- Uncertainty and conflicts in trade policy
- Environmental challenges
- Depopulation
- Loss of non-market services
- Diminished capacity for self-organization

Urban Pressures

- Vulnerable food security
- Loss of biological and sociological diversity
- Loss of amenities

National Study Site and Partner Locations



- Researches associated with more than 20 universities and institutes
- 32 field sites chosen (5 dimensions of comparison)
- Program of workshops and conferences – over 13 years, about 25 locations
- International collaboration
 - 2 sites in Japan
 - Colleagues and centres in USA, UK, the Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Mexico
- Invitation to work with us

The Household Survey: Summer 2001

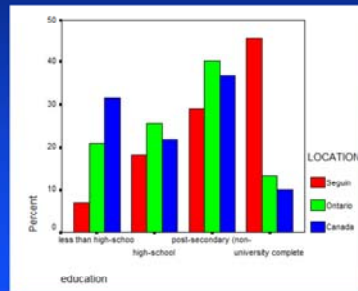
- ◆ Conducted interviews in 20 different types of communities across Canada
- ◆ 1,995 households were surveyed
- ◆ Closed questions pertaining to economic, social and infrastructure issues
- ◆ Statistical results now available for each site

Seguin Results and Issues of Interest



- Results based on responses of 127 households
- Major Topics of Interest
 - Characterizing residents
 - Community activity
 - Internet access
 - Stress & health
 - Service Quality
 - Attitudes Towards Community
 - Open-ended hopes & projects

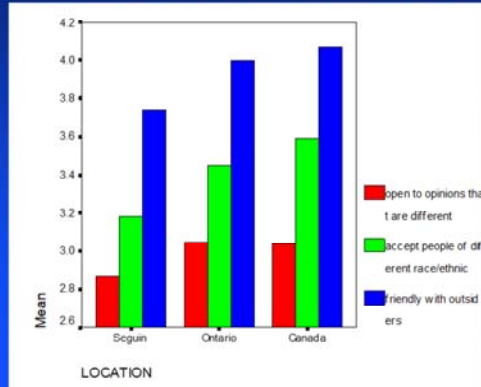
Seguin residents highly educated



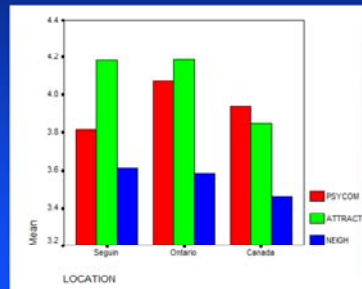
Fewer Residents were born in Seguin than in other rural areas

	1.00 Seguin	2.00 Ontario	3.00 Canada
1.00 Never left	3.1%	15.3%	29.6%
2.00 Returned	3.9%	5.1%	18.0%
3.00 From away	92.9%	79.6%	52.4%
	127	314	1546

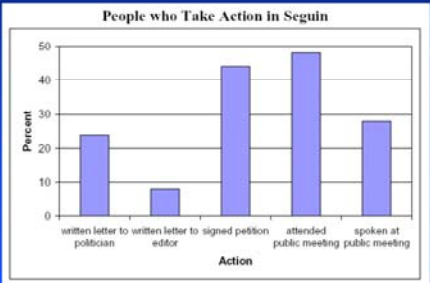
Seguin residents less open to outsiders than other rural communities



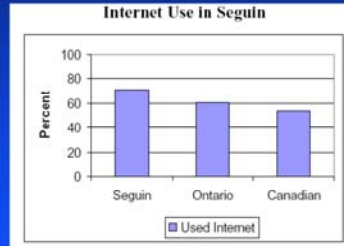
Seguin higher than others in Attraction & Neighbouring



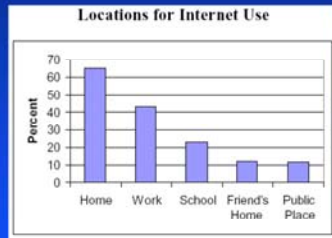
Residents are politically active



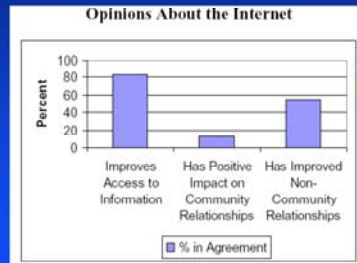
Residents are more highly webbed than in other rural communities



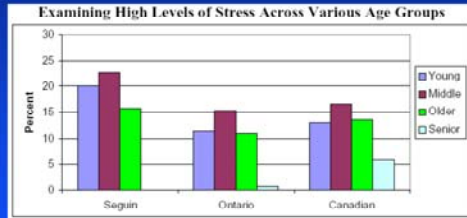
Most are connected at home



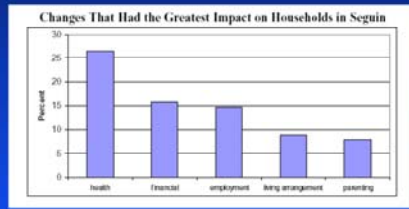
Residents are positive about Net



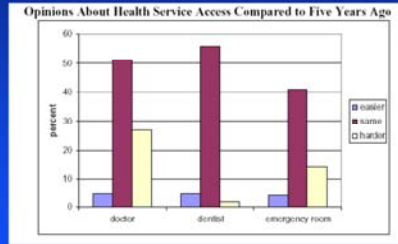
Middle-aged Residents have higher stress than residents of other rural areas



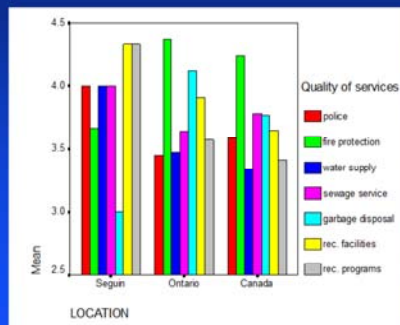
Health, money & work have greatest impact on households



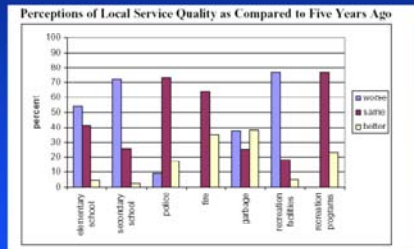
Health services (except dentistry) viewed as worse than 5 years ago



Most services better than other communities except garbage & fire

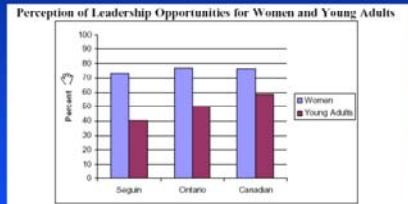


Fire & recreation programs seen as improved in past 5 years





Opportunities better for women than for young adults



Open-ended responses – Community Hopes for next 5 years

- Seniors apartments
- Medical services
- Avoid over-population
- Keep taxes the same
- Save the water
- Get rid of the bears
- Improve the garbage situation
- A nursing station in Rosseau
- Not to have industry
- Jobs for children
- Amalgamation with Muskoka
- That the community stays the same

Open-ended responses – Community Projects for next 5 years

- A nursing station in Rosseau
- Better garbage collection
- Better health services
- Seniors housing
- Keep water quality high
- Keep taxes low
- Get rid of bears
- Do more for young people
- Protect the environment
- Keep the community as it is

Longer Open-ended responses – Hopes & Projects for next 5 years

- Need to control projects, many people do things they shouldn't be doing (no building permits)
- Should attempt financial restructuring as well as more control over municipal employees (since amalgamation, there are only part-time councillors therefore employees tend to run establishments as opposed to the councillors)
- To establish transportation services for individuals in the community to get into town where the medical services are located

More Longer Open-ended responses – Hopes & Projects for next 5 years

- To establish more of an identity for Seguin (some individuals still think we are people from Humphrey, Foley... not Seguin)
- That there will be services established for the upcoming retiring population (better medical, transportation, road, and waste services)
- That there will be more communication to part-time residents
- Quiet use, enjoyment of the lakes, banning of jet skis, ocean-going boats and boats providing sleeping accommodation
- Would like to see a vibrant and diverse community with opportunities for the growth of society

General Discussion

- What questions do you have about the future of Seguin?
- What else do you want to know about your community?
- Comments and suggestions
- Highway Changes
- New Population Growth
- Health care for elderly
- Economic Development
- Community Events
- Leadership
- Local Government
- What else?

What's Next?

- ◆ Conference
 - “Rural Matters: CRRF Rural University in Miramichi”
 - October 26-29, 2002
- ◆ Preparing 4 books plus articles on rural issues
- ◆ Funding for 2003-2006 research and community projects

The NRE Project: Building Capacity in Rural Canada

A Project of the Canadian Rural
Revitalization Foundation

www.crrf.ca
www.nre.concordia.ca



Finally:

- Make use of other groups and networks – like CRRF
- Cannot deal with these problems alone
 - Many of them are rooted in pressures over which communities have no control (cf. Peter, Ray)
 - The complexity of NRE requires continuous learning and information from a wide variety of sources
 - Capacity building is a social and long term process