



A new Pilot initiative, the **Communities Talking Project**, is set to transform how economic data is gathered and shared in rural island and rural coastal communities.

Led by RIEP and backed by new funding, the Project blends Indigenous knowledge with traditional economic data gathering to create localized, community-driven economic profiles. Instead of relying on broad statistics, it focuses on lived experience and meaningful data collected directly from communities.

In 2026, RIEP's Project Team will collaborate with three rural island communities to:

- Explore how communities define economic well-being
- Identify what data matters most to residents
- Test innovative tools for data collection and storytelling

The Goal: support job creation, attract investment, and empower communities to make informed, future-focused decisions.

At its core, *Communities Talking* is about listening to communities and ensuring their voices shape their economic future.

We'll be sharing progress updates soon.

🌟 Be Holiday Ready 🌟



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Check-Out RIEP's Info Hub

A trusted resource for information, insights, and connections for supporting the resiliency of BC's rural, remote and coastal communities.



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Together We Are Building A Vibrant Rural-Coastal Communities Network

• • •

RIEP serves to empower British Columbia's rural islands and remote coastal communities by honouring reconciliation and by collaborating and convening to share information, resources, and opportunities. communities towards achieving enduring socio-economic well-being together.

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We respectfully acknowledge that this correspondence has been sent from the traditional unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the WSÁNEĆ First Nations and Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group, whose historical relationship with the land continues to this day.



RURAL ISLANDS ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP
CULTIVATING RESILIENT PARTNERSHIPS

The Rural Islands Economic Partnership (RIEP) leads, inspires, and cultivates sustainable economic resilience and community well-being through collaborative initiatives and partnerships for the benefit of BC's rural islands, rural-remote coastal regions, and the Indigenous Communities who have traditional or reserve lands on these lands.

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