

- **No.33**
- **Challenges and Opportunities in Sustaining Community-University Research Structures at the University of Victoria**

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- **Abstract:**
- Leslie and Budd will share thoughts through a story-telling format about the challenges in creating and sustaining a CBR facilitating structure at the University of Victoria. Founded in 2006, the Office of Community-Based Research found itself in late 2011 being either forced or encouraged to restructure itself; to make a 'transition' to a new type of structure. These changes were prompted by a decision of the Vice-President Research to 'simplify' the administrative arrangements between the office of Knowledge Mobilization and the Office of Community-Based Research. Knowledge Mobilization, a concept which in both the literature and in practice is seen as a more value-neutral exercise expressed most often as a way of getting more impact for university research. Community-Based research in both theory and practice is seen as being 'engaged', often more linked to social justice objectives and is seen as a co-creation of knowledge process. This story-telling session will allow Budd and Leslie an opportunity to explore opportunities, contradictions, challenges and successes in trying to sustain a centrally visible CBR partnership structure which remains true to intentions to build knowledge democracy and de-colonize the university. It will be fun!