



**The Community-University Research for Recovery Alliance (CURRA)
and
The Leslie Harris Centre of Regional Policy and Development
Invites you to a “Synergy Session”**

The Elephant in the Room: the hidden costs of leasing Individual Transferable Fishing Quotas (ITQs)

Dr. Evelyn Pinkerton, Simon Fraser University

**Tuesday, October 7, 2008, 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm
Spencer Hall, 4th floor boardroom, Memorial University
Free admission, free parking, lunch provided***

Individual transferable quotas (ITQs) have received increasingly widespread positive evaluations from resource economists and fisheries managers, and have been widely adopted and accepted as a way of dealing with problems in fisheries management. At the same time, problems with this approach have been raised in many disciplines, including economics. Yet relatively few studies have looked comprehensively and empirically at the distribution of benefits within an ITQ-ed fishery, and considered how allocative efficiency relates to broader public benefits and how it impacts future generations.

There is a tendency among proponents of ITQs to assume these impacts are known, and that efficiency is achieved. However, the way ITQs have been implemented in the halibut fishery in British Columbia – long considered a “poster child” success – challenges those assumptions. Of particular interest is the role of quota leasing in wealth dissipation for a significant and growing number of halibut fishing enterprises.

Despite the fact that the amount of the total allowable catch which is leased out has steadily increased to its current 83%, leasing receives little attention by analysts of the BC system. Its role in reducing the financial viability of a large number of fishing enterprises has been ignored.



Dr. Evelyn Pinkerton is a maritime anthropologist who has integrated common property theory and cultural/political ecology to consider the role communities play in the management of adjacent renewable natural resources. She has played a key role in developing the theory and practice of power-sharing and stewardship through co-management agreements. She is editor of *Cooperative Management of Local Fisheries* (1989) and has published over 30 peer-reviewed articles on fisheries and forestry. In *Fisheries that Work* (1995, co-authored with Martin Weinstein), she began to develop a more comprehensive framework for analyzing and comparing co-management arrangements by scope of rights, scale of agreement, level of authority, and degree of formality. This work has since evolved into analysis of the developmental sequence of types of co-management rights and activities, and has focused additionally on the role of senior governments in co-management agreements.

* Admission is free, but registration is required for catering and parking purposes. Space is limited, so register early. Parking is available in Lot # 19 (in front of Queen's College) and a sandwich lunch is provided by the Harris Centre. Please advise if you have any dietary requirements. To register, contact Kathy Mason at kmason@mun.ca or (709) 737-3143.