Course Description
An economic system that defines development in terms of material consumption will fail and is failing. Intellectuals and grassroots organizers alike are redefining economic development to mean the pursuit of genuine well-being.

The thrust of this course is to develop your ability to simultaneously think and act towards economic, social, cultural and ecological objectives. It is based on the key concept that many of our most critical global issues (e.g., climate change and peak oil) are rooted in local, day-to-day problems (e.g., inefficient land use patterns). It follows that enlightened local decisions about these issues will be of global as well as local benefit.

Objectives
By the end of the course, participants should have a practical understanding of sustainable development and how to apply it in their own community. Participants should also be able to:
- articulate the meaning of sustainable development and its implications for communities
- develop a framework for sustainable community development
- access a set of planning tools, practical initiatives, and associated resources
- find and use tools for managing community sustainability
- contribute toward designing effective sustainable community development policies

About the Instructor
Sean Markey, PhD MCIP RPP, is an Associate Professor with the Resource and Environmental Management program and an Associate with the Centre for Sustainable Community Development at Simon Fraser University. Sean’s research concerns issues of local and regional economic development, rural and small-town development, and community sustainability. He has published widely in academic journals and is co-author of Investing in Place: Economic Renewal in Northern British Columbia (UBC Press, 2012); Second Growth: Community Economic Development in Rural British Columbia (UBC Press, 2005); and co-editor of The Next Rural Economies: Constructing Rural Place in Global Economies (Cabi Press, 2010). Sean continues to work with municipalities, non-profit organizations, Aboriginal communities and the business community to promote and develop sustainable forms of community economic development. He also serves as co-Chair on the Board of Directors with the Vancity Community Foundation.