Gender, culture and climate hazards: Connecting the dots in Canadian rural communities.

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Date: Thursday, February 16th, 2017
Time: 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Location: Klaus Hochheim Theatre
(5th floor, Wallace Building)

Abstract: While the environmental pathways affecting resilience and climate change have long been investigated, the social dimensions that affect how communities adapt to climate hazards have received relatively less attention. More specifically, understanding how gender, culture and other social dimensions intersect to generate highly differentiated and context-specific experiences of, and responses to, climate hazards is only beginning to be explored. As climate change brings increasing risk of and complications associated with hazards, my research has started to focus on improving understanding and capacity for resilience in Canadian rural and Indigenous communities. In particular, I seek to address the complicated social-cultural dimensions of climate hazards such as drought, flood and fire. I am learning that gender, culture, and other social dimensions are interactive, hence, we cannot look at one dimension without thinking about the connections with other dimensions. In this presentation, I will describe some of my journey in "connecting the dots", to explain the conceptual and logistical challenges of applied research that considers social dimensions of climate change response and seeks to strengthen the capacity of rural and Indigenous communities to prepare for and steer their own responses to climate hazards.

12:30 p.m. Free Pizza lunch for graduate students with Maureen Reed,
CEOS Boardroom - 477 Wallace Building.