

# THE KOOTENAYS: PLACE-BASED DEVELOPMENT IN A RURAL REGION

**SARAH-PATRICIA BREEN**

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**Canadian Regional  
Development**  
A Critical Review of Theory,  
Practice, and Potentials



**Développement régionale  
canadienne**  
Un examen critique du théorie, de  
pratique et des potentiels

Resource & Environmental Management School of 

# OVERVIEW

A grayscale background image showing a wide lake in the foreground, with a dense forest of evergreen trees in the lower right. In the distance, there are rolling mountains under a hazy sky. A solid red vertical bar is located on the far right edge of the slide.

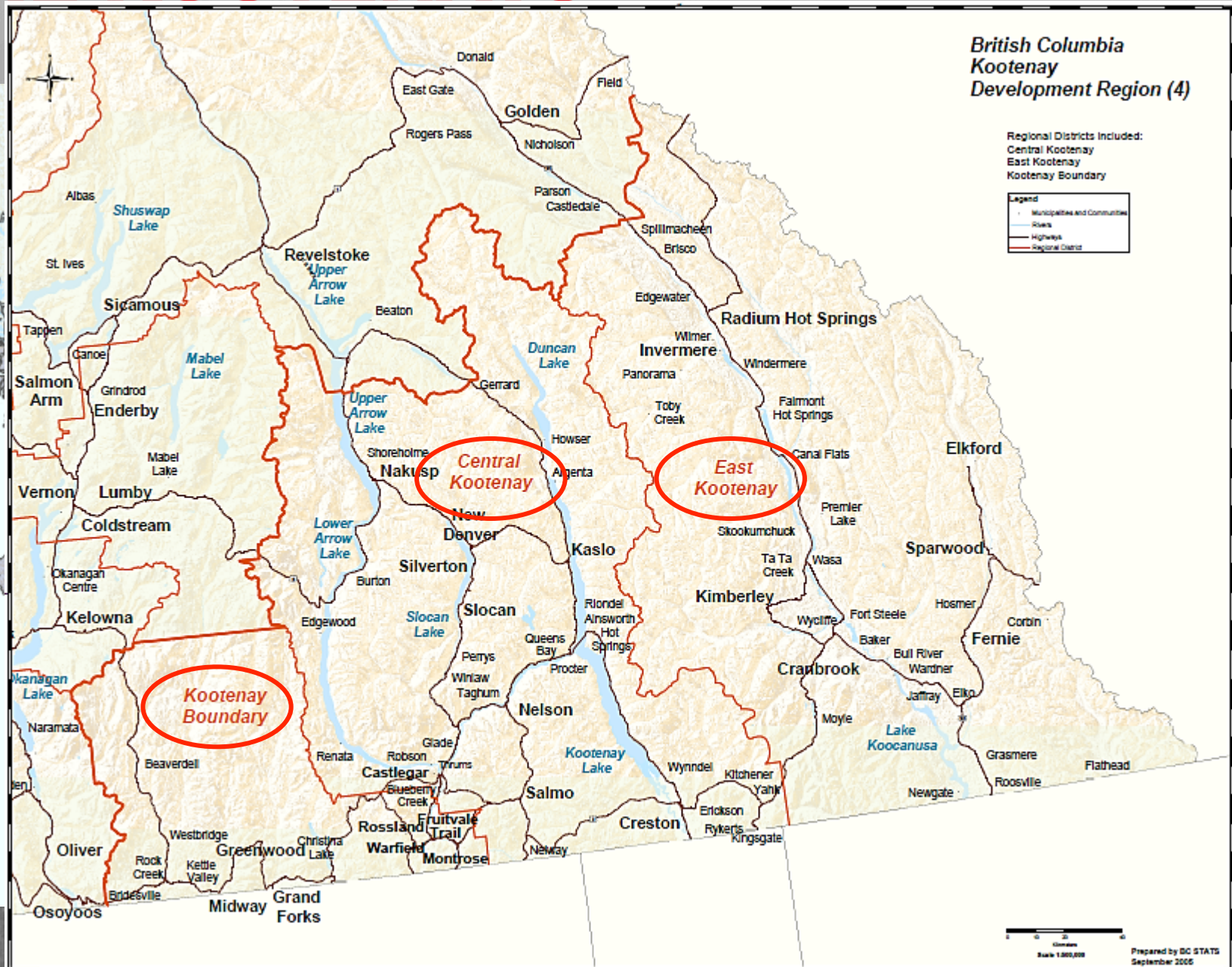
- **Introduction to the Kootenays**
- **Methods: interviews and interview respondents**
- **Preliminary results**
- **Research implications**
- **Next steps**

# THE KOOTENAYS

## British Columbia Kootenay Development Region (4)

Regional Districts Included:  
Central Kootenay  
East Kootenay  
Kootenay Boundary

Legend  
• Municipalities and Communities  
— Roads  
— Highways  
— Regional District



# METHODS - INTERVIEWS

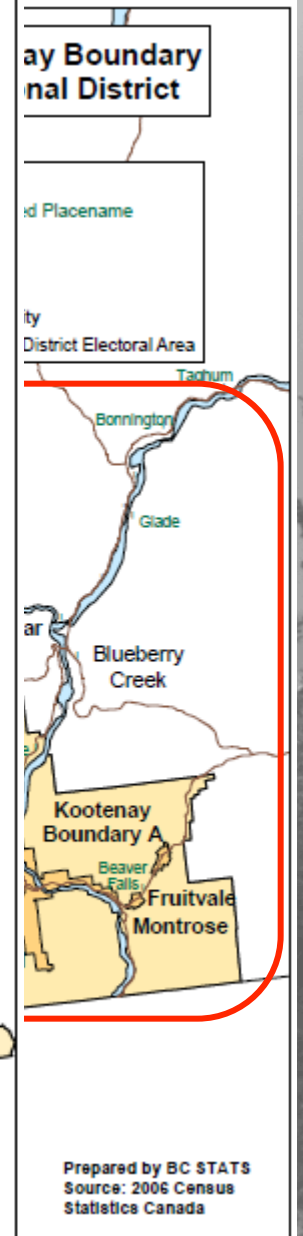
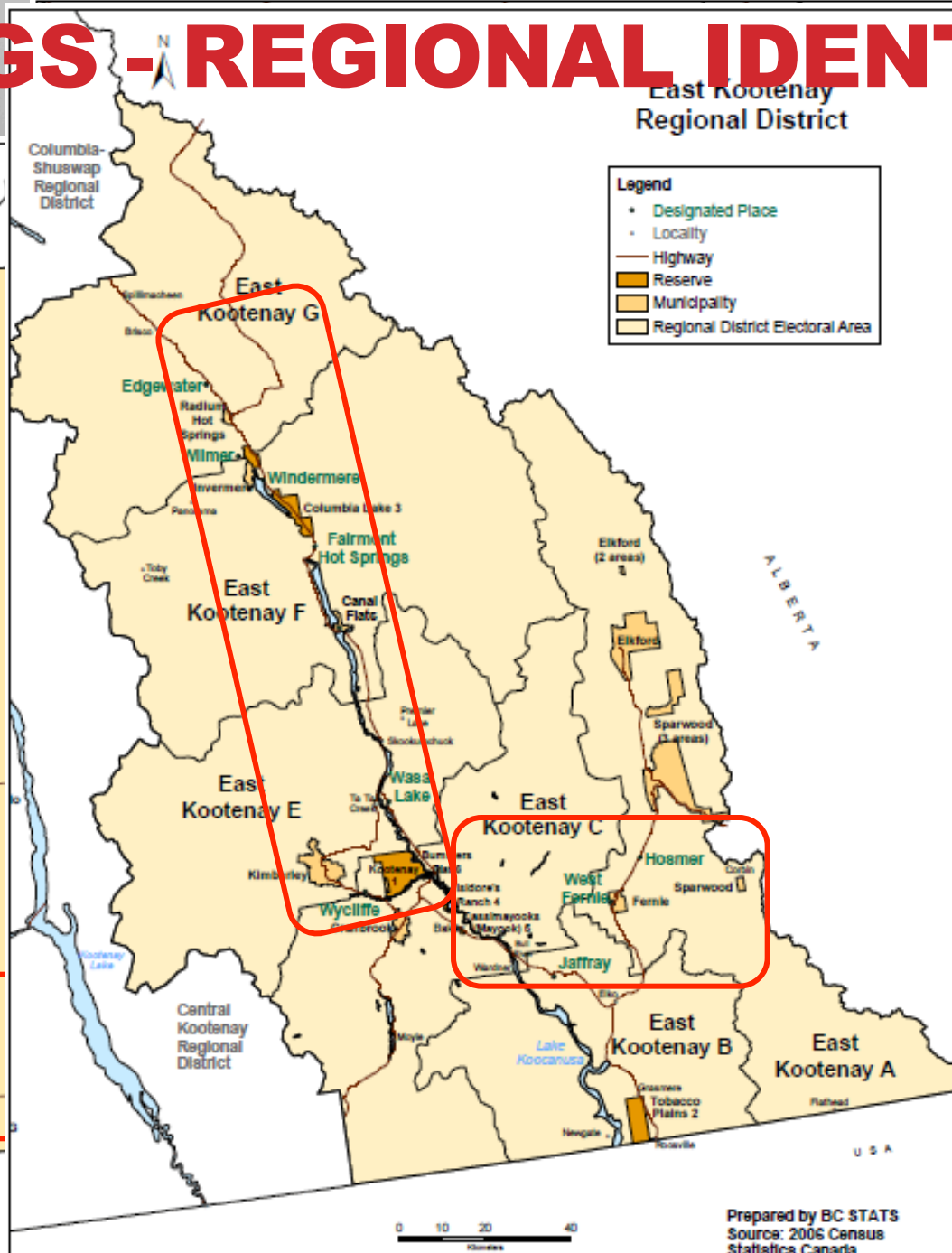
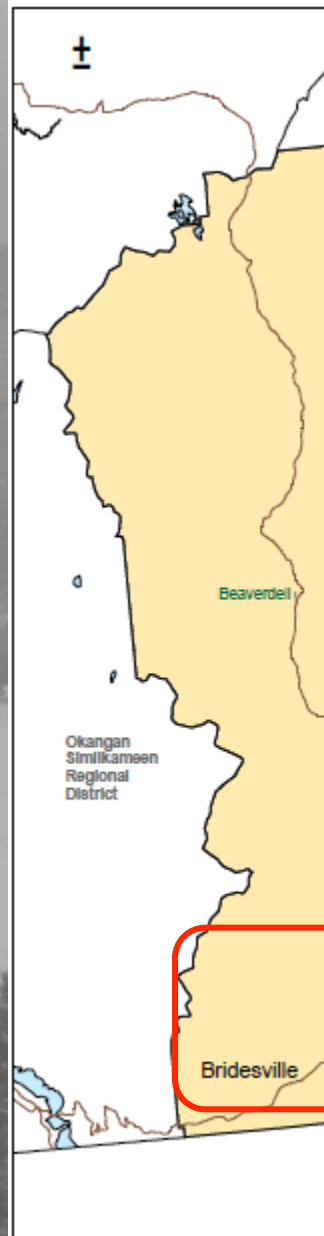
- Identification of key agencies and individuals
- Semi-structured interviews based on 5 themes
- Focus: place-based development
- Agency representation
  - Regional board representative / municipal representative
  - Economic development agencies
  - Recreation
  - Environment
  - Multi-purpose agencies
- Transcription and coding

# FINDINGS - COMMON THEMES

- Collaboration and partnerships
- Demographics
- Resources: human and financial
- Outside influences
- Infrastructure
- Planning and diversification
- Uniqueness of the Kootenays
- Geography



# FINDINGS - REGIONAL IDENTITY



# FINDINGS - NEW INITIATIVES

- Carbon Neutral Kootenays
- Branding the Boundary
- Spin-off industries
- Niche marketing



# RESEARCH IMPLICATIONS

- What is the role of culture and environment in place-based development?
- How are place-based assets currently being developed to enhance development?
- How can place-based data inform policy?
- What are the lessons learned for regional planners?

# WHAT'S NEXT?

- Additional interviews
- Provincial agency interviews
- Provincial papers
- Sharing our findings



# THANK YOU

# QUESTIONS?

