



UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN

School of Environment
and Sustainability

JOHNSON
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GRADUATE SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC POLICY



Panarchy, resilience and societal collapse: What role for ecological economics?

Presented by Professor William Rees, School of Community and Regional Planning (SCARP), University of British Columbia



The ecosphere is a 'far-from-equilibrium' structure of ecosystems, human systems, combined systems and subsystems, all of which exist in an overlapping, interconnected hierarchical structure called a 'panarchy'. Most subsystems within the panarchy are characterized by repetitive cycles of growth, accumulation, collapse and renewal.

The sustainability of the human enterprise on an increasingly crowded and resource-stressed planet is dependent on the 'resilience' of critical socio-ecological systems. This presentation evaluates the relevance of ecological economics to enhancing societal resilience in an era of accelerating global change.

William Rees is an internationally renowned researcher, author and public speaker, best known for originating the concept of the 'ecological footprint'. Professor Rees has been teaching at the University of British Columbia's School of Community and Regional Planning (SCARP) since 1969, where he founded the school's 'Environment and Resource Planning' concentration. His best known book, *Our Ecological Footprint* (1996), is an internationally-acclaimed tool for measuring the resources required to sustain human life.

Event Details and Registration:

November 24, 2011
10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Please note: This lecture will take place in Saskatoon and will be video-conferenced to a Regina audience.

Saskatoon Location:

Prairie Room, Diefenbaker Building
University of Saskatchewan Campus

Regina Location:

JSGS Window Room, 2nd Floor, Gallery Building
University of Regina, College Avenue Campus

Those interested in attending are encouraged to register online at www.schoolofpublicpolicy.sk.ca (please select **News and Events**, then **Events Calendar** and the appropriate calendar date). Please be advised that the JSGS Window Room is located on the second floor of the Gallery Building. Individuals with mobility difficulties should contact us at 306.585.5869 at least one week prior to the event.



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