

Working  
Paper

School of Public Administration  
University of Victoria

LOCAL GOVERNMENT INSTITUTE  
WORKING PAPER SERIES  
November 2006

## New Challenges for Local and Community Governance and Regional Economic Performance in British Columbia

By: **Dr. Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly, Assistant Professor, School of  
Public Administration, University of Victoria**

**Abstract:** This paper is an introduction to a series of four research papers on the topic of new challenges for local and community governance and regional economic performance in British Columbia. It provides an overview of the changing local governance landscape in the context of the New Community Charter and, more specifically, the political economy of local government in Canada. In doing so, the paper addresses the three questions of (1) whether the economic and political environment is germane to those changes; (2) how the Community Charter reforms affect the interplay of market and local - provincial relations and; (3) what impact these changes have on the capacity of municipalities and other local governments to mediate economic changes.

Apart from this introduction, the working paper series on regional economic performance in British Columbia includes the following papers:

1. Economic Performance and Economic Regions in the New Economy: Foundations, Strategy and Governance (Ben Brunnen, MPA Candidate);
2. Regions and Economic Development Policies: A Comparative Perspective (Scott Coe, MPA Candidate);
3. Cooperation and Competition in Region-Building: The Role of Incentives (Sam Broadbent, MPA Candidate); and
4. Water Management and Local Government Institutions: A Comparative Perspective (Scott Mathers, MPA Candidate).

Local Government Institute  
School of Public Administration  
University of Victoria  
P.O. Box 1700, STN CSC  
Victoria, B.C. V8W 2Y2

Phone: (250) 721-8055  
Fax: (250) 721-8849  
E-mail: [padm@uvic.ca](mailto:padm@uvic.ca)

Web: [http://publicadmin.uvic.ca/  
lgi/index.htm](http://publicadmin.uvic.ca/lgi/index.htm)

This paper was prepared as part of a Local Government Knowledge Partnership between the School of Public Administration and the British Columbia Ministry of Community Services. The views expressed in this report should not be interpreted as representing the views of the Ministry of Community Services.