

of less than 30,000 in which at least seventy five percent of the workforce is employed in the single industry and its supporting institutional services.

Stelter and Artibise (1982) help to flesh out Lucas's definition. They note first that in these places the town itself is an adjunct to the industrial enterprise: the goals of efficient production receive priority. A related characteristic is that the economic base of the town is not controlled from within. The industrial enterprise is owned by outside investors or an absentee corporation that determines the size of the local workforce and the degree of local prosperity. And finally, single industry towns have a simplified occupational structure. The typically well-paid industrial workforce dominates in terms of numbers. The middle class--professionals and merchants whose livelihood depends on serving the industrial enterprise and its workforce--is usually small and weak.

Single industry towns are not unique to Canada, of course. However, they are a common Canadian phenomenon. Lucas (1971) found 636 Canadian communities that met his definition reported above. And DREE (the old Department of Regional Economic Expansion) identified 811 single industry communities in Canada, twelve percent of which were in British Columbia and forty percent of which were timber-dependent (Canada Employment and Immigration Advisory Council 1987).

Devolution would seem to be especially appropriate for single industry communities. To reiterate the idea of devolution, it is