



## “The Social Life of MRE”

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### **Biography:** Dr. John Colton, Acadia University

Dr. John Colton is a professor of Sustainability and Community Development Studies at Acadia University. His research interests include sustainable community development, socio-economic impacts associated with tidal energy development, community engagement strategies, and aboriginal tourism and community development. He is co-author of the *Community and Business Toolkit for Tidal Energy Development* and the *Tidal Energy Community Engagement Handbook*. He is a founding member of the Acadia Tidal Energy Institute.

He is a scholar practitioner with applied research projects related to small-scale tidal energy development, municipal sustainability strategies and decision-making with Halifax Regional Municipality, sustainable procurement, aboriginal tourism feasibility studies and interpretation and programming development programs. Dr. Colton is also a training associate for The Natural Step, an international sustainability training organization. He is the east coast sustainable tourism expert for National Geographic's World Legacy program and has served as an expedition leader for several northern Canadian river-based expeditions for National Geographic. He is past co-chair of the Atlantic Aboriginal Health Research Program, Director of the Atlantic Canada Sustainability Initiative, Chair of the Centre for Rural Sustainability, and served on the Nova Scotia Renewable Energy Steering Committee that drafted the Nova Scotia 2015 and 2020 renewable energy targets.