Introduction

Welcome to the Community Jam Storybook!

When we were designing the Community Jam experience, we knew we’d have to find a way to help participants make connections and share knowledge, expertise and resources relating to community partnerships both at the jam and afterwards.

Participant list. Tip sheet. Recipe book. Your Community Jam Story Book is all of these things and more. In these pages you’ll find profiles of community partner delegations from across the country and around the world who are here in Surrey, British Columbia for the Community Jam.

We encourage you to make your Community Jam Storybook your own. Doodle on it. Highlight lessons learned. Seek out the people and collaborations highlighted in these pages so they can share their thoughts, insights and wisdom and do the same for them!
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The Community Jam was designed by 23 people on Wasan Island, Ontario with the conviction that there exists a latent opportunity for campus-community partnerships to address and mitigate pressing social, environmental, and economic challenges. The team wanted to design an interactive gathering that would unlock such potential, as well as deliver attendees a rewarding, valuable and enjoyable experience; thus, the team brought forth the Community Jam.

We believe that meaningful change can only be achieved when the beacon institutions of a society start collaborating. Our organizing committee is a great example of just that. Community Jam is being hosted in partnership by Simon Fraser University, Community Foundations of Canada, jointed by Vancouver Foundation and Surrey Cares, The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation, Vancity and City of Surrey.
Lessons Learned
Transparency and ongoing communictaion is key as you nurture the collaboration.

Challenges
Everything takes more time.

Delegation

Shauna Sylvester
Simon Fraser University
Centre for Dialogue
Director
Vancouver, British Columbia

Nav Chima
Simon Fraser University Surrey
Director, Engagement
Surrey, British Columbia

Lee Rose
Community Foundations of Canada
Director, Community Knowledge
Ottawa, Ontario

Melody McClean
Community Foundations of Canada
Manager, Public Engagement
Ottawa, Ontario

Chad Lubelsky
The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation
Program Director
Montreal, Quebec

Jake Wildman-Sisk
The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation
Social Innovation Fellow, RECODE
Montreal, Quebec

Aileen Murphy
City of Surrey
Senior Planner
Surrey, British Columbia

Anita Cheng
Vancity
Manager, Sponsorships and Community Events
Community Business and Investment Team
Vancouver, British Columbia

Krista Funes
Vancity Credit Union
Specialist, Community Investment and Engagement
Vancouver, British Columbia

Grace Lee
Simon Fraser University
Centre for Dialogue
C2UExpo 2017
Community Jam
Event and Marketing Coordinator
Vancouver, British Columbia

Lindsay Wu
Simon Fraser University
Centre for Dialogue
C2UExpo 2017
Community Jam
Event and Marketing Assistant
Vancouver, British Columbia

“
We learned how to effectively work and identify goals together as a geographically dispersed group that consists of diverse background and sectors.
”
CityStudio Vancouver is an innovation hub where City staff, students, and community co-create experimental projects to make Vancouver more sustainable, liveable and joyful. CityStudio Vancouver launched in 2011 as a collaboration between the City of Vancouver and the city’s public post-secondary institutions.

CityStudio is part of a global shift in education that provides practical learning experiences to help students get jobs and change the world. CityStudio is a social innovation where students get credit by co-creating solutions with city staff to help solve the complex challenges of living in cities.

Since 2011 CityStudio has engaged 3500 students, 75 City of Vancouver staff and 163 faculty members, co-creating 206 projects, experiments and prototypes on the ground in Vancouver communities. Students have contributed 100,000 hours in project creation, research and public sector innovation to the Greenest City, Healthy City and Engaged City.

CityStudio Vancouver was born out of a collaboration and support from our Founder’s Circle and our founding partners, the City of Vancouver and SFU. We received initial funding from the Vancouver Foundation that brought together support from SFU, UBC, Emily Carr, BCIT, VCC and Langara College. We have also received significant support from the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation, VanCity Community Foundation and individual donors.

Lessons Learned
Good projects come from good relationships.

Our Expertise
Government Relations  Innovation  Financing
Delegation

Janet Moore
Simon Fraser University
CityStudio
Vancouver, British Columbia

Susan Grossman
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, British Columbia

Rob VanWynsberghe
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, British Columbia

Brad Badelt
City of Vancouver
Vancouver, British Columbia

Duane Elverum
CityStudio
Vancouver, British Columbia

Lauren Dobell
Vancity
Vancouver, British Columbia

Bill Dow
British Columbia Institute of Technology
Vancouver, British Columbia
Living Knowledge
The International Science Shop Network

The Living Knowledge Network is composed of persons active in—or supportive of—Science Shops and Community Based Research. Living Knowledge aims to foster public engagement with, and participation in, all levels of the research and innovation process.

We facilitate cooperation with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to generate research ideas, questions and agendas. We perform research in response to these questions, either ourselves or with the assistance of others, notably higher education students. Our goal is to co-create research to find solutions and therefore make a positive impact on real world problems.

By doing this, we promote community focused cooperation between civil society and those involved in teaching, research and innovation, particularly in higher education. Our process of engaging with society aims to strengthen both the research process and its outcomes for all partners, and thus contribute to research excellence and innovation outcomes that meet views, wishes and demands of civil society.
Science Shops

Science Shops are not “shops” in the traditional sense of the word. A Science Shop provides independent, participatory research support in response to concerns experienced by civil society.

Lessons Learned

Running a network doesn’t need formal structures.

By establishing and strengthening Science Shops throughout Europe and beyond, the network partners support the establishment of safe spaces for participatory dialogue, citizen driven scientific research and co-creation with a variety of actors, including civil society organisations, non-profits, NGOs, Third Sector, communities, public authorities, SME, designers and innovators.

Our Expertise

Communications and Storytelling  Managing Effective Partnerships  Community Outreach

Delegation

**Henk A.J. Mulder**
Bèta Wetenschapswinkel (Science Shop)
Science and Society Group
and Masterprogram Science Education and Communication
Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (University of Groningen)
Netherlands

**Jozefien De Marrée**
Science Shop Brussels
Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB)
Belgium

**Andrea Vargiu**
Università degli Studi di Sassari
Dipartimento di Scienze Umanistiche e Sociali
Italy

**Wilhelm Bauhus**
AFO-Arbeitsstelle Forschungstransfer der WWU
Germany

**Norbert Steinhaus**
Wissenschaftsladen Bonn
Coordinator Living Knowledge Network
Germany
Ambassadors Committee

Community Ambassadors program for C²UExpo is hiring approximately 50 individuals facing barriers to employment to work during the conference in roles that will build their skills and experience. We are partnering with a variety of community organizations and Vancity for this initiative, and we would like to explore possibilities for sustaining the program beyond the C²UExpo conference.

Lessons Learned

We have learned that it is important to listen to each other and learn from our diverse experiences. The program would not be where it is if we did this alone—everyone’s perspectives are valuable, and it’s the blending of expertise in different areas that has made this collaboration a success so far.
Our Expertise

Financing

Managing Effective Partnerships

Delegation

Stephanie Pritchard
WorkBC
Community Engagement Coordinator
Cloverdale, British Columbia

Candice O’Brien
Semiahmoo House Society
Surrey, British Columbia

Landon Hoyt
Hastings Crossing BIA
Executive Director
Vancouver, British Columbia

Stephen Dooley
Simon Fraser University
Surrey Campus
Executive Director
Surrey, British Columbia

Darren Mumford
YMCA
Director Youth Engagement
Surrey, British Columbia

Anna Migicovsky
Potluck Cafe
Vancouver, British Columbia

Rachel Nelson
Simon Fraser University
Associate Director, Partnerships and Programs
Surrey, British Columbia

Njeri Kontulahti
Vancity
Manager, Community Investment
Vancouver, British Columbia

Jethro Kambere
YMCA
Vancouver, British Columbia

David Sadler
City of Surrey
Community Engagement Coordinator
Surrey, British Columbia

Stephanie Pritchard
WorkBC
Community Engagement Coordinator
Cloverdale, British Columbia

Candice O’Brien
Semiahmoo House Society
Surrey, British Columbia

Landon Hoyt
Hastings Crossing BIA
Executive Director
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Stephen Dooley
Simon Fraser University
Surrey Campus
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Darren Mumford
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Director Youth Engagement
Surrey, British Columbia

Anna Migicovsky
Potluck Cafe
Vancouver, British Columbia

Njeri Kontulahti
Vancity
Manager, Community Investment
Vancouver, British Columbia

Jethro Kambere
YMCA
Vancouver, British Columbia

David Sadler
City of Surrey
Community Engagement Coordinator
Surrey, British Columbia
Community-Based Research Canada

Community-Based Research Canada (CBRC)’s mission is to be a national champion and facilitator for community-based research (CBR) and campus-community engagement in Canada. We envision vibrant Canadian communities enabled by CBR. We believe that CBR can create socio-cultural, economic and environmental benefits for Canadians and Indigenous Peoples in Canada.

CBRC has institutional members from community-based organizations, colleges, universities, and individuals from across Canada.

Lessons Learned
The importance of building on regional strengths and capacity in building a national network for community-based research.

Challenges
Ensuring broad participation and engagement in national network building.

Our Expertise
Strategic Planning     Managing Effective Partnerships     Research and Development
Community Jam is an opportunity for CBRC to share the mission and mandate of the organization as well as support emergent and established community-campus partnerships.
Surrey Changemakers Hub

We are a group of staff from the City of Surrey and Surrey’s two post-secondary institutions—Simon Fraser University (SFU) and Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU)—who are exploring an innovative and collaborative “hub” in our City Centre for student changemakers. The goal is to have students from SFU and KPU work in concert with City staff and key community partners to design community-focused projects that lead to change and help us create a thriving, green, inclusive city.

Lessons Learned
That an unexpected (but happy) development can act as a catalyst. And that we need to build on the existing collaborative work already taking place between our organizations (and within our community) and not reinvent the wheel.

Challenges
Ensuring we each understand the others’ “hats” that they wear.

“We want to hear from others working on similar city-student-academic studios across Canada and within our community.”
Our Expertise
Government Relations
Communications and Storytelling
Strategic Planning

Delegation
Anna Mathewson
City of Surrey
Manager, Sustainability
Surrey, British Columbia

Paola Ardiles
Simon Fraser University
Lecturer, Faculty of Health Sciences
Champion, Social Innovation and Health
Surrey, British Columbia

Ellen Pond
Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Program Coordinator and Instructor,
Policy Studies in Sustainability
Surrey, British Columbia

Larissa Petrillo
Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Teaching Fellow, Experiential Learning
Program Coordinator, Certificate in NGO & Nonprofit Studies
Faculty, Anthropology
Surrey, British Columbia
OceanPath Fellowship
Coady Institute

Developing strong leaders.
Building stronger communities.

The OceanPath Fellowship is a 12-month fellowship that provides community-focused experiential learning opportunities for graduating students to become active and effective change-makers, bringing new ideas and working closely with communities to foster sustainable and positive social change in Canada and around the world.

The program is a partnership between the Pathy Family Foundation, Coady International Institute, and four Canadian universities—McGill, Ottawa, Queen’s and StFX.

OceanPath Fellows benefit from two months of pre-community initiative design and development work, both on-campus at Coady and in their home communities, prior to entering community and implementing their initiative for nine months. Fellows also receive ongoing leadership development and one-on-one coaching to support their personal learning throughout the year-long fellowship experience.

Delegation

Adam Baden-Clay
Coady International Institute
Youth Leadership Programs Manager
Antigonish, NS

Laura Butler
Pathy Family Foundation
Program Officer
Montreal, QC

Jannika Nyberg
YELL Canada
Community Manager
Vancouver, BC

Milena Carrasco
Byrne Creek Secondary School
Student
Vancouver, BC

Shelagh Savage
Coady International Institute
Associate Director Partnerships
Antigonish, NS
Lessons Learned
Open communication is key!
Relationships are the work.

Challenges
Developing a collective appreciation of the strengths and challenges of community-driven development.

Our Expertise
Educating people in community-driven development, to enable them to support communities to utilize their assets to achieve their own development.

Managing Effective Partnerships    Strategic Planning    Community Outreach
Community University Partnership for the Study of Children, Youth and Families (CUP) was formed to address research and policy from the perspectives of the University and the community and to value the skills and resources of both. Edmonton Community Foundation is one of the community founders and ongoing funders of the initiative.

Our Expertise

Fundraising  Strategic Planning  Managing Effective Partnerships
Lessons Learned
We’re more than 12 years old now, but you still have to keep “working it” to make it last. The community is and must be a genuine partner in the collaboration.

Challenges
Different reward structures in University and community. And keeping the funding coming when so many funders always want new initiatives.

Delegation
Martin Garber-Conrad
Chief Executive Officer
Edmonton Community Foundation
Edmonton, Alberta

Karen Edwards
University of Alberta
Community-University Partnership
Acting Director
Edmonton, Alberta

Maira Quintanilha
University of Alberta
PhD Candidate
Edmonton, Alberta
Developing community-engaged learning experiences for undergraduate students (around food security issues) that are helpful for the community partners and transformative for the students.

As a part of the RECODE network, we are deeply curious about the progressive action of schools across Canada, who are re-imagining the way that education can be delivered in institutions of higher education.

**Lessons Learned**

Engaging students in community partnerships is incredibly enriching for the students, but also provides the community organization with innovative, fresh ideas of high quality. We have also learned that interdisciplinary groups of students create stronger quality projects for the community organizations with whom they work.

**Challenges**

Undergraduate students are embedded in the university bubble and are largely unaware of the things going on in the community. It takes a lot of time to get them to understand enough about the community context to then be able to meaningfully work on projects to help the community organization they are working to support.

**Our Expertise**

Strategic Planning | Community Outreach | Managing Effective Partnerships
I am energized by talking with others who are working at the forefront of this work, trying to design opportunities for impactful, transformative, meaningful teaching and learning.
Community Academic Reciprocal Engagement

The Community Academic Reciprocal Engagement (CARE) social innovation laboratory brought together Black African school girls and social work students using the transformative power of arts to demystify Blackness for social work graduate students and enhance post secondary education access among Black youth.

African elders facilitate cultural training on colonialism, African epistemology and history, using stories, proverbs and metaphors. This counteracts deficit views about Blackness by honoring the resources Black youth already possess.

CARE’s immersive experiential learning model uses art as social action to enhance agency, interrogate identities, and promote inter-generational and intercultural connections.

“Community Jam is an opportunity for us to present as a delegation for the first time representing the key partners from the community in our social innovation project.”
Lessons Learned
The cultural capital that exists in the community waiting to be harnessed.

Challenges
Community capacity building, to ensure all partners are on the same page with relevant skills being harnessed and tasks aligned with skills and ideologies of partners.

Our Expertise
Communications and Storytelling  Community Outreach  Research and Development

Delegation
The delegation of three who are passionate about building capacity in the African community comprises 1) the principal investigator—a Black African doctoral candidate, 2) a social work student and 3) an African elder.

Olufunke Oba
Wilfrid Laurier University
Faculty of Social work
Principal Investigator and Doctoral Candidate
Waterloo, Ontario

Fanis Juma Radstake
Social Work Student
Waterloo, Ontario

Esther Ayeni
African Elder
Waterloo, Ontario
Youth Recreational Partnership
University of Toronto Hart House

The objective of our partnership is to engage a diverse array of youth in programs and dialogue within post-secondary spaces. Using recreation and physical activity as an entry point, the program focuses on facilitating youth participants’ exploration of the challenges and opportunities that exist in relation to their access to education.

It involves youth co-creation of the design and delivery of both programming and research. The work will engage youth as active collaborators, not just passive participants, and in doing so seeks to maximize the benefits of the work and energies contributed to research and programming for those whose lives are being considered and made centre to the activities.

In taking up this approach, the collaborating teams will produce research and programmatic results that are accurate, insightful and nuanced.

Lessons Learned
Initial feedback and input from the first youth groups involved, contributions and perspectives of the many different partners and the communities of youth that are involved in their programming - each group has different considerations and perspectives.

Challenges
Logistical coordination of time with other priorities on everyone’s plates. Ensuring we stay true to the co-creative process with youth as we move into the next phase of implementation and don’t become too staff led in the execution and programming. Ensuing we also engage University of Toronto students and Hart House student leaders in the programming in a meaningful and engaging way.
We are excited for this opportunity to engage more deeply with those doing this work and to learn from an array of different models and programs being delivered in locations across the globe.
Moose Hide Campaign
“Safe Space and Safe Place”

Our team is addressing the strong, influential and positive movement of reciprocal relationships in challenging MBA and student leaders both Indigenous and Non-Indigenous men and women across Canada in academic institutions to work along with the Moose Hide Campaign to stand up against violence towards women and children.

The C²UExpo Community Jam presents a unique opportunity to showcase the “Safe Space and Safe Place” initiatives that came out of the MBA games and to share key learnings that can be replicated in communities across the country.

Lessons Learned

**Education is critical to the process of reconciliation and healing.**

One of the most valuable lessons that have emerged from our partnership thus far is the demonstration of the importance of the responsibility that educational institutions, community foundations and business organizations have in taking the lead in reconciliation – education is a powerful tool and it must be used appropriately. As we have seen, it is easy to use it as a tool of oppression. We now must change that around and use it as a tool to build relationships, to better understand our past, to have challenging conversations that explore complex topics such as reconciliation, and to participate.

Challenges

The biggest opportunity for growth would be establishing a base understanding of the history/background of Indigenous communities in Canada.

Our Expertise

Fundraising  Strategic Planning  Managing Effective Partnerships
The C²UExpo 2017 provides an amazing opportunity and an open platform for the Moose Hide Campaign Development Society to promote the value of working in collaborative relationships with institutional partners in signifying their commitment to honour, respect, and protect the women and children in their communities and to work together with other men to end violence against women and children.
Partnerships in Brandon, Manitoba
Brandon University & City of Brandon

The City of Brandon has two excellent post-secondary institutions and many vibrant community organizations, as well as a City Hall which is very supportive of community development and economic development initiatives. This Expo presents our delegates with an opportunity to leverage-up their existing relationships and collaborations into a more active level of engagement and cooperation on productive initiatives.

Lessons Learned
There are endless possibilities for cooperation that we hope to explore through building project-based bridges and relationships between our organizations.

Challenges
Finding the time for community relationship-building when your position demands a continual focus on immediately demanding business; finding pathways or portals into each others’ organizations, for good ideas and multi-level communication and engagement to flow.

Our Expertise
Government Relations
Research and Development
Community Outreach
Delegation

Steven R. Robinson
Brandon University
Vice-President (Academic & Provost)
Brandon, Manitoba

Heather Duncan
Brandon University
Dean of Education and
Associate Vice President of Research
Brandon, Manitoba

Jason Gobeil
Brandon Urban Aboriginal
Peoples’ Council
Aboriginal Community Coordinator
Brandon, Manitoba

Nathan Peto
City of Brandon
Brandon Manitoba

“...I was intrigued by the organizer’s commitment to the role of higher education in community development, and I am hoping to find pathways to cooperative action across institutional boundaries—pathways that lead to real outcomes in terms of serving the public good in our local community.”
Community First: Impacts of Community Engagement (CFICE)

Carleton University

Building a National Movement for Community-Campus Engagement (CCE) Innovation in Canada. Our delegation includes CCE practitioners active in mobilizing higher education assets for the common good. Building on the pan-Canadian Community First: Impacts of Community Engagement (CFICE) research project based out of Carleton University, we will explore the design and function of a new Canadian community-campus engagement collaborative/community of practice which:

- supports existing networks and initiatives;
- prioritizes Indigenous, community and student interests and
- recognizes global best practices in other similar national-level CCE systems and networks.

Lessons Learned
That there is a vital need for increasing community and Indigenous inspired and led national level community-campus engagement program, policy and funding collaborations in order to really transform the culture of higher education.

Challenges
People letting go of their specific interests and needs... territoriality! Also, the incentives /drivers and culture of higher education is not focused (enough) on student and community-societal needs.

Our Expertise
Research and Development Fundraising & Financing Network Development & Community Organizing
Delegation

Peter Andree
Principal Investigator
CFICE, Carleton University
Ottawa, Ontario

Catherine Graham
National Association of Friendship Centres
Director Research and Special Projects
Ottawa, Ontario

Jennifer Rankin
National Association of Friendship Centres
Research Officer
Ottawa, Ontario

Ceri Davies
University of Brighton
Brighton, United Kingdom

Katalin Koller
CFICE
Research Associate
Ottawa, Ontario

David Peacock
Community Service-Learning - University of Alberta,
Executive Director
Edmonton, Alberta

Susan MideKiss
University of Calgary
Senior Director, Community Engagement
Calgary, Alberta

Nicole Bedford
CFICE
Project Manager
Ottawa, Ontario

David Monk
CFICE
Research Intern
Ottawa, Ontario

Michelle Nilson
Simon Fraser University - Faculty of Education
C²-UExpo 2017 Co-Chair
Vancouver, British Columbia

Maeve Lydon
CFICE
Community Co-Lead Aligning Institutions for Community Impact Working Group
Victoria, British Columbia

“We hope C²-UExpo 2017 will include a national declaration/ call to action which launches national-level collaboration among the various initiatives and entities. We hope there will be a real legacy in Canada and CFICE wants to help catalyse that.”
We are a small team emerging from the Productive Margins: Regulating for Engagement research forum—an England/Wales research collaboration between academics and community organisations focused on the ways that people and communities can have voice and power in systems of regulation. As a delegation we all have our roots in direct but diversely situated community development and activism. As a collaboration we bring our various community groundings together around the theme of co-produced research with an interest in brave experimentation with forms of knowledge production that bring communities and universities together in pursuit of social change.

The key issue we hope to address is around the complex role and position of community researchers within co-produced research. We feel an urgent need to move beyond the celebration of the ‘community researcher’ as a coup for participatory research and instead to begin co-developing new critical understandings of the ways that community researchers can meaningfully engage in and create research opportunities across diverse contexts. Our delegation ultimately aims to open and shape a new frank, critical space in which the notion of community researchers can begin to develop beyond a niche mode of participatory or co-produced research practice.
Lessons Learned
Coming into close collaborative contact with lives, perspectives and experiences that are difficult to comprehend, though personally challenging at times, can open new ways of knowing and possibilities for imagining new futures.

Challenges
Managing different motivations for collaboration and expectation in terms of outcome particularly: the intersections of varying funding agendas, competing expertise claims, different underlying world-views.

Our Expertise
Fundraising  Research and Development  Community Outreach

Delegation
Helen Thomas-Hughes
Productive Margins: Regulating for Engagement UK Research Programme
Senior Research Associate/Community-Research Training Lead
Bristol, United Kingdom

Moestak Hussein
Single Parent Action Network
Creating Life Chances CIC
Family Support Worker/Managing Director
Bristol, United Kingdom

Jenny Barke
Southville Community Development Association/Bristol Aging Better
Community Research Associate and Trainer
Bristol, United Kingdom

Penny Evans
Knowle West Media Centre
Assistant Director
Bristol, United Kingdom

Debbie Watson
University of Bristol
Reader in Childhood Studies
Bristol, United Kingdom
Women in Civic Leadership Class
King’s University College and the City of London

Our program addresses the under-representation of women in politics by engaging female students in civic leadership. Students paired with female municipal councilors, administrators, and community activists are provided with opportunities to learn about barriers facing women while learning alongside women already engaged in civic leadership.

Our Expertise
Government Relations Research and Development Communications and Storytelling

Lessons Learned
We are all citizens, community workers and knowledge workers. Working in partnership enhances both community policy and learning opportunities.

Challenges
Although we have shared interests and social justice goals we often have different vocabularies and strategies for pursuing those goals and interests.
While our program is now formally established with the university it is still in its infancy. We are looking for ways to advance, extend, and broaden our collaboration and the types of projects we can undertake.
Immigrant Advisory Roundtable (IAR)
City of Surrey

Surrey Immigrant Advisory Roundtable (IAR) is a part of the Surrey Local Immigration Partnership (LIP)—a collaboration that brings together 30 organizations and community groups to make Surrey more welcoming and inclusive. The IAR is composed of 18 local immigrant and refugee residents who come from 16 different countries. The IAR was formed in 2014 to represent the authentic voice of newcomer communities on the Surrey LIP. The group participates in Surrey LIP Committee meetings and decision-making processes and organizes community events fostering diversity and inclusion.
Lessons Learned
We need to provide more leadership opportunities and support to local newcomer residents to become more involved.

Challenges
Power dynamics of the partnership: IAR members are local residents and it can be overwhelming to participate in meetings with community leaders/representatives of local institutions.

Delegation
Surrey IAR Members (Residents):
Mohammad Ali
Muna Amir
Drastant Mehta
Aydin Nozhat
Lily Yang
Mayydah Al-ani
Khaleda Banu

Academic Liaison (LIP and Aboriginal Strategy projects in Surrey):
Jacopo Miro

City of Surrey Staff:
Olga Shcherbyna

We are hoping to learn how other collaborations resolved the issue of power dynamics in their partnerships and gain insights from other collaborative groups.
Vital Signs is a collaboration between The Community Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador (CFNL) and Memorial University’s Leslie Harris Centre of Regional Policy and Development, and is part of a national program of Community Foundations of Canada. It is an annual check-up on quality of life in our province that looks at how our communities are faring in key areas like wellness, housing, and the economy. Our goal through this report is to provide information on the key aspects of our society to help communities across the province set priorities and identify opportunities. At the heart of the missions of both CFNL and the Harris Centre is a focus on collaboration and impact, and we hope that the report provides insight, fuels discussions, informs decisions, prompts partnerships, and inspires action in our communities.

Our Expertise
Communications and Storytelling
Managing Effective Partnerships
Research and Development

Lessons Learned
The most valuable lesson that we’ve learned is what resources are necessary for the project and how to best divide responsibilities between the partner organizations. By the third year, we had a partnership agreement with clearly defined responsibilities in place and had a much better understanding of the project’s research needs.

Challenges
The biggest challenge in trying to collaborate has perhaps been determining how to incorporate input from community stakeholders. We have held community consultations on Vital Signs in the past and will be hosting community conversations on the report this fall.
Delegation

Sandy Brennan
Memorial University of Newfoundland
Manager, Public Engagement Supports
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador

Ainsley Hawthorn
Community Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador
Executive Director
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador

Kelly Greenfield
Memorial University of Newfoundland
PhD Student (Sociology)
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador
Edmonton Shift Lab

According to Edmonton Social Planning Council research, one out of every eight people living in Edmonton (100,870) lives in poverty. That means 12% of Edmontonians do not have the means to assure stable housing, adequate nutritious food, or the conditions that foster health, safety and basic quality of life. In alignment with feedback from Aboriginal leaders and many community members through EndPovertyEdmonton’s work, the Edmonton Shift Lab also considers poverty to be more than just an economic issue. Poverty of inclusion, belonging, and opportunities are also key pieces.

Addressing racism and discrimination continue to be identified as a critical piece of the puzzle in how we reach the big goal of ending poverty in a generation in Edmonton. Building on the work of many local initiatives, the diverse collective making up the Edmonton Shift Lab is stewarding an exploration to develop potential service, policy, system and community action prototypes that will help reduce racism as it contributes to poverty. We want to be bold and explore how to Shift ideas. Shift attitudes. Shift systems and Shift into new ways of solution finding with community.

Lessons Learned
The necessity of tempering expectations during an intentionally messy, ambiguous process that invites a variety of feedback but must also drive towards intended objectives.

Challenges
Creating a common foundation for understanding & dialogue is a challenge, and one that can be especially tricky given the need to respect and consider all perspectives in such an intensely personal and subjective space.
Delegation
Sam Singh
Edmonton Shift Lab
Shift Lab Steward
Edmonton, Alberta

Jodi Stonehouse
University of Alberta
Vice Provost of Indigenous Affairs
Edmonton, Alberta

Our Expertise
Government Relations
Fundraising
Strategic Planning
Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) Action Group

Each member of our delegation is on the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) Action Group, an advisory committee to government that works to realize government’s Accessibility 2024 commitment to build and maintain B.C.’s position as the province with the highest per capita uptake of RDSPs in Canada. Our delegation members represent academic, charity and business perspectives and have been working together since 2014.

As of December 2015, more than 22,500 British Columbians with disabilities have set up an RDSP to help them save for the future. This is a 13% increase since June 2015, yet just 12% of all people with disabilities under 50 in B.C. have an RDSP. Our challenge is to dramatically increase uptake of RDSPs in B.C.

“Don’t wait! I used the RDSP Calculator and saw that the sooner you start investing, the more you make in the end. It makes a big difference!”
Josh, Vancouver

As an on-going and mature collaboration, we nonetheless need new ideas and seek a breakthrough in expanding RDSP uptake in B.C., and indeed across Canada.”
Our Expertise
Government Relations Communications and Storytelling Community Outreach

Lessons Learned
Everyone approaches this with good will, and creative ideas. Voluntary participation has been key to on-going engagement, but government as anchor has been critical to maintain momentum and activity.

Challenges
Alignment of priorities is challenging—i.e. RDSPs are low profit vehicles for financial institutions, so little incentive to promote.

Building awareness and acceptance of financial planning among (mostly) lower income populations is difficult, partly due to access, partly due to perceptions of suitability.

Delegation
Norah Flaherty
business consultant
Vancouver, British Columbia

Tim Ames
PLAN and Plan Institute, Executive Director
Vancouver, British Columbia

Neil Belanger
British Columbia Aboriginal Network on Disability Society (BCANDS) Executive Director
Victoria, British Columbia

Jane Dyson
Disability Alliance BC
Vancouver, British Columbia

Michael J. Prince
University of Victoria Lansdowne Professor of Social Policy, Faculty of Human & Social Development
Victoria, British Columbia

Kevin McCort
Vancouver Foundation President and CEO
Vancouver, British Columbia
Surrey Urban Indigenous Leadership Committee

The Surrey Urban Indigenous Leadership Committee formed in 2015 to facilitate the development of a Surrey Urban Aboriginal Social Innovation project. The challenge that brought the group together was the lack of social infrastructure in Surrey to support a large, young and growing urban Indigenous population.

In 2016, the Committee released its “All Our Relations” Phase 1 report; it identifies 14 key findings about the urban Indigenous population in Surrey based on research and community consultations. The Phase 2, “All Our Relations: A Social Innovation Strategy” has just been completed. It outlines a Vision, Mission, five Strategic Objectives, and Goals and Strategies for change.

The Leadership Committee’s Vision is “A city that values Indigenous contributions to city life. A city that is committed to working towards reconciliation at all levels. A city where every Indigenous person has the opportunity to achieve their full potential.”
Our Expertise
Indigenous values and perspectives for building and strengthening relationships at all levels of the community so as to improve social and economic outcomes for urban Indigenous people.

Lessons Learned
The Committee is beginning to see the value of coming together and being the collective voice of the urban Indigenous population in Surrey. This includes advocating on behalf of urban Indigenous people in Surrey, as well as working collaboratively with other governments, organizations and individuals that are committed to understanding and achieving the Leadership Committee’s Vision.

Challenges
The biggest challenge has been to build respectful relationships at all levels.

Delegation

**Tom Oleman**  
Cwenengitel Aboriginal Society  
Surrey, British Columbia

**Sheldon Tetreault**  
Sheldon Tetreault Consulting  
Surrey, British Columbia

**Kendra Newman**  
Aboriginal Community Career Employment Services Society (ACCESS)  
Surrey, British Columbia

**Joanne Mills**  
Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA)  
Surrey, British Columbia

**Vera LeFranc**  
Councillor, City of Surrey  
Surrey, British Columbia

**Ken Fisher**  
Nova Metis Heritage Association  
Surrey, British Columbia

**Aileen Murphy**  
Social Planning, City of Surrey  
Surrey, British Columbia

“The Community Jam is an opportunity to profile the urban Aboriginal community in Surrey, and the work of the Surrey Urban Indigenous Committee. We hope to learn, be inspired and re-energized.”
We are members of an academic library and a community impact organization working together to increase community access to research literature. With appropriate access, nonprofit groups can use scholarship to develop program choices, strengthen their advocacy, gain insights into organizational management, and write better grants.

**Lessons Learned**
Intersecting interests can be a catalyst for exciting ideas; with the right people working together, exciting ideas can become an impactful reality.

**Challenges**
We are just in the beginning stages; the biggest challenges have yet to reveal themselves!

**Our Expertise**
- Fundraising
- Community Outreach
- Research and Development

**Delegation**

**Angie Mapara Osachoff**
United Way of the Lower Mainland  
Community Impact Planner  
Burnaby, British Columbia

**Carey LePage**
United Way of the Lower Mainland  
Senior Researcher, Community Impact & Investment  
Burnaby, British Columbia

**Heather De Forest**
Simon Fraser University  
Research Commons Librarian  
Burnaby, British Columbia
We are excited about the possibility of connecting with other groups that are involved in making the campus-community interface more permeable.
“A smart nation learns from the past, embraces the future and looks to the world with confidence and respect, while a caring nation recognizes that the measure of any society’s success lies in its ability to help others, particularly the vulnerable and marginalized among us.”

- His Excellency
the Right Honourable David Johnston,
Governor General of Canada