

Urban Aboriginal Economic Development National Network

Ottawa Gathering Harvest

October 28th – 29th, 2008

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|Map of Introductions

Map of Introductions

The participants who attended the Ottawa Gathering were asked to introduce themselves and discuss what drew them to attend the meeting in the first place. This is an overview of what was said.

British Columbia

Laura Blumhagen – Aboriginal Business Development Centre, Prince George
Curious to see where this network will be after three years.

Veronica Creyke – Aboriginal Business Development Centre, Prince George
Looking forward to sharing and learning.

Ray Gerow – Aboriginal Business Development Centre, Prince George
Great to have the whole network in the room.

- Expressed concern that that things haven't changed in the field of Urban Aboriginal Economic Development. His son is now the same age that he was when he started in this field and urban Aboriginal economic development is still in the same place.
- Interested in urban Aboriginal community governance.
- How can we publish our learning in accessible ways?

Greg Halseth – University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George
Lessons about working together.

- How do we change things and work with others?
- Connection between social and economic?
- What could we do with the potential in the room?

Don Manson – University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George
Looking at economic development in our communities as a whole community approach.

- How do we share knowledge of what works?
- At the end of three years can we have something that will shift the policy?

Stephen Ameyaw – Simon Fraser University, Burnaby
Interested in implementation and holistic development.

- How do we prioritize holism in implementation?

Stewart Anderson – Vancity, Vancouver

We've talked about this for years to move something forward.

- This is a chance to create relationships to develop ideas.
- Who do we contribute equity and support entrepreneurs non-traditionally?

Verna Billy-Minnabarriet – Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, Vancouver
Drawn by people.

- What does business ready mean in urban settings?
- How do we build capacities in urban centres?

Penny Irons – Aboriginal Mother Centre, Vancouver

Looking at economic development in our communities as a whole community approach.

- How do you create sustainable livelihoods for unwell parents?

Map of Introductions

- Changing donations to investments.
- Finding old ways to run things to address the toxic results of capitalism?
- How to engage government better?

Christine Lattey – The Vancouver Agreement, Vancouver

Drawn by the prospect of making progress.

- How do you actually make things happen?

John McBride – Embree & McBride Consulting Inc., Vancouver

Network. Can a rich community fabric really foster and support Aboriginal business?

Merv Thomas – Circle of Eagles Lodge Society, Vancouver

Sustainability for non-financial, non-profits.

- Social enterprise development. How do we do this?

Rupert Downing – Canadian Community Economic Development Network, Victoria

- What is the paradigm shift we need on the economy to support social economy?
- Strong link between that question and needs in the urban Aboriginal setting.
- What are the levers for change?

Charles Horn – Springbok Management Services, Victoria

Responding to invitation.

- What can we learn?
- How can we help?

Brent Mainprize – University of Victoria, Sidney

Working with Nisga'a and balancing on residential development with urban development.

Kevin Schindelka – National Aboriginal Capital Corporation Association, Vernon

Potential to participate in the formation of a national network. When you start to come together, the story becomes powerful.

- How can a national Aboriginal financial structure be built in Canada?

David Stevenson, Victoria

- How do we find our way to where we want to be in a complex environment?
- What sustains long-term relationships to go on a journey together?

Milt Wright – BC Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, Victoria

- Work is spread over three ministries – how to link together?
- If governance is to be a reality, what is the economy?

Alberta

Tony Shirt – Peace Hills Trust, Edmonton

Interested in networking at this gathering. We need to sell things for economics to thrive. We're independent when we can fund ourselves.

Dave Ward – Wichitowin: Circle of Shared Responsibility and Stewardship, Edmonton

Map of Introductions

Bringing together stakeholders and common members to prioritize and move to action.

Darryll White – Alberta Aboriginal Relations, Edmonton

- Defining what urban Aboriginal economic development is.
- What is economic development in terms of a holistic approach to community development?
- Why aren't we all talking to each other?
- How do we activate the grassroots?

Saskatchewan

Bob Anderson – University of Regina, Regina

He teaches economic development.

- How to share what we learn?
- What would a practitioner's journal look like?
- What is the nature of economic development on urban Reserves?

Neil Hintz – Office of the Federal Interlocutor, Regina

Momentum building in Regina.

- How do we move forward?

Kelly Bitternose – Peace Hills Trust, Saskatoon

Involved in financing. He is interested in learning more about economic development.

Ron Laliberte – University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon

He studies urban Aboriginal identities and how economic development contributes to identity. Barriers and assets to overcome social exclusion.

Evelyn Peters – University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon

- What can we do to make more sustainable community organizations?
- What can this process offer as a network to research?

Manitoba

Jim Beardy – Keewatin Tribal Council, Thompson

Directed to be here.

- What can we do differently that will make an impact to do things differently?
- How can Aboriginal communities take advantage of growth in non-Aboriginal communities?
- What is success?

George Bailey – Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, Winnipeg

- How can we loosen guidelines?
- What does urban Aboriginal economic development mean?

Marileen Bartlett – Centre for Aboriginal Human Resource Development, Winnipeg

Economic development is a good life.

- How do these questions actually help people on the day to day level? Practical impacts.

Map of Introductions

Al Benoit – Manitoba Métis Federation, Winnipeg

How do we move forward while recognizing the differences in the Aboriginal community?

Bern Bileski – Office of the Federal Interlocutor, Winnipeg

- Economic Development is a priority for the UAS but what is it?
- How do we action it?
- How do government and community partner?

Marty Donkervoort – Inner City Renovation Inc., Winnipeg

Involved in social enterprise in Winnipeg.

- How to integrate social enterprises into networks for sustainability?

Marcella Fontaine – MSF Business Consulting, Winnipeg

Came to work with Keith to hear and learn different perspectives.

- How do you define urban Aboriginal economic development?

Rhonda McCorrison – Neeginan Development Corporation, Winnipeg

She is interested in literacy, education, and training. Excited to be a part of something new and frustrated about how long it takes to make change.

- How does this network create the momentum to transfer equity?

Wanda Wuttunee – University of Manitoba, Winnipeg

Aboriginal, interest on economic development and the complexities of working in community.

- Sharing ideas in this way is the ideal way to work.
- What can I learn and how can I help?

Ontario

Gerry Peltier – Congress of Aboriginal Peoples, Kanehsatake

Interested in entrepreneurship, marketing and finance.

Patrick Boucher – Office of the Federal Interlocutor, Ottawa

This is an opportunity to network and learn.

- How do we implement government priorities on economic development to achieve priority?
- How do we implement knowledge?

Geraldine King – National Association of Friendship Centres, Ottawa

Interested in opening up dialogue. Change happens where people live.

Cheryl Matthew – Office of the Federal Interlocutor, Ottawa

- Drawn by questions.
- How can we increase the social and economic well-being of our people.
- How can this work bring a mentality of unity?
- How to work with youth?
- Resistance and capacity building.

Map of Introductions

Ian Peach – Office of the Federal Interlocutor, Ottawa

- What does it take to promote self-determination using economic power for equity?
- How to synthesize knowledge for daily use? And on society at large?

Stephanie Phillips – Business Partners Directorate, Ottawa

New to the field, here to learn and network.

Barry Pottle – Inuit Relations Secretariat, Ottawa

He is here to learn and network with urban Inuit communities. Who is doing what?

Kate Rexe – Métis National Council, Ottawa

- Barriers to participation looking at networks, knowledge transfer and implementation.
- How do we build capacity in communities to overcome structural barriers?
- How can we do change in a Nation specific way?
- Control capital?

Belinda Webb – Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Ottawa

National Inuit economic development committee developing discussion paper. Where are the Atlantic reps?

Glenda Restoule – Office of the Federal Interlocutor, Ottawa

What is urban economic development? Not clear how we make it real?

Gail Broad – Algoma University College, Sault Ste. Marie

Holistic approach to economic development that builds relationships. Working on learning communities around these questions:

- What are the right questions and how do we ask those questions?
- How do we do this research well?

Harvey Yesno – Nishnawbe-Aski Development Fund, Thunder Bay

Aboriginal population is growing in Thunder Bay. He is interested in urban Aboriginal issues.

- How do we help the young population to meet the needs of the national job market?
- What is the paradigm shift that will lead to a new way of doing things?

Nova Scotia

Fred Wien – Dalhousie University, Halifax

- Has an interest in others from the East.
- Researching the application of health research.
- Working with APC on economic development research.
- Working with CANDO education committee.
- This network is an important step in the process.

| World Café Harvest

World Café Harvest

The World Café method was used for hosting conversations about urban Aboriginal economic development at the gathering. These conversations linked and built on each other as the participants moved between groups, cross-pollinated ideas, and discovered new insights into the questions. As a process, the World Café can evoke and make visible the collective intelligence of any group, thus increasing people's capacity for effective action in pursuit of common aims. These are the results of the two days discussions.

World Café Harvest: Overview

- Community economic development as opposed to economic development.
- Solution → inside-out not outside-in.
- Kitchen table governance:
 - Visually describe people around kitchen table.
 - Transformational leadership.
- Location out of it:
 - How do these pieces work together?
 - Emphasis on and not or.
- Government has blind hope at best. Needs to change.
- Economic development is about the well being of people.
- "Urban" is situational and development should not be tied to geography.
- Aha moment: economic development in terms of the Aboriginal perspective is not dependant on "urban" geographical location.
- Look at the default setting of community. It's hard to see when we are enmeshed in work. On a daily basis, what do our communities have going for us? How do they stay together?
- Geographic identity (urban/rural) is not critical. People identity (First Nations, Inuit, or Métis) is important.
- Everybody deserves to participate and be a contributor to society.
- Situation "is in the now".

Café Conversation Notes #1:

Insights:

- Economic development is economic development whether you're Aboriginal or not.
- Recognize that the Aboriginal realities to access the levers are complex.
- Definition of "Urban Aboriginal": is a First Nation, Métis or Inuit individual living in an urban centre.
- Identifying community barriers and assets that mandate or discourage economic development.
- Is this about economic development or community development?
 - Is economic development a subset of community development?
 - Is economic development an outcome to community development?
- Scope of this project needs to be clear.

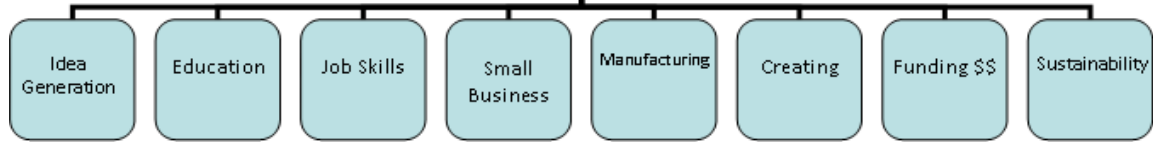
General Notes

- Urban Aboriginal economic development should support more mature entrepreneurs.
- How do we define "urban"?
 - Work in the city, return to the Rez after work.
- Economic development is an outcome of community development.
- Identify community aspects.
- "Social Exclusion":
 - Can't have exclusion when urban Aboriginal people are involved



World Café Harvest

Continuum of economic development in urban context:



Urban Aboriginal

- First Nations, Métis, Inuit within an urban context

Economic Development

- Access to capital
- Opportunities (both jobs and business)
- Education / training
- Wealth generation
- Prosperity

Should the question rather be “*what is economic development for urban Aboriginal peoples*”?

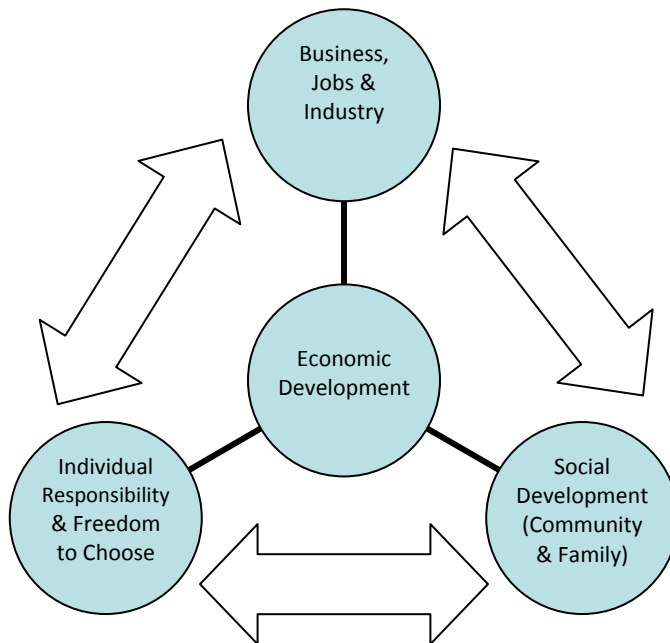
It is important that the products that an Aboriginal person buys are produced by Aboriginal people as this means money circulates to Aboriginal people.

Café Conversation Notes #2:

Insights:

- Hard to define importance/ boundaries of “urban”.
- Differences and commonalities of thought processes.

Urban Political Reality in British Columbia ☺



Urban Population Issues

For example: Prince George, BC

Twenty-five percent of urban Aboriginal people in Prince George are from the territory. Five percent are from other nations in BC and fifteen percent are from other Nations in Canada. Aboriginal leadership would argue that “they”/BC are responsible for the twenty-five percent urban in Prince George. They are not responsible for the other twenty percent. Who is?

Urban services are only addressed to the Prince George twenty-five percent that is recognized as territorial urban: the remaining twenty percent are un-serviced or last priorities.

“Economics”

Management of household

- Industrial
- Family

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- Neighbourhood

Harvard Study

- Governance & local delivery = success

Who identifies leadership for this total urban population (45%)?

- For example, existing leadership defines/ decides/ advocates based on their reality (i.e., First Nation).

“Urban”

Population is 90% Aboriginal people in a given area.

Land Base

Metropolitan Area

Regional Urban

Prince George
Kamloops
Prince Rupert
Vancouver
Kelowna
Victoria
Cranbrook
Terrace
Salmon Arm
Etc.

- Urban means a population of ____ # of located on administrative land.
- Regional Urban means a designated a by province as administrative land.
- Retention of wealth in Aboriginal communities.
- Long term renewable community organization - tech assistance – finance.
- Responsible to community.

Café Conversation Notes #3:

Insights:

- Urban Aboriginal is not a cohesive community.
- There are differing views on the meaning of economic development.
 - a. Jobs, finance, capital (hard numbers, \$).
 - b. Social supports community and family health.

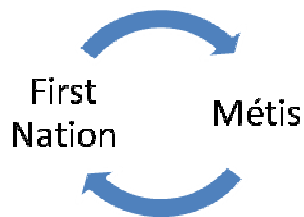


- SHIFT: from job creation to wealth creation
- Empower and inspire youth
- Vision – where there is no vision, people can't flourish
- Focus on skills: trades vs. businessman
- Economic development – community development relationship
- “Mentors”
- “Building capacity”
- Dynamics of groups.
- Studies.
- Urban economic development – equal opportunity – need apolitical organizations
- Building capacity
- Freedom
- Industry
- Econ.
 1. Freedom to choose (jobs/careers)
 2. Distant communities (First Nations, Métis, Inuit)

Café Conversation Notes #4:

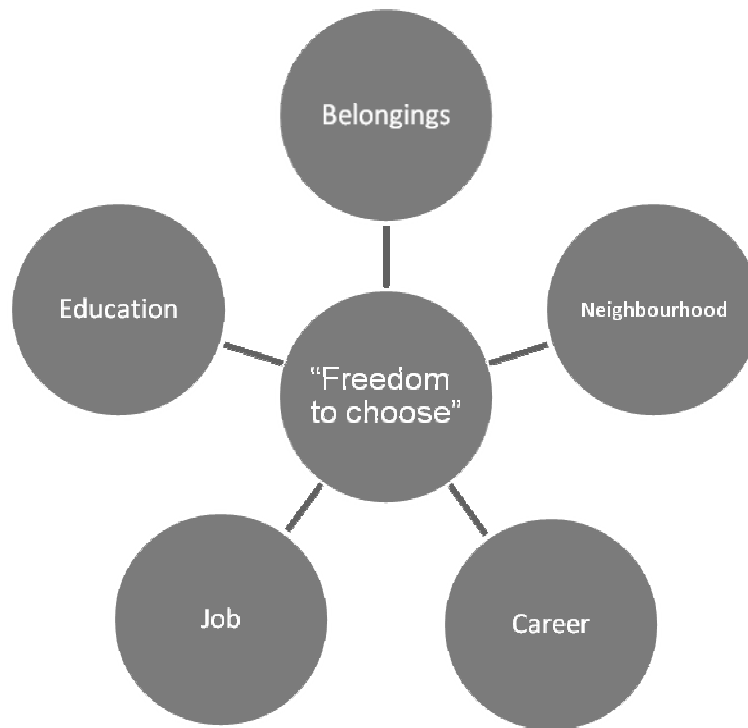
Aboriginal

- Commonalities?
 - Differences?
 - Distinctions?
- } Past relationships
- Métis, First Nation, Inuit
 - JEALOUSY
 - Lumped together
 - “Insulting to be referred to as Aboriginal” (identity is important)
- } Distinctions:
- Culture
 - History
 - Experiences
 - Governance



“Urban” → arbitrary dichotomy between urban and rural

- Web of relationships
- Dependent upon community:
 1. Hard core
 2. Social
- Transformational Economics
 - Human
 - Social
 - Environmental
 - Cultural
- Capacity building
- Assertiveness
- Empowerment
- Quality of life
- Wellness/ health
- Humans are centre of development



Fundamentals

- Environmental
 - Individual aspects
 - Groups
- } - Industry (?)
- Education
- Capital

- Family
- Food
- Intellectual
- Human

Growth promotion economics (creating wealth)

- Jobs, income
- Entrepreneur
- Dependence of top down policy (i.e., comes down to create jobs)

Café Conversation Notes #5:

Insights

- The perspective that there exists the private, public and community sectors related to urban Aboriginal economic development.
- Be inclusive but respect differences regarding definitions.

Define Urban – Urban/ Rural

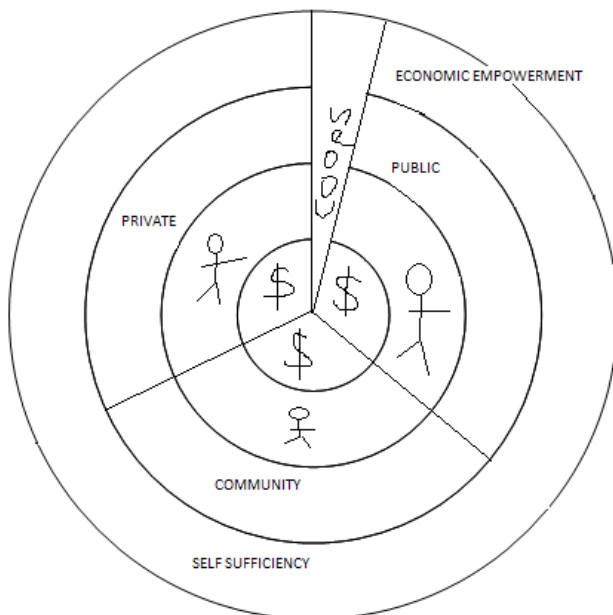
- Inuit are either North or South. (Many economic development arms, but these arms don't extend to Inuit in urban centres). Distinction is very clear. Not many urban Inuit start companies.
- Is Goose Bay urban?
- Arctic Bay → Iqaluit → Ottawa
- What does urban mean? Is the area that is “downtown” for a Reserve urban?
- Government has land definitions on what urban is.

Connections between treaty and people living in urban areas.

- Access to information and resources available in the treaty areas and on the Reserve.

Community Economic Development is:

- Ownership by community or by a public body, or by private.
- All types of ownership require the same type of resources.



General Notes

- Economic development – is it an ends?
- Economic development – is it a means?

- How does culture = economy? “AND” / “OR”

- Is it about starting new?
- Is it about building on what exists?

- Understand/ complete?
- Are geographic definitions necessary? / possible?

- Community Involvement/ Give back...

- Politics/ community?
 - How do the politicians and business entities work together?

- Economic Development
 - Culture
 - Thinking
 - Education
 - Language

- What is urban?
- Well being?

- Get rid of the “labels” in the urban environment (First Nations, Métis, Inuit)

Café Conversation Notes #6:

Insights

- Incredible need to provide access to financial capacity in the urban environment and increase urban Aboriginal Governance.
- How is this going to affect our youth and how can we involve them?
- Urban economics needs to balance grown economics with transformational economics: that address economic choice.
- We need to develop a strategy to get research into practitioner's hands and make it useful to them.

General Notes

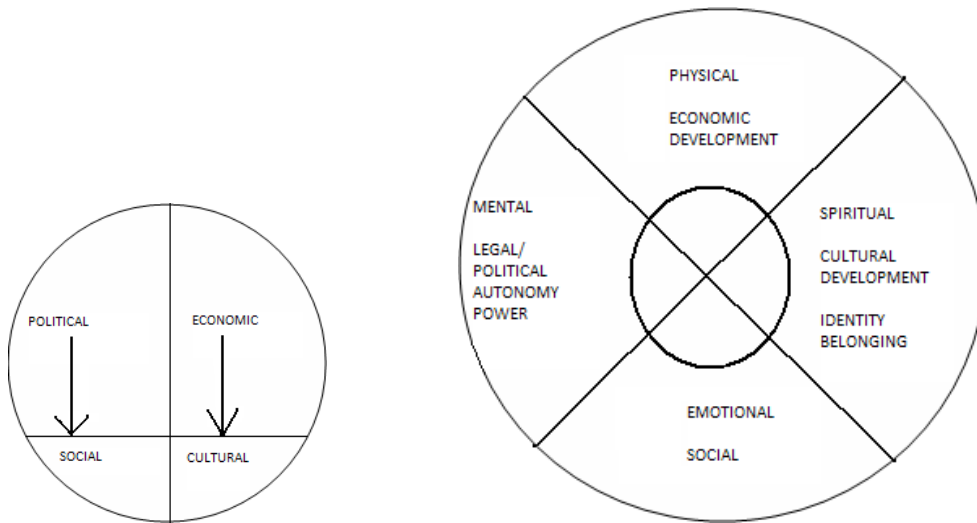
- Community Development
- Commerce
- Marty – starting from physical realities
 - Economic development
 - Medicine wheel
 - Macro
 - Micro
 - Industrial
- Well being of people
- Develop programs
- URBAN
- Policy ideas
- Need to consider land claim agreements and treaties
- Youth representation – need them at table

Place

- What does economic development encompass?
 - Housing, training, etc.
 - Transformational economics
 - Principles
 - How do we evaluate/ measure success?
 - Multiple methods – not just for creation
- Benchmarks

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- How do you know you're doing it?
- Community Development vs. Economic Development
- Need networks for development
- Need for networks across sectors/ cultures etc. to support economic development for co-learning.



- SPIRITUAL
 - Cultural Continuity
 - Future → youth
 - Human resources
- EMOTIONAL/ SOCIAL
 - Transformational leadership
 - kitchen table governance → customary governance – urban reps
 - urban and rural not *or*
- MENTAL
 - Organizations that can access capital, initiate projects, etc.

Café Conversation Notes #7:

Two Levels: Urban and Economic Development

1. Urban

Arbitrary between urban vs. rural

Métis – First Nations – Inuit

Sense of exclusion

Aboriginal ≠ melting pot } Differing perspectives
 Aboriginal = melting pot }

Identity important!

Métis – specific/ First Nations Specific

2. Economic Development

A. Economic Activity

- Is not a “magic bullet”
- Capital/ investment
- Jobs/ business

B. Opportunities and Freedom to Choose

Opportunities	Freedom to Choose – what are the fundamentals you must have to choose?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Family and children - Education and training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jobs - Business - Careers - Education - Independence - Role models/ mentors - Break from dependence

General Notes:

- Urban Aboriginal
- First Nations/ Inuit/ Métis living within urban centres
- Economic Development → part of community development
 - Access to capital
 - Trained HR pool (or educated)
 - Opportunities (business/ jobs)
 - Wealth generation
 - Business Development
- Urban

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- Not urban/rural dichotomy / scale
- People are mobile

- Aboriginal
 - Diverse histories/ acknowledge and value identity
 - What is shared (exclusions)/ what is different

- **Freedom to choose**

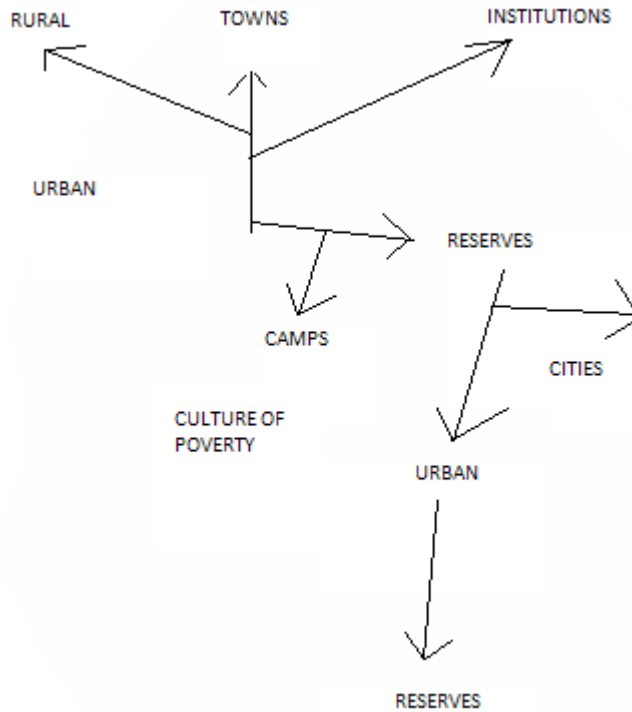
- Economic Development
 - The world we live in
 - Opportunity/ social and business (has basic attitudes)
 - Not a magic bullet
 - Break from dependency

- Transition social assistance funding to community and economic development funding

Café Conversation Notes #8:

General Notes

Bringing Community Roots to the Urban Centre



- Urban economic development is urban healing/ well-being.
- BOTTOM UP!
- “Empowering the people is the way to economic sustainability”
- Bringing community roots to the urban centre
- “Show me the money”



- Marketing
- **CAPITAL**
 - Human capital
 - Money
 - Space
- **SALES**
- **PARTNERSHIPS**
- Demand
- Barriers → no off-Reserve → funding!
- Procurement
- Contracts, bids
- Need for long-term funding to keep the momentum
- Moving from/ to urban centres
- Transition/ support centres
- Products
- Isolation
- Networks
- Non-profits
- Micro-credit
- Creating Spaces
- Business start-up/ maintenance
- Supporting Aboriginal business from within
- **Measure holistically**
- Job training
- Basic/ skills

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- Paperwork
- Environmentally friendly
- **Aboriginal Human Resource Development Agreements need more money**
- Bridging/ liaison
- Developing relationships with non-Aboriginals
- **\$\$ Economic development activities**
- Urban ↔ community
- More sub-contracts
- Iterative

Café Conversation Notes #9:

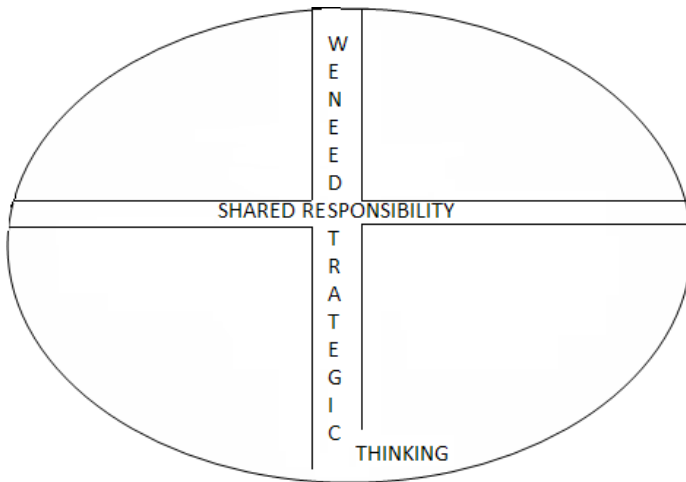
Insights:

- Communication
- Community involvement

General Notes – What is Urban Aboriginal Economic Development?

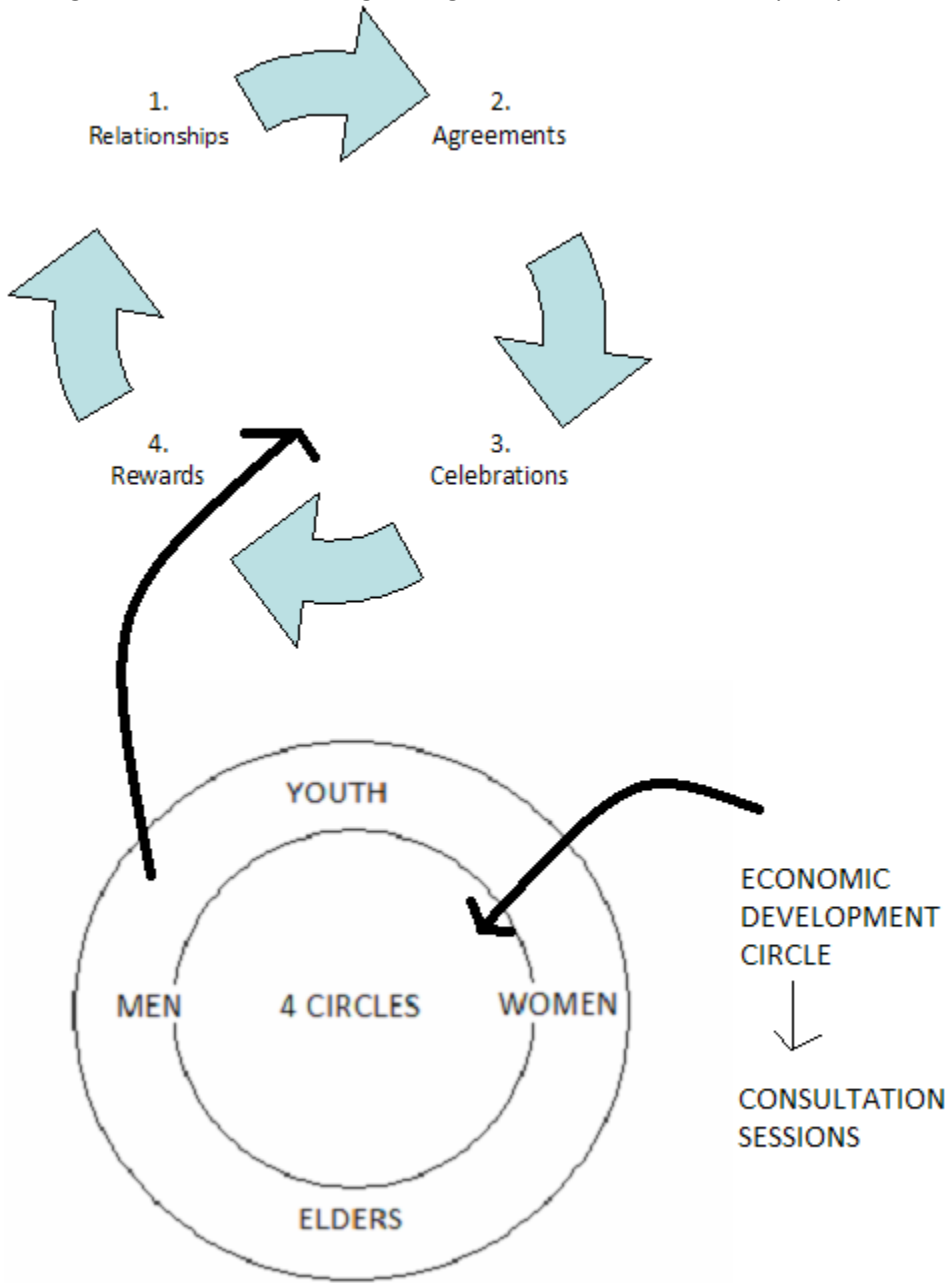
- Youth engagement
- Prosperity
- Accessing existing resources
- Communications
- Partnerships
- Success
- Micro-lending opportunities

We Need Shared Responsibility and Strategic Thinking

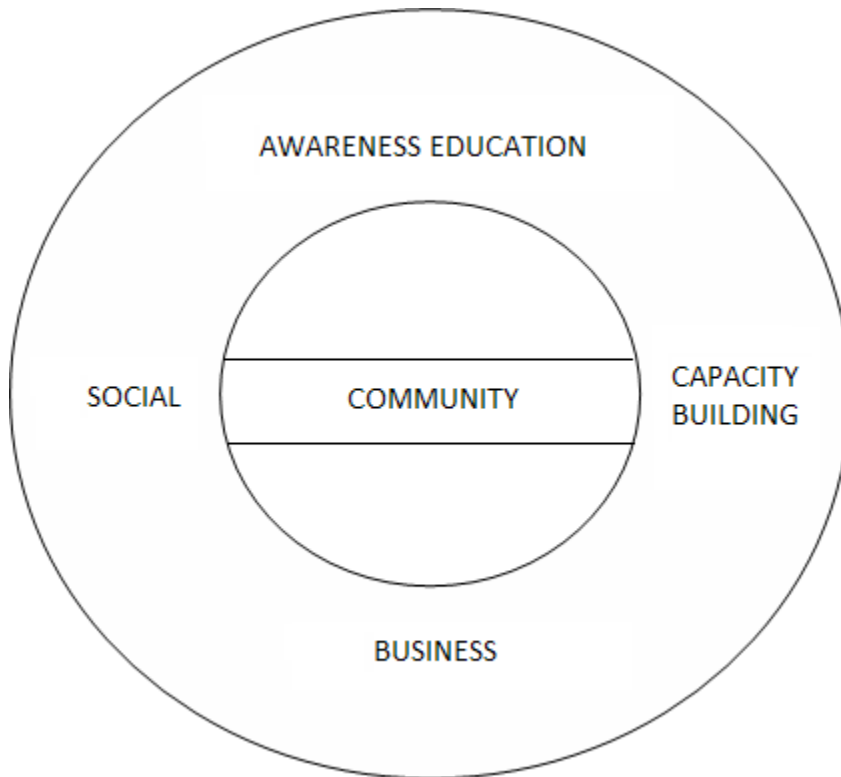


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Aboriginal led national fiscal agent organizations used to build capacity



GENERAL NOTES



- What supports exist for urban Aboriginal economic development?
 - Networks
 - Organizational development
 - Capacity building
 - Where are the youth?
 - Document what is going on
 - Sharing successes at organizational level and best practices
 - Need a united voice to reflect what the community wants/ needs
 - CONNECTING
 - Generational connections and interactions (youth \leftrightarrow Elders)
 - Communities are developing – more capacity

Café Conversation Notes #10:

What is Urban Aboriginal Economic Development? It involves three things:

1. Business Development
 - Entrepreneurs
 - Access to capital
 - Etc.
2. Employment Development (not just business development)
 - Economic base needs capacity development
 - Skill development
3. Institutional Development
 - Institutions take initiative capital corporations

Need in both rural and urban areas:

- Urban is it different? What is transferable and what isn't
 - What makes it "Aboriginal"? That is different than non-Aboriginal. Or is there a difference?
 - It is a mistake to confine economic development boundaries to urban locations.
 - i.e., First Nations have an urban location/ Reserve
 - Must look at connection of both on/off Reserve
 - i.e., Nechi in Winnipeg selling blueberries
 - Where do entrepreneurs access capital? In urban context First Nations organizations, capital corporations
 - Social capital
 - Financial capital
 - Human capital
 - Access or lack of access to land-base
 - Brain trust: when increasing human capital how to harness it for the Aboriginal community
 - Key invitation to come back to work with Aboriginal community
 - On/ off Reserve, people leave to work in other sectors bring back to Aboriginal community
1. Not exclusively urban
 2. Doesn't have a land base
 - *Urban doesn't have same leverage recognition:*
 - From government;

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- From capital corporations; and from
- Industry (i.e., impact benefit agreements)
- Rights = duty to consult with First Nations but pre Delgamuukw
- Models for First Nations to move to urban areas
 - Get land in city for First Nations in cities to develop business
 - Collective approach
- More powerful and effective for groups to join together
 - i.e., Mondragon
 - i.e., Ireland collective organization
 - i.e., Sami
- Separate ownership from actual development of a venture
- Urban are behind (within the) concept of cultural continuity/ governance
 - Implementation and measurement
 - Learn as we go. Iterative check-backs.

Second Round

- Intergovernmentalism: what is system for engaging urban population to respond?
 - i.e., governance
 - i.e., Prince George Tribal Council – First Nations demanded involvement in urban Aboriginal strategy
- Until First Nations are able to engage urban than no right to say they represent this group. As many cities have organization to represent and certain organizations do engage this population.
- Boards take decisions back to Chiefs, why? As its not inclusive
- The majority of power, money is targeted to First Nations on-Reserve economic development
- Build capacity of Urban Aboriginal Strategy cities need and important
- Proper urban Aboriginal economic development processes would reflect and act upon urban voice, a “pseudo” governance process
- Transformational leadership model basis needed not replicating Indian Act chief model in urban area
- Kitchen table governance
- Of interest to the community
- How do we engage an urban Aboriginal population?

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Café Conversation Notes #11:

Insights:

- Education and skills training are a part of economic development.
- Need to have an Aboriginal led/ owned economic system before we can have an integrated led/owned economic system.

GENERAL NOTES

- Community organizations develop to give people places to gather and share who they are – who/ where is the link between social and economic development?
- Aboriginal business serving Aboriginal communities
- Retention of money/ capital/ jobs in communities
- What does geography have to do with it?
- Should the focus be on geography or the individual?
- Urban is more complex because the structures of government don't exist.
- Sustainability of urban programs/ organizations is terrible because program dollars are limited in scope and time.
- Do you need a Governance structure to make an economy happen?
- Supports for families:
 - i.e., Transportation, daycare, literacy
- Needs, ability to fill needs, capital to make it happen
- If no funding was available from "government" what would economic development look like? What does governance look like? (as a result)
- Role of friendship centres
 - Economic development
 - Social enterprise

Land Infrastructure People	OR Self Governance
Land People	Infrastructure People (needs, opportunities)
No infrastructure	No land

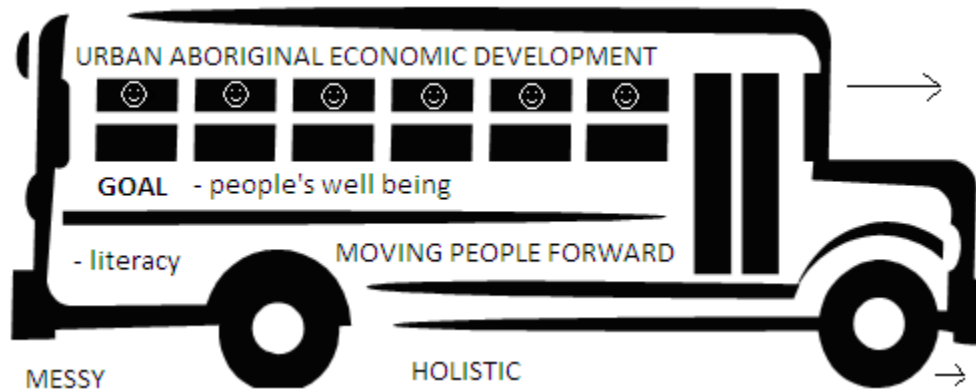
World Café Harvest

- Need to change government structures to better reflect how people actually live their lives in urban centres
- Economic development is about securing well-being of people.
- Fragmentation of effort and resources impede
- Education and skills training is economic development because it allows for economic participation
- Other support too, like transportation, communications, child care, stable housing
- Cultural disconnect in urban areas an impediment
 - Housing, telephone, food, health care
 - Importance of co-creating employment and services
 - Needs of single parents – responsibilities for children and lack of access to trade – women have fewer opportunities

Café Conversation Notes #12:

Insights:

- Commonality of views?
- Must have market!
- Must have capital!



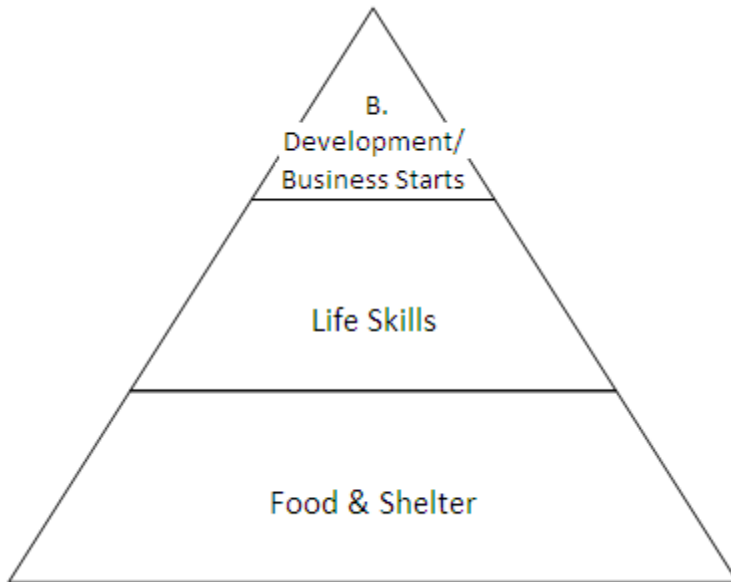
GENERAL NOTES

- Partnerships with others in urban setting
- Culture of community → needs?
 - Colonizing our own
- Influence/ Agenda/ Integrity/ Big Picture
- Evolve and recognize change in ways of thinking
- Labels are limiting → urban
- Wealth creation has no color
- Work/ Social Assistance
 - Entitlement vs. Participation
- Who are they in an urban setting?
- Jobs for living wage. Accreditation.
- Government funding role. Erase it.
- No entrepreneurs here!

World Café Harvest

- COMPLEX
- AGENDAS
 - Integrity & don't want to be beholding
- Access to wealth/ capital in the urban setting: power experience needs to be shared.
- Urbanization. Is that Assimilation!?!
 - Change happens
- Play the game... how long?
- Who you know
- We have it all!!
- Discrimination in the systems!
- Education
- Sharing the burden
- How do you know when you are there?
- Does it matter?
- Meta-development
- Define ourselves!
 - Is it the hard definition?
 - Labels limit who we are
 - Is it only?
- Kaleidoscope
- Definition. Is:
 - Choice
 - People
 - Well being
 - Capacity?
 - *interconnected?
 - Growth 🌱
- *Holistic*
- Freedom

- Good ole boys. Is it always a fight?



Café Conversation Notes #13:

Insights:

- Aboriginal organizations aren't "playing the game" because of integrity and independence.

GENERAL NOTES

- Defining is difficult
 - Should you/ could you?
 - To whose benefit?
 - Limiting/ stifles
 - Changes agenda
 - Real freedom is never going to INAC.
- Empowerment & Responsibility
- Partnerships with government is essential
- Acknowledge capacity, co-exist, build trust
- Community- centered agenda

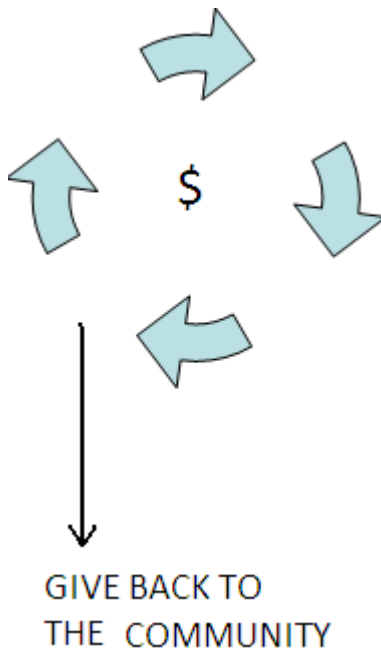
Café Conversation Notes #14:

Insights:

- URBAN – too narrow
- There is no urban Aboriginal economic development
- Not economic development but community and must be self-defined
- Using the term urban is not helping to have a generous discussion of Aboriginal economic development opportunities
- Network for groups to access
- Virtual information, sharing dialogue (best practices)

GENERAL NOTES

- Governance
 - Self-administered crafting of policy that has an impact on your day to day existence.
- What about rural?



GENERAL NOTES CONTINUED...

- Community = ?

World Café Harvest

- What is the definition of urban?
- Urban individuals First Nation, Métis and Inuit
- 'Shared' benefits is a traditional expectation
- Redistribution/ community value
- Urban Aboriginal economic development to keep resources flowing within and for the urban Aboriginal community. Invested in the Aboriginal community.
- Alignment of interests
- Individual success should have pay back to the community
- Economic Development is not just about job creation – you need to generate wealth for the community
- Urban Aboriginal is not an identity
- Aboriginal economic development
 - Urban
 - Rural
 - Reserve
- Community Development!
- Rural or urban!

Café Conversation Notes #15:

GENERAL NOTES

- Urban Aboriginal economic community development (start with a community)
- Action by people locally to create economic unites and enhance social and environmental conditions on sustainable bases in urban Aboriginal communities.
- Realizing the purchase power of Aboriginal people/ communities
- Supporting the continuum of community economic development in urban settings
- Plugging the leaky bucket
 - Benefiting Aboriginal economic opportunities
- E.G. Gitxsan “Senaew” project pooled purchasing power of school food buy purchasing a farm to produce healthy and local food.
- Inclusion
- Participation
- Safety
- Definition: to provide urban Aboriginal individuals with the tools to succeed in all areas of Canadian society.
- Aboriginal middle class?
- Wealth creation & transformation
- Collective community

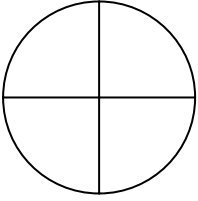
Foundation of self-government

RESOURCE	LAND	PEOPLE	INFRASTRUCTURE	GOVERNMENT
FIRST NATIONS	✓	✓		
URBAN FRIENDSHIP CENTRE	Where/ what are resources?	✓	✓	

Continuum →			
Opportunity/ idea	Supports unique to sector	Traditional supports	Profitable business
	 GAP		

World Café Harvest

Support all quarters of the medicine wheel.



World Café Harvest: Insights

After the World Café Conversations had taken place, the participants were asked to share their insights with the group. This is what was shared.

Note: all of the boundaries are permeable and connections.

Holistic Principles

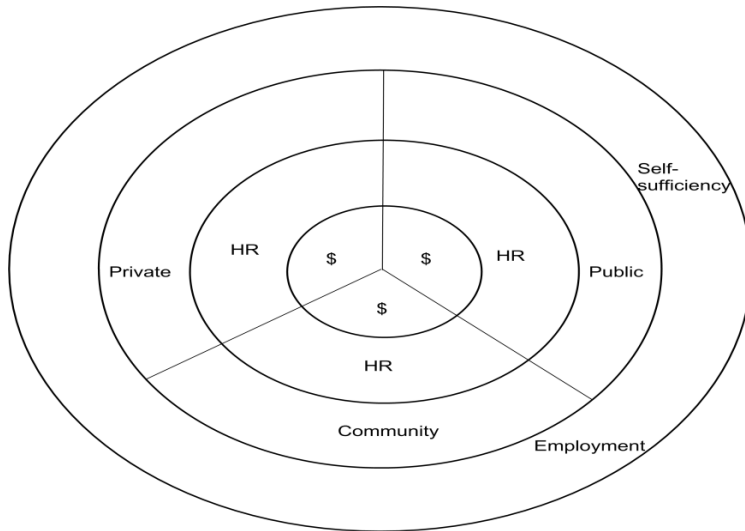
- Economic development has to be part of a holistic process in communities.
- Has to be holistic and values based development.
- Does Aboriginal economic development differ from other economic development?
 - Economic development is not only about creating jobs, business and creating capital but also protecting Aboriginal cultural identity.
- Community-centered agendas!!
- Community involvement, holistic.
- How and why do we engage an urban Aboriginal population?
- Is urban healing/ well being
- There are business development fundamentals; but we talked about broader support sectors and action and role models etc. that highlight the need for community development.

Distinct Unique Areas of Practice

- Avoid reductionist

Holistic Models of Implementation and Measurement

- Economic development → private ↔ public ↔ community
- All three have the same outcomes related to economic self-sufficiency jobs/equality of life, etc.
- All need financing/ funding
- All need human resources



Investment Groups

- AIG Edmonton

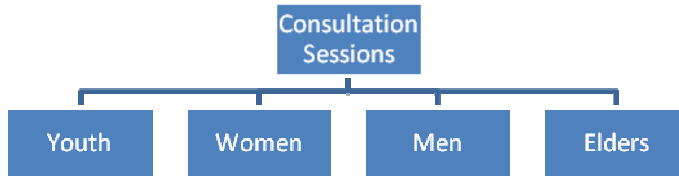
Link to Governance

- Recognition of Urban Aboriginal people as a separate level of government
 - We need a voice

Community Based

- What supports exist for urban economic development
- Aboriginal must mean Aboriginal no matter how we define it
- Grassroots bottom up approach

Economic Development Issue → “Community Process”



I
I
V

1. Relationships → 2. Agreements → 3. Celebrations → 4. Renewal

World Café Harvest

Capital

- Approach: recognize that there are distinctive Aboriginal communities (First Nations, Métis, Inuit) with:
 - Separate histories
 - Separate cultures
 - Different legal status
 - Own governing structures
- Let them develop networks and determine who they will partner with

Co-learning and Capacity Building

- Capacity building through human resource development with focus on youth engagement
- Capacity building of institutions and governance with focus to skills and personal and relationship development
- Communications
- Sharing information
- Learning opportunities
- All players need to educate and be educated about UAED

Flow of Money and Capital

- Creating Capital
 - Human
 - Financial
 - Etc.
- Recognition of the urban Aboriginal purchasing power
 - Procurement opportunities because of the need to “accommodate” First Nations

Concept: Beyond Urban

- Need for openness; inclusiveness and flexibility of terms – maybe better to describe as a process rather than a fixed definition – so as not to limit or bound the search for options
- Emphasis should be placed on Aboriginal not urban
- Economic development in terms of the Aboriginal perspective is not dependent on geographical location “Urban”
 - Community of interest
 - Grass roots
- Is rural/ urban thinking a slippery slope?

World Café Harvest

- Do we need to with a different lens?
- Defining Urban Aboriginal Economic Development is difficult. Why should it be defined? Limiting and stifling.
- Economic Development = freedom to choose
 - Individual: freedom to make real choices for jobs, education, careers, homes, neighborhoods
 - Need capacity: education, health
 - Need supportive environment: community and family

| Learning Circle Discussion

Learning Circle Discussion: Led by John McBride

Why would we choose to work through learning circles?

Knowledge Transfer

- Academic as expert
- Knowledge is a product
- Process: handoff from researcher to user

What do we expect to accomplish?

“Knowledge mobilization”

Let’s spend a few minutes with some of the language – it has become as important as the methodology. Our academics will need to do further work to sort this out.

Knowledge Exchange

- Problem solving
- Knowledge co-created (academics and practitioners)
- Key process involves social relationships (the degree of use is a function of effective relationships and processes)

Knowledge Implementation – Mobilization

- All knowledge, including traditional knowledge used for decisions and policy.
- Success is a function of effective interaction with organization and its systems(our organizations are complex – the work environment complicated by political, social and cultural issues).
- Relationships must be understood from a systems (holistic) perspective to be in inquiry with one another (if this is a quality we’re aiming for – what format do we use for knowledge implementation mobilization?)



Learning Circles Are...

- An Indigenous format

Learning Circle Discussion

- Principles: equality about the circle, shared leadership respect for opinions
- Small group dialogue
- People to listen and speak from the heart
- A safe place to support trust truthful, caring and open to change.

What kinds of things make learning circles work? (group results from brainstorm session)

- Willingness to engage in difficult conversations
- Chance to speak
- Sharing of ideas
- Trust – need to earn it
- Honesty
- Bringing passion to table
- Respect
- Depth of conversation – getting to the why
- Active listening
- Knowledge on the table for sharing
- Giving people space
- Warming up to people – relationship building
- Safe to express opinions
- Commitment
- Equal share of work
- Acknowledging that conflict is a part of the process
- Learning
- Contribute – prove yourself, be sincere
- When you contribute something to the circle you give up ownership of it

Learning Circle Discussion

- No status: coming together as equals, not hierarchal
- Preparation to invest time
- Being comfortable with silence
- Drop assumptions – going with an open mind
- Being able to share things that didn't work out so well – but also not holding back on the positives
- Develop partnerships (there can be a competition for resources sometimes – like grants)
- Acknowledgement
- Collective vision
- Network should bring content and resources in (i.e., supports and mentoring)
- Four stages of brainstorming (warming, storming, reforming, and performing)

What Can Circles Do?

- Choose what work they want to do
- Request resources – information and \$\$\$
- Communicate with other circles
- Split off and form other ones
- Identify policy changes
- Form special interest groups/ circles (youth and women)

Stories of Interest

- How will we package our information?
- If a circle hears of a project...profile.

Questions:

- How did you get started?
- Who helped?
- Resources needed?
- Major hurdles?

Learning Circle Discussion

- Assets in hand...

Notes:

- Partnership – cross section of participants should be invited
- Protocol of gifting credits?
- Collectivity
- New ideas – action
- Collective vision bring in content – links to industry
- Mentoring

Learning Circle Discussion

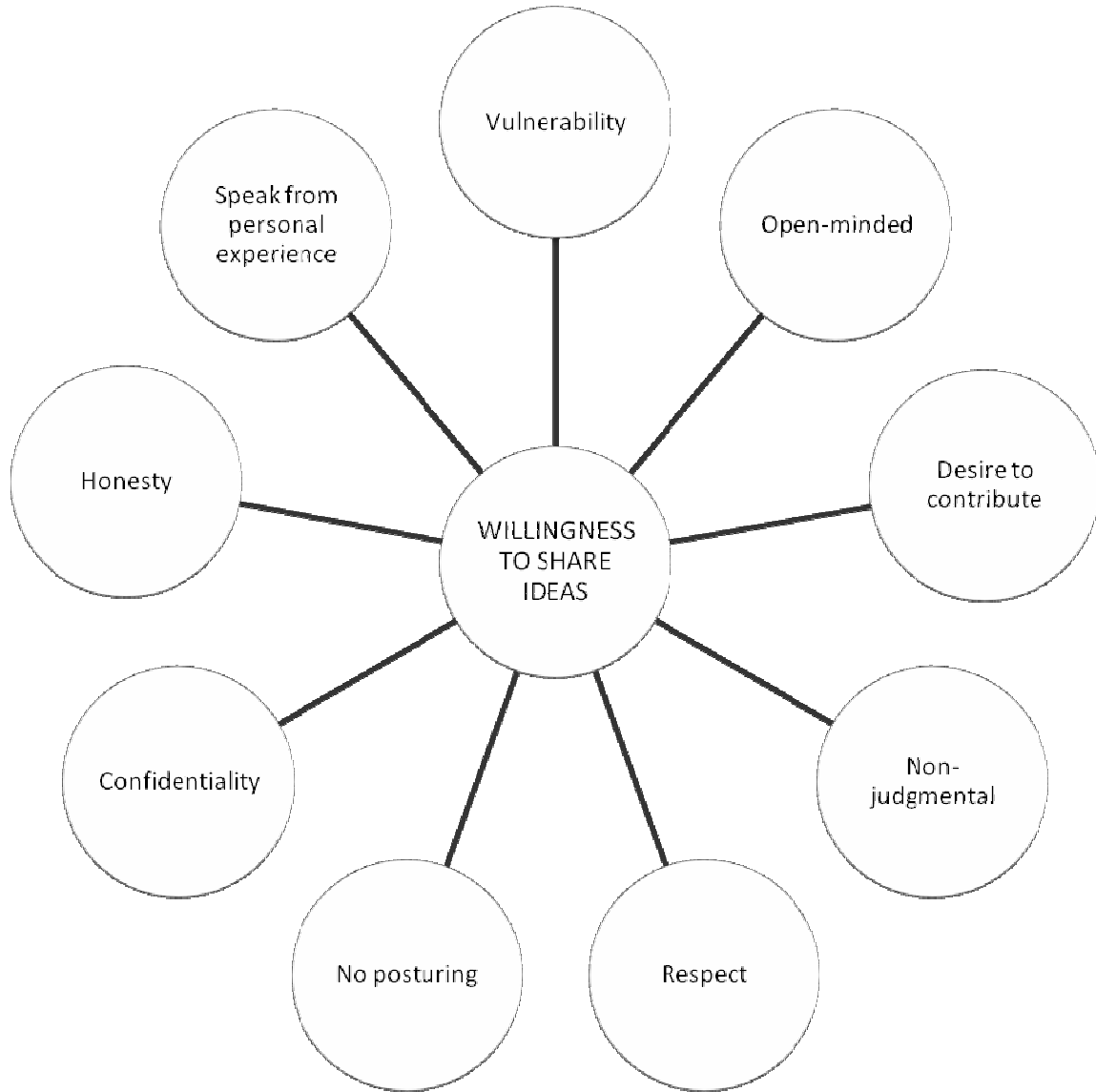
Learning Circle Brainstorm: What Kinds of Things Make Learning Circles Work?

- Shared Power
 - Control
 - Perceived control
- Trust \leftrightarrow Relationship
 - Built over time
 - Various dynamics
 - New/different people
- Knowledge
 - Commitment to circle and process
- Passion
 - Fight for what they want
 - Turn into positive
- Asset Development
- Giving people space
 - No pressure to participate
 - Perceived control
- Trust and Honesty
 - Participant feels safe sharing their points of view
- Listen and listen well
- Equal opportunity to speak
- Knowledge sharing
- Work
- Equal sharing
- Commitment
- Develop relationships (warm up to each other)
- Context – goals
- Getting to the 'why'

Learning Circle Discussion

- Sharing ideas
- Respect
- Non-hierarchical
- Bringing passion to the table
- Preparation to invest time
- Willingness to engage in difficult conversations
- Total Quality Management (four stages – TQM technique)
 - Norming
 - Storming
 - Forming
 - Performing
- Business Development Fundamentals
- Broader support sectors, role models, and actions linked to community development.
- Need for openness and inclusiveness in terms – maybe scholar to describe process rather than have a fixed definition so as not to limit or search for options.
- Capacity – institutions
- Governance – links to skills and personnel
- Develop relationships
- Connected permeable network model
- Business Development
 - Employ and employee
 - Development and reach out
 - Institutional

Learning Circle Discussion



Learning Circle Discussion

Learning Circle Harvest: Insights

After the learning circle discussion took place the participants were asked to share their ideas in point form.

- Recognition of the urban Aboriginal purchasing power.
- Ability to accommodate.
- Creating capital (human or financial).
- Capital – business fundamentals being backstopped by a broader set of sectors – bridges between business fundamentals and a broader set of supports in the community.
- Grassroots approach – bottom up.
- Community development involving holistic.
- Community centered agenda – not just economic development, not just social development what the community has identified, what the community wants.
- Urban well-being.
- Community based.
- How and why do we engage an urban Aboriginal population?
- Edmonton model.... working from the communities intention, creates projects.
- The freedom to choose, the freedom to make real choices (jobs, careers, homes, education).
- Economic development is dynamic balance of relationships (business, jobs, industry) individual, society, hard core business.
- Private business development, public development, community development - same goals of community well being. All need money, human resources. Need to differentiate where they're coming from so we're not competing.
- Difficult, why should it be defined? It is limiting and stifling.
- Economic development from an Aboriginal perspective is not dependant on geographical location. It's about community of interest and a grassroots philosophy.
- Urban – not dependant on geographic location.
- A need for openness, flexibility. Don't want to limit or bound our search for options.

Learning Circle Discussion

- It is bound in terms of a locus of practice, also noticing the connections; economies don't exist in a vacuum.
- Shift away from a discrete definition. The more you look at it the more it disappears.
- People as a separate level of government.
- Governance as communication, sharing learning opportunities, sharing information. Holistic model.
- Governance – capacity building within institutions, governance structure. If you invest in those locations, you are also investing in skills, personal development and relational development.
- It's not all players need to educate and be educated about urban Aboriginal economic development. Funders and program designers need a better understanding of the community that they are trying to help.
- There is a co-learning piece to this.
- Capacity building – more thought human resource development with a focus on youth development. How can we pass on the knowledge to our youth? MORE youth engagement!
- Mentorship and cultivating youth as leaders.
- Governance – we need to recognize distinct communities. Approach them in a way that allows them to do their own governance (Métis, First Nations, Inuit).
- Economic development is not about creating capital, but also about cultural genocide has affected cultural identity, need to protect cultural identity.
- Assets and barriers, within and across communities. Can't come up with one policy to address every community. Keep it open and diverse. There is more than one model of urban Aboriginal economic development.
- Aboriginal must mean Aboriginal no matter how communities define it. Aboriginal people doing Aboriginal work for Aboriginal communities.
- What is urban really? It's more connected to other places. You can't talk about a distinct area. Same as aboriginal, there are specific situations that play into economic development differently than if you were doing economic development with other communities (immigrants, etc). There are specific ways that people relate to their home communities.
- The term of economic development, it's a field, but it's open. It's contextualized by a set of practices and holistic models. It's not so much a prescription for how you develop urban Aboriginal economic development but a suite of practices that people can adopt (relationship building, info sharing). It has to be a community based piece.

Learning Circle Discussion

- One size does not fit all!
- This is not a definitive survey of the issues facing people that work in urban Aboriginal economic development. This is a response to that question! We don't have to limit our learning circles to these responses.
- Sometimes we find that we have to introduce a new issue to communities; there might be some new conversations that come out of this. This is an evolving process.
- There is a lot of commonality between themes, one thing, deconstructing urban Aboriginal economic development – we aren't as advanced as First Nations groups who have land, access to capital. We need to bring our urban environments up to speed. How can we as a group work to develop that?
- Most of the urban Aboriginal people who have money are doing economic development. The ones who do not have money are not doing economic development. The key to the problem is that they don't have the capital to start business. Most of the First Nations people who are doing things have capital! They aren't sitting around with their money in the bank.
- Important that we are talking about urban Aboriginal economic development, the aha moment is the commonalities, understanding that it is a much greater whole than wealth creation. This exercise instead of defining it should be liberating us, taking us beyond job creation to community, quality of life etc. allowing us to look at the whole, instead of being pigeonholed.
- In urban areas it might not be just Aboriginal, there are shared relationships with others as well. They were calling urban economic development. In some urban areas we have different populations.
- We are looking at a network model of economy that is – some leading edge in terms of economic development practice. If we got a hold of the way that Aboriginal people participated in the economy. On and off reserve, and within the city with non-Aboriginal people. There is this network model. We need to discern what is going on in our communities. How are people making money, how are people being left out? Cultivating a set of practices and taking it to another level.
- Funding partners, how to get them to the table. Framing priorities so that organizations can address those priorities. We need to put together an economic development investment group that funds economic development funding initiatives.
- Thinking about well-being, consider the genuine progress index. Using other models that are going around. The bottom line, the triple bottom line and how that ties in.
- How do we measure it? How do we know that we are successful beyond the classic measurement of job creation? This is talk of developing processes. We need to know if we are headed in the right direction or if we need to modify our process – check backs. Are we going where we said we were going to go or are we headed somewhere else? How do you measure the process? How do you get to that?

Learning Circle Discussion

- Holistic models of implementation and measurement, and iterative process. We are constantly learning as we are doing. It's a co-learning process not a co-doing process. There is more emphasis that we are learning as we are doing things. Checking back constantly as we go makes it iterative and fast. It's better than a research project because we don't want to risk failure. Small adjustment along the way rather than one big adjustment. With a research project if it fails it's a part of the research.
- We make small adjustments all the time; our lives are not like research projects.
- We want the sticky notes to be measurable; this isn't inclusive of what has gone on. We can do this together, making drafts of this information.

| Regional Learning Circle Discussion

Regional Learning Circle Discussion

The participants were asked to break up according to where they lived geographically, to discuss forming potential learning circles. This is what was discussed.

Victoria Learning Circle

Needs

- Capture advantage and scaling up

Principles of cooperation

- ?

What are the questions that could guide our learning agenda?

- ?

People to Invite

- Community Planning Council of Greater Victoria
- South Island Métis Nation – Bill Bassen
- Nuu-chah-nulth
- Community Futures
- CFJ
- My Place – CED model of homeless
- Nicole Chaland of CEDNET BC Regional Council (co-operative housing in Victoria)
- Fernwood Neighborhood House
- British Columbia Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres
- Tseycom Hsahout – Esquimalt (Jongheer)
- Cowichan Tribes
- University of Victoria Vancouver UW Alliance
- Aboriginal Economic Development – Brent Mainprize

Local Champions

- ?

Time to Start

- ?

Regional Learning Circle Discussion

Saskatchewan Learning Circle

Needs

- Need to gather and share stories of interest of community development in Saskatoon and Regina
- What works, transferability among different Aboriginal groups
- Land base/ other; sources of funding, capital
- Individual/ group initiatives

Principles of cooperation

- Tapping into experience
- Recognize and support innovation
- Being inclusive
- Recognize, respect, incorporate culture, values, practice, protocols
- Relationship building

What are the questions that could guide our learning agenda?

- Purpose of your project?
- Source of capital (\$\$, human, etc)
- Reasons for success/ failure

People to Invite

- Lestor Lafond and other individuals
- Mid Saskatchewan Regional Economic Development Authority (REDA)
- Bank and other sources of funding
- Aboriginal organizations
- Government
- How many? (University of Saskatchewan, University of Regina, FWUC)

Local Champions

- Darcy Bear
- Lester Lafond

Regional Learning Circle Discussion

- Mary Klyne
- Richard Mission (FWUC)
- Warren Weir (College of Commerce)
- Leanne Bellegaroc
- Jim Elliot – English River
- Matt Sherry, Saskatoon Tribal Council Inc. (STC)
- Shirly Isbister
- Eva Lizotte

Time to Start

- Twelve months

Regional Learning Circle Discussion

Prince George and Beyond Learning Circle

Community

- Prince George and beyond (non-metropolitan areas welcome >100,000 people)

Needs

- Urban Aboriginal Governance (representation of the community needs)
- Urban Aboriginal Engagement
- Capacity issues around individual enterprises
 - What information exists
 - Funding, bricks and mortar, human
 - Skills, attitude, tools

Principles of Cooperation

- This is not a “Prince George” thing
- Invitation to participation from across Canada
 - We agreed to convene meetings electronically
 - Use webpage, emails, conference calls
- Face to face as needed and convenient
 - Fiscal responsibility
- We agree to develop and implement an “benchmarking” exercise – do regular evaluations
- We all agree to assist in mobilizing the idea
 - If it works, the group takes credit
 - If it fails, we blame Ray

What are the questions that could guide our learning agenda?

- What differences and similarities exist between various “urban” areas?
- How do existing governments seek input and guidance for the citizen?
 - Accurate and representative?
- How do you connect individuals from one area to resources that may be in another area?
 - Not available to that individual in their own area for various reasons
- What is happening out there?
 - Is it working?
 - Why or why not?
- Is governance and engagement actually one and the same?

Regional Learning Circle Discussion

People to Invite

- Art Mercer
- Peter Lantin
- Stephen Ameyaw (Simon Fraser University, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology)
- Sean Markey (Simon Fraser University)

Local Champions

- Brent Mainprize
- Ray Gerow
- Veronica Creyke
- Kevin Schindelka
- Don Manson

Time to Start

- Three months

Regional Learning Circle Discussion

Winnipeg Learning Circle

Needs

- Linkages within the community
- Circles (multiple) focusing on specific sub-groups (i.e., First Nations, Métis nations)
- Link among existing economic initiatives

Principles of cooperation

- Independence yet collaborative
- Difference is respected?

What are the questions that could guide our learning agenda?

- Who is doing what?

People to Invite

- Aboriginal chamber of commerce
- Winnipeg chamber of commerce
- Louis Riel capital corporation
- Tribal Council Investment Group (TCIG)
- Financial institutions (i.e., Royal Bank)
- Pat Turner/ Arnold Asham
- Aboriginal Business Incubator Program
- Bernie Verdette
- Young people

Local Champions

- ?

Time to Start

- Three months

Regional Learning Circle Discussion

Learning Circle

Community

- Unknown

Needs

1. Tools for economic development
 - Training, capital, etc
2. Clarifying roles and responsibilities/ resources available from Aboriginal governments
3. Building relationships at a community level between organizations providing services and programs and Aboriginal business (systems approach)

What are the questions that could guide our learning agenda?

- How are successful examples developed?
 - How are they governed?
 - Resources used, etc?
 - Give us examples

|Open Space Meeting

Open Space Meeting

We used Open Space Technology (OST) to host part of the meeting. OST is an organizing tool that allows the participants to construct the agenda and schedule during the meeting, as well as address complex and controversial topics. The topics that were discussed are below.

Session Topic: Social Enterprise as a Tool for Urban Aboriginal Economic Development

Convener:

Marty Donkervoort

Participants:

Stewart Anderson

Marileen Bartlett

Jim Beardy

Veronica Creyke

Penny Irons

Christine Lattey

Tony Shirt

Merv Thomas

Belinda Webb

Summary of discussion:

- Marty spent 15-20 minutes highlighting start-up and accomplishments of Inner City Renovations (ICR), a social enterprise in Winnipeg employing primarily Aboriginal inner city residents (20-30 employees)
- Merv was very interested in the idea and wants to visit in Winnipeg
- Tony recognizes this sound enterprise is not a socialist agenda
- Participants had lots of questions and were generally impressed with the social enterprise model

Next Steps. (Please be specific about who will do what)

- Marty to provide copies of award winning business plan for ICD to Merv Thomas
- Copies available to anybody who would like a copy
- Marty available as a resource for social enterprise development
- DVD on ICR "Rebuilding Winnipeg's North End" available on ICD website www.icdevelopment.ca

Open Space Meeting

Session Topic: Daycare/ Women/ Youth/ Children

Convener:

Penny Irons

Participants:

Stephen Ameyaw

Al Benoit

Marty Donkervoort

Cheryl Matthew

Tony Shirt

Dave Ward

Belinda Webb

Summary of discussion:

- Daycare or early learning daycares are needed in order for parents to work
- After school care/ youth programs are needed
- Funding is the problem/ lack of it
- Sports for kids
- We talked about the creative solutions the Mother Centre have done, like taking kids to work and creating the office as a child honoring place
- Solution – creating home daycare
- Connecting the wealth to good daycares and youth projects
- Engaging youth within the network and addressing their issues as well
- Also – creating the work ethic in the child like the old days – trap lines solutions. When kids brought o work they learn skills

Next Steps. (Please be specific about who will do what)

- Vote in government (Federal) that supports daycare (National policy)
- Distribute social economic impact studies (Susan Prfontice) on children
- Have some circles around daycare solutions/ youth engagement/ fundraising for daycares

Open Space Meeting

Session Topic: Current Government Policy/ Economic Development Policy

Convener:

U.N.K.N.O.W.N. (aka Indian and Northern Affairs Canada)

Participants:

George Bailey

Jim Beardy

Marcella Fontaine

Darryll White

Milt Wright

Summary of discussion:

- Some examples of Alberta and British Columbia program/ processes in place
- Federal policy?? It is a priority
- INAC – National Aboriginal Economic Development Movement
- Aboriginal Business Canada - INAC
- See funding
- More from formula hard to proposed delivery of funds
 - Watching pendries First Nations
 - Provincial Policies??
 - Partnerships with provinces?

Session Topic: Network Website

Convener:

Ray Gerow

Participants:

Robert Anderson

Verna Billy-Minnabarriet

Kelly Bitternose

Brent Mainprize

Barry Pottle

Kevin Schindelka

Summary of discussion:

- Place to allow documents to be translated
- Make it as simple as possible
- Improve communication between practitioner, policy people and researchers
- Identify know and if we can get students involved – if so, when?
- Personalize it
- Aboriginal identification
- Availability of mailing of documents for those who do not have internet capacity?
- Develop policies and procedures around corporate donation, marketing, etc.
- Protect “owner” of website- ensure liability issues are dealt with
- Include rider about plagiarism, etc. Always cite the network
- Make templates available in word if possible, if PDF give reference to how they can get word

Next Steps. (Please be specific about who will do what)

- Steering Committee
- Roy, Brent, Robert, Verna – gatekeepers of the “Aboriginal space”
- Ray’s office to take the lead, host and design the site
- Robert – see if we can “copy” the research network for business sustainability website
- Don – gatekeeper of the liability issue

Session Topic: Funding

Convener:

Merv Thomas

Participants:

Kelly Bitternose

Harvey Yesno

Summary of discussion:

- Is there any new government funding with the new policies of government?
- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC)
- Enterprising non-profits
- VanCity
- Community Economic Opportunities Program
- Community Economic Development Program
- Aboriginal workforce participation
- Urban Aboriginal Strategy
- Aboriginal Banks
- Aboriginal Capital Corporations
- Aboriginal Business Canada
- Western Economic Diversification
- Every province has the...
- Regional corporations
- Aboriginal Human Resources Development Strategy (AHRDS) – targeted wage subsidy
- Tale'awtxw Aboriginal Capital Corporation (TACC)
- All Nations Fund
- Community Futures Development Corporation
- Need \$\$ funding for Métis

Open Space Meeting

Session Topic: Implementation Strategies

“We need success” and end date

Convener:

Stephen Ameyaw

Participants:

Stephen Ameyaw

Verna Billy-Minnabarriet

John McBride

Summary of discussion:

- Creating networks of learning
- Identify deliverables
- Develop implementation plan
- Take a look at the original proposal and generate information to develop the implementation plan
- Make sure other networks have copies of the implementation plan
- Packaging information

Next Steps. (Please be specific about who will do what)

- Stephen Ameyaw will contact Greg, Chris and Ray to discuss timelines, resources, personnel and tasks involved
- Stephen will make sure if the monitoring and evaluation processes are defined.

Open Space Meeting

Session Topic: What Role Do FC's Play in Urban Economic Development?

Convener:

Geraldine King

Participants:

Geraldine King

Ian Peach

Darryll White

Summary of discussion:

Place to go to tap into resources and opportunities; labour force statistics, data bank, programs, training, toolkits, having supports in an identifiable community, network, existing infrastructures, educational, training, access to scholars, and mentors, FC's are a network unto themselves, human and resource capacity.

Next Steps. (Please be specific about who will do what)

- Geraldine King

Open Space Meeting

Session Topic: Evaluation and Sustainability

Convener:

Greg Halseth

Participants:

Gayle Broad

Ron Laliberte

Kate Rexe

Stephen Ameyaw

Verna Billy-Minnabarriet

John McBride

} Evaluation Support Circle

Summary of discussion:

Evaluation

- Tracking
- Proposal output/ outcome evaluation
- Goal based. Larger/ ongoing check-back

Sustainability

- Links to evaluation
- Relationships/ relevance/ reflection
- Tools create lasting value

Next Steps. (Please be specific about who will do what)

- Kate – work to craft evaluation details
- Ron – additional challenge – info for sharing
- Gayle – share info on sol. econ. Evaluation

Open Space Meeting

Session Topic: Time Required to Develop a Sound Knowledge Base

If there is a limited amount of researches on this topic and a corresponding limited amount of knowledge → how much time is required to develop a sound knowledge base that is focused on urban Aboriginal economic development issues?

Convener:

Harvey Yesno

Participants:

Marcella Fontaine

Kevin Schindelka

David Ward

Summary of discussion:

Urban Reserves – why? First Nations only → to generate wealth

Gaming – is it an economic activity?

- diversification into self-sustaining enterprises without gaming supports – yes

To define a BASE would be difficult to achieve

- Factors/ influences → depends upon the community

A VOICE! Common themes

A VISION! Leadership – a visionary

Should be evolving

Aboriginal knowledge should be acknowledged and valued

Next Steps. (Please be specific about who will do what)

Virtual information centre – easily accessible

Fluid

Portable

Open Space Meeting

Session Topic: Success Stories, Cool Stories, War Stories

Convener:

David Stevenson

Participants:

Stewart Anderson

Rupert Downing

Neil Hintz

Ron Laliberte

Tony Shirt

Darryll White

Summary of discussion:

- Bladerunners – ltd programs the support people make the make the step into the job market
- Procurement – contributing idea is to invest back into communities
- Dissolute English community occupying/ squatting in abandoned buildings to local services. Now a model of community economic development. Broadwater Farm.
- Riders Game post game clean up- hire 40 people from community to pick cans- 50 bucks – skilled labour at going through garbage to pick cans.
- Original Plans (3 stories) to help youth turn out to be productive economic enterprises
- Old Hazelton – youth store front for education – spin off into business – labour is supported through community service.
- Procurement – process to handle Aboriginal business a social spinoff

Session Topic: Identifying Existing Research and Processes

How does the network identify existing research and processes (per the topic) resources that can be tagged and stored to hold guide the network building phase.

Convener:

Milt Wright

Participants:

Al Benoit

Rupert Downing

Ray Gerow

Don Manson

Cheryl Matthew

Rhonda McCorrison

Stephanie Phillips

Barry Pottle

Summary of discussion:

- Potential for lots of info, but it needs management.
- The 'network' can help fuel the inventory build.
- Members of the network 'a resource'.
- The network can provide commentary on articles and identify questions and past research needs to begin.
- Links with Academics and grad students through networks.
- Identify conference resources and process delivery.
- Determine how to distribute – website, chatroom, social network (i.e., facebook).

Next Steps. (Please be specific about who will do what)

- The participants will identify some existing resources (all).
- The 'network' will be asked to identify research/graduate student support/ availability.
- The participants will share knowledge on processes (conference prep, policy development, etc).
- The participants will link with the website topic something (not legible writing) to confirm how to join our learnings from the sessions.

Session Topic: Goal Setting and Change

Convener:

Kate Rexe

Participants:

Gayle Broad

Greg Halseth

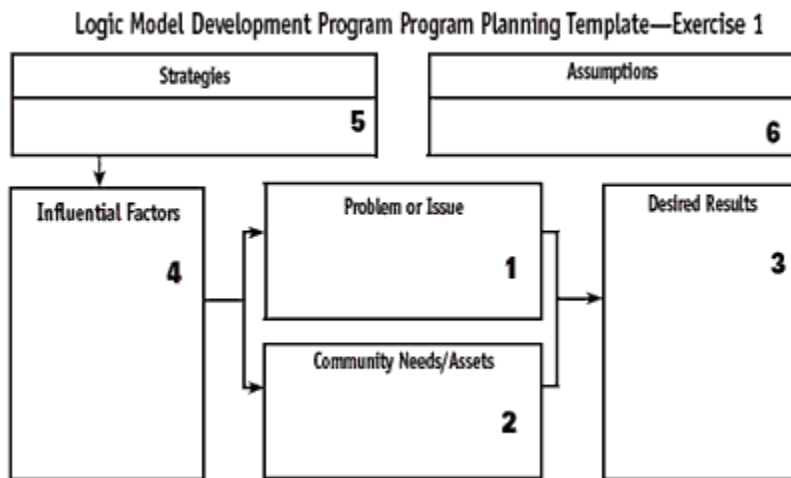
Charles Horn

Ian Peach

Wanda Wuttunee

Summary of discussion:

- Used theory of change model to facilitate discussion on goal setting and change



1. Problem or Issue

Isolation/ lack of knowledge

2. Community Needs/ Assets

- Experience (asset)
- Social Cohesion (asset)
- Catalysts (need)

3. Desired Results (outputs, outcomes, and impact)

- Shared knowledge
- Action and risk-taking
- New connections
- Support structures
- Mentor relationships
- Planning capacity

4. Influential Factors

Open Space Meeting

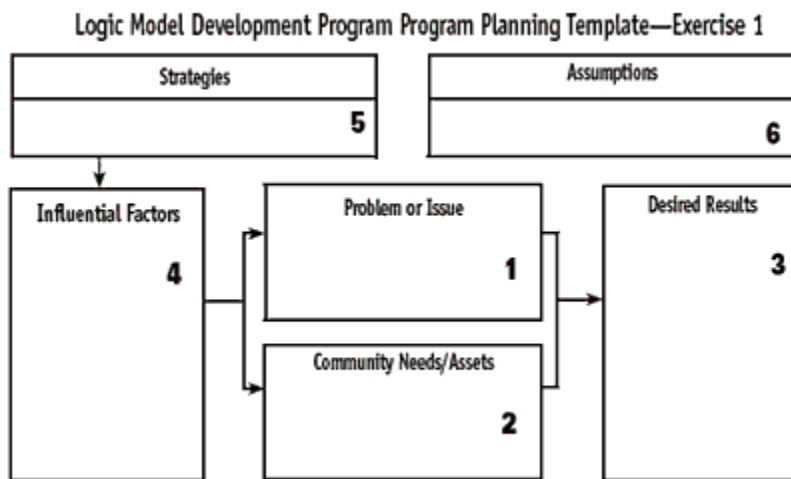
- Program/ funding models
- Social supports within communities
- Knowledge sharing
- Territoriality
- Infrastructure

5. Strategies

- Community control/ partnerships
- University – community partnerships

6. Assumptions

- Community capacity weak
- Aboriginal actually FN in disguise
- People don't value consideration
- Political groups



1. Problem or Issue

- Capacity/ Institutions
 - Working in isolation
 - Nurture support/ leadership

- Youth
- Cultural values

- Examples/ molds/ organization – i.e., Friendship Centres
- Soc. Edu/ soc. cup

3. Desired Results

- Value own assets
- Build capacity
- Build connections

Open Space Meeting

- A place for youth/ support
- Tribal Councils
- Investment Group
- Alberta Ind. Trust Fund
- Relationships
- Idea of spectrum of something across self/ identity

4. Influential Factors

- Knowledge of paths
- 'Program' approach
- Direct
- Work
- 'New Stuff'
- Options for Network or social supports to replace government programs

Community University Research Alliances (CURA) – Saskatchewan – U-C - LINKS
Common Ground
Circle Alberta

- e.g., goals and meds? of place/region to support organizations figure out how to do support

Calgary - Urban Aboriginal Initiative
Edmonton – grassroots to change
SAGE Centre
- efficient
- critical services

Youth as next generation of leaders and capacity will not happen by accident.