

Aspirations

Centre of Excellence: To be a reputational centre of excellence that other communities and universities look to for guidance. If the characteristics of CBR in Haliburton County could be dissected to determine which are transferable to other communities it would be possible to help other communities develop similar entities. There is a need to teach Universities / Colleges and their students, how to engage with the community themselves, ethics, multi-disciplinary.

Sustainability: There is a need for sustainable funding to enable the organization to reach full potential. Perhaps there could be a pooling of resources to create more capacity. Need for a sustainable volunteer population with recognition / celebration of the impact of their involvement. That the community and community leaders recognize and celebrate the uniqueness of the CBR relationships that currently exist. Improved accommodation (housing) for students.

Structural/System Changes: Perhaps a Haliburton CKL sub region planning table on issues related to vulnerable populations. Alteration of the University / College courses to facilitate involvement of students by providing multi-year courses, doubling the offering of CBR / CSL courses and involved departments, offering of more community-based courses such as Love Your Lake. To use research to solve community problems. Consideration of offering University courses for free to community members in order to enhance community capacity.

Networks: Development of strategies for more effective use of technology. Development of better communication strategies to link all partners and the community with widely disseminated results and development of tools to ensure knowledge and mobilization are passed on year to year. Development of a role for U-Links as a facilitator of inter-agency collaboration on big picture issues. Linkages to other communities are developed to enable learning about such things as reconciliation and climate change on a national level.

Results

Long view: That municipalities and organizations use long range thinking and planning using CCE to get there. The story of the long-term impact is told and that U-Links is better known both within and outside the community.



Capacity building: Students are job ready and successful in job search. The community gains capacity and feels empowered (enhanced knowledge). Evaluation tools are developed to demonstrate impact. Student recommendations are implemented. There is easier transportation between Peterborough and Haliburton County.

Connection: Increased involvement of faculty / students/ community members and organizations. Year-round balance (e.g., population 'explosion' in summer). There is ongoing celebration of the relationships.

Challenges Identified:

Resources: Shortage of resources such as staff, travel and transportation from Peterborough and tools to measure success.

Relationship management: Matching host needs to departments at University that are involved in CBR – Limited faculty interest. Accepting the wisdom of the community and becoming rooted in the community. Understanding that it is not free labour. There is a need for mentoring and facilitation that must be done by someone in the organization. It takes time.

Communications: Communication when issues arise given the number of people involved, the distance between Haliburton and Peterborough and sometimes the differences in vantage point. How to communicate the results to the principal in a meaningful way.