Ottawa, Ontario, Roundtable
Impact Hub Ottawa
June 11, 2018

Co-host: Ottawa Eco-Talent Network (contact Jason Garlough) and the Peace and Environment Resource Centre (contact Kathryn Norman).
Participants (10): Academic administrators (1), Faculty (2), Community (7)

We would like acknowledge that the land on which we gathered is the traditional unceded territory of the Algonquin People.

Priority Funding Ottawa National Systems Capacity Partnerships BestPractices Connections TrustLanguage Relationships Commitments Mentoring Expertise Scope Need Students Innovation Leaders Silos Time

Background/Current events:

The OETN hosted 25 people from community associations presidents to food bank volunteers in a morning session on the same day called '[Skilled Volunteering in support of the Sustainable Development Goals [SDGs]](#)'. Many participants are planning to attend the CFICE Ottawa event on June 20th.

Highlights of the SOAR

Strengths

There were four themes that came out of the strengths responses from Ottawa: networks, capacity and skills, leadership, and orientation towards community campus engagement. Networks were identified as "strong", with two named networks being the OETN and the Advisor Network. Capacity and skills were identified as a strength in that there are some partnerships with community that already work well, some support for community organizations, and skills, knowledge, and the groundwork for brokering has been established. Innovative local leadership organizations and "institutional champions that are willing to share and cross pollinate" were both identified as assets in the community. A final theme is an orientation towards community campus engagement, as demonstrated by interest, preferences for collaborative approaches, and city-wide facilities to foster collaboration.

Opportunities

Both the change in policy at the provincial level towards increased experiential learning and the change in presidential leadership at Carleton provide opportunities for enhancing CCE. A third opportunity theme is the role of brokers as intermediaries between communities and campuses "that can idealize and bring alive the "toolboxes" that sit on the shelf". And, finally, emerging technologies and the existing social innovation infrastructure both present opportunities for creativity, flexibility, sustainable buildings, open data sharing, and energy around CCE.

Aspirations

One of the biggest themes in aspirations was for lowered barriers to participation in CCE

partnerships. The operational aspirations in support of this theme include making opportunities accessible, approachable, connecting community to campus services, connecting students to community beyond "post-secondary walls" to address issues, and to simplify: make it easy to participate. Infrastructure and capacity building were also aspirations in this group. Specifically, funding, funding proposals, business cases, operational brokerage, cooperative resource centre or co-working spaces with participation from community and post-secondary institutions, such as as "doer collective". A final theme was leadership: community led, rotated leadership, and strong coordinator.

Results

Participants thought that indicators of progress might include the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, movement on critical community issues, and measures such as number potential participants, number of actual participants, money raised, and money available . For student projects, it was suggested that they must be even in their criteria and realistic in their scope in order to look at the impact and then beyond, to the impact of faculties, centres, programs, etc. A third theme is also focused on students-- that they feel connected to their community, have a positive CSL experience and that they know how to get or stay involved in their community. Finally, the group would know that they have made progress when community organizations engage with postsecondary institutions to advance their mission.

<u>Recommendations Dotmocracy</u>

Ottawa Aspirations
- Increased capacity in the community sector (9 dots)
- (N.C.R.) Ottawa needs (third-party community-based) brokering house cross-institutional (6 dots)
- That students have a positive experience plus stay involved in community (5 dots)
- We have the (human) resources already (need the financial resources) (5 dots)
- Start with clear community priority (3 dots)
- Greater coordination among existing entities (community + PSI's + city etc) (3 dots)
- CCE community of practice that moves location (2 dots)
- Reciprocity engagement (1 dot)

National Level Aspirations
- Policy development and funding advocacy; government engagement; best practices (6 dots)
- Need ongoing national level funding for community brokering (5 dots)
- Support evaluation/impact analysis (5 dots)
- Need clarity on national vs regional vs local work/engagement (2 dots)
- Need to name that the value of CCE is best realized locally (2 dots)