Deepening Community

RE-IMAGINING CITIES | RE-ENGAGING CITIZENS



www.deepeningcommunity.ca

A LEARNING & ACTION COMMUNITY FOR DYNAMIC NEIGHBOURHOODS

Re-imaging Cities • Re-Engaging Citizens

Tamarack's **Deepening Community** Learning Community is mobilizing a network of leaders from municipalities and organizations, across Canada and beyond, who are implementing strategies to create dynamic neighbourhoods. Together, they are accelerate their effectiveness at:

- Engaging citizens as co-creators and leaders in neighbourhood change;
- Harnessing and supporting the capacity of citizen leadership for priority projects; and
- Informing municipal leaders about opportunities to create and invest in the conditions that help neighbourhoods to thrive.

Tamarack's **Neighbourhood Strategy Leaders' Community of Practice** is mobilizing a growing number of leaders who are advancing neighbourhood strategies. Together we share resources and experiences that are advancing comprehensive approaches for creating strong neighbourhoods.

Together, we are discovering – and documenting – innovative approaches that are proving effective at unleashing the creativity, talent and aspirations of neighbourhood residents into concrete and measurable improvements in the quality of neighbourhood life.

As various neighbourhood strategies are documented and shared, we are also co-creating a deeper understanding of the unique role that neighbourhoods can play in addressing loneliness; fostering belonging; and, reweaving the social fabric of our communities. As this capacity is built, neighbours' ability to care for one another is restored and the resilience of our communities is enhanced.

The resources and tools developed by the neighbourhood strategy leaders' network are also being curated into a robust library of wise practices and lessons which we hope will ultimately:

- Accelerate the practice of neighbourhood-building across Canada;
- Demonstrate the effectiveness and impact of neighbourhood-based work; and,
- Identifying opportunities for focused investments in funding and policy change can amplify the work of this field.

Creating deeper communities is THE opportunity of our time. As we learn the skills to rebuild our neighbourhoods, we restore our capacity to care for one another.

6 Reasons to Focus on Neighbourhoods

- 1. It's where many quality of life issues are concentrated and reinforced.
- 2. It's a more manageable scale to address the interconnected factors affecting quality of life.
- 3. It taps under-utilized resources, skills, wisdom, and networks.
- 4. It can kick-start a process of sustainable renewal.
- 5. It builds citizen ownership to the community's issues.
- 6. It can inform policy-making at the local level.

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