

Local Deepening Community Initiative- A Unique Partnership Opportunity

ENGAGING COMMUNITY ONE CONVERSATION AT A TIME

Each year Tamarack is committed to working with 5 local communities who are interested in leading local Deepening Community Initiative projects. This work is part of Tamarack's commitment to build a national movement of community developers interested in deepening a collective understanding of the power and possibility of community. We are wanting to identify the programs, policies, and practices that are demonstrating effectiveness in building and sustain strong, engaged communities.

Is this right for your community?

- If your community is wanting to create and/or deepen a sense of neighbourhood and belonging.
- If you are looking to engage a diverse cross-section of citizens to craft a shared vision for the future of their community

Contact us to learn more about the local Deepening Community Initiative.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

- Identifies and taps the skills, talents and resources of neighbours
- Deepens knowledge and awareness about the neighbourhood and its residents
- Strengthens relationships of trust between neighbours and fosters belonging
- Identifies priorities for shared action
- Cultivates a shared community vision
- Experiments with new ways of working together
- Reweaves the community's social fabric and strengthens its resilience

HOW TO HAVE A CONVERSATION IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD?

Leaders of the local Deepening Community Initiatives will work with Tamarack to adapt our proven framework and resources to their unique context. The insights from local projects will contribute to Tamarack's national research exploring the power, possibility and impact of deepening community in Canada.



Friends go in different directions but community, whether large or small, works together for a common goal.

- Grey Bruce Conversations participant

LOCAL DEEPENING COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

A Unique Partnership Opportunity

Past Conversations

Delburne, Alberta

The rural community of Delburne Alberta was an early local partner with Tamarack.

Delburne's Conversations' Project:

- Incorporated a powerful photo and mural project
- Belonging DELBURNE – into their project
- Engaged 48% of the town's citizens
- Identified 7 possible projects for shared action
- Cultivated shared ownership and responsibility for emerging projects with residents



Connecting Lakeside: York Region, ON

In Spring 2016, conversations were hosted as part of the Connecting Lakeside Initiative. These conversations helped neighbours get to know one another; discover their shared hopes for the building that they call home; and, discover the gifts, knowledge and talents they each have to share.

The Connecting Lakeside Initiative in York Region demonstrated a recognition that complex community issues are often best addressed locally and do benefit when different sectors work together.

Mapping Assets: You, Your Neighbour and your Community: Peterborough, Ontario

Peterborough, in partnership with Tamarack launched the **Asset-Mapping: You, and Your Community** project with their leadership team. This facilitated session used a variety of engagement tools to assist the team to build relationships with each other; reach consensus on the project's desired impact; identify success indicators and set parameters for project's scope.

"In the 'olden days', we didn't need organizations to seed community-building; we just did it. Cities and increasing mobility changed all that, so we're grateful to the Tamarack Institute and particularly to our local dynamos who sparked this into life. Thank you." Peterborough Conversation participant

Grey & Bruce Counties, Ontario

Championed by the Grey Bruce Health Unit, this Deepening Community Initiative encompassed a vast rural region that the team divided into four quadrants. Initial results included:

- 500+ residents, representing 10 sector perspectives, participated
- 47 conversations were held
- Community strengths, assets and challenges were affirmed
- Six priorities for shared action were identified
- 6 Community Celebrations were hosted
- 89% of participants expressed interest in working together to strengthen their community after participating in a conversation
- Participants' feelings of being connected to one another increased by 8% after

To read all the case studies of past conversation
go to our website:
www.deepeningcommunity.ca

Conversations to deepen community: A unique partnership opportunity:

If you are interested in exploring the opportunity to collaborate with us please contact heather@tamarackcommunity.ca to learn more