

A LEARNING COMMUNITY

Tamarack's Deepening Community Learning Community is an online space for individuals interested in learning together and developing our collective understanding about the power of citizens and how to make this a guiding force in how neighbourhoods, organizations and institutions address complex community issues. We do this by:

- Enhancing the learning and effective practice of neighbourhood & community leaders
- Develop and sharing resources, programs and policies that accelerate positive community and neighbourhood change – nationally and internationally

Deepening Community: Our Intended Impact

- The **POWER OF NEIGHBOURS** and communities will be recognized as a central organizing principle of vibrant, resilient neighbourhoods and communities
- A comprehensive **BODY OF KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE** – resources, programs and policies – for strengthening neighbourhoods and communities will be curated, and shared
- A **DYNAMIC NETWORK OF PRACTITIONERS** are intentionally working together to accelerate the effectiveness of this work
- This national peer learning network will inspire and inform **A MOVEMENT FOR EFFECTIVE, CITIZEN-LED ENGAGEMENT AND CHANGE**

Paul Born's 2014 book, *Deepening Community: Finding Joy Together in Chaotic Times* serves as an anchor for this Learning Community by outlining four pillars to deepen community. These are:

- Sharing our stories
- Enjoying one another
- Taking care of one another; and,
- Working together for a better world.

At Tamarack, one of our roles is to convene and support the members of this online community in learning together; share best practices; test new ideas; create new knowledge and, accelerate the work of this field.

“ Research has shown that people who are members of peer learning networks such as our Deepening Community Online Community are more successful in developing, implementing and taking promising new ideas to scale. ”



Here are some concrete ways to get involved and contribute to the Deepening Community's Learning Community:



1. **Read the Book**

Read Paul Born's book, **Deepening Community: Finding Joy Together in Chaotic Times** which offers an important foundation to help you to better understand the concepts that deepen community, hear stories of deep and shallow experiences of community, and find tools and resources to work with others to deepen community in your workplace, home, church, or neighbourhood. www.deepeningcommunity.org



2. **Create an Online Profile & Share Ideas, Resources and Questions**

Visit us at www.deepeningcommunity.ca and create a profile, listen to podcasts, post blogs, post links to other websites, and share other resources. Explore the ideas being explored by our community's seven Thought Leaders: people who bring various insights and expertise into this overall dialogue. Access the great library resources, create a profile to engage with others, and post a blog or resource to contribute to the discussion. Email Christie at christie@tamarackcommunity.ca to learn more.



3. **Subscribe to Engage! & Seekers Journal**

These two e-publications are free and arrive monthly in your inbox. Engage!, Tamarack's signature e-magazine, highlights the latest developments in the fields of multi-sector collaboration, engagement and community change. The Seekers Journal offers a quick snapshot on the latest ideas and thinking from members of the Deepening Community Learning Community. Visit us at www.tamarackcommunity.ca to subscribe.



4. **Participate in Webinars**

Tamarack regularly hosts webinars with thought-leaders who are advancing important ideas that can help further your own work. Part structured interview, part Q&A dialogue with participants, these free events are a quick and easy way to explore powerful new ideas to advance your work. Learn more at www.tamarackcommunity.ca.



5. **Join a Community of Practice (CoP)**

Communities of Practice (CoPs) are groups of learners to agree to meet regularly to share stories, tools, questions and experiences. The Deepening Community Learning Community currently hosts two CoPs:

Neighbourliness CoP – This CoP is for residents and staff who are interested in learning and sharing innovative programs and practices that lead to neighbourhood-focused solutions to issues including: housing, food security, healthy aging, events & celebrations and belonging. We meet bi-monthly by tele-conference.

Neighbourhood Strategy Leaders CoP (*by invitation only*) - This newly forming CoP is for municipal leaders across Canada who have or are developing neighbourhood strategies and are interested in advancing policies that support and encourage neighbourhoods to build, strength and foster connection and well-being for all. This CoP meets bi-monthly via tele-conference.

Partner with Tamarack to host a Deepening Community Local Initiative in your community. Contact Christie Nash via email at christie@tamarackcommunity.ca for more information or to join a CoP.