

September 29th - Oct 3rd, 2019 • Vancouver, BC

DAY II HIGHLIGHTS: TUESDAY OCTOBER 1ST, 2019

OPENING REFLECTIONS

Reconvening the Learning Community

What is alive for you now?

- Some examples from the crowd: innovation lab; the 'Right' relationships across distance; all 5 areas of exploration are so interconnected; there is such power in diverse voices—especially in collective impact and action; from Kris Archie: if you're having a hard time engaging your community, maybe you're not asking the right questions.

Vanessa from Dreamwriter Productions

Game Show!

- Gathered audience members for a questions and answer component:
 - What is a benefit of bringing story into change making?
 - Connects to our humanity
 - Everyone has one
 - There is a fluidity of ideas (R&D)
 - We remember story: and therefore make connections
 - What is the benefit of bringing arts based activities into change making?
 - Creativity
 - Integrates culture into the process
 - Self-expression is a human right
 - Brings everyone together in a fun way

Community Engagement Workshop #2

Ideas for Innovation

1. Be Courageous.
 - Fear tends to be something that holds people back. So out of a fear of engaging incorrectly, instead we don't engage. Choose to be courageous even in being wrong or in not knowing.
2. Be Connected.
 - What kinds of language are you using when you talk to the community? Language that is too formal or too professional can be divisive. What kind of relationship do you want with your community? That goal should represent the way you talk to them. Language goes beyond the oral; written, body language, room layout, and physical space are just some forms of language.

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3. Be Creative.

- How to use the arts to speak the truth, and to say that thing you're not saying? The arts seem to have a role of evolution and revolution.

PEER INPUT PROCESS

Divided into groups of 3 with 15 minutes for each person: 5 minutes to provide background; 5 minutes for context and the question; and 5 minutes for "fly on the wall" feedback from the other 2 members of the group.

Shared some feedback about the process: it allows for new and different perspectives not just for the person who is getting the feedback, but also allows the persons providing the feedback to step into a different role and think differently about different challenges.

IMMERSIVE LEARNING TOUR—ON THE TABLE: DEMOCRACY AND BELONGING

- There is concern about the fragility of democracy. People seem to be disengaged from the system. There needs to be a conscious effort to reach out and engage those with a different world view than us. *If we don't make this effort, we're really only talking to ourselves.*
- Question posed to group: Is belonging a cause for democratic involvement? Is a belonging to neighbourhood impactful enough to contribute to democracy? If so, how do we cultivate that feeling of belonging as an agent of change?
 - Belonging: opinion is valued; shared feelings; shared experiences; step up and participate; involvement provides a sense of belonging; deeply caring- passionate; there is more of a tangible result to being involved in your own community; deeper belonging leads to a deeper desire/capacity to be involved; there is also strong belonging in NOT participating in democracy; the sense of belonging can contribute to being involved in other types of government than just democracy.

4 Story tellers:

- Wah Foundation- Racism and Equity Project
 - Change systemic behaviours
 - Work with young folks primarily
 - *Before we're productive on race and culture, we must heal*
- Mark Bussy
 - Ted Talks: creativity can be at the center of a yearning for inquiry and involvement > it is in this space that we can find disruption, a challenging of the status quo, and engage in difficult questions
- Overdose Prevention Site
 - Controversial, but it was the RIGHT thing to do

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- By creating safe spaces, they've gone beyond their primary purpose of saving lives, but they've built relationships (housing help, donations)
- Joseph Dandurand
 - Is overwhelmed by belonging but does not believe in democracy
 - When you take something from the earth you must always give something back
 - Read "The Magical Sturgeon"
- Question posed to group: What is the connection between belonging and democracy?
 - What if it was democracy that created belonging>sometimes in the very process of voting, where the majority wins, you've created a group of people that don't 'belong'; think beyond political democracy; 'democracy' as defined as felling as though you're able to push back; neighbourhoods themselves create reasons to push through differences as they've made an investment in the space; belonging is not the gateway but the challenge for democracy; sometimes 'belonging' or finding a like group is about survival; Hawaii> you already DO belong, so perhaps the challenge is to help you see how you belong or how you can contribute

