**Path to Neighbourhood Connection**

**STEPS FROM St Albert**

1. St. Albert began evaluating block parties in 2008.  All block party organizers emailed a questionnaire after their party was complete. The goal was to get feedback on the process but also hear stories of the impact block parties were having.
2. Evaluation results were reviewed yearly on a high level, by looking for themes for suggested improvements and stories or quotes that could be used in reports and social media.  Basically, we were only skimming the surface of the data.
3. In 2015, by chance, a volunteer emerges to share her passion and experience with evaluation. She reviews and analyzes our data and prepares a report of her findings. The value of Block Parties is illuminated through her analysis, proving that they are, in fact, the valuable tool for neighbourhood development that we intuitively knew.
4. This analysis inspires more evaluations!  The participants of the St. Albert Neighbourhood Development initiatives, Little Free Libraries and Neighbourhood Connectors are sent evaluations in 2018.  Our volunteer repeats the evaluation to include these other neighbourhood development initiatives.
5. The whole story emerges! We analyzed the data and we are now able to show how our current neighbourhood development initiatives are moving us toward our goal of a “Sense of Community and Connectedness” on every street in St. Albert: The Path to Neighbourhood Connection.
6. We now have a map that we can build on by adding programs, asking evaluation questions that reflect the path and help us continue to build on our successes.

**Path to Neighbourhood Connection – Program and Outcomes Map**

Programs

Tool Library (TL)

Little Free Libraries (LFL)

Block Parties (BP)

Neighbourhood Association (NA)

Neighbourhood Connectors (NC)

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Neighbourhood Outcomes

**A Sense of Community and Connectedness**