Community Collaboration Project: Empowering Communities and Building Capacity

Rural Development Institute
Brandon University
CCP Vision

Communities working together to explore and implement processes that will increase their ability to address change and work toward becoming more sustainable.
Goal of the CCP

Test the applicability & replicability of the CCP model, as implemented in Manitoba/Nunavut, elsewhere in rural and northern Canada.
CCP Structure

Regional Round Table (RRT)
A group of Communities

Communication Flow

Advisory Group
A subcommittee of the Rural Team comprised of community-serving organizations, federal and provincial representatives

Rural Development Institute
CCP Process

Community Capacity

- Visioning
- Vision Refining
- Agenda Setting
- Project Activity
- External Facilitation
- Resources – Financial & Human
- Steering Committee
- Formation
- Building Community Capacity

Time
The CCP is multi-dimensional & multi-faceted, encompassing 7 RRTs, 4 steering committees, 2 & potentially 4 academic institutions.
Participatory Evaluation

- An ongoing collaborative approach that involves everyone
- Builds on people’s strengths, values and contributions, focusing on learning, success and action
- Includes ways to enable all RRT stakeholders to use the information
- Through the **participatory evaluation** process you will:
  - discover how the RRT is working
  - understand what is working within the RRT well & why
  - understand what is not working well within the RRT & why
  - discover the impact the RRT has on the region
  - identify opportunities for improvement
  - identify new opportunities
Evaluation Framework

A systematic way to continuously look at outcomes, results & impacts

Community Capacity

Did we do what we said we would do?

Resources
- money
- in-kind contributions
- volunteers
- staff

What worked?

What you wish to accomplish

Outcomes

The changes, benefits or improvements resulting from the actions

Actions

The activities that contribute to achievement of outcomes

Outputs

What difference did it make?

What didn’t work?

Community Capacity

What would we do differently another time?
RRT Selection Criteria

- The RRT is comprised of rural communities.
- The potential RRT community representatives must have the desire and a commitment to work together in new and different ways to achieve common goals.
- Leaders within the communities are prepared to actively engage in the creation of the RRT.
- The communities and organizations that serve them must agree to commit in-kind and cash resources to the process of forming and organizing RRTs.
- Provincial/territorial Rural Team must agree to become involved in supporting the RRT, and agree to create a RRT Advisory Group from their membership.
Regional Round Tables - Manitoba

- **Bayline**
  - Formed in 2001
  - 6 communities

- **Hudson Bay Neighbours**
  - Formed in 2002
  - 12 communities

- **Northern Vision**
  - Formed in 1999
  - 4 communities

- **Southwest**
  - Formed in 2000
  - 6 communities
Regional Round Table - Saskatchewan

- **Waterwolf**
  - 15 communities in central SK
  - Formed in 2005
  - Central organization is MidSask CFDC/REDA
Regional Round Table – British Columbia

- Northeastern BC
  - Communities participating in the Northern Rockies Alaska Highway Tourism Association (NRATHA)
  - Formed in 2005
Regional Round Table - Yukon

- Formative stage
- Initial meeting in December ’05
- Last meeting had 18 communities and First Nations around the table
Bayline RRT

- Membership – Mayor/Chief and one councilor per member community, RRT has included new communities (2001 and 2002)
- Structure – Incorporated as a non-profit community development organization
- Decision-Making – Majority of votes
- Organization – 4 meetings/year, 3 full-time staff, website, seeks external funding sources
Bayline Activities & Projects

- **Food Security**
  - Community gardens project – providing each community with a rototiller and vegetable seeds
  - Community freezer project – providing communities with large chest freezers to allow residents to freeze food
    - Funded by Public Health Agency of Canada, Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs

- **Ancestry Research**
  - Interviewing elders in each community
    - Funded by Human Resource and Skills Development Canada
WaterWolf RRT

- Flexible, evolves with the project
- Created to address barriers to development
- Non-profit corporation
- Wholly owned by Mid Sask CFDC/REDA
Population: 11,000
WaterWolf Partners

- Whitecap First Nation
- Rural Team Saskatchewan
- Rural Secretariat
- Western Economic Diversification
- RDI
WaterWolf Mandate

- A tax and investment sharing template
- A river valley authority or management group
- Initiate land use planning – ramp up GIS capacity
- Provide focal point for above – Danielson Park pilot project
- Regional water technicians
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WaterWolf Projects</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>River Valley Association RVA</td>
<td>Recommend to the Regional Round Table a governance model to provide good stewardship and oversight of development in the South Saskatchewan River valley South of Beaver Creek.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional Water Technician RWT</td>
<td>Recommend to the Regional Round Table potential solutions to the issue of long term stability and sustainability in providing technical oversight for water quality to small communities in accordance with provincial regulations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infrastructure Investment &amp; Development Tax Sharing II &amp; DTS</td>
<td>Recommend to the Regional Round Table a framework for municipal sharing of the cost of infrastructure development and for the sharing of taxes on new regional developments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Danielson Park Pilot Project DP</td>
<td>Recommend to the Regional Round Table a process and time table for development at or near Danielson Park as a demonstration pilot for tax and investment sharing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>GIS and Land Use Planning GIS</td>
<td>Make recommendations to the Regional Round Table concerning medium and long term land use planning. Make recommendations for priorities in the development of data layers within the region.</td>
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Project Success Factors

Leadership
Commitment
Trust
Facilitation
Funding
Project Success Factors

- Increased capacity in the RRTs, communities and regions to accomplish your goals and objectives
- Leadership development within RRTs and steering committees
- New/different partnerships and networks
- Trusting relationships between and among communities, governments, community-serving organizations and academic institutions
- Increased communication between and among communities and governments
Roles and Expectations
RDI

- liaise with both the Advisory Group and the RRT.
- attend any RRT meetings deemed critical to the Community Collaboration Project processes.
- assist, when requested, in strengthening the collaboration process at the RRT to help ensure successful outcomes.
- convene an annual meeting of representatives of all RRTs and Rural Team steering committees in order to share experiences and learn from one another.
- facilitate the documentation and recording of the CCP process so there is a strong record of the intention and impact of the RRT processes
- communicate lessons learned pertaining to the development and evaluation of the RRT and Advisory Group.
hold in confidence any information provided by any of the stakeholders, which is deemed NOT in the public domain.

report the activities of the RRT in order that there is a public record of the community development processes employed and projects undertaken.

facilitate a participatory evaluation process.

make a cash contribution to support the RRT. The exact amount of the contribution will depend on the RRT’s ability to leverage cash and/or in-kind contributions and will be based upon need and value. RDI will provide an amount of up to $100,000, upon receipt of invoices for eligible expenditures. This amount may also be subject to revision by the Minister should annual appropriations be changed by Parliament.
Regional Round Tables

- form a group of diverse, multi-stake holder members of the community who have the desire and commitment to work together to achieve common goals.
- work with RDI to measure indicators required for project evaluation and for reporting on an annual basis.
- share lessons learned about activities of the RRT that will be made available to the public.
- agree to provide resources (in-kind and/or cash) to support the creation and operation of the RRT.
- provide to RDI on a quarterly basis, a financial accounting of the expenditures and reporting of any funds provided to them by RDI and also of funds that are leveraged from other sources that support the goals and purposes of this project.
Advisory Group

- maintain open channels of communication with the RRT.
- serve as a conduit for communication between all members of the Rural Team and the RRT.
- establish open lines of communication with other provincial/territorial rural team steering committees engaged in similar processes in other provinces/territories.
- assist the RRT to access information, human resources and financial resources that will move their projects forward.
Project Legacy

Communities, community-serving organizations and governments collaborating in new and different ways to achieve the communities’ collective dreams, visions and goals.
For More Information

Website

www.brandonu.ca/rdi

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