

INDIGENOUS INNOVATION SUMMIT REPORT



Executive Summary

The National Association of Friendship Centres (NAFC) created and hosted the inaugural Indigenous Innovation Summit on November 19-21, 2015 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. The Summit was a unique, first of its kind national-level social innovation summit, created for and by Indigenous people. This project brought together a variety of social innovators both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, youth, elders, and individuals working in both the public and private sectors from across the country. The Summit was the result of months of organizing by the NAFC and its Summit partners: the J.W. McConnell Foundation, the Winnipeg Boldness Project, the Circle for Philanthropy and Aboriginal Peoples, Canadians for a New Partnership, and the 4Rs Youth Movement.

The Summit itself consisted of panel presentations given by experts and practitioners in a number of different fields related to social innovation. Members of the Friendship Centre Movement along with professors, individuals from the business world, governments and entrepreneurs met via conference call in the weeks leading up to the Summit to prepare and co-ordinate ideas and presentation methods. The facilitators placed a strong emphasis on dynamic and engaging presentation styles. These panel presentations were separated into three streams: learning, action, and coaching, with the latter being the most advanced. Overall the panels covered social innovation, finance, education, health, social entrepreneurship and more.

As a compliment to the panel presentations there was an all day Solutions Lab facilitated by the Winnipeg Boldness Project and a special event Thursday evening that focused on Reconciliation as Innovation and how Canada as a whole can use innovation to promote reconciliation and healing between First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples and non-Indigenous Canadians.

The initial results arising from the Summit are very exciting and promising. A number of new relationships have been formed that will show signs of resulting in new innovations and projects. A group of about 10 speakers pooled their speakers fees to support a housing initiative in Victoria, BC. Ground work at the Summit on mapping the reconciliation landscape in Canada has been picked up by Reconciliation Canada and was further developed at a national event in January. A discussion between Summit partners and stakeholders may lead to the creation of an Indigenous Innovation Demonstration Fund, which would allow for flexible capital with capacity supports to be provided to some of the social innovation ideas emerging from the Summit.

Beyond these exciting results from our first Summit, much of the feedback received has focused on the transformational nature of the event at a very personal and individual level. Indigenous and non-Indigenous people were brought together and had moving discussions on the role of individuals in reconciliation. As a result, individuals have returned to their communities and their fields and encouraged their families and colleagues to engage in innovation and reconciliation.

The next Summit will be in Edmonton and the NAFC will look to build upon last year's successful Summit, taking into account the positive responses from the post-Summit survey we will look to increase both size and scope of the Summit, while remaining focused on our common goal of building the field of Indigenous social innovation. It will be even more interactive and increase the amount of time for networking and relationship building between social innovators, social organizations, community groups, philanthropists, governments and other stakeholders. We will continue our collective work to make new connections and show Canada what we have known all along, that the future is Indigenous.

Introduction

In November 2015, the National Association of Friendship Centres (NAFC) hosted a unique, first of its kind Indigenous Innovation Summit

on Treaty 1 land and the traditional territory of the Métis nation – Winnipeg, Manitoba. The goal was to build the field of Indigenous Innovation. Social innovation is about creating solutions to challenges, putting people and communities first. Indigenous innovations look back to old traditions and rediscover how these teachings show Indigenous communities the way forward. The Summit strived to unlock new and revive existing ideas and approaches to persistent challenges faced by Indigenous communities in Canada, and the outcomes are encouraging.

The Indigenous Innovation Summit brought together thinkers and doers from a variety of backgrounds from across Canada for two days of interaction, networking and partnership building. The participants shared ideas and strategies to foster better policies, businesses, organizations and a better world. Many communities are using social innovation to grow and strengthen their communities both on and off reserve. The Summit highlighted the success of many of these projects, shared the learnings and began to seed the opportunities for future success. The initial concept behind the Summit was to share these best practices and lessons learned with the Friendship Centre Movement and its partners, in order to grow and give access to these types of projects and financing to Indigenous communities throughout Canada.

As social innovations grow both within Canada and the Friendship Centre Movement, it is becoming an increasingly important concept in the way organizations and community groups and charities support their communities and take control of funding their own projects. The NAFC wanted to help grow this field of social innovation and share new learnings and experiences with its membership, the Indigenous community, and other stakeholders.

Before the Summit planning began we needed a good definition of social innovation. What is social

innovation? We used a definition that social innovation is an initiative, product, process or program that profoundly changes the basic routines, resources and authority flows or beliefs of any social system. Social innovation seeks to resolve social, cultural, economic and environmental challenges at the root rather than treating symptoms. Social innovations are new strategies, concepts, ideas and organizations that meet the social needs of different elements which can arise from working conditions and education to community development and health – they extend and strengthen civil society.

What is social enterprise? Social enterprise refers to an organization that applies commercial strategies to maximize improvements in human and environmental well-being, rather than maximizing profits for external shareholders. Social enterprises can be structured as a for-profit or non-profit, and may take the form of a co-operative, mutual organization, a disregarded entity, a social business, or a charitable organization. Many commercial enterprises would consider themselves to have social objectives, but commitment to these objectives is motivated by the perception that such commitment will ultimately make the enterprise more financially valuable. Social enterprises differ in that they do not aim to offer any benefit to their investors, except where they believe that doing so will ultimately further their capacity to realize their social and environmental goals.

The NAFC has committed to convening three annual Indigenous Innovation Summit's to build and grow the field of Indigenous Innovation. The Summit was planned and designed to be innovative in how it was structured from the panel topics and how they were presented, to how the attendees participated within the Summit programming. Programming was split into three separate streams. We called these streams the Learning, Action, and Coaching streams, encouraging attendees to self-identify into whichever stream they felt they belonged, based on their knowledge of and experience of working with social innovation and social enterprises.

What took place included the sharing of stories of social innovation projects – some that worked well, others that did not. There was an opportunity for dialogue between some of those individuals and communities who are leading the way while also providing a space for others who are just beginning. The Summit brought together communities that have not traditionally worked together, but it is these acts of reconciliation that took place in Winnipeg and that continue to develop that seem to be at the forefront of what the participants have taken home with them. It is with this feeling that participants are beginning to approach the relationship building necessary in creating lasting and meaningful partnerships, something we are convinced will reshape the ways we approach our work together.

About the NAFC

Established in 1972, the NAFC is a network of 118 Friendship Centres from coast-to-coast-to-coast. The NAFC is Canada's largest and most effective urban Indigenous service-delivery organization. Founded by Indigenous people for Indigenous people, Friendship Centres offer a unique wrap-around service model to help and support Indigenous people in urban areas. The NAFC is democratically governed, status blind, and accountable to its membership.

Nearly 60% of Indigenous people in Canada live in urban areas, and the Indigenous population is growing 6 times faster than the non-Indigenous population. Indigenous peoples in Canada is also distinctly young, with 48% of the population being under the age of 25. In 2011/12, Friendship Centres across Canada delivered over 1,493 programs and services to approximately 700,000 urban Indigenous people. Involved in this delivery were social innovation and enterprise programs including art co-ops and other local ventures.



The Intention Behind the Summit

Social innovation is growing and becoming accepted across Canada as social tool that not only works but strengthens and grows communities.

Many universities are now starting their own social innovation programs and specific schools within the university. The University of Waterloo founded the Waterloo Institute for Social Innovation and Resilience for example and has partnered with and has helped start many social innovation leaders including Social Innovation Generation and MaRS Discovery District. Other universities are now following suit including Ryerson, Carleton, and Mount Royal. There are many other organizations involved with social innovation in Canada other than universities including the Centre for Social Innovation, MaRS Discovery District, and the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation are all contributing to social innovation on the national scale. Another organization of note is Social Innovation Generation (SiG), which seeks to address Canada's social and ecological challenges by creating a culture of continuous social innovation. Their focus is on social innovation that has the potential for impact, durability and scale. In order to nurture the health, resilience and vibrancy of a linked social, economic and ecological systems, SiG works to develop a "living laboratory" of social experiments that have the potential to achieve system change and improve the wellbeing of Canadians.

Indigenous communities are innovative by nature. Our teachings that remind us to look seven generations back and seven generations forward. Our communities have not always been leading the discussions about social innovation because we did not always use the same language. We are now joining the space, having the conversations with other Indigenous communities and organizations, but also working with a variety of other partners to bring our learnings together with the learnings of other innovators. The Summit provided the space for this to take place.

Governments have also shown and interest in how innovative approaches can support them in meeting their goals. The Government of British Columbia became the first provincial jurisdiction in Canada to name a Minister of Social Development and Social Innovation. The Government of Canada now has a Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development. Social innovation in Canada continues to grow and spread throughout the country as more and more organizations become involved and start their own social innovation projects.

Within the Friendship Movement, social innovation is becoming a great tool for growth and development and was being used effectively in many centres even before the Indigenous Innovation Summit. The Prince George Native Friendship Centre and the Wachiay Friendship Centre both have numerous ongoing social innovation projects, many of which were highlighted during the Summit. The Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres provides support for Friendship Centres looking to enter the space, and they have their own e-commerce space that supports Indigenous artists.

Supporting Indigenous and Social Enterprises

The Summit purposefully sought and sourced services and goods from Indigenous and social enterprises where possible, in keeping with the themes and values of the Summit and its partners.

Examples of these are:

- Cree Star gifts
- Aqsaak Foods
- Rebecca Maracle
- Neechi Foods
- Anishinabe Printing

JUSTICE MURRAY SINCLAIR:

“Innovation isn’t always about creating new things.

Innovation sometimes involves looking back at our old ways and bringing them forward to this new situation. So for the young people going forward today, I encourage you to understand what it means to be who you are. To understand where you come from. To know the teachings of your people including your creation story because that is the foundation of your life and you will be able to fulfill that purpose in many different ways.

But each time that you are called on to make a choice about whether you should do this or you should do that, you will make your decision based upon an understanding of what it is that your purpose is for the community. And if you know all of that then you will know who you are, it’s the challenge that we face everyday. We always make decisions and take actions based upon whether it will reflect well upon what it is that we want to say to the creator when we leave this earth about what we did.

We need to figure out how to make things better we need to figure out how to use the tools that we have or that we need to have. There’s a lot of work ahead of you but in reality when you look back upon this day you’re going to realize that this is just a small part of what it is you’ve committed to. But it’s the start and the start is important and know that from time to time we need to get back together to re-set ourselves.

You will wonder whether it’s all worth it whether you are capable whether you have the strength whether there’s anybody else out there that is going through what you’re going through and whether you should just give it all up. I do ask you for this commitment and that is that we will do this again, and we will do it again, and we will do it again. Not so that we can get it right each and every time but that so we can check in with ourselves to remember the vision that we set and do not lose sight of that vision.”

Local Community Engagement

The location of the Summit was chosen with purpose, and it was imperative that the Summit not be a standalone event, but rather that it engaged and involved members of the local community.

We partnered with several local organizations, universities, and groups including:

- Winnipeg Boldness Project
- Involved volunteers from local Friendship Centres, local universities and colleges (University of Manitoba, Red River College)
- We arranged that all extra food from the event be shared daily with the Indian and Métis Friendship Centre in Winnipeg.

The Partners and Sponsors

It was a great effort of the partners who were involved in organizing the Summit to ensure that we had the right speakers and participants at the Summit.

Our Partners included:

- J.W. McConnell Family Foundation,
- The 4Rs Youth Movement,
- Canadians for a New Partnership,
- The Winnipeg Boldness Project, and
- The Circle on Philanthropy and Aboriginal Peoples in Canada.

We must also thank our generous sponsors, including:

- J.W. McConnell Family Foundation
- British Columbia Association of Friendship Centres
- Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres
- Government of Manitoba
- Government of Canada
- Lawson Foundation
- Inspirit Foundation
- Trico Charitable Foundation
- Mount Royal University’s - Bissett School of Business
- Windmill Development Group
- Suncor



TONYA SURMAN:

“Listening to Justice Sinclair, who lead the TRC, be honored at the Human Rights Museum was amazing and hearing his talk the day after filled me with such profound insight and sadness.

Perhaps more impactful was the inspiring story of 20 year old Raven Lacerte and her father Paul Lacerte and their amazing story. To hear a story that is so moving with such a first hand experience of the effects of the systemic and crushing impact of the residential schools and their legacy, was for me at least, simply transformative.”

Summit Themes and Learnings

The Summit brought together a variety of stakeholders, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, from a variety of different sectors, but all with a common goal, namely, to find ways to improve lives. The Summit was planned around the social eight: social innovation, social finance, social technology, social purpose media, social education, social space, social labs, social entrepreneurship. In the pages ahead there are summaries of the panels and their participants. The theme of reconciliation overtook the Summit as the key learning that individuals left with and the way forward. The Summit’s Indigenous nature also emerged organically throughout the event.

Reconciliation was a key theme of the Summit, as this is a pivotal time in Canada with respect to the closing of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and the publishing of its final report and 94 Calls to Action. The Thursday night event “Reconciliation as Innovation” brought together a special group from the national Reconciliation community to discuss how Innovation can be applied to reconciliation and what this might mean for the healing process moving forward. The event hosted by Wab Kinew and elder Fred Kelly and the speakers included: Justice Murray Sinclair, Ry Moran, Jessica Bolduc, Stephen Kakfwi, and Karen Joseph. At the event the TRC, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR), the 4Rs Youth Movement, Canadians for a New Partnership, and Reconciliation Canada were all present, all key members dedicated to moving reconciliation forward on the national reconciliation stage. Every presenter spoke about their personal experiences with reconciliation and how they are using new and innovative ways to work together with the Canadian public toward a new path of reconciliation. In particular, Justice Sinclair explained how the entire TRC process was innovative in and of itself. He discussed how the commission needed to write and come up with many of the terms and processes used in the TRC.

DAMON JOHNSTON:

“One of the other questions that you’ll face when establishing a social enterprise is: What is most important in the social enterprise? Is it the social agenda? Or is it the business agenda? From my experience to date I’m beginning to lean towards believing if you don’t pay attention to the business side, to the bottom line, then your business venture is going to go under very quickly and then your social purpose becomes meaningless because you can’t employ anybody.”

With Justice Sinclair making a rousing speech on the importance of reconciliation and discovering and knowing your culture and who you are, this theme carried through to Friday morning’s opening ceremony. The founders of the Moosehide Campaign, father and daughter team Paul and Raven Lacerte, followed presenting their story as a way to move reconciliation into action. Raven told the story of going with her father to hunt moose along the infamous Highway of Tears in BC, skinning it, and then cutting the leather into small squares. The campaign is geared toward men and boys and asked them to reflect upon their role in ending violence against Aboriginal women and children. This is meant to be a conversation starter about how we value and treat Aboriginal women in our country and ultimately a way to end the violence.

Paul, asked the audience members if they “...have a Raven in our lives and if so, are we doing enough to keep her safe?” He urged participants to create a new healing journey, practice intimacy and vulnerability, and make new spaces between children and parents that enable us to reclaim shattered relationships.

The lasting effects of the Indian and Residential School System experience came up time and time again throughout the Summit. Some presenters and Elders discussed their experiences and how innovation might

be used to help continue the healing process. Speakers noted the innovative practices used by Indigenous people before colonization and the Residential school system, and how slowly communities are bringing many of these practices back into the everyday. Indigenous communities are also using innovation to reclaim their traditions. Wab Kinew shared his community’s journey to bring the big drum back to their community, they started by picking up a bass drum from a pawn shop, and eventually they had a proper big drum. Examples of this resiliency were shared among many communities, while providing understanding of non-Indigenous attendees.

Social Finance

The Summit offered a suite of social finance panels – one at each of our three levels. *Welcome to Social Finance*, *Successful Tactics for Social Finance* and a *Master Class in Social Finance* were all session offerings that aimed to give a mix of beginner to advanced knowledge of social finance to the Summit participants. Even in the classes that did not explicitly deal with social finance there was usually a segment or audience questions that touched on the subject. Many participants had some base knowledge or experience with social innovation projects and they wanted to know about the practical application of social innovation knowledge and specifically social finance. Many participant were curious to hear about the personal experiences of presenters, about the financial risks that were assumed in their projects, and how to get their own projects started when funding and financing were concerns.

A recurring theme throughout the social innovation panels was the use of social investing and social innovation projects that would allow organizations to make better use of and prolong the government funding they receive. Presenters stated that social innovation was a tool for taking government funding further and stabilizing organizations when funding from government ends or is reduced. They explained Social Finance as a form of stability in the non-for-profit world, allowing organizations to create their own revenue streams and not having to rely on government funding.

Many panels highlighted the importance of government funding in helping to start and support their organizations but many realize that funding is cyclical and there is not always room for their organization or community in governmental budgets. Many stated that social innovation was a tool that allowed communities to solve their own funding problems and support themselves. It allows for greater freedom, as there are no strings attached to the income earned from social enterprises as opposed to direct funding. Social enterprises provide a different mindset as opposed that runs contrary to purely for-profit business while allowing for even greater stability. The sole overarching goal of social enterprise is not purely monetary so this allows communities to allow enterprises to grow slowly and provide training programs as opposed to trying to make a profit as soon as possible.

We discovered that social finance is an area that is rapidly advancing, with its own innovations taking place within the sector. There was a need for even deeper knowledge and practice, with many communities prepared to find ways to push the sector beyond its current thinking and find ways to support more communities.

Youth

Youth involvement was one of the goals set out for the Summit. Our aim was to involve both Indigenous youth and Indigenous youth organizations. There was a large presence at the Summit from the 4Rs Youth Movement. Eight youth from the organization attended the Summit as both presenters and facilitators. They were involved with information gathering, World Café, facilitation, and giving a presentation on intergenerational innovation with elders. By being involved with and experiencing the Summit, the 4Rs Youth were able to have the opportunity to build facilitation and leadership skills and were presented with many different networking opportunities.

In addition to the 4Rs involvement, NAFC youth members including the Youth Executive and the Aboriginal Youth Council attended the Summit.

They were able to take in many of the learning stream classes, giving them a valuable opportunity to be introduced to and learn about the basics of social innovation. A delegation of students from Mount Royal's Bisset School of Business also attended, along with students from local universities and colleges. We provided opportunities for mentorship in graphic recording to two local Indigenous youth. A key value of Indigenous innovation is being inclusive of all community members, recognizing the value of different perspectives across the lifespan.

A youth leader from the Winnipeg area, Michael Redhead Champagne, was also brought in as part of a panel on Millennial Innovation to share his insight and experience as a youth innovator. He has made or been involved with a number of different Aboriginal focused youth initiatives throughout Winnipeg for years as one of the founding members of the Aboriginal Youth Opportunities! (AYO!) Movement. In total the Summit was able to give 20 Indigenous youth and an additional 10 non-Indigenous youth valuable experience and an opportunity to grow their skills and networks.



Partnerships and Relationship Building

One of the main goals of the summit was to facilitate relationship building and networking between all attendees of the Summit. It is our hope that these relationships will result in partnership development. Due to the structure of the event and the structure of the panels and other offerings including the Solutions Lab, it was easy to interact with fellow attendees fostering the development of new relationships. Presenters and 'coaches' were encouraged to network with the participants in the learning and action streams so that attendees could learn from and ask important practical real-life questions of the presenters. We also looked for opportunities to pair up coaches to dive deeper into the complex issues that they work through in this field.

The networking and relationship building opportunities were extremely successful resulting in a number of new partnerships being developed. There are new funding opportunities for social innovation being developed as we speak. For example, Siem Lelum, a housing project by the Victoria Friendship Centre, received support for its continued development via the donation of speakers fees. Another project is currently being developed in Northern Alberta. Of the nearly 50 participants survey, almost all of them noted that they were creating new partnerships as a result of their attendance at the Summit. We look forward to highlighting new partnerships created at the Summit, during the next Summit in Edmonton.

Digital and Technological Innovations

In keeping with the innovations being discussed on panels, we sought to find newer ways of doing things in both the design and communications/marketing of the Summit. We harnessed cutting edge tools and digital technology like never before. We used Eventbrite to sell tickets online, and digital tool called Sched to help in scheduling events with maximum flexibility and alterability. These are powerful assets that made tracking and ticket sales fun and orderly.

The NAFC's website was redesigned to house and further promote the Summit's website. Prior to the event, a revitalized and Summit-specific social media strategy was launched to reach out to a broader audience outside of our immediate network.

Large, on-site video screens helped with way-finding and scheduling of various events, this was deployed in conjunction with more traditional signage. All panels were filmed and shared without cost and posted to a newly redesigned Summit 2015 wrap-up website, in the hopes that the lessons learned from the Summit won't just stop there and that everyone could share in what we learned.

The Summit website is now moving on to Phase 2. The refreshed site will include a "digital connections board" which will provide a public forum for summit attendees to collaborate and expand upon the connections formed amongst summit participants. In this way it will allow others to view social innovations as they come forward.



Audience Curation

In the early planning stages of the Summit, we created lists of social innovators from the academic community, institutions doing social innovation, Indigenous communities, foundations, governments and business communities, bringing together a key group of social innovators. We recognized the importance of striking a balance between corporate, charitable, non-profit, Indigenous, and government actors, knowing the Summit outcome would be very different if the mix of people were imbalanced. We sought to curate a critical mass of social innovators before opening ticket sales to the general public.

Of these key social innovators and key innovation issues, we developed a series of panels in the learning, action and coaching streams. The Learning Stream was designed for people who might be new to social innovation and want to learn all they can. The Action Stream was geared toward people who have a better handle of social innovation and were there to learn from some experts in the field. Finally, the Coaching Stream was designed for delegates who are active in the field and want to deep-dive into topics with their peers.

Key to the success of each panel was the “pre-Summit” calls where the facilitators described what they hoped to get out of each panel and the panelists discussed ways of approaching the questions and presentation styles. Through these calls, panelists were able to build on the knowledge and examples they were each sharing, creating a space of dialogue between themselves in the Learning stream, and with the audience in the Action and Learning streams. This was facilitated through emcees in each of the streams who were able to weave some learnings together.

Summit Follow Up and Analysis

After the conclusion of the Summit, a follow up survey was sent to all participants and speakers. This survey consisted of 16 multiple-choice and open ended questions that asked participants about their Summit experience. The survey was sent out online directly

to participants emails. We will be using the data extracted from the survey to help shape and plan the 2016 Summit.

Early results indicate a very positive experience from the participants. Almost 80% of respondents answered that the Summit was well planned, had strong speakers, and covered the social innovation topics that they wanted to hear. Another key finding was that the majority of respondents made a promising new connection at the Summit and they intend to come back next year. These findings are especially important as one of the desired outcomes of the Summit was the creation of new partnerships and networks both within and beyond the Friendship Centre Movement.

The survey also allowed us to map the participant’s preferences on different social innovation topics. We asked the participants in the survey to rank their top three favourite panels. Participants overwhelmingly wanted to see even more examples of Indigenous innovations in future Summits. However, there was wide and similar support for several more topics from this year, such as: social finance, social innovation, creating social spaces, the future of social innovation, social technology, social labs, social purpose media, social education, social space, social entrepreneurship, social collaboration, social innovation in health, and intergenerational innovation. This tells us that the field of Indigenous social innovation is broad, and that there are many people working in a variety of sectors, using a number of approaches to be innovative in their work.

Conclusion and the Way Forward

The Summit was a great success, and it achieved what organizers set out to do. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and the 2016 Summit is highly anticipated. The upcoming Summit will take a similar format to our first, with different streams of learning levels. However, we hope that many of the participants will progress into the action stream, and the previous

action delegates will eventually become coaches. In future Summits, we will strive to better focus panel content and panelists, and provide even more space and time for networking and relationship building. We will showcase more innovative Indigenous projects, and follow up on some projects we heard about in our first year.

Following our first Summit, we have come to some key conclusions:

Siem Lelum

One of the initial results of the Summit was a collaborative effort between ten presenters who pooled their speaking fees together and donated them to a social housing project in British Columbia. The project, named Siem Lelum or “respected house” in Coast Salish, is an initiative started by the Victoria Native Friendship Centre Housing Project. The project has been in the works for 4-5 years, and their goal is to create a housing unit that embodies a village. The housing unit that the project is using is an old hotel that is slowly being renovated into apartments. The project currently serves at-risk individuals including families. The monetary donations from the Summit will be put towards a community room that is being constructed in the second phase of the project. Phase 2 will consist of additional 2 - and 3 - bedroom housing units being built. The community room will be used to provide support and services to those living in the units while providing a space to gather and celebrate various events. There will be life skills workshops, cooking classes, community dances and other content and events. The goal is to have an Indigenous space with totem poles and other cultural items. They are also working on an interactive playground, a basketball court and a community garden. These activities and spaces will be supported with an on site social worker. They are trying to build a strong sense of support and well being within this community, as in traditional Indigenous communities.

Social Finance

Social finance is further advanced in Indigenous communities and organizations than we had originally anticipated. There is a desire to bring some of the players in this field together in between Summits to drill down and innovate in this important area. The findings of this session will be highlighted at the 2016 Summit.

Financial Support

It was recognized that there is a need for more financial support for Indigenous organizations and communities to kickstart innovative projects. Some Summit partners are working together with new partners to develop an Indigenous Innovation fund. It is the intention to use the Summit to showcase new and emerging projects through this fund.

Nature of Tradition

The Indigenous nature of the Summit was both planned and also transpired rather organically. It was transformative on an individual level, and we hope that this translate to systemic change. It was emotional, and in this environment people were able to have more meaningful conversations and develop partnerships. Ceremony and traditional knowledge were embedded into this process. There was a blending of art, technology, Indigenous culture and spirituality, with an eye towards innovation and unlocking new ideas and potential.

Working in Unison

Gaps are being filled – we are trying to best understand where Indigenous innovation is happening, and connect people doing similar things. Various organizations are beginning to work together or are working together in new ways. Many of the organizations working in the reconciliation space were able to have initial conversations at the Summit, which led to a follow up meeting hosted by Reconciliation Canada in January.

Social Innovation

Indigenous communities have been innovating for a long time, but they haven't always used the term "social innovation". Through dialogues like the Summit, we can gain a better understanding of the field as it already exists and share learnings to build the field and share knowledge.

Connections

It was very important to us that our Summit be a place for learning and connection building, and that it serves as a space that respected the importance art and the role of art in representing and disseminating information. To this end we engaged the works of: Wakiponi mobile, the Winnipeg Art Gallery's Inuit Art Centre initiative and their Treaty 1 exhibit, Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre's Rising Sun Pow Wow Club, Waubgeshig Rice's on-site storytelling and graphic facilitation with Indigenous youth artists.

Partnerships

The NAFC continues to follow up with new partnerships that are being built as a result of the Summit. As a way to capture the work that is being done as a result of the Summit, we are working on a new tool for the Summit which will map these connections. We will also use this tool to suggest connections for the next Summit much like we did using the connections board in Winnipeg.



ANNEX A

The Development of the Summit

A key component of Summit development was the website and various digital aspects of Summit programming. Keeping in line with innovation and finding better ways to do things, the Summit harnessed digital and technology like never before. We used Eventbrite to sell tickets, and Sched to help scheduling events with maximum flexibility and alterability. The NAFC's website was redesigned to house and further promote the Summit's website. Prior to the event, a revitalized social media strategy was launched to reach out to a broader audience. On-site, screens helped with way-finding and scheduling of various events in conjunction with more traditional signage. All panels were filmed and shared without cost, in the hopes that the lessons learned from the Summit won't just stop there.

Planning for next year's Summit is already underway. The Summit will be taking place in Edmonton Alberta in partnership with the Alberta Native Friendship Centres Association and the local friendship centre, Canadian Native Friendship Centre. We are planning to increase the number of participants from 300 to 400 and increase the level of interaction with the participants. The 2016 Summit will be focused on moving the field of Indigenous Innovation forward through building on connections, increasing capacity for more social innovation in Canada, and seeding innovations. The 2017 Summit will be focused on scaling innovation.

Venues

Winnipeg Art Gallery (WAG) was chosen as the host Summit site due to its stunning, unconventional, and adaptable space. The layout of the gallery allowed for multiple panel presentations, breakout rooms, and a social lab all happening concurrently. The main auditorium was perfect for both lecture and TED Talk style presentations.

Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR) hosted the special Thursday evening event on Reconciliation as Innovation. A spectacular building that is located adjacent to the Forks. The CMHR provided a perfect location to host the Reconciliation event, as it was able

to host over 300 attendees comfortably and provide a meaningful environment as a backdrop for such an important topic.

Partners

The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation established in 1937 engages Canadians in building a more innovative, inclusive, sustainable, and resilient society. The foundation's purpose is to enhance Canada's ability to address complex social, environmental and economic challenges. This work is accomplished through developing, testing, and applying innovative approaches and solutions; by strengthening the community sector; and by collaborating with community partners, private and public sectors.

Canadians for a New Partnership (CNFP) is an organization that is establishing and supporting a broad-based, inclusive, leadership initiative to engage Canadians in dialogue and relationship building aimed at building a new partnership between First Peoples and other Canadians. This initiative holds the promise of better living conditions, education, and economic opportunities for First Peoples, which must be the tangible results of that new partnership.

The Winnipeg Boldness Project is a new initiative aiming to work alongside the North End community to improve outcomes for young children in the Point Douglas area. It is a child-centred, early childhood development project that will bring together deep community wisdom and world-leading science in order to bring about large-scale change.

The Circle on Philanthropy and Aboriginal Peoples in Canada is an open network to promote giving, sharing, and philanthropy in Aboriginal communities across the country. The Circle's vision is to build a stronger, healthier future for First Nations, Inuit and Métis nations, communities and individuals.

The 4Rs Youth Movement launched in 2003 is a youth-led initiative that focuses on connecting Indigenous and non-Indigenous young people from across Canada. The 4Rs are: Respect, Reconciliation, Reciprocity, and Relevance.

ANNEX B

People, Places, and Organizations

Tonya Surman: Tonya Surman is a social entrepreneur with a passion for bringing life to world-changing projects; she has been creating and leading social ventures since 1987. Tonya is the founding Chief Executive Officer of the Centre for Social Innovation (CSI), a co-working space, community and Launchpad for people who are changing the world, with three locations in Toronto and one location in New York City. CSI provides its members with the tools they need to accelerate their success and amplify their social impact.

Barb Ward-Burkitt: Barb Ward-Burkitt is of Cree ancestry from the Fort McKay First Nation in Northern Alberta. As the executive Director of the Prince George Native Friendship Centre (PGNFC) she has provided leadership in a manner that is motivating and inspiring not only to staff but also to grassroots community members. Her 40+ years of commitment to the Aboriginal Friendship Centre movement reflects her own personal philosophy to the empowerment of Aboriginal people and advocacy for community growth. Under her leadership the PGNFC has grown to become the largest friendship centre in Canada.

Al Etmanski: Al is a community organizer, social entrepreneur and author. Co-founder of Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network (PLAN), he led the successful campaign to establish the world's first Registered Disability Savings Plan. He is a founding member of the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation's Social Innovation Generation (SIG) collaboration. He believes the social innovation world should stop and learn from the ingenuity and creativity of Indigenous people, past, present, and future.

Waubgeshig Rice: Waubgeshig Rice is a broadcast journalist and author based in Ottawa. He works as a video journalist for CBC Ottawa and is a contributor to CBC Aboriginal. His most recent novel, *Legacy*, was published by Theytus Books in September 2014. He's a proud Anishinaabe from Wasauksing First Nation.

Aki Energy: Aki Energy is a non profit Aboriginal social enterprise. Aki Energy works with Manitoba First Nations to reduce energy costs through smart, cost effective investments in renewable energy. Aki Energy provides hands-on training to local tradespeople, ensuring that the project creates local employment and long term economic development opportunities. Aki Energy works with First Nations to provide technical expertise, financing development and project management to make sure the project stays on track and on budget. We only work with technologies that are currently cost effective - meaning that they will save communities money from day one.

Build Inc: BUILD – an acronym for Building Urban Industries for Local Development – is a social enterprise nonprofit contractor and a training program for people who face barriers to employment. They retrofit homes with insulation and high-efficiency toilets as well as water-and-energy-saving devices (shower heads, CFLs, etc). They work lowers utility bills, employs neighborhood people, cuts crime, and decreases greenhouse gas emissions.

Moose Hide Campaign: The Moose Hide Campaign is a grassroots movement of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Men who are standing up against violence towards women and children. The goal is to spread the Moose Hide Campaign to organizations, communities, and governments throughout Canada.



ANNEX C

Panel Presentations

The panel presentations occurred over both days of the Summit and were divided into 3 groups as stated above. Each panel had a specific topic and each speaker had a wealth of knowledge and experience in their field of work. As Summit organizers we wanted to stay away from typical power-point presentations where presenters talked at the audience instead of discussing and interacting with them. The Summit strived to accommodate more 2-way conversations, feedback and Q & A sessions to leverage more value from the audiences.

Prior to the Summit we brought to the presenters attentions that certain presentations formats allow for a greater volume of grassroots actors and local level social innovators to be included and to share their knowledge. A Summit was to be as inclusive as possible, strengthening our event and better achieving our other stated goals.

Below the panels are listed by knowledge stream along with the list of speakers, topics, and descriptions of the panels. Most panels were filmed and can be found on NAFC's YouTube channel.

Learning Stream

Introduction to Social Innovation

Speakers

Stephen Huddart (J.W. McConnell Family Foundation), Allyson Hewitt (MaRS), Cheryl Rose (Social Innovation Generation), Paul Lacerte (British Columbia Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres), Aaron Good (J.W. McConnell Family Foundation), Diane Roussin (Winnipeg Boldness Project)

Description

To introduce participants to the concept of the social eight (social innovation, social finance, social entrepreneurship, social technology, social labs, social purpose media, social education, social space). Lead by members of the McConnell Foundation

and others, this session introduced the Summit and its purpose, to teach others about social innovation, introduced the audience to the social eight briefly with a focus on social finance. Paul Lacerte delivered the introduction by highlighting how social innovation is helping Indigenous communities with social issues they're facing.

The Social Eight

- Social innovation, Social finance, Social technology, Social purpose media, Social education, Social space, Social labs, Social entrepreneurship

Social finance opportunities: repurposing existing and emerging models:

- Microfinance, Demand dividends, PPP, Community Bonds, Catastrophe Bonds, Social Impact Bonds, PPP, Capital Stacking, Calvert Community Notes, Green Bonds

Intergenerational Innovation

Speakers

Maria Campbell (Elder), Dave Courchene (Elder), Rebecca Beaulne Stuebing (4 Rs Youth), Jordan Tabobondung (4 Rs Youth), Dee Thomas (4 Rs Youth)

Description

Panel discussion between elders and youth on reconciliation and innovation. Discussion lead by Elders Maria Campbell and Dave Courchene. Both spoke about the importance of knowing who you are as a young Indigenous person and knowing your culture, language, and connecting with elders and mentors. Moving past TRC and having intergenerational love not intergenerational trauma. Youth discussed and agreed how important it was to learn about culture and how they could reconcile with the spirit and 'innovate' within their own lives.

Elder Maria Campbell stressed the importance of knowing where you are from, of knowing your language and your culture, and emphasized that home is in fact where we are – and that place is important. She urged the youth to “find a grandmother,” and to keep connected to the land. We need to be respectful, kind, generous and compassionate with each other as our true identity comes from our interactions with others.

Elder Dave Courchene spoke of Indigenous people as free, independent leaders of their homeland and that no one can speak on their behalf but them, and of the importance of valuing mentorship and that true success is about values. His advice on how to support young people: tell them the truth.

Welcome to Social Finance

Speakers

Erica Barbosa (J.W. McConnell Family Foundation) Lauren Dobell (Vancity) Dominique Collin (Aboriginal Savings Corporation of Canada), Todd Hoskin (UInooweg)

Description

To introduce participants to what social finance is and highlight examples on how to access it. Presentations touched on the basics of social finance, with a highlight on co-operative banking. Vancity’s Lauren Dobell discussed partnerships that develop with community investing. Panellists discussed landscape shaping initiatives involving all partners community, business, and all levels of government, multi sectoral partnerships, how co-operative banking is working within this framework. Dominique Collin and Todd Hoskin discussed their experiences working with and for Aboriginal banking institutions and gave specific examples of learnings and accomplishments.

Innovative Examples:

Showcasing Inspiring Enterprise from across Canada

Speakers

Hon. Michelle Stilwell (Minister of Social Development and Social Innovation Government of British Columbia), Waneeek Horn-Miller (Manitobah Mukluks), Paul Lacerte (British Columbia Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres)

Description

Hosted by Paul Lacerte, an interview into the sporting lives and personal innovations of Waneeek Horn Miller, and Minister Stilwell. Both gave personal experiences of having to innovate through their sporting career as well experiences working with social innovation and social enterprises.

Culture and Innovation

Speakers

Sandra Laronde (Red Sky Performance), Clarke Ferguson and Craig Comanda (Wapikoni Mobile), Josh Ruth and Eddy Ayoub (Art City).

Description

This panel featured artists who create, run, and facilitate socially innovative arts projects and programs all across Canada. Each of the presentations were high energy and the presenters were excited to share some of their work with the audience.

Each group showed a short film and discussed their work with their respective organizations. Sandra Laronde discussed her involvement with Red Sky performance and what it meant to be an Aboriginal artist. The members of Art City discussed their work within the Winnipeg community and highlighted their annual community art parade, which brings the community together through art and engages both Indigenous youth and their parents. The artists from Wapikoni Mobile, Craig Comanda and Clarke Ferguson focused on their own individual experiences with the arts and their work for Wapikni Mobile. Craig showed a film he directed about his own life struggles with addiction and discussed how Wapikoni gave him an outlet and the training to share his gifts. Clarke discussed the organization at large and the innovative ways in which they teach Indigenous youth about filmmaking.

How to Create Social Spaces

Speakers

Bruce Parisian (Victoria Native Friendship Centre), Tonya Surman (Centre for Social Innovation) Paul Lacerte (British Columbia Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres)

Description

This panel was brought together to discuss and identify best practices in creating social spaces. The session was moved to a new breakout room and time slot. The newly moved panel provided a condensed session that saw Bruce Parisian discuss his work with the Victoria Native Friendship Centre (VNFC). He discussed the ways in which he uses social innovation and a welcoming and trusting environment to connect with youth and the community. He discussed one example of the friendship centre innovating and re-learning to carve and create totem poles. This process and project brought the community together.

Next, Tonya Surman of the Centre for Social Innovation talked about creating spaces for love to emerge. She gave an example regarding the centre she helped create. The centre is actually a space to forge community, which evolves into community capital, which they were able to turn into a community bond to fund their building. She expanded on the work the Centre for Social Innovation does in facilitating connections which involves revealing assets in the social innovation ecosystem through salad clubs, community summits and solutions circles, wherein people are encouraged to bring in self-interest to create collective interest.

BARB WARD BURKITT:

“We always have to be prepared to collaborate,

and it’s not only collaboration and how it connects to revenue within the organization but it means collaborating and connecting and building partnerships and that whole piece around community engagement so that the Friendship Centre is really a gathering place within our community for all the Aboriginal people who live there and other non-Aboriginal people who need and want to learn about our organization.”

Paul Lacerte spoke about his experience on the B.C. Social Innovation Council. He discussed the work this multi-sectoral group was able to accomplish together and to create 11 recommendations they could all agree on. This work proved to be difficult, for multiple reasons including the urgency of their task, the egos and the resulting anxiety often split the group but they had hope in the promise of social innovation. One way they broke down silos between the for-profit and not-for-profit sector was through the creation of hybrid corporate legislation.

Conversations about Collaboration and Change

Speakers

Barb Ward Burkitt (Prince George Friendship Centre), Al Etmanski (Social Innovator), Shaun Loney (Aki Energy)

Description

Panel discussion lead by Shaun Loney of Build Inc. and Aki Energy. He was joined by Barb Ward Burkitt of PGNFC and Al Etmanski of PLAN. The discussion centered on ways that you can work within your community to build new social enterprises based on challenges and new opportunities. Shaun Loney explained how when working within the field of social innovation you have to be open to change and embrace new opportunities and revenue streams. Shaun cited the increased occurrence of bed bugs in Winnipeg as a strong revenue stream that is helping him grow his social enterprises in Winnipeg. The occurrence of bed bugs was a problem for the community but Shaun saw it as an opportunity to start and grow a social enterprise. He now has bed bug removal teams made up of at risk community members going into homes and businesses throughout Winnipeg and combating the pest problem.

Al discussed getting to know your organization and its members in a greater capacity. He says that through increased knowledge and communication you can work together to achieve goals you did not think were possible. Barb discussed sticking to a plan even through adversity. She used the example of buying buildings in the downtown core of Prince George and fighting against racism and the stresses of investing large amounts of money in real estate as a social enterprise.

The Future of Social Innovation

Speaker

Keynote Speech by Dr. Frances Westley
(University of Waterloo)

Description

Frances made the links between what's happening on the ground and at the global level. She encouraged us to consider four ways of reaching.

- **Reach out.** Where good ideas come from; the adjacent possible; bricolage; and engagement of unusual suspect.
- **Reach up and down.** Prepare for opportunities to create a transformation; keeping our feet in the earth/ hands to the sky.
- **Reach deep.** Building on the old valuing our rich culture and connecting the past to the future. She told a personal story of depression in her family and how Elders advised her that an absence of soul comes about "when you can't tell your story".
- **Reach with care.** Reflect on why you do what you do. To do what calls to you and with people you care about. Don't expect perfection, set boundaries for yourself, and finally to let yourself be surprised and welcome abundance.

Innovative Examples: Showcasing Inspiring Enterprise from Across Canada

Speakers

Michael Colclough (Wachiay Friendship Centre),
Robert Buyers (Namerind Housing Corporation)
Damon Johnston (Mother Earth Recycling)

Description

Michael Colclough, Robert Buyers, and Damon Johnston all gave their experiences developing, growing, and overseeing various social enterprises. Robert discussed his 20 plus year journey with Namerind Housing Corp. Michael discussed his success with 3 different social enterprise projects through the Wachiay Friendship

Centre. Damon discussed the trials and tribulations and ultimately the success of Mother Earth Recycling.

All panellists discussed practical advice for social innovators and talked at length about challenges and mistakes made. For example Robert discussed losing government subsidies and the challenges this presented to Namerind. Michael talked about social and business opportunities and how they are usually right in front of your eyes, you just need to look. There are many different ways a social enterprise can come about and often times it is the partnerships and community support that makes the enterprise successful. Damon shared his experience and the story of Mother Earth Recycling almost having to declare bankruptcy. He explained the importance of having a clear goal and focus for a social enterprise.

Millennial Innovation

Speakers

Shelagh Rogers, Jeff Ward (Animikii Indigenous Technology), Michael Redhead Champagne (AYO! Movement).

Description

Hosted by Shelagh Rogers, Shelagh interviews Michael Champagne and Jeff Ward, two highly successful young Indigenous innovators. Michael discusses his early life and his success with his Youth Organization AYO! Movement. Jeff talks about working in the tech field as an Indigenous person and working on Indigenous specific tech projects through his firm, Animikii Indigenous Technology.

Action Stream: Innovation in the Academy

Speakers

Valerie Courtois (Indigenous Boreal Guardians), Kristen Tanche (Indigenous Boreal Guardians), Bobby Dick (Indigenous Boreal Guardians), James Stauch (Mount Royal University), Dr. Erin Freeland Ballantyne (Dechinta Centre for Research and Learning)

Description

To discuss the role of universities and post-secondary institutions in taking innovative approaches to research, teaching and community development. Discuss experience with students as change makers, creating a campus environment that allows students to make changes in their communities. Focus on strength based approach. What does innovation in academia look like? Speak to partnerships between Indigenous organizations and academic institutions.

Tactics for Systems Change

Speakers

Sarah Schulman (InWithForward) Cheryl Rose (Social Innovation Generation), Jan Sanderson (Government of Manitoba) Sara Lyons (Community Foundations of Canada)

Description

Stephen Huddart (J.W. McConnell Family Foundation) hosted this panel. Presenters discussed their own experiences, triumphs, and tribulations with trying to affect systems change within their own communities and abroad. Stephen Kakfwi discussed his political career and how was able to change and shape how Canadians saw the Dene Nation and how changes he fought for in the 1970's have a profound affect on people living in the NWT today. Cheryl Rose offered specific strategies for thinking and planning systems change and how to view systems as a whole.

Sarah Schulman and Sara Lyons gave specific examples of their work with change and influencing change. In particular Schulman described her work in Australia and helping to change how the Australian family services interacts with Aboriginal families. There many different tactics and ways to create systems change discussed, but a key component is that there is a belief that change can be made and one must seize the opportunity for change when they see it.

Tactics for Successful Social Finance

Speakers

Erica Barbosa (J.W. McConnell Family Foundation), Brenda Zurba (Wi-Chi-Way-Win Capital Corporation), Shaun Loney (Aki Energy).

Description

To look at social finance tactics that have been used on the local, national and international stage. Erica Barbosa gave a brief overview of common social finance terms and tactics. Shaun Loney discussed how Aki Energy uses social financing techniques for their customers. Brenda Zurba discussed the different financial services offered by Wi-Chi-Way-Win Capital Corporation and how they fit into the social finance landscape.

Lessons in Managing Challenges

Speakers

Shaun Loney and Darcy Wood (Aki Energy), Nadia Duguay (Execo), Jeffrey Cyr (NAFC).

Description

Each presenter has experience and history in starting and running organizations, some from the ground up. They discussed shortcomings and learning's, in particular ideas that worked and some that did not. Innovation is one of the keys to overcoming problems. Jeffrey Cyr described in depth the launch and thinking behind A4W Live, a mobile site for Indigenous youth, as well as the many challenges that came with the launch and idea of this new innovation. These included working with a diverse collection of partners, convincing youth and adults that it would work and there was a need for it.

Nadia Duguay spoke about the organization she created, Execo and the work her organization is doing on educating and providing cultural learning opportunities to Indigenous youth. Closing the panel presentation Shaun Loney and Darcy Wood talked to their experiences working with and in Aboriginal communities and setting up social enterprises. They discussed the many challenges and learnings they have experienced along the way, many dealing with the issue of on reserve housing.

Social Innovations in Health

Speakers

Rosalee Shenker (Montreal Fluency Centre), Audra Renyi (World Wide Hearing Foundation), Sharon Redsky (Ma MaWi Wi Chi Itata Centre).

Description

Discuss how social innovation can be applied to the field of health. All three presenters work in the field and have direct experience with innovative programs.

Rosalee discussed and presented a 5 minute video highlighting the community program in James Bay Cree communities. Grassroots program will discuss the motivations and goals behind the program. Program run by Montreal Fluency Centre, speech pathologists. Program run in pre-K to elementary school. Program aiding in the capacity building in communities.

Sharon Redsky presented on the work being accomplished by Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre. Work within the community developing innovative programs at the grassroots level. Highlight the value of listening to the community, determining their needs and values. Highlight the value of grassroots programming, creating the types of programming that the community wants to see. The community has the strength and knowledge to know what they need. She discussed Ma Mawi Chi Itata Centre experience with co-locating with other community groups including health groups, YMCA. The centre is involved with a lot of outreach programs attempting to help with issues found in Winnipeg. These issues include racism, marginalized aboriginal population. Discuss housing first program done through a cultural lens. Focus the panel on grassroots program creation.

Audra Renyi presented on her work that is being accomplished by World Wide Hearing. Discuss hearing screening and hearing aid interventions, conducted by local community members. Discuss best practices, capacity building and how innovation is driven by a collaborative effort.

Dark Side of Social Innovation

Speakers

Tim Draimin (Social Innovation Generation), Dan McCarthy (University of Waterloo), Peter Schuler (Elder, University of Waterloo).

Description

Hosted by Tim Draimin, Tim facilitates a discussion between Elder Peter Schuler and Dan McCarthy on the Dark Side of Social Innovation. The panel discusses how often innovation have unforeseen consequences and even the most well-intentioned innovations can have negative results. Elder Peter Schuler discussed Residential Schools and how they too were an innovation with horrific results and poor intentions. He discussed innovation as it pertains to technology and how the more connected we become the lonelier and disconnected from our communities we are becoming. Dan discussed how each of us view problems and see solutions to these problems. In order to avoid pushing solutions on others or having solutions that have negative consequences for others we must adjust our lens and widen it so that we can see the bigger picture.

Education Innovation

Speakers

Carlos Ormond and Carrie Ann Vanderhoop (Haida Gwaii Higher Education Society), Allison Dunlop [Connected North (CISCO)], Sonia Prevost-Derbecker (Indspire)

Description

To explore innovative practices in education.

Allison Dunlap from Cisco Canada discussed the innovations being made by its Connected North program. Connected North is a leading-edge program that delivers immersive and interactive education and healthcare services to remote underserved communities through high-definition two-way video communication and collaboration technology. Together with its partners Allison explained how Cisco is working to create immersive educational and healthcare solutions to help address the needs of young people living in Canada's North.

Sonia Prevost Derbecker, a representative from Indspire, an organization that is dedicated to enriching Canada through Indigenous education and by inspiring achievement. In partnership with Indigenous, private, and public sector supporters, Indspire educates, connects, and invests in Indigenous people so they will achieve their highest potential. Indspire is for Indigenous people by Indigenous people, and is trying to create change around education. It is trying to influence Indigenous education through role models, and achievement awards, often using mentorship as a tool.

Sonia discussed the variety of programs that Indspire offers, including: Successful Practices, Nurturing Capacity and Realizing Projects. All of these programs bring a very holistic innovative approach to educational outcomes. Programs vary by communities, and are changed to the needs of the communities. Sonia also gave a list of other innovations that will significantly support continued improvement in PSE outcomes:

- Demographic representation in the classroom
- More culturally appropriate curriculum – need to be innovative about this
- Continued development of integrated service delivery supports, allowing for services to work differently together to improve results
- Funding to financially support students through to the completion of their PSE experience, Canada Learning Bond partnerships in process
- Regulation around band width costs for more northern and remote communities to allow internet accessible learning experiences
- A greater focus on National Education Research, to help Indspire to bring a solution to the table Haida Gwaii Higher Education Society (HGHEs)

HGHEs is an enterprising non-profit organization that develops and delivers transformative education that is inspired by Haida Gwaii, which embraces a place-based approach. They see the social and ecological system of Haida Gwaii as vibrant natural classrooms for our students to engage with, grounding course content in living, local case studies.

HGHEs offers:

- Undergraduate semesters
- Executive education
- Professional development courses
- Research opportunities
- Speaker series

HGHEs fosters community economic development and diversification by providing opportunities for local businesses and organizations to benefit from the programs offered, as well as creating employment opportunities.

HGHEs believe in working together and facilitating a rich collaboration between academics and local knowledge holders, supporting a meaningful learning exchange and the development of a broad perspective.

“The experiential learning component of the HGHEs education programming bridges different types of learning and knowledge; it bridges conventional classroom instruction with field lectures, western science with traditional knowledge, and theoretical learning with hands-on experiences. It engages local youth, Haida elders, weavers, carvers; provincial, federal and Haida government officials; industry workers, academics, scientists and community members.”
– Laurel Currie Founding ED of HGHEs

Coaching: Reconciliation and Innovative Arts Partnerships

Speakers

David Eddy (Skwachays Lodge and Gallery), Claude Schryer (Canada Council for the Arts), Terril Calder (imagineNative), Andrea James (Accelerate), Saada El-Akhrass (British Council in Australia)

Description

The panellists came together to discuss how innovative art partnerships are advancing the reconciliation agenda on the local, national and international stage. A combination of slides, short films, and art is shown throughout the presentation. Presenters discuss how they are involved in art and their experiences with community partners.

Master Class: Social Finance/Impact Investing

Speakers

Tim Draimin (Social Innovation Generation), Stewart Anderson (VanCity), Erica Barbosa (J.W. McConnell Family Foundation)

Description

This panel was lead by Tim Draimin and included Stewart Anderson and Erica Barbosa, two social innovation experts, explore the various tools available for social investing and the different criteria social enterprises need to look at when applying for a loan. A discussion on how to better match investor/investee followed. This panel being in the coaching stream was a high-level social investing and finance seminar and only applied to a specific group of attendees.

Through discussion with participants in this panel, it was determined that there is a need for deeper conversations in this area. Knowledge in some communities is quite deep, and there is a desire to bring some key people together for an intensive session on this topic.

World Café

During the second day of the Summit a World Café was planned. This structured conversational process allows for open facilitation and intimate discussions that link ideas within a larger group to access the 'collective intelligence' in the room. The goal of the World Café exercise was to map out the reconciliation ecosystem in Canada and determine the next steps for growing and advancing this space. During the exercise we wanted to find out some key aspects about the Reconciliation journey by asking the following questions: Where does it start? What is everyone doing? And how do we support each other? By asking these questions we would be able to map the people, relationships, connections, power holders, power givers, and the potential for change or transformation. We would be able to paint a picture of the reconciliation landscape. Using these guidelines the Café would be used to start the dialogue to see what the reconciliation ecosystem really looks like currently and where it needs to go.

Due to time constraints the World Café was not facilitated in its entirety, instead a smaller group of individuals met and discussed the reconciliation movement in Canada, how various organizations and individuals can best work together to achieve similar goals, and to discover who is doing what. The outcome of this informal meeting was a subsequent meeting of many of the major partners and organizations in Canada that deal with Reconciliation. This meeting was hosted by Reconciliation Canada in January.

Winnipeg Boldness Solutions Lab

Description

A Solutions Lab developed as a collaboration between the Winnipeg Boldness Project and MaRS. The solutions lab allowed participants to have experience with a social innovation lab using real examples from Winnipeg's North End. The two-day lab asked summit participants to come up with solutions to common challenges faced by people living in the North End and the solutions proposed during the Summit will help to influence the Winnipeg Boldness Project going forward. During the two days we facilitated 6 different sessions where participants used tools to complete work on community-identified challenges.

These sessions focused on the following areas:

1. Opening, Presentation & Discussion
2. Mapping Indigenous Values
3. Journey Mapping 1
4. Journey Mapping 2
5. Design for Change 1
6. Reflection

Throughout the two days they focused the sessions on two Proofs of Possibilities (POPs), a Post-Enrolment strategy for the Canada Learning Bond and Transportation. POPs are action items that are identified as priority for early childhood development and family wellbeing that will be tested within the community to provide an evidence base for potential replication and scaling within Point Douglas. Over the course of the entire lab approximately 50 people attended the six sessions. Over the course of the

Summit we were able to connect with people from diverse backgrounds, which provided a rich learning experience for the Winnipeg Boldness project staff. Summit attendees who participated in the sessions were able to gain hands-on social lab experience. Several social innovation tools were used with a goal to learn about the applicability of the tools for an Indigenous grounded social innovation project. During the six sessions the Boldness Project received feedback on these tools and have already begun adapting and using them in their work within the community. In the days following the Summit they adapted the Indigenous values mapping exercise and used it with their Parent Guide Group. They were able to do this due to the amount of valuable feedback they received during the Innovation Summit. They also received valuable input into the two POPs that participants contributed to, especially the transportation issue.

Links

One of the main goals of the Indigenous Innovation Summit was to spread and create knowledge regarding Indigenous innovation throughout the social innovation community. Below are links to blogs and videos reporting on the Summit, what happened, who was there, and the respective authors key takeaways from the Summit.

NAFC's YouTube Channel for viewing panels:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0xFtnOnq3cWXqNFebhJLYQ>

Tonya Surman, CEO Centre for Social Innovation:

<http://socialinnovation.ca/community/buzz/profound-learnings-from-Indigenous-innovation-summit>

CBC News:

<http://www.cbc.ca/1.3325981>

CTV News Winnipeg:

<http://winnipeg.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=752649>

Al Etmanski, Blog:

<http://aletmanski.com/impact/my-challenge-with-introducing-social-innovation-to-Indigenous-communities/>

Allyson Hewitt, J.W. McConnell Foundation:

http://mccconnellfoundation.ca/assets/PDFs/Allyson_IIS15.pdf

Nicole McDonald, J.W. McConnell Foundation:

<http://www.mccconnellfoundation.ca/blog/2015/12/16/Indigenous-innovation-summit-what-happened-and-whats-next/>

National Association of Friendship Centres:

<http://nafc.ca/en/Indigenous-innovation-summit-2015/>

Winnipeg Boldness Project:

http://www.winnipegboldness.ca/blog_details.php?blog_id=26