

# Synergy Alberta Workshop

## *The Power of Multi-Stakeholder Groups*



November 3, 2014



# Workshop Objectives

- Demonstrate the benefits of working together in a collaborative process
- Build capacity in the Synergy groups



# Agenda

- Introductions
- Synergy Stories
- Multi-Stakeholder Learnings – CASA
- When We Are At Our Best
- “Getting to Know You” Lunch
- Synergy Proclamation
- Synergy Guide
- Wrap-up & Closing



## Ground Rules

- Respect each other
- Everyone has a right to their own opinion
- Listen generously & seek first to understand
- Everyone deserves to have their opinions respected – even if you disagree
- Stay focused & respect timelines
- Participate actively
- Remember humour helps



## Table Introductions

- Each person gets a slip of paper with a role
- Participants introduce themselves
  - Name
  - Synergy group
  - Briefly describe the room from the perspective of their assigned role.
- Table mates try to guess each other's role



## Synergy Stories

- Table host arranges people into pairs
- Each person interviews their partner about a positive experience with multi-stakeholder work and the evolution of synergy
  - Interview questions provided
- After the interviews, complete the summary sheet



## When We Are At Our Best

- Participants have 3 mins each to share with their table highlights of their interview
  - Focus on energizing stories & quotable quotes
- Each table identifies 2 – 3 inspiring themes or behaviours on the topic of powerful collaboration
- Write the themes on the flipchart



## Ranking Themes

- Table hosts posts the flipcharts on the wall
- Each person is given 5 sticky dots
- Walk around the room & look at the posted themes
- Put the dots on the themes you feel are essential for powerful collaboration
  - Themes you want to create more of





## Getting to Know You

- For lunch, sit with people you **do not** know
- Have a leisurely lunch
- Talk about whatever you want



## Getting to Know You

- Do you feel you know your table mates better?
- Did people share personal stories?
- Was the conversation time shared?
- How would you feel if your table mates joined your multi-stakeholder group?
  - Would this be different than if a stranger joined?





## Exercise

- The plane you are travelling on has to make an emergency landing in the wilderness of northern Alberta.
- The pilot does not survive and the radio is out.
  - Make a list of the skills you have that will help you survive & make it to safety



## Exercise Part 2

- You now discover that others (those at your table) have also survived
  - Combine your lists of skills
  - Together as a table group, what skills do you have that will help you survive & make it to safety?



## Exercise Part 3

- Together, are you better equipped to survive and make it to safety?



# Synergy Proclamation

- Individually, look at the themes posted
  - Which ones did you choose?
  - What do you want to create more of to support powerful collaboration?
  - Individually or as a Synergy group, create a proclamation for your multi-stakeholder group
  - Is it a stretch or challenging, possible, affirmative and action provoking?
  - What can you do to make this proclamation a reality?



# Synergy Alberta Guidebook:

## How we got here

- Feedback from interviews & attendees at 2013 Workshop
  - Call for a how-to for existing and emerging groups
- Team began work in April
- Brought outline & initial draft to Spring Workshops
- Draft to Synergy groups in September
  - Thank you for your feedback!





## About The Book

- Intended as a guide, a resource
- Contains real examples, tried and true methods and tips
- Potential for supplementary materials



## Closing Comments

- Multi-stakeholder groups can be **Powerful**
- Collaboration can lead to positive results
- Breaking bread together helps create relationships
- The Synergy Guidebook was created to help your group be the best it can be
- Synergy Alberta is here to help