

United Way Hubs Convening Project: Phase 1 Learnings

Presented to Neighbourhood Council

May 11th, 2016

What Worked Well?

- Networking... hearing others ideas,
- Getting to know a lot more people.

What was most valuable?

- Connecting... sharing, feeling supported.



Did this project change your thinking about hubs?

- Absolutely! Brought more attention to diversity among hubs.
- Yes, each one is unique to community it serves... no one size fits all.
- Has helped me to see beyond our hubs goals / work / mission

Anything significant happen for you during project?

- Formed partnerships, strengthened connections, learned about new resources.
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What participants would like to see happen next...

- Moving into action – time spent building the foundation was well spent, but now ready to get more concrete.
- Want to share learnings with policy makers, politicians, public
- Would like more ‘gatherings’ periodically – maybe twice a year
- More storytelling / gathering of best practices
- Form a core team to help build the hub network
- Video of variety of hubs and value of... to help inform at all levels and attract new partners
- Visit more hubs



Accomplishments to Date then...

- Built a hub network of about 75 people
- Got a lot of people thinking and talking about hubs in different ways
- Connected a lot of different people; hubs / community, government, academia, business

Challenges...

- Goal of the project was to encourage action right off the top; discovered desire for action couldn't really happen until stronger relationships had been built
- Open nature of group made it hard to follow through on action ideas that did come up; attendance at different meetings was inconsistent

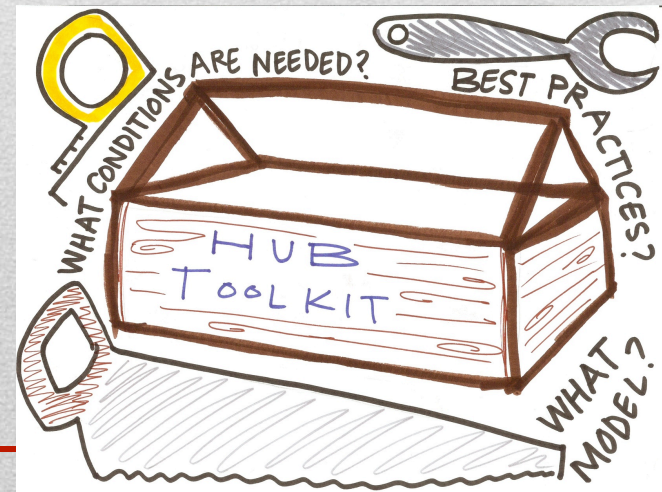


Ideas for the future...

- Summer projects; could do a video about variety & value of hubs
- Meet again in late September; Old School already offered space
- Build core team to diversify leadership

Develop different learning opportunities for hubs / neighbourhoods at different stages of development...

- Develop a communications plan to attract new partners & resources
- Customized support for ED's / Senior Staff
- More sharing among front line staff
- Toolkit for emerging hubs
- Learning more about business planning for long-term sustainability



How can United Way continue to help?

- Provide resources to continue communication support / coffee
- Support production of video to showcase value of hubs
- Customized support for senior leadership as needed

Who else interested in helping...

- Community Sector Council of NS; convening support / learning for staff
- HRM (to be confirmed); convening support, learning for volunteers

What will hubs do...

- Provide own spaces for future meetings

