



TAMARACK
INSTITUTE

Connecting local community efforts
through national support
since 2002



**COMMUNITIES
BUILDING
BELONGING**
MEMBERSHIP

WHAT IS COMMUNITIES BUILDING BELONGING?



Communities Building Belonging is an Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) and Collective Impact movement aimed at deepening a sense of community in our cities and towns. Over the last five years, Communities Building Belonging (formerly known as Deepening Community) has been a timely and powerful response to the growing social isolation, loneliness and disconnection occurring across Canada.

Tamarack's Communities Building Belonging work has grown across Canada to address the need to build connected and resilient communities. The impact from this work within communities and across Canada is important.

By defining the field of Communities Building Belonging, we have done the following:

- Rooted the movement in a theoretical understanding of the issues and a practical understanding of what is happening on the ground in communities
- Helped implement a framework to develop positive change in communities
- Supported the acceleration of efforts and impacts locally

Our growing learning community of nearly 8,000 learners is building the foundation to spread this movement throughout the rest of Canada.

With the growing sense of disconnection and social isolation happening in cities and towns across Canada and the decrease in civic involvement in communities, we believe that Building Belonging is the answer.

Using an ABCD approach alongside Collective Impact, we support neighbourhoods, towns and cities to build their knowledge and skills to develop neighbourhood strategies.

Our goal is to help communities to achieve the following impacts:

- Increasing a **sense of belonging** to place and people
- Fostering **equity and inclusion** in the places people live
- Increasing a **sense of citizenship** (enabling care, raising our children together)
- Increasing a **sense of resilience** by stewarding local ecology and investing in disaster preparedness
- Increasing a **sense of safety**
- Increasing a **sense of well-being** and **enabling health**
- Investing in local community **economic development** and local **food production**

We support our **learners** by hosting online community of practices, webinars, events, producing publications that share our learnings.

In addition to these benefits, we support our **members** through specialized coaching.

Photo courtesy
of member – City of
Kitchener Neighbourhood Strategy



JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Communities Building Belonging Members

BC

1. CITY OF FORT ST. JOHN
2. VANCOUVER: KITSILANO NEIGHBOURHOOD
3. SOUTH KOOTENAY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICE SOCIETY
4. KELOWNA: STRONG NEIGHBOURHOODS

AB

5. WOOD BUFFALO LDCI
6. STONY PLAIN (CDC)
7. ST. ALBERT
8. EDMONTON (CDC): CITY OF EDMONTON
9. WETASKIWIN
10. CANMORE
11. CALGARY - BEARSPAW
12. L'ARCHE CALGARY

SK

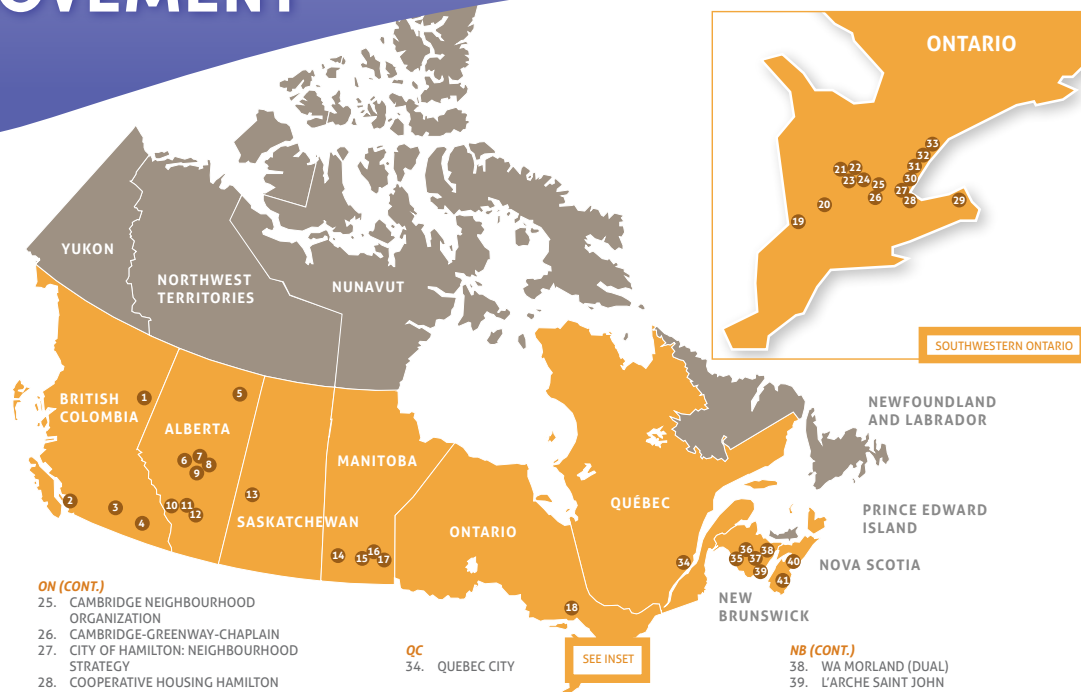
13. THE BATTLEFORDS

MB

14. BRANDON NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL CORPORATION
15. COOPERATIVE HOUSING WESTBONE WINNIPEG
16. COOPERATIVE HOUSING OLD GRACE WINNIPEG
17. L'ARCHE WINNIPEG

ON

18. L'ARCHE SUDBURY
19. HURON PARK
20. STRATFORD: L'ARCHE STRATFORD
21. COOPERATIVE HOUSING SHALOM KITCHENER
22. KW HABILITATION
23. KITCHENER SITE-COUNTRY HILL
24. KITCHENER-CENTREVILLE CHICOPEE



ON (CONT.)

25. CAMBRIDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD ORGANIZATION
26. CAMBRIDGE-GREENWAY-CHAPLAIN
27. CITY OF HAMILTON: NEIGHBOURHOOD STRATEGY
28. COOPERATIVE HOUSING HAMILTON
29. NIAGARA
30. CITY OF BURLINGTON
31. HEART COMONOS
32. DIXIE BLOOR NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE
33. COOPERATIVE HOUSING BAIN TORONTO

QC

34. QUEBEC CITY

NB

35. CARLETON-VICTORIA COMMUNITY INCLUSION NETWORK
36. L'ARCHE FREDERICTON
37. NEW BRUNSWICK-COLLABORATION FOR HEALTHY AGING AND CARE

NB (CONT.)

38. WA MORLAND (DUAL)
39. L'ARCHE SAINT JOHN

NS

40. L'ARCHE HALIFAX
41. REGION OF QUEENS MUNICIPALITY

STRENGTHENING OUR COLLECTIVE ABILITY TO BUILD CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

BECOME A COMMUNITIES BUILDING BELONGING MEMBER

Communities Building Belonging Members do the following:

- 1 Leverage the assets of their whole communities to drive long-term change
- 2 Promote citizen-led, multisector engagement and develop a common agenda
- 3 Develop and implement neighbourhood- or city-wide strategies for change
- 4 Invest in learning and evaluation every step of the way
- 5 Cultivate inclusive and equitable communities
- 6 Support policy- and systems-level changes

Communities Building Belonging members deepen their collective understanding of the power and possibility of community by developing strategies at the neighbourhood, town or city level. Members connect with peers, showcase their work nationally, and get individualized coaching and mentorship.



BENEFITS OF THE MEMBERSHIP EXPERIENCE

As a national network, we aim to make the work of our members more effective.

Here are six reasons to join:

Belong to a national movement that positions you with one voice, and that reinforces the urgency to work differently to deepen community in your city/region and across governments.

Save time and money by accessing expert and peer-to-peer coaching, learning opportunities, resources and networking opportunities to help you stay on track and make the best decisions as you develop a community plan.

Promote your efforts to a national audience through the Tamarack Institute's communication channels, including social media, blog posts, bi-monthly e-newsletters, case study publications and more.

Connect with a Manager of Cities mentor who will provide your local leadership with customized advice and connect you with expert coaches and municipal and community change leaders from across Canada.

Learn about innovative and effective tools, approaches and ideas for deepening community by participating in communities of practice, action teams, webinars, annual events and peer or professional coaching.

Influence policies and systems that matter to your community and engage in the Tamarack Institute's work to strengthen communication across municipal, provincial/territorial and federal governments to better align our collective actions to tackle social isolation.



ANNUAL COMMUNITIES BUILDING BELONGING MEMBERSHIP REWARDS

Benefits provided exclusively to our **Communities Building Belonging** members:

- Two complimentary seats to the upcoming Communities Building Belonging national gathering
- Free expert group coaching from a selection of [Tamarack expert consultants](#)
- One-on-one support from a regional Tamarack Manager of Cities
- Intensive support on measuring and reporting on your local impact
- Access to peer coaching from our Communities Building Belonging network through a dedicated members community of practice
- Invitations to private webinars featuring experts from the field
- Opportunities to promote your work and impact by being featured in Communities Building Belonging publications such as case studies and blog posts
- Access to the Communities Building Belonging Tool Library and subscription to dedicated newsletter
- Discount on books and other resources and Tamarack-wide events



OUR AREAS OF SUPPORT

1

Supporting members to form a multisector leadership team, develop and implement a community-wide plan and grow toward sustainable impact (financial and leadership)

2

Helping members to develop and implement a community engagement strategy that will result in a large-scale common agenda for a Collective Impact

3

Supporting outcomes related to tracking and reporting

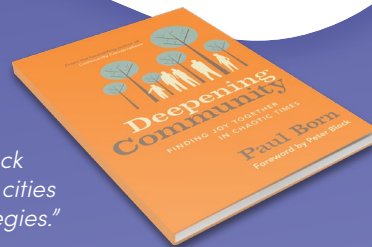
4

Achieving leadership and financial sustainability

Communities Building Belonging
supports members on
4 areas of impact:


"Every city that becomes a member receives support from a dedicated manager of cities who is an excellent source of information and experience, provides great feedback and ideas, and is crucial to the success of cities developing and implementing their strategies."

Paul Born, founder and former
Co-CEO – Tamarack Institute



Join us at our annual national gathering

CELEBRATING NEIGHBOURS: MEASURING THE IMPACT OF ABCD



An annual,
hybrid
meetup

Canada's premier gathering of community development leaders will reconnect leaders and neighbourhood practitioners to explore the use of **Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD)** and evaluation.

Join us for a multi-day event full of connecting, learning and inspiring each other to deepen your communities.

Visit [our website](#) to learn more about this year's gathering and other upcoming events.

JOIN COMMUNITIES BUILDING BELONGING TODAY

- Join today and **build a sense of belonging in your neighbourhoods.**
- Work with Communities Building Belonging staff to **document your local efforts and outcomes** and to **tell your story.**
- Learn more at www.tamarackcommunity.ca/communities-building-belonging.

We are here to support your local efforts. Your success is our success!



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Heather Keam



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The opinions and interpretations in this publication are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the Government of Canada.

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