

# Communities Ending Poverty: Summit for Strength

## A new funder perspective: shifting models to empower change

1. **What’s changed? How have big health, economic and other external factors from the last few years changed how the following sectors function?**

- Pandemic – put in perspective needs people have
  - And with visibility, this changed how we work as a result
  - We see the significant exacerbation of inequity
  - We see the community sector as essential, no longer invisible workers
- Systems change can’t happen without relationships
  - Need a solid ground to work on, you can’t do things without it
  - Need these to be able to **fail spectacularly and forward**
  - To build these you need transparency
- Decline rate of organizations and underfunding of Black-led orgs
  - Unfunded report <https://www.forblackcommunities.org/reports/>
  - 7 cents for every \$100 dollars going to Black-led orgs
  - A group of community members got together to resolve this – the FFBC was born out of this
- Reckoning with anti-black racism and pandemic – June 2020
  - Brought to the fore the need to address this issue on so many levels
  - Guiding question: how can philanthropy be revisited and centre care and love for community?
- Reckoning with philanthropic power
  - Who are you accountable to/for (and for many that’s not many)
- Questioning the endowment model
  - Spend now vs. save for later and in perpetuity
- Trust based philanthropy
  - Need to define what it means to embody this (especially beyond just granting practice)
  - Transparency
  - Change-oriented
  - Continuous learning (welcome mistake)

2. **What’s working? Which strategies (especially those replicable and actionable for CEP members) shifted any of the following [6 dimensions of policy and systems change](#)? What outcomes have we seen so far? Include any resources/links etc. that speakers share.**

	Community and/or contact	Change made	Outcomes seen	Resources /links
<b>Policies</b>				
<b>Practices</b>	Vancouver Foundation	Philanthropy a microcosm of power in the world.  Received a contract to disburse \$30 million in pandemic resilience funds to community.	Instead of reviewing 3,000 applications, 144 are verified  It became less of a competition against	<a href="https://www.vancouverfoundation.ca/grant-seekers/fund-">https://www.vancouverfoundation.ca/grant-seekers/fund-</a>

		<p>Instead of a meritocratic process, they shifted to a <b>modified lottery system</b>.</p> <p>This system meant, grantees had to meet certain qualifications and be validated for these by the foundation.</p> <p>Recognized that it was not right to compare two organizations that operated in different fields, geographies, etc.</p> <p>Also recognized, those with the fewest resources often could not do long applications.</p>	<p>others than just who was selected based on the capacity to give</p> <p>They have been doing participatory granting for many decades and knew something new was needed.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.grantsrecruitingandresiliencyfund/">grants/recruiting-and-resiliency-fund/</a></p>
<b>Resources</b>				
<b>Relationships &amp; connections</b>	The Collective Impact Project (Montreal)	<p><b>On funder reporting.</b></p> <p>Moved away from annual written reporting from grantees.</p> <p>Instead will meet twice a year in person to discuss challenges and successes.</p>	<p>They took the work off of grantees so they are not doing all the hard work.</p> <p>Also, allows you as a funder and supporter to ask questions and go deeper than any report would be able to.</p>	<p><a href="https://pic centraide.org/en/">https://pic.centraide.org/en/</a></p>
<b>Power</b>	Foundation for Black Communities	<p>Challenge the idea of innovation a bit, because are we really doing innovation or are we just doing differently than the dominant practices/what people expect.</p> <p>FFBC models it's work after <b>Ubuntu – I am because we are</b>.</p> <p>At every stage they emphasize a community-centred and Afrocentric approach (which they</p>	<p>Redirection of funds to communities.</p> <p>E.g., Board members were selected via a community nomination process.</p> <p>Reviewers and other panels the foundation has work similarly.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.forblackcommunities.org">https://www.forblackcommunities.org</a></p>

		<p>may not call innovation, but for others it may seem that way).</p> <p>We have an obligation to support communities in <b>self-governance and determination.</b></p>		
<b>Mental Models</b>				
<b>Other</b>				

3. **What’s next? What opportunities should we seize to drive positive change? If we are to be successful, what conditions must be in place and/or what barriers must be overcome?**

	<b>Change we want to see</b>	<b>Opportunity to seize</b>	<b>Conditions in place/barriers to overcome</b>
<b>Smaller scale (things we can do right now)</b>	<p>On measurement frameworks (esp. from governments). Need to discuss what makes sense to measure.</p> <p>On learning and evaluation, FFBC says it is not just about impact.</p> <p>E.g., addressing anti-Black racism</p> <p>How do you measure that overtime?</p>	<p>More relational and trust-based fundraising approaches allow you to ask: What is meaningful for communities?</p> <p>Try to push back on imposed things when you are able to.</p> <p>If we are supporting self-determination ... will that address ABR? How can we understand this?</p> <p>We need to be more expansive in how we think about what we are trying to capture and the change we want to contribute to.</p>	<p>Public money – we have contributed to this – it’s not just government funds that we are lucky to get.</p> <p>Trust-based philanthropy.</p>
<b>Larger scale (things we can work toward)</b>	<p>Need to question are we actually a learning organization and what does that mean?</p> <p>There is a mindset and fundamental shift that</p>	<p>Applying it to systems change? (FSG model). We often focus on structures a lot.</p> <p>We need to go deeper: Mental models,</p>	<p>Scarcity mentalities and a rigid focus on hard outputs need to end. As well as, urgency cultures.</p>

	<p>needs to occur, and it's not just you PD budget.</p> <p>Turn the systems lens on ourself, i.e., answer who are we and why should we exist?</p>	<p>Relationships, Power, Connections.</p> <p>Talking and action are not binary concepts. Can't just focus on doing – visible change. Dominant culture is action oriented.</p> <p>How can we slow down to wrestle with our own logics that guide our work?</p>	
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