

A Tamarack Institute Webinar

Building Youth Futures

A Five-Year Collective Impact Strategy

With Liz Weaver
President & Co-CEO
Tamarack Institute



Liz Weaver

President & Co-CEO

Tamarack Institute

In the Tamarack **Learning Centre** we support our learners in the **five interconnected practices** that we believe lead to impactful **community change**.



CITIES
REDUCING POVERTY

CITIES
DEEPENING COMMUNITY

Vibrant Communities

In **Vibrant Communities** we support **cities and local leaders** to implement large-scale change initiatives to **reduce poverty** and **deepen community**.

Context Behind the Building Youth Futures Project

- In June 2019, the Government of Canada announced a modernized Youth Employment and Skills Strategy (YESS).
- YESS is a horizontal initiative led by Employment and Social Development Canada and delivered in collaboration with 10 other federal departments and agencies.
- One of the objectives of the modernized strategy is to reach youth earlier and support those that may be at risk of academic disengagement.
- Working with youth-serving organizations, supports will be made available to help youth complete high school and transition to post-secondary education and employment.

The Building Youth Futures Anticipated 2019 – 2024 project Outcomes:

- Up to 5000 youth will be engaged and supported in their education to employment journey;
- 1300 youth express positive comments about their involvement;
- 195 Local leaders – from up to 13 communities – will be engaged;
- A National Collaborative will address the systems and policy barriers which prevent youth from achieving success;
- Up to 30 Innovative projects will be piloted and scaled;
- 13 local education systems will be actively engaged;
- 26 Local employers will be actively engaged.



Collective Impact is a disciplined form of multisector collaboration that is proven as an effective framework for high-impact community change with an emphasis on advancing systems and policy change.

The **Collective Impact** framework contains five core conditions:



- the development of a **common agenda**
- using **shared measurement** to understand progress
- building on **mutually reinforcing activities**
- engaging in **continuous communications**
- providing a **backbone** to move the work forward.

Building Youth Futures Project

A five-year strategy to work with up to 13 communities across Canada to develop collective impact, system-wide solutions for youth as they build and act upon plans for their future.

Project Overview

Community Youth Initiatives

Learning Community Supports

National Collaborative (Network)

Annual Partner Convening

Innovation Fund

Evaluation & Learning

For this initial period, we are reaching out to:

- Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
- Iqaluit, Nunavut
- Corner Brook, Newfoundland and Labrador
- Digby, Nova Scotia
- Laval, Quebec
- Gatineau, Quebec
- Chatham-Kent, Ontario
- Sudbury, Ontario
- Portage La Prairie, Manitoba
- Prince Albert, Saskatchewan
- Grande Prairie, Alberta
- Chilliwack, British Columbia

Community Youth Initiatives

The Community Youth Initiatives will have the following features:

- Small to medium sized communities
- Lead organization willing to act as a backbone
- Small backbone team
- Committed leadership at the local level including youth
- **Goal: By March 31, 2020 – 6 communities ready to scale; 7 communities identified for phase 2 and receiving coaching**

Learning Community Supports

Learning Community Supports

The Community Youth Initiatives will be able to access the following supports provided by Tamarack Institute:

- A Tamarack Project Team including Team Lead and 2 Managers of Cities
- Free participation in customized coaching, training and capacity building events
- Participation in the Learning Community
- Access to online tools, resources and webinars
- **Goal: Active and on-going participation by community teams in the learning community**

National Collaborative

National Collaborative

A 15-person national network focusing on the policy and systems barriers preventing youth from building engaged and connected futures.

- Meets quarterly
- Will include representation from: – youth, business, government, national youth serving organizations, philanthropy, etc.
- Focus on policy and systems barriers
- **Goal: By March 31, 2020, National Collaborative membership confirmed.**

Annual Partner Convening

Annual Partner Convening

Annual gathering of community leadership, National Collaborative and key strategic partners to share progress, learn from others and be inspired.

- March 2020 Gathering – 3 days
- Make connections, learn new skills, build evaluation skills, be inspired and have fun
- Learn from Aspen Forum for Community Solutions and Forum for Youth Investment – two U.S. organizations doing this work
- **Goal: March 10-12, 2020 – Kitchener, Ontario**

Community Innovation Fund

Community Innovation Fund

Annual fund available to community partners to prototype and scale innovative strategies at the local level. Focus will be on innovation, learning and evaluating impact.

- Innovation Fund: \$300,000 annual investment
- Fund granting details to be developed
- **Goal: First round of funding available in 2019**

Evaluation and Learning

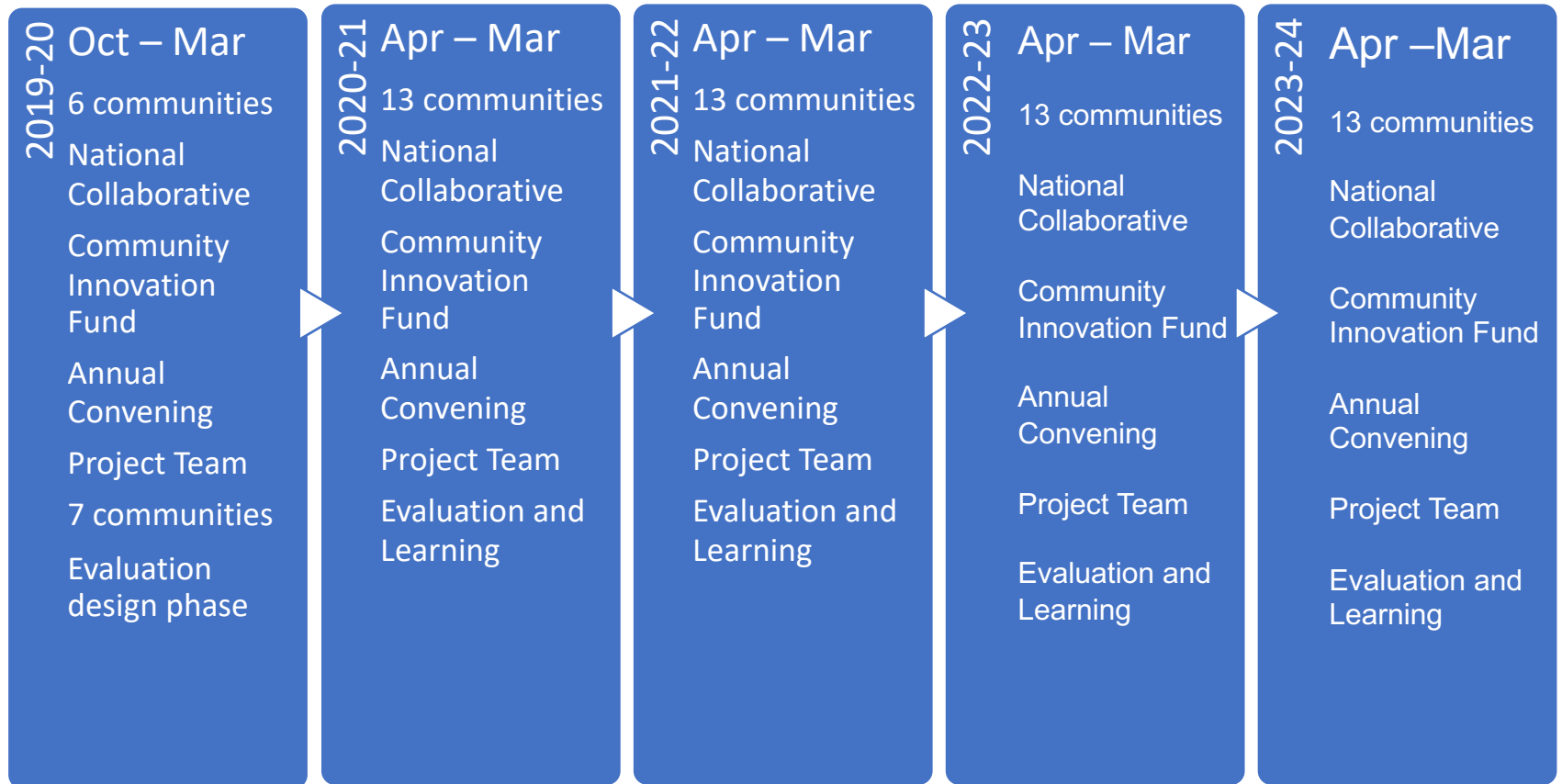
Evaluation and Learning

An annual evaluation and learning plan will be developed with training and capacity building provided to local communities.

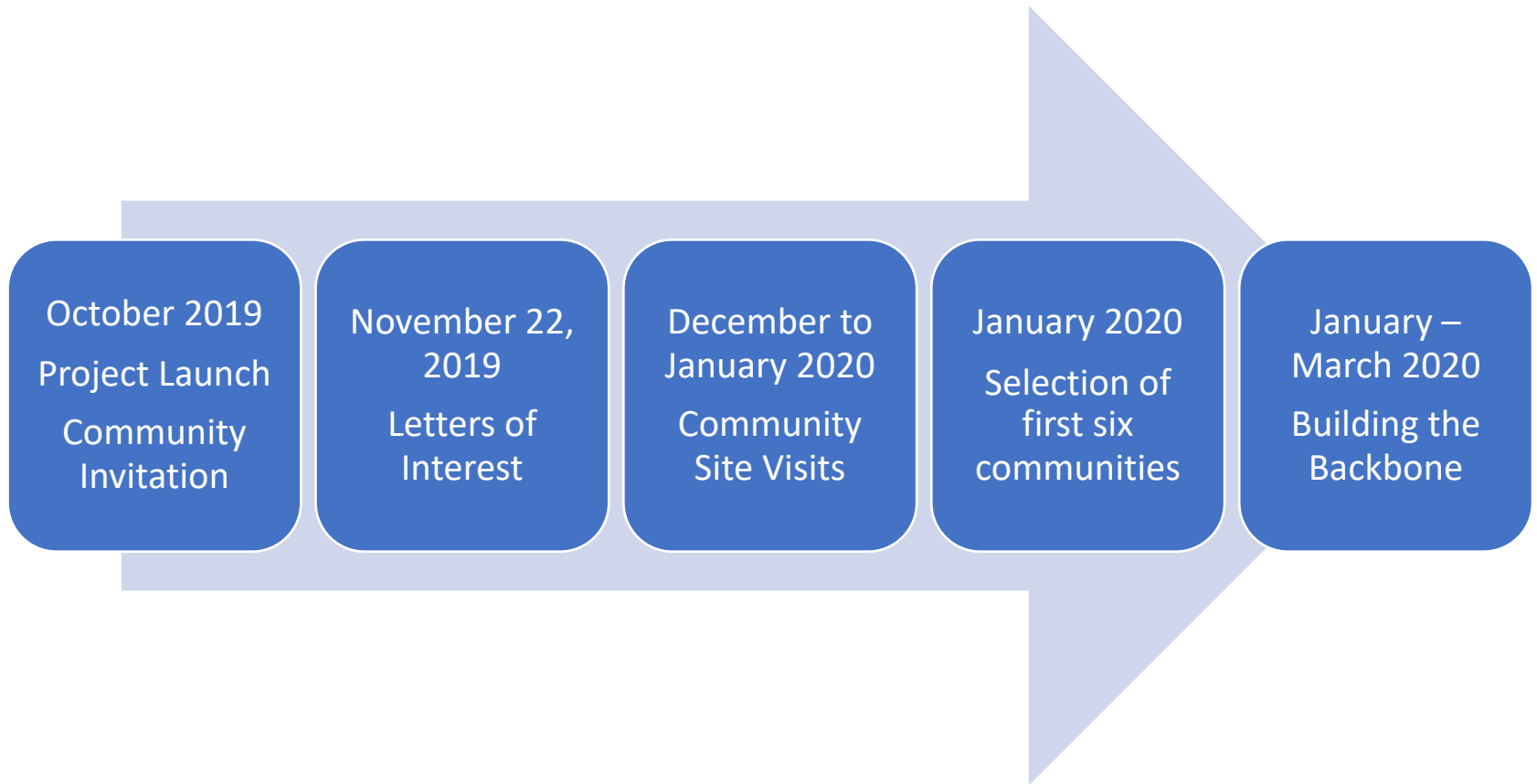
- Annual evaluation and learning plan
- 2020 Formative Evaluation focus and 2024 Summative Evaluation focus
- Capacity development and online tools
- **Goal: Active and on-going learning and participation by community youth initiatives in overall evaluation process (i.e. planning, design, data collection, analysis and reporting)**

Building Youth Futures Project Timelines

Overall Project Timelines



Project Timeline – Community Youth Initiatives (CYI) Phase 1



Building Youth Futures Your Next Steps

Next Steps

By November 22, 2019, a lead organization submit a three to four page letter of interest about your community's interest in moving forward.

Tamarack will review all letters of interest and set up community visits for December 2019 and January 2020.

The lead organization will receive a community grant of \$5,000 in funding to convene the community site visit which can be used for meeting space, refreshments, travel, honorariums, and other costs to facilitate the community visit.

Selection of the first 6 communities will be completed by January 24, 2020.



Questions?

Next Steps & Key Dates

Next Steps

By **November 11, 2019**, all participants on the call will receive the slides from today's call, the project backgrounder and the details for submitting a letter of interest.

By **November 22, 2019**, a lead organization submit a three to four page letter of interest about your community's interest in moving forward.

Tamarack will review all letters of interest and set up community visits for December 2019 and January 2020.

The lead organization will receive a community grant of \$5,000 in funding to convene the community site visit which can be used for meeting space, refreshments, travel honorariums, and other costs to facilitate the community visit.

Selection of the first 6 communities will be completed by January 24, 2020.

- **Receive information package from Tamarack** | November 11, 2019
- **Submit Letter of Intent** | November 22, 2019
- **Site Visits** | December 2019 to January 15, 2020
- **Decision regarding first six communities** | January 24, 2020
- **Annual Partner Convening** | March 10-12, 2020 in Kitchener, ON

Thank You

For more information contact: Jane Humphries
jane@tamarackcommunity.ca