E TAMARACK INSTITUTE

TOOL WHEEL OF ENGAGEMENT

The Wheel of Engagement is a useful way to engage attendees at a workshop or consultation to quickly and easily provide you with input regarding their own desired level of involvement in the opportunities and work of your group going forward.

EXERCISE OVERVIEW

The wheel is sub-divided into slices to represent the priority areas or ideas that your group is exploring, and it also includes rings to indicate increasing levels of involvement. Plot the ideas around the wheel, and then ask participants to indicate how involved they would like to be for each of the priority areas identified.

It can be most useful to introduce this tool after participants have had an opportunity to identify concrete and specific opportunities for action to advance a strategy. For example, ask that they, "Identify the 3-5 high leverage strategies for this priority area within the next year." A prioritization exercise such as dotmocracy can be used. People tend to be more comfortable placing themselves on the stakeholder wheel when they have a fairly concrete sense of the potential focus of work for the various groups.

EXERCISE HOW-TO

Time Needed: 5 minutes to set-up & 5 minutes to complete Instructions:

- Ask people to place a dot (or dots) on the wheel to indicate the level of involvement they would like to have in the continuation of putting the ideas explored today into action.
- Take a few moments to summarize at a high-level how each level is defined and remind them to reference the descriptions.
- If possible, list and describe the priority areas for action on the back of the worksheet.
- Tell people that they are welcome to place more than one dot on their wheel, to represent different levels of involvement for different aspects of this project's work
- Remind people to be sure their name and contact info is written on the bottom right corner...so folks know how to get hold of them in future.

EXERCISE WORKSHEET

Plot your ideal level of participation on the Wheel:

- **Core** Interested in being actively involved in the functioning and development of the idea.
- **Involved** want to be frequently consulted and given opportunities to provide in-depth feedback. (i.e. attending topic specific/community specific/age specific discussions or workshops)
- **Supportive** want to provide some form of support and input (i.e. attending future community forums, answering surveys and providing input online).
- **Interested** want to be kept informed of the progress of the initiative, but not be directly involved in the work (i.e. newsletter, informed about opportunities to participate in events)



