

Centering Lived Experience Through Participatory Grantmaking

May 11th, 2022



Gratitude & Acknowledgement

We begin this webinar by acknowledging that we are meeting on Indigenous land. As settlers, we are grateful for the opportunity to meet and we thank all the generations of Indigenous peoples who have taken care of this land.

As settlers, this recognition of the contributions and historic importance of Indigenous peoples must be clearly and overtly connected to our collective commitment to make the promise and the challenge of Truth and Reconciliation real in our communities.

Technical Considerations

- **We've got you covered** - You will receive a full recording of the call, the slides as well as a collection of links & resources.
- **Join the conversation** - Use the Q&A panel on your Zoom client to submit and vote for questions you'd like us to discuss.
- **Technical Support** - You can use the chat panel to ask for technical support throughout the webinar.

Our speakers



Zari Gill



Marina Nuri



Jessica Kwik



Karenveer Pannu

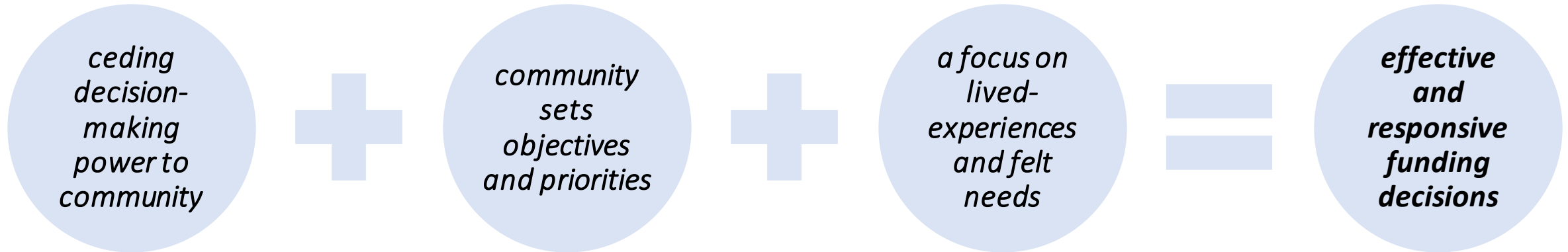


Myriam Bérubé

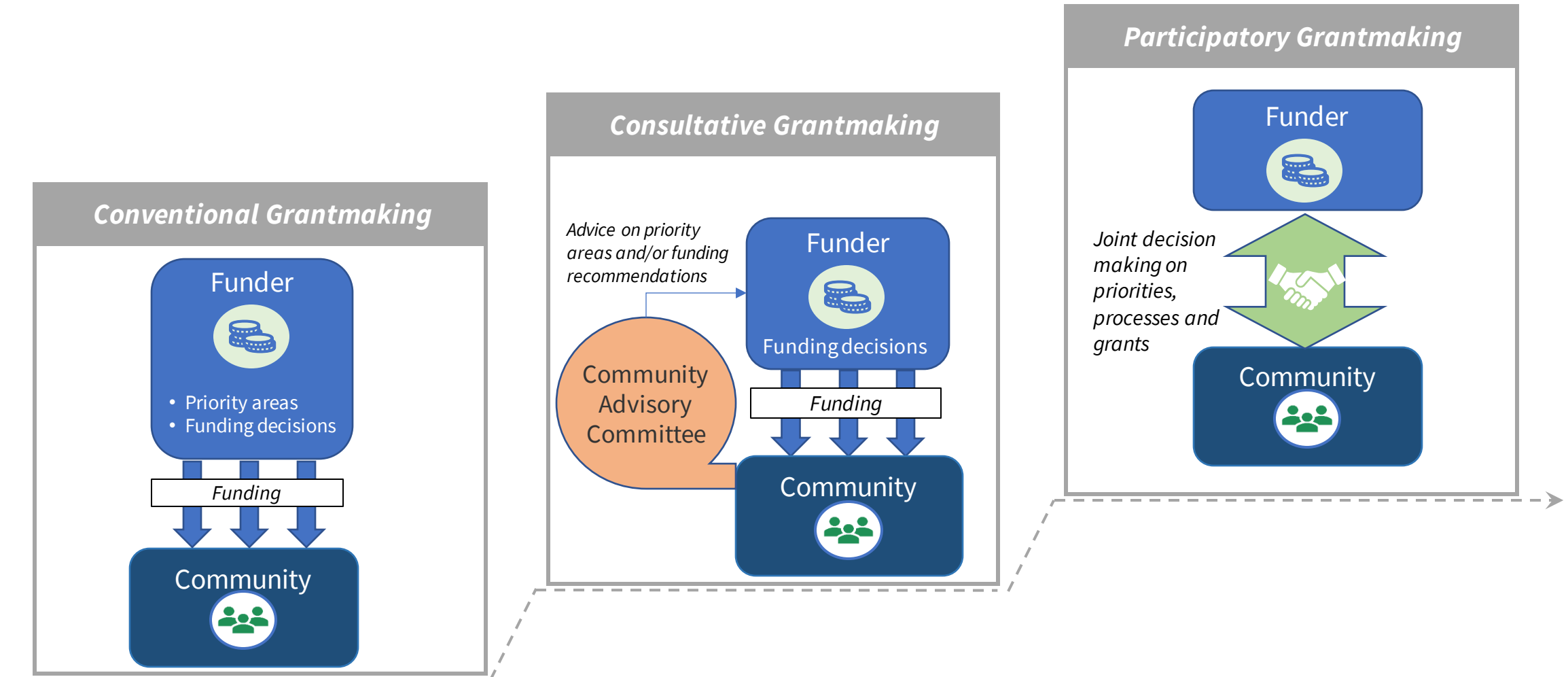
What is Participatory Grantmaking?

Participatory Grantmaking

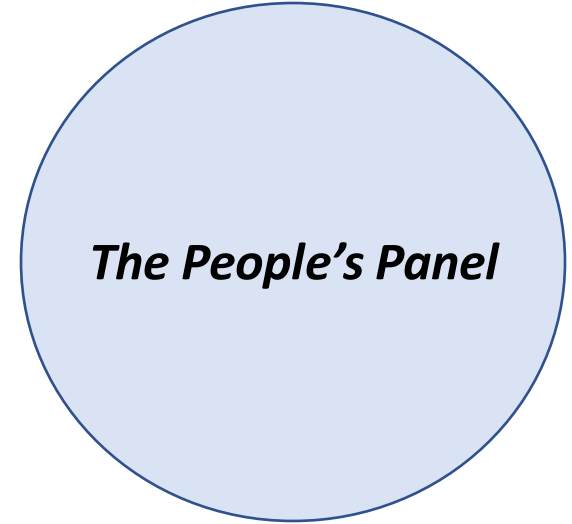
- Participatory grantmaking cedes the decision-making power about funding from foundation staff to the very communities that funders aim to serve.
 - This process privileges the experiences and needs of the community.
 - It values community members as subject matter experts



The move from traditional to participatory grantmaking has potential to shift decision-making power to the communities most impacted by funding decisions.



Our Collaborative Team



To learn more about the partners of this project, please visit our website:
<https://www.tamarackcommunity.ca/participatory-grantmaking>



Key Milestones

- **Phase 1: Design**

- Working alongside our People's Panel to co-design and co-create this funding opportunity

- **Phase 2: Outreach**

- Sharing this funding opportunity with the broader Peel community
- Conducting Coaching Calls to engage community and provide support throughout the application process

- **Phase 3: Action**

- Supporting People's Panel as they reviewed and assessed project applications
- Supporting selected projects as they enact valuable change and effort within the Peel community

Design Process: Our People's Panel

- Tamarack engaged Peel residents and stakeholders to form our **People's Panel**.
- Our Panel was comprised of **12 members** who represented the diversity present within the Peel region.
- The Panel members reflected on their sector knowledge and lived experiences to identify diverse needs and define priorities to create targeted change and impact.
- They defined the key priorities and processes - and together, they co-created this funding opportunity.

APPLY FOR FUNDING

Building Equitable Economies for Immigrants and Refugees in Peel



ABOUT THIS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

This funding opportunity for the Peel community has been developed through a participatory model.

The [WES Mariam Assefa Fund](#) partnered with the [Tamarack Institute](#) to engage residents and community stakeholders to form a People's Panel, who co-designed this funding opportunity to build equitable economies for immigrants and refugees.

The Panel members reflected on their sector knowledge and lived experiences within Peel to identify diverse needs and define priorities to create targeted change and impact that will remove economic barriers for immigrants and refugees.

This process was also supported by the Peel Newcomer Strategy Group (PNSG), whose sector knowledge and understanding of the local landscape helped ground the Panel's work. The People's Panel will also be making funding decisions for selected projects or initiatives.

Learn more about the [Participatory Grantmaking Project](#)

Our Objective

OBJECTIVE

This fund aims to support **EMPLOYMENT-FOCUSED EFFORTS** towards serving and empowering marginalized¹ immigrants and refugees, that offer holistic, responsive and collaborative solutions that are grounded in the Peel community to remove economic barriers and build more equitable economies.

¹ In the context of this fund, the **marginalization of immigrants and refugees refers to both a process and a condition that prevents individuals or groups from full participation in social and economic life**. Discrimination or exclusion from economic opportunities can impact on a wide range of groups based on immigration status, country of origin, race, language, etc. such as but not limited to racialized groups, particularly women, undocumented migrants, newcomers, including seniors, international students, precariously employed, unemployed or underemployed immigrants and refugees, low-income immigrants and refugees.

Our Funding Priorities

- 1** Engage **industry and employer** to position marginalized immigrants and refugees' skills to emerging labour market needs.
- 2** Develop **entrepreneurship skills and job readiness** while aiming for **system change to create self-employment pathways** for marginalized immigrants and refugees.
- 3** Implement the holistic integration of **mental health supports** into settlement and employment services.
- 4** Align **service navigation and accessibility** to the marginalized immigrants and refugees' perspective and experience. For example, including access to **targeted and wrap-around services** to prevent and address issues that create barriers to employment (e.g. worker exploitation, housing needs, obtaining status, etc.).

Outreach Process: Coaching Calls

- Launched our “*Building Equitable Economies in the Peel Region*” funding opportunity
- We hosted two ***Coaching Calls***
 - These calls gave interested Peel organizations/collaboratives to learn more about this funding opportunity and our participatory process
 - These calls gave interested applicants the space to ask questions and/or receive feedback on preliminary ideas
 - These calls allowed our process to be transparent and accessible to the Peel community

Action: Building Equitable Economies in the Peel Region

- People's Panel reconvened for two more grantmaking sessions
 - During these sessions, they thoroughly discussed the applications and ranked them according to how they responded to the criteria and priorities
- In the end, the People's Panel selected 6 projects to fund

Our Grantees

- Afghan Women's Organization (\$74,520)
- Family Services of Peel (\$149,695)
- Laadliyan (\$75,000)
- MIAG Centre for Diverse Women and Families (\$131,832)
- Peel District School Board (\$75,000)
- Sikhs Serving Canada Association (Seva Food Bank) (\$93,953)

Questions for the Panelists

Why did the WES Mariam Assefa Fund decide to get involved in participatory grantmaking?
What potential do you see in this approach?

What motivated Peel Newcomer Strategy Group and its partners to apply for the Peel community to be part of this pilot project?

Why did you want to contribute your time, expertise and lived experience to the People's Panel? What interested you in the approach of participatory grantmaking?

In your experience so far, what have been some of the benefits and some of the challenges of engaging lived experience in funding?

What piece of advice would you have for our participants who might be interested in getting started or advancing participatory grantmaking?

What hopes do you hold for the future of this project in the Peel community?

Upcoming events

Virtual Workshops



Community Engagement 2022: Engaging Well in a Hybrid World

Virtual Workshop | May 17 or June 22, 2022

In this workshop, you'll explore how to reinvigorate your engagement, engage meaningfully and creatively in a hybrid world, and how to ensure our engagement is inclusive.



Celebrating Neighbours: Measuring the Impact of ABCD

3-day Event | June 7-9, 2022 | London, Ontario

Now over 50% full - Register today to secure your seats

Join us in the beautiful city of London as we gather together Canada's premier community development leaders and neighbourhood practitioners to explore the impact of Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) and leading neighbourhood and community revitalizing strategies. Together we want to explore how communities are strengthening social connectedness, combatting loneliness and citizen disengagement.

THANK YOU!