

FutureSkills
Centre

Centre des
Compétences futures

The Power of Community Based Research

RESEARCH
IMPACT
CANADA

RÉSEAU **IMPACT**
RECHERCHE
CANADA



University
of Regina



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
& RESEARCH CENTRE

CIPSRT

Canadian Institute for Public Safety
Research and Treatment



ICRTSP

Institut canadien de recherche et
de traitement en sécurité publique

Community Based Research (CBR)

“A research approach that **involves active participation of ...those whose lives are affected by the issue** being studied, in all phases of research for the purpose of producing **useful results to make positive changes.**”

- Nelson, Ochocka, Griffin & Lord, 1998, p.12.



Current Reality

- “**Community engagement buzz**” in higher ed/funding circles
- Most research done at the university is initiated by academics and driven by ***their*** ideas about what the issues and needs in the community are.
- **THAT** needs to change!

Three Hallmarks of Community-Based Research

**Community
Driven**

Research is relevant to those most affected by the issue.

Participatory

Community partners and university researchers are equitably share control of the research agenda.

Action-Oriented

The process and results are useful to community members and help lead to positive change.

*There is no substitute for
first-hand experience.*



Functions of Community-Based Research

**Knowledge
Production**

Gain new insight through rigorous research

**Knowledge
Mobilization**

**Communicate results to the right people in the right
format and manner**

**Community
Mobilization**

Bring community together to create positive change.

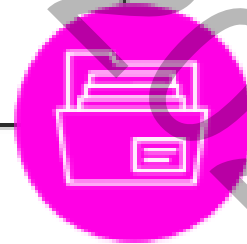


PRE-PROJECT

- How well do you know and trust your potential partner?
 - Are time commitments/expectations clear?
- Is there a budget to compensate staff and potential participants?
- If you reached out to them – have you asked if the university has an administrative fee?
- What outcomes do you need from the research?



RESEARCH QUESTIONS



DATA COLLECTION



DATA ANALYSIS

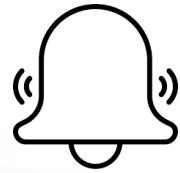


REPORTS + OUTPUTS

Connecting with Researcher Partners

- University engagement centers
 - Institutional research offices
 - Relevant departments
 - Individual researchers
-
- Join Community Campus Engage Canada.

Building Effective, Equitable Partnerships



Watch out if...

- You are asked to write a letter of support at the last minute
- The potential “partner” is not taking the time to get to know what **YOU** need from the project
- The potential “partner” is unwilling to share details of the whole grant with you

Building Effective, Equitable Partnerships



Building Effective, Equitable Partnerships



National Coordinating Group on Health Care Reform and Women (2005).

Building Effective, Equitable Partnerships

- Openly communicate expectation, roles, and goals
- Respect time and workload of partners
- Respect and acknowledge the knowledge each partner brings to the table
- Before committing to a partnership :
 - Ask yourself what you are looking for in a partner
 - Get to know the potential partners
 - Decide whether you *click* with the researcher



Developing a Research Plan

- Collaboration and communication at every step
- The more shared involvement the better the project will be
- It is vital researchers and community partners engage on equal footing :
 - Researchers are experts on research
 - Community partners are experts on their communities

Knowledge Mobilization

- Plan how the research knowledge will be communicated between partners and to the community.
- Knowledge outputs should inform public debate, policy, and practice and improve services
- Knowledge outputs inform decision making and procedures of people in business, government, the media, practitioner community, and civil society



- Social Media
- Op-eds
- Public Service Announcements
- Workshops
- Media Coverage
- Pamphlets
- Policy Papers
- Reports
- Websites

- Films
- Plays
- Dance
- Performances
- Oral Histories
- Videos
- Exhibits
- Festivals
- Funding Mechanisms

- Knowledge Syntheses and Workshops
- Conferences and other events
- Books
- Refereed Journal Articles
- Data Sharing through Online Repositories

Evaluating Success

- **Implementation:** Was your research done as originally intended? If not, what changed?
- **Effectiveness:** Did your research meet the goals and objectives it was intended to accomplish? Are there unexpected achievements?
- **Outputs:** Did your research result in the planned knowledge outputs? Were the outputs useful to your community?
- **Efficiency:** Was your research produced with appropriate use of resources such as budget and staff time?



Helpful Resources

- **Community-Based Research Canada**

A national non-profit organization contributing to equitable, just, and sustainable communities within and beyond Canada.

<https://www.communityresearchcanada.ca/>

- **Community Campus Engage Canada**

(CCEC) connects people, ideas and resources to build reciprocal partnerships. We are a national network and learning community for organizations and individuals that address pressing social and environmental challenges through community-campus engagement (CCE). We offer comprehensive access to CCE expertise and advice, and we create spaces for a wider range of voices to enhance partnership practices.

<https://ccecanada.ca/>

Helpful Resources

- **Campus Community Engagement Primer for Community Organizations with Research Questions**

Clear easy steps for community partners wanting to engage in CBR from selecting a partner, to communicating expectations, to how to be involved in each stage of research.

https://www.ulinks.ca/uploads/4/1/4/9/41497083/campus_community_manual_sept2018_final.pdf

- **7 Steps to Engagement for Community-Based Organizations**

Clear steps to CBR with helpful links to topic tailored detailed toolkits for success.

<https://carleton.ca/communityfirst/2017/7-steps-for-community-partners-who-want-to-engaging-in-cce/>

Helpful Resources

- **Community Toolkit: A Guide for Working with Universities on Research Projects**

A detailed toolkit for working with universities.

[Community Toolkit: A Guide for Working with Universities on Research Projects](#)

- **Plain Language & How to Use it**

A detailed Government of Canada guidance document explaining what plain language is, why it is needed, and how to use/implement it.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/treasury-board-secretariat/services/government-communications/canada-content-style-guide.html#toc6>

References

- National Coordinating Group on Health Care Reform and Women (2005). [Just the Facts Ma'am...A Women's Guide for Understanding Evidence About Health and Health Care.](#)
- Nelson, G., Ochocka, J., Griffin, K. *et al.* (1998). "Nothing About Me, Without Me": Participatory Action Research with Self-Help/Mutual Aid Organizations for Psychiatric Consumer/Survivors. *Am J Community Psychol* **26**, 881–912. <https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1022298129812>
- Saskatchewan Population Health and Evaluation Research Unit. (2009). Introduction to Community-Based Participatory Evaluation: Basics for Communities. <https://spheru.ca/publications/files/Introduction%20to%20Community-Based%20Participatory%20Evaluation%20Basics%20for%20Communities.pdf>
- SSHRC. (2020). Guidelines for Effective Knowledge Mobilization. https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/policies-politiques/knowledge_mobilisation-mobilisation_des_connaissances-eng.aspx
- The Secretariat of CBR Canada, the Centre for Community Based Research. (2019). "About Community Based Research". <https://www.communityresearchcanada.ca/approach>
- Tilakaratna, S. (1990). A Short Note on Participatory Research. <http://www.caledonia.org.uk/research.htm>

Our Panelists

- Candace Giblett, Public Education Officer, Regina Fire & Protective Services
- Lynne Fernandez, Researcher, Manitoba Research Alliance
- Jody Linklater, CEO, Clean Community Corporation and Founder, Indigenous YouthBuild Canada

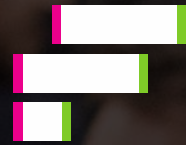


Thank you for your interest!

Lynn Gidluck
Community Engagement and Research Centre
University of Regina

lynn.gidluck@uregina.ca

<https://www.uregina.ca/arts/community-research/>



Future Skills
Centre

Centre des
Compétences futures

RESEARCH
IMPACT
CANADA

RÉSEAU **IMPACT**
RECHERCHE
CANADA



University
of **Regina**



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
& RESEARCH CENTRE

CIPSRT

Canadian Institute for Public Safety
Research and Treatment



ICRTSP

Institut canadien de recherche et
de traitement en sécurité publique