



Grand River Healthy Communities Active Living Forum Summary Report

June 22, 2017



Over the course of the day, smaller groups explored three different areas:

1. Recreation and leisure
2. Arts and culture
3. Community participation

Visioning Activity

Small groups built a model/physical structure of their five to ten year vision for their topic area, and then participated in a reflection activity about their model. The models and responses to the reflection activity are provided below.

Area of Focus: Recreation and Leisure

Name of the Model: There are no Boundaries

Visual of the Model:



Questions	Responses	
What is ending?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boundaries • Structure, overly structured • Lack of education • Perceptions, irrational fears • Status quo, like keeping up with the Jones 	
What is emerging?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risky play • Unstructured time and play • More in nature • Sense of community • Personal freedom • Exploration • Free the child in all of us 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skill building • Problem solving • Disconnecting from technology • Adaptability • Accessibility

Questions	Responses	
What do you love about it?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simplicity • Creativity • Left for your own creativity • Room to add your own stuff • See each individual thing clearly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tools to build on/add/to be creative • Sense of belonging for all • We've got "good bones" in Brantford
What other emotions come up?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Happy • Peaceful • Freedom • Joy • Excitement • Curious • Safe • Relaxing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discovery • Optimistic • Initiative • Hopeful • Inclusive • Sense of belonging • Awesomeness
What are the key concepts?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuality • Accessibility • Opportunity • Personal growth • Creativity, open for interpretation • Self-actualization • Dynamic thinking • Unstructured 	
What are the hard truths?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's challenging • We compare ourselves to one another • Don't know if other people are watching out for your child • There is a fear of allowing kids freedom to play out of sight of a guardian • Cultural/societal safety • Mental thing to take a step forward • Lack of community, isolation • We limit boundaries, the distance kids can play from home, limits are set more and more restrictive • Elimination of risky play, kids aren't learning skills • Legal/liability implications of risky plan • Reliance on technology and social media 	
Where does the power lie?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within yourself • Within a community • Re-connecting with nature • Within the parents • Power equality • Within schools 	

Questions	Responses
What are the bottlenecks that prevent this from evolving?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolation • Education of parents and community • Fear • Lack of awareness • Reality/social media/gaming • Parents keep kids inside • Life is too busy • Social pressure to conform to standards of parenting – be constantly in touch with your child • Neighbours • Schools (not at the table) • Quality of the program • Financial • Frightened to let kids take advantage of free opportunities, getting people to recognize it's there (infrastructure is there) • Need to de-structure recreation for all ages • Financial subsidy for all ages

Area of Focus: Recreation and Leisure

Name of the Model: Inclusive and Equitable Recreation for All

Visual of the Model:



Questions	Responses	
What is ending?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barriers • Financial • Transportation • Physical 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emotional • Accessibility • Education • Social isolation
What is emerging?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to recreation • Collaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to information, communication

Questions	Responses	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation • Intergenerational collaboration • Shared vision • Reduced obesity • Active lifestyles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationship building • Awareness, knowledge • Improved health • Diversity • Enriched lifestyle
What do you love about it?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diverse • Fun • All inclusive • Options/choices • Energetic • Accessible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freedom • Something for everyone • Opportunities • Puts customer first • Activity for all • Making history
What other emotions come up?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Happiness • A lot that has to happen • Overwhelming • A lot of pieces to the puzzle • How do you prioritize? • Challenge: who pays? Staffing? Time? Resources? • Safety? • Buy-in – political and decision maker support • Commitment 	
What are the key concepts?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breaking down barriers • Inclusion of all • Access • Transportation 	
What are the hard truths?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial/human resources • Support and manpower • Long term strategy • Community/participant buy in • Communication of programs • Other limitations/hard realities (food, income, housing) • Competing with technology • Needing to be modelled (lifelong learning, evolving cycle) • Too much or not enough access to information (change as generations age) 	
Where does the power lie?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$ - politicians (they may believe in recreation, but have other priorities) • Public in general • Education • Partnerships and collaboration (utilizing expertise of others rather than duplicating) 	

Questions	Responses
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buy in from parents and children/youth participation • Concept: prescription of activity – promotion in school – physical literacy for parents – FEAR – physical activity safe as necessary instead of safe as possible – risk and legalities
What are the bottlenecks that prevent this from evolving?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political will – making safe decisions regarding what we get me re-elected • Finances and decision makers • Cultural diversion – different expectations, may limit some cultures/groups

Area of Focus: Arts and Culture

Name of the Model: United Expressions!

Visual of the Model:



Questions	Responses	
What is ending?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exclusion • Ignorance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolation • Barriers
What is emerging?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion • Balance – arts • Valuing about art and culture • New understanding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration • Vitality • Collaboration • Accessibility
What do you love about it?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colourful • Fun • Everyone had a piece 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flowing • Wiggly/organic
What other emotions come up?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Happy • Fun • Acceptance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hope • Curiosity • Exuberance
What are the key concepts?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harmony/natural assets • Life span 	

Questions	Responses
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education • Integration into everything
What are the hard truths?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doesn't exist • Lot of work • Money and sports • Arts • Majority interests • Appreciate • Everyone • Scattered separately • Systemic change
Where does the power lie?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beyond • With us/in our hands • Education system • Funders
What are the bottlenecks that prevent this from evolving?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong arts community • Vision/bringing • Research/promote • Not enough education • Funding • Priorities • Facilities for arts and culture • System leaders – advocacy • Awareness of nature/promote stewardship • Part of everyday life • Creativity • Balanced and integrated into every aspect • Cultural exchange – misperception of whether could attend • Self-confidence – involving right brain • Language accessible

Area of Focus: Community Participation

Name of the Model: The Bridge to Connection

Visual of the Model:

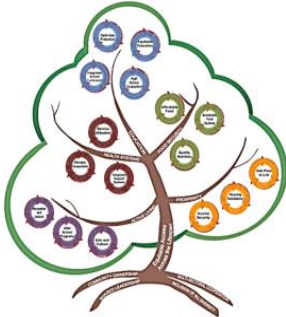


Questions	Responses	
What is ending?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silo-ing, isolation • Lack of information • Fear of connection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social isolation • Frustration • Discrimination
What is emerging?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community – connectedness • Sense of belonging • Informed • Safety • Confidence • Having access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusivity • Comfort • Knowledge and awareness • Greater community participation • Engaged in activities
What do you love about it?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acceptance • Joy • Innovative • Comfort • Diversity • Bridge is non-threatening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative/creativity • Different people help each other to find/get on the bridge • Different levels of the bridge
What other emotions come up?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optimism • Pride • Happiness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energetic • Motivated • Looks happy - FUN
What are the key concepts?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get information out • Work together to improve access to the information • Ensure accessible events, activities that are advertised as accessible, safe, inclusive, welcoming and supportive • Choose to participate – all on people 	
What are the hard truths?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of information – people don't know what they don't know until after the event • No coordinated way/method for getting information out • Flow is a problem • It is the responsibility of every organization to get the information out effectively • Advertising – key people working together • Expensive • Naming your audience 	
Where does the power lie?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With organizations – leverage partnerships • Whatever can become the central recognized source of the information (i.e. Libraries) • Community work together to come up with a way • Word of mouth still works best 	
What are the bottlenecks that	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation and accessibility (geography, distance) • Lack of coordinated information • Isolated individuals – by themselves 	

Questions	Responses
prevent this from evolving?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to reach the very hard to reach • Competing interests i.e. number of initiatives • All organizations – old fashioned mail, collated events, online, flyers, computers, website • Readability?

Asset Mapping

All individuals in attendance at the session contributed to the development of asset maps for each of the three areas of focus. The current community assets in each of the areas are noted in the visuals and table below.



Recreation and Leisure Assets	Arts and Culture Assets	Community Participation Assets
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green space (trail access, Grand River) • Mohawk Park • Active Grand • Brantfordathletics.ca • Jump Start • Can We Help • Trails • Neighbourhood hubs and programs • Subsidy programs, RBC • Waterworks Park • Mohawk Lake • Brantwood Recreation Therapy Centre (pool, fitness area, recreation and leisure classes) • DOE parks • Skate parks • Facilities • Active sports leagues (soccer, baseball, basketball, Frisbee golf) • Art in the Park • Kiwanis Field • GRCHC PACE program (peer led physical activity) • Lansdowne CC • Disc Golf Courses (Mohawk Park, Green Lane) • Ventures in Nature Club • Meetup.com • Arnold Anderson Fund 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoors stage, Lions Park • SKIP (music enrichment, www.goskip.org) • Events and movies at Harmony Square • Kindred Spirits • Lauren is an art therapist – building art in social services • Holmedale Art Crawl (group of artists) • Arts After School Kids (AASK) • Woodland Cultural Centre • Indigenous Visual Arts @ SNP • BSO • High school performances (theatre, musicals) • Arts afterschool program • Brantford School of Instrumental Music • Libraries • Arcady.ca (a musical performing arts company which provides education – rewarding musical experiences for youth and emerging artists) • Glenhurst Art Gallery • Buskerfest • Grand River Chorus • Guitar Society • Villages (July) • Free yoga by Moksha Tuesday @ 6:00 in July • Brant Agricultural Tour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbourhood association • After school programs • Sanderson Centre • Harmony Square (concerts) • Gretzky Centre • NPC Artificial Turf • PJC Artificial Turf • Community distribution list • Heart and Stroke Big Bike Rides • YCI • Neighbourhood hubs • Tourism ambassador • Free music in park • Free yoga • Food bank (mobile market, fresh helpings, good food box) • Arnold Anderson Fund (subsidies) • 211 records leased from local data provider who can add information that community wants (www.info-bhn.ca) • Event calendar • Online information centre for services in Canada (call 211, web: 211.ca) • PACE program • SKIP's Brantford Burst Colour Run • Pop up community vendor fair • Brantford Youth Council • Brantford Library • Brant County Library

Recreation and Leisure Assets	Arts and Culture Assets	Community Participation Assets
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsidies • Free recreation events • Sites: Gretzky Centre, schools, parks, river • Junction after school program at Branlyn Community Centre • Neighbourhood associations • Dufferin Tennis Club • OEYC programs • Dog parks • Beckett Adult Leisure Centre programs • Sensory sensitive programs • RAP (random acts of play) • YMCA subsidy • Caged Dragon MMA • Leisure Guides • SKIP Brantford Burst Colour Run • Junk yard playground • Your Guide (Contact Brant) • Minor Sports Associations • Accessible playgrounds • Migrant worker program • Cycling club • Parks/trails/splash pads • PACE • Brant Sports Council • RISE Centre • Ball parks • HKCC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County of Brant Library workshops • Community groups • Brant Theatre workshop • Local artists • Sanderson Theatre • Culture Days (September 29 – October 1) • Mohawk Chapel • Kanata Village • Bingo • Grand River Champion of Champions Pow Wow • International Village Festival • Brantford Potters Guild • Walking Story Books in Parks • Beckett Centre • Monster mural community art project • Partnership with Market Wincey Mills • Brant Community Foundation (helps make all happen) • Small and local business advertise local artists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GRCHC Peer Programs • Tourism Brantford • Active Grand • Schools for education for all • River and parks • Networks

Recreation and Leisure Assets	Arts and Culture Assets	Community Participation Assets
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gretzky Centre running track • County of Brant... • Financial Assistance Review • Transit Feasibility Study • Recreation Master Plan • Sportsplex • App's Arena • Fairgrounds • Park Picasso • Park PAYROL • Boys and Girls Club (children and youth evening programs, summer camps, adult fitness, youth mentorship outreach, afterschool programs) 		

Action Planning

Each small group reviewed their vision/model and the asset maps, and then identified two concrete items for action. The actions identified by each group and the individuals interested in working on these actions are noted in the tables below.

Recreation and Leisure (two small groups)

Recreation and Leisure Action #1:		
Risky play campaign		
People interested in being involved in the work:		
Name	Phone Number	Email Address
Denver Hilland	416-302-6638	Dhilland@dal.ca
Neb Zachariah	519-754-0777 ext.253	nzachariah@grchc.ca
Mike Matheson	226-208-6361	mmatheson@crs-help.ca
Julie Turner	519-753-6303 ext.417	julieturner@clbrant.com

Recreation and Leisure Action #2:		
Free to play – community crawl		
People interested in being involved in the work:		
Name	Phone Number	Email Address
Meghann Spencer		bgcmentorman@teksavvy.com
Maegen Rutten	519-756-1500 ext.5070	mrutten@brantford.ca
John Hall		jdhall@rogers.com
Jake Cerson	519-442-1818 ext. 3205	Jake.cerson@brant.ca
Karen Bulmer		Karen.bulmer@brantfacs.ca
Denver Hilland	416-302-6638	Dhilland@dal.ca
Neb Zachariah	519-754-0777 ext.253	nzachariah@grchc.ca
Liz Martorano	519-865-2419	liz@goskip.org

Recreation and Leisure Action #3:		
Communication and Collaboration Plan/Committee		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase community awareness of services • Better collaboration between providers/stakeholders • Goal of increased awareness and participation in the community 		
People interested in being involved in the work:		
Name	Phone Number	Email Address
Gary Jermy		Gary.Jermy@brant.ca
Niki Esposito		sesposito@brantwood.ca
Denver Hilland	416-302-6638	Dhilland@dal.ca

Recreation and Leisure Action #3:		
Stephanie Delaronde	519-442-1818 ext.3215	Stephanie.delaronde@brant.ca
Mike Matheson	226-208-6361	mmatheson@crs-help.ca
Neb Zachariah	519-754-0777 ext.253	nzachariah@grchc.ca
Liz Martorano	519-865-2419	liz@goskip.org
Caitlin Francis	519-754-0777 ext.254	cfrancis@grchc.ca
Meghann Spencer		bgcmentorman@teksavvy.com
Kristina Schuit	519-753-2658 ext.139	kschuit@brantwood.ca

Recreation and Leisure Action #4:		
Financial Strategy/Security		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available streams/grants • Increased community contribution • Goal: more financial assistance, decreased program fees, increased participation 		
People interested in being involved in the work:		
Name	Phone Number	Email Address
Jim Harder		jimharder@hotmail.ca
Stacey Ellins	519-755-2933	Stacey.ellins@brant.ca
Lori-Dawn Cavin		lcavin@brantford.ca
Lesley Head		Lesley.head@brant.ca

Arts and Culture

Arts and Culture Action #1:		
Come together to decide/plan on what we can do		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address systemic barriers • This is a long term solution as we need to support change and priorities (e.g. in education, funders) • Where can we start in introducing opportunities 		
People interested in being involved in the work:		
Name	Phone Number	Email Address
Lauren Wells		Lauren.5@hotmail.com
Gary Jermy		Gary.Jermy@brant.ca
Leigh Savage	519-753-8681 ext.438	Leigh.savage@brantfacs.ca
Taina Lickers-Smith		Taina.lickers-smith@snpolytechnic.com
Carly Jamieson		Carly.jamieson@snpolytechnic.com

Community Participation

Community Participation Action #1:		
Create information source for community members		
Community Participation Action #2:		
Ensuring access issues are overcome – welcoming, able to get there, inclusive		
People interested in being involved in the work:		
Name	Phone Number	Email Address
Julie Turner	519-753-6303 ext.417	julieturner@clbrant.com
Leigh Savage		Leigh.savage@brantfacs.ca
Jordan Ribeiro	519-209-1204	jribeiro@woodview.ca