



Office of Applied Research & Innovation

Redefining Possible. Here in NL.

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From Activity to Impact

Social Innovation for Stronger Municipalities

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OARI: The Future Starts Here

We've Got Experience

- **55+** years of being NL's leading publicly funded college
- Several departments including OARI & CCL

We've Got Skills

- **100+** full-time programs
- **350+** part-time courses
- Contract training and industry apprenticeships

We've Got Reach

- **7500+** students annually
- **17** campuses province-wide
- Online/blended learning

What is Social Innovation & Why Does It Matter?



Food For Thought

What will still be stronger in your community 10 years after a given project ends?

Industrial Development Landscape in NL

- Jobs
- Business Growth
- Investment
- Regional Opportunity

Resource development is essential to the province, its regions, and communities of all sizes.



Shifting Focus

Away from short-term gain \neq Towards long-term impact

- Jobs end
- Contracts end
- Projects scale down

...but communities remain.



Municipal Reality

Urban

- Housing pressure
- Service demand
- Workforce gaps
- Population shifts

VS.

Rural

- Limited staff capacity
- Multiple roles
- Reactive pressures
- Same impacts, fewer resources

What is a benefit?



Jobs?



Contracts?



Donations?

These are valuable but are often temporary.



Reframe thinking about benefits

From “What can we get?”

To “What can we build?”

Social innovation creates lasting community value through capacity building.

Social Innovation



Doing things differently to get better long-term results

Systems

Partnerships

Outcomes

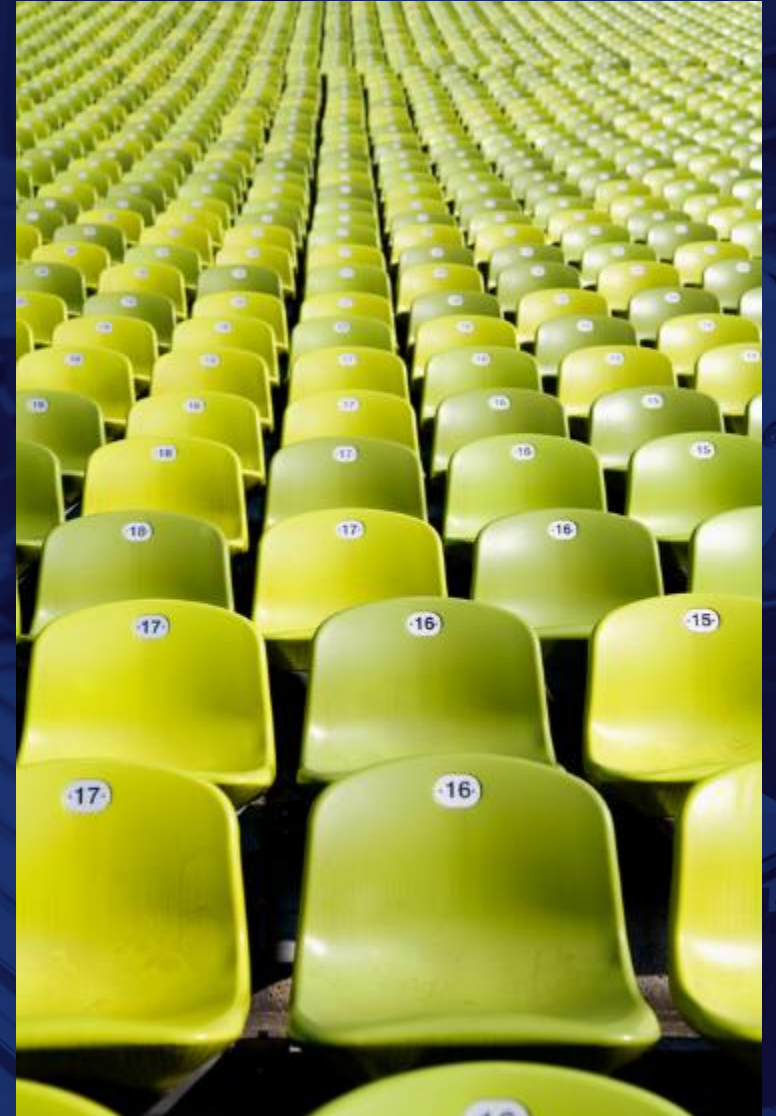
Small shifts can make a big difference.

Building Capacity

CAPACITY is what remains after the project ends.

Q. What systems can we put in place now that will long outlive us? What will our **legacy** be?

Shift from short-term projects to long-term thinking.



Areas of Capacity

1. Workforce
2. Local Business
3. Community & Services
4. Partnerships & Systems



Workforce Capacity

- Training aligned to jobs
- Industry-supported credentials
- Youth pathways

Build careers – not jobs.



Local Business Capacity

- Procurement readiness support
- Joint ventures & supplier development
- Large contractor – SME mentorship

Build long-term competitiveness.



Community & Services Capacity

- Childcare
- Housing
- Healthcare
- Emergency response readiness

Projects shape services.



Systems & Partnerships Capacity

- Municipal + industry relationships
- Regional collaboration between municipalities
- Enhanced data sharing
- Shared best practices & processes

Strong systems = strong communities



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Case Example

- Industry + CNA
- Job-aligned programs
- Graduates stay

Result: Workforce pipeline



Reactive or Proactive?

Shift thinking from **strain to strength.**

- Anticipate growth
- Invest in services early

Result: Community readiness



Municipal Influence

Even small municipalities can:

- Ask early questions
- Bring people together
- Share priorities
- Work regionally

You have more influence than you think.



Practical Questions

Ask yourself:

- What will be stronger in 10 years?
- Who benefits long-term?
- What capacity are we building?
- What's one small thing we can influence now?



Recap: Activity to Impact

Social Innovation for change that lasts.

Start by asking "What will be stronger in 10 years?"

Then choose:

- ✓ One project
- ✓ One area of capacity
- ✓ One lasting shift

Small communities = Big opportunity



Q & A

注意
CAUTION
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確認してください
CLEAR OF
HOT POINT



Thank You!

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