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Dear friends and colleagues,

We are in the midst of an incredible moment for the world; there is so much rich learning possible from this global experience we are going through. It is a timely moment to share our third newsletter, which is focused on our evaluation work.

At Inspiring Communities, we are developing evaluation capacity for systems change. We are building a greater understanding of how change happens and its impacts on enhancing social inclusion. Through a Developmental Evaluation (DE) approach, we pay attention to the work as it unfolds - providing data in real time, asking provocative questions, and supporting reflective processes so that people directly involved can adapt the work as needed. We have an evaluation team working together and continuously reflecting on how we can do evaluation better.

Evaluation is embedded into all that we do, through a [Theory of Change](#) that guides our work, a community of practice with other evaluators; dedicated resources to evaluation; built-in reflective processes; and opportunities for learning, sharing with peers, and trying new things. We are building a culture of evaluation and learning across our organization and amongst our colleagues.

In our ongoing work, we reach out to our colleagues in other organizations to share evaluation knowledge and learnings. Now, during this time of emergence and uncertainty during the COVID 19 pandemic, [we are using creative methods](#) (such as Photovoice) to gather data about helpful ways of working that are emerging through our collective efforts. Our learnings will help inform future change efforts.

We hope you enjoy learning more about our evaluation work [in this short video](#), the third in our mini-series. We look forward to learning together! Well wishes,



*Cari Patterson, Director of Research & Evaluation*

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**Learnings from the Province:** As a part of our involvement in the evaluation of the NS Poverty Reduction Blueprint, we held a series of community conversations across the

province. Cari shares some of what our team has learned from these communities in a new post - [The Work is Messy: An Evaluation Process that Hits it out of the Park!](#)

Find out more about how the Evaluation team is adapting to COVID-19 in our latest post, [Innovative Evaluation](#).

We have some fantastic evaluators who are embedded onto the teams across our work. Get to know them and their work!

[Eric Leviten-Reid](#), Northside Rising  
[Elaine Rivers](#), Turning the Tide  
[Gregory Woolner](#), WeavEast, Between the Bridges, NS Poverty Reduction Blueprint  
[Miranda Cobb](#), WeavEast, Between the Bridges  
[Cari Patterson](#), Director of Research and Evaluation

Our evaluation approach has led to a lot of learning across our organization and social change initiatives. We're proud to highlight summary reports of early formative evaluations to showcase progress and learning across some of the work.

[Between the Bridges](#): Sharing Progress and Learning 2019  
[Northside Rising](#): Early Phase Evaluation Summary  
[Turning the Tide](#): 2019 Evaluation Report Summary

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