View this email in your browser

Holidays 2022

Frame Image by pikisuperstar on Freepik. Holiday ornament picture CBoyce.

Happy Holidays!

Peace and joy of the season, and if this time of year isn't joyful for you, may you have space to heal and reflect. We at Inspiring Communities have spent time this year learning together, ruminating on what we have learned, and renewing our work.

Below you will find some updates as we near the end of this year of transformation and reflection. We appreciate your interest in and support of our work, and look forward to connecting with you in the New Year!

Yours in systems change,

Louise

Louise Adongo, Executive Director

PS - We have collected some of the sources we shared in our network here as a gift for you!

Links for Thinks 🎁 Resources List

Inspiring Leadership: Board Notes

The Board of Inspiring Communities met in November to plan strategy for the year. The Board has welcomed a number of new members this year. In attendance were Fadi Al Qassar, Mary Ellen Gurnham (chair), Shantia Russell Stubbs, Sue LaPierre,

~~John Gunn (Treasurer). Robert Bernard and Roksana Gordon were unable to attend.~~

Following a presentation by staff on highlights of this year's work and a robust Q & A session, the Board engaged in sharing circles and round table discussion. These encouraged them to think more intentionally on (i) their roles (ii) identifying strengths, gaps, opportunities and risks to the organization and, (iii) strategic planning.

- [Learn more about all our board members on our website](#).
- [We recently added new board members. Learn more here.](#)

Learnings of the Organization from a Collective

In fall 2022, Inspiring Communities released a retrospective review of what our evaluations have revealed after nearly five years of collective impact work. Key findings include the challenges of building trust and other pre-conditions for successful collective impact; the difficulty of including diverse community voices; and how hard it is to describe the work. This was a major undertaking, and one we have looked forward to tackling.

- Download and read: Learnings of the Organization from a Collective Impact Perspective
- Read the blog post: Sorting through the Archives for Gold, or At Least a Can Opener

This document is the third in our five-part series of shared reflection and rebuilding our common understanding of who IC is and what we do.

The documents are:

1. Inspiring Communities' *Strategic Directions 2022*
2. *A Year of Transforming* (2021-22)
3. *Learnings of the Organization from a Collective Impact Perspective*

and two more to come:

4. Evaluation and Learning Systems Framework (nearly complete)
5. End of year 2022-23 report (to be released at the end of fiscal).

Download "Learnings of the Organization from a Collective Impact Perspective"

Research Intern and Fellows

Inspiring Communities has been fostering a research focus this year. Our Social Innovation Canada / MITACS intern is Morgan Rose, a student at Memorial University who is currently wrapping up her survey of social innovation labs in Canada, with the goal of updating a 2018 map that had been created, and looking at results shared, and equity.

We have two IC Fellows that have joined us for 6 month internships, Vanessa Paesani and Kjeld Mizpah Conyers-Steede. The topics they are tackling are polarizing conversations and systems-focused policy making. Starting in January, we will add a Climate Fellow to our mix. Stay tuned!

- Read more about IC's Fellows and their projects.

RECENT EVENTS

On December 12, Turning the Tide hosted a Multicultural Holiday Gathering at the Digby Legion which saw the sharing of traditions and foods from African Nova Scotian and Ukrainian residents among others.

Storytelling Circle, Harvesting Hope. We have a [blog post about the event here](#) with lots more photos!

Community Engagement Specialist Treno Morton recently addressed youth in Digby.

Regional High School.

17m · Digby, NS · 🌐

DRHS would like to thank Treno Morton for speaking with our school this afternoon on his lived experience as an African Nova Scotian in the school system. Treno is a former high level student athlete, playing football for Queens University and graduating from that excellent institution with a degree in Geography and Planning. Thank you, Treno, for sharing your experiences and offering our staff and students valuable life advice.
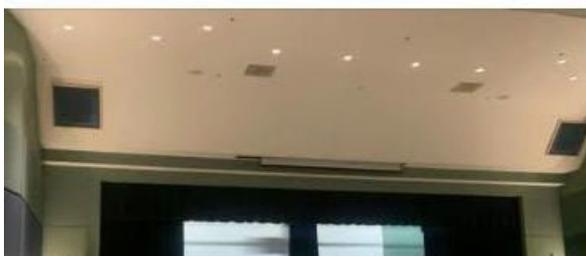
affected by the large unsanctioned street parties held in South End Halifax in recent years. Community Engagement Specialist Treno Morton co-facilitated with Communications and Community Relations Manager Charlene Boyce. Rach Derrah created a graphic recording of the event.

NEW on our BLOG

Check out these new posts on our blog:

- ## Driven by Community

  December 14, 2022 Dartmouth North, Digby, Learning, Nova Scotia, Reflections, Systems Change

  Feasibility study on carsharing electric vehicles in Dartmouth North by Treno Morton Introduction and Overview In an effort to raise awareness around opportunities for [...]

- ## Harvesting Hope on the Northside

  November 30, 2022 Nova Scotia

  "Hopefully some people share their stories of hope and some of the positive

- ## Climate Change Demands Regional Collaboration

  November 16, 2022 [Atlantic Canada](#), [Research](#)

  Establishing a need for a Trans-Regional Institution defending Atlantic Canada's interests as the nation attempts to transition to cleaner energy alternatives Blog post contributed […]

- ## Who has power? Who exercises control? Who needs to build trust?

  November 14, 2022 [Atlantic Canada](#), [Nova Scotia](#), [Research](#), [Systems Change](#)

  Navigating the shift of meaningful economic development Navigating Power, Control, and Trust has impacted me since the age of 10 years. At that age, […]

- ## Sorting through the Archives for Gold, or At Least a Can Opener

  November 8, 2022 [Evaluation](#), [Learning](#), [News](#), [Reflections](#)

  Inspiring Communities releases "Learnings of the Organization from a Collective Impact Perspective" Download and read: Learnings of the Organization from a Collective Impact Perspective […]

- ## New Board Members Extend IC's Reach

  September 26, 2022 [Atlantic Canada](#), [News](#), [Nova Scotia](#)

  Inspiring Communities is pleased to formally welcome four new members to our governing board. These new members bring diverse experiences, fields of expertise, geographic […]

- ## Inspiring Communities Announces Fellowship Program

  September 19, 2022 [News](#)

  Focus areas to include polarizing conversations and shifting policy making For release September 20, 2022 (Kjipuktuk) Inspiring Communities (IC) is proud to present the […]

- ## Doctrine of Discovery: A Linchpin of Heiltsuk Cultural Genocide

  September 13, 2022 [Reflections](#), [Stories and Profiles](#)

  There have been ongoing calls to dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery

impinges on reconciliation between Indigenous peoples and Canada in general. By dismantling it, reconciliation can be advanced to interface with Canadian law with the International Human Rights Law that repudiates the doctrine.

- ## The Art of City Building

  September 12, 2022 Atlantic Canada, Systems Change

  What we can learn from this conference, and why we, as Inspiring Communities, are helping present it. Inspiring Communities is dedicated to creating systems [...]

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.