

Social Connectedness Fellowship Program

Partnership Proposal



SAMUEL CENTRE
FOR SOCIAL
CONNECTEDNESS



Partner Organization:

Tamarack Institute is a connected force for community change. We build the capacity of changemakers in cities and communities, within Canada, and around the world, to solve major community challenges including ending poverty, building youth futures, deepening community, and addressing climate change. Tamarack is skilled at linking theory and practice and recognized across North America. Tamarack has built the capacity of changemakers in five interconnected practices to effectively mobilize and address the challenges facing communities today.

These five practices are:

- Collective Impact: How can we mobilize collaboration across sectors for systems change?
- Community Engagement: How can we engage community members to create and realize bold visions for the future?
- Collaborative Leadership: How can we bring the right people together in constructive ways?
- Community Innovation: How can we create, test, and scale new approaches?
- Evaluating Impact: How can we identify and amplify what works?

Tamarack's Cities Deepening Community has been working with communities and organizations across Canada and internationally since 2016. We are building a vibrant network of communities that are committed to strengthening neighbourhoods and fostering positive community change through resident-led action.

We support communities to increase a sense of belonging, citizenship, resilience, and well-being while also fostering community security and strengthening local economies.



We do this by hosting community of practices, webinars, and events, producing publications that share our learnings and supporting our members with specialized coaching.

Location of Fellow: Tamarack Institute is a remote organization with decentralized offices across Canada, meaning that the Fellow can be based anywhere in Canada. The central office and mailing address is Tamarack Institute, University of Waterloo Kindred Credit Union Centre for Peace Advancement at Conrad Grebel University College, 140 Westmount Road North. Waterloo, Ontario.

Description of Proposed Project:

Tamarack has launched our 2030 plan that outlines our strategic plan for the next 10 years. One of the priority areas is to shift policy & advocate for systems change. We want to grow our capacity to identify policy priorities and to work strategically to achieve policy change for Deepening Community at the Municipal, Provincial/Territorial and Federal.

In this project, we will identify key policy levers to support communities to achieve results in these 7 areas of impact:

- Increasing a sense of belonging to place and people;
- Fostering equity and inclusion in the places people live;
- Increasing a sense of citizenship (enabling care, raising our children together);
- Increasing a sense of resilience by stewarding local ecology and investing in disaster preparedness;
- Increasing a sense of safety;
- Increasing a sense of well-being and enabling health; and
- Investing in local community economic development and local food production.



Why is this important? The work of policy change will be very important to achieve the ambitious actions designed to grow the impact of our campaigns. Community partners will achieve their greatest impact when there is a collective commitment that results in policy changes.

Key Deliverables:

- A research report (25- 35 pages) on the state of policy for Deepening Community, which can include elements such as:
 - Research/lit search
 - Map out key provincial/federal/municipal policies and organizations and their roles for the 7 impact areas for Deepening Community
 - A Focus group with members of Deepening Community
- A Presentation to our annual gathering
- A 750 -1000 word blog post for SCSC.

Goals:

This research will be central to the development of Tamarack's policy development in Deepening Community. We have a bold vision for making community essential and addressing Canada's loneliness crises by building social connections and resilience. This research will set the stage for approaching governments at all levels to create the environments for community to thrive and for residents to be at the center of community.

Contact Details:

Supervisor(s): Justin Williams- Manager Government and Stewardship e. justin@tamarackcommunity.ca p. 519-574-9299