



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE REPORT

*ASSET-BASED COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT AS PERCEIVED BY  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS*

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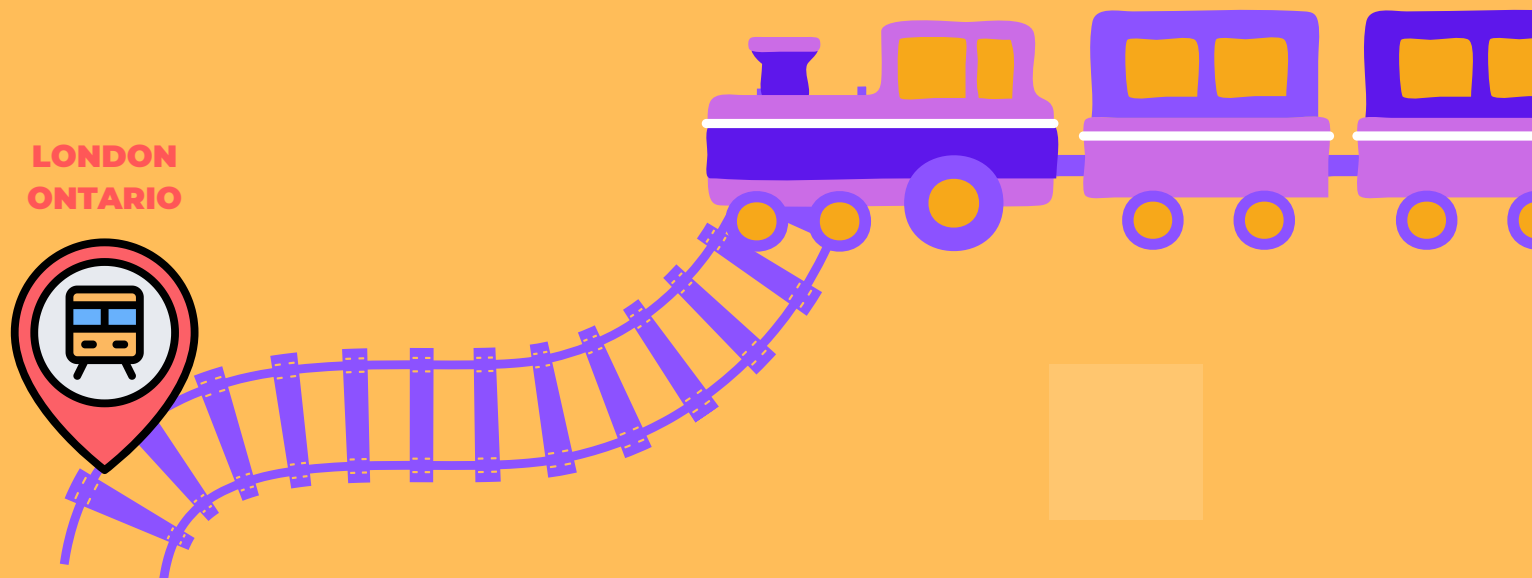


TAMARACK INSTITUTES  
ANNUAL EVENT

On June 8, 2022, I made my way to Tamarack Institute's event in London, Ontario.

The event titled, "*Celebrating Neighbours, measuring the Impact of ABCD*" focused on the impacts and workings of ASSET-BASED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

I co-hosted a workshop with my partner at Tamarack Institute. Our workshop focused on members understanding ABCD and it's policy implications.



# 7 AREAS OF IMPACT



- *Sense of belonging*
- *Equity and Inclusion*
- *Civic Engagement (enabling care/acting together)*
- *Strengthening Resilience*
- *Community Safety*
- *Community Health / Wellness*
- *Empowered Local Economies*

*In this workshop, I asked Tamaracks community members the following questions:*

- What do you feel is the most important factor in fostering community?
- Which of the areas of impact do you find the most challenging to make waves in?
- What does an ideal community look like to you, identify 3 key aspects of an ideal community

## RESPONSES

Members responses were insightful and helpful.

They ranged from *development of new parks* to *extended mental healthcare for marginalized groups*.

Members came from a diverse range of organizations across Canada including:

*Shorefast Community Foundations of Canada, Canadian Urban Institute (Canada Healthy Communities Initiative), 880 Cities, Coady Institute, Pillar (groups that are energizing shifts in systems and policy environments) and Hamilton Community Foundation*

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH WITH INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



In Addition to the event with Tamarack, I chose to interview International students who serve as Community leaders on Canadian University Campuses



## *Simran Aman*

President of the Bangladeshi Students Association, Simran shared her experience as an international student looking for Community in Canada.

She also described how she found community in friends who share her language and culture on campus. She maintained that government policies towards helping International students find community need to improve

## *Shanze Faisal:*

A leader of Pakistani student's Association at U of T, Shanzeh expressed the difficulties International students face in finding community, due to lack of cultural and linguistic similarities

Speaking to international students, it was evident that leaving behind your culture and home to start a new life is very difficult and without a strong community can be isolating

My CEI helped me understand that *immigrants and international students* are most vulnerable to social isolation and should be included in Community Development practices

