Social Innovation Marries Engagement

"…asking for and bringing 'skin' into the game"

Social innovations means investing in meeting the needs of the community first and peoples' perspectives. Data on the day-to-day tensions and relationships need to be addressed and unpacked to help tackle the complexity of issues facing the communities.

This means:

- Exploring problem areas and navigating political arenas;
- Constant data sharing and insights between researchers and the local knowledge /expertise of citizens and businesses;
- Using the data as the foundation; and
- Collectively designing prototypes that might work towards building out a bigger solution.

Joint accountabilities form when the social determinants of health become center stage
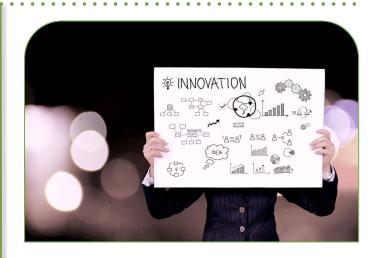
Participatory Action
An approach that allows for engagement with the community from a person-centred viewpoint, which helps builds partnerships. Being innovative is akin to being able to adapt to the emerging needs which arise from partnerships

Success criteria includes:

- Using and applying data as foundation,
- Having a solid process, and
- Engaging with purpose, recognizing the mess and co-designing by asking them to bring "skin to the game".

Ground level engagement work involves risk taking and seeing failures as learning journeys. It has the ability to create shared responsibility, ownership and can shift changes in landscape and regimes.

RECOVER

RECOVER is led by a small core team at the City of Edmonton, all dedicated to using a social innovation approach to improve urban wellness in Edmonton, bringing different skills and capabilities to the project.

Together with our stakeholders, we have developed a platform of problem-solving that aims to shift the system through a series of small actions.

Meet representatives of our RECOVER Team:

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