



COMMUNITY MINE • YOURS • OURS

Building inclusive communities for people requires real effort and “presence.” From Presence to Citizenship is a conference that unites people involved in the developmental services sector to share thought leadership, best practices and success stories. Over the past four years, approximately 300 executive directors, managers and leaders with an interest using community as a first resort for services and supports attend the annual learning exchange.

This annual event features nationally and internationally recognized speakers, thought-provoking breakout sessions and interactive panel discussions that feature champions of transformation. This year’s fourth annual From Presence to Citizenship conference *Community: Mine – Yours - Ours* will carry on from last year’s theme of “people driving change” as we shift to focusing on the importance of community; building healthy communities and creating community connections and partnerships. Participants will explore ways to support a welcoming and inclusive society, learn how to bring powerful conversations into your community and shift your agency’s thinking about the nature of engagement.



Program

Wednesday, March 4

7:00 – 9:30 pm

Networking Social

A world café meets toolbox session

Thursday, March 5

8:00 – 9:00 am

Breakfast

9:00 – 9:15 am

Learning Exchange 2020 Opening

Welcome, Introductions & Opening Remarks

9:15 – 10:30 am

Opening Keynote Speaker

Cormac Russell

Beyond Independence Towards Interdependence

10:30 – 10:45 am

Break

10:45 – 12:00 pm

Interactive Panel Discussion

Cormac Russell, Joe Erpenbeck and Rishia Burke

ABCD 101

12:00 – 1:00 pm

Lunch

1:00 – 2:15 pm

Speaker

David Chalmers

2020 Vision: The Executive Director's Unrelenting Focus on

Achieving Meaningful Results

2:15 – 2:30 pm

Break

2:30 – 3:45 pm

Plenary Speaker

Rebecca Pauls

Moving from Unprepared to Peace of Mind - The Critical Role of

Supportive Relationship

3:45 – 4:45 pm

Interactive Panel Discussion

Rebecca Pauls, Joe Erpenbeck, Eric Goll and Stephanie Lee

Building Family Ties

5:00 – 6:00 pm

Reception

6:00 – 7:30 pm

Dinner

7:30 – 8:45 pm

Dinner Speaker

Joe Roberts (aka The Skidrow CEO)

A Push for Change – How to lead, inspire and engage on purpose



Friday, March 6

7:30 – 8:15 am	Breakfast
8:15 – 8:30 am	Opening Remarks
8:30 – 9:00 am	MCCSS
9:00– 10:15 am	Plenary Speaker Joe Erpenbeck <i>From Assets to Action</i>
10:15 – 10:30 am	Break
10:30 – 11:45 am	Interactive Panel Discussion Cormac Russell, Rebecca Pauls, Joe Erpenbeck and Tina Williams <i>abcd 201: Little Actions That Make BIG Impacts</i>
11:45 – 12:30 pm	Moving On Outcomes Discussion Janet Noel-Annable and Jim Turner <i>Discussing the outcomes of the Ontario Development Services</i> <i>Call to Action</i>
12:30 – 12:45 pm	Closing Remarks and Draws
12:45 pm	Lunch



Speaker Sessions

Cormac Russell



Beyond Independence Towards Interdependence

We all know how important it is to feel a sense of power and autonomy in the world, but are any of us truly and completely independent? When it comes down to it, no one is completely self-reliant, and if they are, then they are also likely to be completely socially isolated and unhappy. We are reliant on others in hundreds, perhaps thousands of imperceptible ways, we also depend on the local economy and institutions; environment, and on cultural assets for our wellbeing. To have a good life, not alone do we require choice and control beyond Serviceland, we also deeply need to belong to a community and a place.

But, how can we support the people we love and cherish - if their gifts, skills, knowledge and passions have not yet been received or even recognized by their wider community? Well the answer in part is in supporting those we love to discover, and fall in love with, their gifts. It also involves connecting them with near neighbours who see them as gifted neighbours and believe that their gifts are essential to their shared community building efforts. One of the most powerful ways of doing that is through a process called asset-based community development.

Rebecca Pauls



Moving from Unprepared to Peace of Mind - The Critical Role of Supportive Relationship

What is a good life? This question is at the core of the work that PLAN does in collaboration with families. It's a unifying question for parents, caregivers and family members. It opens their hearts, minds and imaginations regardless of circumstance, age, beliefs or life experiences. Asking what makes a good life gets to the root of our hopes and fears and guides the work as we create plans for both now and in the future.

Creating and implementing plans for the future can often go through several stages before we can achieve the ultimate goal of Good Lives for people with disabilities and Peace of Mind for families. Life is



dynamic and peace of mind is not a permanent state, which means that reviewing the stages of planning is an ongoing process. This work is vital to ensuring that when parents are no longer able to be as involved as they are now that their loved ones will experience safety and security surrounded by the unpaid support and natural care of a network of family and friends.

Participants in this session will explore the ways that families, people with disabilities and their support networks can work together to achieve positive outcomes in the areas of friends and relationships, community contribution, empowered decision making, financial security and a place to call home.

Joe Erpenbeck



From Assets to Action

This interactive session will explore how to take action based with principles of ABCD as foundation to build relationships and belonging. Joe will share stories of how an asset based approach has been utilized by many groups to build stronger connected neighbourhoods. Participants will be able to identify assets in their communities and first steps they can take in their work.



Joe Roberts



A Push for Change – How to lead, inspire and engage on purpose

Every one of us becomes disengaged at times and when this happens it affects our families, our health, and our roles in the workplace. All of us get our share of the tough stuff.

Ask Joe Roberts. He was as disengaged as a person can be in the western world. In 1989 he was a homeless addict pushing a shopping cart around the downtown east side of Vancouver. He redefined impossible when he completely turned his life around to become a celebrated Canadian entrepreneur.

In this keynote, Joe teaches how and why we become disengaged. As you walk with Joe through the tough streets of Vancouver in the 1980's you will experience the depths and degradation which he turned into triumph and success. Joe's unique style of inspiration combined with his legendary dark humour will have you shed a tear while making you laugh 'til it hurts.

Participants will leave with tools they can use immediately to inspire employee and community engagement. They will learn how to tackle big projects and stay focused by tapping into their deeper sense of purpose driven leadership.

Joe's is a treasured Canadian whose message is authentic, humorous, honest, raw and unforgettable. His masterful delivery combined with high energy and self-deprecating humour will have you shed a tear while making you laugh 'til it hurts.

David Chalmers



2020 Vision: The Executive Director's Unrelenting Focus on Achieving Meaningful Results



Panel Discussions

Cormac Russell, Joe Erpenbeck and Rishia Burke

ABCD 101

Discussing and sharing stories of how the principles of Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) relate to building community and belonging which is going to be our most powerful strategy for ending displacement and isolation.

Rebecca Pauls, Joe Erpenbeck, Eric Goll and Stephanie Lee

Building Family Ties

With the right support for young people, their families and their communities:

- kids can build healthy and productive lives in their community
- kids can stay in their community rather than leave for treatment or whatever
- families can imagine a bigger and fuller life for their kids
- kids and families can build strong friendships and networks
- transition into adulthood is easier with work experiences, building of lifeskills, securing of home or plan for this, etc.

Cormac Russell, Rebecca Pauls, Joe Erpenbeck and Tina Williams

abcd 201: Little Actions That Make BIG Impacts



Speakers

Cormac Russell

www.nurturedevelopment.org

Cormac is Managing Director of Nurture Development and a faculty member of the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) Institute at Northwestern University, Chicago.

Over the last 20 years Cormac has worked in over 30 countries around the world. He has trained communities, agencies, NGOs and governments in ABCD and other strengths based approaches in Kenya, Rwanda, Southern Sudan, South Africa, the UK, Ireland, Sweden, the Netherlands, Canada and Australia.

He is passionate about the proliferation of community-driven change and citizen-centred democracy, and has supported hundreds of communities to make ABCD visible through what he calls ABCD Neighbourhood Learning Sites.

His motto, paraphrasing Benjamin Franklin, is: 'When it comes to Community Building, well done is better than well said'.

In January 2011 Cormac was appointed to the Expert Reference Group on Community Organising and Communities First in the UK which he served on for the term of the Group.

Examples of recent work include:

- Leading all national sporting organizations in Canada, in conjunction with the Canadian Council for Ethics in Sport, to adopt a shared vision as to how sport can become an asset for community building. This is effecting significant changes in the structures of major sporting organizations but also at a local community level in terms of community empowerment and citizen driven development.
- Advising I&Dea in the UK on the development of an asset based approach to health and on addressing health inequalities in low income communities as well as how an assets approach can improve community health and well-being.
- Partnering with Youth Work Ireland on a national program involving hundreds of youth practitioners and thousands of young citizens to develop a strong culture of youth led initiatives.
- Working in partnership with the University of Limerick and Atlantic Philanthropies in Ireland to infuse an ABCD approach across the entire city of Limerick. Part of this process involved organizing an entire neighborhood to address issues of loneliness, fear and intimidation and to support citizen driven development. The long-term vision is of a city that puts citizens and communities in the driving seat, through processes of neighborhood organizing and bottom up planning and where services are organized in the way in which community is organized.



Rebecca Pauls

plan.ca

Rebecca Pauls is an enthusiastic leader and creative facilitator with a broad range of experiences in community development and collaboration with people who have disabilities. She is passionate about seeing the unique gifts each of person has, and is convinced that our communities will be stronger, safer and more resilient when each of us is contributing and recognized for our gifts.

As a mother to four children, Rebecca also has a deep appreciation for the roles that family and friends play in our lives, and is committed to connecting people with other people and places around them.

Rebecca is the Executive Director of Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network (PLAN), a Vancouver-based social enterprise that partners with families and people facing social isolation to secure their future by mobilizing relationships and leveraging community assets. Since joining PLAN six years ago, Rebecca has led a complete re-design of programming to integrate principles of person centred planning, ABCD, narrative practices and independent facilitation. After demonstrating the strength and flexibility of this community approach, Rebecca is regularly invited to consult with organizations about how it can be scaled and applied to population groups across North America.

In a career that's taken her to communities across Canada and internationally to places such as Ethiopia, Zimbabwe and Guatemala, Rebecca has chosen to settle in Vancouver, British Columbia. She and her partner currently reside in the Gastown neighbourhood, a community known as a hub of social innovation and for its immense diversity.

Joe Erpenbeck

joeerpenbeck.com

Joe Erpenbeck is a faculty member of the Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) Institute at DePaul University. He provides training on ABCD and shares stories from 25 years of experience in communities across the US and Canada.

He provides training on ABCD and shares stories of neighborhoods in action and the power of a connected community. Previously, Joe worked in developmental disabilities services agencies in Ohio and Vancouver and focused on supporting people with disabilities to have relationships and meaningful activities in their communities. He was the Director of Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) in Vancouver, BC and of the ABCD Cincinnati Project. His teams partnered with citizens, local organizations, and businesses to build on the capacity of community and neighbors to care for each other and share their gifts.

Joe's work is highlighted in Peter Block's book, *Community, The Structure of Belonging* and in John McKnight and Peter Block's book, *The Abundant Community*.



Joe Roberts (The Skid Row CEO)

skidrowceo.com

The most effective leaders in society are those rare individuals who can inspire their audience with a passion that can only come from personal experience. As the former President and CEO of an extremely successful multimedia company, Joe Roberts has faced and overcome key business challenges, which confront every modern organization.

With a track record of proven business success, Joe formed his own multimedia company, Mindware Design Communications, and in less than four years led the company to a phenomenal 800% increase in business.

Joe's business solutions have made millions of dollars for his clients, across a variety of business sectors. It is from this experience that Joe draws when addressing Fortune 500 companies, professional associations and organizations internationally.

What is most amazing about Joe is that in 1989 he was living on the streets of Vancouver as a homeless skid row addict. Through perseverance, determination and his resilient human spirit, Joe pulled himself out of the darkness and despair, to become a highly respected business and community leader.

Today Joe Roberts (aka The Skidrow CEO) is an award-winning Inspirational Keynote Speaker armed with unwavering determination and 20+ years of speaking experience. His mission has been, is, and always will be to instigate a ripple effect of positive change everywhere he goes by reminding people of their unlimited potential.

When Joe was homeless in Vancouver he made a promise if his life was spared he would pay it forward. He did just that in the form of triumphantly pushing a shopping cart a staggering 9,064 kilometers across Canada in the name of youth homelessness prevention. This very act birthed a national awareness campaign called The Push for Change, inspiring fellow Canadians to create ripple effects of transformation in the lives of at-risk youth throughout the country. Since 1989, Joe has acquired two college diplomas, became the CEO of one of Vancouver's leading multimedia companies, walked across Canada and achieved more success than he could ever have imagined. Joe has been recognized by MacLean's Magazine as one of "10 Canadians who make a difference," won the BC Courage to Come Back Award, received The Ontario Premier's Award for Business, was given an Honorary Doctorate from Laurentian University and was recognized by the Senate of Canada with their Canada 150 Medal.

Ultimately, Joe's deep resonating "WHY" is to empower people to step into a life of infinite possibility, to understand "there is truly more to each and every one of us than what we see"



David Chalmers

nexushumancapital.com/

David has twenty years of experience working with organizations, their leaders and their teams to develop human capital, to strengthen performance and productivity and to close gaps that inhibit sustainable change. His practice has utilized leadership development, executive coaching and emotional intelligence as levers for influencing sustainable continual growth within organizations.

As a driven HR thought leader, David provides senior executives with tools to champion exceptional performance – bringing corporate brand values to life through all facets of organizational culture. To these ends, he has optimized work environments through organizational design and integration and has designed and implemented effective leadership development initiatives and performance management systems that engage employees and facilitate deep levels of commitment among employees. He has led multiple change initiatives as well as mergers and acquisitions. David frequently participates in the assessment and development of individuals and teams and has an extensive background in psychometric assessments, program design and instructional delivery.



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