



license.

---

## Canadian CED Network – National Policy Council

Meeting Minutes – July 7, 2009

Attending: Roz Lockyer, Nancy Hartling, Jeff Loomis, David LePage, Sandy Shaw, Lynne Markell, Norman Greenberg, Stephen Ameyaw

Staff: Mike Toye, Brendan Reimer, Matthew Thompson

### 1. Update from David

- ENP has been holding workshops with regional employment and economic development staff from the provincial government; CED strategies using social enterprise as a tool
- Ethel and David (as Social Enterprise Council of Canada) briefed Karen Jackson (Senior DM with HRSDC) on social enterprise. Roz and Mike should also meet with her; she is in Johanne Mennie's former position
- CNIB is talking about more entrepreneurial approaches and met with Marty Donkervoort and Tim Dramin to discuss possibilities around disabilities, community partnerships, social enterprise, and labour market attachment.

### 2. Discussion on Policy Sessions of the National CED Conference

**Food Policy Session** – about 50 people talked about food policy together and in small groups, as well as actions to address each topic area. They developed a consensus on actions including the need for an inventory on practice and policies. They asked for another Gathering to work on an election strategy and develop a food policy position to be shared with all parties.

**Rural Session** – this session with Darrel Pack of Rural Secretariat reviewed the first 2 5-year rural development programs and looked at the 3<sup>rd</sup> one now coming in. Some additional angles include “quality of life” as well as “food” in Manitoba and “land use planning” in Saskatoon.

**Moving Policy** – looked at how to advance policy from the inside and outside. A key item that came out was the ongoing need to lobby and push from the outside. However, many people are really inexperienced in how to carry out a campaign, work with others, and do this pushing. This is where our role in providing support to groups, capture stories or case studies on policy advancement, and direct support could be very helpful to our members. CCEDNet's role can be to mobilize members on policy actions.

**Aboriginal Economic Development** – looked at the federal government's strategy in this area and, while they are doing workshops and outreach, they are missing a CED framework. Also included an international discussion on Ghana, Bolivia and that CCEDNet should look at how foreign aid is targeted.

**Communities Agenda** – was intended to engage members on this living document. People recognize the limits it – too broad in some ways, yet not specific enough for policy makers. There is a need for supplementary documents. Need to include Broadband and Communications, flexibility in grants and contributions, and articulation on partners and strategies in moving forward on each.

**Advancing Our Communities Agenda** – worked with participants to identify which policy areas were most important. Suggestions including micro-enterprise development, and priorities included employment development and food systems. Also, suggestion to clarify our priorities, focus on a few, figure out how and where to put resources, create tools to quickly explain CED approaches, one pagers on how CED and each sector would intersect (what is the CED approach to employment development, etc), and what the PC is doing around this.

**Action Plan** – the notes and votes have been compiled, but there are also many individual activities listed in the specific papers.

### 3. Regional Updates

**Nunavut** – Brendan gave an update on Ed's enthusiasm and optimism with the new Premier of Nunavut who, while not familiar with CED language, seems really committed to a developmental vision with values that would align with CCEDNet's ideals.

**Hamilton** – seems to be quite fractured at the local level. There is a Poverty Roundtable discussing our issues, the City Council is discussing things, etc, but there doesn't seem to be any synergy happening. There is closer work on CED and social enterprise with the newcomer community; they are working on a micro-lending program.

**Halifax** – there is a lot of work on the ground, but it is not very connected to each other and to a CED framework. Many people are learning about the Quebec model, and they have formed a network of about 20 people (6 or so from each province) to push the social

economy agenda as a tool of CED. They are planning a day to talk with the research community. David Daughton and Seth Asimakos (both previous Regional Coordinators with CCEDNet) and Norman worked to get group together. People are really excited about the new government in Nova Scotia (a budget will be released in October), but of course people will “wait and see” before endorsing the change. Shauna offered to connect Eugene Kostyra to the new NDP government through Norman.

**Co-operatives** – Harper is interested in the well-being of farmers and rural development. Pre-budget submissions are under development as another good place to put across our priorities in a way that fits their values (local business, worker buyout, community ownership, etc), and we should also work with the NDP and Liberals to CED on their election platforms.

**CRA** – the language in the proposed legislation was concerning regarding the ability of charities to raise money, as they don’t see that as charitable activity in itself. There were also concerns about budgets for fundraising in relation to funds raised. If expenses are 35% of funds raised, that will be considered reasonable; more would be questioned. More than 75% will rarely be accepted. There was also concern about revenue generation and social enterprise, but they are clear in this revised guideline that it does not apply to related businesses.

**Pre-Budget Briefs** – Brendan will send invite to people in regions where consultations will be held. We are not sure if national organizations can present more than once, but members can go on with their own message and bring common national materials from CCEDNet. We need 2 or 3 specific questions, 3 clear recommendations, with cost estimates included. Applications are due July 31 with a brief submission by mid-August.

#### 4. Action Items

- Mike and Roz will set up a meeting with Karen Jackson of HRSDC
- Brendan will compile the policy notes from the conference
- Mike will develop a strategy to speak to MPs in summer about election platforms
- We need to think about messaging our election platform to our members
- Shauna offered to connect Eugene Kostyra to the new NDP government through Norman.

#### 5. Next Meeting

We will skip an August meeting, so the next meeting will be in September.