**NOTE TAKER TEMPLATE**

**Table Theme: Awareness and Public Appreciation**

**Issues and Opportunities**

1. The public does not view the community sector as a ‘sector of the economy’ and, often, does not understand what services the sector offers, does not have confidence in the sector and values it only for its social contribution.
2. Organizations may be penalized for showing a profit – there is often a view from funders and the public that a community sector organization should not earn money and, if it does make a profit, then it does not need money.
3. The administrative cost of running an organization and the differences among organizations are not fully recognized in funding programs.
4. Some people tend to see the community sector as a job, not as a career.
5. Some in the private sector view the community sector negatively or as competition, especially if government funds are being sought.
6. The public funding model depicts the community sector as dependent on government.
7. There is growing societal focus on social enterprise, social impact and social return on investment.
8. Many people (e.g., youth) have a great deal of passion and a desire to make a difference.
9. Immigrants offer a new source of labour, skills, knowledge and energy.
10. The community sector is a great opportunity for women and diverse populations.
11. The skills required for social innovation must be recognized in order to create and capitalize on new opportunities.
12. Xx
13. xx

**Group A**

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| What action(s) can **government** take to address the issues or seize the opportunities? | What action(s) can the **community sector** take to address the issues or seize the opportunities? |
| * Recognition through database of programs and services being offered in the regions and provincially. | * Every year there is an annual meeting and invitation to anyone in Bay St. George area to join to make their contribution for transparency and accountability. |
| * Provincial government recognition of economic development in communities through awards, etc. | * Awards and appreciation. |
| * If they make a profit allow them to keep it, as ultimately it goes back to the community. | * Cultural revival into the schools so young people can know what is happening and eventually take over the responsibilities as adults outside their careers. Learn by those who set the examples. |
| * Allow them to generate revenue because by not it takes away independence and make communities dependent on government programs to survive. Need to make community aware of the current process. |  |
| * Extension services were a vital to facilitate who has hands on with government to work with agencies and regionally. Need an expert on the ground to assist with awareness and development. |  |
| * Awareness in the public of how non for profit money is spent. |  |
| * Has to be somewhat to make connections that were done by Regional Economic Boards. |  |

**Group B**

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| What action(s) can **government** take to address the issues or seize the opportunities? | What action(s) can the **community sector** take to address the issues or seize the opportunities? |
| * Need to listen to volunteer groups. Always have to fit in their box but not necessarily what works. Consolation is necessary. | * Throw an appreciation party for your own volunteers. Celebrate accomplishments. * Share on social media. |
| * Government needs to consult on what we want not what they want. Learn about the groups, what they do, and work with them. | * Publish a list of all volunteers groups and accomplishments. |
| * Government needs to attend event, get involved and be engaged instead of using as a photo opportunity. |  |
| * More recognition of volunteers through community events locally and regionally not just provincially. Also adds to economy of the communities. |  |
| * Highlight the people, the volunteers and the paid staff. Campaign that identifies volunteers. Come up with a volunteer pin. |  |
| * Volunteer groups are contributing to the economy of the communities. Need to communicate the impact not for profit has on the economy of the communities. They hire people through projects, they do not make money but it does contribute money back into the economy. |  |
| * Need to hold consultations outside of St. John’s to recognize there are a lot of smaller communities who need consolation. |  |
| * Government can help promote its appreciation for the community sector and what it offers to the economy of NL. |  |

**Group C**

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| What action(s) can **government** take to address the issues or seize the opportunities? | What action(s) can the **community sector** take to address the issues or seize the opportunities? |
| * Government can help promote its appreciation for the community. |  |