**NOTE TAKER TEMPLATE**

**Table Theme: Resilience and Public Policy**

**Issues and Opportunities**

1. Government funding programs are sometimes too rigid (e.g., reserve funding is not allowed, single-year/seasonal funding leads to cash flow problems, inability to adapt as you go can sap ingenuity, need ability to adapt programs to regional need). **Turnaround times, slow process, access to assistance for proposal writing. Ex: Snowmobile Club doesn’t qualify for recreation grant- because they use snowmobiles. Terms and conditions an exclude some groups.**
2. Access to decision makers is limited, especially for organizations outside the Avalon Peninsula.
3. The community sector lacks awareness of support programs available across all departments, levels of government and private sources.
4. There is often a lack of communication about status of funding requests and there is a need for better/continuous relationships with departmental staff.
5. Government programs do not appear to regard funding as an investment but rather as an expenditure.
6. There is little opportunity for skills development and training on matters such as risk management, accountability, board governance and succession planning.
7. Incrementalism places pressure on organizations to do more or different things without the benefit of increased funding.
8. Short-term funding does not allow for long-term planning (e.g., succession and program planning, delivery of community services).
9. There is potential to share services and create hubs (e.g., administration, HR, IT) across small organizations.
10. Impact and results can be measured in terms of social return on investment.
11. Government programs and services may be delivered more efficiently and at less cost through partnership.
12. Funding programs are too rigid

General Comments GROUP1:

* **Cost for travel out of Labrador, funding does not offset the cost. Some groups cannot travel.**
* **Perception that we make more in this region so can afford to pay for the extra travel costs**
* **Training is available for organizations, but the travel has to be funded by the organizations in addition to the personal time requirements to travel out.**
* **The funding pots don’t include consideration for the extra Labrador costs’**
* **Social engagement for children is important and groups are trying their best.**
* **Chartering flights- through a co-op model potentially.**
* **Chartered flights cost: $40,000.**
* **Logistical challenges for organizations in Labrador West…even higher than Central Labrador (as the hub).**

**General Discussions GROUP 2:**

* **Job Creation Partnership issued- wage caps, can’t get employees to hire.**

**Group 1**

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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? |
| * Realize that rural community is different. Funding allocations, program criteria. | * (LWHHC) Availed of funding for multi-media centre for online courses and training. Offered to other community groups and organizations. |
| * Organizations in St. John’s are able to fundraise and generate more revenue than in the small communities. | * Availing of WEB training. |
| * One stop shop for government funding. | * Shared bookkeeping service. |
| * Government support for account/administration. | * Advocating for collaboration, sharing of ideas, having that network. |
| * Parameters for funding- limitations around administration funding (Ex: travel subsidy- not eligible if air miles are used). | * Combining training opportunities among groups. |
|  | * Better communication among the groups. |
|  | * Help can be limited from umbrella organizations outside of the region. |
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**Group 2**

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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? |
| * Make the Government programs and services more user friendly. | * Cross-promotion of all programs locally (the community and government level). |
| * A review of who is not getting funding or ineligible. | * Lobby on behalf of the community sector for changes to policy. |
| * Providing greater access to decision makers. |  |
| * Adjusting eligibility levels across programs recognizing the unique challenges and needs of Labrador West. |  |
| * Should have mechanisms to adjust policy when there is a demonstrated difference for regions. Policy should be made for the geographic differences. |  |
| * Evidenced based decision making. |  |
| * Add subsidies for Labrador. |  |
| * Implementing the recommendations from the consultations. |  |