



A Tamarack Workshop

The Essential Mindsets and Skillsets of Backbone Leaders

With Chris Thompson and Liz Weaver

Gratitude & Acknowledgement

We begin this workshop by acknowledging that we are meeting on Indigenous land. As settlers, we are grateful for the opportunity to meet, and we thank all the generations of Indigenous peoples who have taken care of this land.

As settlers, this recognition of the contributions and historic importance of Indigenous peoples must be clearly and overtly connected to our collective commitment to make the promise and the challenge of Truth and Reconciliation real in our communities.

Please share in the chat box your name and location.

Technical Considerations

- **We've got you covered** - You will receive a full recording of the call, the slides as well as a collection of links & resources.
- **Join the conversation** - Use the Q&A panel on your Zoom client to submit and vote for questions you'd like us to discuss.
- **Technical Support** - You can use the chat panel to ask for technical support throughout the webinar.



Chris Thompson



Liz Weaver

Poll Question #1

Q1: Which option best describes your current connection to collective impact or collaborative work?

1. I am interested in the idea of collective impact but don't have any experience with it
2. I am a funder of collective impact efforts
3. I am a member of a collective impact leadership table
4. I am a member of a collective impact working group or action team
5. I am the staff lead (director, manager) of a collective impact initiative
6. I am on the staff team of a collective impact initiative
7. I do not fit any of the roles above

Poll Question #2

Q2: How long has your collective impact effort been operating?

1. I am not currently part of a collective impact effort
2. We are just launching – less than one year
3. We have been operating for 2 to 3 years
4. Our collective impact effort has been operating for 4 to 9 years
5. We have been leading collective work in our community for over 10 years

Collective Impact

Let's quickly review the Collective Impact Framework



Backbone Leaders

Why do backbone leaders need a specific mindset and skillset?

Collective Impact - A Different form of Organizing

How are backbones different from traditional organizations?

Mindsets of Backbone Leaders

How does the unusual nature of a backbone influence the mindset of backbone leaders?

Power, Control and Expertise

What are the power and control challenges facing backbone leaders?

Should backbone leaders be experts?

Diving Deeper into Mindsets

What are some of the other mindsets that can help someone thrive in an environment in which they don't have much control?

Skillsets of Backbone Leaders

What skills are particularly valuable for backbone leaders?

Advice

What other advice or reflections do you have for collective impact practitioners?

Closing Poll Question

Q2: Given what you have learned during this webinar, what skill would be most valuable to a backbone staff or leadership table member?

1. Facilitation
2. Evaluation
3. Understand context
4. Inquiry
5. Build trust
6. Be adaptive
7. Add other skills into the chat box

QUESTIONS?

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THANK YOU