**NOTE TAKER TEMPLATE**

**Table Theme: Resilience and Public Policy**

**Issues and Opportunities**

* 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).
* Access to decision makers is limited, especially for organizations outside the Avalon Peninsula.
* The community sector lacks awareness of support programs available across all departments, levels of government and private sources.
* There is often a lack of communication about status of funding requests and there is a need for better/continuous relationships with departmental staff.
* Government programs do not appear to regard funding as an investment but rather as an expenditure.
* There is little opportunity for skills development and training on matters such as risk management, accountability, board governance and succession planning.
* Incrementalism places pressure on organizations to do more or different things without the benefit of increased funding.
* Short-term funding does not allow for long-term planning (e.g., succession and program planning, delivery of community services).
* There is potential to share services and create hubs (e.g., administration, HR, IT) across small organizations.
* Impact and results can be measured in terms of social return on investment.
* Government programs and services may be delivered more efficiently and at less cost through partnership.
* Uncertainty around long term fundraisers that work due to resistance from Government.

**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? |
| * Long term commitments around program security (Service NL).
* Increased Government support for hub models (from human resources to snow clearing) to allow one stop shopping for services that are currently scattered, and to cut down on transportation issues, as well as wait times and basic services.
* Ability to recognize the ability for smaller areas to provide essential services.
* Cost analysis of transportation use for individuals to obtain essential services in bigger communities.
* Government departments passing the buck onto community organizations for services they provide.
* All agencies need to find better ways to deliver services using technologies that are available (i.e: video conferences- telehealth).
 | * Shared or joint community proposals outside regular partnerships.
* Think outside the box in terms of programs, resources and partners that can provide that.
* Connector service for shared resources.
* Chamber of social development in communities. I.e.: like a chamber of commerce but directed to non profit organizations.
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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? |
| * Education for non profit organizations on how to obtain funds outside of Government to increase revenue for not for profit organizations.
* Better communication in regards to the value of non profit organizations.
* More long term funding for essential programs.
* Programs that don’t allow you to rehire the person in the same capacity i.e: JCP
* Federal and provincial programs need to focus on the individual and the organization moving people from one program to another, rather than creating long-term solutions.
* Funding income support programs differently to help individuals obtain employment security.
* Allow for reserved funding (rainy day).
* Support of Government for core funding for staffing stability.
* Opportunities for Government and community organizations to share resources ie: reduced rent/office space.
 | * Shared platforms for organizations to cut costs.
* Shared spaces to for organizations that go hand in hand to share costs to save money.
* Creating more opportunities to come together to discuss needs with not only each other but also with Government.
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**Group 3**

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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? |
| * Provide awareness on the availability of programs that are available to community organizations.
* More opportunities to come together for the community sector with government to discuss opportunities available.
* Government needs to find a solution for long term employability for people using EI/AES, etc. Instead of sending from one program to another in a continuing circle.
* Groups don’t have the right to refuse.
* Problems with programs that Government offers that don’t meet the needs of the public sector.
* Restriction of programs to provide proper training for individuals on program grants (can impact safety).
* Restriction of funds for proposed programs.
* Increasing awareness for Government with board training to ensure proper processes and responsibilities.
* Shared platform to obtain answers to questions that organizations may need answered.
 | * Platform to share experience and answers that community sector workers can use to help each other when needed.
* Barriers for organizations to take on projects or programs due to lack of basic or safety resources. I.e.: washroom/shelter.
* Share applications rather than be in competition with each other.
* A way that the boards can be recognized in the essential planning of programs.
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**Group 4**

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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 could be more flexible to adapt to programs that are more a need of the organizations, rather than what these organizations can obtain of what is available.
* Less tangibility.
* More core funding allowed.
* Recognition for core funding that is desperately needed to run programs.
* Government to recognize incentives for volunteers as burnout is common for individuals who work with various groups .ie: tax credits.
* Better connections to program management and administrative advisors.
* Having to apply for funding that doesn’t necessarily fit the core mandate of the organizations that apply but need funds to operate.
* More flexibility from Government.
* Look at proposals on merit.
* Government to identify the return on the investments for applications.
* Make applications more standardized or provide education to help those who need it.
* Recognize credentials of those organizations applying.
* Shared hub space.
 | * Incentives for volunteers.
* Shared hub space.
* Ability to expand programs and services to increase time management (farm out payroll).
* Opportunities to further education.
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