

NOVEMBER 19
FACING FORWARD: RETHINKING THE FUTURE
COVID-19 AND EVOLVING GRANT-MAKING PRACTICES

10:00-11:30 AM: Philanthropy in Motion: Achieving the Goals of Agenda 2030 (Panel - French)

- Accountability is essential for implementing climate crisis solutions; many foundations have indeterminate goals, but we need to have clearly set objectives for the next 10 years.
- We need to break down silos, create space for marginalized voices, and form new partnerships with long-excluded stakeholders
- Sustainable development is satisfying the needs of the present without compromising the ability for future generations to satisfy their needs: Haudenosaunee Principle - the decisions we make today should result in a sustainable world seven generations into the future.
- What needs to be done is more risk-taking by the philanthropic sector to acknowledge that we are in a unique moment: take risks and trust in new, transformative, unconventional solutions. Supporting organizations' long-term capacity and thinking about how to create a major impact is critical.

11:45-1 PM: Partnership-Based Philanthropy: A Tool for Systemic Change (Panel)

- System change is long-term but necessary to address big societal changes.
- Systems change challenges the status quo; there's hope for a pathway to collaboration which can create efficiencies on a grander scale.
- Only in co-creation environments you could tackle long standing issues faced by Indigenous people.
- With mutual trust and respect, funders and grantees work together through the messiness, challenges and unknowns.
- Philanthropists could invest more in systems change by pooling funds, time, expertise and other resources.
- Philanthropists and social entrepreneurs can come together as equals and share their different superpowers to drive systems change.
- Traditional relationships were a big barrier to collaboration – grantee/funder hierarchy.
- Solutions can only be effective if they start from the community level.

1:15-2:30 PM: Reflection, Release, Reimagine: For the Future

To move forward, we need to move toward release looking at the following questions:

H3 Teaching: Head Heart and Hands:

- Head : How might reflection be a practice for wellbeing?
- Heart : How can I move away from reaction and response toward presence and release?
- Hands : How can I increase imagination creativity and joy in my workplace?

'It was really great to connect and learn mutual connections between our roles and passions.'

'It's harder in these times to make those new in-person connections. Nice to meet in small groups.'

3:00-4:00 PM: Armchair Discussion: Building Community, Networks, and Ecosystems during a Crisis

- Trust based philanthropy allows charities to do their work more effectively
- The default is dis-trust based philanthropy. Control, not collaboration is the status quo.
- Trust based philanthropy requires a cultural shift within foundations
- Always need to be aware of the imbalance between funders and grantees and working to move the work forward while reducing the imbalance and pressure
- Trust based doesn't mean no outcomes - it means asking organizations how they measure success. Let them lead the way, and shift the power back to them.
- Building trust between organizations and when doing philanthropy is a process, not a single step. Needs a lot of repeated interactions.
- When thinking about outcomes and accountability, need to be very clear about what measurements you are asking for. What is the value add to the organization asking for this info?
- Trust based philanthropy requires being a part of the social fabric.
- "You have to be explicit about telling grantees that they're in the best position to make decisions about resources."

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4:15-5:00 PM: The Work of Foundations During COVID-19: Resilience, Recovery, and Reinvention

- Foundations have stepped up and acted with urgency and flexibility. The big question that remains is whether these changes will stick.
- We must recognize that it will take different approaches to rebuilding than in emergency response and recovery. The rebuilding phase will involve more risk taking, funding with intention, funding different causes, different communities, leveraging different skill sets and greater engagement of public policy, and has to be rooted in trust and reciprocity.
- Philanthropy's role is exploring the ways that we can support the social infrastructure required for organizations/charities to sustain themselves. We can help grassroots groups, charities, and leaders to transition to a more digital world, and close the digital divide.
- We need collective leadership, bringing together particularly the groups that have been excluded, and youth. We have to collect more data and information to make better decisions.
- "Centre equity now! You've heard it, you've witnessed it. It's time to do something, no more excuses."
- "Let's build back better already"

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