

Introducing Vibrant Abbotsford

Vibrant Abbotsford began with the recognition that community mobilizers are participating in many of the same events, are passionate about related or identical community issues, and are already informally working together on a variety of capacity building projects and initiatives.

More and more, around community tables, they encounter a conscious awareness of the efficiencies to be gained from exploding silos, through information sharing, and collaborative efforts. These organizers also experience the collective will to learn together.

In May 2006, a small working group made a spirited commitment to proceed together with bringing the Vibrant Communities movement to Abbotsford.

Poverty reduction is an area that many are working on already, often together, and sometimes apart from each other, but the Vibrant group firmly believes that engaging the community and working collaboratively on comprehensive, systematic solutions are necessary to success.

While they know that there is much to learn from their community, from other Vibrant Communities, and from each other, it is their belief that they can make positive, measurable, and sustainable impacts on poverty for all citizens of Abbotsford.

The group has drafted and committed to a set of core principles that will guide their steps forward.

The next step is to invite more people and organizations to the table, then brainstorm on community projects to begin with, and present those to the broader community for feedback and action.

