

## **Enabling Strong Neighbourhoods**

---

Where do governments fit in the broad spectrum of organizations engaged in multisectoral approaches to poverty reduction?

In Saint John, New Brunswick, senior public servants from the local, provincial and federal governments aren't shy in asking.

They regularly join representatives of other sectors at the Vibrant Communities Leadership Roundtable – and they're taking action.

For New Brunswick Family and Community Services, action includes recognizing resident knowledge in the Crescent Valley neighbourhood. The Department offered financial support, enabling residents to conduct a neighbourhood survey identifying local strengths and aspirations.

With results in hand, and the support of community coach Gail Taylor, residents now confidently speak to City Council and other forums. And the City is responding with new investments in social and physical infrastructure.

It's a similar story in the Old North End, where the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation sponsored a five-day planning charette in 2005.

These stories represent small, yet strategic investments towards strengthened neighbourhoods.



Learn about the Saint John experience, and other experiences of government-community engagement from across Canada, in the Government Learning Circle.

### **Related Links:**

- [Saint John: Strength & Empowerment, Neighbourhood by Neighbourhood](#)
- [Hamilton: Shared Leadership = Collective Governance](#)
- [Government & Community](#)

By: Mike Bulthuis

