

Campus Alberta: Community Needs Assessment Toolkit

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Community Learning Needs Assessment Toolkit

[www.bowvalleycollege.ca/Documents/Regional Stewardship/Needs Assessment Toolkit](http://www.bowvalleycollege.ca/Documents/Regional%20Stewardship/Needs%20Assessment%20Toolkit)

CAMPUS ALBERTA: NEEDS ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

Priority Need:

Standardized planning process for data collection and information sharing across community learning systems

Project Goals:

- Identify best practices
- Develop needs assessment tools & resources
- Explore potential for a technology solution



CAMPUS ALBERTA: TOOLKIT

Designed to assist with community level assessments of:

- Adult learner characteristics
- Local labour market & employer needs
- Issues and trends impacting adult learning
- Existing programs and resources



COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Definition: a systematic process for:

- Identifying local needs (likes vs. wants)
- Mapping community assets
- Identifying gaps
- Prioritizing needs
- Leveraging existing resources and/or developing new programs and services



COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

Getting Ready:

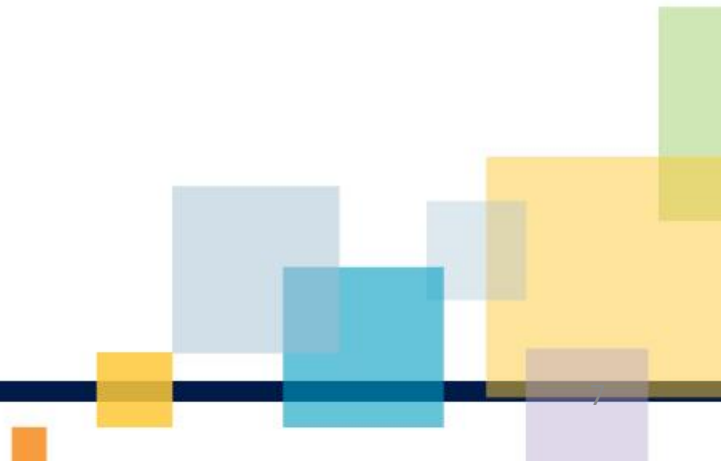
- Form Your Steering Committee
- Do An Environmental Scan
- Map Your Community's Assets



COMMUNITY MAPPING

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vaFoJhxv](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vaFoJhxvYDY)

YDY



Group Activity

COMMUNITY MAPPING

In your groups:

- Choose a community
- Draw a simple map depicting existing programs or resources for adult learners



Activity Two:

Based on your community map:

- What learning needs are being met?
- What assets can you identify?
- What needs could be met through partnerships or collaboration?



COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

Lay the Foundation:

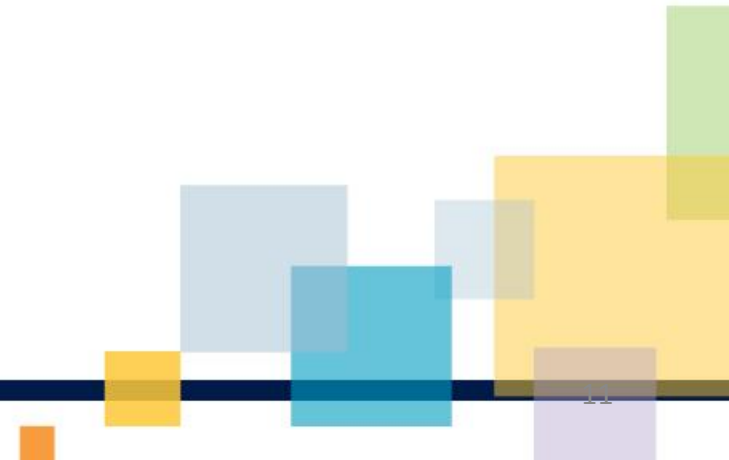
- Develop A Community Profile
- Conduct Key Informant Interviews
- Analyze Results



COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

Going Deeper: Research Tools

- Surveys
- Employer interviews
- Focus groups
- Community forums
- Community Mapping



COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

Analyze Your Results:

- Which learning needs are being met?
- What needs could be met through partnerships or collaboration?
- What needs require new program development?
- What barriers have been identified?
- How will you prioritize your results?



COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

Prioritizing Needs & Brainstorming Solutions

- Determine your priority issues
- Brainstorm solutions (current assets or leveraged resources)
- Develop a plan to meet priority needs

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

Final Steps:

- Communicate results
- Follow up with participants
- Develop action plan for steering committee

