

From Clients to Citizens



Deepening the Practice of Asset-Based and Citizen-Led Development

Hosted by:
The Coady International Institute, St. Francis Xavier University
and the
Asset-Based Community Development Institute, Northwestern University



Antigonish, Nova Scotia
July 7 - July 10, 2009



“We desire above all that they will discover and develop their own capacities for creation They will use what they have to secure what they have not.”

Moses Coady, *Masters of Their Own Destiny*, 1938

Welcome to our campus, to our community and to Canada. I want to extend a warm welcome to all delegates joining us for this exciting and historic gathering of people committed to citizen leadership and action for stronger communities and fairer societies. As we come together in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, our rapidly changing global environment is having a profound impact on the way people and communities organize and mobilize.

2009 is the 50th anniversary of the Coady International Institute and this gathering is one of the principle ways we have chosen to celebrate our important milestone. We are so pleased to have you with us and we are honoured to be co-hosting you with our respected colleagues from the ABCD Institute. May our time together be creative, challenging, productive, informative, and inspiring. And may we all build on the rich assets and connections among us to contribute to achieving Moses Coady’s vision of a world where all people enjoy the full and abundant life and where they can truly be masters of their own destinies.

Mary Coyle
University Vice President &
Director, Coady International Institute
St. Francis Xavier University



From the Co-Chairs:

Welcome to this exciting and momentous occasion.

When we first started talking about this event, the idea was to bring together the networks of the ABCD Institute and the Coady International Institute to share ideas and experience. In planning the event and making connections throughout the world, we have discovered new networks and made new acquaintances, all of whom share an interest and passion for the social change that happens when local citizens take action to build their communities and secure the assets needed to live sustainably. What is particularly exciting is that ABCD, or asset-based approaches more generally, have resonated with people from diverse cultural backgrounds, diverse experiences of community development, and sometimes wide ranging ideological positions. For this reason, the next 3 days promise to be challenging and stimulating, with each of us wearing several hats - community members each and everyone of us, as well as community development workers, teachers, researchers, policy makers, and donors.

Our own expectations for this gathering are quite ambitious. We recognize that many of the most important outcomes will emerge from the informal encounters and conversations which create new relationships and new strategies for innovative community development initiatives around the world. But we will also encourage a more structured exploration of opportunities to act together to shape international development policy discussions in the future. Can we devise strategies to spread and enhance powerful citizen-driven community development possibilities for many more actors in the years to come? In many ways, we hope that this gathering represents both a celebration of terrific work and also a new beginning, with many more chapters yet to be written.

When you arrived in Antigonish you passed by a sign that extended you “a thousand welcomes” in Gaelic. In the spirit of that welcome, we invite you in the three days ahead to extend your own welcomes as we link into new networks and commit to deepening and broadening the practice of asset-based and citizen-led development.

Jody Kretzmann, Asset-Based Community Development Institute
Alison Mathie, Coady International Institute
Co-Chairs



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Tuesday, July 7	
Afternoon Governors Hall	Registration and check in
5pm - 6:30pm Morrison Hall	Dinner
7:00pm - 8:30pm Dennis Hall Coady Institute	Forum Welcome and performance by The Irondale Ensemble Project: "The Good Society," a one act play about Moses Coady and Jimmy Tompkins.
8:30pm Marjorie Desmond Oval Coady Institute	Reception
Wednesday, July 8	
Asset-Based and Citizen-Led Development: Highlights, insights and challenges from experience	
8:30am - 10:00am Dennis Hall Coady Institute	Plenary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome: Mary Coyle, Director of the Coady International Institute Introduction to the forum: Alison Mathie, Coady International Institute John McKnight: ABCD Institute, Northwestern University: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflections on 40 years of Asset-Based Community Development Gord Cunningham, Coady International Institute: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lessons learned from case studies in <i>From Clients to Citizens: Communities changing the course of their own development</i>
10:00am - 10:30am Antigonish Community Foyer Coady Institute	Break
10:30am - 12:30pm Break-out rooms Coady Institute	Highlights, insights and challenges from asset-based and citizen-led experience: Short presentations and discussion in small groups
12:30pm - 1:30pm Morrison Hall	Lunch
1:30pm - 3:00pm Break-out rooms Coady Institute	Small group discussions - facilitated explorations of emerging themes
3:00pm - 3:30pm Antigonish Community Foyer Coady Institute	Break
3:30pm - 4:30pm Dennis Hall Coady Institute	Review of emerging themes and insights from group discussions.
6:00pm - 7:00pm Morrison Hall	Dinner
Evening 7:30pm - 9:00pm Dennis Hall Coady Institute	Public Event: Asset-based approaches around the world <i>Moderated by Gord Cunningham</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jody Kretzmann, ABCD Institute, USA Aloysius Fernandez, MYRADA, India Adisa Yakubu, Africa 2000 Network, Ghana Peter Kenyan, Bank of Ideas, Australia

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Thursday, July 9	Addressing challenges, identifying opportunities
8:30am - 10:00am Dennis Hall Coady Institute	Plenary <i>Moderated by Joanne Linzey</i> Government and donor perspectives on emerging issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dixon Yasay, Municipality of Opol, Mindanao, Philippines • Jim Diers, City of Seattle, Washington State, USA • Sebastian Mathews, Greater Rustenberg Community Foundation, South Africa • Tim Brodhead, McConnell Foundation, Canada • Janis Foster, Grassroots Grantmakers, USA
10:00am - 10:30am Antigonish Community Foyer	Break
10:30am - 12:00pm Break-out rooms Coady Institute	Understanding the challenges, seeing the possibilities (1): Small groups self-organize by theme/issue
12:00pm - 1:30pm Morrison Hall	Lunch
1:30pm - 3:00pm Break-out rooms Coady Institute	Understanding the challenges, seeing the possibilities (2): Small (affinity) group discussions
3:00pm - 3:30pm Antigonish Community Foyer	Break
3:30pm - 5:00pm Dennis Hall Coady Institute	Plenary <i>Moderated by Jody Kretzmann</i> Commentary on group insights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anselmo Mercado, SEARSOLIN, Philippines • Tom Dewar, Aspen Institute, USA • Katherine Gibson, University of Newcastle, Australia • Andy Gordon, University of Washington, USA
6:30pm Bus leaves from Governors Hall	Ceilidh at Crystal Cliffs
Friday, July 10	Strategies and opportunities in a shifting policy environment
8:30am - 10:00am Dennis Hall Coady Institute	Plenary <i>Moderated by Alison Mathie</i> Given the shifting policy environment, what do you see as opportunities for asset-based and citizen-led development? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caroline Moser, University of Manchester, UK • Dang Kim Son, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam • Naresh Singh, CIDA • Chris Bryant, Provincial Government of Nova Scotia
10:00am - 10:30am Antigonish Community Foyer	Break
10:30am - 12:00pm Break-out rooms	Small group discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elements of a vision • Possibilities for future work
12:00pm - 1:30pm Keating Millennium Centre	Moving it forward: Pulling together ideas from the morning session. Closing Lunch



Asset-Based Community Development

All over the world, citizens are taking action to build stronger communities, drawing on their own resources of leadership and solidarity. Whether reacting to crisis or meeting opportunity, they protect and replenish environmental resources, provide savings and credit services, form production and marketing cooperatives, secure government services, or offer mutual support and care in the community. They act as “agents” of their own development, usually by mobilizing their own assets first before seeking assistance from government, private sector, and civil society organizations. As development practitioners and policy makers, how can we be helpful to people in communities that are making these efforts? How can we stimulate these efforts where there is discouragement or a sense of powerlessness?

Asset-Based and Citizen-Led Development is an approach that recognizes the strengths, gifts, talents and resources of individuals and communities, and helps communities to mobilize and build on these for sustainable development.

By focusing on assets and capacities rather than needs and deficiencies, energy is directed toward opportunities at the community level, while remaining conscious of how the policy environment could be changed to further strengthen citizens’ capacity to drive their own development.

At its core are the various assets (human, social, financial, natural and physical) that already exist in the community, especially the formal and informal associations that mobilize assets and strengthen the social relationships that are important for bridging local initiatives to external opportunities.

The Coady International Institute’s work with ABCD is an extension of its philosophical roots in the Antigonish Movement - a people’s movement for economic and social justice which reshaped the economy of northeastern Nova Scotia (Canada) in the 1920s and 30s. Since our inception in 1959 as an international institute, we have demonstrated a strong commitment to participatory approaches to development, with a focus on people’s organizations and their federations as the key vehicles for building social and economic assets at the local community level.

The Asset-Based Community Development Institute (ABCD) at Northwestern University is at the center of a large and growing movement that considers local assets as the primary building blocks of sustainable community development. Building on the skills of local residents, the power of local associations, and the supportive functions of local institutions, asset-based community development draws upon existing community strengths to build stronger, more sustainable communities for the future.



Forum Participants

Roberto Abeabe
United Way
Canada

Since 2006, Roberto Abeabe has worked as a Neighbourhood Development Coordinator for the United Way in Toronto. He is currently managing “Action for Neighbourhood Change” (ANC), a community development initiative in 13 neighbourhoods across the city. ANC is a resident engagement process that aims to organize and build the capacity of residents to develop a neighbourhood vision, priorities and plan of action to improve the condition of their neighbourhood. Prior to his posting at the United Way, Mr. Abeabe worked as a Program Officer for Oxfam Great Britain in East Asia for four years where he developed and implemented livelihoods, fair trade, advocacy and capacity building programs for the region’s most vulnerable people.

Paul Arntson
Northwestern University
United States of America

Paul Arntson has been a Professor of Communication Studies at Northwestern University since 1974. He is also on the Faculty of the ABCD Institute and a Fellow at the Center for Communication and Medicine at the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. Professor Arntson has conducted research and training programs in primary care contexts with self help groups and neighborhood associations to improve citizens’ decision-making competencies in the health and the well-being of their communities. He is the Faculty Coordinator of Northwestern University’s Public Interest Program, which places 15 - 20 graduating seniors in public interest fellowships each year. He teaches in the Certificate for Civic Engagement Program and at the Center for Global Engagement as well. Each summer, he works with groups of students in Africa, India and Argentina.

Ammanual Assefa
Agri-Service Ethiopia (ASE)
Ethiopia

Prior to his posting as Director for Community Learning and Capacity Development at ASE, Mr. Assefa studied Animal Sciences at Haramaya University in Ethiopia and the Management of Agricultural Knowledge Systems at Wageningen University in the Netherlands. He is currently completing his doctorate with Kwazulu Natal University in South Africa, researching Dairy innovation systems in the Addis Ababa milk shed. ASE begins any intervention by exerting maximum effort towards setting up legally registered community-based institutions (CBIs) that will ultimately be responsible for delivering social and economic services to the people. ABCD has been used as an approach to strengthen the organizational capacities of these CBIs. Mr. Assefa’s specific role at ASE is project leader of a new initiative on the hybridization and institutionalization of “bottom-up” development approaches that build on community

assets. As one of the oldest local NGOs in Ethiopia, the purpose of this initiative is to solidify ASE’s role as a local centre of excellence in participatory approaches to development.

Zegeye Asfaw
HUNDEE Oromo Grassroots Initiative
Ethiopia

Zegeye Asfaw is the Executive Director of HUNDEE, Ethiopia. HUNDEE, meaning “root,” is a civic and development NGO that was established in 1995. The organization focuses on the creation and promotion of cereal banks as autonomous associations that serve as focal points where communities can deliberate and decide upon local development priorities. ABCD has been used as an approach to emphasize the internal strengths of the banks and the communities in which they are located. For example, dairy development and infrastructure projects were initiated by mobilizing community resources first; a literacy-led savings and credit project has been undertaken, where women from village banks created their own savings without external financial assistance; and traditional ‘laws’ upholding women’s rights have been established that are consistent with national policies. HUNDEE is also using the ABCD approach in-house as a survival strategy to overcome an uncertain funding environment.

Hal Baron
Communitas Charitable Trust/Foundation for Self-Sufficiency in Central America
Central America

Hal Baron is a trustee of Communitas Charitable Trust and one of the Founders and Board Members of the Foundation for Self-Sufficiency in Central America (FSSCA). Both organizations support and partner with peasant-governed organizations, which implement their own strategies for sustainable development. FSSCA primarily works in El Salvador and Communitas funds programs in Honduras, Panama, Nicaragua and Guatemala. By profession, Mr. Baron is a historian who has worked in social movements, with government and as an academic. During the 1960s, he directed a research department for the civil rights movement in Chicago and during the 1980s, he was chief of policy for Chicago’s Mayor Harold Washington. He is now retired.

Alma Beck
Vibrant Communities Saint John
Canada

Vibrant Communities Saint John (VCSJ) is a non-profit organization that brings together leaders from all walks of life to share, strategize, and champion comprehensive poverty reduction strategies. As VCSJ’s neighbourhood community developer, Alma Beck works to strengthen resident engagement in Saint John’s five priority neighbourhoods. One project is an asset inventory of two neighbourhoods, with the goal of developing a viable economic enterprise built on community strengths. VCSJ also sponsors the publication of a bi-monthly newspaper “*Around the Block.*” This paper, whose editor

and most reporters are low-income residents, highlights the strengths of each neighbourhood focusing on the good news of the community.

Terry Bergdall
ABCD Institute and Institute of Cultural Affairs
United States of America

Terry Bergdall is a Faculty Member of the ABCD Institute and an Associate of the Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA). He was country director of ICA-Kenya from 1984-1989, where he managed a large staff implementing a nationwide program of self-reliant, bottom-up village development. In 1989, Terry joined the Swedish Cooperative Centre and became the Project Coordinator of the “Methods for Active Participation Research and Development Project” in Zambia, Kenya and Tanzania. He was also the team leader for the “Community Empowerment Program” in Ethiopia during the 1990s. In recent years, he has worked extensively in the Balkans and the Caucasus. His PhD from the University of Wales was earned through research on participatory evaluation. He is a Founding Member of the International Association of Facilitators and currently lives in Chicago.

Ruth Bhengu
Ugu District Municipality/South African National
Civic Organization
South Africa

Ruth Bhengu is the Ugu District Municipality Deputy Mayor in the South African province of KwaZulu-Natal. She is also President of The South African National Civic Organization (SANCO), a body that played a key role in the mass democratic mobilization against apartheid. The organization marks the first time township-based civic organizations were brought together in a national civic structure, making SANCO’s establishment an important stage in the development of civic organizations in South Africa and, more broadly, of the political system as a whole. Ruth has also served as a Member of Parliament for the African National Congress (ruling party of post-apartheid South Africa since 1994); Chair of Parliament’s Portfolio Committee on Provincial and Local Government; and Member of the ANC’s National Executive Committee. She has been coming to Canada off and on since she first visited in 1991 when she studied Change Management at the Coady Institute. She was impressed with the way Nova Scotians were able to sustain their cooperatives, and in 2008, she returned with a group of South African community leaders to learn and bring these ideas back to South Africa.

Pedro Bidegaray
EARTH University
Cost Rica

Pedro E. Bidegaray was trained as an anthropologist in Peru and the United States and received his PhD from the University of Kentucky. His expertise is in the areas of local knowledge and social capital and he is also interested in promoting social cohesion in rural disenfranchised communities in the Caribbean

Region. As former Head of Community Development Initiatives and current Director of International Academic Programs at EARTH University, he has been responsible for promoting social change in rural communities surrounding the campus for several years. EARTH University is located in Costa Rica and is dedicated to agricultural scientists trained as entrepreneurs committed to alleviating poverty and promoting sustainability. EARTH University believes in and works towards graduating agents of change.

Jennifer Birch-Jones
Consultant and Practitioner
Canada

Jennifer Birch-Jones has more than twenty years experience as a practitioner in performance-based planning, measurement and evaluation with non-profit organizations in Canada and internationally using sport as tool for community development. Based on the McConnell Family Foundation’s developmental evaluation approach, she employs a variety of participatory approaches to facilitate evaluation learning and to build the evaluation capacity of these organizations. Jennifer is an active contributor to the Canadian Evaluation Society (CES) and has graduate degrees in public administration and kinesiology.

Steve Brescia
Consultant
United States of America

Steve Brescia is a consultant supporting people-centered development. From 1996-2009, he worked for World Neighbors (NGO) strengthening the capacity of rural community-based organizations in Latin America, Africa and Asia. His positions included Area Representative for Mesoamerica (1996-98); Regional Coordinator for Latin America (2000-05); and Associate Vice-President for Program Learning and Innovation (2005-09). Previously, he worked with the International Liaison Office for President Aristide of Haiti supporting the restoration of Haiti’s constitutional government (1992-96); as a consultant for the Inter-American Foundation supporting Andean programs (1989-91), and has held other positions supporting social change, advocacy and grassroots development. He earned a Masters in International Development from American University and completed the Coady ABCD Certificate Program in September 2007.

Tim Brodhead
J.W McConnell Family Foundation
Canada

Tim Brodhead is President and Chief Executive Officer of The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation, Canada’s largest private foundation. The Foundation, based in Montreal, funds national programs that build a “more resilient, inclusive and sustainable society”. Prior to joining the Foundation in 1992, he was Executive Director of the Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC) for five years, a national body representing over 120 NGOs working in international development. Upon graduating from McGill University in 1964 (Honours Political

Science and Philosophy), Brodhead taught political science for three years at the University of Ife in Nigeria. He subsequently served as Director of the Nigeria and West Africa programs of CUSO, the Canadian volunteer-sending agency. In 1973, he founded ACORD, a consortium of European and Canadian NGOs, to plan and implement development projects in Africa, particularly in refugee, post-conflict and disaster situations. In 1977, Brodhead returned to Canada and co-founded Inter Pares, a not-for-profit development agency working in Africa, South Asia and Central America. Later, he directed research at the North-South Institute on the role of Canadian NGOs, which was published in 1987 with the title *“Bridges of Hope?”*, and conducted trainings on gender and development for the Canadian International Development Agency and several United Nations agencies and developing country governments.

Chris Bryant
Nova Scotia Department of Economic and Rural Development
Canada

Chris Bryant is Director of Decision Support in the Nova Scotia Department of Economic and Rural Development. Among other duties, he chairs the Senior Officials Group responsible for the implementation of the Environmental Goals & Sustainable Prosperity Act. He also led the team that put together the provincial Community Development Policy. Before joining the Nova Scotia Public Service, Chris was President of Holland College (1992-94) and Director of International Programs with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (1990-92). From 1969 through 1990, Chris worked for CUSO where he served as Executive Director after starting as a volunteer in Grenada and working as staff in Ottawa, the Pacific and the Caribbean. Chris holds a Masters in Public Administration from Dalhousie, an Masters in Teaching from Harvard and a Bachelor's from McGill.

Jenny Cameron
University of Newcastle
Australia

Jenny Cameron is an Associate Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies at the University of Newcastle in Australia. She is also a founding member of the Community Economies Collective. She is particularly interested in economic diversity, which she considers an asset that communities can draw upon, including hidden practices like gifting, informal volunteering and neighbourhood work. Jenny has used Participatory Action Research to work with marginalized communities to build new or strengthen existing community enterprises based on these hidden economic assets. Jenny has a PhD from Monash University; a Masters in Restructuring and Development in the Pacific Rim from the University of Sydney; a Bachelors of Applied Science - Built Environment (Urban and Regional Planning) from Queensland University of Technology; and a Diploma of Teaching (Primary) from the Brisbane College of Advanced Education.

Vickie Cammack
PLAN Institute for Caring Citizenship
Canada

As Executive Director of the PLAN Institute of Citizenship and Disability, Vickie Cammack is a recognized Canadian source of inspiration and demonstrable solutions related to social networks, social audits, citizenship and disability. She is a Co-founder of Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network (PLAN), a pioneer social enterprise supporting families to plan for the safety and well being of their family member with a disability. She created PLAN's Personal Network program, a unique response to the isolation and loneliness experienced by people with disabilities. She co-led a Canadian exploration on sustainability and social innovation, and is a Fellow with Social Innovation Generation, a partnership between the University of Waterloo, MaRS and the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation. She has received several awards for her work and in 2008, the Women's Executive Network named Ms. Cammack one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women. She currently mentors the spread of grassroots PLAN groups in 40 locations globally and is the founder and CEO of Tyze, where she has been focusing her attention and expertise on how best to deliver personal support networks online. She is co-author of *“Safe and Secure - Six Steps to Creating a Personal Future Plan for People with Disabilities.”*

John Cawley
J.W. McConnell Family Foundation
Canada

John Cawley is Senior Program Officer for the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation based in Montreal. Prior to this posting, he worked for many years on community-based popular education projects in Canada and South Asia, which mobilized young people to become active global citizens. For more than 20 years, he worked for Canada World Youth as a facilitator of youth engagement initiatives, program designer and senior manager. John has also worked as a consultant helping community organizations to improve their governance and strengthen their planning and evaluation capacities. He serves on several local community and international Boards including Digital Opportunity Trust, an innovative leader in Information Communication Technologies for development, and coaches a number of sports teams in his spare time.

Sam Chimbuya
Khanya-aicdd
South Africa

Khanya-aicdd is a not-for profit company that has been operating in 15 African countries since 1998. The organization is known as the centre of expertise on community-driven development (CDD) and sustainable livelihoods in Africa. Mr. Chimbuya joined Khanya-aicdd six years ago as the Practice Manager for Development Planning and is a Specialist in Community Development Planning (CBP). He was one of two designers of the CBP methodology, which applies the Sustainable Livelihoods Approach to community development.

The methodology is currently being rolled out nationally by the government of South Africa and Uganda. Sam has 12 years experience in Participatory Rural Appraisal training methods, working on agricultural development in Zambia and Lesotho; farming systems research in Botswana; and poverty assessment and support programs on food security in Malawi. He holds an Honours Degree in Zoology from the University of Sierra Leone and a Masters Degree in Tropical Resources Ecology from the University of Zimbabwe.

Dacia Chrzanowski
CommUniversity, ABCD Institute
United States of America

Dacia Chrzanowski is a Partner with CommUniversity, a social entrepreneurial consulting firm that specializes in asset mapping, community capacity research and organizing for community based groups and institutions and neighborhood associations. As Project Manager for the ABCD Institute, Dacia oversees the administrative operations of the Institute, has facilitated over a dozen workshops and has worked on a number of research projects. In 2007, Dacia was accepted into the “Step in the Right Direction” Fellowship program hosted by An-Najah National University, Nablus, West Bank. There, she worked on therapeutic arts projects with children living in the Askar Refugee Camp. Dacia is a 2005 graduate of the Master of Public Administration program at the Illinois Institute of Technology.

Holly Clark
HRJ Consulting Ltd.
Canada

Holly Clark is Vice-President Administration of HRJ Consulting Ltd. in Calgary, Alberta. A native of Halifax, Nova Scotia, she graduated from Dalhousie Law School in 1984 and was called to the Nova Scotia Barrister’s Society in 1985 followed by admission to the Alberta Law Society in 1986. Holly practiced bankruptcy/insolvency and general commercial litigation until 1998, at which time she left private practice and joined HRJ. HRJ Consulting manages a granting program for a number of private foundations that operate anonymously throughout Canada and the United States. The firm works with donors who see themselves as investors interested in using charitable grant dollars to support improvements in human gain. They have a variety of interests, primarily in Western Canada and Midwest United States, that include human and social services, education, public policy, medical and social science research and building stronger community resources. HRJ, and the donors it represents, support programs, projects and initiatives that have the potential for measurable long-term impact, sustainability and replication.

Mary Coyle
Coady International Institute
St. Francis Xavier University
Canada

Mary Coyle is the Director of the Coady International Institute

and University Vice President at St. Francis Xavier University. Her university responsibilities include regional and international community outreach, as well as the overall internationalization strategy for the university. The Coady International Institute teaches asset-based community development to practitioners worldwide and engages in action and research partnerships globally.

Mary started her development career in 1980 working for the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in Botswana on rural industrialization. She followed that posting with a position as Rural Development Advisor in South Sulawesi, Indonesia. Mary Coyle was Executive Director of Calmeadow (1986-1996), a Canadian NGO working in Micro Finance in Canada and throughout the world. Mary’s expertise is in the fields of microfinance, leadership, capacity building of civil society organizations, rural community development, management, and gender. She sits on the boards of the Stephen Lewis Foundation, the Indian School of Micro Finance for Women, Microfinance Investment Support Facility for Afghanistan (MISFA), and St. Francis Xavier University.

Gord Cunningham
Coady International Institute
St. Francis Xavier University
Canada

Gord Cunningham was recently appointed Assistant Director of the Coady International Institute www.coady.stfx.ca. Gord has more than 20 years of experience in community economic development and community-based microfinance in Canada and internationally. Along with Alison Mathie, Gord has co-developed the Institute’s ABCD program area which includes: courses offered on campus or on-site, such as *Mobilizing Assets for Community-driven Development* <http://www.coady.stfx.ca/education/certificates/abcd.cfm>; collaborative action research initiatives in Ethiopia, Kenya and Vietnam helping partners to develop and test an ABCD approach; and writing various manuals and articles <http://www.coady.stfx.ca/work/ABCD/resources.cfm>; and now, a book on successful communities that are driving their own development <http://www.fernwoodpublishing.ca/book/370>.

Phil Davison
Coady International Institute/Extension Department
St. Francis Xavier University
Canada

Phil Davison has worked in and researched the adult education field for over 25 years in public, private, voluntary and institutional settings. His work focuses on asset-based initiatives in leadership training, community development, adult literacy, youth education, policy creation/evaluation, virtual learning, prior learning and assessment (PLAR) and strategic partnerships. He has taught courses at the graduate and undergraduate levels at several Atlantic universities including Dalhousie University, Mount Saint Vincent University and the University of New Brunswick. He currently works as a Senior Associate with the Coady International Institute/Extension

Department at St. Francis Xavier University. He holds a PhD in Adult Education (post-secondary leadership) from the University of New Brunswick, a Masters in Adult Education, a Bachelor of Education (secondary) from Dalhousie University, and a Bachelor of Science (geology/computer science) from Acadia University.

H. Daniels Duncan
United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona
United States of America

Dan Duncan has more than 30 years of professional management experience in the non-profit and for-profit professional services sectors. Currently, he serves as the Senior Vice President of External Relations for the United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona where he is responsible for the organization's community building, public policy, grant making and marketing activities. Prior to joining the United Way in Tucson, he served as the Vice President for Community Building and the Executive Director of the Community Services Council for the United Way of Central Indiana. He also served for eight years as the President of the Mesa United Way in Arizona. He began his United Way career in the late 1970s after serving as the Executive Director of Information and Referral Services and the Executive Director and Founder of the Community Food Bank. He is an adjunct Faculty member of the ABCD Institute at Northwestern University and the School of Social Work at Arizona State University, where he graduated in 1975 with a Masters in Social Work. Mr. Duncan has provided considerable experience in asset-based technical assistance, training and consultation both nationally and internationally. He also wrote articles on "*Community Development and Organizations*" and "*Advocacy and Nonprofit Organizations*" for the recently published "*Philanthropy in America, A Comprehensive Historical Encyclopedia*."

Tom Dewar
Aspen Institute's Roundtable on Community Change
United States of America

Tom Dewar is Co-Director of the Aspen Institute's Roundtable on Community Change based in New York City. Prior to this recent move back to the US, he lived in Italy for six years and taught at the Johns Hopkins' School for Advanced International Studies at the Center for Democratic Development. He has also held postings at the MacArthur Foundation in Chicago; Rainbow Research in Minneapolis; and at the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, where he taught and conducted action research for over 15 years. His research and writing address a variety of topics including community leadership and development; the dangers of an over-reliance on professional service delivery systems to "solve" local problems; disarmament and non-violent conflict resolution; evaluation as an organizational learning tool; and the role of mutual aid and informal networks in community building. Mr. Dewar has completed evaluations that have sought to improve practice and identify lessons learned from local efforts to achieve neighborhood revitalization, re-integrate formerly institutionalized (and other labeled) people into local

communities; provide targeted employment for lower skilled and less experienced workers; carry out peacemaking and conflict resolution; and promote strong community organizing.

Jim Diers
University of Washington/ABCD Institute
United States of America

Jim Diers has committed 33 years to empowering communities by working for a variety of neighborhood organizations and large institutions in Seattle. In 1988, he was appointed the first Director of Seattle's Department of Neighborhoods and served under three mayors over the next 14 years as the Department grew to become a national model for planning and development. In total, he managed the development of 13 little city halls, 37 community-driven plans, 75 community gardens, and a Neighborhood Matching Fund that has supported more than 3500 community self-help projects. Jim now shares the lessons from his work through courses at the University of Washington; international consulting through the ABCD Institute; and his book, "*Neighbor Power*," (recently translated and published in Chinese) which chronicles the practical application of the work of the Department of Neighborhoods for community organizers and government officials.

Bernadette Dolley
Ikhala Trust
South Africa

Bernadette Dolley has worked in the development sector for 20 years. In 2002, she became the Founding Director of Ikhala Trust, a community grant maker operating in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. Ikhala Trust works on the principle of "sowing where people have already laid a foundation." A grant will not be given unless social cohesion and mobilization are demonstrated by the community. Their small grants reinforce and build on communities' existing assets and organization and mobilization capacities. They also undertake activities to build the organizational capacity of community-based organizations to ensure greater ownership and sustainability. Outside of Ikhala Trust, Bernadette has served on several not-for-profit Boards nationally and provincially in senior positions. She is a member of the Community Grantmakers Leadership Cooperative, which spans grant makers from South Africa and Southern Africa. More recently, she has worked with the Graduate School of Business from Cape Town on a research project to assist grant makers and practitioners to measure and value community assets.

Tim Dutton
Sarasota County Openly Plans for Excellence (SCOPE)
United States of America

Tim Dutton is Executive Director of a civic engagement organization called Sarasota County Openly Plans for Excellence (SCOPE) in Florida, which brings together residents, business owners, government officials and organizations to listen, learn, and discuss issues that impact quality of life (aging, race and cultural relations, affordable housing, mental health). SCOPE

helps neighbors to use their gifts and talents and to work with others to make their neighborhood a better place. The organization works on different scales and sectors, believing such engagement to be vital to meaningful public policy and to long-term change. Prior to his posting at SCOPE, Mr. Dutton was the administrator of Hôpital Albert Schweitzer in rural Haiti during the embargo era in the 1990s and continues to be involved there to this day. Tim studied History at Ohio Wesleyan and earned a Masters in Economics at Wright State University.

Fiona Eberts
Action for Moringa Nutrition in Ghana (AMONG)
United Kingdom

Fiona Eberts was born in the UK in 1946 but spent her childhood in Singapore, Indonesia, The Philippines and Hong Kong. During that time, she became acutely aware of the problems faced by people - particularly women and children - in developing countries. From 2002 to 2007, she was a board member and subsequently Chair of Camfed International, a Cambridge UK charity working in Ghana, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Zambia, providing access to education for rural African girls. She also served four years on the Board of the National Foundation of Alternative Medicine based in Washington DC. Her interest in the field of complementary and alternative medicine has a particular focus on solutions and therapies that could be useful in countries with limited access to expensive Western drugs. In 2006, she started a small NGO in the far northeast of Ghana (Pusiga) called AMONG (Action for Moringa Nutrition in Ghana), through which 26 women in the village of Kunjam now grow Moringa Oleifera (trees with leaves containing all essential proteins) and sell its powder to generate income and to improve the nutritional status of the village.

Janice M. Elliott
Fielding Graduate University/Public Policy Forum
United States of America and Canada

Jan Elliott works internationally to build capacity in dialogue, deliberation and civic engagement to create desired change in our world. She works with transformative conversations and learning to enable change in contexts that are complex and across "traditional" boundaries. This way of working reflects an evolution of her public policy work at senior government levels, not-for-profit work with the nonpartisan Public Policy Forum, in Canadian and international contexts and her post-doctoral practice as a reflective practitioner. Her work in transformative conversations focuses on creating spaces for reflective learning, the interaction between what we learn in our day-to-day practice while building our capacity for creating change and what we know through research and sharing this with others to build upon. She is currently Program Leader and Core Faculty at the Dialogue, Deliberation and Public Engagement Certificate Program at Fielding Graduate University and Senior Associate for the Public Policy Forum.

Al Etmanski
Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network (PLAN)
Canada

Al Etmanski is a social entrepreneur specializing in innovative solutions to social challenges. He is President and Co-founder of Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network (PLAN), assisting families across Canada and globally to address the financial and social well-being of a relative with a disability. He proposed and led the successful campaign to establish the world's first savings plan (Registered Disability Savings Plan - RDSP) for people with disabilities. He is the author of two best selling books: "A Good Life - For You and Your Relative with a Disability" and "Safe and Secure." He is a Founding Member of the J.W McConnell Family Foundation's Social Innovation Generation (SIG) collaboration, dedicated to scaling up solutions to deeply rooted social problems and exploring new methods of financing the social sector. Mr. Etmanski was one of the first two Canadians accepted into Ashoka's global fellowship of social entrepreneurs and he has been a Faculty member of the ABCD Institute since 1995. He has received the Queen's Jubilee medal; Simon Fraser University's Distinguished Leadership Award; the Civic Merit award from the City of Vancouver and the Governor General's Meritorious Service Medal.

Aloysius Fernandez
Myrada
India

Aloysius Fernandez is the Executive Director of Bangalore-based Mysore Resettlement and Development Agency (MYRADA). He also serves as the Chairman of Sanghamithra Rural Financial Services and as a Governing Board Member for Janaagraha, an NGO working towards better public governance and increased democratic participation in India. He is commonly known as the "Father of the Self-Help Group (SHG) Movement", developing the practice of Self Affinity Group (SAG)-bank linkages in the late 1980s and early 1990s, which helped to define the appropriate role of NGOs working in the microfinance sector. There are now more than 4.2 million SHGs throughout India today. Mr. Fernandez has received two prestigious awards for his work in India: The Padma Shri Award for distinguished service and the Caritas India Jubilee Award for his involvement in the Bangladesh Refugee Operations in 1971. He has also been published in *World Development* with his article entitled "NGOs in South Asia: People's participation and partnership."

Behrang Foroughi
Coady International Institute,
St. Francis Xavier University
Canada

Behrang joined Coady in September 2008. His work is divided between the Coady International Institute and the Department of Adult Education at St. FX. Prior to and after immigration to Canada he has been professionally involved in adult education and community development work as a facilitator, planner and researcher. Behrang's work experience involves working with street children in Tehran, farming communities

in Caspian highlands, Baluchi fishing communities, Qashqai nomadic tribes, mountain-dwelling Kurds, Afghani refugees, rural Internet operators in Tamil Nadu, India, new immigrants, tenants of social housing and the Russian Jewish community in Toronto, Canada. His research and professional work include participatory action research, community-based natural resource management, participatory budgeting and democratic learning within such practices of deliberative and participatory democracy. Behrang has a PhD in Adult Education and Community Development from the University of Toronto, an MSc in Planning from the University of Guelph and a BSc in Engineering from Isfahan University of Technology in Iran.

Robert M. Francis
RYASAP Catalyst for Community Change
United States of America

Robert Francis has worked for over 30 years in leadership positions at the local, state and national levels in service with communities, young people and families. This includes work in the areas of juvenile justice, child welfare, substance abuse, mental health and youth and community development. Since 1991, he has been the Executive Director of RYASAP Catalyst for Community Change, a youth and community development coalition serving the Greater Bridgeport, Connecticut area. RYASAP is also the lead agency for statewide organizations (Connecticut Juvenile Justice Alliance and Public Allies of Connecticut) and for the Northeast Asset Based Leadership Institute. Robert is a Faculty Member of the ABCD Institute at Northwestern University, where he provides keynote addresses, technical assistance and workshops on developing community-building approaches. He has worked with over 200 organizations since being named to the Faculty 12 years ago and has published numerous articles on youth development and juvenile justice. He is a Co-Founder of Connecticut Public Allies, the Connecticut Assets Network, the Connecticut Juvenile Justice Alliance and the Northeast Asset Based Leadership Institute. He has a Masters in Community Planning from the University of Cincinnati and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Urban Studies and an Associate Degree in Engineering from Pennsylvania State University.

Bogaletch Gebre
Kembatti Mentti Gezzima-Tope (KMG)
Ethiopia

Bogaletch Gebre was born in the early 1950s in a southern district of Ethiopia called Kembatta. Determined to learn to read, she ran six miles each way to a missionary school and became the first girl from her village to be educated beyond the fourth grade. Bogaletch received scholarships to attend high school in Addis Ababa and at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, where she studied microbiology and physiology. She became the first Ethiopian woman to join the Science Faculty at the University of Addis Ababa and received a Fulbright Scholarship to study parasitology at the University of Massachusetts. In 1985, as famine and war ravaged Ethiopia, she left epidemiological studies at UCLA to found Parents International Ethiopia, which sent over 250 000 books to Ethiopia. She began running

marathons in Los Angeles to help raise money to return to Ethiopia to start an NGO to help empower women to attain equal status with men. This was accomplished in 1997 with the opening of Kembatti Mentti Gezzima-Tope (KMG), a women's self-help centre. Since then, the organization has piloted and scaled up a number of innovative community development approaches including "Community Capacity Enhancement through Community Conversation" (CCE-CC), which facilitates conversations around the values, misconceptions and behaviors that perpetuate particular problems (e.g. female genital excision and HIV/AIDS). The approach has now been scaled up to the national level. In 2003, KMG also piloted the ABCD approach in three communities and the number has since increased to 9 main groups and 15 subgroups.

Judi Geggie
Family Action Centre, University of Newcastle
Australia

Judi Geggie is Director of the Family Action Centre, a multidisciplinary initiative with the vision of a true civil society and a belief that family well-being is the cornerstone of healthy communities. The Centre combines community service, research, dissemination and advocacy to impact the policies and practices that support families and build communities. They have developed many strength-focused, family and community programs, placing emphasis on groups or individuals considered marginalized or whose issues are in need of attention (caravan park families, families with young children, boys and father involvement and Indigenous families). The Family Action Centre was one of several groups to form the ABCD Asia Pacific Network to assist with community regeneration processes and to provide ABCD training and consultancies throughout the region.

Katherine Gibson
Centre for Citizenship and Public Policy,
University of Western Sydney
Australia

Katherine Gibson is Professorial Fellow at the Centre for Citizenship and Public Policy at the University of Western Sydney. She is an economic geographer engaged in rethinking economic concepts in the light of feminist and poststructuralist theory. Her research interests have been shared over three decades with Professor Julie Graham from the University of Massachusetts with whom she shares a collective authorial presence as J.K. Gibson-Graham. Together they have written "*The End of Capitalism (as We Knew It): A Feminist Critique of Political Economy*" (Blackwell, 1996, Minnesota 2006) and "*A Postcapitalist Politics*" (Minnesota 2006). She is a Founding Member of the Community Economies Collective and has conducted action research projects with communities in Australia, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines. In 2008, she produced a 50 minute DVD on Building Social Enterprises in the Philippines: "*Strategies for Local Development.*"

Mengistu Gonsamo Gobena
Oxfam Canada
Ethiopia

Mengistu Gonsamo Gobena works at the Oxfam Canada Ethiopia Office as Senior Program Officer for Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning. In collaboration with the Coady International Institute, Oxfam Canada introduced the ABCD approach to four local NGOs (and 22 communities through these partners) in two regions of Ethiopia. Oxfam Canada provides technical and financial assistance to partners and target communities on ABCD; ongoing tracking of changes; documentation of the process; and facilitates learning among partners, communities and other relevant stakeholders. Mr. Gonsamo Gobena recently led a mid-term participatory monitoring and evaluation exercise including more than 300 ABCD participants across seven communities in Ethiopia. In 2009, the impact of ABCD in Ethiopia was documented and published as a case study in *“From Clients to Citizens: Communities Changing the Course of Their Own Development.”* Prior to working with Oxfam Canada, Mengistu was a Professor of Geography at Awassa University and Director of the Sidama Development Corporation. Mengistu has Bachelors and Masters degrees in Geography both from the University of Addis Ababa.

Andrew Gordon
Evans School of Public Affairs, University of Washington
United States of America

Andrew Gordon teaches at the Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington. Many of his recent and current projects are with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, on their efforts to provide meaningful access to information technologies in libraries in the United States. Through the Center for Internet Studies, he also works with the International Development Research Centre (Canada) and Microsoft on the establishment and analysis of innovative learning projects and strategies throughout the world. He previously served for 19 years on the Faculty at Northwestern University in the departments of Sociology, Psychology, and Urban Affairs and was also a Faculty Member at the ABCD Institute, which instilled a way of thinking that is still fundamental to his approach. Andrew holds a PhD in Social Psychology from Columbia University.

Lucie Goulet
Oxfam Canada/Coady International Institute
Canada

Lucie Goulet has over 22 years of professional experience in teaching, training, curriculum development and international and domestic grant making. As Manager of the Horn and East Africa Program at Oxfam Canada, she oversees the organization’s work in capacity building of partners and support to programming on gender equality, livelihoods, social equity and justice, using appreciative models and approaches. In Ethiopia, Oxfam pioneered the application of ABCD as an approach and methodology for community development in close partnership with the Coady Institute. Lucie’s engagement in the program,

which has since expanded to many more communities beyond those in the 3 year pilot project (2003-06), was the trigger to further engagement with Coady in facilitation, writing and monitoring. She has since written informative and evaluative documents to share reflections on the achievements in the communities where ABCD was tested, in collaboration with Gord Cunningham’s reflection and writing on the experience (published since in *“From Clients to Citizens: Communities changing the course of their own development”*). Lucie has also been a Board Member of Solidarité Canada-Sahel for several years and has been an active member of many committees and task groups linked to the City of Ottawa, including the United Way and the Ottawa Community Foundation. She is also an Associate at the Coady Institute and facilitates a course in Participatory Project Planning and Management.

Sarah Grant
Engineers Without Borders Canada
Ghana

Sarah Grant works for Engineers Without Borders (EWB) Canada as the Director of Agriculture Programs in Ghana. In her current role, she manages a team of EWB volunteers who work with the Ghanaian Ministry of Food and Agriculture to improve the quality of the extension services provided to farmers. Examples of the work include farmer group development curriculum, tools for farmers to analyze their business and a marketing campaign to promote the consumption of local rice. Prior to working in Ghana, she worked with EWB in the Philippines providing computer-life skills trainings and spent a year working on wind energy projects in the Toronto area. Sarah has an Electrical Engineering Degree from the University of Saskatchewan.

Bernard Guri
Center for Indigenous Knowledge and
Organizational Development (CIKOD)
Ghana

Bernard Guri is the Executive Director of the Center for Indigenous Knowledge and Organizational Development (CIKOD). He is well known in Ghana for his efforts to bring traditional institutions and indigenous values to the forefront of Ghana’s development. The activities of CIKOD are described as providing *“a mirror cleaner for the community to look at itself more clearly,”* which facilitates the identification and scale up of existing traditional forms of organizing that are contributing to meaningful change at the community level. CIKOD applies this approach to a number of core programming areas including the preservation of bio-cultural diversity, community-based land administration, eco-cultural tourism, agriculture and natural resource management and local economic development. In addition to his work at CIKOD, Bernard is currently completing his PhD, taking special interest in indigenous knowledge systems and natural resource management.

Tran Minh Hai
An Giang University/Resource Center for Community Development Vietnam
Vietnam

Tran Minh Hai is Acting Dean and Lecturer at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration at An Giang University. He is also a Farmer's Training Advisor and Community Trainer, working on poverty alleviation in the countryside, setting up channels for agricultural products and improving farmer's knowledge and increasing farm benefits as they collaborate with the private sector in the trade market. Since 2006, when he graduated from the Coady Institute, he integrated the ABCD methodology into this work. He also introduced ABCD into his own community and as Vice Director of the Resource Center for Community Development, he is now working on scaling up the approach nationally through training workshops for government. The Center also works with local authorities so that the approach will be disseminated at the community level and accepted more broadly without any legal obstacles. Tran has a Master of Arts in Sustainable Development from the School for International Training (SIT) in the United States and a BSc in Agriculture Economics from Can Tho University in Vietnam.

Brian Hanson
Buffett Center for International and Comparative Studies,
Northwestern University
United States of America

Brian Hanson is Associate Director of the Buffett Center for International and Comparative Studies at Northwestern University. He directs the Global Engagement Summer Institute, which is a summer study abroad program based on ABCD and related approaches and working in small groups on collaborative projects with indigenous NGOs in Uganda, India and Argentina. He is also building a complementary set of curricular and co-curricular programs to support student interest, understanding and opportunities to pursue community development internationally. As a Political Scientist, Hanson teaches on international political economy, globalization and the changing role of the state. He is active in international philanthropy and seeks to build support for community based development approaches through advising foundations, serving on the board of the Chicago Global Donors Network and Chair of the Program and Services Committee, and on the board of several small development NGOs.

Mary van den Heuvel
Community Volunteer
Canada

As a community volunteer of more than 30 years who is passionate about strong sustainable communities, Mary van den Heuvel has worked at many levels. She founded the "Wishing Wells Society", which raises money to dig wells in developing countries. She is a partner in Nova Scotia's Model Forest and co-chaired the development of a website for woodland owners. She is Educational Sessions Coordinator for

Antigonish Fresh Air Society and in her home village of St. Andrews, Nova Scotia, she volunteers with the St. Andrews Community Partnership. Last year, Mary successfully used the ABCD process to facilitate the beginning of six new projects and study groups in St. Andrews. These initiatives have been recognized by the province and her community was selected for the Lieutenant Governor's Community Spirit Award in 2009. Mary is currently seeking employment as a community development specialist.

Terry Lynn Holley
East Tennessee Foundation
United States of America

Terry Lynn Holley is Senior Vice-President for Programs and Regional Development for the East Tennessee Foundation (ETF). The ETF is a community foundation serving 25 counties in East Tennessee. Its mission is to build charitable resources to make communities stronger and lives better through thoughtful giving. The Foundation's primary areas of interest include community development, arts and culture, youth at risk and education. Terry began her tenure with the foundation in 1991 as a program officer. In her current capacity, she has responsibility for management and oversight of the Foundation's grantmaking activities, the coordination of technical assistance programs, and the development of regional affiliate funds for rural communities and donors. Prior to joining the staff of the East Tennessee Foundation, Terry served for 13 years as executive director of Project Art Builds Learning Experiences, Inc. (Project ABLE), a nonprofit venture, collaborated with Head Start programs and public schools in twenty-six rural Appalachian counties of East Tennessee to provide an integrated approach to early childhood education through the use of the performing arts. Terry has also worked as a consultant for the Ford Foundation in various countries in Africa and provided technical assistance on grantmaking activities for the Neighborhoods Small Grants and Transforming Neighborhood Development programs in the United States. She is currently an Adjunct Faculty for the ABCD Institute based out of Northwestern University.

Wiliber Ibarra
Jambi Kiwa
Ecuador

Jambi Kiwa is an Association of Medicinal Plant Producers. Wiliber Ibarra is responsible for the commercialization of the Association's products nationally and worldwide. Created by an association of largely indigenous women, it is a cooperative business that was set up to grow, process and market medicinal and aromatic plants. To succeed, these women have drawn on indigenous knowledge, traditional forms of cooperative activity, and the resilience borne out of the struggles of poverty and discrimination. The main goals of the medicinal plant business are to preserve the community's ancestral knowledge of medicinal plants, increase the incomes of the 480 participating families and protect the environment. They follow strict rules of traditional and organic farming, which include rituals of respect for Pacha Mama, Mother Earth.

Wiliber is a graduate of the Coady International Institute's Diploma Program.

Peter Kenyon
Consultant
Australia

Peter Kenyon is a social entrepreneur and community enthusiast. Over the last two decades, he has worked with over 1000 communities throughout Australia and internationally, seeking to facilitate fresh and creative ways that stimulate community and economic renewal. He is motivated by the desire to create healthy, caring, inclusive, sustainable and enterprising communities and local economies. Mr. Kenyon has a background as a youth worker, teacher, youth education officer and tertiary lecturer. His employment experiences have included Director of Employment in Western Australia, Manager of the Community Employment Development Unit in New Zealand and Coordinator of the Natal Kwazulu Job Creation and Enterprise Strategy in South Africa. He created the Bank of I.D.E.A.S. (Initiatives for the Development of Enterprising Action and Strategies) in 1991 and has worked as a consultant in 52 countries and all states of Australia. Since 2004, he has spent part of each year working in a range of Middle Eastern and North African countries assisting with the development of national youth policies and strategies. He has authored 16 publications within the fields of community and economic development, youth policy development and youth enterprise.

Scott Killough
Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods of World Neighbors
United States of America

Scott Killough is the Associate Vice President for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods of World Neighbors. He has 25 years experience in participatory agricultural and rural development management, having worked and lived in several countries. His background in rural livelihoods and agriculture includes field experience and expertise in program development and management, agricultural extension education systems, and sustainable agriculture practices in the tropics. He is especially interested in the development of farmer-centered agricultural improvement and innovation programs which address issues of food security, income generation, environmental degradation and rural poverty. He is the Co-Chair of the Promoting Local Innovation, or Prolinnova, an NGO-initiated partnership program to build a global learning network to promote local innovation in ecologically-oriented agriculture and natural resource management. Scott completed a PhD with the University of Reading in the U.K. He holds a Masters degree in International Agriculture and Rural Development from Cornell University, and a B.S. degree in Agricultural Economics (and Political Science) from Oklahoma State University.

Jill Koch
Community Assets for Education (CAFÉ) Institute
Canada

Jill Koch has experience in both community development and adult education. After completing the ABCD certificate program at the Coady Institute in 2003, she focused her Masters in Education thesis on the application of an ABCD approach in the educational context. Recently, Ms. Koch has worked with colleagues to establish a not-for-profit society focused on increasing community engagement in education by assisting stakeholders to integrate ABCD strategies into their work. She is currently working with the Community Assets for Education (CAFÉ) Institute and its partner organizations to facilitate community-based approaches for improving literacy and developing educational support for immigrants new to Canada.

John (Jody) Kretzmann
ABCD Institute, Northwestern University
United States of America

John Kretzmann (Jody) is co-founder and co-director of the Asset- Based Community Development (ABCD) Institute of the School of Education and Social Policy at Northwestern University. The ABCD Institute works with community building leaders across North America as well as on five other continents to conduct research, produce materials and otherwise support community-based efforts to rediscover local capacities and to mobilize citizens' resources to solve problems. The Institute continues to build on the stories and strategies for successful community building reported in his popular book "Building Communities from the Inside Out: A Path Toward Finding and Mobilizing a Community's Assets," written with long-time colleague John McKnight.

A much-traveled speaker and trainer, Kretzmann brings more than four decades of community-based work and study to his current position. Before founding the ABCD Institute, he worked as a community organizer and community development leader in Chicago neighborhoods, and as a consultant to a wide range of neighborhood groups. He has worked to develop community-friendly policies in the city, and at the regional, state, national and international levels. In addition to his work at Northwestern, he has taught about community development and public policy with the Associated Colleges of the Midwest Urban Studies Program (which he co-founded), Valparaiso University, the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, and McCormack Seminary. He serves on a wide range of civic, community and foundation boards. His B.A. is from Princeton University (Magna Cum Laude); his Masters degree from the University of Virginia; and his Ph.D. (Sociology and Urban Affairs) from Northwestern University.

Iva Lafond
Tribal Council
Canada

Iva is a First Nations woman of Secwepemc Ancestry from the Simps First Nation in the interior of British Columbia, Canada. Upon marriage, she became a member of the Muskeg Lake Cree Nation in Saskatchewan. She has dedicated her career to supporting the development of individuals, families and First Nation communities. In 1978, Iva obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Human Services from the University of Victoria and has gone on to complete several certificates to build on her life's work, including the ABCD certificate from the Coady International Institute in 2005. She currently works for the Saskatoon Tribal Council with seven First Nation communities in the area of health and social development.

Nanci Lee
Consultant
Canada

Nanci Lee works with rural village savings and loans associations adapted from traditional savings groups found virtually everywhere and managed by women. She works with associations on governance and financial management. Money is a small part of the picture. Linked are issues of trust, accountability, oral vs. written recording and simple enough processes for the group itself to handle and decide. Often women's ability to grow assets, particularly her own, helps her to support her family and have more say in the household and community, but this is not automatic. An Ethiopian woman explains: "Yes, when you own you have respect even in your household. You can convince. But these things do not move quickly. Still they are changing." Also a poet, Nanci believes in the power of art, narrative and life-stories to inspire dialogue and share successes.

Joanne Linzey
Independent Consultant
Canada

Joanne Linzey manages a national project for the national Human Resources Council for the Voluntary and Non-profit Sector. The Council works with organizations, educators, labour and government to identify and address issues related to paid employment in the voluntary and non-profit sector. Prior to this work, Joanne was the Vice-President of Community Impact for the United Way of Canada/Centraide Canada. While there, Ms. Linzey was the executive lead on a complex national action research collaboration, "Action for Neighbourhood Change," a citizen-centred, neighbourhood renewal initiative in five Canadian cities. From 1994-2005, she was Chief Executive Officer of the United Way of Halifax Region where she fostered an asset-based approach to the organization's community work. In the early 1990s Joanne was a co-founder of ABC Canada, a nation literacy foundation. From 2000-2005, she worked as a consultant on CIDA-funded community development projects in southern Brazil, supporting the development of effective asset-based community collaborations, she continues

to work in Brazil. Joanne believes that asset-based non-profit organizations are essential to the building of vibrant and resilient neighbourhood

Yves Lévesque
Vivre St-Michel en Santé
Canada

Yves Lévesque has been working in the areas of community development and collective effort for twenty years. From 1988 to 1999, he was community organizer at the *Centre Local de Services Communautaire (CLSC) Saint-Michel*, working to establish and support community organizations for dialogue. In 1999, he joined the staff of the University of Sherbrooke as Coordinator of Student Activities and was responsible for community development issues on campus and for providing professional support to student groups. After working as an independent consultant, he joined the inter-sectoral and multi-networks roundtable, *Vivre Saint-Michel en Santé*, first as Coordinator and then as Executive Director. The initiative is part of "Vibrant Communities," a Canadian network of community-driven efforts to reduce poverty. He is also on the Board of Directors of the Center for Health and Social Services Saint-Léonard-Saint-Michel, President of the District Round Tables Coalition of Montreal and Vice-President of the Quebec Network of Integrated Revitalization.

Robert Lupton
Consultation Service (FCS) Urban Ministries
United States of America

Robert D. Lupton is Founder and President of Family Consultation Service (FCS) Urban Ministries, established in 1976 in inner-city Atlanta as a nonprofit counseling agency for low-income clients. Originally serving children and families referred by Atlanta area juvenile courts, it eventually broadened its mission to pursue lasting solutions to some of the underlying causes of poverty. Today, FCS Urban Ministries (as it is now known) is a community development organization that focuses its work almost exclusively in four adjacent urban Atlanta neighborhoods. With a staff of sixty, most of whom live in these neighborhoods, FCS constructs housing, operates businesses and education programs for at-risk children, and provides other human services. It works closely with churches to mobilize people and resources that bring hope and creative new options to the city. Attracting middle-income people of faith to relocate in urban communities has been one of the ministry's most significant efforts. It has developed four mixed-income subdivisions and is currently implementing this reneighboring strategy throughout the entire South Atlanta community. Robert has produced a number of publications including "*Compassion, Justice and the Christian Life: Rethinking Ministry to the Poor*" and "*Renewing the City: Reflections on Community Development and Urban Renewal*."

Reverend Damon Lynch, III
New Prospect Baptist Church
United States of America

Damon Lynch III is a lifetime resident of the city of Cincinnati, Ohio. He was educated in the Cincinnati Public School system and holds a Bachelor of Science from the Cincinnati Bible College. He is presently the Senior Pastor of the New Prospect Baptist Church. He is a Faculty member of the ABCD Institute at Northwestern University and has conducted workshops and seminars throughout the United States on the asset-based approach to problem solving and development. He was appointed to chair the Health Committee of the Cincinnati chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); is a committee member of the Cincinnati Initiative to Reduce Violence (CIRV); and created the City of Hope project, focusing on the re-integration of ex-offenders and community economic development. He was an instrumental leader of the Elm Street Development Project, which involved the purchase of an entire inner city block for economic development. Reverend Lynch is a former President of the Cincinnati Black United Front, through which he led a group of organizations in the filing of a class action lawsuit against racial profiling in the City of Cincinnati. He has received much recognition for his work including the Southern Christian Leadership Conference Rosa Parks Award; Sentinels Police Association President's Award; NAACP Theodore M. Berry Award for Civil Rights; and the Martin Luther King Jr. Award.

Joanne Linzey
Human Resources Council
Canada

Joanne Linzey is currently managing a national project for the Human Resources Council for the voluntary and non-profit sector. This project is focused on raising awareness and developing strategies on labour force issues that are affecting paid employees in the non profit sector. Prior to this work, she was the Vice-President of Community Impact for the United Way of Canada/Centraide Canada. While at the national office, Ms. Linzey was the executive lead on a national action research collaboration, "Action for Neighbourhood Change," a citizen-centred, neighbourhood renewal initiative in five Canadian cities. From 1994-2005, she was Chief Executive Officer of the United Way of Halifax Region where she fostered an asset-based approach to the organization's community work. From 2000-2005, she worked as a consultant on CIDA-funded community development projects in southern Brazil, supporting the development of effective asset-based community collaborations. She has also worked for the federal civil service for ten years in the former Secretary of State department in Whitehorse, Yukon, Ottawa and Halifax.

Chris Macoloo
World Neighbors
East Africa

Chris Macoloo develops and manages programs in East Africa and represents World Neighbors through strategic networking, partnership and collaboration. Prior to joining World Neighbors in 2003, he served as a consultant for development organizations on issues such as program evaluation and organizational capacity assessments. Dr. Macoloo also worked in Kenya as a program officer and deputy country director for SNV/Netherlands Development Organization and as a program officer for Intermediate Technology Development Group (now Practical Action), where he was responsible for shelter policy and programs. He has over ten years of university teaching, research and publication experience at the University of Nairobi. Dr. Macoloo obtained his PhD degree from Cambridge University in urban geography and planning and is a Fellow of the Cambridge Commonwealth Society.

Ann Makhool
Caledon Institute
Canada

Ann Makhool is Principal Project Officer for the Caledon Institute. She is the lead writer and coordinator of the 'community stories' series: accounts of social policy in action which highlight innovative community initiatives. She has written extensively in support of Vibrant Communities, the pan-Canadian community revitalization and poverty reduction initiative which Caledon helped found in 2002. In addition to her work on community stories, Anne coordinated the 2009 publication of *Collaboration on Policy*, a manual for community and government collaborators striving to make systemic and policy change. She co-authored "*Caregivers and Dementia*," a study commissioned by the Alzheimer Society of Ottawa and Renfrew County in 2008. In 2007, Anne was the principal writer of "*ANC Sketches: Building a Neighbourhood Renewal Process*." This publication documented the change process and accompanying projects undertaken throughout the two-year action research project, Action for Neighbourhood Change. Anne also performs research and project management duties for the Institute. Joining Caledon in 2000, Anne previously had worked as a freelance writer, a project manager and writer/researcher for an environmentally-focused consulting company, and an educator.

Mireille Cronin Mather
Foundation for Sustainable Development
United States of America

Mireille Mather is Managing Director of the Foundation for Sustainable Development (FSD), an organization that facilitates community-based development in Latin America, Africa and Asia using integrated capacity building resources of volunteers, technical assistance and catalyst grants. The Foundation's mission is to help underserved communities become agents of sustainable development and social change, and to provide training in community-based approaches.

With 300 local partners, ten site teams and San Francisco-based staff, the Foundation shares the belief that everyone - especially the marginalized - must vest voice and ownership in community development. Prior to joining FSD, Ms. Mather was Communications Director of a non-profit pharmaceutical company funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and of USAID's flagship child survival project, and has consulted in program design and management for several development and humanitarian aid organizations.

Sebastian Mathews
CIFAL, United Nations Institute for Training and Research
South Africa

Sebastian Mathews is program director for CIFAL, an international training centre of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research working to advance the UN Millennium Development Goals. Currently based in South Africa, Mr. Mathews advises on development strategy for the presidency, the Ministry of Social Development and the Independent Development Trust - South Africa's national development agency. He is a Board Member of the Greater Rustenburg Community Foundation, NeoLife Academy (an NGO training caregivers of orphaned and vulnerable children) and Gomabate (an NGO focused on community development in southern Zambia). He holds a Bachelor in Engineering from the University of the Witwatersrand, an MBA from Heriot-Watt University and a Masters in International Business from Georgia State University.

Alison Mathie
Coady International Institute
Canada

Alison Mathie has been working at the Coady International Institute for the last 12 years, dedicating much of the last 7 years to linking John McKnight and Jody Kretzmann's ABCD principles to international development work in sustainable livelihoods, and evaluating the results through action research. Together with Gord Cunningham, she has taught courses in asset-based approaches to community development and forged partnerships with NGOs in Ethiopia, Philippines and Kenya that are interested in applying ABCD principles to community development practice. Alison lived and worked overseas for 10 years, mostly in rural regions of Papua New Guinea and Nigeria. She holds a PhD in Program Evaluation and Planning from Cornell University. She has recently co-edited a volume of case studies *"From Clients to Citizens: Communities changing the course of their own development."*

Pauline MacIntosh
Extension Department, St. Francis Xavier University
Canada

Pauline has been a staff member of the St. Francis Xavier University (StFX) Extension Department since 1998. She worked with the Centre for Community-Based Resource Management (CCBRM), a joint program of the Coady

International Institute and the StFX Extension Department, from 1999-2005. In this capacity Pauline worked with community organizations in Atlantic Canada engaged in participatory research or other aspects of community capacity building. She was the coordinator of the 2002 Learning and Innovations Institute - *Enhancing Natural Resources and Livelihoods Globally through Community-Based Resource Management*, an international gathering of community-based resource management practitioners and researchers. Pauline continues to work with communities and organizations engaged in strategic planning, organizational development, participatory research and evaluation and she often facilitates community consultation processes. Pauline holds a MA (Education) from Mount Saint Vincent University, a BEd, a Diploma in Adult Teacher Education and a Certificate in Business Administration from Memorial University of Newfoundland and a BA from StFX.

John McKnight
ABCD Institute, Northwestern University
United States of America

John McKnight is Co-Founder, Co-Director and Professor of Communications at the ABCD Institute. He has partnered with Jody Kretzmann for nearly three decades on research on community organizations and neighborhood policy. McKnight has also conducted his own research, which has been published in more than 150 journals and books in different languages on issues of social service delivery systems, health policy, the inclusion of marginalized people and institutional racism. Prior to founding the ABCD Institute, he worked as Director of the United States Commission on Civil Rights, Chief of the Midwest Equal Employment Opportunity Office, Executive Director of the American Civil Liberties Union and as a Principal Investigator, Research Associate or Director of more than 20 research initiatives. He currently contributes to ABCD Institute efforts, continues his own research and community work, and is a Board member of the Better Government Association, Gamaliel Foundation and National Peoples Action.

Paul Melia
Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES)
Canada

Paul Melia is a graduate of the University of Ottawa with a Masters degree in Health Administration. He has extensive knowledge and expertise in the development and implementation of public awareness, education and social change campaigns for a variety of health and social issues. As President of the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES), he leads the management of operations, including the administration of Canada's Doping Control Program and works with governments and sport organizations to build a national ethics strategy for amateur sport. He currently serves as President and Chairman of the True Sport Foundation; past President of the Association of National Anti-Doping Organizations (ANADO); former CCES Director of Education and Communications; regional Vice-President of In-Touch Survey Systems Inc.; and Chief of the Tobacco Programs Unit at Health Canada.

Anselmo B. Mercado
Cooperative Business Institute (CBI)
Philippines

Anselmo Mercado has a Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture, a Masters in Adult Education, a Doctorate in Education and a Social Leadership Diploma. From 1993-2007, he was Director of the South East Asia Rural Social Leadership Institute (SEARSOLIN), but had been a teaching-administration staff member since its founding in 1964. The Institute's work is modeled after the Coady Institute (where he studied in 1963), training development leaders from Pacific countries in Asia and Africa. In 2000, he introduced the ABCD approach into SEARSOLIN's training programs and to the work of the College of Agriculture, Xavier University - where it has continued to be used to this day. Following his retirement in 2007, Mr. Mercado became president of the Cooperative Business Institute and is working to strengthen the business capability of cooperatives to be commercially competitive in the pursuit of their social objectives. He is also Chairman of the Board of Directors of "Cagayan de Oro Cooperative Development Council" (CCDC), a network of cooperatives to advance the cause of "cooperativism" in the Philippines.

Rewa Misra
Coady International Institute
Canada

Rewa Misra specialises in the areas of microfinance and livelihoods. Her main interests are in impact research, policy research/evaluation and organizational development. As a consultant and strategy advisor, she has been involved in numerous projects throughout India and Bangladesh, such as a study of agricultural extension for DFID, and a comparative study on member-owned institutions in remote rural areas funded by the FORD Foundation. Rewa has also lent her expertise and technical support within the financial livelihoods arena and is a contributing author of India's first microfinance sector-specific annual report.

Samuel Molla
Oxfam Canada
Ethiopia

Samuel Molla has worked with Oxfam affiliates in Ethiopia at various levels for more than ten years in the areas of community development and livelihood security. Since 2003, he has worked as field coordinator of the joint Oxfam Canada/Coady Institute ABCD pilot project as a Senior Program Officer of the ABCD Program. The project is now in its second phase and has expanded to include four local partners (NGOs) and 22 communities. Mr. Molla has a Bachelor in Agricultural Science, a Post Graduate Diploma in Food and Nutrition Security and is currently completing his Masters in Adult Education at St. Francis Xavier University in Canada.

Peter Mortimer
United Way
Canada

As the Senior Director of Community Resources with United Way of Halifax Region, Peter Mortimer leads the staff team responsible for the community development and investment work of the organization. This work is based on a citizen-centred, strength-based approach to community building. In recent years, Peter has focused on developing a place-based community development initiative that supports local residents who are prepared to lead change in their community. Peter has more than thirty years experience working in the voluntary sector where he has been able to focus his energies on expanding citizen participation in public policy and community impact strategies. This has included work in the fields of alternative dispute resolution, leadership development, outcome evaluation, and neighbourhood development.

Caroline Moser
University of Manchester
United Kingdom

Caroline Moser is the Director of the Global Urban Research Centre at the University of Manchester. She has more than 30 years experience as an Urban Social Anthropologist and Social Policy Specialist focused on academic and policy research, teaching and capacity building on urban poverty and vulnerability, the informal sector, gender planning, and urban violence. Her current research focuses on longitudinal asset accumulation and poverty reduction in Guayaquil, Ecuador and its implications for transnational migration, as well as on urban asset adaptation to climate change. Relevant publications include "*Assets, Livelihoods and Social Policy*" (ed. with A. Dani, 2008) and "*Reducing Global Poverty: The Case for Asset Accumulation*" (2007). Prior to her work with Manchester University, Professor Moser taught at the London School of Economics, the New School (New York), and the Development Planning Unit at the University College London. She also worked in various capacities for the World Bank, the Overseas Development Institute and the Brookings Institution. She has a PhD from Sussex University, a Post Graduate Diploma from Manchester University and a Bachelor's from Durham University.

Nthabiseng Motsemme
University of South Africa
South Africa

Nthabiseng Motsemme is currently based at the Research Directorate at the University of South Africa (UNISA) where she coordinates a university-wide program on Funding for Young, Black and Women researchers as well as the Women-in-Research Initiative. She has also lectured at the Universities of Cape Town and the Western Cape, and held research positions at the Ministry of Land Affairs; Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research (WISER), and the School for Graduate Studies at UNISA. Her general research interests mirror her inter-disciplinary background in Race, Culture and Difference,

and include African feminist and womanist theories, theories on the body, African spiritualities under democracy as well as the diverse area of African urban cultural productions and identity. She has published on issues focusing on gender and memory at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission; African women's identities in transition after the death of political apartheid; African popular culture and youth identities; and transformations as well as continuities in young urban women's township subjectivities. Some of her publications include: *"Loving in a time of hopelessness: On township women's subjectivities in a time of HIV/AIDS"*; *"The mute always Speak: On women's silences at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission"*; *"Distinguishing Beauty, creating distinctions: the politics and poetics of dress among Black women"*; and *"Black Women's Identities."* Nthabiseng is currently completing her PhD on Lived and Embodied suffering and healing amongst mothers and daughters in Chesterville Township, KwaZulu-Natal (South Africa).

Gladys Nabiswa
Community Research in Environment and Development Initiatives (CREADIS)
Kenya

Gladys Nabiswa is the Director and Co-Founder of CREADIS, an NGO working in Western Kenya. Starting in 2000, her organization worked in partnership with the Coady International Institute on an Action Research project, which introduced ABCD to two communities in the Bungoma District of Kenya. The experience was subsequently documented and published as a case study in 2009 in *"From Clients to Citizens: Communities Changing the Course of Their Own Development."* CREADIS is currently integrating the principles of ABCD in all of its programs and training other NGOs on the approach. Gladys has a degree in Agriculture from Nairobi University, is a graduate of the Coady International Institute's Diploma Program and ABCD certificate.

Beatriz Battistella Nadas
City Hall of Curitiba, Health Secretariat
Brazil

As Executive Superintendent of the Health Secretariat, Beatriz Nadas is responsible for the Public Health System in Curitiba, the capital city of Paraná State. This includes health promotion, disease-prevention and health assistance as well as sanitary and epidemiological vigilance. The Secretariat provides primary health care in 137 Health Centres spread all over the city and manages specialized health services and hospital care. The City Hall vision is to "become the capital with the very best quality of life in Brazil." To achieve this vision, the Hall is strongly committed to working collaboratively with government and community organizations using an asset-based approach.

Mary Nelson
Bethel New Life
United States of America

Mary Nelson has spent the last 40 years working in faith-based

community development on the west side of Chicago, carrying out ABCD principles in concrete ways through her leadership of Bethel New Life, Inc. She earned a Masters in Teaching from Brown University, a PhD from Union Graduate School and has six honorary degrees. Under her leadership, Bethel New Life grew from an all-volunteer organization to a community development corporation (CDC) with efforts to create jobs through the adaptive reuse of a former hospital campus, transforming it into a major complex of services, jobs and cultural arts. The organization was also instrumental in developing over 1000 units of affordable housing in a sustainable community context. Bethel New Life has been a participatory pioneer in energy efficient housing; sustainable community development; environmental justice; comprehensive community based continuum of care for the elderly; community building for violence reduction; welcoming formerly incarcerated people back into the community; and the greening of community and neighborhood associations. Mary has recently transitioned from the leadership of Bethel New Life into a Senior Associate position.

Lycia Tramuja Vasconcellos Neumann
Odebrecht Foundation
Brazil

Lycia Tramuja Vasconcellos Neumann has been working with NGOs and state and municipal governments developing social programs and initiatives in various parts of Brazil for thirteen years. She was introduced to ABCD principles in 1999 through a partnership project with municipal government, community-based organizations and residents, with financial support from CIDA and technical advice from United Way of Canada. Since then, these principles have guided all of Lycia's work. In order to help spread the idea in Brazil, she co-authored two books published in 2005: *"Rethinking Social Investments: the value of community driven development"* and *"Community Development based on Local Talents and Skills."* Recently, she started work with Odebrecht Foundation, a corporate foundation that sponsors a sustainable development projects in urban and rural communities located in an Environmental Protection Area. Her new job has meant moving to a different area, which has allowed her to try on the "residents' shoes" for a change and use the tools she uses in her work to improve her family's conditions in her new home.

Rogério Arns Neumann
Odebrecht Foundation
Brazil

With fifteen years of community development experience in Brazil, Rogério Arns Neumann is currently based in Bahia, Brazil where he works for the Odebrecht Foundation. Previously, Rogério served as senior staff member with Pastoral da Criança, a non-profit community-based organization that has been recognized internationally for its work to reduce child mortality in Brazil. In this capacity, Rogério introduced the concept of ABCD to his community and was instrumental in the creation of a CIDA-funded project that helped increase Brazilian capacity to create ABCD collaborations. He is author

of “*Desenvolvimento Comunitario baseado em Talentos e Recursos Locais – ABCD*” (Community Development Based on Local Talents and Skills – ABCD) and “*Repensando o Investimento Social – a Importancia do Protagonismo Comunitario*” (Rethinking Social Investments – the Value of Community Driven Development). Currently, Rogerio is CEO’s Assistant for the Odebrecht Foundation, responsible for its partnership with the United Nations Department for Social and Economic Development (UNDESA). Through this initiative, the Foundation supports communities through grassroots organizations established in an environment protected area in the Northeast of Brazil. Currently, Mr. Neumann is developing a process to gather, register and communicate successful stories of community development.

Tom O’Brien
Neighborhood Connections
United States of America

Tom O’Brien is the Program Director for Neighborhood Connections, an organization that funds small, grassroots organizations in the city of Cleveland. The organization provides training and technical assistance programs that help neighborhood groups to develop leadership and organizational capacity as well as connect neighborhood leaders to organizing campaigns and policy discussions. Prior to directing Neighborhood Connections, Tom was a community organizer in Cleveland’s Slavic Village neighborhood for five years. He also worked on the staff of the Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest as an Area Director, recruiting, training, and assisting full-time volunteers in Oregon and Washington. He’s been involved in numerous political and issue campaigns, including work with a local office of a national candidate and with the Ohioans to Stop Executions and the Journey of Hope. In addition, he was a high school and junior high school teacher and coach for many years. He is a graduate of the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences (MSSA) at Case Western Reserve University where he earned his Masters degree in Social Work with a focus on community development and received his Bachelors degree in History from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Saleela Patkar
Consultant
India

From 1997-2008, Saleela Patkar worked for an NGO called Myrada in capacity building initiatives for community organizations. She managed the project that introduced Appreciative Inquiry to the organization and became a trainer and facilitator in the methodology in 2000. She was subsequently seconded to the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore to manage its Microfinance Incubator. She is now a freelance consultant and coffee grower in her hometown. Ms. Saleela has post graduate degrees in Rural Management (IRMA India) and Development Management (London School of Economics).

Brianne Peters
Coady International Institute
Canada

Brianne Peters is Program Associate of the ABCD Program at the Coady Institute. She graduated from St. Francis Xavier University in the first cohort of the Development Studies Program in 2004. During her time at the university, she was a research assistant in Matachico, Peru, studying the effects of development on local political organization as well as facilitating a participatory technology project for youth. She also completed a Civil Society and Sustainable Communities Program in Guanajuato, Mexico and several courses at the Coady Institute and Extension Department (Asset-Based Community Development, Micro-finance and Community-Based Development and Health). Upon graduation, Brianne worked in Bungoma, Kenya assisting in the facilitation and documentation of two ABCD projects. During her MA program at the Norman Paterson School for International Affairs, she worked for the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in the Human Rights and Participation Division within Policy Branch, primarily completing two portfolio analyses of the Agency’s human rights and disability programming. She has recently returned from a year in Ethiopia with Oxfam Canada where she participated in the monitoring and evaluation of ABCD with several of Coady’s partner communities and NGOs.

Rachel Polestico
Southeast Asia Rural Social Leadership Institute
(SEARSOLIN)/Appropriate Technology Center,
College of Agriculture of Xavier University
Philippines

Rachel Polestico is the Director of the Southeast Asia Rural Social Leadership Institute (SEARSOLIN), a regional training center for development workers from Asia, the Pacific and Africa. She has applied ABCD through her work at SEARSOLIN in several communities in Mindanao and this was documented in a case study in “*From Clients to Citizens: Communities changing the course of their own development.*” She also serves as the Director of the Appropriate Technology Center of the College of Agriculture of Xavier University. She has been on the Board of many agencies such as the Global Village Energy Partnership (GVEP), Asian NGO Coalition (ANGOC), the Foundation for the Philippine Environment (FPE), the Kasanyangan Foundation Incorporated (KFI) and the Bukidnon Organic Products, Inc. Ms. Polestico has a Masters in Physics from the University of the Philippines and completed graduate work in biophysics at the University of California (Berkeley) as a Fulbright Scholar.

Deborah Puntteney
ABCD Institute, Northwestern University
United States of America

Deborah Puntteney is currently the Associate Director of the ABCD Institute at Northwestern University, a member of the

Research Faculty at Northwestern University, and a member of the Teaching Faculty at the University of Chicago. She also operates her own research and consulting firm specializing in the areas of ABCD, community based participatory research, program evaluation and social justice strategies for philanthropic and nonprofit organizations. All of her work emphasizes strengthening neighborhood, nonprofit, philanthropic, and other organizations through the design and implementation of asset-oriented strategies. Deborah teaches university courses in several topic areas, including the family in a changing society, US social welfare policy, ABCD, and gender and the life course. Her research and writing emphasize themes related to community, gender, social justice, and social policy.

Alex Ruhunda
Kabarole Research and Resource Centre
Uganda

Alex Ruhunda is President of the International Association for Community Development, Director of Kabarole Research and Resource Center in Uganda and a well known Civil Society Leader across East Africa. He is also Chairperson of the Rwenzori Association of NGOs and Networks (RANNET), Chairperson of the Uganda Governance Monitoring Platform (UGMP) and has over 12 years experience in community development. Mr. Ruhunda holds a Bachelors Degree in Social Sciences and a Masters in Gender Studies from Makerere University, Uganda. He has presented numerous papers and delivered key note addresses to various audiences around the world. He also sits on a number of Boards of charitable organizations including Rotary International where he serves as an Assistant District Governor, and the Deepening Democracy Program in Uganda. Before receiving overwhelming support to become President of the IACD, Mr. Ruhunda served as Board Member representing Africa.

Janis Foster Richardson
Grassroots Grantmakers
United States of America

Janis Foster Richardson is Executive Director of Grassroots Grantmakers, a network of place-based funders in the United States and Canada that are working from a “*we begin with residents*” perspective. The network supports active citizenship to build social capital and civic capacity at the block (neighbourhood) level and serves as an advocate and locus of learning on grantmaking as an essential component of effective place-based philanthropy. Ms. Foster has more than two decades of experience working with and within philanthropic organizations to design and implement grantmaking programs that are congruent with ABCD values and principles. Prior to her work with Grassroots Grantmakers, she served as Executive Vice-President of the Community Foundation of Greater Memphis and as Director of Memphis’ Center for Neighborhoods. Janis works from her home in South Central Texas.

Suzanne Robinson
Inuvik Learning Centre, Aurora College
Canada

Suzanna Robinson lives and works in Inuvik, NWT as an Adult Educator at Aurora College’s Aurora Campus Inuvik Learning Centre. As an alumnus of ST. FX, Suzanne completed a Master’s of Adult Education researching film and community and is currently pursuing her PhD through the University of Essex on the same topic. Suzanne is also President of the NET Literacy Council and is an active literacy volunteer and advocate.

Imara Rolstan
Oxfam Canada
Canada

Imara Rolston’s work has been both international and local with foci that move back and forth between restorative justice, community mobilization, HIV/AIDS interventions and gender equality. His local work in restorative justice focused on working with a Toronto-based organization to promote alternative dispute practices for youth. In his work, he employed community mediation, conflict resolution, and talking circle practice. His international work has focused on both HIV/AIDS and Gender. Imara worked for close to three years on HIV/AIDS initiatives in Botswana. His work placed him at different points in the national response from national capacity building organizations, to community based family planning organizations, and on to a national faith based organization implementing HIV/AIDS counseling, testing and OVC initiatives. While gender via anti oppression has always been a focus of his work, gender has taken particular focus in his current work with Oxfam Canada as the Program Development Officer for the Horn and East Africa. In this role, Imara is responsible a 5-year Engendering Change program that accompanies organizations that have invested in an organizational transformation and development process that will ultimately encourage greater gender equality and strengthen women’s rights. His educational background is in political science, writing, and adult education and community development.

Cormac Russell
ABCD Institute, Northwestern University
United States of America

Cormac Russell is a Faculty member of the ABCD Institute and an Associate Faculty member of the National College of Ireland. He is a qualified civil and commercial mediator accredited by Friarylaw and the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Group where he leads the Degree Program in Active Citizenship for Social Change. He is the Managing Director of Nurture Development, which has an office in Dublin, Ireland and Nairobi, Kenya. Nurture Development was established in Ireland in 1996 to provide training, research, community building, facilitation and conflict mitigation services to the Third (Community and Voluntary), the Public and the Private sectors respectively. Over the last decade, Nurture Development has worked with local authorities, community groups, businesses

and other statutory and voluntary agencies to develop workable and cost effective solutions to some of the most pressing social and economic challenges they face. The organization focuses on developing new ideas and strategies which are not needs-based or funding-led, but instead use assets more effectively and promote citizen-led initiatives. These are approaches that support communities to actively engage in a democratic and inclusive way in co-producing stronger, safer and healthier neighbourhoods within villages, towns and cities in urban and rural areas.

Natasha Sawh
Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation
Canada

Natasha is Manager for the Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation's Global Partnership Program. She has worked in both the not-for-profit and public sectors and has a strong interest in working with youth and diasporic/transnational communities. She has considerable experience in the selection and stewardship of exceptional young leaders from her time as Director of Programs at the Canadian Merit Scholarship Foundation. Her experience working in policy research environments include positions at the Policy Research Initiative of the Privy Council Office in Ottawa and the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation's research department in Montreal. Natasha's volunteer commitments have included organizing community events as part of a women of colour collective, fundraising for a freedom school to build community organizing skills among Aboriginal youth and youth of colour, and working on a crisis and referral line for a sexual assault centre. She has degrees from McGill University and McMaster University and has lived in Ottawa, Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton and Singapore.

Paul Shakotko
United Way Halifax
Canada

Since 2005, Paul has been leading United Way of Halifax Region's Action for Neighbourhood Change initiative, which strives to build stronger, more vibrant communities from the inside out. Paul's mantra is "when neighbours know neighbours, neighbourhoods are healthier, safer and more active places to live." In this capacity, Paul works with community leaders, elected officials, businesses and police to create a stronger community. Prior to the United Way, Paul was a leading manager with the Resort Municipality of Whistler, focused on strategic planning and partnership building. He contributed to the winning bid for the 2010 Olympic Games and the award winning Whistler 2020 comprehensive community plan. His early career included a number of environmental and community planning positions. With 20 years work experience, Paul is a provisional planner with the Canadian Institute of Planners, has an economics degree from the University of Western Ontario and a MSc. from the University of Toronto.

Naresh Singh
Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
Canada

Dr. Singh is the Director General, Strategic Planning and Coordination, of CIDA's Canadian Partnership Branch. He has had a distinguished career in international development including work in more than 40 countries. Prior to his current posting at CIDA, he was Executive Director of the UN Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor from March 2006 to July 2008. He also served as Director General of Governance and Social Development at CIDA, and from 1996 to 2001, he was a Principal Advisor on Poverty and Sustainable Livelihoods at the Bureau for Development Policy at the UNDP. This position followed his three-year tenure as the Director of the Poverty and Empowerment Program at the International Institute for Sustainable Development in Winnipeg. Dr. Singh is known worldwide for his advocacy work on the model of Sustainable Livelihoods. He has published six books, many book chapters and numerous articles related to the environment, poverty and sustainable livelihoods.

Alan Sloan
Alan Sloan Consulting and Facilitation
Canada

Alan Sloan is Owner, independent consultant and Executive Coach of Alan Sloan Consulting and Facilitation, living and working in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He provides services to governments, institutions, not-for-profit organizations, businesses and individuals. Alan is a recognized trainer and facilitator in community development and collaborative methodologies, utilizing World Café, Open Space Technology, ABCD, and Appreciative Inquiry in his work with many organizations and communities.

Ted Smeaton
Inspiring Communities Pty Ltd
Australia

Ted Smeaton has a background in citizen led development, community organizing, senior management and as a tertiary lecturer. He has been instrumental in establishing nine new community-based organizations and has developed a number of national programs throughout Australia. He has an extensive history in supporting Australian indigenous organizations and as Director of Inspiring Communities, he provides mentoring, facilitation and educational opportunities using ABCD tools. Inspiring Communities offers support to NGOs, communities and local, state and national governments in capacity building, innovation promotion, strategic planning, development skills, evaluation and community education.

Dang Kim Son
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Vietnam

Since 1997, Dr. Dang Kim Son has been working for the

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) in Vietnam as General Director of Institute of Policy and Strategy (2006-present); General Director of the Institute of Agricultural Economics (2005); Director of the Informatics Center (2004); Acting Director of the Information Center (2000-03) and Deputy Director General of the Agriculture and Rural Development Policy Department (1997-2000). He was a member of the Reviewing Committee for the Vietnam Development Report led by the World Bank in 2006 and 2008 and was on the steering committee of the Human Development Report of Social Academy supported by the UNDP. Dr. Son has published two books on farming systems research, one book on agriculture and industrialization in Vietnam, more than 20 articles in professional magazines, more than 20 papers in international workshops and conferences and a book entitled *“3 Mechanisms: The Market, The State and The Community, application for Vietnam.”* He has a PhD Agronomy and a Masters in Development Economics.

Christine Spinder
Facilitator, Trainer and Community Artist
Northern Canada

Christine Spinder is a facilitator, trainer and community artist for development and collaboration projects working in Northern Canada. She facilitated the Yukon’s first inclusive First Nations and Municipal Round Table for community dialogues, and is presently working with the Taku River Tlingit First Nation on engagement and cultural protocols for local governance. Transformational learning, social creativity, art and storytelling are core practices of her work.

Vic Tagupa
Sustainable Agriculture Centre
Philippines

Vic Tagupa is the Director of the Sustainable Agriculture Centre (SAC), Xavier University, Mindanao, Philippines. After attending a short course at the Coady International Institute, he began to integrate ABCD into an existing large scale initiative: Community-based Sustainable Agriculture Development Program (COMBASE) near Valencia City in Mindanao. This experience was documented in *“From Clients to Citizens: Communities changing the course of their own development. From DCBA to ABCD: The Potential for Strengthening Citizen Engagement with Local Government: A Case Study from Mindanao, Philippines.”* The SAC at Xavier University currently runs programs in asset based approaches to sustainable agriculture.

Maria Angela Villalba
Unlad Kabayan Migrant Services Foundation
Philippines

Maria Villalba graduated with a Bachelor in Social Work and a Masters in Management. Prior to her current position as Executive Director of UKMS Foundation, she was founder and Executive Director of the Asian Migrant Centre in Hong Kong. She was also instrumental in organizing and offering training

at the Christian Conference of Asia-Urban Rural Mission for Race and Minority Concerns and was a Coordinator of the Indigenous and Moro Communities Program for the National Council of Churches in the Philippines-People’s Action for Cultural Ties. In 2007, she was awarded “Social Entrepreneur of the Year” by Ernst and Young in recognition of her innovative strategy of Migrant Savings for Alternative Investments, which mobilized the assets and resources of migrant workers for local community development.

Nguyen Duc Vinh
Rural Community Development Center of the National Institute of Agricultural Planning and Projection
Vietnam

Nguyen Duc Vinh is a Researcher at the Rural Community Development Center of the National Institute of Agricultural Planning and Projection in Hanoi, Vietnam. He is currently working with a pilot project, which examines the value of an ABCD approach relative to other approaches in rural development in the Vietnamese context. Mr. Vinh has more than 10 years of experience in the development sector and has worked with various programs focusing on agriculture and reforestation, microcredit and livelihoods and education.

Tom Walsh
Just Us! Coffee Cooperative
Nova Scotia

Tom Walsh has a business background and is strongly inspired by Christian values of social justice. At the grassroots, he has worked for over 30 years with small farmer and indigenous producer groups in the Andes and Central America. In Canada, he has worked with Scarboro Missions and the Coady Institute. More recently, he has become Acting CEO of “Just Us! Coffee Cooperative,” based in Nova Scotia, which provides quality organic and Fair Trade products from all over the world. His work and interests align with people and approaches that work to reduce poverty and increase peace in the world.

Waikwa Wanyoike
Lawyer
Canada

Waikwa Wanyoike practices law in Toronto, with an emphasis on criminal, immigration and refugee law. He also provides consulting services on legal, regulatory, human rights and advocacy issues. Waikwa has a wealth of experience advocating for vulnerable persons in social, political and legal contexts. He is one of the Founding members of Kenya Diaspora for Peace and Development and has worked for Kenya’s Citizens Coalition for Constitutional Change, National Convention Executive Council and the Kenya Human Rights Commission. He has also served in various capacities with numerous community organizations assisting immigrants in Canada. Waikwa studied at Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya, and has a Bachelor of Arts degree from York University in Toronto, Canada. He received his Bachelor of Laws from Queen’s University in Kingston, Canada. He was called to the bar in

Ontario and is a member of the Law Society of Upper Canada. He is also a member of the Canadian Bar Association, Ontario Bar Association, the Advocates Society and the Refugee Lawyers Association.

Byron White
Community Building Institute
United States of America

As a veteran journalist and administrator in corporate, non-profit and academic arenas, Byron White has spent his career facilitating mutually beneficial engagement and understanding between institutions and communities. Byron is Director of the Community Building Collaborative at Xavier University, where he coordinates initiatives that foster civic collaboration throughout the region. Until June 2002, Byron was senior manager of community relations for the Chicago Tribune, where he oversaw community engagement strategies and diversity marketing efforts. His work earned him the Newspaper Association of America's prestigious "20 Under 40" leadership award. Byron had previously served as editor of the Tribune's Urban Affairs Team and as an editorial writer. He was also the editorial page editor of The Cincinnati Post. Between newspaper stints, he served as executive director of the Conference of Walnut Hills Churches, a coalition of 18 congregations in Cincinnati's Walnut Hills neighborhood that worked together on housing and education initiatives. He was also a consultant to community organizations on Chicago's West Side and in other cities, working in conjunction with the Asset-Based Community Development Institute at Northwestern University, on whose faculty he serves. Byron has a Master of Arts degree in Social Science from the University of Chicago, where he received a Trustees Fellowship, and a Bachelor of Science in Journalism from the Honors Tutorial College at Ohio University. He continues to publish articles and consult with community groups and media organizations on community-media relations, asset-based community development, diversity marketing and other issues.

Jane Worton
Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria
Canada

Jane Worton has over a decade of experience of paid work and a lifetime of participation in the non-profit sector, primarily in citizen-led community development initiatives. She has also worked in the private sector conducting market research and program evaluation. Ms. Worton is currently employed as the Research Director with the Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria. She has a Masters degree in Studies in Policy and Practice from the University of Victoria, focused on civic engagement processes for people living on low and limited incomes. Over the past seven years, she has had the opportunity to think about, talk about and test a range of inclusion policies and practices through "Vibrant Communities," a pan-Canadian poverty reduction initiative.

Adisa Lansah Yakubu
Africa 2000 Network
Ghana

Adisa Lansah Yakubu is a Social Development Specialist and Teacher by training and the Executive Director of Africa 2000 Network-Ghana. Though passionate about teaching, she chose to pursue a career where she could help improve the life of women and became Assistant Regional Officer for the National Council on Women and Development for the Northern Region. While at the Council, she completed a course in Social Development at the Coady International Institute, which inspired the establishment of a locally-managed adult literacy school, which is ongoing to this day. In her current posting, Ms Yakubu places special emphasis on practically demonstrating policies that have positive impacts on the people with whom she is working and on supporting community-based groups in self-initiated activities. To this effect, she has adopted a number of tools from the ABCD approach, which she learned by completing the ABCD certificate course at the Coady Institute in 2004.

Dixon Yasay
Municipality of Opol
Philippines

Since 2001, Dixon Yasay has worked as an incumbent Municipal Mayor of Opol, Misamis Oriental in the Philippines. He is also President and National Presidential Assistant of Policy Development on the League of the Municipalities of the Philippines, acting on behalf of the National President in all matters relating to Policy Development. He is a Faculty Member/Lecturer of the Mayors' Development Center; the Philippines Public Safety College; PNP Regional Training School and the Expanded Tertiary Equivalency Education Program of Local Government Academy and Northern Mindanao Polytechnic College. He also works part time as a Faculty member of the Graduate School of Xavier University.

Bill Young
Social Capital Partners
Canada

Bill Young is the President of Social Capital Partners (SCP), a company he founded in 2001. SCP is a social venture capital company whose primary goal is to prove that businesses with a financial and a social purpose can succeed at both. The company provides attractive financing to a variety of businesses that employ disadvantaged populations as part of their human resources strategy. SCP facilitates the recruitment of these individuals and ensures they have the appropriate skills to be successful employees. Before founding SCP, Bill worked for approximately twenty years in the private sector primarily as CEO of Hamilton Computers and Optel Communications Corp. He began his career as a Chartered Accountant and holds an Honours BA from the University of Toronto and an MBA from Harvard. Bill currently sits on the Boards of Inner City Renovations, Ecotrust Canada Capital and on a number of Advisory Boards.

Igniting Leadership for 50 years, the **Coady International Institute** works with innovative people and organizations to create effective, practical and sustainable solutions to reduce global poverty and injustice. The Coady accomplishes this through leadership education, action partnerships and research. The Institute also engages in initiatives to help young Canadians become active global citizens. Today, more than 5,000 Coady graduates and partners are working with millions of people in 130 countries to build a fairer, more prosperous and secure world.

Established by St. Francis Xavier University in 1959, and celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, the Institute is named for one of Canada's great heroes, Rev. Dr. Moses Coady, one of the founders of the Antigonish Movement and author of *Masters of their Own Destiny*. To find out more, visit www.coady.stfx.ca.

The **Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) Institute** is co-directed by John L. McKnight and his long-time collaborator in community research, John P. Kretzmann. Challenging the traditional approach to solving urban problems, which focuses service providers and funding agencies on the needs and deficiencies of neighborhoods, Kretzmann and McKnight have demonstrated that community assets are key building blocks in sustainable urban and rural community revitalization efforts.

As a result of the widespread interest in the principles and practices associated with ABCD, the institute has developed a faculty of 35 highly skilled practitioners who have worked as consultants, workshop leaders, and speakers for the many and diverse constituencies interested in this approach. Many of these faculty members have contributed to a series of ABCD community-building workbooks and various related publications, which have helped to spread the word and share examples of asset-based community development in action. The workbooks provide practical resources and tools for community builders to identify, nurture, and mobilize neighborhood assets.

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