



Taking stock and reflecting: Service overview

We know that great organizations regularly take stock on how they are doing and adjust accordingly. The same is true for when we work collaboratively across different organizations and jurisdictions. Yet, so often, we simply move on without stopping to reflect

It's a wasted opportunity when we don't pause because we'll never know if we're actually making progress on the outcomes we're striving for. Plus we fail to build our capacity to better solve tough problems together – now, and next time around.

Options for working together

Do it yourself -- with support. You get worksheets and templates for taking stock of your effort along with a phone call with **envision**, where we'll walk through all the materials.

Get full, external expertise in partnering with envision. This option frees you from the nitty gritty of the review and enables you to learn alongside us. In this option, **envision** works with you to:

- Figure out questions you want to answer, or how you believe the change is occurring!
- Determine the best way to collect information (ask, watch or talk to people)
- Collect the needed information and data – for example: through focus groups, administering questionnaires, or watching the collaborative function
- Analyze the information, including leading any workshops where you can grapple with the meaning of the results
- Document the findings from the review

Build your capacity: In this option you participate in on-line or in-person workshops where you learn techniques and approaches for conducting a review or an evaluation of your collaborative effort.

Don't see the right option, get in touch and we will figure out the right approach for your situation. Contact us: charlotte@envision-synergy.net or at 416-778-4713. We would love to support you in evaluating and taking stock of your collaborative work!

¹Often called a 'theory of change' or 'logic model' or similar mapping tool.



Example projects

“Where from here” for a wellness centre?

After a few years of operations, a wellness centre decided it was time to step back and take stock of its operations to both continue their momentum and to increase their intentions to work collectively to better serve their diverse clientele.

envision, working with Social Impact Squared, led research and a focus group to assess progress and setbacks in the Centre’s operation. Results pointed to collaboration options requiring lower to higher degrees of commitment.²

Unified voice for environmental policy change

Although we know that working together ultimately creates more impact, actually doing that work can be challenging. **envision** assessed the effectiveness of a collaborative working towards presenting a unified voice for the Green Prosperity Initiative. This work included creating and implementing an electronic survey and conducting focus groups. The results were recommendations to improve future collaboration efforts among environmental non-governmental organizations in Ontario.³

Multi-sectoral partnering: “Protecting our Environment Together”

When environmental groups begin to work beyond their peers, greater results can happen. In this project, **envision** evaluated the workings and on-goings of six different partnerships involving an environmental non-profit (ENGO) and another organization, such as a railroad or faith organization.⁴ Results described the existing strengths and challenges and pointed the way for success in future partnerships.

envision SYNERGY – environmental solutions, together – amplifies the effectiveness of groups, organizations and companies working for healthy air, land, water and communities.

Along the way, **envision** builds strong organizations that can effectively carry out their work for greater positive impact and are well poised for collaborative approaches.

Charlotte Young, Ph.D., an environmental psychologist, leads **envision**.

²Client: Peel Senior Link; Region of Peel

³Client: Environmental Defence Canada

⁴Client: Hamilton Community Foundation