

Journeys to Active Citizenship: Promoting a Community of Practice through Civic Engagement

November 25, 2024

Pathways to Prosperity 2024 National Conference



Territorial Acknowledgement



Agenda

Today, you will...

- Understand what the Journeys to Active Citizenship project is
- Understand how the Community of Practice is important to JAC
- Understand how JAC has created a Community of Practice
- Share how you build community in your own work

Team Introductions

Project Partners



North York
Community
House



Funded by:



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Financé par :

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada



We would like to get to know you!

In the chat, please share:

- what your name is
- where you are located
- who you serve
- what services you provide that encourage civic engagement

Project Introduction and Overview

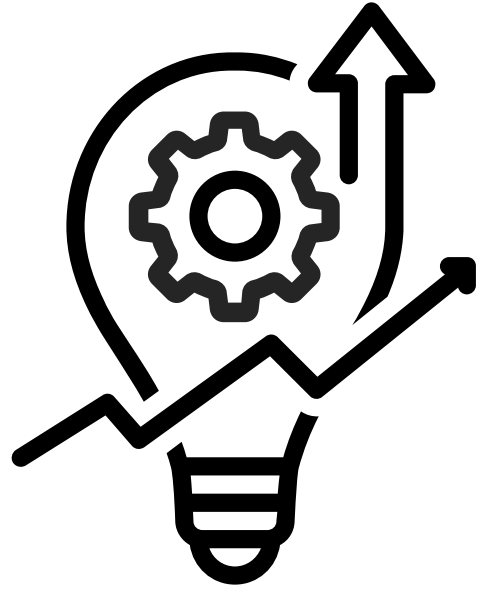


“Journeys” to Active Citizenship

Journeys to “Active Citizenship”

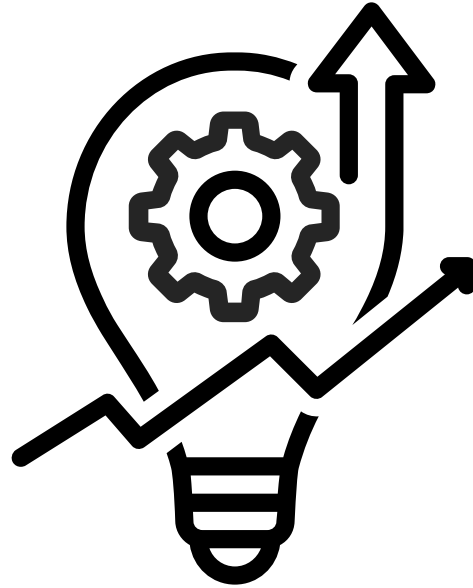
Fostering a more inclusive Canada

Fostering a more inclusive Canada

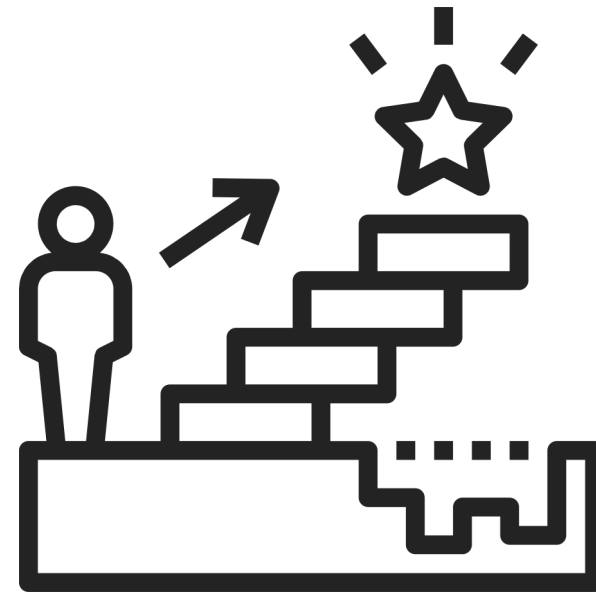


- Enhance capacity for inclusive civic engagement programming

Fostering a more inclusive Canada

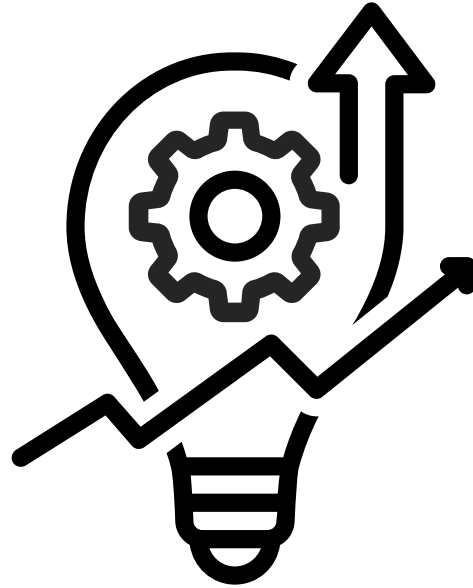


- Enhance capacity for inclusive civic engagement programming

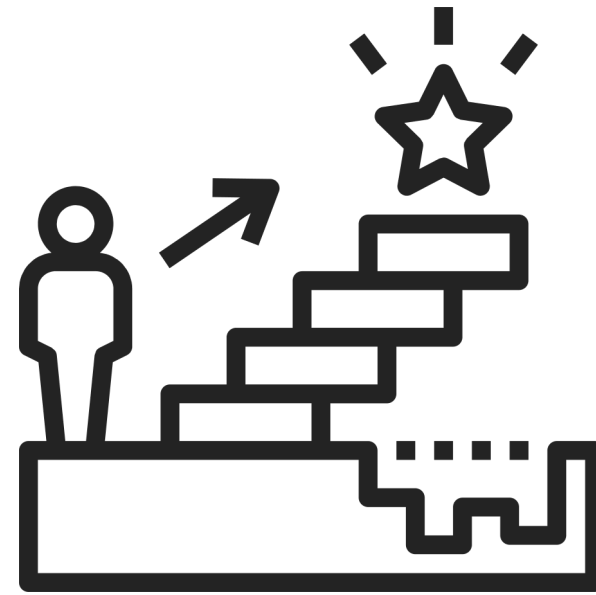


- Create opportunities to develop civic skills

Fostering a more inclusive Canada



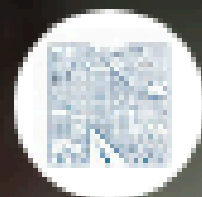
- Enhance capacity for inclusive civic engagement programming



- Create opportunities to develop civic skills



- Build skills, knowledge, confidence, and connections for active citizenship



Our Community Through Our Lens: A Journeys to Active Citizenship Program



Share

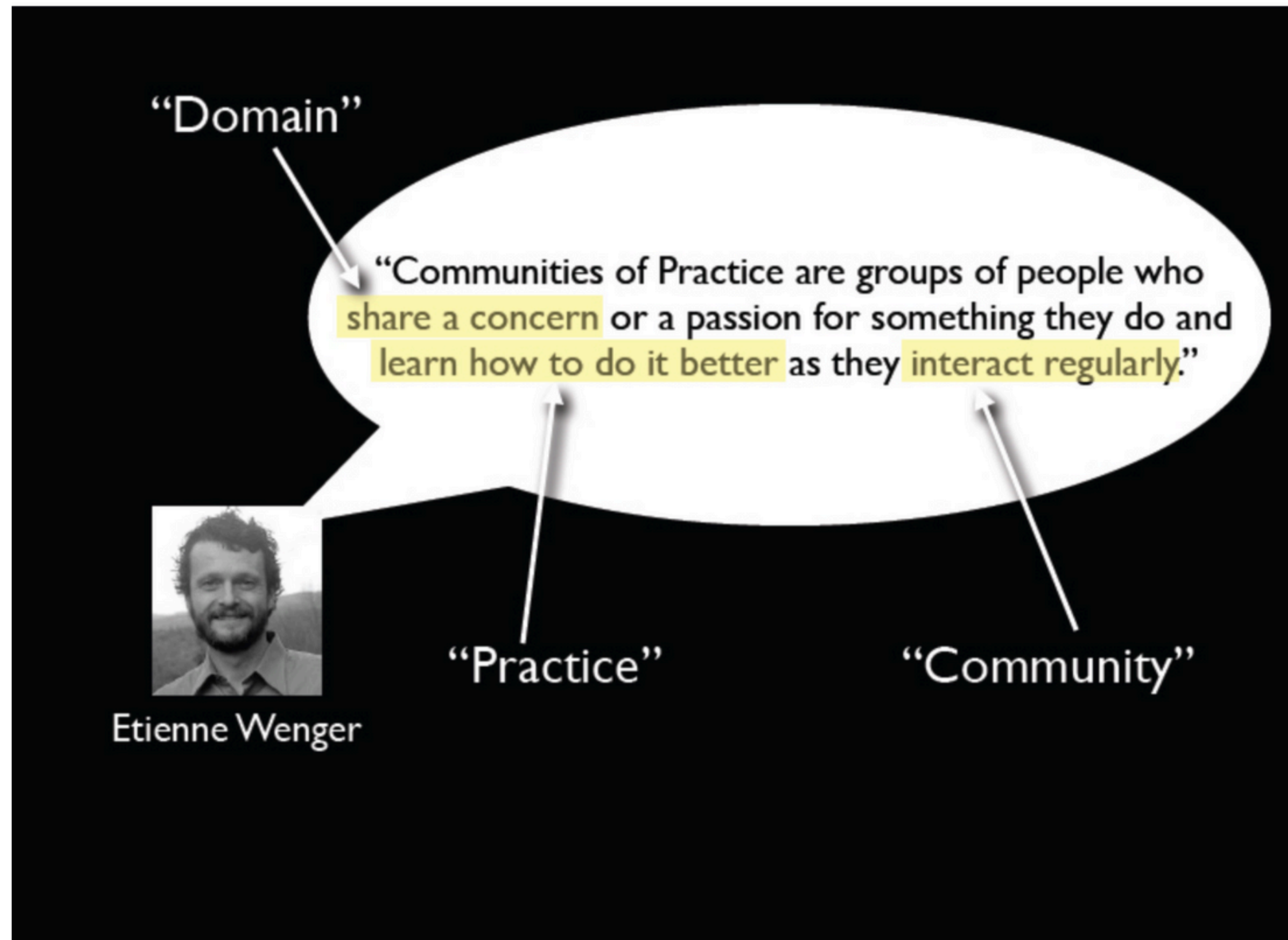


Watch on  YouTube

What is a Community of Practice (CoP)?



Community of Practice



Source: CommunityOfPractice.ca

Domain: Community members have a shared domain of interest, competence and commitment that which distinguishes them from others.

Community: Members who pursue interest through joint activities, discussions, problem-solving opportunities, information sharing and relationship building.

Practice: Community members are actual practitioners in this domain of interest, and build a shared repertoire of resources and ideas that they take back to their practice.

- **Educate**
- **Peer to peer connections**
- **Support and encourage**
- **Collective responsibility**

**Why have a
Community of
Practice?**



How did we build the Community of Practice (CoP)?



How did we build the CoP?

Design Jams

- Summer 2022
- Convening sector leaders
- Addressing barriers and addressing them through Civic Engagement programming



Design jam in Thunder Bay, ON



How did we build the CoP?

Piloting

- 13 Agencies in 8 cities
- 62 practitioners
- 1,000+ participants
- Building curriculum based on their input



A piloting training session in Richmond Hill, ON



How did we build the CoP?

Roundtables

- Annual
- Highlighting voices of immigrant civic engagement
- Collective problem-solving
- Regular webinars
- Upcoming conference: February 2025



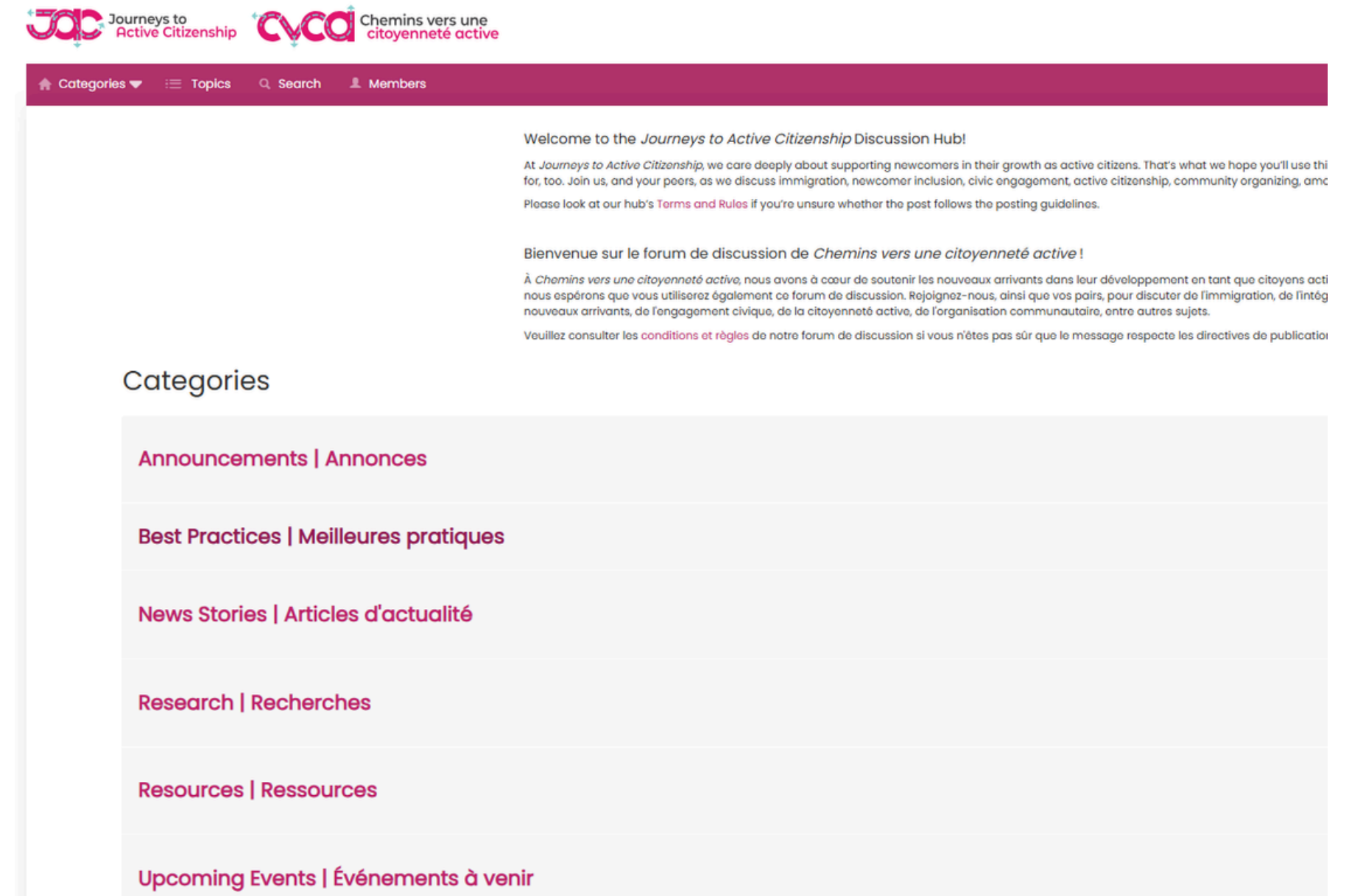
Elamin Abdelmehmoud speaking at JAC's 2022 Roundtable



How did we build the CoP?

Discussion Hub

- Online forum to convene the CoP
- Best practices, announcements, resource-sharing



What did we learn?



What did we learn?

The appetite is there. Capacity isn't always.

- Civic engagement isn't always a priority.
- We need to show they're doing it already.
- Civic engagement needs to be integrated into the work that's already happening.



What did we learn?

Clients are interested in willing, but may need to build confidence first.

- Civic engagement can be seen as risky.
- Confidence needs to be built up.
- The program needs to create community.



What did we learn?

A self-sustaining practitioner network is needed.

- Civic engagement can be seen as risky.
- Confidence needs to be built up.
- The program needs to create community.



What gets you to join a Community of Practice? What gets you stay in it?

Staying Connected



@JourneystoAC



journeystoactivecitizenship.ca



SettleNet.org: Journeys to Active Citizenship



pbishop@nych.ca

