



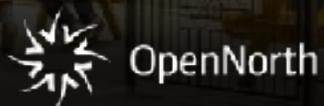
COMMUNITY Solutions Network

Program Impact and Overview

Project lead:



Lead technical partner:



With funding provided by:



Infrastructure
Canada

Canada



We connect, collaborate and catalyze ideas into actions that will shape our cities for the better.

Since 1991, we've been facilitating change. We work with other community builders to create and apply urban development solutions to make our cities more livable, green and prosperous.

Future Cities Canada is the collaborative platform of Evergreen that accelerates the innovation our cities need.

evergreen.ca

Evergreen works to make cities and communities flourish.





OpenNorth

Founded in 2011, Open North is Canada's leading non-for-profit organization specialized in open smart cities, data governance and management, open government, data sharing partnerships, digital inclusion, open procurement, and AI ethics.

We work with public, private and research partners as well as community stakeholders to foster efficient, responsible, and collaborative use of data and technology and solve complex problems. We cultivate peer-to-peer networking on data & tech, both nationally and globally, to magnify our collective impact. We build communities of practice and connect public administrators, researchers, civic leaders and leading thinkers & practitioners.

opennorth.ca

We work with Canada's most innovative and connected communities.

COMMUNITY Solutions Network

A Program of Future Cities Canada

The Community Solutions Network is designed to help communities build service area capacity and improve the lives of residents using data and connected technology approaches.

As the project lead, Evergreen works with lead technical partner Open North and other specialized partners to help communities navigate the smart cities landscape. Our focus includes topics such as open data and data sharing, data governance, procurement, and participatory collaboration.

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A VISION FOR COMMUNITIES

An **Open Smart City** is where residents, civil society, academics, and the private sector collaborate with public officials to mobilize data and technologies when warranted in an ethical, accountable and transparent way to govern the city as a fair, viable and liveable commons; and balance economic development, social progress and environmental responsibility.

Open Smart Cities Guide, by Lauriault T, Bloom R, & Landry J, 2018.

WHAT WE DO:

1

We make information about smart cities issues and approaches available and accessible to everyone.

- Provide personalized advice; and
- Share knowledge, lessons learned and best practices across Canada and around the world. (ex. security, data, governance, procurement, public engagement)

2

We help communities talk to the right people and find the right partners.

- Engage communities and stakeholders from all sectors through new and existing networks; and
- Facilitate connections and partnerships between and among communities and stakeholders.



HOW WE CREATE IMPACT

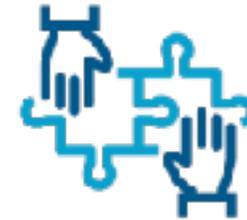
IN COMMUNITIES

1



Advisory Services

Bring together a group of local governments working collaboratively to design and deliver concrete digital transformation solutions.



New Partnerships

Help communities talk to the right people and find the right partners.



Knowledge-sharing

Make information about smart cities issues and approaches available and accessible to everyone via the Community Solutions Portal, Canada's largest collection of smart cities resources.



Match Making

Actively facilitate productive connections between stakeholders and communities.



Building Awareness

Build awareness of and stimulate broad discussion on complex emerging smart cities issues.



Creating Networks

Create and maintain open platforms and lasting relationships where stakeholders and communities can actively engage with each other.

2

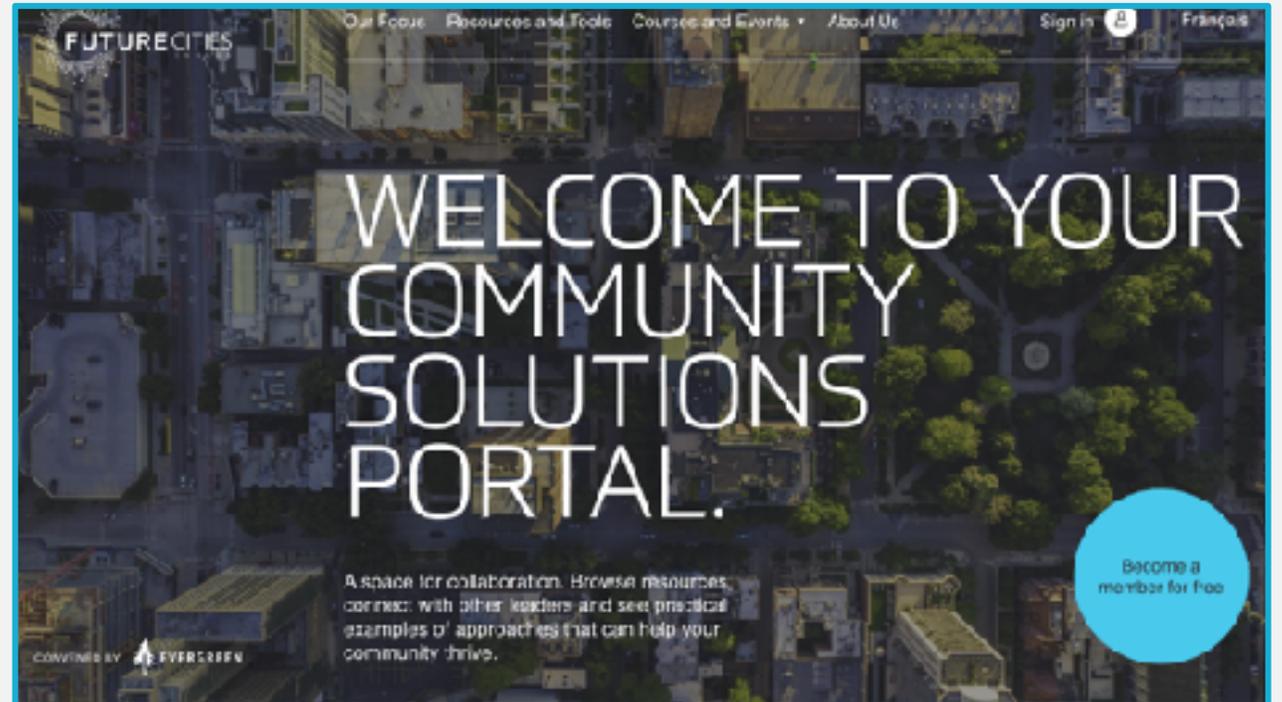
HOW WE CREATE IMPACT

IN COMMUNITIES

COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS PORTAL

Canada's largest curated online collection of smart city resources, the Portal provides access to case studies, reports, research briefs, toolkits, podcasts, webinars, plus the inspiration and examples of approaches that can help your community thrive. **Sign up to access all resources at no-cost.**

communitysolutionsnetwork.ca



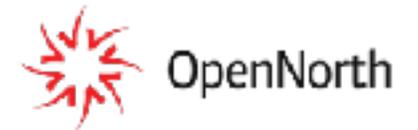
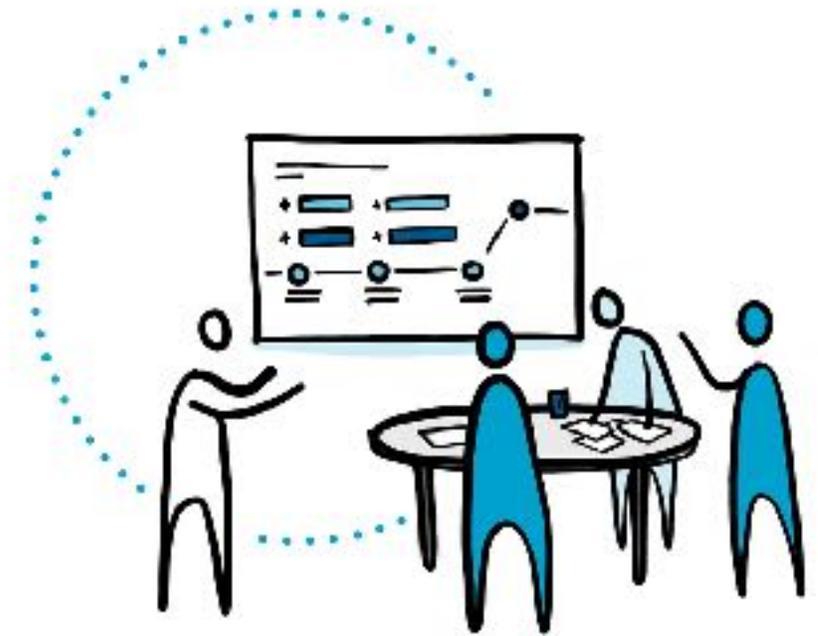
INNOVATION WORKSHOPS

This series of virtual regional events bring together municipalities, Indigenous communities, municipal networks, academics, and subject-matter experts to connect, share, and ask questions around how to best use data, tools and processes to advance action on emerging issues around climate adaptation and resilience, smart energy and broadband connectivity.



ADVISORY SERVICES

Delivered by lead technical partner Open North, our advisory services have a new offering. The Community of Practice aims to create a collaborative and cooperative space for communities across local governments focused on building better digital experiences in government. Members have access to tools, experts, and a network of peers to develop digital initiatives focused on technology and data for the public good.



COLLISION DAYS

Virtual Collision Days are match-making and capacity-building events that connect emerging technology companies with community leaders. Through these regionally-focused events, start-ups will get the valuable feedback so critical in the early development stages, while community leaders will have the chance to preview the technologies under development that may help serve the needs of their residents.



THE FUTURE FIX PODCAST

The Future Fix: Solutions for Communities Across Canada explores how data and tech are transforming communities across Canada. Each episode delves into an idea or innovation that seeks to address a community challenge – from disaster mitigation to broadband access to public transportation in the suburbs. The Future Fix is a collaboration between Evergreen and Spacing Radio.



PRACTITIONER'S TOOLKITS

Community Solutions Network toolkits provide accessible and practical knowledge sharing tools to develop innovation capacity and help communities across Canada with their smart city projects. The series of toolkits is designed to assist municipal staff and community and Indigenous leaders on specific topics such as community broadband, public engagement and community resilience.



COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS ACROSS CANADA

- ENGAGED COMMUNITIES
- EVENT PARTICIPATION
- NETWORK ENGAGEMENTS
(PROV-MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATIONS, etc.)
- ADVISORY SERVICES DELIVERED
- ONLINE ENGAGEMENTS

50+
EVENTS & VIRTUAL
EVENTS ACROSS
CANADA

310+
MUNICIPALITIES &
INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

350+
PARTNERSHIPS &
ENGAGEMENTS

2,500+
NATIONAL SUMMIT PARTICIPANTS

110K+
ONLINE ENGAGEMENTS
(SOCIAL MEDIA, NEWSLETTER, etc.)

FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNITIES

“

It is great to have these events that provide opportunities to get feedback and get to know other practitioners across the province and across the country.”

– **Jacob Porter, Climate Adaptation Coordinator, City of Thunder Bay**

“

We are not alone in this! The opportunity to network was probably the best learning experience we had. Having the camaraderie and the fellowship that comes out of connecting with likeminded communities is instrumental towards providing a common voice for the medium to low population and density demographics.”

– **Joe Moses, Economic Development Advisor to Netmizaaggamig Nishnaabeg**

“

The Open North Advisory Services team was super organized and followed up with us with a post-briefing report, resources and links – every meeting was executed really well. I couldn't have asked for more. It was hugely beneficial for us.”

– **Laurie Guthrie, Civic Innovation Strategist, City of Fredericton**

Canada's largest curated collection of smart city resources: communitysolutionsnetwork.ca

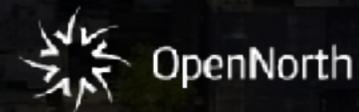
For the latest news and resources follow us on Twitter: [@FutureCitiesCA](https://twitter.com/FutureCitiesCA)

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Lead technical partner:



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