

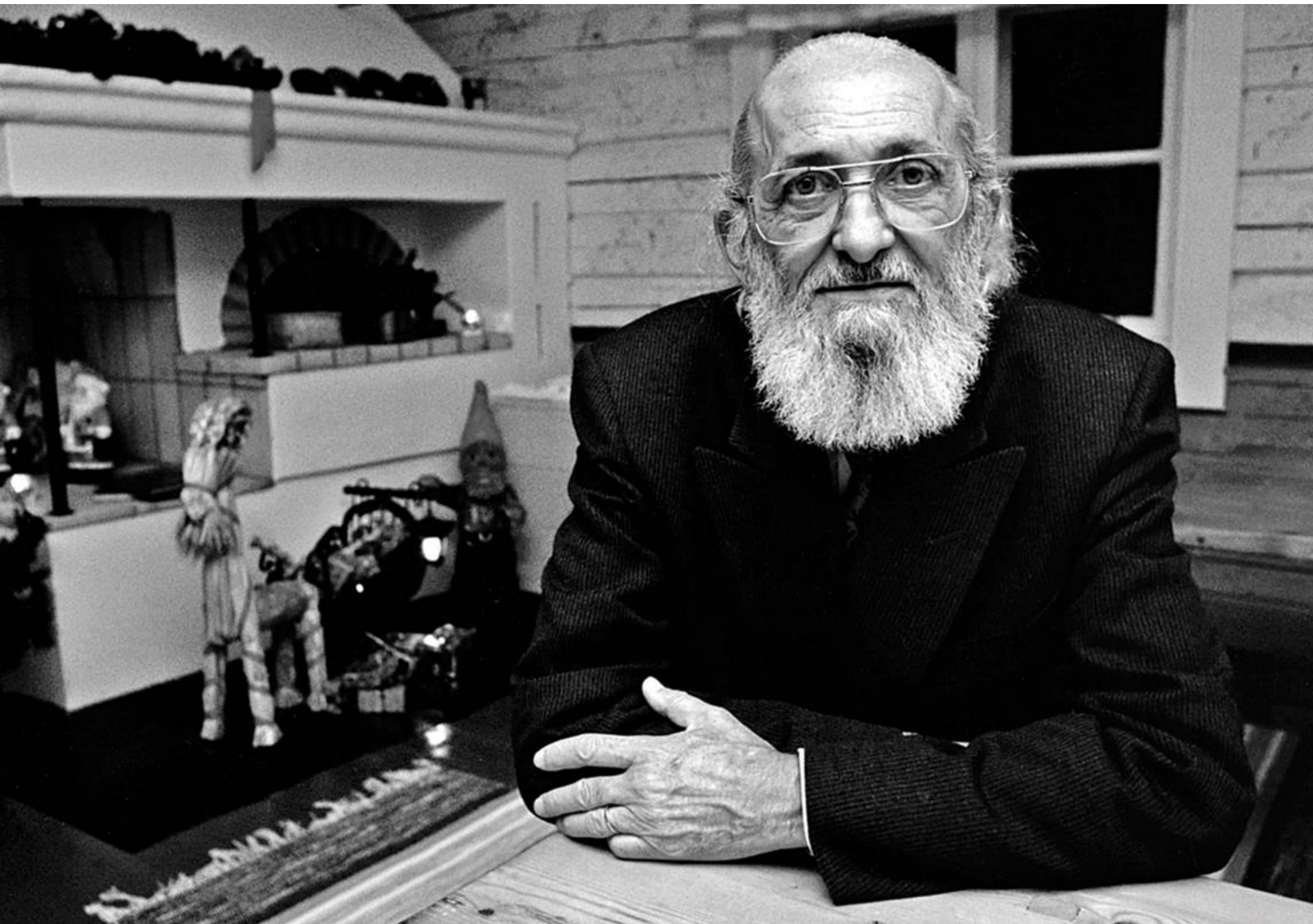


Engaging Students in Social Innovation Labs: Ethical and equity dimensions of community academic partnerships

Presented by:

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Community at the forefront.

We need to stimulate a critical and tangible understanding of the “real world,” a “problem-posing” method of teaching, that is not bound by a strict teacher-student dynamic, but is instead, a model that encourages mutual learning and growth (Paulo Freire, 1968/2005)

Social Innovation

- An initiative, product or process or program that profoundly changes basic routines, resource and authority flows or beliefs of any social system (Westley, 2008).
- A replicable and scalable initiative that is rooted in participatory practice to enable a more equitable distribution of power. This nature moves from a model where the solution lies in the professional-based expertise, towards a model that is community-engaged and sustainable. (Castro and Duque, 2020)
- A novel solution to a social problem that is more effective, efficient, sustainable, or just than existing solutions and for which the value created accrues primarily to society as a whole rather than private individuals” (Phills, Deiglmeier & Miller, 2008, p. 36).

#CreateHope Campaign



www.bridgeforhealth.org

@Bridge4Health

Social Innovation Labs

Wascher et al. (2018) SI labs have five key features which include:

- Offer physical spaces, structure, resources and processes for experimentation
- Use innovative methods to facilitate the co-creation of novel solutions
- Focus on complex societal problems
- Engage multiple stakeholders across sectors
- Create ‘practice inventions’ as prototypes

Social innovation labs at higher education institutions-interdisciplinary research and educational programs that engage academics and expertise of stakeholders in community

Health Change Lab



Situated in the City of Surrey, on the traditional territories of the Semiahmoo, Kwikwetlem, Qayqayt, Kwantlen, Katzie, and Tsawwassen First Nations

A credit program in SFU's Entrepreneurship and Innovation Certificate
3 credit courses , one semester, 25 interdisciplinary students, 3 instructors

Health Change Lab

Frameworks & Approaches

1 Systems Thinking

2 Transdisciplinary Approach

3 Participatory Approach

4 Human-Centred Design

Engaging the Community



Priority Areas Fall 2016

Active Transportation

Healthy Ageing

Food Security

Chronic Disease Prevention

Mental Health & Substance Use

Cultural Safety

Sophia
Health
Sciences
BA stream
The Navigator

Kirsten
Business
Administration
The DJ

THE PIT CREW



Nazanin
Second
degree
student in SIAT
The Driver

Zeen
Kinesiology
The Terrified
Passenger



Free Traditional Lunch
Cooking Demonstrations & Samples
Activities for Children & Families
Aboriginal Performances
Information & Resources
Food Security Focus Groups

What Nourishes Us

Thrive!
Neighbourhood
Gathering

#NourishGuildford

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 10AM-2PM
 GUILDFORD PARK SECONDARY



Findings from Community Stakeholders



Students were an asset as they were working on the structure and social determinants of health issues



Opportunity of shifting the thinking for some community groups working on these challenges (across disciplines)



Timelines between community organizations and academic partners not aligned

11

Community Partners voices

“Students were building real connections with community groups.” (Interviewee 1)

“The biggest challenge was the timeline because students had to create something quickly, make connections, come up with the idea, and work it out.” (Interviewee 5)

Benefits for Students and Academic Institutions

Student Needs

- Work alongside community mentors
- Solving real-world problems
- Gaining practical and leadership skills
- Social connection and inclusion

Academic Agenda

- Experiential Learning
- Civic Engagement
- Build stronger ties with community and municipalities
- Attract more students

Barriers

- Time pressures for faculty to coordinate out of classroom activities to align with city goals
- Lack of coordination amongst city staff
- NO point person
- Difficulty navigating political culture
- Lack of any institutional support nor direction
- Lack of capacity of staff to work with students
- Lack of capacity of faculty to work with staff



A three year academic-community partnership between the City of Surrey, Simon Fraser University and Kwantlen Polytechnic University to support student experiential learning focused on Surrey priorities and challenges.

The Surrey CityLab envisions a city and community in which civic innovation is at the heart of student learning





Centered on promoting community-based experiential learning opportunities for students



Experimental in nature-focused on real world issues



Oriented toward system change



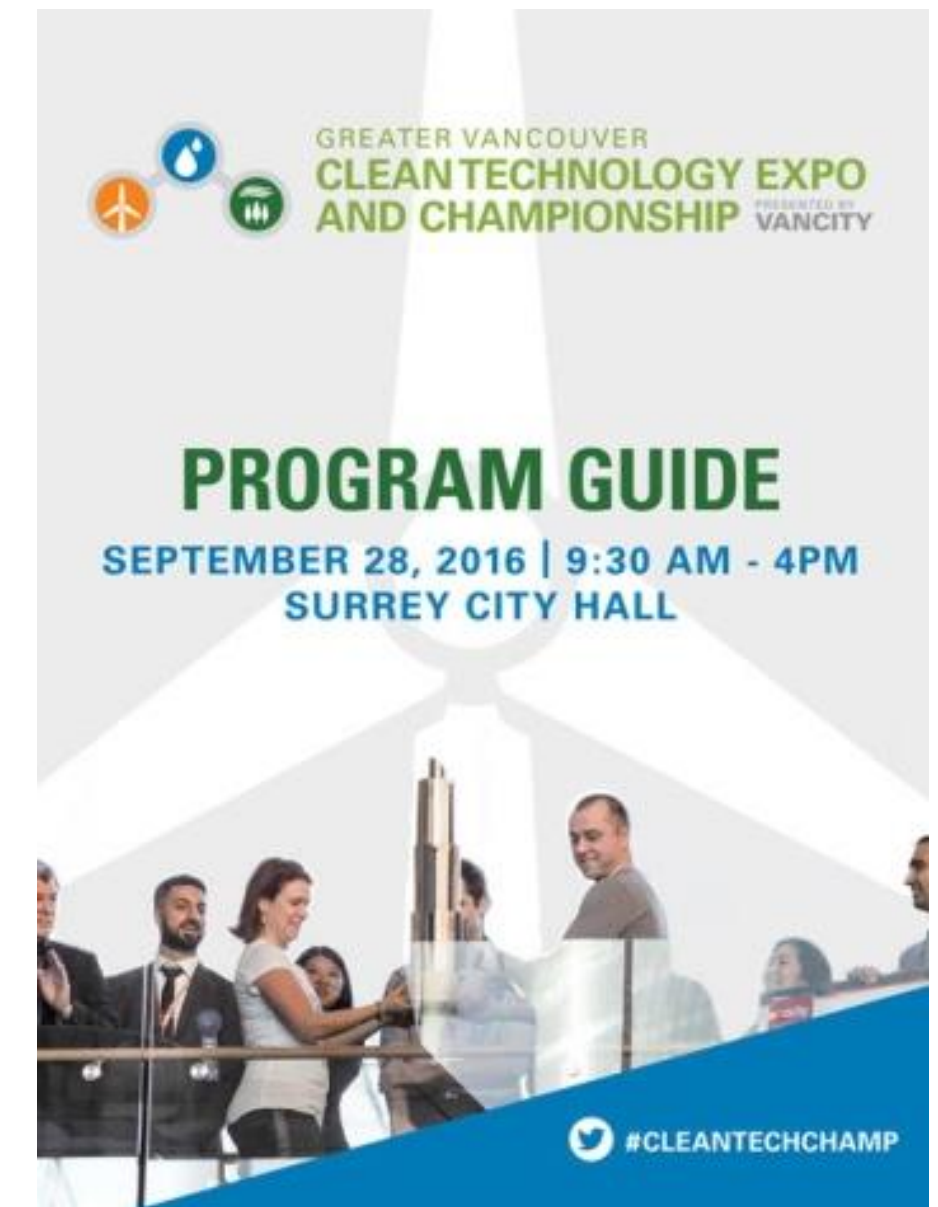
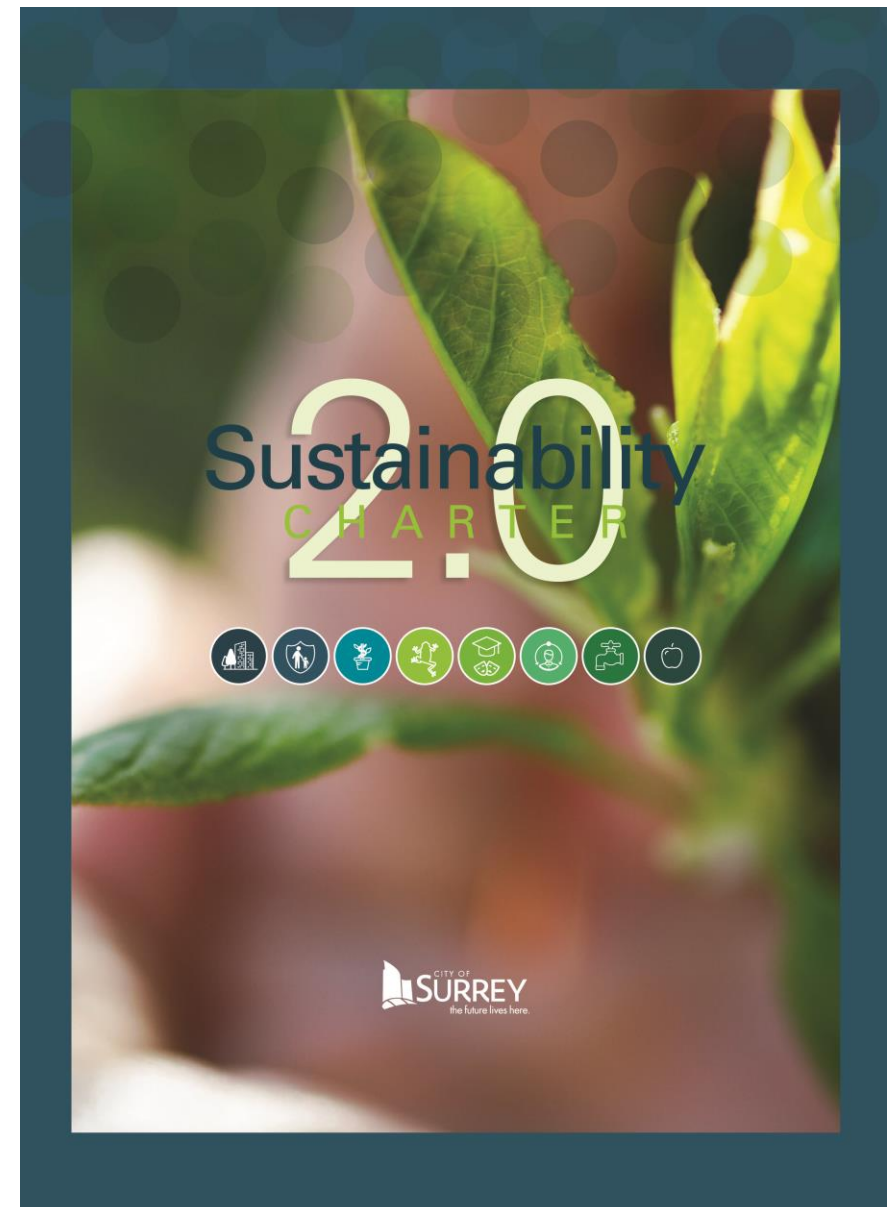
Aligned with City of Surrey's Sustainability Charter 2.0



Sustainability Charter 2.0

Links with Council & City Priorities

- Supports City priorities through student service, research and innovation
- Youth engagement, retention and employment
- Sustainability leadership
- Develop and maintain cooperative working relationships with universities



Surrey CityLab

British Columbia

SFU students create colouring book to help refugees feel at home



The authors wanted to make the book whimsical and fun as well as informative

Maggie MacPherson · CBC News · Posted: Nov 24, 2019 9:00 AM PT | Last Updated: November 24



Fatima Fadaie, 5, colours inside a book created by SFU students for refugees like herself. (Maggie MacPherson/CBC)


SFU student team participating in Surrey CityLab program in 2018 featured in media.




Civic-mindedness

“A person’s inclination or disposition to be knowledgeable of and involved in the community, and to have a commitment to act upon a sense of responsibility as a member of that community”

(Bringle and Steinberg, 2010, p. 429).


- Students reported acquiring practical knowledge and empathy by becoming more aware of issues and challenges faced at municipal level
 - “It provided us with an in-depth lens to learn about Surrey’s complex issues and the roles different stakeholders play. It was different than seeing it in the news or on social media platforms. I mean, I understand bureaucracies and byelaws now and this has made me more compassionate towards lawmakers and why they can’t do things as quick as we want them. ” (Voice 3)
- 



Application of knowledge

Students reported ability to apply past knowledge and gain deeper insights to the City of Surrey's complex problems including transportation challenges, social exclusion, as well as diverse and increasing refugee population.

"Our knowledge of social determinants of health helped us know what to consider. I mean issues like social isolation, chronic stress, equity etc. We talked with our course instructor, some of the community partners and Fraser health staff to consolidate our ideas. We also reached out to the refugee population to gain better insights about the health issues they wanted us to address." (Voice 4)



Guiding Questions



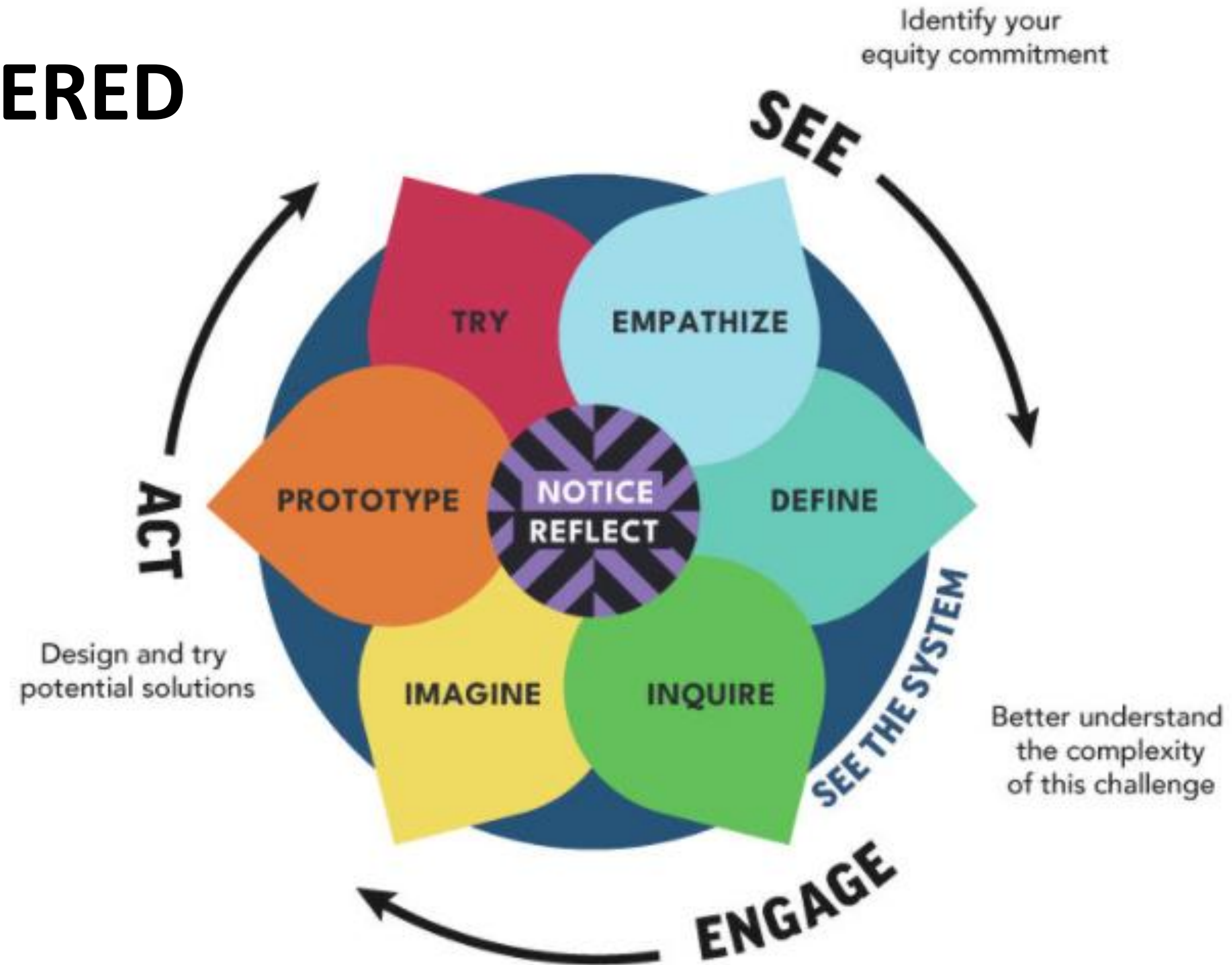
How do we work with community partners in a way that supports their priorities and meets their needs?

How do we build relationships and think through the ethical dimensions of our partnerships that need consideration, particularly when “doing no harm” in community work?



Ethical Principles in Community-Engaged Health Promotion Education,
(adapted from Mahoney et al. 2021)

EQUITY-CENTERED DESIGN



Source: (Anaissie et al., 2021) <https://www.liberatorydesign.com/>



What to Notice?

Identity: **Who** am I/we? Who are the potential people to be impacted by our design?

Power: How are we respectively situated (relative to opportunity, institutional and social power)?

Context: What is our situation, our equity challenges?

Partnership: Given the above, how can we create meaningful and authentic collaborations?

Intention: ... So that what we design generates increased equity

Art On the Go

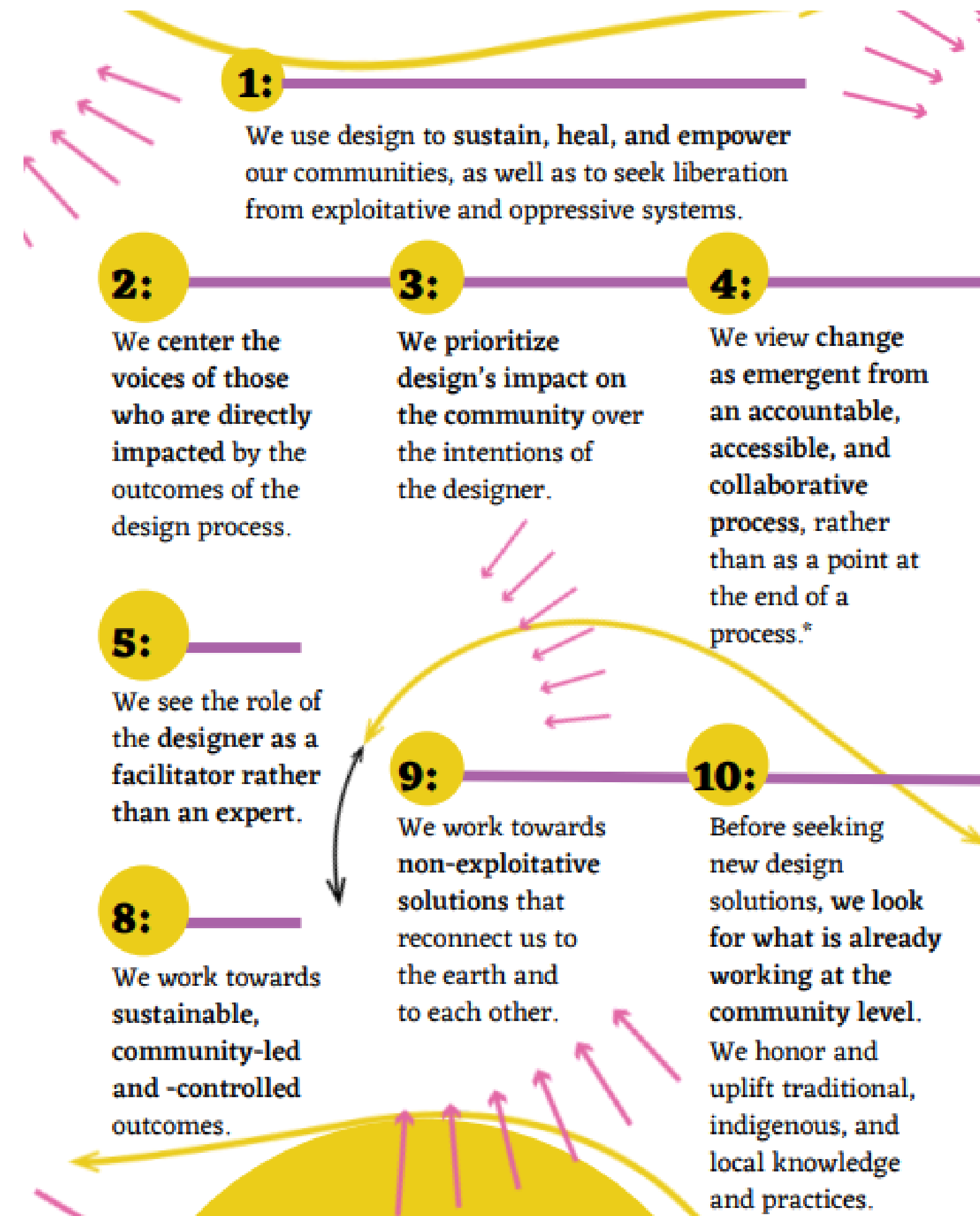
A partnership with Simon Fraser University and the Public Health Association of Canada



www.bridgeforhealth.org

Principles of Design Justice

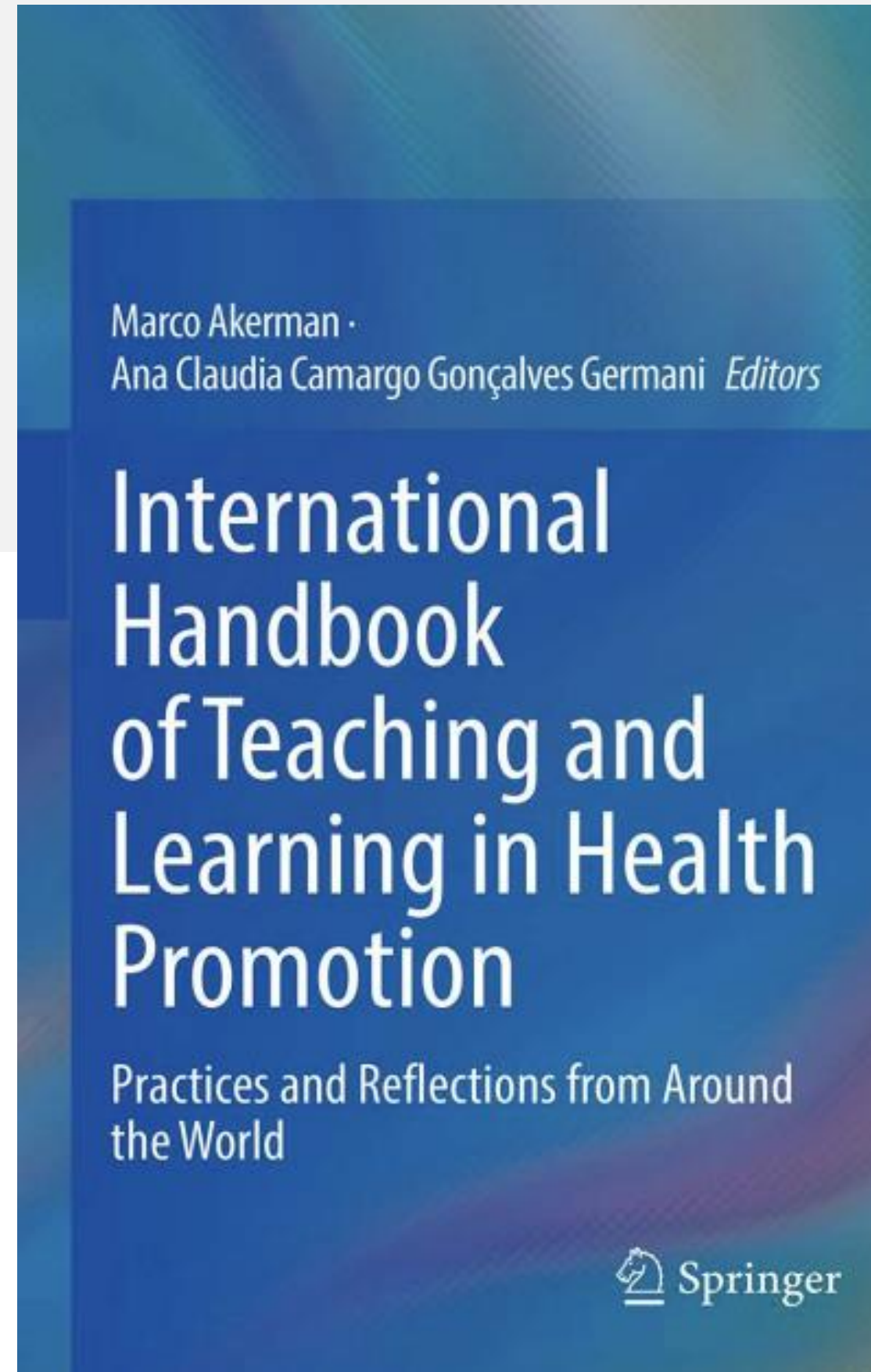
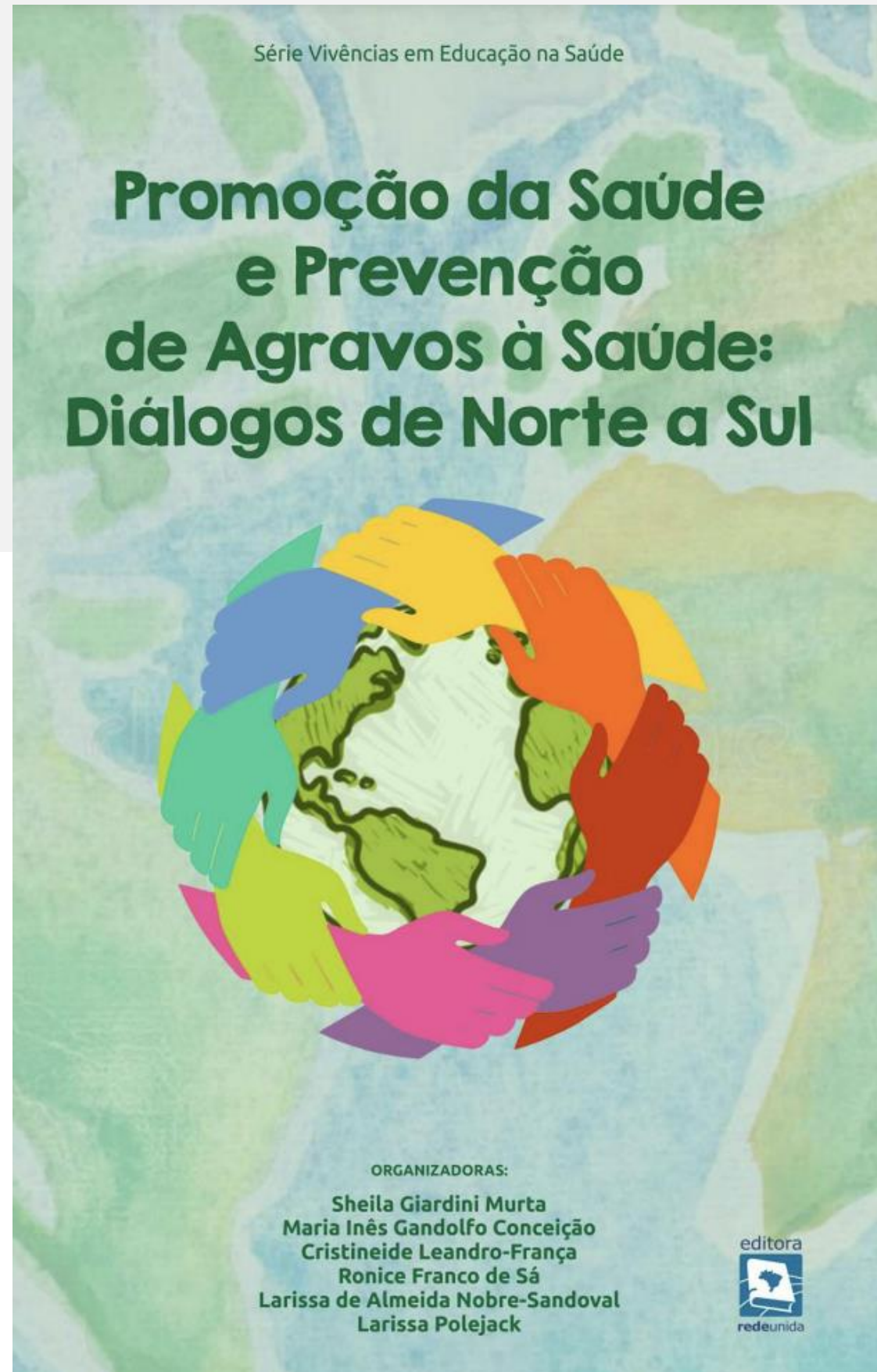
Source:
Design Justice Network
designjustice.org



Conclusion

After reflecting on the frameworks and approaches, these some considerations

- **One**
Centred around the lived and living experiences of the target community
- **Two**
Fluid and adaptable to diverse settings
- **Three**
Making space for co-creation, collaboration, and power redistribution



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[Participedia.net](https://participedia.net)

A crowdsourcing platform for researchers, activists, practitioners, and anyone interested in public participation and democratic innovations