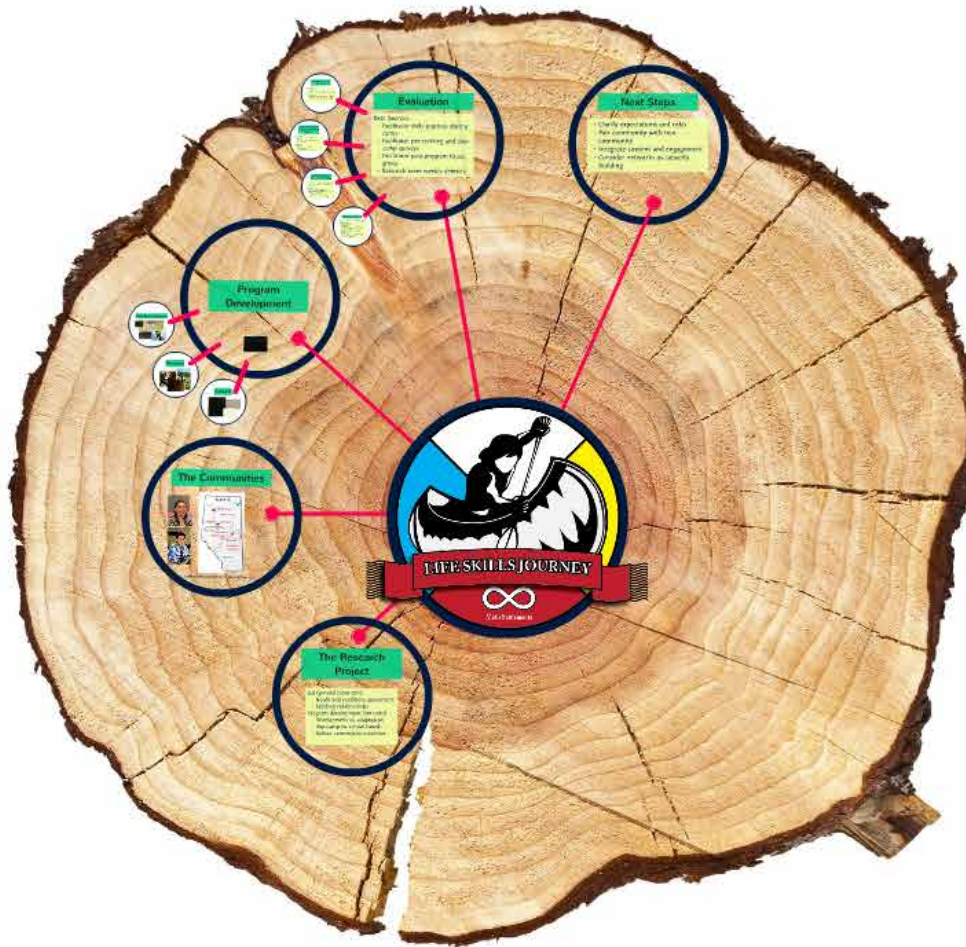


Stories of Change: Training Youth Facilitators to Deliver a Life Skills Program for Children

Presenting Author: Fay Fletcher

Contributing Authors: Fiona Robertson, Alicia Hibbert, Matthew Belhumeur, Susan Ladouceur





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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF EXTENSION



LIFE SKILLS JOURNEY



Métis Settlements



The Research Project

Background [2010-2011]:

- Needs and readiness assessment
- Building relationships

Program development [2011-2013]

- Development vs. adaptation
- Day camp vs. school-based
- Reflect community priorities

The Communities



Source: Metis Settlements General Council

Over the course of training and camp, facilitators increased:
EXTERNAL STRENGTHS
- Family expectations
- Family support and role models
- A sense of being a part of caring family
INTERNAL STRENGTHS
- Their own self-control and restraint
- Their self-esteem
- Their social sensitivity - caring, empathy
- Their acceptance of themselves and others
- Their sense of spirituality

Program Development

Assumptions



Partners



Guiding Assumptions



Partners





Content



Evaluation

Data Sources:

- Facilitator daily journals during camp
- Facilitator pre-training and post-camp surveys
- Facilitator post-program focus group
- Research team weekly debriefs

Leadership Learning Outcomes

Personal strengths/fit within team
Community silos on confidence in roles and responsibilities

9

Models and
with
skills

Skills Journey: Experiments and Practice

First thing in the morning allows
get into the leadership role for

Engagement during facilitator
in lack of attention to ensuring
are confident in their
of the core concepts
are able to link concepts to

Leadership Learning Outcomes

STRENGTHS

- Confidence
- Aware of personal strengths/fit within team

WEAKNESSES

- Impact of community silos on confidence
- Lack of clarity in roles and responsibilities

Child Management/ Engagement Learning Outcomes

STRENGTHS

- Introduction of community role models and elders
- Children engaged, but perhaps not with program content

WEAKNESSES

- Free-Play vs Free-for- all
- Facilitator fatigue
- No 'classroom management' type skills

Life Skills Journey: Concepts and Practice

STRENGTHS

- “Circle time” first thing in the morning allows facilitators to get into the leadership role for the day.

WEAKNESSES

Focus on child engagement during facilitator training resulted in lack of attention to ensuring:

- Facilitators were confident in their understanding of the core concepts
- Facilitators were able to link concepts to activities

Reporting on Ripples

Over the course of training and camp, facilitators increased:

EXTERNAL STRENGTHS

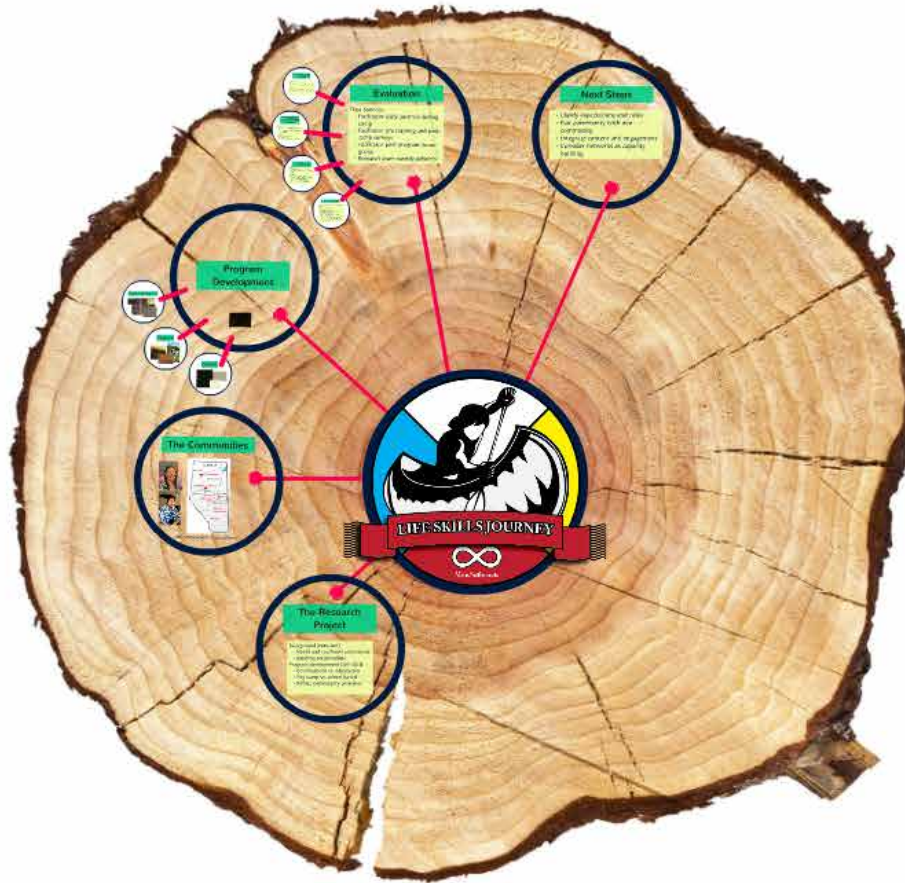
- Family expectations
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INTERNAL STRENGTHS

- Their own self-control and restraint
- Their self-esteem
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Next Steps

- Clarify expectations and roles
- Pair community with non-community
- Integrate content and engagement
- Consider networks as capacity building



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