



A Report on Building Community Capacity

November 2006

Background

- **Capacity Building is used widely**
- **Tension often exists between ‘program goals’ and ‘communities goals’**
- **Much can be learned from the process, not just from projects**
- **There are few evaluations of long term outcomes**



Background in PDD

- **2003**
- **Strategy to assist in achieving program outcomes - inclusion**
- **Regions have long history in development**
- **Guidelines enabling to regions**
- **No management or evaluation framework**
- **Innovative approach**



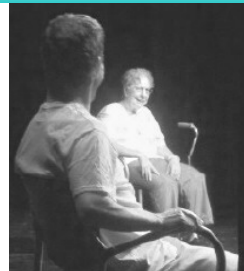
Background in Central

- Easy application
- Contracts or Letters of Agreement
- Emphasis on community initiatives
- Ongoing acceptance of requests for funding



Central Implementation

- Requests for funding review by Regional Management
- 47 Letters of Intent received
- 24 approved for funding (5 projects funded multi year)
 - 2003-04 - \$115,536 2005-06 - \$185,118
 - 2004-05 - \$179,161 2006-07 - \$195,416



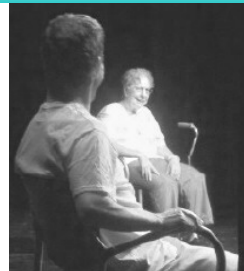
Central Implementation

- Requests from 13 Communities
- 22 of 47 requests from Red Deer Lacombe, Penhold



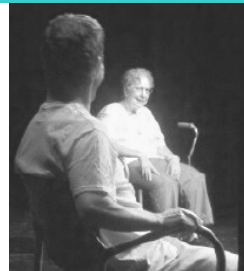
Issues in Central

- **Understanding of Initiative**
- **Working with Groups**
- **Process for Reviewing requests**
- **Sharing Learning**
- **Service Agency reaction**



Issues in Central

- Evaluation
- Influence of other factors



Evaluation

- **No Clear Measures or Methodologies**
- **Few examples**
- **Provincial Review used Nine Criteria of Community Capacity**
- **If used as strategy then can be linked back to program goals and performance measures**



Evaluation

- **Process itself can build capacity**



Achievements

- Participation
- Leadership
- Contribution
- Linkages
- Embedding in existing programs



Achievements

- **Positive Media Coverage**
- **Conference presentations**
- **Visibility of success**
- **Climate for Innovation**
- **Development of Resources**



Learning

- Capacity building is a common approach – PDD is in step
- Overall goal of inclusive community requires long term and sustained effort
- Capacity building occurs in individuals
- Sharing experiences outside of region and PDD is important



Learning

- Focus on results requires balance with willingness to innovate
- Partnering with others may multiply impacts
- Balancing PDD and community desire will need attention
- Could be embedded in overall program



Conclusions

- Initiative has made improvements
- Program measurements needed
- Coordinated management may be helpful



Conclusions

- Increase community involvement in promotion, review, approval and evaluation
- Increase strategic partnerships.
- May be able to target promotion
- Increase sharing of learning

