The Preferred Approach to Evaluating Collaborations: What’s in Your Evaluation Research and Development (R&D) Tool Box?

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Overview

- Purpose and Objectives
- Think Tank Outline
- Context
- Research Trends
- Approaches Used
- Gaps
- Think Tank: break out session
Think Tank Outline

- Presentation and discussion 4:30 to 4:50
- Break out session 4:50 to 5:30
- Report back to larger group 5:30 to 5:50
- Wrap up and next steps 5:50 to 6:00
“a cooperative way that two or more entities work together toward a shared goal…”

(Source: Frey et al. 2006)
Our Mandate is to support economic and social wellbeing.
Context - Alberta Innovates Ecosystem

Government of Alberta

- Government of Alberta Ministries
- Advanced Education & Technology Research and Innovation Connector

Research & Innovation Organizations

- Alberta Innovates: Energy & Environment Solutions
- Alberta Innovates: Health Solutions
- Alberta Innovates: Bio Solutions

Post Secondary Institutions and Other Research Performers

ARIA
Alberta Research & Innovation Authority

Alberta Enterprise Corporation

Commercialization Service Providers

'Capturing Value' from Industry for Society
Advice from Industry and Society

(Source: AAET, 2010)
“Organizational strategic collaborations & partnerships”

“Interdisciplinary team grants”

“R&D networks”

“Knowledge translation”

“Collaborative research opportunities”

“Harmonization initiatives”
“Best Practice combines narratives with relevant qualitative and quantitative indicators to gauge broader social, environmental, cultural and economic public value. Limited consultation between policy-makers and the research evaluation community has led to a lack of policy-learning from international developments”

(Source: C. Donovan, 2011)
## Research & Innovation Methods & Tools

### Quantitative

- Econometrics
- Statistical
- Surveys
- Bibliometrics
- Social Network Analysis
- Rubrics, Scoring, Composite Rating
- Data Mining

### Qualitative

- Case Studies
- Expert Judgment – Peer Review
- Delphi Method
- Logic Models
AIHS Examples

Methods and Tools
Case Studies

Past

Piece of research

Research hot topics
Direction of tracing

Present

Treatment advance

Treatment advances
Direction of tracing
Interdisciplinary Team Grants

Objectives

- Support research that offer solutions for complex health issues
- Provide opportunities for training and mentorship
- Support quality research using collaborative team approaches
- Timely transfer and knowledge exchange with end users to improve health and health care systems
Informing Decision Making

- Change
- Use
- Dissemination
- Engagement
Collaborations

- Within Alberta
- National
- International

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reporting Year</th>
<th>2009-10</th>
<th>2010-11</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of Collaborations</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within Alberta</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td>International</td>
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Strategic Organizational Collaborations

![Graph showing the number of incidents in 2009 and 2010 for Early Stage Engagements and Meetings with Collaborators.](image)

- **Early Stage Engagements**
  - 2009: 150 incidents
  - 2010: 250 incidents

- **Meetings with Collaborators**
  - 2009: 200 incidents
  - 2010: 300 incidents
AIHS Workshop Series

Common Impacts & Measures
## Cross Sector Measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Measures</th>
<th>Different Measures</th>
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<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
<td>Safety (workforce and workplace)</td>
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<td>Citations</td>
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<td>Patents</td>
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<td>Highly Skilled People/ Qualified</td>
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<td>Infrastructure</td>
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<td>Knowledge translation in general and policy guidelines specifically</td>
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<td>Industry prosperity</td>
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CAHS impact categories endorsed cross sector

Impact sector specific

Culture
‘Elephant’ Concepts

- Systems evaluation approach
- Create evaluation and learning systems, not just stand alone evaluations
- Look at shared/joint measures rather than just individual measures
- Use innovative evaluation approaches that recognize complexity
- Iterative and emerging – process – “how to”
### Evaluators Toolbox

- Technometrics
- Altmetrics
- Bibliometrics – collaboration index/affinity
- Network Analysis – Netchains...etc.
- Systems approach
- Developmental Evaluation approach
Think Tank

Breakout Session
“What are the current practices and preferred approaches, tools and measures used to evaluate collaboration within the R&D context?”
1) When evaluating collaborations what do you primarily focus on? e.g., evaluation questions
2) What methods and tools do you use?
3) What measures are useful?
Breakout Out Session Rules

1) Choose a facilitator: ___________ (name) (to ensure all contribute)
2) and a scribe: ___________ (thick pen)
3) and a reporter: ___________ (thick pen)
4) Agree ground rules
   - Defer Judgment
   - Submit and build on the idea of others
   - One conversation at a time
   - Stay focused on the topic
   - Encourage novel ideas
Preferred and Promising Approaches

Plenary Summary

Breakout Groups – Report Back
## Report Back

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Focus/ Questions</th>
<th>Methods/ Tools</th>
<th>Measures</th>
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Wrap Up

Next Steps


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Ready for Wine?

Aha Moment
Energized
Happy but I need a 4-hr drive to consolidate
Awesome
Encouraged
Tired
Enlightened
Ready for wine
Satisfied
Good
Somewhat optimistic
Optimistic
Hopeful
Enriched
thank you