Turning hope into powerful, positive change.
Community Wealth Building in Indian Country: An innovative economic approach to preserve cultural assets, strengthen local economies, and maintain resilience.

Agenda

1. Overview of CWB framework
2. CWB Drivers
3. Personal/Professional Process
4. Case Studies
5. Spokane Tribal Planning Office
6. Successes & Challenges
7. What is Needed
What is Community Wealth Building?

A systems approach to economic development that creates an inclusive, sustainable economy built on locally rooted and broadly held ownership. Key facets of this approach include:

• promote broader ownership of capital
• anchor jobs locally
• stop the leakage of dollars from communities
• support individual and family wealth building
• reinforce stewardship
• generate revenues to finance public services
• leverage anchor institutions for community benefit
• contributes to local economic stability

This new approach puts people and community first and focuses on creating broadly held wealth.
## Community Wealth Building Approach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Place</strong></td>
<td>• Develops under-utilized local assets of many kinds for benefit of local residents.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ownership</strong></td>
<td>• Promotes local, broad-based ownership as the foundation of a thriving local economy.</td>
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<td><strong>Multipliers</strong></td>
<td>• Encourages institutional buy-local strategies to keep money circulating locally.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Collaboration</strong></td>
<td>• Brings many players to the table: nonprofits, philanthropy, anchors, and cities.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Inclusion</strong></td>
<td>• Aims to create inclusive, living wage jobs that help all families enjoy economic security.</td>
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<td><strong>Workforce</strong></td>
<td>• Links training to employment and focuses on jobs for those with barriers to employment.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>System</strong></td>
<td>• Develops institutions and supportive ecosystems to create a new normal of economic activity.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
How can community wealth building (CWB) strategies be applied in Indian Country in a way that will create jobs and build wealth for community residents while simultaneously creating productive capital that is anchored locally in an inclusive economy?
CWB strategies must be translated and integrated into cultural values and practices through inclusive participatory processes to increase the likelihood of success.

Native communities are decolonizing the approach and reclaiming the way they managed their economies long ago.
Case Studies

- Little Earth of United Tribes
- Native American Natural Foods
- NAYA Family Center, Portland OR
- Spokane Tribal Planning Office, Spokane Reservation
- Thunder Valley Community Development Corporation, Pine Ridge Reservation
Lakota Community Wealth Building
Maria Cullooyah, Tribal Planning Manager
Enterprise Development

Spokane Tribal Planning Office

Maria Cullooyah

- CWB has brought new meaning to Native Communities. Interpreting DC’s definition into our culture, livelihoods, employment, beliefs, traditions, and homes, we are creating our own.

- Regenerating our community into what and how we foresee our future and the future for the next 7 generation belief system for our people. By continuing the work of DC within our own communities, and educating, we live.
Spokane Tribal Planning Office continued

• Challenges going forward:
  • Infrastructure
  • Water/Sewer, capital and funding.
  • Keeping our identity.
  • Holding onto is who we are, where we are from, and where we are headed in to the future.

• “Buy NDN, Buy local.” Keeping our cycle moving within our own community to develop and create a better us for the economy, and community for future generations to come.

• Adopting the Sustainable Community Master Plan, and continuous work with DC, we create the livability principles for Economic Development, Land Use, Infrastructure, Parks & Rec, Utilities, Transportation, and Housing.
What is needed to build community wealth?

Curriculum and Training
- Visuals for leader and community engagement
- Training Toolkits

Research
- Feasibility studies to identify community readiness factors for broad-based ownership models
- Long-term data collection strategy to measure social, economic, and environmental outcomes.
- Impact data for policy

Policy
- Value driven policy
- Parity for tribes at the federal and state level
- Support continuation of NACA
- Business incubator development
- Stable and predictable tribal policies/regulation
- Land use zoning and procedures
Thank you!

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