

GFSI Team report July / August 2022

Summer 2022 GFSI team



Hayley AuCoin

In the past couple of months, the NPO Data Collaboration Project has made great progress. The entire GFSI team has been working together to complete individual hub pages in anticipation of launching the Community Prosperity Hub in the Fall. The Zero Hunger and Climate Action hubs have been completed. We have reached out to the project's non-profit partners and secured data sets from organizations such as Meals on Wheels and Greener Village. Our team is currently in the process of working on the Gender Equality, Decent Work and Economic Growth, and Good Health and Well-Being hubs. We are also working on updating the No Poverty Hub with the most recent Census Data. We have meetings scheduled with Rob and Felix from the City to ensure the maps and applications on this page are correctly updated.

The GFSI team has also submitted an application for the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce's Business Excellence Awards. We are excited at the prospect of GFSI being recognized for our work.

Ceilah Keats (SEED)

For the last three months, we have been working on multiple projects at Greater Fredericton Social Innovation. While working with the team we have completed research on free and low-cost events around the Fredericton area this summer. This list can provide families and individuals with options of fun events they can participate in in the future without having to pay high costs. In addition, the team has worked on completing a new brochure on the Caring Calendar to drop off at organizations throughout the city as well as keeping some at the Gathering Place. This brochure includes a description of the Caring Calendar, what the process is to register your organization and how to get in contact with Greater Fredericton Innovation with further questions. The goal of this brochure is to reach as many individuals as possible to re-engage the community with the Caring Calendar. Another major project the GFSI team has been working on is the Community Prosperity Hub. The Community Prosperity Hub is broken down into multiple different categories, one of which is the Good Health and Wellbeing Hub. The Good Health and Wellbeing Hub is broken down into four different categories which are all covered separately in the research conducted. This

research includes raw data put into graphs as well as comparisons and other visuals that contextualize the data. The process of creating the hub pages has been done on “micro” where data is able to be put in and Hub pages brainstormed. Micro has made it possible to support each team member in the completion of the separate Hub pages and filling in research gaps that exist.

Sheehan Flatt (Engage UNB)

We have been working on various strategies of getting faith-based organizations re-engaged with the caring calendar and settled on creating and delivering pamphlets. The pamphlets are now ready to be distributed around the city for the next step. We have also been helping with the NPO Data Collaboration project and researching data around the sustainable development goal "Decent Work and Economic Growth". Finally, we have been working on the NB Voices project to attempt to encourage people to share their stories with us to post on the NB Voices website.

Kate Walsh (Civic Tech)

Over the last few months, Kate has transitioned from her position with Canada Summer Jobs to Program Coordinator on the Civic Tech project. In this role, Kate collects and organizes employee files, invoices and proof of payments. Civic Tech employees have been receiving specialized pre-employment training to help them cultivate their soft skills and navigate their Canadian job search allowing them to secure long-term employment in their specialized field. While all of these employees have extensive knowledge and technical skills, many face barriers to employment as a result of limited exposure to the Canadian labour market. Our support includes interview preparation, training of the “STAR” method and assistance in job searching. We’ve had comprehensive discussions surrounding interview etiquette and Canadian workplace culture. Using an Excel Spreadsheet, we have monitored and tracked each position that our team members have applied for. Furthermore, we sent out individual resumes to every IT business registered with the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce. To date, each individual has interviewed for one or more positions and we are waiting to hear back from hiring managers.

The GFSI team has wrapped up their efforts with the L’ Arche’s Inclusive Housing lab. Upon testing our prototype and receiving feedback from developers, we confirmed our speculations. Developers need the contact information of non-profits to connect them to individuals in need of accessible units. With this in mind, we have created a thorough spreadsheet with a list of organizations and their associated contacts. This way when developers have accessible units available, they can reference our spreadsheet and contact an organization whose clients would benefit from accessible housing.

Our team also distributed the draft copies of Board Members, Staff and Civic Tech volunteers' onboarding documents to our management committee for feedback. We have since received edits and feedback from board members and implemented the feedback and made necessary changes. These files are now ready to be finalized and used in the official onboarding process.

Rohini Kuchadi (Civic Tech)

Since the beginning of June, the team began testing and fixing bugs on the Meal Planner Tool. Meal planner is a tool designed for Greener Village, to provide their clients with accessible and affordable meal planning and food budget management. Greener Village staff will consult with clients coming into the foodbank, and help them plan meals for their household, sharing simple healthy recipes, and then providing a shopping list with an estimated budget.

Continuing on the work of Shanthi and Pavithra, Rohini has started automation testing with Cypress.

To date, Rohini has automated test cases of meal planner-ui, including, Login, Logout, Create New Meal Plan, Cancel creating a new meal plan, Delete meal plan, Shopping List and Search meal plan test cases. She is also working to automate other test cases like Meal plan calendar, Meal plan header and a few test cases from the Admin module.

Pavithra (Civic Tech)

Working on the Meal Planner project, Pavithra created new react components and implemented them. She Built table structures and inserted values into the tables, researched the recipes which were given by Greener Village and created an insert query. She participated in code reviews, got feedback from our colleagues to implement custom and scalable code. In the last few weeks she majorly focussed on bug fixing while the application was on the development stage. Furthermore, Pavithra recommended and executed improvements in meal planner application and worked closely with other developers and testers and implemented some strategies.

Bukola Abiola (Civic Tech)

The team worked to support the project: Building A Community Framework For Digital And Social Innovation. We explored how social innovation could support the implementation of New Brunswick municipalities strategic plan starting with the city of Bathurst.

We worked with the All-In Agency Team through collaborative design methodology that guided the City's stakeholders through the discovery process to identify strategies, priorities and areas of implementation.

Primary tasks included, supporting and leading the GFSI research team (mainly desk research) to generate targeted/specified information gathering for the city. Our findings informed the All-In team and the project at large with up to date information about the city through the entire process.

Furthermore, GFSI worked to create onboarding handbook for the following structures at GFSI:

- Management Committee
- Employees,
- Volunteers: Civic Tech

We shared drafts of these handbooks with the Management Committee and the Civic Tech team and implemented their feedback. We hoped to build this into a template fit for the consumption of the non-profit community in the city.

Building a community Framework - ACOA – RDC project

Met with funders at the Gathering Place – they are VERY happy with how the project is progressing. They stated that they have always thought about a project like this for the communities sin the province but knew they were not the right people to deliver it. There was talk about longer-term growth of the project.

Bathurst city staff workshop scheduled for Aug 31.

Growing Civic Tech – ACOA & PETL

Bathurst Information session scheduled for Tuesday Aug 30th at the KC Irving Centre.

Registration here: <https://bit.ly/3QzgEUV>

Fredericton Affordable Housing Committee

City Staff working on implementation plan, currently draft at CAO's office

ECV September meeting Sept 15 - tentative

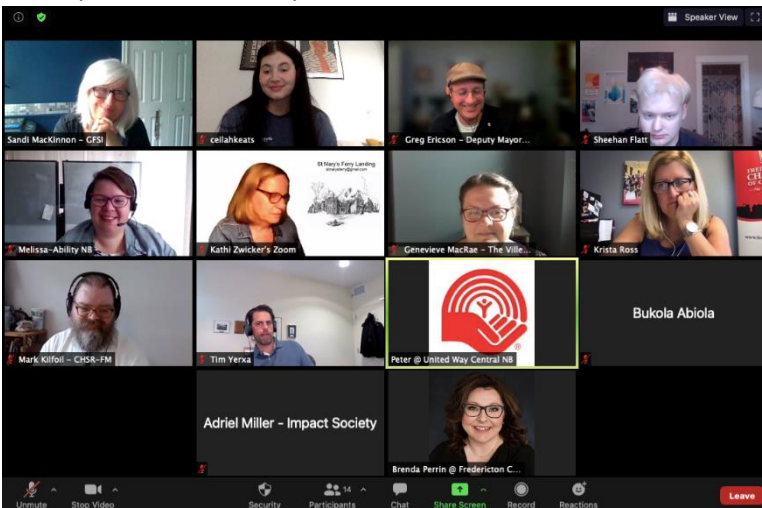
FAHC is Sept 7th - Goal to distribute implementation plan to the committee for review prior to this Sept meeting

Request to appear at EVC in October to provide FAHC update

Civic Tech, The HUB and other tools have garnered the attention of the City of Ottawa. We met with a number of their staff to talk about GFSI and the Data Collaboration project. They were very impressed by our partnership with our City. I invited a few of our CT team for the technical questions when I noticed that they invited a technical person.



NPO Breakfast Club meetings are very impactful and valuable. It is the only opportunity for sharing and collaboration. This picture is from July.



After August’s meeting – I received this email from one of our partners in community.

“Sometimes I feel really alone in the work that I do. I have reached out to partner in a collaborate fashion with a few orgs and have wound up in a mosh pit of male ego. It can be very discouraging. Today's call made my day. I love your energy and need you in my life 😊 Maybe I won't quit today after all 😊”

This is why finding ways to connect and support each other is very important to the GFSI team.

Renaissance College proposal in partnership with The City of Fredericton

Currently scoping the project for submission at the end of Aug. The first part is collecting contact details for DEI offices in municipal governments and collecting the documentation that each has pursued. The second and most exciting part of the position would be to plan a day long Municipal Inclusion Conference in Fredericton so as to have an opportunity to workshop and network in the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion space and get a face to face exchange of where the various regional agencies are.

Meetings

- Civic Tech – weekly
- SWAG – monthly – Kelly Lamrock will be joining us this week, he is the senior advocate for the province
- NPO Breakfast Club – monthly
- NPO Data Collaboration meeting – weekly
- IBM Toronto – re-entry program meeting – this meeting was arranged because we have IT professionals re-entering the workforce after raising kids to school age.

Other notes:

- CSJ final claim submitted
- Financials sent to TSD