

Strengthening Recreation Capacity across the North



Presented by: Recreation North

At the: Gathering Strength: Framework
for Recreation in Canada Forum 2018

On: May 9, 2018

Presented by:



Caroline Sparks

Caroline Sparks, presenting on behalf of the Recreation North partnership, is a long-time Yukoner with education and experience in recreation and community development. Caroline has worked, presented and participated on recreation, active living, and sport initiatives from local to national levels. Since writing a commissioned paper for the 2011 Recreation Summit, Caroline has focused significant effort on strengthening recreation capacity in the North's rural and remote communities.



Geoff Ray

Geoff Ray has been working on and off with the NWTRPA since 2003. Geoff has some studied political science and project management and has worked for non-profit organizations in Ottawa and Victoria, BC. Geoff is a dad to two young kids, loves to ski and wants to learn how to drive a skidoo.



Community Recreation Leadership Program



Training for Yukon, NWT or Nunavut individuals who work or want to work/volunteer in recreation.



Recreation knowledge, skills and experience are gained while living in a Northern community.

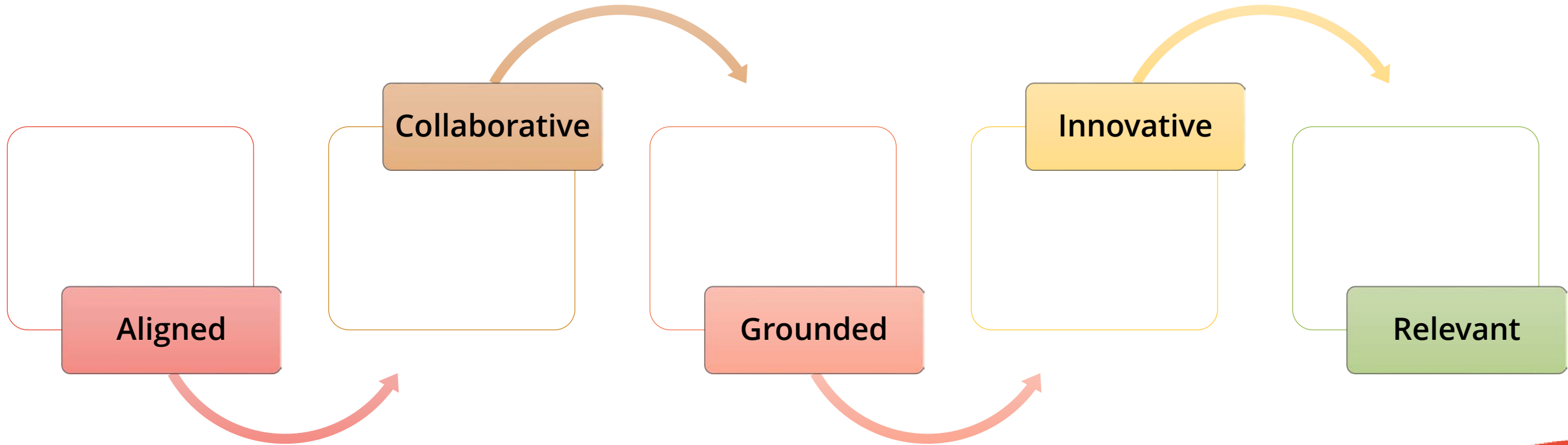


Blended training, with practical activities, costs less and fits with work and family commitments.



Training can be bundled leading to a Certificate of Northern Recreation Leadership.

We set out to be...



Aligned

- with the Framework for Recreation in Canada
- to the realities of Northern communities

Aligned to the field...

- Priority 5.4
- Benefits of Recreation
- Recreation that impacts personal health and social wellbeing

Photo Credit: Lee Hodgers
Photo location: Iqaluit



Aligned to Northern realities



Photo Credit: Madeline Qumuartuq
Photo location: Pangnirtung

The unique Northern context influences:

- Recreation, and
- Leadership

Northern realities...

Recreation:

- Access to programs, equipment, facilities
- Distance and cost to travel, etc.
- Small population base
- Extremes in climate and weather
- Income and employment
- Health status (social determinants)
- Revenue generation for recreation

Capacity challenges:

- Hiring and retaining qualified staff
- Recruiting and supporting volunteers
- Affordable, available and relevant training
- Workplace stress and burnout



Collaborative

- across the Northern territories
- across sectors
- with communities
- with the field



Together, we set out to...

Impact personal health and community wellbeing

Strengthen Northern recreation capacity

Design a relevant and meaningful training program

Pilot and evaluate the training

Use what we learned to inform ongoing program delivery

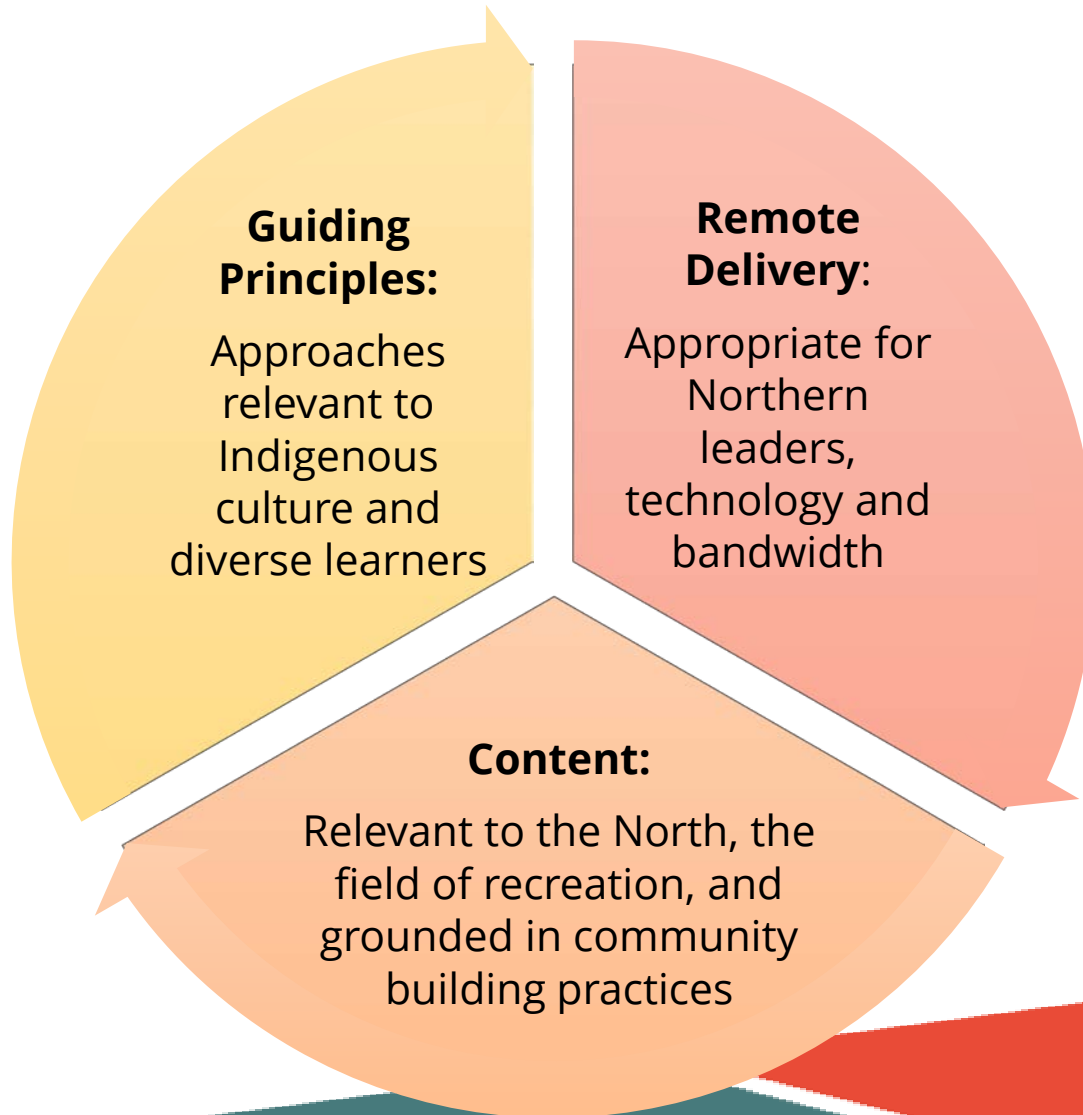
Pilot Participants and Trainers



Grounded

- in Northern experience
- in local culture and context
- in Indigenous ways of learning

Three pillars grounded design and delivery



1. Guiding Principles
2. Content
3. Remote Delivery

Content driven by competencies

Curriculum design is based on a model of 13 foundational competencies for leading in community recreation. This model was developed by the Recreation and Parks Association of the Yukon (RPAY) in partnership with and funded by Yukon Government (YG) Sport and Recreation Branch. Recreation North received permission to adapt and use the competency model for curriculum design. Permission to use or adapt the model by others must be directed to RPAY and YG Sport and Recreation Branch.

Recreation
Foundations

Recreation
Leadership

Building & Engaging
Community

Recreation & Sport
System

Planning for
Community
Recreation

Board Governance

Groups &
Partnerships

Risk Management

Budgeting & Funding

Quality Programs &
Events

Facilities & Outdoor
Spaces

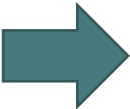
Promotion &
Marketing

Staffing & Volunteers

Innovative

- in training approaches
- in training activities
- in meeting needs of diverse learners

17 Learning Events (LEs)



October 2017
to May 2018

Required (8):

Electives (2):

Adjust to diverse learners (RL101)

L - Legendary

E - Encouraging

A - Active

D - Determined

E - Eager

R - Respectful

S - Sharing

H - Honorable

I - Inspirational


P - Progressive



Photo: D Shorty

Photo Credit: Dennis Shorty
Photo location: Ross River, YT

Encourage reflection (CB101)

1. How would you describe the personality of your community as it is now? Think about your community as a person, an animal, or something in nature.
 2. What kind of personality would you like your community to have?
 3. How can recreation help your community become that personality?
- 
- A decorative graphic at the bottom of the slide consisting of three overlapping triangles. The leftmost triangle is teal, the middle one is red, and the rightmost one is orange. They are arranged in a way that they appear to be rising from the bottom left towards the right.

Relevant

- to Northern participants
- to Northern workplaces
- to Northern communities

Rob from Haines Junction



I was a heavy equipment operator for 18 years before starting in recreation in October 2017. The training has been **INSTRUMENTAL** in learning how to do my new job.

The great thing about this program for me was how much **FLEXIBILITY** there was in completing the courses.

I recommend this training to anyone who is interested in recreation or is pursuing a career in recreation. The learning events are so informative and the instructors really know their stuff.

<https://www.recnorth.ca/2018/04/10/meet-the-first-recipient-of-the-northern-recreation-leadership-certificate/>

NWT participant

I'm born and raised here. Our winter lasts more than 7 months, but I love spring when we go ice fishing and hunting while there is still snow on the ground. I prefer to live both a modern and traditional lifestyle.

Since 2013, I have been working part-time as an assistant Recreation Coordinator. I enjoy working with children at the school during the evening events, which could be anything from Capture the Flag to Volleyball or Floor Hockey.

This training gives me **IDEAS** for new and exciting programming, and I am learning how to **REDUCE BARRIERS** to recreation in my community.

The bottom of the slide features three overlapping geometric shapes: a teal triangle on the left, a red triangle in the center, and a gold triangle on the right. These shapes are arranged in a way that they appear to be part of a larger, abstract design.

Kelsey from Teslin



I was born and raised in Teslin. I wanted to take this training because I had no previous training in recreation, and am Teslin's Recreation Coordinator.

The training offered by Recreation North has helped me feel more **CONFIDENT** in my role as a recreation programmer. I enjoyed the online training – it was more **CONVENIENT** than leaving my community each week or for longer periods of time.


It is great to be **CONNECTED** to such a large community of people involved in recreation so we can share ideas, wins, and help support each other when we get frustrated or burned out.

<https://www.recnorth.ca/2018/04/25/doing-the-recreation-training-online-was-enjoyable/>

Nunavut participant

I am the new Recreation Coordinator at the Hamlet. When I started the Pilot, we had just moved with our two children from Barrie, Ontario. I had never worked in recreation before.

I am glad to be part of the pilot program as I have a lot to learn about recreation. It was good to learn how **REDUCE RISK**, and run a safe facility and programs. **CONFERENCE CALLS** are fun and it's interesting to hear everyone's insights on their communities. **NETWORKING** has helped me develop my confidence as a recreation leader.

The bottom of the slide features three overlapping geometric shapes: a teal triangle on the left, a red triangle in the center, and a gold triangle on the right. These shapes are oriented with their vertices pointing upwards, creating a stylized mountain range or abstract landscape effect.



Grace from Faro

In May 2017, I began working at the Faro Recreation Centre as a programmer; in the community where I was born and raised. I was excited, but also nervous and intimidated to take the training. Once it started, I found the training fit easily into my schedule.

I've gained a **SUPPORTIVE** team of other participants and made new friends and connections throughout Canada's North.

I believe that this training has equipped me with the **SKILLS** to be a better Recreation Programmer here in Faro.

<https://www.recnorth.ca/2018/04/17/the-recreation-training-fit-easily-into-my-work-schedule/>

Next Steps

Complete the Pilot and the evaluation

Thank and recognize participants; award certificates

Confirm Recreation North's operational structure post-Pilot

Ensure support and sufficient funds

Launch Program in fall/winter 2018

Arctic Inspiration Prize



<https://player.vimeo.com/video/156300208>

Photo Credit: Fred Muise
Photo location: Cambridge Bay, NU

Questions?



Drumdancing Sedna

Sculptor Adamie Anautak
Akulivik, Nunavik

Connect with Recreation North

Web: www.recnorth.ca

Facebook: www.facebook.com/recnorth

Twitter: twitter.com/recnorth

Email: info@recnorth.ca

For more information

Caroline Sparks

Project Manager

Recreation North (Yukon-based)

Phone: 867-668-3010

Anne Morgan

Executive Director

Recreation and Parks Association of the Yukon

Phone: 867-668-2389

Geoff Ray

Executive Director

NWT Recreation and Parks Association

Phone: 867-669-8380

Dawn Currie

Executive Director

Recreation and Parks Association
of Nunavut

Phone: 613-876-0491

