

The Power of the People - Ownership by the Grass Roots.

Nette Griggs

Active Citizenship

- 1989 Senate Standing Committee on Employment, Education and Training defined an active citizen as:

"someone who not only believes in the concept of democratic society but who is willing and able to translate that belief into action. Active citizenship is a compound of knowledge about how society works; the skills needed to participate effectively; and a conviction that active participation is the right of citizens."

DEFINITIONS

- **Community engagement** is the process that occurs when public authorities reach out to communities to create opportunities for empowerment.
- **Community empowerment** is when a community is equipped with the skills, confidence and power to shape and influence what government does for them, delivers to them.

- **Good relationships**



Partnerships

- **Leadership – inspire with what is possible**
- **What is the cost of not doing it? Of not succeeding?**









What is the hook?

**Be clear about the benefits
and
disbenefits**

TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP

- Agility
- Flexibility
- Inspiration
- Motivation
- Honesty
- Clear, honest communication
- Competence, credibility





Never underestimate the power of
influence and good preparation



Four types of interaction with community:

- information
- communication
- consultation
- participation

- **Develop strong sound relationships**
- **Inspire, motivate and support - be a transformational leader**
- **Look for the "hook" - understanding the consequences of failure**
- **Be prepared to be agile and flexible in your approach**
- **Use clarity, integrity and honesty around what sort of engagement this is to be**

- **Using strategic influencing and influencers and good preparation**
- **Under promise and over deliver**
- **Get your hands dirty**
- **Target the key decision makers to be involved on both sides of the discussion**