



Call for Presenters

IFS CONFERENCE SYDNEY 2020



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Appendix 1: Review Criteria

Each proposal is subject to review against the following criteria and must be relevant to the work of Settlements, Neighbourhood Houses and Centres and all other community organisations forming part of the IFS network:

Proposals must focus on the conference theme of social justice by

- a) highlighting aspects of the Social Justice Journey encountered by community-led organisations in relation the suggested topics
- b) connecting local action to global issues

Proposals are encouraged to:

- make a call to action
- lead to improved sustainable practice
- identify impacts using the UN Sustainable Development Goals
- contribute recommendations to the conference declaration

Will also be assessed on:

- Anticipated interest
- Clarity of the proposal
- Originality of the idea/approach
- Program compatibility

Please Note:

We have a strong interest in hearing from services and service users as well as community members with lived experience. We also have a strong interest in hearing about projects, policy and practice that have been developed and/or led by First Nations communities.

We may contact applicants directly if we require further information.

Delegates will be informed of decisions by Wednesday 18 March 2020.



Appendix 2: Suggested Topics

Over the three days of the conference each day represents a different learning stream. The suggested topics below are not prescriptive. We encourage applicants to think beyond the list provided or to make connections between topics as they apply to your proposal.

Conference Theme: “Social Justice: The Unfinished Journey – Global Issues, Local Solutions”

Learning Stream for Day 1: “People”

Wednesday 12 August, Breakout Sessions: 1.30 – 3.00pm

There will be 8 break out rooms covering different topics over 1.5 hr period. If your session is under 90 minutes please indicate length so we can match your presentation with another session that will combine to take 90 minutes.

Brief for applicants: Unpack the social justice issues facing local communities and what has worked to make a difference.

Possible topics could include:

- **Reducing Poverty**
(examples: income security, food security, economic empowerment)
- **Achieving Equity**
(examples: gender, sexuality, disability, religion, race)
- **Embracing quality education and lifelong learning**
(examples: connecting education and community, literacy and numeracy, disadvantage and oppression)
- **Achieving Health and Wellbeing**
(examples: community development projects in the following areas - housing, homelessness, multiculturalism, welcoming asylum seekers in small rural communities, building harmonious communities, tackling loneliness)
- **Achieving self-determination and tackling inequality**
(examples: social justice issues affecting First Nations communities)
- **Building place and belonging**
(examples: the value of investing in social infrastructure, conditions for community change, effective community engagement)
- **Building democracy**
(examples: projects that build local participation, giving marginalised people a voice)
- **Tackling the effects of climate change in the local neighbourhood**
(examples: local power saving or recycling projects, community gardens, supporting community activism)



Learning Stream for Day 2: “Policy and Practice”

Thursday 13 August, 9.30 - 10.45 & 11.15am – 12.30

Professional Development Seminars:

On the morning of Day 2 conference delegates will choose between excursions and attending these professional development seminars. Presenters are required to run the same session twice which gives delegates the opportunity to participate in two seminars.

Brief for Applicants: The topics for these sessions are set because we are aiming to provide skills development at this section of the program. In your application, please state clearly your interest in providing a Professional Development Seminar. We are looking for presenters with significant expertise in these areas of professional practice:

- Neighbourhood centres serving as vehicle for social change
- Surviving complexity, avoiding burn out & staying relevant
- Advocacy, technology and social justice skills
- Strategic Partnerships that create change and impact policy
- Dealing with conflicting values and evolving society norms

Thursday 13 August, 1.30 – 3.00pm

Breakout Sessions - *Policy and Practice*

There will be 8 break out rooms covering different topics over 1.5 hr period. If your session is under 90 minutes please indicate length so we can match your presentation with another session that will combine to take 90 minutes.

Brief for Applicants: Examine how we develop the skills, technology and infrastructure to support the drive for social change.

Possible topics could include:

- **Measuring success and building evidence base**
(examples: social determinants of health, measuring wellbeing, wellbeing index, new economic modelling, UN SDG's progress)
- **Tackling systemic issues**
(examples: working across silos and funding streams)
- **Campaign skills**
(examples: media, negotiation, collaboration, strategic partnerships, community engagement, understanding government systems and processes)
- **Mind your arts – creativity engagement**
(examples: community arts projects, cultural community development)
- **The role of community development in service delivery**
(examples: mental health, suicide prevention, domestic and family violence, community recovery after emergencies, failing justice systems, building connection/combating loneliness)



Learning Stream for Day 3: “Possibilities”

Friday 14 August, Breakout Session: 1.30 – 3.00pm

There will be 8 break out rooms covering different topics over 1.5 hr period. If your session is under 90 minutes please indicate length so we can match your presentation with another session that will combine to take 90 minutes.

Brief for Presenters: Are there new strategies we can adopt to build sustainable practice into the future? What is the role of local communities leading change and achieving social justice? How can we better use our global networks and partnerships to advance social change?

Possible topics could include:

- **Effective community leadership in times of political uncertainty**
(examples: risk taking in a risk adverse society, challenging the status quo, upholding human rights)
- **Sustaining the call to action**
(examples: use of media and community support for social change, authentic community engagement)
- **Creating sustainable models for community led change**
(examples: building strong community organisations, sustainable local economic development, social enterprise and localism)
- **Rebuilding trust in public institutions**
(examples: public health, schools, social insurance and welfare systems, judicial system and law enforcement)
- **Partnering with global networks and international movements to influence policy discourse of social justice issues**
(examples: climate change movement, human rights charter, relationship with UN, EU, World Bank, IMF etc.)
- **New ideas for 21st Century social justice challenges**
(examples: artificial intelligence, climate change, universal basic income, food and water security)



Appendix 3: Possible Presentation Formats

Lightening Presentations:

These are 'ted talk' style presentations of 15 minutes focused on innovative community led projects. Your aim is to explore new/innovative ways of doing day to day work in Neighbourhood Centres and Settlements. Is there a new framework or way of thinking about an issue that would harness people's participation and excite their passion for change?

Notes and PowerPoint presentation are encouraged. The only expectation is the 15 minutes timeframe to get across one clear message.

Paper Format:

This is a more formal presentation which gives an overview of a piece of research or practice, where research findings or best practice are highlighted. Impact and evaluation efforts should be included. Each paper presentation should be 20 to 30 minutes only.

Within each breakout using this format there will be either 2 or 3 papers presented with a half hour discussion.

Workshop Format:

Workshops should last up to 90 minutes. They should aim to provide a forum for collaborative development, discussion of ideas and practical examples related to the conference themes. Workshops can be based on existing or developing research or practice, skills development or specific tools that could improve practice, advocacy and policy. Workshops are intended to be interactive and proposals should clearly indicate how participants will actively contribute to the session and what they will get out of it.

Panels/Interview Format:

These sessions need to be designed carefully to take 90 minutes. The issues, draft questions for discussion as well as the agenda of the session should be outlined. The names of panelists, interviewees etc their bios and photos should be included. These sessions should aim to provide a forum for discussion of ideas using practical examples related to one or more of the conference themes. These sessions are intended to be interactive and proposals should clearly indicate how participants will actively contribute to the session and what they will get out of it.



Yarning Circles:

This is a format used by Aboriginal communities in Australia and are used for discussion and learning. These circles are organic and participatory by nature. In your proposal please outline some of the ideas that may be discussed.

Documentary Film and Discussion:

These sessions are 90 mins long and there should be time for at least 30 mins of discussion following the viewing of the film/documentary. Films should act as a jumping off point for discussion. These sessions are intended to be interactive and proposals should clearly indicate how participants will actively contribute to the session and what they will get out of it.

Creative piece (performance, video, artwork):

These sessions are 90 mins long and intended to be interactive and proposals should clearly indicate how participants will actively contribute to the session and what they will get out of it. There should be time for a debrief at the end of the session so people can reflect on their artist work and what it means for their everyday practice.

Cultural/Arts Activity:

Delegates attending this Conference have many talents and skills and we would like to showcase these during the lunch hours and other breaks. You may have a favourite installation made by members of your Centre or you may wish to create a piece to reflect the Conference themes in conjunction with other delegates. Ideas may be to create a painting, quilt, collage, video of proceedings, or you may wish to sing or perform in some way. We are open to any suggestions.



Appendix 4: Terms and Conditions

By submitting an abstract, authors must agree to the following terms and conditions:

- I declare that the abstracts submitted is the original works of at least one author/presenter.
- If the abstract is accepted, I understand that presenters will be required to register as a delegate for the full conference or single day (at a discounted rate of 10%) before presenting the paper at the conference*.
- I am aware that if my abstract is selected, I provide consent for my presentation slides (for oral presenters), video and audio record and photos taken during my presentation/of my poster to be used and published by IFS, including being provided to delegates of the conference.
- If Third Party Material is used in the abstract, I promise it does not and will not breach any existing Intellectual Property or a third party's Intellectual Property or Moral Rights.

*The acceptance of a presentation does not imply provision of travel, accommodation or registration for the Conference. Costs associated with preparation or presentation, and any costs associated with attendance at the Conference are the responsibility of the presenter(s). If a presentation is selected, the presenter(s) will be required to register as a delegate for the full conference or single day at a discounted rate of 10%. Selected presenters will be given a discount code to use when registering for the conference.