

Resilience Meeting Notes 09/09/2021

Opening:

Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. remotely by Cheryl Bradbee

Present:

Oruba Alwan
Hadi Ismail
Ivan Martinovic
Aleksandar Janicijevic
Elaine Bradbee
Cheryl Bradbee

Absent:

Norman (Sam) Benvie

Agenda:

Crew Resilience; Climate Action Network (CAN), move of Cheryl and Elaine
Agenda approved
Business from Previous Meeting:
None

New Business:

Hadi:

Has an opportunity for R 2:1 – have a client with a website – electric vehicle charging company – built two websites for them; raised 3 million in investment funds; expanding to another 20 locations from 50.

Movement is lifestyle and being environmentally friendly, sustainability; they are everywhere

Business model is different – go to a commercial space and ask for space to put charging stations and split the revenue

Growing really fast: chargerquest.com

Connection with R 2:1: resources about what they are doing – lifestyle changes

Not sure of a connection exactly and feel like the CEO might be interested in being involved

Might be an opportunity for us; work with him on something

Cheryl:

Crew Resilience contacted us first, Aleks connected with them; Cheryl met with the founder and chat with her – community organizer; 10 years old, now nationwide; crewresilience.ca

They focus on local communities, on training them for resilience and disaster training

Have projects they have done: Residentville Canada; work them through planning for disasters and resilience

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Climate Action Network met with them; climatenetwork.org; 140 Canadian organizations but global; focused on sustainability but now have 4-5 orgs focused on resilience; they interact at the UN level – have standing at COP meetings; have to apply through someone recommending you; it's \$40 per year or waived; would supply a powerful partner for us; don't have a lot of academics involved because colleges and universities can't join; have 2 organizations with academics – nothing like R 2:1; there are significant holes in the nationwide sustainability/ resilience movement that we could fill – there is a place for us if we want it

Cheryl referred to woman on Pender Island but teaches in US; she is concerned about ACE: part of the Paris Agreement; Action for Climate Empowerment – countries are required to do things to empower people around climate change and resilience; Canada has done nothing; setting up other meeting to push at what ACE will look at under the Paris Agreement; is very broad – putting chargers in and doing lifestyle might fit under this

CAN (Canadian Action Network) is an NGO and is global; we would join the Canadian one – with 140 other organizations; they act at the federal or higher level and have standing at the UN – will be at COP

There was a general discussion on how to deal with opportunities such as Charger Quest and CAN and ACE. It was agreed that we would have to create a mechanism with these types of social enterprises; they would have to go through us represent them in empowerment with the CAN; we would be the representative on CAN, but they would satisfy this ACE requirement; ACE may be open to businesses as well – may operate somewhat independently

Additions to the Agenda:

Meeting with Charger Quest

Hadi can set up a meeting with the founder of Charger Quest and Cheryl to discuss connections and how R2:1 can contribute to meet their needs.

Moving Forward with R 2:1

There was a general discussion on how to supply content to different sectors and areas. R2:1 can be open to many possibilities but the point is to get people empowered and connected. It was agreed that the vision needs to be revisited in light of these new opportunities and then opened to the whole membership. Aleks pointed out that the website is getting a fair amount of traffic, much of it from the USA. R2:1 needs to figure out its role and the niche it can accompany. How to align people around the goal of resilience.

Social Media

In a discussion on the use of social media it was agreed we need to settle some other things first. And Aleks pointed out that it must be professionally done, not ad hoc or improvised.

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Grants

Elaine is the grant person and will follow up.

Content

Ivan spoke about the time required to produce content; what is it that we have to offer – education is part of that; we have to know exactly when someone asks us; we can educate people about these things but we need to be sure that we can do that; we can move into different areas; can ask the RNC if they are willing to help; national organizations – etc. need to show themselves that they are current; trying to position themselves as progressive because are reacting to the social and political atmosphere but don't have enough knowledge; if we can disseminate some knowledge, that is a practical thing we can sell; not sure what can do with the charger guys – have best intentions but may not work; someone needs to link the packages of what people are teaching; need to have something packaged that we can start with for others. It was agreed that Hadi would follow up with Chris the charger guy and ask what kinds of content would help him. What do they need that we can provide?

Grants & Practical Steps

This is Elaine's training; start to look for the bucks and where they are; connect with new network and see where the monies are; need to have a plausible project to fund; would the funders see that as a hole to fill; having money would help for some of us to set aside time for the grant; it's really had to set aside time unpaid; if we knew we were getting reimbursed, it helps – that's reality; can circulate an email doc where everyone can add in suggestions to what has been suggested; Elaine will look for grant opportunities

Moving

Cheryl and Elaine are moving to NB at the end of October. What should their relationship be to R2:1. R2:1 was originally envisioned for southern Ontario. This would move it to a national level. It was agreed that Cheryl and Elaine would continue in their current roles.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m. The next meeting is unscheduled.

Minutes Submitted By: Elaine Bradbee

Minutes Approved By: Cheryl Bradbee