

Purpose

The Revive Thrive Forum brought together service providers, community leaders, and partners to surface shared pressures, identify practical actions, and strengthen coordination across poverty-reduction efforts in Williams Lake. The forum builds on the Thrive Poverty Reduction Strategy and supports collective-impact work aligned with Tamarack Community's approach.

What the Forum Achieved

1. Clear Community Direction

Participants consistently identified that challenges related to poverty are **interconnected**, not siloed. Access to income, food, housing, learning, and connection were discussed as overlapping pressures that require coordinated responses rather than stand-alone programs.

Impact:

- Strengthened shared understanding of where current systems are working and where gaps remain
- Reinforced the need for integrated, cross-sector responses

2. Actionable Priorities for Immediate Planning

Forum input translated into **concrete actions** that can be piloted, scaled, or aligned through Revive Thrive.

Examples of tangible actions identified:

- Co-located, low-barrier pop-up services that reduce navigation barriers
- Expanded food coordination and shared-use infrastructure
- Tax filing and income-support access during high-impact periods
- Embedded education and skills-building within service delivery

Impact:

- Provided a practical roadmap for near-term action
- Reduced the need to "reinvent" solutions already emerging in the community

3. Non-Tangible Outcomes That Strengthen Long-Term Impact

Beyond programs and services, the forum intentionally supported outcomes that influence how people experience support.

Key non-tangible outcomes surfaced:

- Increased trust between community members and service providers
- Reduced stigma through welcoming, non-clinical spaces
- Greater confidence and clarity for participants navigating systems
- Stronger relationships across organizations and sectors

Impact:

- Created conditions that improve uptake and effectiveness of services
- Supported collective impact by strengthening relationships and shared purpose

4. Alignment With Collective Impact & Tamarack Principles

Forum design and outcomes align with Tamarack Community's core principles, including:

- **Common Agenda:** Shared understanding of priority pressure points
- **Mutually Reinforcing Activities:** Partner-led actions aligned through Revive Thrive
- **Continuous Learning:** Forum insights directly inform planning and adaptation
- **Backbone Coordination:** Revive Thrive's role in convening, synthesizing, and supporting action

Impact:

- Ensures community effort remains coordinated, adaptive, and grounded in lived realities
- Supports transparent impact reporting without over-attributing outcomes to one organization

Leadership, Recognition & Governance Signals

The Revive Thrive Forum also incorporated a community celebration and the Social Planning Council's Annual General Meeting. Together, these moments reinforced shared leadership, recognized sustained contributions across Thrive's priority areas, and confirmed organizational alignment to carry Revive Thrive actions forward.

The Champions & Heroes celebration highlighted individuals and organizations already demonstrating leadership, collaboration, and impact across poverty-reduction efforts, reinforcing momentum and collective ownership of the work.

The AGM confirmed governance continuity and resulted in the addition of two new board members, strengthening stewardship capacity and supporting sustained, coordinated implementation of Revive Thrive priorities.

Champions & Heroes – Community Recognition

- **Community Collaboration Award** – Kylie Green (Seniors Activity Centre)
- **Mental Illness & Substance Use Advocate** – Tamara Robinson (Salvation Army)
- **Community Safety Leader** – Boys and Girls Club of Williams Lake
- **Housing Champion** – Canadian Mental Health Association – Cariboo Chilcotin
- **Overall Community Champion** – Cariboo Friendship Society

Recognition was presented during the Revive Thrive Community Celebration & Forum (November 24, 2025).

How This Informs Next Steps

Forum outcomes are already being used to:

- Shape Revive Thrive pop-up service design
- Guide partner collaboration and pilot activities
- Inform funder reporting and future grant applications
- Strengthen measurement of both tangible and non-tangible impact

Overall Impact

The Revive Thrive Forum supported clarity, alignment, and readiness for action. While immediate program changes were not the primary outcome, the forum strengthened the foundation required for effective, coordinated poverty-reduction efforts — ensuring future actions are responsive, collaborative, and grounded in community-identified priorities.

Acknowledgment

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