

Transforming Education through Personal Empowerment

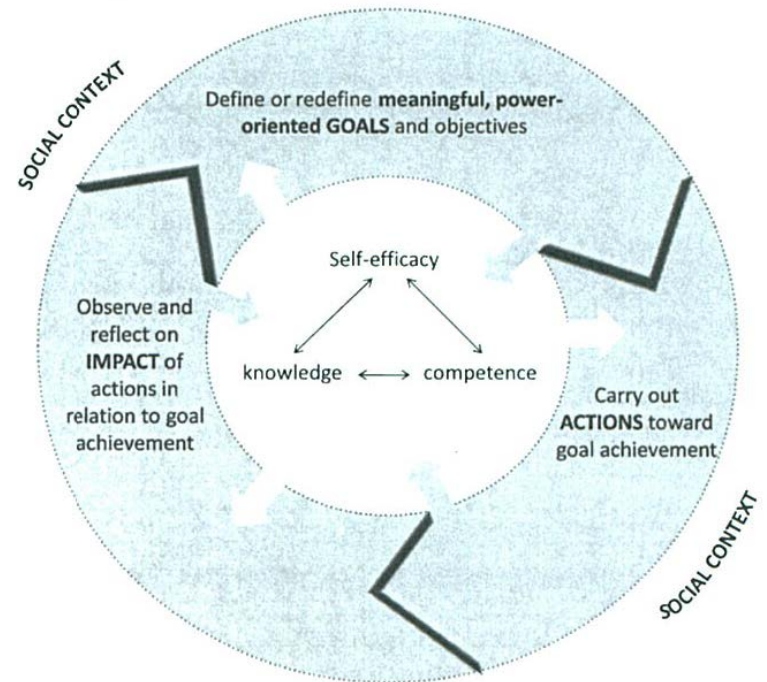
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Theoretical Framework

- Freirean (1970 / 2000)
 - Transformational Education
 - Knowledge = Exchange
 - Popular Education Model
 - Knowledge exists in all experiences
- Empowerment Process Model (Cattaneo & Chapman, 2010)

Figure 1
The Empowerment Process Model



Our Approach

- Anti – Oppression / Anti – Racism / Feminist
- Violence and Learning
- Participant – Centred
- Continuous Feedback and Adaptation

Focusing on Empowerment, Personal Transformation and Social Change

Knowledge is Power (KIP)

- Initiated by community agencies, PARC and SSCH
- Builds on popular education model used in the community
- Investigate KIP and the popular education model
- Empower marginalized populations to take action
 - Recommendations for adaptation
 - Evaluate KIP
 - Classroom in the Community

Our Process

- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Community and College Social Innovation (SSHRC CCSI) call out
 - St. Stephen's Community House (SSCH)
 - Adaptation of Knowledge is Power
 - Parkdale Activity Recreation Centre (PARC)

Our Learning

- What is occurring in the community is occurring at the college
 - **Transitions to Post-Secondary Education (TPE)**
 - Transformative educational experience
 - **Women Transitioning to Trades and Employment (WTTE)**
 - Designed from anti-oppressive, feminist approach
 - Individualized
 - Continuous feedback

Overall

- Higher Education can be made accessible
- Curriculum cannot be static
 - Program curriculum can change based on community needs and demands
- Success can be measured in various ways
 - Many transformative experiences cannot be captured by numbers
- Philosophy / Approach is integrated throughout the process from idea to development to delivery