

**Task Force on Poverty Elimination
Information and Research Round Table
Wednesday, July 9, 2014
4:00 – 5:30 PM
CN Tower, 8th Floor, Room 890**

In attendance: Kris Andreychuk (Chairing on behalf of Fiona Cavanagh), Peter Faid, Allan Undheim, Deanna Williamson, Pieter de Vos, Jolene Volpe, Ward Antoniuk, Lucenia Ortiz, Spela Crnic (Recorder)

Regrets: Fiona Cavanagh (Chair), John Kolkman

Agenda Item	Discussion
Call to order and Opening Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meeting called to order at 4:05 pm.• Opening comments from Kris Andreychuk, who was chairing the meeting on behalf of Fiona Cavanagh.
Review of June 4 IRRT Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minutes approved
Review of June 17 Task Force Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ward Antoniuk gave an update from the Task Force June 17 Meeting and the work of the Task Force Poverty Definition Subgroup.• Pieter de Vos gave an update about Task Force's response to the definition. The definition is to be brought forward on July 17 and the goal is to have a working definition which will change during the process.
Poverty Assumptions and Theory of Change from SC framework and other ideas from IRRT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The aim of July 17 TF meeting is to encourage everyone to express and share their opinion.• Assumptions to be submitted before the meeting and discussed on July 17 in small groups.• The goal of the meeting is to reach a consensus decision about the proposed framework and organizing future actions around that.• Assumptions to be set in a way so we can go back to them when in doubt later in the process. <p>Some assumptions proposed and discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Poverty is not a desirable state but a problem we want to address.• Poverty is not a choice.• It is possible to eliminate poverty, which is a commitment as well as a belief.• We all have the responsibility to help and act.

Updates from Round Table Chairs Joint Meeting with TF staff including Roles and responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of the meeting was clarity in terms of roles and responsibilities.
Joint work with ART	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint Workshop of Round Tables to be planned for late August or early September. The aim is to share perspectives, discuss mutual interests and views, build relationships, etc. The agenda to be planned by Round Table Co Chairs.
IRRT work in August/September and Next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next IRRT meeting to be held on September 10, at 4pm at the CN Tower, 8th Floor, Room 820. <p>New members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New member Katie to join in August (Sociology PhD student) Nathan could be included in Working Groups Mark will be invited to the next IRRT meeting after the July 17 Task Force Meeting.
Meeting Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting ended at 5:30 pm.

Comments and suggestions

- Some concerns expressed regarding the terms *social resources* vs. *economical resources* in the proposed definition of poverty.
- Work of the previous Steering Committee should not be overlooked but rather put to use.
- Consider the difference between assumptions and facts. Facts can act as a springboard for framing assumptions.
- Being clear about the role of the government in the process.
- Important to consider the psychological dimension, as it might be hard for some people to accept help.
- Crucial to define what the elimination of poverty will look like. It mainly refers to the removal of structural and systematic barriers that cause people to struggle.
- A shared understanding needed in order to move the conversation forward - agreeing on fundamental statements is crucial.