2019 Future of Local Government
Creating a Movement on the Road to Localisation
Search for Meaning
The loss of soul and sense of place
Our current story is broken
We are in the time of a ‘Great Turning’

From an industrial growth society to a life sustaining and nourishing society.
School Climate Strikes
What would a local government system look like that embraced community empowerment and nourished life?
‘Time for a new story’

We are the movement builders. A movement of movements.
Communities Taking Control
Bringing meaning and magic back into our lives
Towards a more just and accessible world

Affordable housing  Public markets  Home grown
Conscious consumption and new rituals
Return of the commons

Dimensions of the commons
– Michel Bauwens
Streets as places – public asset as an anchor
Representative democracy no longer serves the common good – shift toward participatory democracy
Barcelona – citizen led ownership and urban commoning
New Working Environments
Co-working & start-ups – maker spaces, 21st century schools
The New Business of Business
Local, experiential & ethically responsible
The rise of ‘third places’
Great cafés, bars & hang out spaces - places to socially connect
Beauty attracts
Using locally sourced & sustainable creativity that activates &
Human-centred technology
Digital experiences, free WiFi & charging stations
Minneapolis, USA

Community-led Investment Co-op
Creating a culture of YES: Joining up the string of pearls

- Inspiring and educating Councillors and Council Officers on the benefits of Placemaking that empowers their communities
Whitehorse City Council

• Improving processes for the Council and community
• Developed placemaking sheets for community
• Streamlined internal processes and procedural change recommendations
• Dedicated point of contact to guide community through process and departments

What is Placemaking?

Placemaking is the process of creating public spaces that bring people together and reflect the local community. Simply put, places that make people happy.

Placemaking can be almost anything, but here are a few tips:
+ Create activity in publicly accessible spaces
+ Collaborative process that brings people together
+ Creates opportunity for people to interact
+ Bring activity to underused or underutilized public spaces
+ Are temporary and can be an event or a physical change to a public place
+ Are often creative, artistic, educational or recreational
+ Are primarily not for commercial purposes.

10 Step Action Plan From Idea To Making It Happen

WHO • Community member • Council Point of Contact (POC) • Place Activation Champion (PAC)

2. Community member researches and develops idea following the step by step approach.
4. Community member makes contact with council and is directed to the community-led placemaking point of contact (POC).
5. Project Plan Part A is submitted to the POC.
6. POC reviews the ideas and matches it to the most relevant Place Activation Champion.
7. PAC makes contact with the community member for initial consultation and preliminary guidance.
8. Community member continues to develop the project following the step by step approach.
10. PAC works with the community member to provide guidance primarily, navigating council processes and identifying ways council can help, including:
   1. Benefits
   2. Insurance
   3. Risk Management
   4. Identify timelines
Town Teams

- Town teams are a new way of engaging & empowering communities. They include businesses & residents, and focus on a specific area.
A new place paradigm for local government

If you are about people & place
EMPOWERING

Blockchain + Crowd Funding + Crowd Sourcing

Facilitate Community Leadership

Draft Manifesto

We Face a Crisis...

We need a new model of governance... a localist response: the health of our society starts in the neighborhood, not in parliaments or boardrooms.

The Role of Local Governance

- Understand & listen to communities, engage in diverse ways
- Empower citizens
- Embrace new ways of working
- Forge partnerships

First Steps

‘Map’ the energy of our communities. Adopt the manifesto/charter & develop action plan

Bold & Brave for Change!
Big Moves

1. Create a culture of YES in councils
   - Empowering citizens

2. Mobilise creativity and local resilience

3. Empower citizen led placemaking
A glimpse into the future

Place Investment District

Regenerative Development

Mainstreet Movement

Crowd Funding

Cohousing

Transition Towns

Re-localisation

Community Bitcoin

Local food systems

Community Currency

Deliberative Democracy

One Planet Zero Carbon Movement

Community Land Trust

The Commons

Town Teams
The new story is a place-based one.

It’s about reconnecting with what’s important in life.
“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

– Margaret Mead