

## Centre for Community Engaged Learning (CCEL) – CTLT Winter Institute Dec 10, 2019

Community engaged learning is an overarching term that encompasses a number of community-based pedagogical practices, including Community Service Learning, Community Based Action Research and others. All community engaged learning activities involve students applying their academic learning within a community context.

Community engaged learning is quite different from volunteering. The emphasis is on mutual benefit. Students have the opportunity to apply their academic learning in a community context, deepening their understanding of disciplinary content. Community partners have the opportunity to draw on students' talents as a contribution to the work of their organization, while also teaching students about key issues in the sectors in which they are working.

It is critical to the success of community engaged learning that student preparation and support takes a prominent role. There is so much to navigate to support students to ethically and meaningfully engage with and in community. Preparation, like developing understandings and competence in anything requires an iterative and deliberate approach.

### Community partner priorities need to drive the work

We believe that the community's voice needs to drive the purpose of the partnership and the design of the projects.

### A strengths or asset based lens to our work

Derived from community development theory we work with and support students to identify places of strength to start conversations and collaborations – working with what is there vs. what isn't which helps us all move away from a charity or deficit based model of engagement.

### Community as Co-educator

We see and forefront community as expert and co-educator who have a lot to offer students in terms of knowledge, expertise and contextualized understanding.

### Reciprocity needs to be designed into all approaches and activities

We believe that collaboration should be equal, respectful and that everyone benefits.

### Reflection is critical to supporting and challenging students

We believe that reflection needs to be ongoing to support students make meaning from the experience to critically examine self, discipline and world around them in an intentional way.

## Links and Tools - <https://ccel.ubc.ca/faculty>

- Find out more about how you can sign up for student workshops
- A toolkit and resource package just for faculty
- Professional development and project funding
- Newsletter to stay current on events, stories and funding resources

**TA Institute (Jan. 13-17):** CCEL facilitates workshops at CTLT's Teaching Assistant (TA) Institute, which is open to any graduate student who is interested in teaching or TAing, and includes sessions on teaching and learning theory, scholarship, classroom strategies, campus climate, and lesson design.