

# Building a web of resources



## Resource and Network Mapping



# Research Questions to a place based practice

*How do Neighbourhood Houses (NHs) in Metro Vancouver, as place based, multi-service, community-governed, non-profit organizations, affect social equity, collective efficacy, and inclusion?*

- How do NHs services reflect the needs and assets of their changing communities?
- How do NHs connect people in the community and nurture collective efficacy?
- How does the NHs role as an intermediary between government and community affect its capacity to foster inclusion, collective efficacy, and/or social equity?

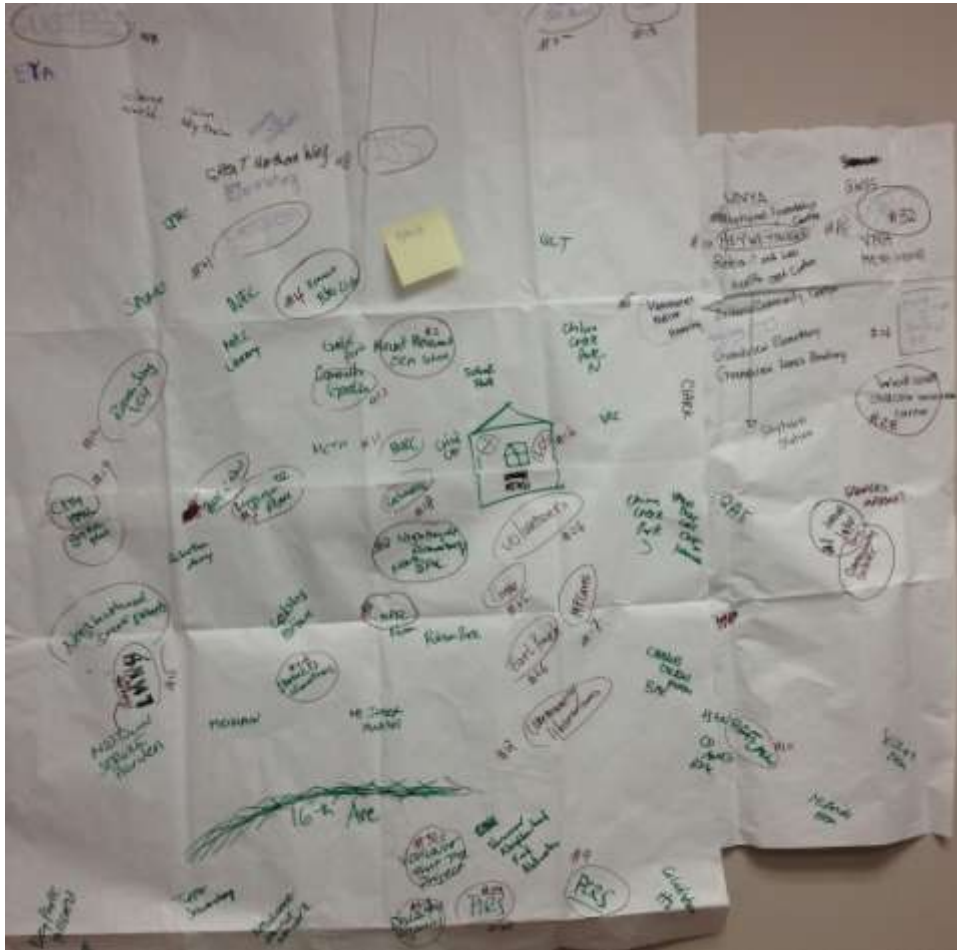
# Resource and Network Mapping

1. Workshops with service providers and volunteers of NHs to map local resources and assets;
1. Interviews with executive directors and program managers to map relationships and roles of NH in fostering, leading or being part of networks;
1. Workshops with community partners and service users / community members to understand uses and importance of the NH in the broader web of community resources.

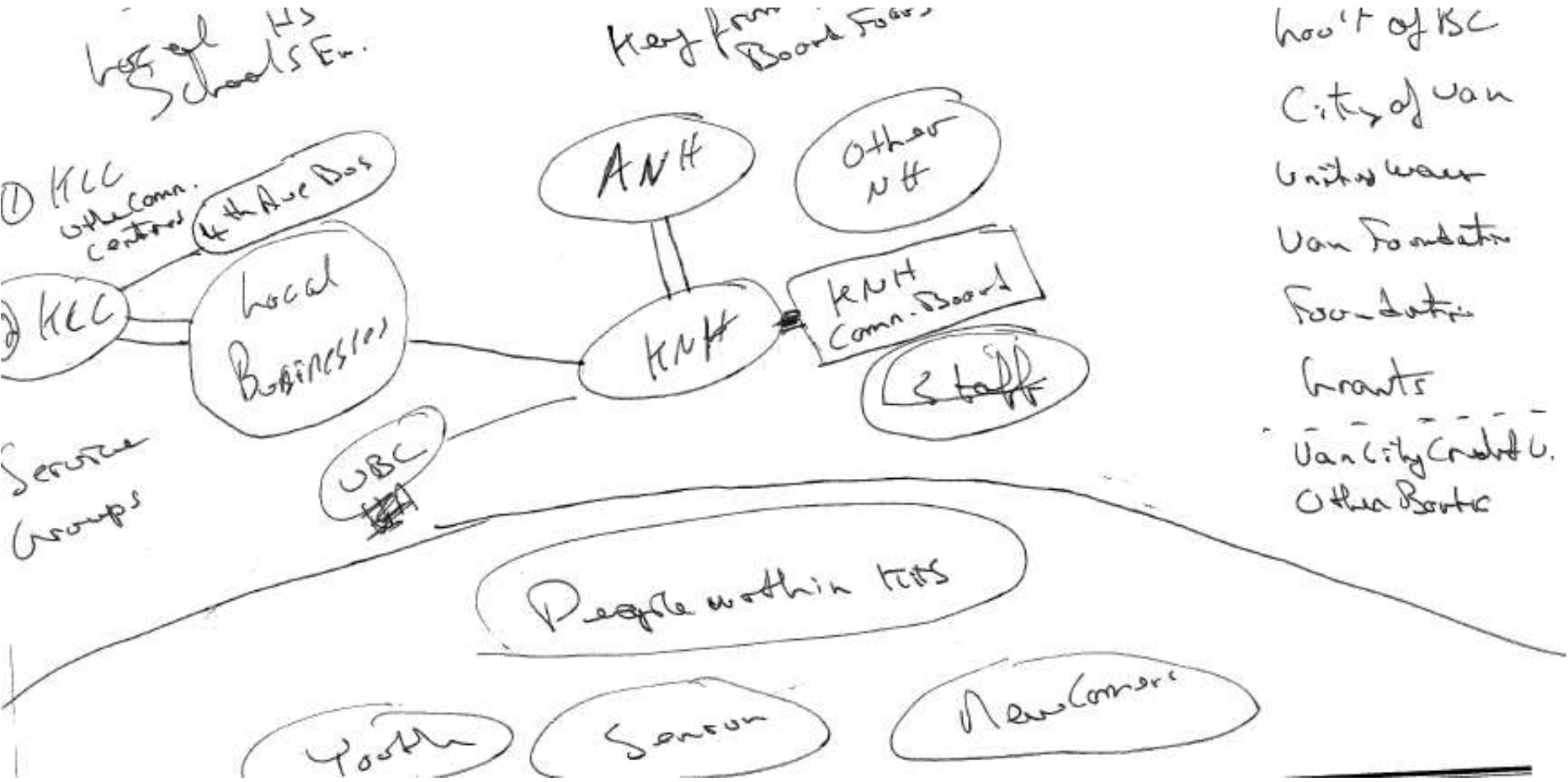


Information Sources: MAPPING ASSETS / RESOURCES  
15 mapping workshops for a total of 75 participants

# Information Sources: Mapping Resources



- Identify *resources and assets that have helped in building and sustaining NHs'* as a place based, multi service and community governed organizations.
- Identify *resources and assets that can potentially help in building and sustaining NHs.*
- Analyze *scope, linkages, importance and role of resources in the functioning of the NH.*



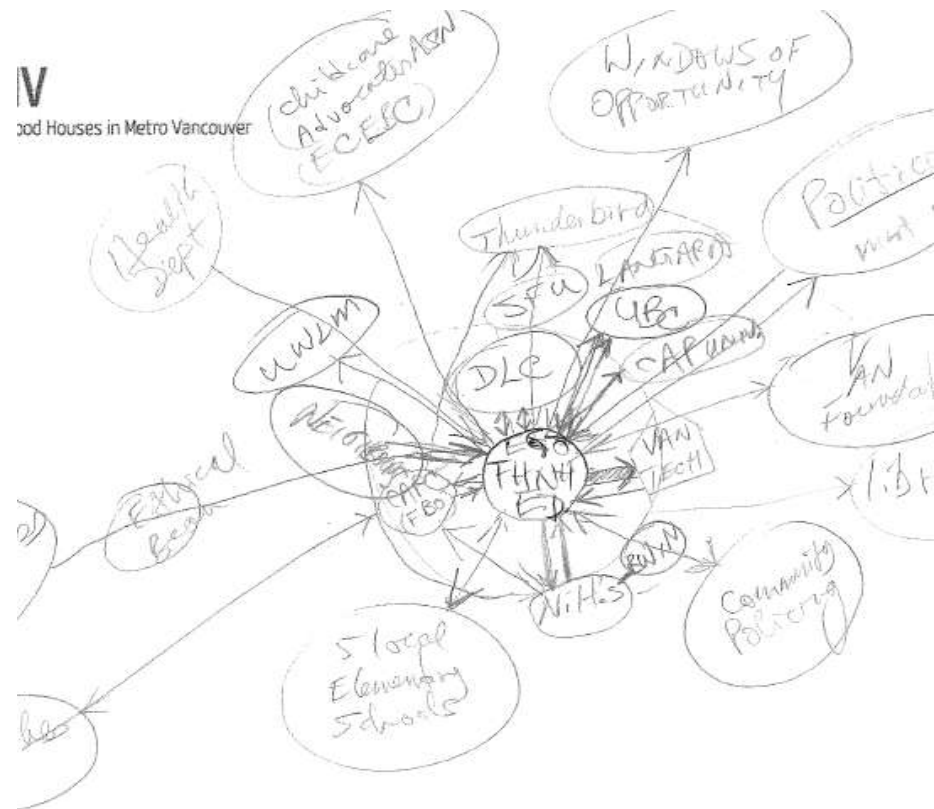
## Information Sources: NETWORK MAPPING

Interviews with 15 executive directors and program managers.



# Information Sources: Networks of NHs

- Identify ways that social life and resources are organized: *with whom does the NH associate with? What for?*
- Identify the *actual and potential connections and social roles* among people/institutions in the social network
- Analyze *scope, sources of power, influence and communication*
- Analyzes *bridges between* networks.



# Network roles and uses

- Linking people
- Building and using local capacity and leadership
- Response to local needs
- Resource redistribution and sharing
- Advocacy on rights and local issues
- Building awareness on issues
- A means for social planning



# Types and mechanisms for engagement

- Collaboration on issues of common interest
- Coalition building
- Participation in broader projects/work
- Staff and volunteer sharing
- Means of referral
- NH as a liaison
- Connection among resources

# The NH as a place based organization: working themes

- Multi role of NHs as **mediator, connector, recipient and referral** of residents, volunteers and partners to a host of heterogeneous resources, services and networks.
- NH as a **relationship and information hub**: Quality of interaction and relationship Information Sources: Networks of NHs with users, groups, other organizations and projects are core features of the place based orientation of NHs.

# Working themes

- **Centrality of formal placed networks and institutional partnerships** in working style of NHs: to ensure and share financial and material resources, awareness and knowledge on local community, information sharing and survival-sustainability for the organization.
- **Transformed place based practice and frameworks of inclusion:** focus on organizing, capacity building and change at the margins and with the vulnerable vs. adapting to a changing neighborhood and funding schemes.

# Challenges?

- Little awareness of NH and its work in the broader community: marginality of the organization
- Emphasis on networking brings new challenges: different perspectives on service provision, and working philosophy and contradictory role (competition)

# Community Partners and Service Users

- In what ways is the NH a resource for the community?
- How does the NH connect partners and users with these resources?
- What is the importance of the NH in the web of resources?