



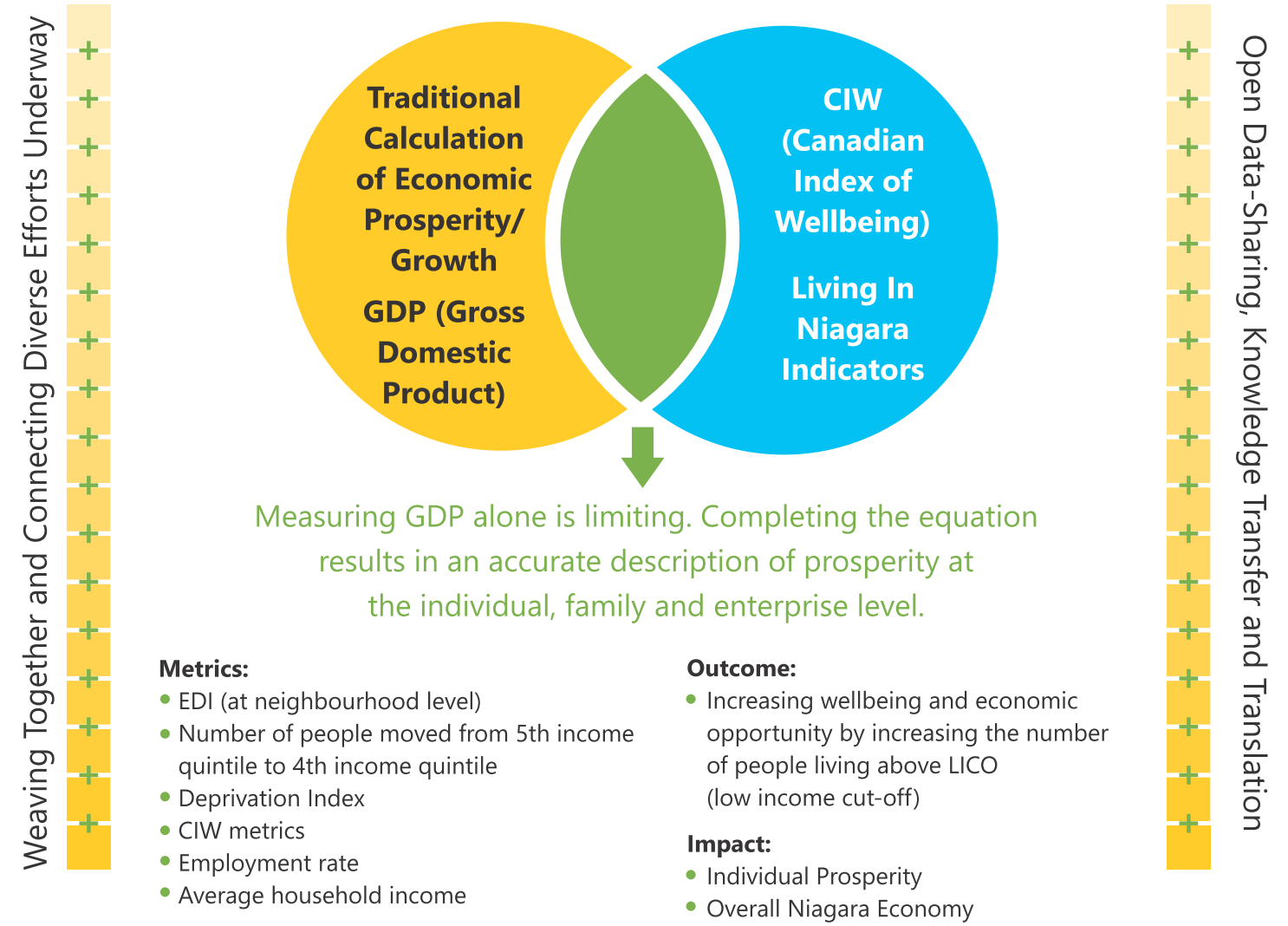
#Rethink Niagara

A Prosperous People Strategy for Niagara

Goal:
Create a vital, vibrant Niagara where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

Objectives:
Build an investment strategy emphasizing development of Niagara's people as the restorative path to achieving prosperity.
Create the conditions for Collective Impact* by weaving together diverse efforts currently underway to improve quality of life through economic opportunity in Niagara.

A Complete Economic Development Approach for Niagara



www.niagaraconnects.ca

Niagara Connects is a Niagara-wide network for collaboration, planning, learning, innovation and community action toward a stronger future for Niagara.

Mission: Generating knowledge that drives community action.

Guiding Principles:
Community strengths, research and evidence are linked in order to plan for a stronger Niagara

Different interests are engaged to work together mobilizing for change; and

Research and activities are guided by communities.



www.livinginniagarareport.com



www.niagaraknowledgeexchange.com



*Collective Impact, Kania & Kramer, Stanford Social Innovation Review, Winter, 2011

www.niagaraconnects.ca



#Rethink Niagara

Building a Prosperous People Strategy for Niagara

2014-2015 - A Reference Group of 15 Niagara leaders examined building blocks for taking a systems approach to investing in the people of Niagara.

GOAL

Create a vital, vibrant Niagara where everyone has the opportunity to thrive

VISION

#Rethink Niagara: Creating a new picture of Niagara by combining both Social and Economic evidence to plan, make decisions and respond to opportunities

PRINCIPLES

Niagara Connects network of people, Collective Impact* and Shared Value** principles underpin the #Rethink Niagara model

Combining GDP, Wellbeing, Living in Niagara Indicators

Understanding who's doing what in Niagara's Economic Development continuum

Overall Themes from 3 Living in Niagara reports: 2008, 2011, 2014

Data, evidence, and knowledge exchange to support focused planning for a stronger future

Economic development, quality of jobs, and building a labour-ready workforce

Reducing poverty by addressing root causes

Strengthening the continuum for mental health and addictions

Collaboration between people and organizations working in and across the 12 Living in Niagara sectors

Systematically Weaving Together Existing Action Efforts

Living in Niagara-2014 report common action themes support systematic planning by people, organizations and networks in Niagara, all looking through a common, data-driven lens focused on the overall #Rethink Niagara goal

Illuminating Sparks of Innovation: Measuring Progress of People and Networks

An iterative Developmental Evaluation framework to provide real-time measurement of where we are, looking at vibrancy and economic impact, as well as the pressing, longitudinal, and bigger pictures

Niagara Data Reservoir

Architecture developed for a systematic mechanism into which people and organizations in Niagara will be engaged in intentionally feeding their information. This tool will combine data layers to strengthen Living in Niagara Indicators and create a new picture of Niagara, with supporting evidence, to advance the overall #Rethink Niagara goal

Common Language for Engagement

Communications Plan built to support common language; engage people, organizations, networks; and tell stories of progress

Niagara Data Reservoir

Living in Niagara Sector data

evidence-informed support for detailed planning

the "new" picture

Data Collection

People and organizations in Niagara intentionally feed their information into a common data pool that combines both social and economic data

Data is organized into 12 layers to strengthen Living in Niagara Indicators

A new picture of Niagara is created with supporting evidence

Plan
Make wise decisions
Respond to opportunity

Prosperous People
Vibrant Niagara

*Collective Impact, Kania and Kramer, Stanford Social Innovation Review, Winter, 2011

** Creating Shared Value, Michael E. Porter and Mark R. Kramer, Harvard Business Review, January-February, 2011