

## **Recommendation 1**

Evaluate the prospect, feasibility and viability of creating a legal framework and budget envelope to foster innovative community-oriented development aiming to provide support and care in areas such as healthcare, education, food security, sustainable housing, energy, and government services. Such an evaluation would benefit from being instigated with the collaboration of communities and stakeholders actively invested in the area of designing new collaborative technologies by using effective and proven participatory facilitation processes.

## **Recommendation 2**

The proposed framework should aim to facilitate the development of community-based approach for managing commons by actively engaging citizens in the design, governance and operations of their communities. In that light, we propose that the government of Canada instigate the use of the 8 core design principles<sup>1</sup> for self-organisation developed in economics by Elinor Ostrom, Nobel prize laureate.

## **Recommendation 3**

Through such an evidence-based economic and participatory framework, developing a strong and trustable Canadian digital infrastructure owned by the people of Canada, would facilitate novel approaches for managing commons in a sustainable manner while increasing citizen engagement and accountability. Such engagement from citizens is increasingly necessary to tackle the complex wicked challenges our societies are currently facing.

## **Recommendation 4**

The outcomes of such initiatives could establish a trust network capable of providing security and confidence among Canadian and Indigenous communities that would benefit from more efficient and resilient supply chains through a more robust digital economy infrastructure. The increased trust would allow for individuals, groups, communities, governments and corporations to safely and securely handle their increasingly digital life affairs. Furthermore, the outcomes of these initiatives should have substantial impact across multiple commercial and governance sectors generating increased activity and enabling innovations and producing novel and faster cycles of economic and development activities.

## **Recommendation 5**

By improving network resilience, data-integrity and self-organization in face of complex challenges Canadians and Indigenous communities, would be better equipped to address issues in areas such as health, mental health, climate change, food security, education and local economy resilience. Such a trust network would better support the increased digitalisation of communications, services and offerings for individuals, communities and businesses.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://economics.com/tragedy-of-the-commons-elinor-ostrom/>

## **Recommendation 6**

Finally, we propose that by enabling and instigating the development of a shared base layer of capacities in support of collective entrepreneurship, more Canadian entrepreneurs would be capable of leveraging commercial interests to extend and enhance delivery of their offerings by running on shared digital network layers, eliminating the need for redundant development and infrastructure across multiple companies, particularly for small and medium sized businesses. Improving their delivery, organisational efficiency and limiting the rapidly escalating cost burden of technology needed to remain in operation. Furthermore, we propose that such initiative be developed through open-source solutions with a commercial use licence framework capable of sustaining the endeavor.

### **Establishment of Canadian digital trust networks for sustainable adaptation and economic resilience in the face of increased complex challenges.**

In a VUCA environment (volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity), the current pace of change will require deeper levels of collaboration to stimulate innovation and establish a renewed economic landscape capable of achieving systemic efficiency across and in-between economic agents. The prospect of using electronic transaction technologies to facilitate exchange of not only goods and services but essential and trustable data flow to enable cross-sector collaboration is increasingly necessary in such a rapidly changing environment. Another essential point to consider from a life-centered design perspective is how reusability and compatibility of future technology stack needs to be considered to increase efficiency and collaboration capacities across various market segments and regions to provide a solid base for a transition towards a circular-economic model for economic, social and environmental sustainability.

With that understanding in mind, and the fact that a strong majority of Canadians in B.C. support a more equitable and sustainable economy<sup>2</sup>, we recommend the following for consideration in the establishments of guidelines and budget orientations for a post COVID-19 recovery as a way to foster innovation, resilience and adaptive capacity for the benefit of all Canadians.

Theo Van Brabant  
Sustainability Strategist  
Vancouver, B.C.

---

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/majority-of-b-c-residents-support-major-economic-shifts-post-recovery-poll-suggests-1.5655519>