

SPECTRUM

What is SPECTRUM?

Mission

Spectrum brings people together to use data and lived experience to inform how we can become a fairer and more just society. We share a commitment that we can achieve more by working together than we could working alone.

WHO – we are a collaborative partnership of community organization representatives, government staff, researchers and students from across Manitoba

WHY – we are seeking creative ways to make human services, programs and policies better serve people's needs

HOW – we are doing this through applied research, predominantly using the Manitoba Population Research Data Repository

WHAT – our ultimate goal is to achieve equity across the complete spectrum of outcomes, including: health and well-being, education, justice, housing, income, and employment.

Values



Collaboration



Compassion



Courage



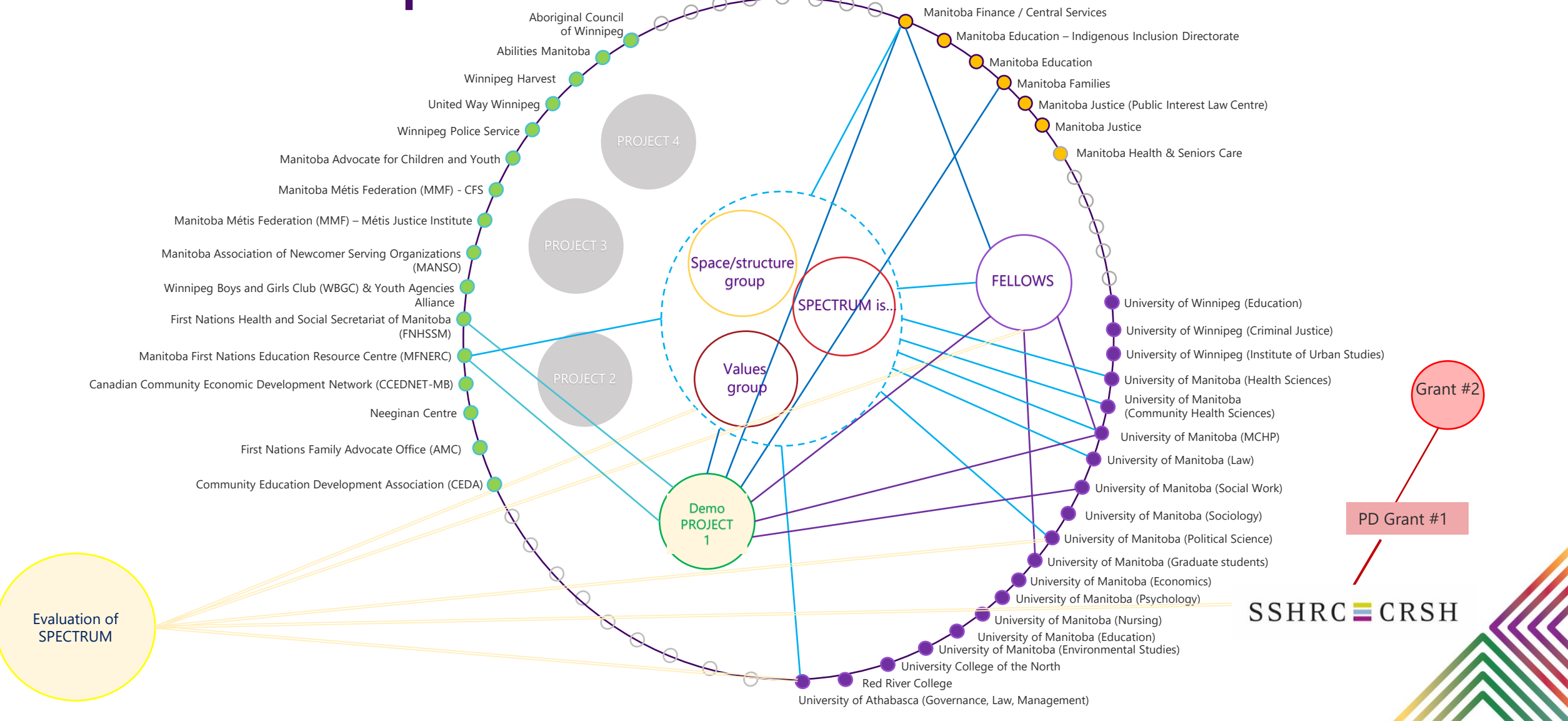
Creativity & Innovation



Respect for Diversity



Partnership



SPECTRUM

Working Group Updates

Partnership Grant Working Group

SSHRC Partnership Grant

- Up to \$2.5 million
- Research and evaluation

Two Stages

1. February 2022
2. October 2022

Reaching Out to Partners

- Reaching out soon
- Participation, possible letter of support

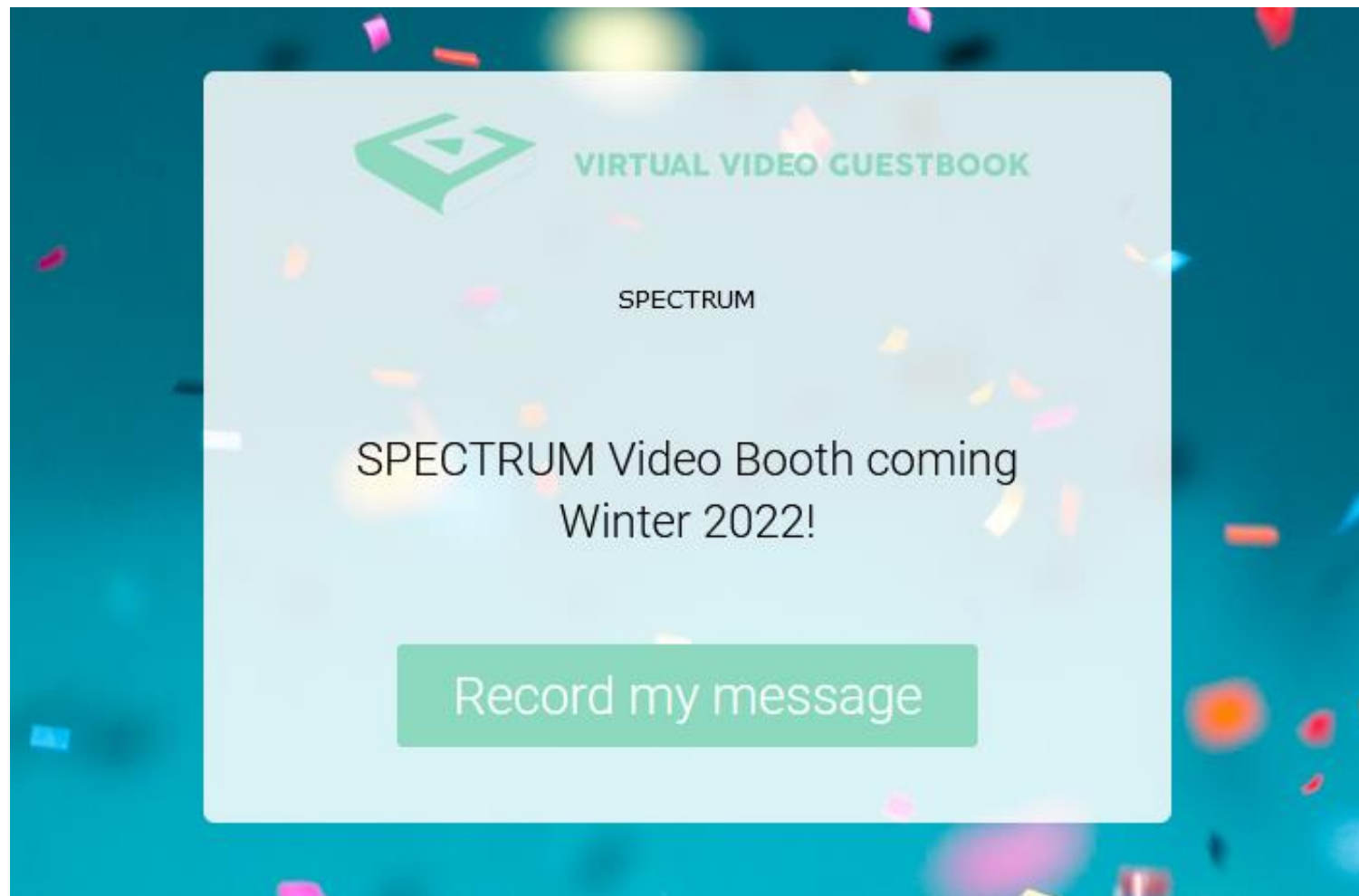
Papers in Progress

SPECTRUM is working on a number of papers:

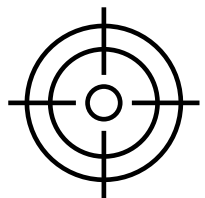
- SPECTRUM Framework
- SPECTRUM and Experiential Learning
- Evaluating SPECTRUM: Evaluating an innovative collective promoting social justice through policy development and research
- Demo Project 1



Communications



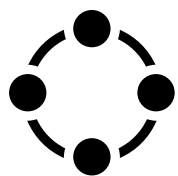
Demonstration Project 1



Research goal



All necessary approvals are in place



Advisory Circle Meeting with Elders and Knowledge Keepers



A 3D illustration of a networking breakout activity. It features several stylized human figures in various colors (red, yellow, orange, blue, green, pink) arranged in a circle on a light gray floor. Each figure is connected to its neighbors by a thick, gray rope. The ropes form a network of connections between the figures. The text "Networking Breakout" is overlaid in the center in a large, white, sans-serif font. A white horizontal line is drawn below the text.

Networking Breakout

Speakers' Corner

Stephanie Sinclair

Elizabeth Decaire

First Nations Health and Social Secretariat of Manitoba





Time for a break!



The Public Policy Process

A discussion with SPECTRUM

Dr. Karine Levasseur

November 25, 2021



What is 'public' policy?

- **What is public policy?**
 - American scholar Thomas Dye famously said that public policy is whatever government choose to do or choose not to do. So, this involves 'actively' making decisions (i.e. minimum wage), but also includes non-decisions.
- **What about symbolic policy making?**
- **Are electoral pledges or partisan promises made during election public policy?**
 - No.
- **Are administrative changes considered public policy?**
 - No.

Public Policy Cycle

- How is public policy made? Conceptually, scholars and practitioners rely in the 'public policy cycle' which outlines stages that formulating policy undergoes.

1. Problem identification

2. Agenda-setting

3. Problem definition

- Framing is employed to simplify complex policy problems into understandable language and ideas.
- Example: compare two labels of 'illegal alien' and 'undocumented immigrant'.
- How you frame the problem leads to the solution that you want adopted. This is why so much time is spent on defining and framing the problem.
- Want to learn more about framing? Read Dr. G. Lakoff's book titled: "*Don't think of an elephant: Know your values and frame the debate.*"

Public Policy Cycle

4. Problem formulation

- Policy consistency
- Formulating policy must meet two requirements, it must be politically acceptable, and it must be effective and feasible in addressing the problem.
- Gender-based analysis (GBA).

5. Policy Implementation

6. Policy Evaluation

- **QUESTION:** Does this cycle play out in practice? Not generally, but it is a helpful conceptual tool (i.e. new evidence can alter a policy that has already been implemented).

Once the data is analyzed, what will SPECTRUM do?

- One of SPECTRUM's goal is to take the research and transform it into viable and feasible public policy options for the Government of Manitoba because research alone is insufficient to transform public policy.
- By doing so, the research results, mixed with the experience of front-line work will produce policy options. In similar ways that the research was co-produced between SPECTRUM partners, the policy options will also be co-produced.
- **Next steps:**
 - Next workshop will engage in discussion of framing
 - Develop process for SPECTRUM Partners to coproduce policy options.

Breakout Discussion



- Does this public policy cycle resonate with you? Is there something in this cycle that surprised you?



- What do I hope to take away from this next phase of developing policy options?



- Are you interested in being actively involved with taking the research and transforming that data into policy options?



- SPECTRUM needs to develop a process to build policy options collaboratively. What would you like to see in that process?



- How could this next step (developing policy options) benefit the people I serve?



Closing



THANK YOU!



UPCOMING WORKSHOP
IN JANUARY



FEEDBACK SURVEY