

# Five Good Ideas<sup>®</sup>

## Five Good Ideas on how to become a collaborative organization



Tuesday, June 2, 2026 | 1-2 p.m.

Collaboration with other organizations can build your organizational capacity, amplify your impact, and help you serve more people – but only if you get it right. Successful collaboration starts at home – with your board and senior leaders building the right internal culture, competencies, and systems before you approach potential partners.

Join Liz Weaver, former Co-CEO of the Tamarack Institute, and Linda Mollenhauer, Chair of Ignite NPS, as they share practical stories and ideas to help you choose the right collaborations, show up as a strong partner, and avoid common pitfalls. They will draw from free resources in [The Collaborative Organization](#) – tools you can use right away.

### Five Good Ideas

- 1. Look inward. Culture matters.** The values your board and leadership hold shape how others see you as a partner.
- 2. Understand the why.** Get clear on what strategic benefits collaboration will bring to your mission.
- 3. Be intentional by managing opportunities and mitigating risks.** Treat collaborations like investments – assess fit and protect your organization.
- 4. Get your own shop in order.** Make sure you have the internal capacity and systems to deliver on commitments.
- 5. Put it in writing.** Create a board policy that guides how and when you collaborate.

### Resources

- [Collaboration Coach](#)
- [Collaborative Governance and Leadership series](#)
- [Catalyzing Systems Change: Lessons from Five Funded Projects](#)
- [Collaboration Under Strain](#)
- [What Capacities do Nonprofits Need in Order to Collaborate](#)

### Liz Weaver

Former Co-CEO, Tamarack – An Institute for Community Engagement, Director, Weaverworks Consulting



Liz is the Director, Weaverworks Consulting, where she draws on her experience in collaborative governance and collective leadership. She was the former Co-CEO of the Tamarack Institute and led the Tamarack Learning Centre providing strategic direction for the design and development of learning resources and tools for collaborative leaders. The focus of the Tamarack Learning Centre is to work with community leaders to co-generate knowledge and become a collective force for social change. Liz has developed and delivered curriculum on a variety of workshop topics including collaborative governance, leadership, collective impact, community innovation, influencing policy change, and social media for impact and engagement.

### Linda Mollenhauer

Chair of Ignite NPS



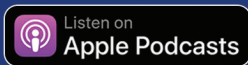
Linda Mollenhauer is Chair of Ignite NPS, a foundation committed to igniting new ways of working in the non-profit sector. She co-created the Reimagining Governance Lab with the Ontario Nonprofit Network (ONN) and The Collaborative Organization with the Tamarack Institute. Linda led a consulting practice for over 20 years working with funders and non-profit organizations. In collaboration with others, she has published resources, such as Trends and Forces Reshaping Nonprofit Organizations; Board Oversight of Not-for-Profit Collaboration (CPA); Benchmarks of Excellence for the Voluntary Sector; A Framework for Success for Nonprofit Federations; and Collaboration Coach. Prior to her consulting practice, she was CEO of Imagine Canada. She has a master's degree in communications from Boston University.



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## FIVE GOOD IDEAS

PRACTICAL STRATEGIES FOR NON-PROFIT SUCCESS

Edited by **ALAN BROADBENT AND RATNA OMIDVAR**

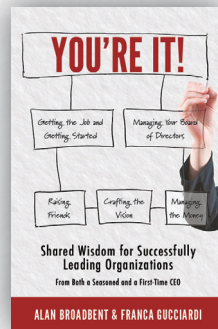
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