Lessons Learned from Knowledge Mobilization
(with thanks to a Prince and a Cat)

David Phipps, York University
one of our stories

http://www.youtube.com/researchimpact#p/a/u/0/J15_IBz5mYU
Knowledge Mobilization

Producer Push (KT) 

Exchange (KE) 

User Pull (KT) 

co-production 

partnerships 

CBR 

Research Summaries 

Research Translation Help Desk 

Research Partnerships 

KMb Interns 

Social Media 

Research Forums 

KM in AM 

Community Based Research 

Research Translation 

Context – institutional knowledge mobilization services
Management' policies are hurting the nutrition of homeless youth in Toronto.

What is this research about?
Canadian policy on homelessness has emphasized 'managing' the problem through local emergency services and in some cases through criminalizing homelessness through outlawing sleeping rough, panhandling and squeegeeing. As a result, the feeding of the homeless has largely been left to community groups that can only provide limited emergency food assistance. Researchers set out to see what kind of an impact these policies have had on the nutrition of the homeless, especially homeless youth in cities like Toronto.

What did the researchers do?
The researchers asked 261 homeless youth in Toronto about their experiences under the new policies and laws. They used surveys and interviews.

What did the researchers find?
The researchers found most Toronto homeless youth to be malnourished. These youth had poor diets because of their homelessness, regardless of whether they obtained all their meals at soup kitchens, or through purchasing their own food. The new policies on homelessness have changed the lives of homeless youth in Toronto for the worse. The youth who previously relied on panhandling and squeegeeing now have little chance to make money. Homeless youth prefer paying their own food on their own time instead of relying on overstretched soup kitchens and other community food services.

How can you use this research?
Policymakers and community organizations will find this research useful. It shows the negative impact of 'management' homelessness simply through emergency services and charitable food programs. If we want to address the hunger of the homeless, we need to focus on preventing homelessness and poverty, and support transitions out of homelessness, rather than rely on emergency services only. Charitable food programs are not enough. Like most Canadians, the homeless prefer to buy their own food. By controlling policies for panhandling and squeegeeing the police cut income for many homeless youth who then go hungry.

About the Researcher
Dr. Stephen Gaetz is Associate Dean, Research and Field Development in the Faculty of Education, York University. Valerie Tarasuk is a Professor with the Department of Nutritional Science at the University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine. Naomi Dachner and Sharon Kirkpatrick are researchers with the Department of Nutritional Sciences at the University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine. This Research Snapshot is from his project, 'Safe Streets for Whom?' Homeless Youth, Social Exclusion, and Criminal Victimization'. It is published in Work, Employment and Society 16.3 (2002): 433-456. sgaez@edu.yorku.ca

Keywords
Homelessness, services for homeless, youth, Toronto, social support systems, nutrition, poverty.
# Faculty Involved | 240  
# Graduate Students Involved | 142  
# Information sessions for faculty and students | 166  
# Information sessions for community | 185  
# collaborations brokered | 246  
# agencies involved in KMb partnerships | 205  
Community Partner funding raised | $1.1 M  
Research Contract funding raised | $1.2 M  
Total KMb associated grant funding raised | $17.6 M  
# web hits | +4.5 M  
# Research Summaries | 173  
# tweets | 5447  
#twitter followers | 1845  
# delicious bookmarks | 244  
# blog postings (+70,000 views) | 294
During the last 5 years York’s KMb Unit has collaborated with UWYR to enhance campus-community connections.

• 82/228 collaborations in York Region
• York Region priority for KMb interns
• All ResearchSnapshot in 2010 and 2011 UWYR priorities
• Grants co-authored 3 papers & 3 grants
• Funding directed to UWYR to hire community broker
• Shared governance; shared student funding

Is this Research Use? Knowledge Brokering?
With inspiration from...

Niccolò di Bernardo dei Machiavelli (May 3 1469 – June 21 1527)

December 22, 1957
Concludero’ solo che al principe, e necessario avere il popolo amico.

I will conclude then that it is necessary for the prince to have the people as friends.

Lesson: No silo research. Research partnerships must be broad and most importantly, engage the people impacted by the outcome.

Mobilizing Minds: Pathways to Young Adult Mental Health

Role of social media?
So all we could do was to sit, sit, sit. And we did not like it, not one little bit. Then something went bump. How that bump made us jump.

Lesson: Enter all partnerships with an initial plan, a willingness to change depending on the circumstances and when something goes bump – be present. Full commitment, engagement and openness are critical. If not, do not enter.

Inclusivity Action Plan Evaluation
Debbe un uomo prudente entrare sempre per vie battute da uomini grandi e quelli che sono stati eccellentissimi imitare, accio che, se la virtu non vi arriva, almeno ne renda qualche odore.

A wise man must always follow the beaten path of great men and those who are most excellent to imitate, so that, even if one’s personal virtue does not suffice, at least the imitation will suffice.

Lesson: Seek to imitate the best and the boldest.
I have some good friends. I can show them to you. I call them Thing 1 and Thing 2.

Lesson: The more partners the better – with, of course, commitment to the shared vision. Bring all to the table. But build corporate relationships, deeper than the strength of one on one.
Lesson 5

“Have no fear of this mess,” said the Cat in the Hat. “I always pick up all my playthings…”

Lesson: Clean up. Partnerships and community mobilization is messy. Communities are not looking for drive-thru work. Communities are looking for presence by the university in the community. Even the Cat in the Hat came back in book 2.

TD Community Engagement Centre
Lesson 6

Coloro i quali solamente per fortuna diventano, con poça fatica diventano ma con assai si mantengono.

Those who come only with good fortune, may, with little effort arrive, but, must, with huge effort, remain and sustain.

Lesson:  All good things take time and hard work. If it comes too easy, it is not likely worth it.
And then he said, “That is that.” And then he was gone with a tip of his hat.

Lesson:  Not everything must last forever.

Free the Children
Knowledge Mobilization - Lessons Learning

Combination of **producer push & user pull = exchange & co-production**

**Knowledge broker** is core to institutional capacity

Is **NOT** SSH technology transfer

Is **MORE** than a website or a brochure

Takes **resources** ($ and time)

**KMb results in social innovation**

**Impact takes time**
Knowledge Mobilization – How are we doing?


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<th>York</th>
<th>Guelph*</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Value placed upon/incentives provided for generation of impact</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Two-way interactions between researchers and users</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Communication/increasing accessibility of research</strong></td>
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*OMAFRA KTT, Guelph ICES
National Vision for Knowledge Mobilization

Knowledge Brokers
In their own words...

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SmlWbsMO93w&list=FLkz8O0mnDbgER4aZPoWAheQ&index=1&feature=plpp_video
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