



"Connecting Change Practitioners" PBA's Movement-building work in 2018

INTRODUCTION

The collaborative era is upon us, it is the global zeitgeist and the evolutionary shift of our age. "Crowd economy/sourcing", "Open Source", "Shared Value", "Networked Organisations", "Collective Impact", "partnership platforms" and "SDG 17 - partnership for SDG goals" are just a few of the global frameworks gathering popular appeal as methods for enabling the multi-stakeholder collaboration we *urgently* need to transition to a more sustainable, equitable and peaceful socio-economic system and model for human development and co-existence.

There are now a number of individuals, entities and approaches focused on HOW to make these multi-stakeholder initiatives productive at co-creating change across boundaries previously thought impossible. As the field of collaboration knowledge and practice evolves, we need to make sense of what we are collectively learning and enable and support the individuals who in practice are taking forward this shift in approach.

We believe that the Partnership Brokers Association has two important roles to play here:

1. To actively **broker relationships** with like-minded others and
2. To **support partnership brokers** in their role(s) by connecting them to others whose approaches may help them to transform the systems in which they work.

PBA therefore seeks to align itself and to connect with other **disruptive innovators** in the collaboration space in order to:

- i) Learn, experiment, explore how different approaches can be complementary/mutually enhancing
- ii) Investigate joint action research and advocacy possibilities
- iii) Support and share learning to build capacity of practitioners in the field

This is a warm invitation to both those within PBA's networks and others to come together in sharing experience and learning to build a global change network that can reach far beyond our individual organisation's efforts.

OUR PLANS FOR 2018

KEY ACTIVITIES

- **Follow up** with aligned change practitioners (initiatives, individuals and organisations) building on strong PBA Associate's connections. Our focus for this year are to engage with (i) Art of Hosting (ii) Adam Kahane (iii) Collective Impact and (iv) Presencing Institute.
- **Organise experimental interactions** (webinars/in-person meetings/1:1 conversations/group networking etc) with key others/change practitioners to:
 - Learn what works well for building a wider movement
 - Get to know other change practitioners and their approaches better
 - Begin to build a stronger and more integrated movement for change
- **Capture learning from other approaches** and feedback into PBA activities (training, learning, services) & the partnership brokering approach where appropriate
- **Explore opportunities for co-working** (with selected others) that could be developed to the benefits of all parties (as part of our New Initiatives series)

PROPOSED EXPERIMENTS IN BUILDING THE FIELD

- A. Webinars with others/other approaches to discover touch points and learning
 - 9th April - **Adam Kahane/Collaborating with the Enemy**
- B. In person events with specific other approaches to share learning/methodologies/approach
 - 17th May - **Art of Hosting & PBA learning event**
- C. In person events to connect to wider networks and discover potential aligned individuals/orgs
 - 18th May - PBA, AOH and **wider UK networks** gathering
(To be scheduled for later in 2018 activities with Collective Impact and Presencing Institute)
- D. Encourage/engage with other Associates and PBA contacts to take similar initiatives with other entities so the movement builds organically and echoes our distributed model

OUTPUTS

1. 2-page summary of each event/approach covering touch-points between approaches, how different approaches can be used by PBA and partnership brokers, and potential for collaboration and new initiatives (4 papers for 2018)
2. Above papers to be made available via PBA website and, perhaps, re-worked as a paper for the Journal
3. Autumn - review paper of the year's activity to date and make plans and recommendations for 2019

OUTCOMES

1. Deepened knowledge of the emerging collaboration space and different actors/approaches
2. Positioning of PBA as bridging a variety of entities dedicated to collaborative activities and brokering new initiatives in this space
3. Identification of key others to work with
4. Some identified emergent themes for co-working
5. Connection to a wider network of interested individuals who may pursue joint ventures with PBA, attend PBT and/ or become PBA Alumni or Associates