



Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) is a framework for community building developed by John McKnight and John Kretzmann based on their studies of successful community building initiatives in hundreds of neighbourhoods. This framework is explained in *Building Communities From the Inside Out – A Path Toward Finding and Mobilising a Community's Assets*, first published in 1993, as a practical guide to ABCD. An introduction to this work can be found [here](#). A [video](#) from Calabash Trust also presents the ABCD concept effectively. Several communities in Canada and all over the world have implemented this approach to community development.

FIVE BASIC STEPS TOWARDS ABCD

1. Mapping Assets
2. Building Relationships
3. Mobilizing for Economic Development and Information Sharing
4. Convening the Community to Develop a Vision and a Plan
5. Leveraging outside resources to support Locally Driven Development

Source: Kretzmann, John P. and McKnight, John L. *Building Communities From the Inside Out – A Path Toward Finding and Mobilising a Community's Assets*. Illinois: Institute of Policy Research. 1993

PRINCIPLES OF ABCD

1. Citizen-led
2. Relationship oriented
3. Asset-Based
4. Placed-Based
5. Inclusion focused

Source: Russel, C. *Asset-Based Community Development—5 core principles*. Available at: <http://www.nurtureddevelopment.org/blog/asset-based-community-development-5-core-principles/pdf> Accessed on February 04, 2018

SOME USEFUL RESOURCES ON ABCD

Coady International Institute. By their own hands: St. Andrews, Nova Scotia, Canada Available at: http://coady.stfx.ca/themes/abcd/publications/by_their_own_hands/ Video Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-JInRVI-QXY#action=share> Accessed February 04, 2018.

Coady International Institute. (2005). Asset-Based Development: Success Stories from Egyptian Communities A Manual for Practitioners. Available at: [http://coady.stfx.ca/tinroom/assets/file/CDS_manual\(1\).pdf](http://coady.stfx.ca/tinroom/assets/file/CDS_manual(1).pdf) Accessed February 04, 2018.

Coady International Institute. Stories of ABCD. Available at: <http://coady.stfx.ca/themes/abcd/stories/> Accessed February 04, 2018.

Coady International Institute. ABCD case studies. Available at: <http://coady.stfx.ca/knowledge/publications/cases/> Accessed February 04, 2018.

International Association for Community Development. (2009). What Are Asset-Based Approaches to Community Development? Available at: <http://csl.ubc.ca/files/2010/04/What-Are-Asset-Based-Approaches-to-Community-Development.pdf> Accessed February 04, 2018.

Killing W ood, Suzanne, "Asset-Based Community Development: A Case Study" (2008). Theses and Dissertations (Comprehensive). 902. Available at: <http://scholars.wlu.ca/etd/902> Accessed February 04, 2018.

Stoltenberg Bruursema, Cherry (2015) "Asset-Based Community Development: A Path toward Authentic Community Development Practice,"SPNHA Review: Vol. 11: Iss. 1, Article 7. Available at:<http://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/spnhareview/vol11/iss1/7> Accessed February 04, 2018.



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