



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/](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 Wood, 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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