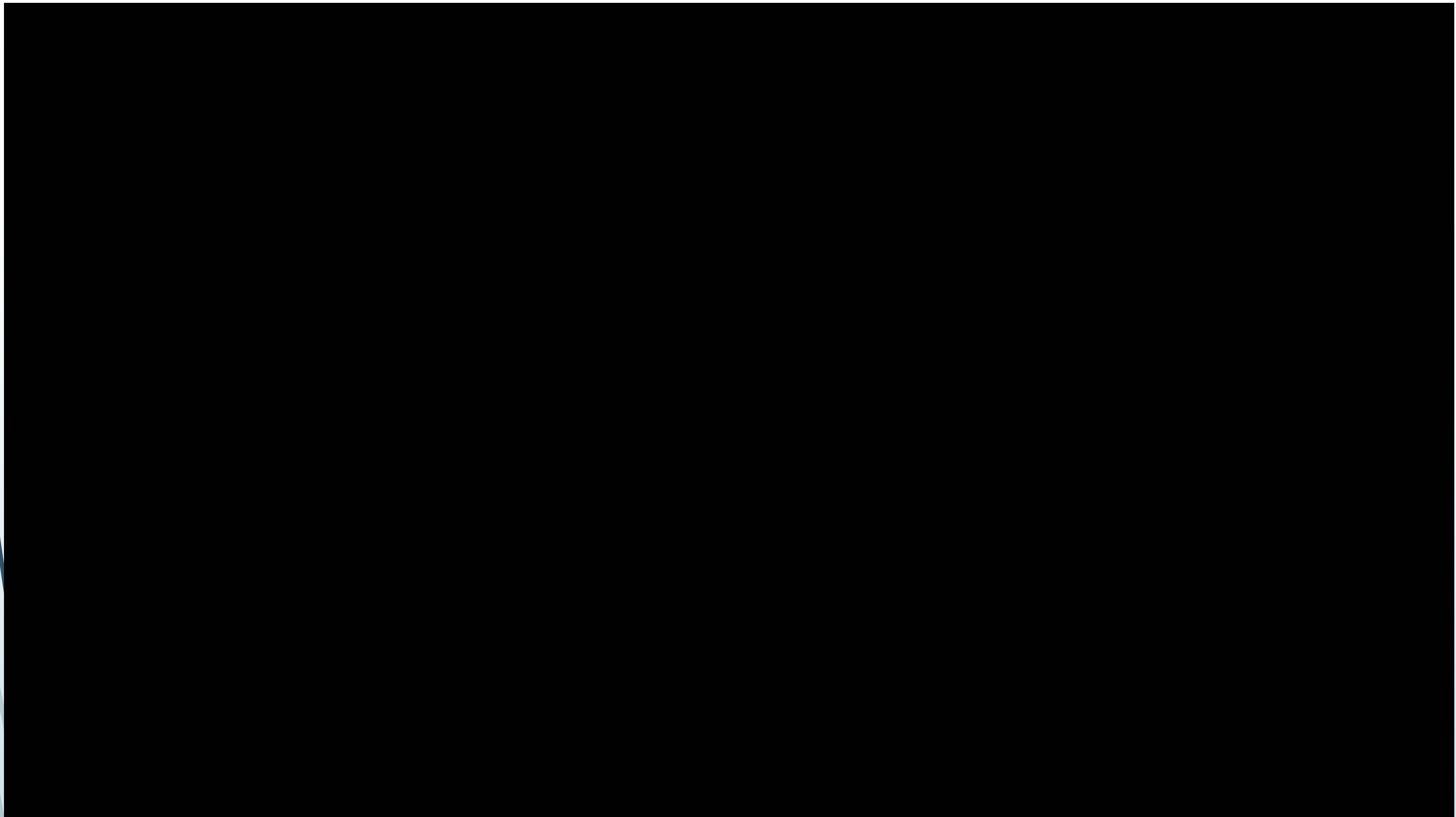


Life is Good

**In the Company of Friends
(ICOF)**

An Innovative Model

Innovative **LIFE** Options 



Life is Good

**In the Company of Friends
(ICOF)**

An Innovative Model

Innovative **LIFE** Options 

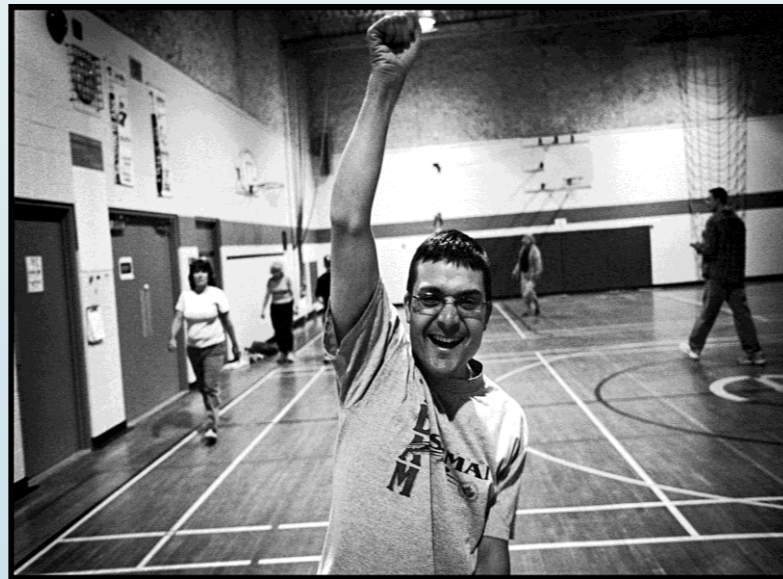


Today.....

- History – *In the Company Of Friends***
- Support Networks**
- ICOF Entrance Process**
- Creation of Innovative LIFE Options Inc.**
- Innovation/ Solutions**
- Q & A**

In the Company of Friends

(ICOF)





Groups came together...

- ❑ **Families**
- ❑ **Community Living Groups**
- ❑ **Self-Advocates**
- ❑ **Government Representatives**
- ❑ **Community Members and Advocates**



- ❑ **Inclusion**

- ❑ **Relationship**

- ❑ **Community involvement and participation**

- ❑ **Self-determination**

- ❑ **Individualized funding**

1993, *In the Company of Friends* – the pilot project begins.....





The ICOF Story continues...

- Management committee created**
- Initial philosophy**
- Policy and procedures**
- Innovative journey to cope with challenges**

Support Networks



- Network development is integral to model
- Group of unpaid individuals chosen by employer
- Relationships



In the Company of Friends

- Direct - One source funding**
- Choice**
- Employers**
- No longer seen as being on Income Assistance**
- Flexibility**

Entrance Process

- Agree to work with Support Network**
- Lengthy but Thorough**
- Embrace the ICOF Philosophy**
- Coordinator**
- Celebrate as a TEAM**

Innovation!!

- Creation of a Non Profit Organization**
- Options for Service**
- Promotion**
- Collaboration**
- Projects**



Innovative **LIFE** Options

Mission of Innovative LIFE Options Inc.

To provide participant/employer of ***In the Company of Friends*** and his/her Support Network with:

- high quality resources,
- information and
- guidance

that will assist each participant in creating the life that he/she desires within the framework of valued and meaningful relationships.

Innovative **LIFE** Options



LIFE is a non-profit organization

- **Board of Directors**
- **Executive Director**
- **Staff team of 6 Resource Coordinators to provide support to networks**
- **Financial Administrator**
- **Service Purchase Agreement with Province of Manitoba**

Innovative **LIFE** Options



OPTIONS for SERVICE

- Creative solutions*
- Contract work*
- Decisions remain with employer*



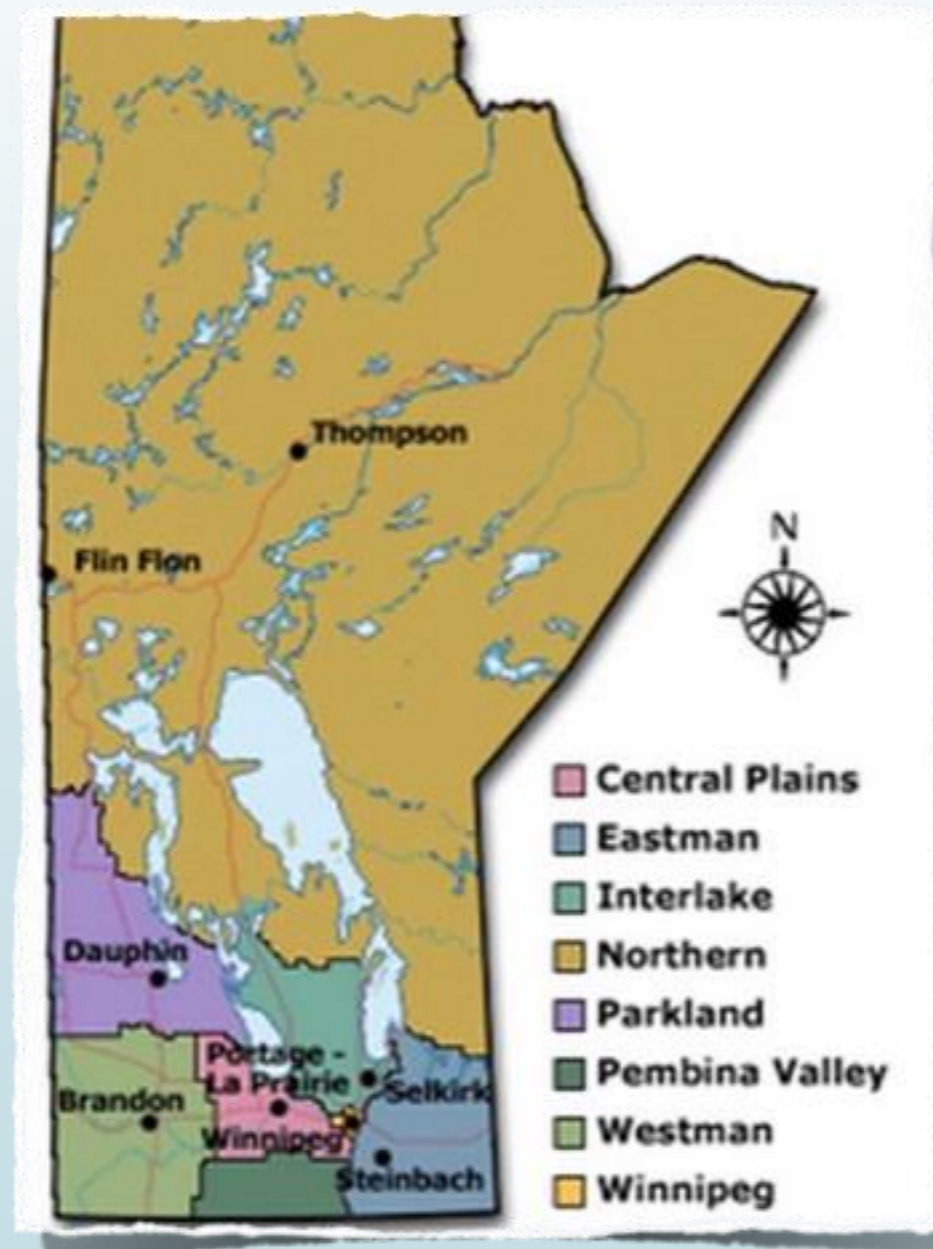
Innovative **LIFE** Options

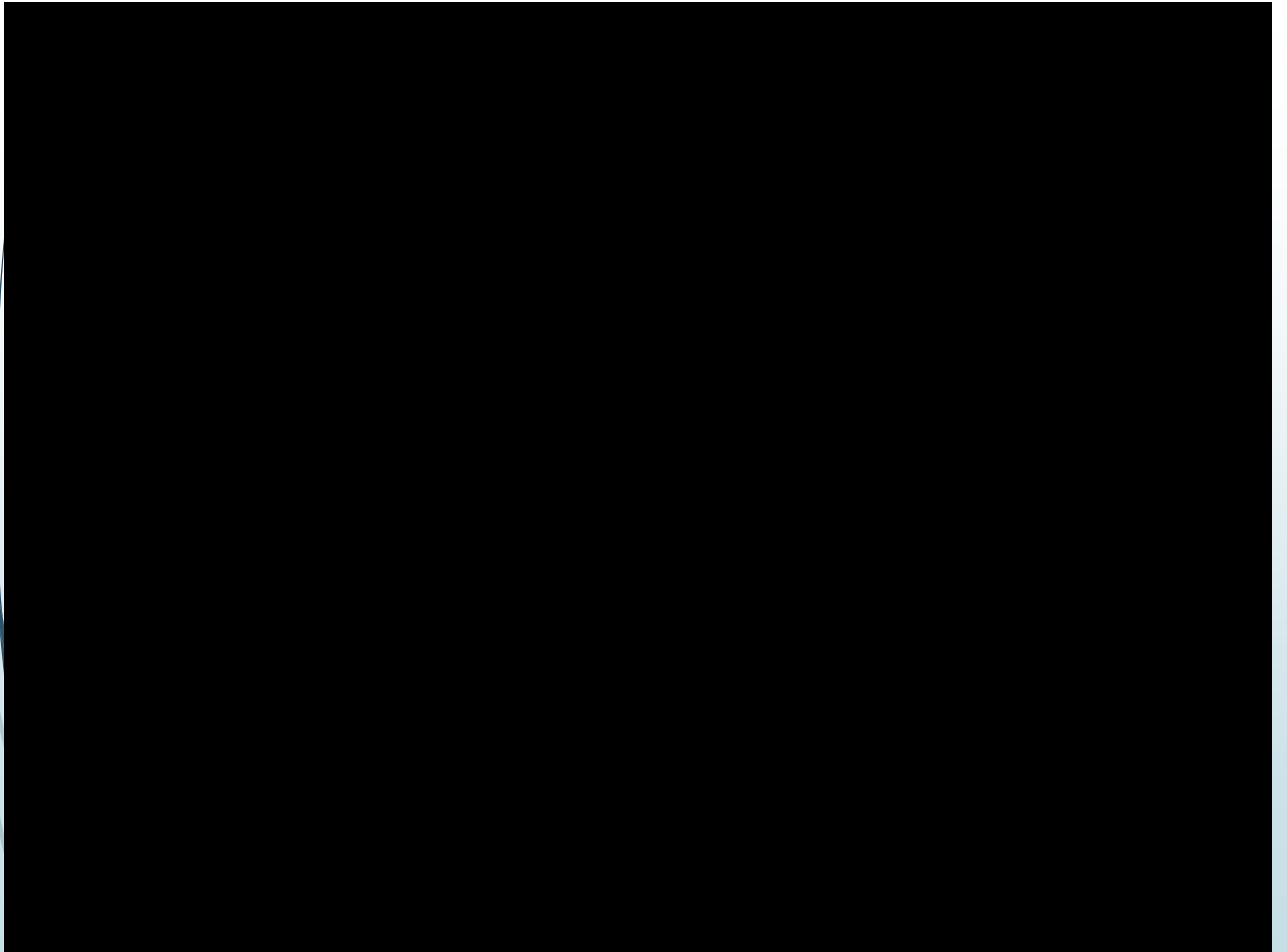


- Promotion**- Newsletters, *Facebook*, *Twitter*, *Youtube*.....
- Collaboration** with - **Community Organizations**, **Schools**, **University**, **Government**, etc.
- Projects** – **Network Café**, **Family Conference**.....

Innovative LIFE Options

Today





Innovative **LIFE** Options



Thank you!

Patti Chiappetta, Executive Director

patti@icof-life.ca

Laurie Miller, Senior Resource Coordinator

laurie@icof-life.ca

www.innovativelifeoptions.ca

Life is Good

**In the Company of Friends
(ICOF)**

An Innovative Model

Innovative **LIFE** Options 