

Agency Self-Assessment: ARE YOU READY FOR SOCIAL ENTERPRISE?



This self-assessment will help you to identify those areas of your organization that may need some planning work before you start your enterprise. You can also use this questionnaire to identify current capacity or strengths of your organization that can help you build your business acumen as you develop the enterprise. The assessment is a good discussion tool. This assessment is from the Canadian Social Enterprise Guide Chapter 3.

Basic Organizational Readiness

Does your organization...	Score 1-3 (weak to strong)	Notes on how to improve
Have its vision, mission and goals articulated and supported by board and staff?		
Have a strategic plan that's current and updated on a regular basis?		
Have experience in planning and implementing internal change?		
Know its financial situation and is stable?		
Have clearly defined lines of accountability and is results oriented?		
Have a demonstrated commitment to learning and innovation, and encourage staff to take risks?		
Consider cost effectiveness in evaluating activities?		
Subtotal		

Social Enterprise Readiness

Does your organization...	Score 1-3 (weak to strong)	Notes on how to improve
Is your board, management and staff interested in the concept of social enterprise? Do they understand it or support further investigation?		
Have you set aside staff time to develop the social enterprise?		
Are your staff and board willing to put in extra effort?		
Do you have outside stakeholders that support social enterprise?		
Have you thought about partnerships that could support your organization?		
Subtotal		

Business Readiness

Does your organization...	Score 1-3 (weak to strong)	Notes on how to improve
Do you have business experience on your board or among staff? Is there an internal champion?		
Do you have strong book-keeping/accounting systems that can track your social venture?		
Have you thought about how you can raise funds to plan and launch the enterprise?		
Do your staff have the necessary skills or will you do you invest in building capacity or bring in these skills?		
Do you have some capital to invest in enterprise development?		
Subtotal		
TOTAL		

How to assess your score:

21- 30: Low level of readiness. How can you move your organization closer to readiness?

31-49: Medium level of readiness. Focus on your specific areas of improvement

50-63: Higher level of readiness. Time for action!