



New Board Member Orientation

Session III – The Federation – May 25, 2021



The story of innovation, as it is typically told, is one of rule breakers, stay-up-all-nighters, people who are sharper and shinier than everyone else-whiz kids. And those whiz kids all look the same. Young. Male. Techies or policy wonks or numbers geniuses.”

Hana Schank, Public Interest Technology Fellow at New America

TOMMY
CEO @ ZAPPOS

GABE
CREATED VALVE

DREW
CREATED DROPBOX

MARK
CREATED facebook

BILL
CREATED MICROSOFT

JACK
CREATED twitter

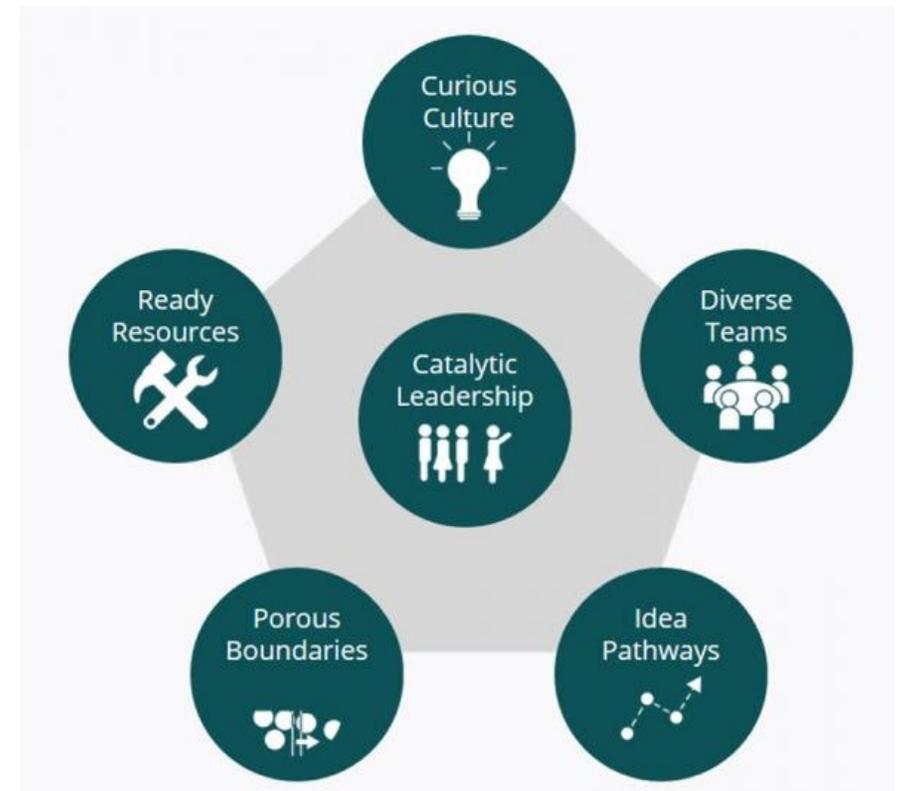
But the story of innovation can also be told differently, as “a break from practice, large or small, that leads to significant positive social impact.”

Nidhi Sahni, Laura Lanzerotti, Amira Bliss, & Daniel Pik, “Is Your Nonprofit Built for Sustained Innovation?”



How to Build Innovation Capacity

- **Catalytic leadership** that empowers staff to solve problems that matter
- **A curious culture**, where staff look beyond their day-to-day obligations, question assumptions, and constructively challenge each other's thinking as well as the status quo
- **Diverse teams** with different backgrounds, experiences, attitudes, and capabilities—the feedstock for growing an organization's capacity to generate breakthrough ideas
- **Porous boundaries** that let information and insights flow into the organization from outside voices (including beneficiaries) and across the organization itself
- **Idea pathways** that provide structure and processes for identifying, testing, and transforming promising concepts into needle-moving solutions
- **The ready resources**—funding, time, training, and tools—vital to supporting innovation work



L'Arche

Federation Internationale des communautes de L'Arche
International Federation of L'Arche Communities



Goal of for this section:

What is the federation?

What is its purpose ?

What are the challenges

The Federation Today

(Growth in 50 years, L'Arche model, Jean's death and inquiry; pandemic; structural, funding and mission-inherent issues and tensions)

L'Arche

founded in 1964



Charismatic founder

- Authority
- Membership
- Formation
- Transmission into new cultures







Implementation of the 2012 constitution

International Leaders

In between meetings of the General Assembly, the International Leaders have the authority to lead and govern the Federation. They work in partnership with the Stewardship Board President. The International Leaders are appointed by the General

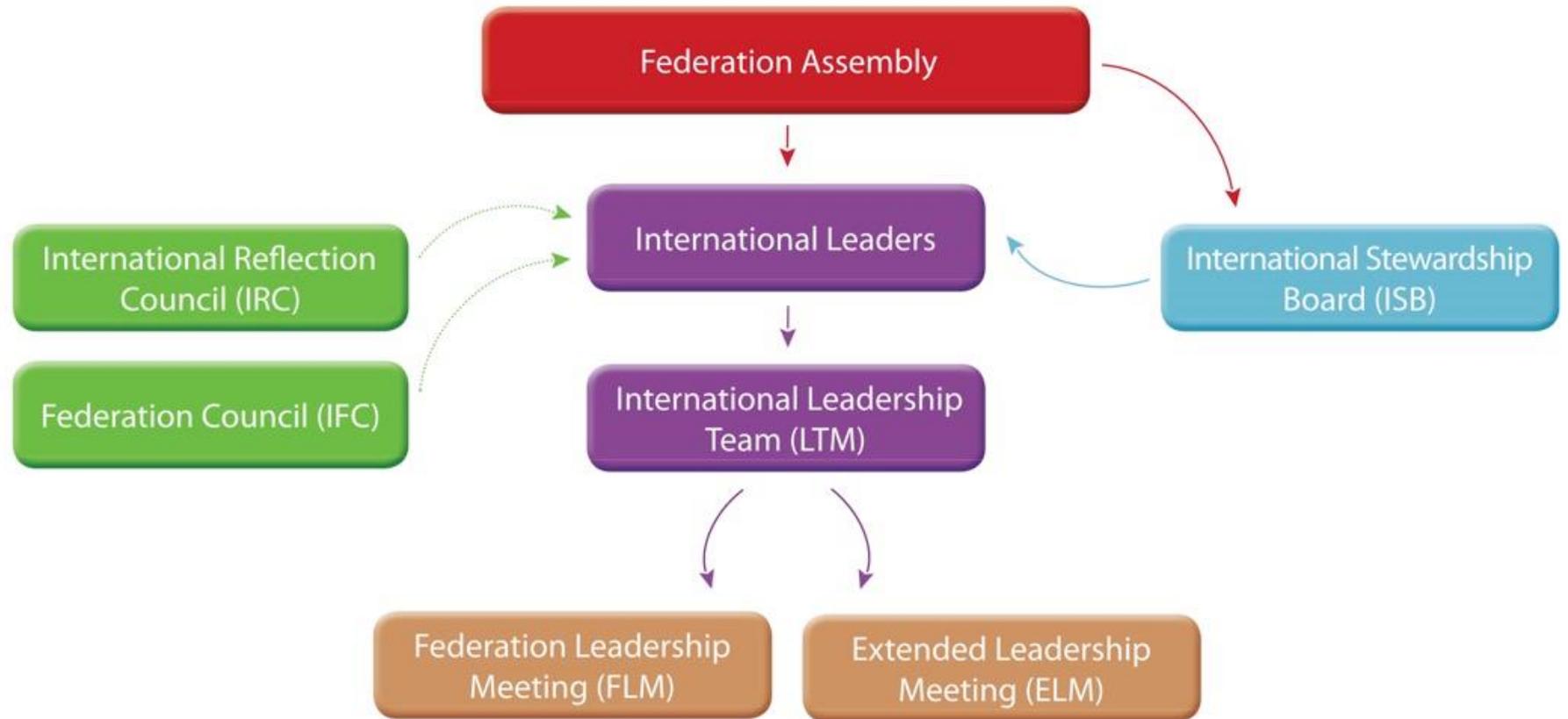
Assembly and are accountable to the Assembly •





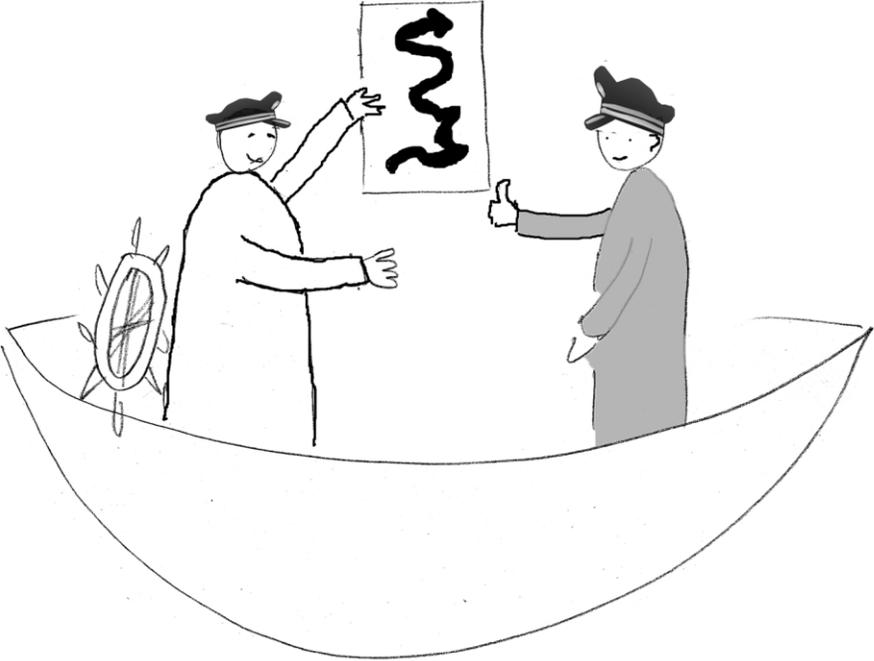
L'ARCHE INTERNATIONAL

Final authority
Leadership
Council
Control
Vision and unity



- Tensions between local and global
- The ambiguity of identity, the gap between what is announced and the actual experience, the hyper pragmatism leads to lack of vision, split, cynicism and loss of the essential charism
- From a report by the international leaders to the Federation in 2001

Membership Agreements



Challenges today

Post-founder , post-inquiry landscape

Pandemic

Funding (these are connected)

Unity (also connected)

Structures

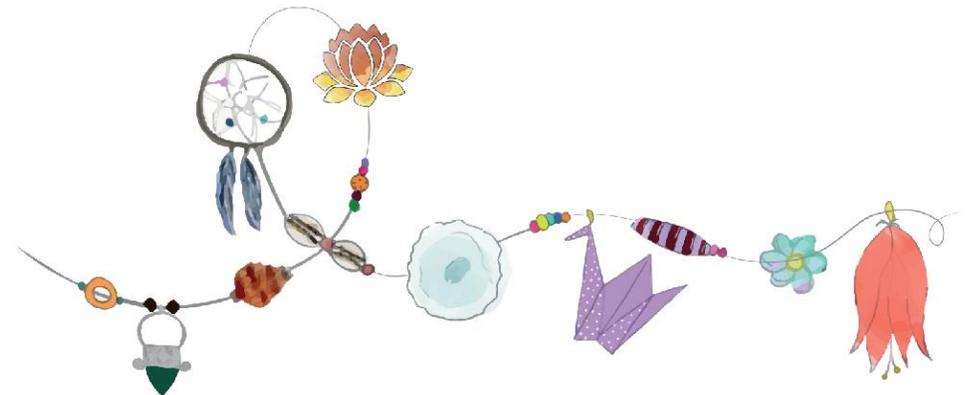
Mission

3 workstreams

The Charter

Evaluation

Safeguarding



INNOVATION

Caregiving course organized by L'Arche international for caregivers in Zimbabwe, Kenya and Uganda

