



Summer 2026 Newsletter

Hi everyone!

I hope you're doing well.

Organizations today must respond to a pace and scale of change that few leaders are prepared for. Whether driven by technological advances, policy changes, shifting societal expectations, environmental pressures, or economic uncertainty, many of the assumptions that have historically guided decision-making are being tested. Increasingly, leaders are recognizing that addressing these challenges requires more than new strategies or better tools; it calls for developing new ways of sensemaking, collaborating, and innovating.

For those of us working to enable organizations and the systems within which they are nested to flourish, this presents both a significant challenge and a remarkable opportunity. Across sectors and geographies, we're seeing growing interest in multidisciplinary approaches designed to handle increasing complexity and support continuous learning and adaptation. While there is no universal roadmap, there is tremendous value in learning from one another as we collectively contribute to the emergence of a new, future-fit paradigm of organizational design, development and management.

We hope you'll take a few moments to explore the updates we've shared below. As always, we'd love to hear what you're working on and welcome opportunities to highlight publications, initiatives, partnerships, and ideas that may benefit this community.

Wishing you all the best in the important work you are doing, and thank you for being part of this growing community.

Sincerely,

Randy Sa'd

Executive Director, FEI

In This Summer's Newsletter:

Research & Practice Area Updates

1. **FEI and Partners Awarded College and Community Social Innovation Fund (CCSIF) Grant**

A new multi-partner project to strengthen systems-level collaboration across Waterloo Region

2. **Join Us for our August C4FE**

For our summer C4FE, the FEI is co-hosting r3.0's upcoming August Bioregional Confluencing Community Call. r3.0

3. **Join Us at the WEAll Canada Festival for Re-imagining the Economy**

A pay-what-you-can online festival for economic transformation, August 12–26

4. **Announcing the Fall Flourishing Business Model Design Course**

The world's first accredited program in regenerative business model design kicks off September 18

5. **A Fond Farewell and a Warm Welcome**

Thanking Morgan Bath for her contributions and introducing Erin Stripe, FEI's incoming Communications & Engagement Lead

FEI and Partners Awarded College and Community Social Innovation Fund (CCSIF) Grant

In July, the [Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada](#) notified lead applicant [Conestoga Social Innovation Lab \(Conestoga College\)](#) that the application titled “Facilitating Social Innovation for Complex Community Challenges” was successful. In addition to the FEI,

submission partners included the [Waterloo Institute for Social Innovation & Resilience \(University of Waterloo\)](#), [REFOCUS](#), and the [Viessmann Centre for Engagement & Research in Sustainability \(Wilfrid Laurier University\)](#).

[Read More](#)



**Join Us for our August C4FE at the
Bioregional Confluencing Community Call**



For our summer C4FE, the FEI is co-hosting [r3.0's](#) upcoming August [Bioregional Confluencing Community](#) Call. r3.0 — a long-standing partner of the Flourishing Enterprise Institute — pivoted into an exclusive focus on bioregioning in 2024, after more than a decade advocating for transformation to authentic sustainability (i.e. aligned with the ecological and social thresholds that define sustainability) in corporate, investment, and other contexts. Bioregionalism promotes the pursuit of flourishing futures through the necessary synthesis of place-specific contexts with the biocultural worldviews and practices that arise from them.

Provisional date: Wed 19 August 3-4:30pm UTC ([click here](#) to convert to your time zone) [11am-12:30pm ET]

r3.0 Zoom line:

<https://zoom.us/j/4785801785?pwd=RU50bUFWSG5wUnBBc21JMFUyaEhyUT09>

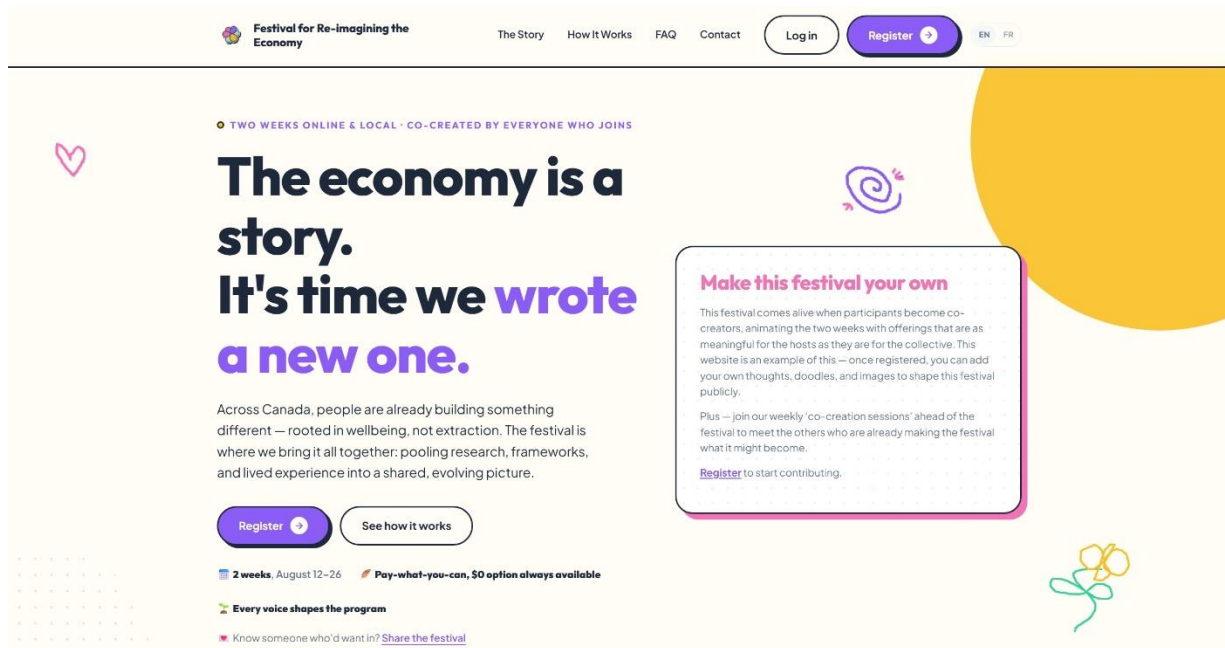
Meeting ID: 478 580 1785

Passcode: 902564

Please [click here](#) to (optionally) sign-up and/or download a calendar invite.

[Read More](#)

Join us at the WEAll Canada Festival for Re-imagining the Economy



The FEI is thrilled to join the [Wellbeing Economy Alliance \(WEAll\)](#) network of partners and to invite you to the online Festival for Re-imagining the Economy, hosted by WEAll Canada from **August 12–26**. The festival is a radical experiment in co-creation, built by and for those of us working on economic transformation, and members of the FEI team will be facilitating sessions focused on flourishing organizations.

[Read More](#)

Announcing the Fall Flourishing Business Model Design Course

We are pleased to announce that a close partner and collaborator of the FEI, Flourishing Startups, is now accepting registrations and applications for scholarships for its upcoming Flourishing Business Model Design Course, which kicks off on September 18th.

[Read More](#)



Georgian | Social Innovation



Flourishing Business Model Design Course

Design your own Flourishing Business Model

"During the Flourishing Business Model Design course, I learned how to engage in a different kind of dialogue, how connected we all are across the world, and how to better engage and align with my partners and value co-creators in new ways. I found the concept of value co-creation super valuable, and I have been modifying things in my business around our products and services as a result. This is the evolution I'm taking away. I also loved the reflections, group coaching discussions, content, and flexibility of pace and timing, and being able to engage at my own pace."



Debbie Estwick, Entrepreneur
Founder Flourishing By Design



"The Flourishing Business Model Design course expands a business frame to include stakeholders' and environmental context. I especially benefitted from the course's step-through every aspect of a business, the integrated listening to stakeholders, and then its deliberate weave of the story of one's enterprise to be authentic and compelling. I learned some new techniques and valued the peer atmosphere and exchange. Recommended for those who want a more contextual approach."

Lyn McDonell, C.Dir FCMC
Governance Fundamentals & Next-Level Boards Consultant

"I am so pleased to have taken the Flourishing Business Model Design course, and I'm incredibly grateful to Ondine and Antony for selflessly sharing their deep knowledge, experience, and unwavering encouragement. This course is far more than just learning how to fill out a canvas. It provides a robust, actionable methodology for designing a flourishing business model. It's a brilliant addition to Acacia's training and advisory toolbox."



Ian Roberts, Co-Founder Acacia Limited
Future Fit Accredited Advisor



"This was one of those few experiences in my lifetime that really changed the way I look at the world and my role in it. This was a transformative experience that equipped me with powerful new tools to significantly change my perspective on issues and solutions. I met outstanding people, and I will continue this adventure with as many of them as possible, using "flourishing" as the framework through which to assess and design my professional and personal actions. If you are in business, you should consider this opportunity, regardless of your role or your company's size: you will love it!"

Michele Manocchi, PhD
Founder and Principal, Michele Manocchi Organizational Consulting

Flourishing Business Model Design Course - Registration Now Open

Course Dates: September 18 to December 18, 2026

Weekly Coaching Sessions: Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 10:30am EST / 4:30pm CET

Scholarships available

Learn More & Sign Up: www.flourishingbusiness.org/training

Course Partners



TRAUMA & MONEY



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BY DESIGN

A Fond Farewell and a Warm Welcome

This summer marks a transition on the FEI team. After two years as our Communications & Engagement Lead, [Morgan Bath](#) will be stepping away from her role with the Institute. During her time with FEI, Morgan helped shape how we communicate our work and connect with this growing community, from our newsletters and outreach to building the foundations that will support the team going forward. We're deeply grateful for the care, clarity, and thoughtfulness she brought to everything she touched, and we look forward to staying connected as she continues her work in strategic foresight and organizational change.

We're equally pleased to introduce [Erin Stripe](#), who will be stepping into the Communications & Engagement role. Erin is a Toronto-based independent consultant and multidisciplinary designer. She helps small and mid-size businesses uncover opportunities, articulate their value, and strengthen their services. Her background combines over a decade of marketing experience with degrees in Material Art & Design and Strategic Foresight & Innovation. Erin's interests include applied creativity, making research accessible. She is excited to join the FEI community and contribute to conversations around systems thinking and practical innovation.

Please join us in thanking Morgan and welcoming Erin; we're excited for this next chapter and confident the community is in great hands.

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