

## OVERVIEW

### **Station 1: Decision-Making Facilitation**

- **Activity:** Group Consensus Challenge
  - **Scenario:** The group must prioritize a set of 5 items they'll need to survive on a deserted island.
  - **Possible Facilitation Techniques:**
    - **Multi-voting:** Participants vote to narrow down options.
    - **Weighted Ranking:** Assign scores to items based on importance.
    - **Use of "Go-Rounds":** Everyone gets a turn to speak to ensure equal participation.
  - **Takeaway:** Experience guiding group discussions to reach consensus while balancing input from all participants.

## EXECUTION

Below is a sample list of items. They can either use this list or brainstorm their own list.

- a bag of fruit and vegetable seeds
- a 100 ft rope
- jerky
- a tarp
- a Swiss army knife
- a large, strong bucket
- a fishing net
- 2 litres of kerosene
- sunblock
- a lighter

A possible way to do this exercise might be:

- Have them write each of these items (and/or items of their choosing) onto individual sticky notes and put them on the flip chart.
- Give each participant three dots and let them use the dots to vote for the items they want on the desert island. They can put one dot on three items or can put multiple dots on one item.
- Option 1: From there, if the list has not been reduced down to five items, they could then engage in conversation in which they determine a "weight" for each item. So first they might consider what criteria they should consider for each item: Will it help feed me? Will it help physically protect me? Will it help me get off the island? And then assign weights, for example, rate each item for each criteria on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the best. Then they add up each item's ratings for each of the criteria, and use those final scores to narrow the list down. For example, jerky could be a 5 for the "feed me" criteria and a 1 for the other two criteria, resulting in a score of 7.
- Option 2: This can be done in addition to option 1 or in place of. Go around and ask every person in the group to give their opinion as to the top five items and make sure someone notes this down, maybe by drawing a line to indicate a vote next to each item on the flipchart.
- Hopefully by this point in time, 5 items have been identified! If they have the list down to five right away using the dots, perhaps ask them to pare the list down to 3 items using the other techniques.

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Station 2: Creative Facilitation**

- **Activity:** Brainstorming Session
  - **Task:** Participants brainstorm ideas for how to engage the creative sector in a MainStreet event.
  - **Facilitation Technique:**
    - **Mind-Mapping:** Create a visual diagram of ideas.
    - **SCAMPER Technique:** Use prompts like Substitute, Combine, Adapt, Modify, Put to another use, Eliminate, Reverse to stimulate creative thinking.
    - **Dot Voting:** Use colored stickers to vote on the most promising ideas.
  - **Takeaway:** Learn how to encourage idea generation and maintain energy and engagement during creative discussions.

## **EXECUTION**

A suggested way to do this exercise might be:

- Have them write down their ideas on sticky notes and put them on the flip chart.
- Then, ask participants to group the ideas together based on theme/ similarity.
- Then, they can look at how these ideas connect together and use markers to draw those connections.
- They can use the SCAMPER technique to identify opportunities for elimination, substitution, combination, etc.
- And then ultimately, they can use dot voting (if needed) to identify the most promising ideas.
- Please note that there will be one or two Creative Industries representatives on hand that might be listening in or participating with you.

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Station 3: Training Facilitation**

- **Activity:** Micro-Lesson Delivery (Bring Your Own Talent)
  - **Task:** Participants take turns teaching a simple concept or skill (e.g., tying your shoe, whistling, doing a squat, etc.).
  - **Facilitation Technique:**
    - **The 4-Step Demonstration Model:**
      1. **Explain:** Provide context and purpose.
      2. **Demonstrate:** Show the skill step-by-step.
      3. **Practice:** Let participants try it themselves.
      4. **Feedback:** Offer constructive feedback.
    - **Chunking Content:** Break down complex tasks into smaller, manageable steps.
  - **Takeaway:** Practice clear communication, simplifying concepts, and engaging learners.

## **EXECUTION**

A suggested way to do this exercise would be to:

- Prepare a few ideas of simple things that they can teach, just in case you have a group that is stumped and doesn't have their own ideas.
- Recruit a few different participants to teach the ideas (let's say 2-3 "teachers" with 7-10 minutes a piece to get through the 4-step demonstration model)
- Prompt the "teacher" and the participants with each of the four steps.

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Station 4: Strategic Facilitation**

- **Activity:** Vision Mapping Exercise
  - **Task:** Design a future roadmap for a high-performing MainStreet organization.
  - **Facilitation Technique:**
    - **Affinity Mapping:** Group similar ideas or goals into categories.
    - **SWOT Analysis:** Identify Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats to inform strategy.
    - **Action Plan Matrix:** Organize tasks by impact and urgency to create a roadmap.
  - **Takeaway:** Build skills for long-term strategic thinking and managing complexity.

## **EXECUTION**

A suggested way to do this exercise might be:

- Have them write down their words/phrases for that reflect their vision of a high-performing MS organization on sticky notes and put them on the flip chart.
- Then, ask participants to group the ideas together into categories.
- Then they can identify actions/tasks that will help them achieve that vision.
- Group those actions/tasks together by theme/affinity.
- Then organize them by criteria, such as impact, urgency, capacity to implement, time (how long will the action take), etc. Can use weighted ranking for this as well (see activity 1).
- Note: I did not include the SWOT in this suggested way to do the exercise because I am concerned that with representatives from multiple organizations, this might get confusing/complicated.