



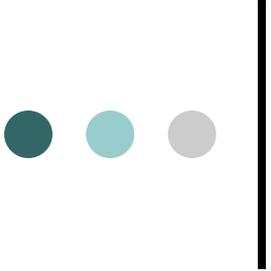
Continuous professional development of Community Education practitioners.

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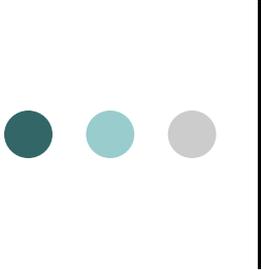
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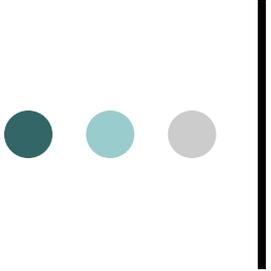
What is it?

- The means through which people maintain their knowledge, skills and competances throughout their professional lives.



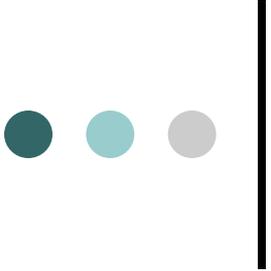
Strengths and weaknesses

- *Strengths:*
- Professional autonomy is under pressure from the market orientation and commodification Community Education
- CPD develops the capacity of professionals to withstand the pressures
- Professional identity need strong underpinning cores values for professional judgement
- There are severe limitations to concept of *static* knowledge and practice, which includes once off education and training
- CPD underlines the non-static nature of knowledge, research and development in any professional arena



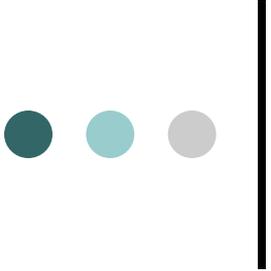
Strengths and weaknesses

- *Weaknesses*
- Conventional CDP creates a closed circuit for knowledge, research learning and development
- It re-inforces the systemic and institutional dimensions of the field
- It co-opts practitioners as enactors of the ideological, sometimes hidden, underpinnings



Emancipatory CDP: Three elements:

- Lifelong Learning: Learning to be, to do, to know, to change and to learn, taking up *permanent residence* outside the comfort zone
- Social analysis: enables practitioners to make the connections between the *personal* experience of social issues and the *causes* of the social problems
- Reflective Practice : enables practitioners to learn from experience about themselves, their work, and the way they relate to home and work, significant others, and the wider society and culture... through mindful awareness



Why?

- Our human well-being is crucial to social and community development
- Abstracting and reflexivity helps us to generalise, theorise and conceptualise out of our personal experience and enables us to deepen our understanding and critical thinking
- Our professional responsibility towards inclusion and diversity challenges the norm of homogeneity
- It helps us to reject simple, superficial, and 'common sense' opinions and judgements
- We can research and develop our own fields, rather than taking it 'off the shelf'
- We can develop our ethos based on social justice
- We see civic engagement as key route to liberation and emancipation through our work with learners