QUESCREN EDUCATION AND VITALITY FORUM: SUPPORTING ENGLISH MINORITY EDUCATION IN QUEBEC

A Black Community Resource Center and Black Studies Center Case for the Support of an Agreement on Collaboration Between Key Community Agencies on the constructing of a Black Community Archive System in Quebec

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The Human Social System

- The Economy is a human economic and social system, It is a complex adaptive system (CAS). It consists of a network of live and non-live agents interacting and responding to continuous change in the individual agents and system itself: a change in any agent causes other agents to change.

- This causes the system to change, which causes further changes in agents, and the process continues add infinitum. The system is dynamic, and the changes or direction of changes tend to be unpredictable.

- In this system the human being is an intelligent agent capable of thought, and making innovative responses aimed at maximizing its objective and subjective well being.

- We are concerned with changes which are a result of a combination of factors that produce utility (satisfy needs and or solve problems).

- The diagram (Figure 1) below presents such a system as two interacting sub-spaces of the system: the belief space and the population space.

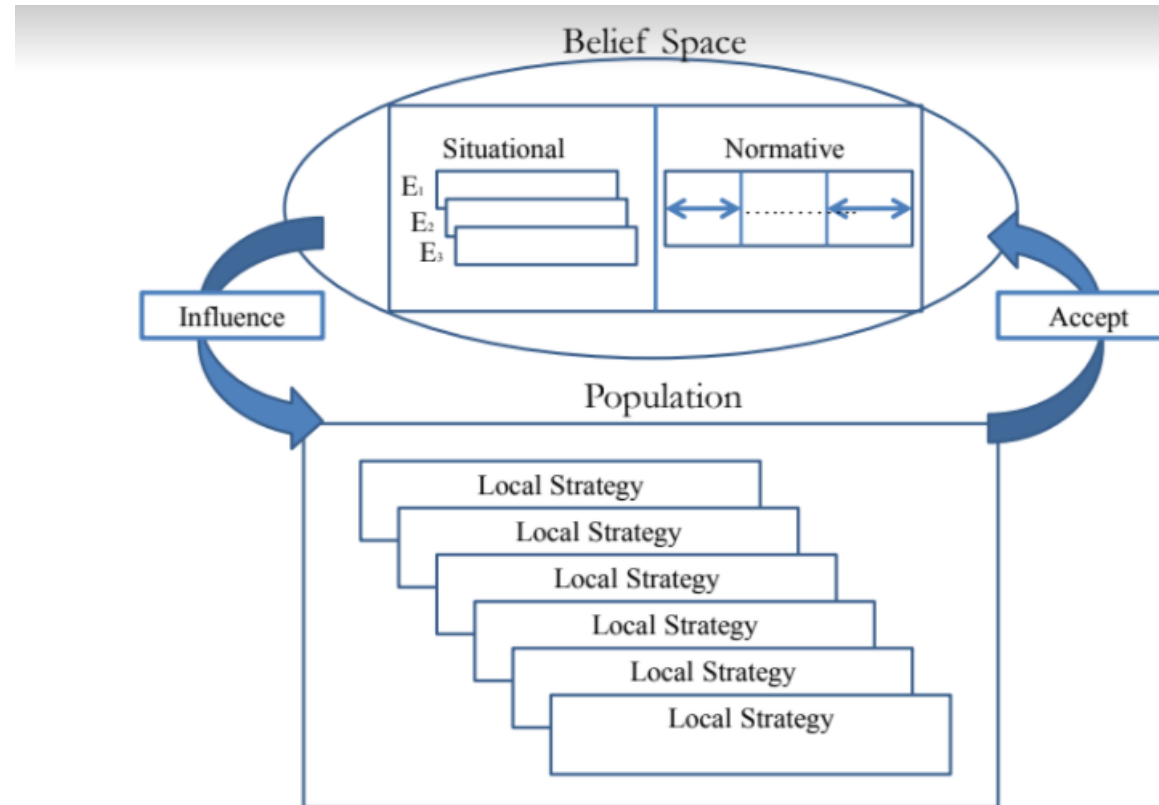# Figure 1: A Complex Adaptive Multiple Agent-Based Social System

Figure 1: Cultural Framework

The Belief Space and the Population Space

- The Belief space and the population spaces are interactive; and map the entire cultural and economic framework (Ecosystem)

- The belief space is the brain of the complex adaptive system. This is where patterns (cause and effect indicators) sensed in the data created by the large number of interactions between agents are gathered, processed, stored as knowledge which is updated and used as information and utility producing inputs by future generations of intelligent human agents.

- In this model (Figure 1) the central purpose of the population is the survival, reproduction of itself; and improvement. The survival of the human specie is achieved through the innovative use of knowledge derived from the success-failure experiences of exemplar agents (social entrepreneurs) in the population space.
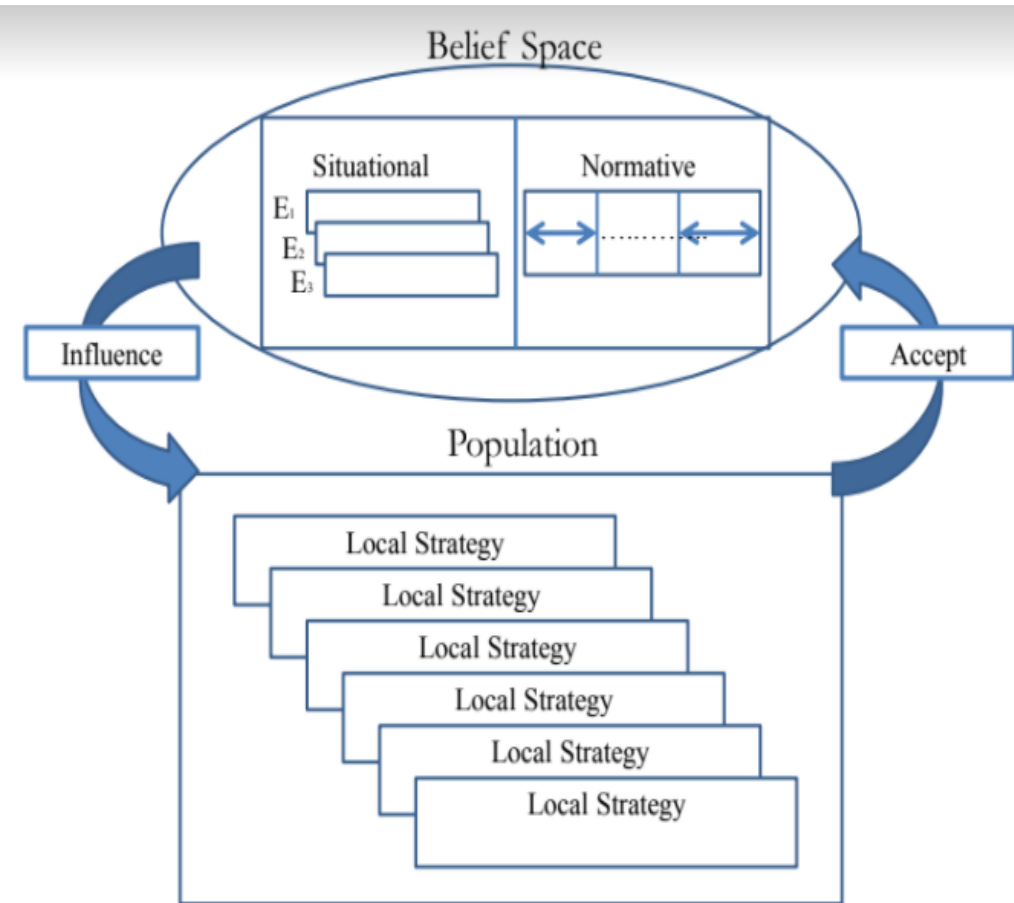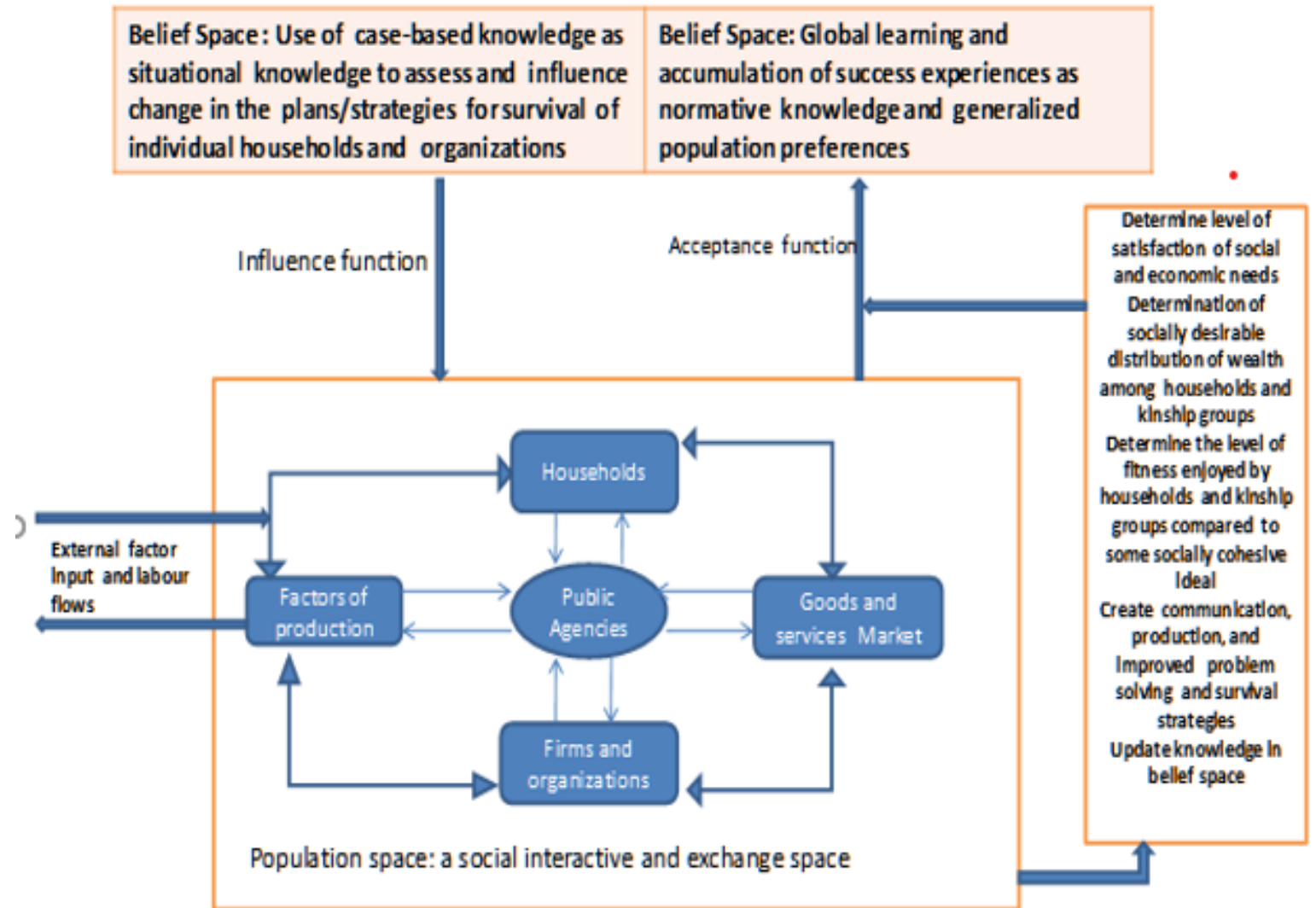

Figure 1: Cultural Framework

Montreal and Quebec as CAS or Human and Social Eco-system

In the population space households/human agents interact and engage in a complex set of dynamic social and economic behaviours that determine the types of groups and the nature and structure of those groups; what is produced, how much, when, and where; who gets what, how much and when; and what is the socially desirable distribution of resources, goods and services: the degree of systemic discrimination and exclusion and race hate.

Belief Space : Use of case-based knowledge as situational knowledge to assess and influence change in the plans/strategies for survival of individual households and organizations

Belief Space: Global learning and accumulation of success experiences as normative knowledge and generalized population preferences

Influence function

Acceptance function

Determine level of satisfaction of social and economic needs
Determination of socially desirable distribution of wealth among households and kinship groups
Determine the level of fitness enjoyed by households and kinship groups compared to some socially cohesive ideal
Create communication, production, and improved problem solving and survival strategies
Update knowledge in belief space

External factor input and labour flows

Households

Public Agencies

Factors of production

Goods and services Market

Firms and organizations

Population space: a social interactive and exchange space

Black Community of Montreal Archival Initiatives

- The Black community has for over a hundred years been trying to get private and public Canadian and Quebec archivists to upgrade their collections on the presence, contribution and history of Blacks.

- . Essentially, for 100 years between 1863 and 1963 (from emancipation to the liberation of the Canadian Immigration Act) Blacks were excluded from the landscape and stories of Quebec history and operations.

- The massive increase in Black immigrants to Quebec and Canada, as a whole, in the early sixties reopened the debate on the strategies for nation building and the presence and integration of Blacks in these societies.

- It became increasingly clear that the instruments and structures for the creation and storage of knowledge and histories had to become more inclusive and race base. COVID -19 makes the case for health care race-based data collection most convincingly.

- The N.C.C., the Black Studies Center, Concordia Archives and its scholars and faculty have played a significant role in demonstrating, and promoting the more dynamic role a Library and Archive system can play in facilitating the education, learning and research process at Concordia and in the community at large. The process goes back to the early sixties with private community agents in the Black community: the NCC, the Union United Church, the UNIA, the QBBE, the BSC, the NCCC as private projects.

Emergence of Collaborations with Concordia Achives

- Over the past seven years, Alexandra Mills, Concordia's special collections archivist, has since 2014 been sifting through the contents of hundreds of boxes of archives from Montreal's Black community groups and organizations. Her role has been greatly facilitated by developments in the Black communities itself. This is reflected in diagram (Figure 2 attached) mapping the communication flows and planned linkages of the knowledge hub currently managed by the Blacks in Quebec program of the BCRC-ICED-BSC community archive alliance.
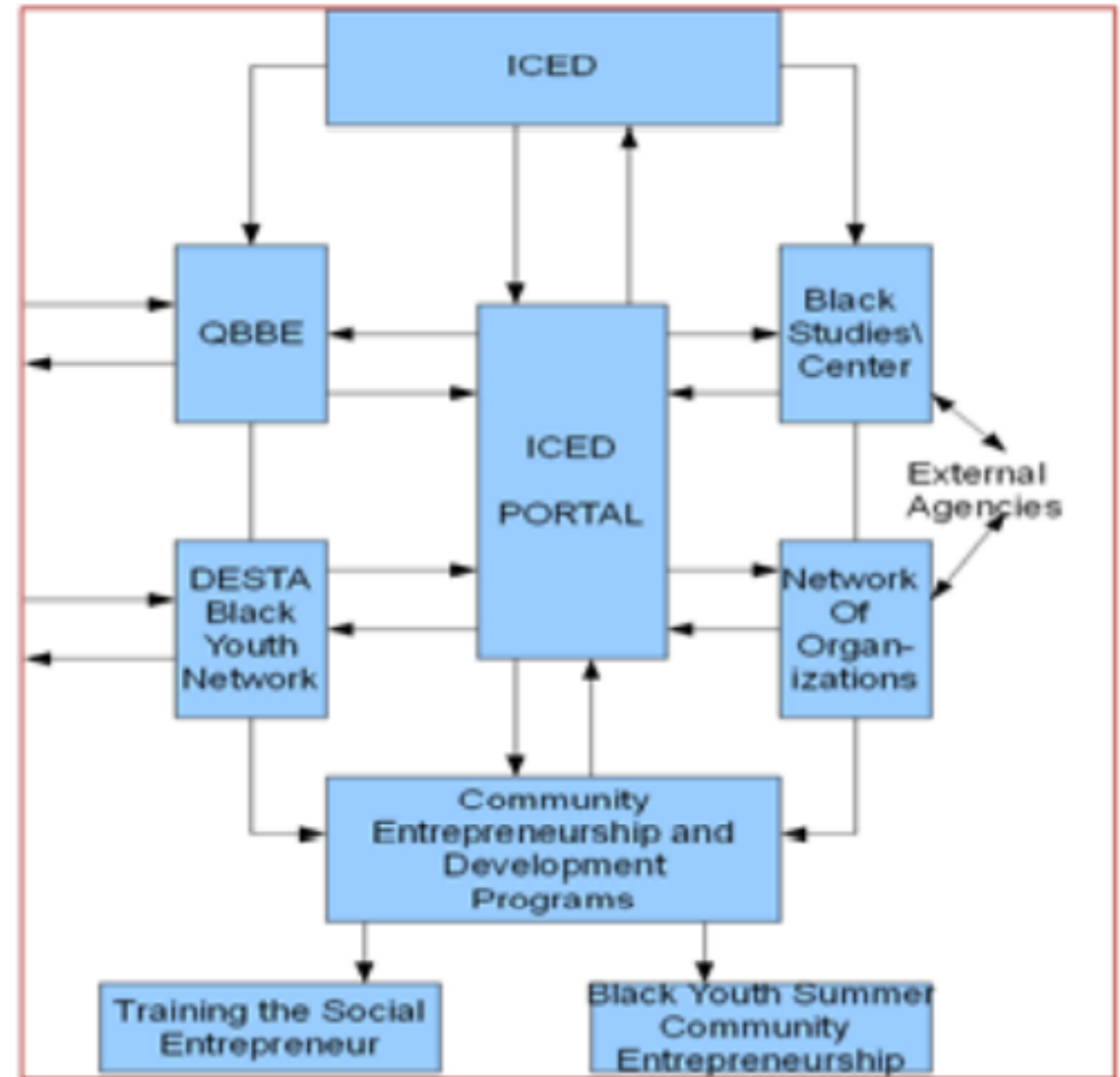

Figure 2: Communication and planning chart

PROPOSALS

- It is proposed that a curator be hired to coordinate communications and information systems that link Concordia Archives with the key historical and communication centers evolving in the larger Black community of Montreal.

- The Bayne, Saade approach propose that BSC, BCRC and Concordia ICED build a results-based communication and informing system that creates a common collection and processing data base linking several community centers in the Black ESC.

- This would establish and sustain services to support the decisions searches of the centers and their members in the emerging Black community ecosystems; and the changing social, economic andpolitical landscape of Québec

Three Stages of the Bayne-Saade Proposals

- 1. The development stage Which is ongoing as BCRC explore and build its knowledge hub. The BCRC is conducting a review of its mission and discussing joint agreements with key Black agencies and the Concordia library and archives. Online reports are being posted regularly:

- 2. The second phase relates to development of information and data collection structures, content creation and validation, content management. The BCRC Blacks in Quebec research activities and data ,Simaji, and Weekly News Updates are published and distributed.

- The third stage is the usage stage: a permanent knowledge center is being put in place. A real life feedback process need to be created that will enable a continuous monitoring and updating of the effectiveness of the communication between ICED-BSC and BCRC core group with the centers, and between centers. This will facilitates the creation and sustainability of learning resources (workshops, lectures, archival displays) and provides continuous access to new knowledge stored at a common database.

Figure 3   Three construction Time Phases for the Information and Communication Network System

- Past Development

- Present Content Management

- Future: Usage

Past: Development
- Needs Assessment ?
- Design
- Implementation
- Deployment

Present: Content Management
- Information infrastructure
- Content creation
- Content manipulation

Future: Usage
- Connect
- Update
- Monitor
- Generate $?
- Support