

**Counterparts Gathering**  
of the  
**Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector**  
and the  
**Provinces and Territories**

**Calgary, Alberta**

February 7, 2008

# Presentation Overview

- Definition of Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector
- History of ANVSI
- The New Partnership
- The Outcomes
- Some Key Learnings

# The Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector is comprised of:

- self-governing organisations that exist to
  - serve the public benefit,
  - generate social capital but
  - do not distribute private profit to members,
- depend to a meaningful degree on volunteers,
- involve participation on a voluntary basis, and
- are independent or institutionally distinct from formal structures of
  - government and
  - the profit sector

# The Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector includes:

- Nonprofit organisations
- Registered charities
- Groups not incorporated or registered
- May have paid staff and
- all organisations in this sector governed by a volunteer Board of Directors

...definition from VSI

# Historical Context

- There is a historical linkage between the Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector and government
- There's a long history of grants and support flowing from government to the sector
- Several foundations have been established to provide funding to sector organizations
- More recently, governments have transferred significant program delivery responsibilities to the sector.
- However, there has **not be coordinated approach** and responses have been issue or organization specific

The **History** of the  
Alberta Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector Initiative  
(ANVSI)  
And the  
New Partnership

# ALBERTA NONPROFIT/VOLUNTARY SECTOR INITIATIVE PLAN

## THE CHALLENGE

Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector with Future Sustainability at risk:

1. Vital to society
2. Great potential
3. Stressed
4. Inadequately resourced
5. Overextended
6. Misunderstood

Alberta Nonprofit-Voluntary Sector

The Leaders Group met with the Minister of Community Development  
**2004**

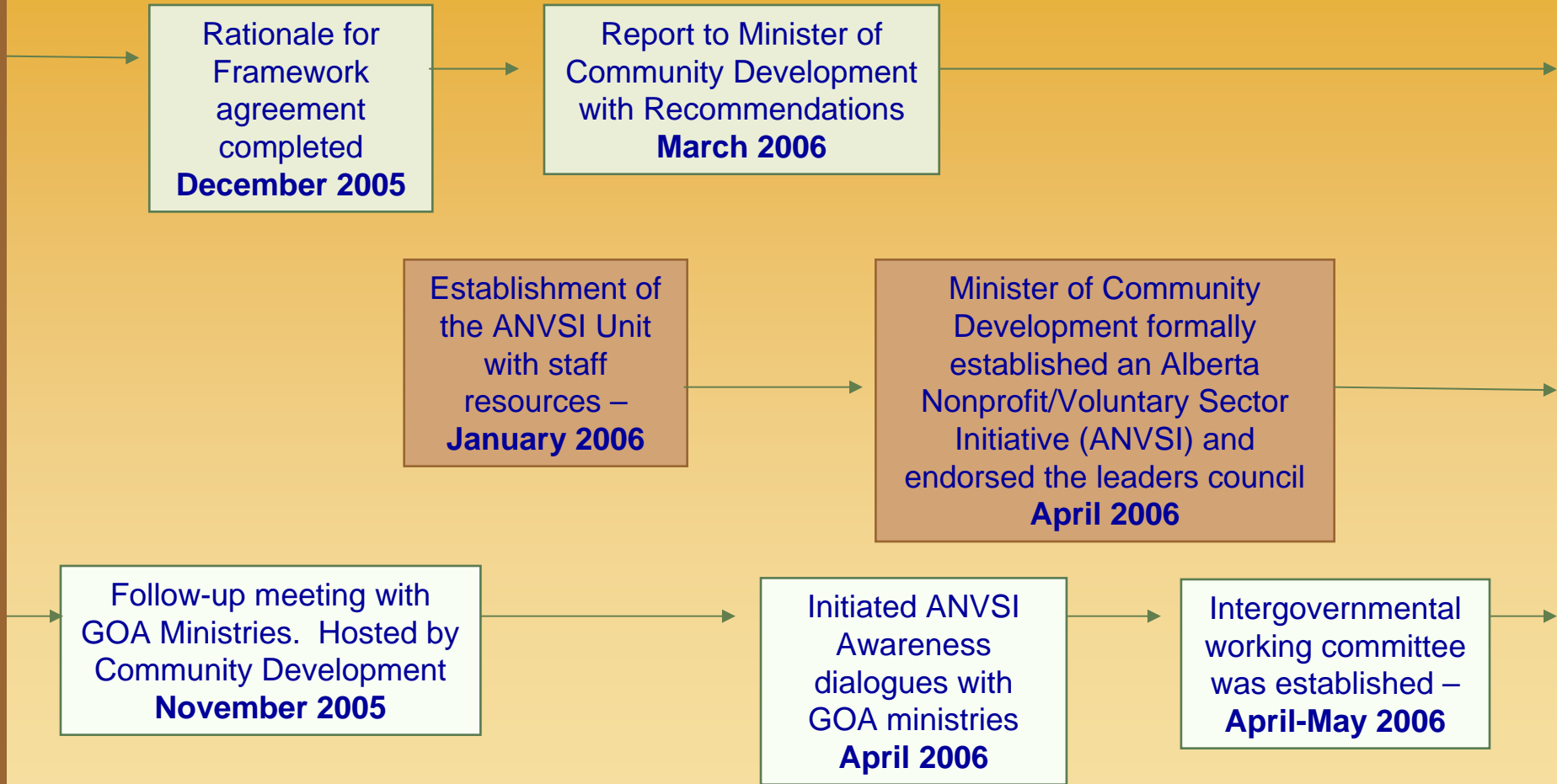
The Leaders Group began dialogue  
**September 2004**

Provincial Public Sector

Community Development and the Wild Rose Foundation – key linkage with the voluntary sector

Community Development organizes initial meeting with GOA Ministries –  
**March 2005**

# ALBERTA NONPROFIT/VOLUNTARY SECTOR INITIATIVE PLAN



# ALBERTA NONPROFIT/VOLUNTARY SECTOR INITIATIVE PLAN

## Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector:

Engaged sector members at Vitalize 2006 by requesting input on the priority of cross-cutting issues

**June 2006**

## Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector:

Defined the key indicators of success for the prioritized cross-cutting issues

**July – October 2006**

## The ANVSI and Leaders Council:

- Adopted their Terms of Reference
- Was publicly profiled at Vitalize 2006 Conference
- Reviewed their work plan and milestone achievements for next 7 months.

**June 2006**

## The ANVSI and Leaders Council:

- Conducted research on implementation models
- Developed a draft Framework for Collaboration
- Identified Alberta-based working models

**July – October 2006**

## Intergovernmental committee:

- Selected an online database option to inventory the ministries interface with the nonprofit/voluntary sector.
- Commenced work on a joint sector communication strategy.

**June 2006**

## Intergovernmental committee:

- Develop the linkage with Service Alberta to allow for public access to sector-specific information
- Engaged ministries and nonprofit/voluntary sector in “phase one” of the online database project

**July - October 2006**

# ALBERTA NONPROFIT/VOLUNTARY SECTOR INITIATIVE PLAN

## Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector:

Confirmation of the “voice of the Sector” by informal consultation with their network of networks

**November – December 2006**

## Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector:

Nonprofit/Voluntary sector requested a meeting with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

**January 2007**

## The ANVSI and the Leaders Council:

- Finalized “Framework for Collaboration” for Alberta
- Developed research-base implementation models
- Engaged the Nonprofit/Voluntary sector in a dialogue
- Published second issue of “ANVSI Advisor” newsletter

**November - December 2006**

## ANVSI and the Leaders Council endorsed the:

- ANVSI Framework for Collaboration
  - Interdependent partnership Model
  - Commitments to Action
  - Coordination and Implementation
  - Sign-off by both sectors
- ANVSI Operational Structure
  - Shared sectoral participation
  - An ANVSI Support Secretariat
- Need for a meeting with the Minister to present the Framework and related Recommendations.

**January 2007**

## Intergovernmental committee:

- Launch the Service Alberta Nonprofit/Voluntary Organization Audience
- Civil Law reviewed Framework for Collaboration
- Sought and received input from GOA ministries on the Framework and Implementation Models

**November - December 2006**

# ALBERTA NONPROFIT/VOLUNTARY SECTOR INITIATIVE PLAN

Long term  
OUTCOME

**Leaders Council recommends to Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing:**

- The ANVSI Framework for Collaboration to guide the future engagement of the two sectors.
- The establishment of an interdependent partnership to Implement the Framework.
- The formation of a Stewardship Body to steward and oversee this new partnership.
- The establishment of a specialized unit to support the Stewardship body and the overall implementation of the Framework.

**February 2007**

Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector sign Framework for Collaboration

**Framework for Collaboration, A Memorandum of Understanding enables:**

- M.O. signed forming Collaboration Committee, Terms of Reference approved
- Agreement on direction
- Commitment to action
- Secretariat establishment in MAH
- Collaborative partnership launching

**August 2007**

Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing signs Framework

**Sustainability of the nonprofit/voluntary sector**

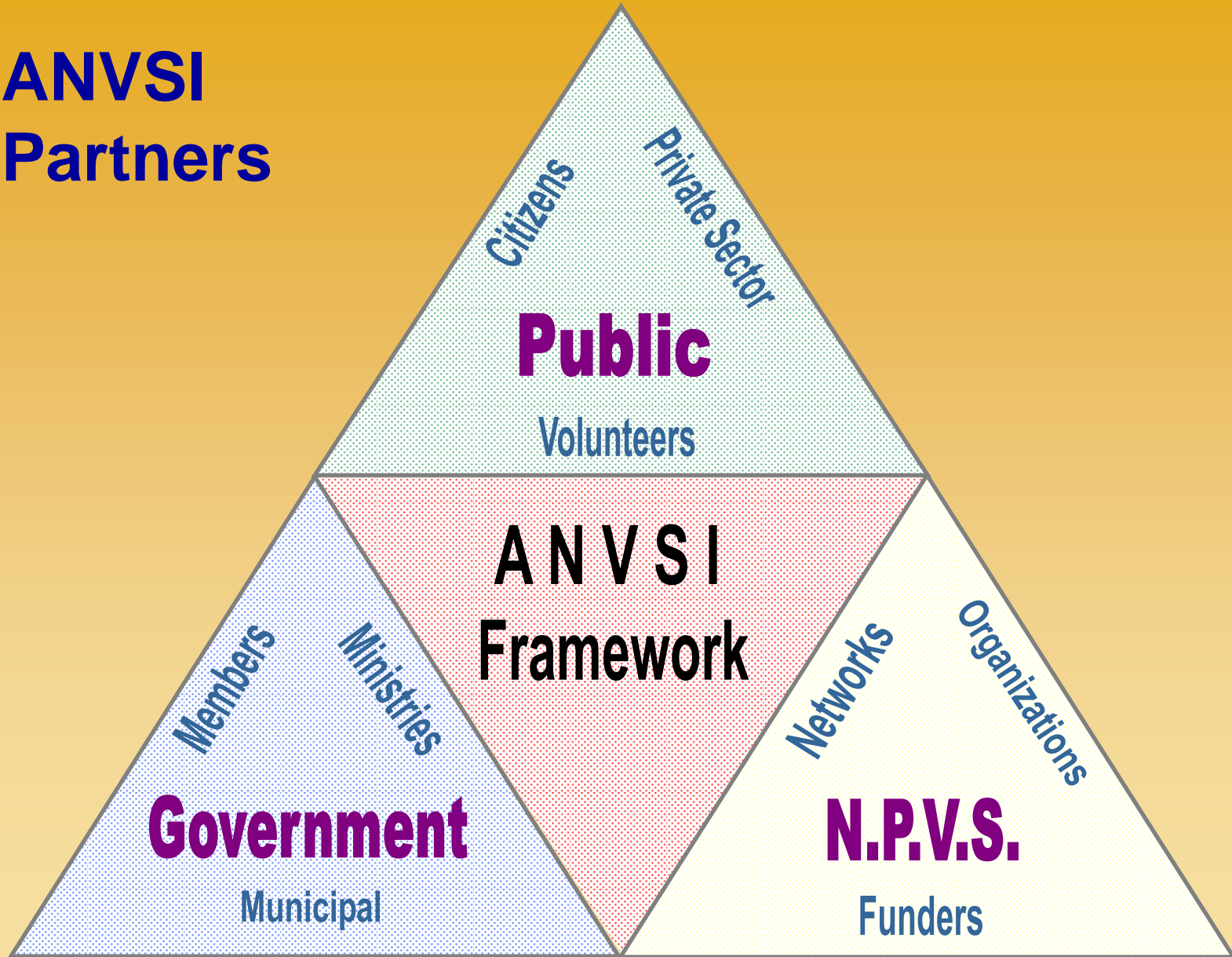
**and vibrant and sustainable communities,**

**effectively and efficiently served**

**by the nonprofit/voluntary and public sectors.**

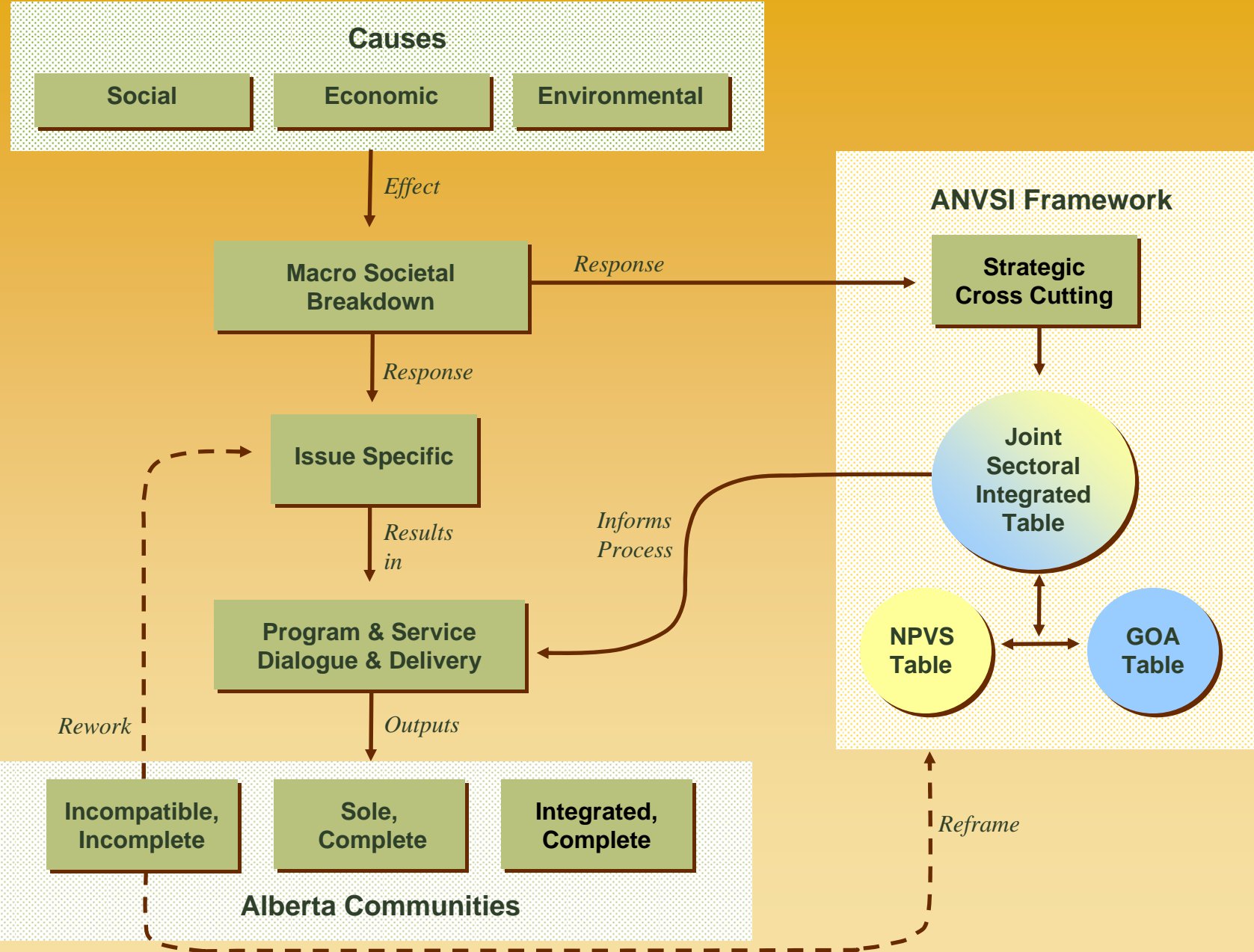
**A**  
**New Partnership**  
and  
New way of doing business

# ANVSI Partners



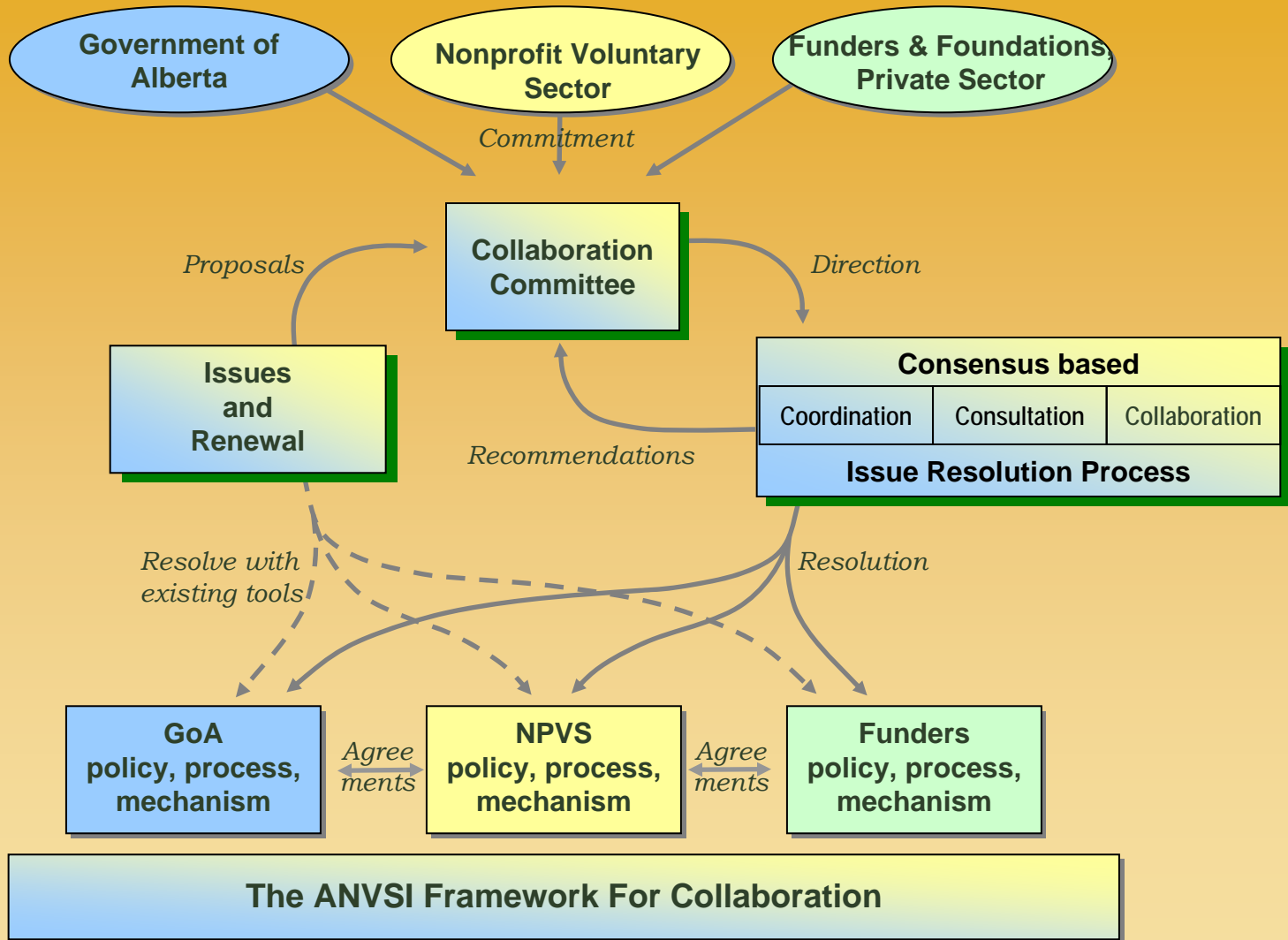
# The Interface

ANVSI will complement not replace  
the normal process of program and  
service development and delivery



# The Collaboration Process

ANVSI is built around a  
consensus-based  
issue resolution process



# The Partnership

- The ANVSI partnership engages the Public Sector and the Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector at a balanced representative table
- This common table is focused at finding ways and means to address cross-sectoral issues
- The common table will also engage in an integrated policy dialogue
- These efforts will build capacity in both sectors

**Sustainable  
Alberta Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector**

**Governance Model including Operational Agreements**

**Policy Development**

**Knowledge  
Management &  
Sustainability**

**Integrated  
Policy  
Dialogue**

**NPVS  
Capacity  
Building**

**Collaboration  
Committee**

**NPVS  
Flexible  
Network**

**Consensus-  
based Issue  
Resolution**

**GOA Cross  
Government  
Mechanism**

**Issue Resolution and  
Renewal**

**Memorandum of Understanding**  
Alberta Nonprofit/Voluntary Sector Framework For Collaboration

# The Collaboration Committee

- The committee has an **equal** number of members from both sectors
- Government representatives are **senior decision-makers** within their respective ministries
- Key nonprofit/voluntary sector capacity building **networks** are represented.
- A **geographic** and **urban/rural** demographic of the Nonprofit/voluntary sector is reflected
- Funders/foundations and academia are represented

# Framework for Collaboration

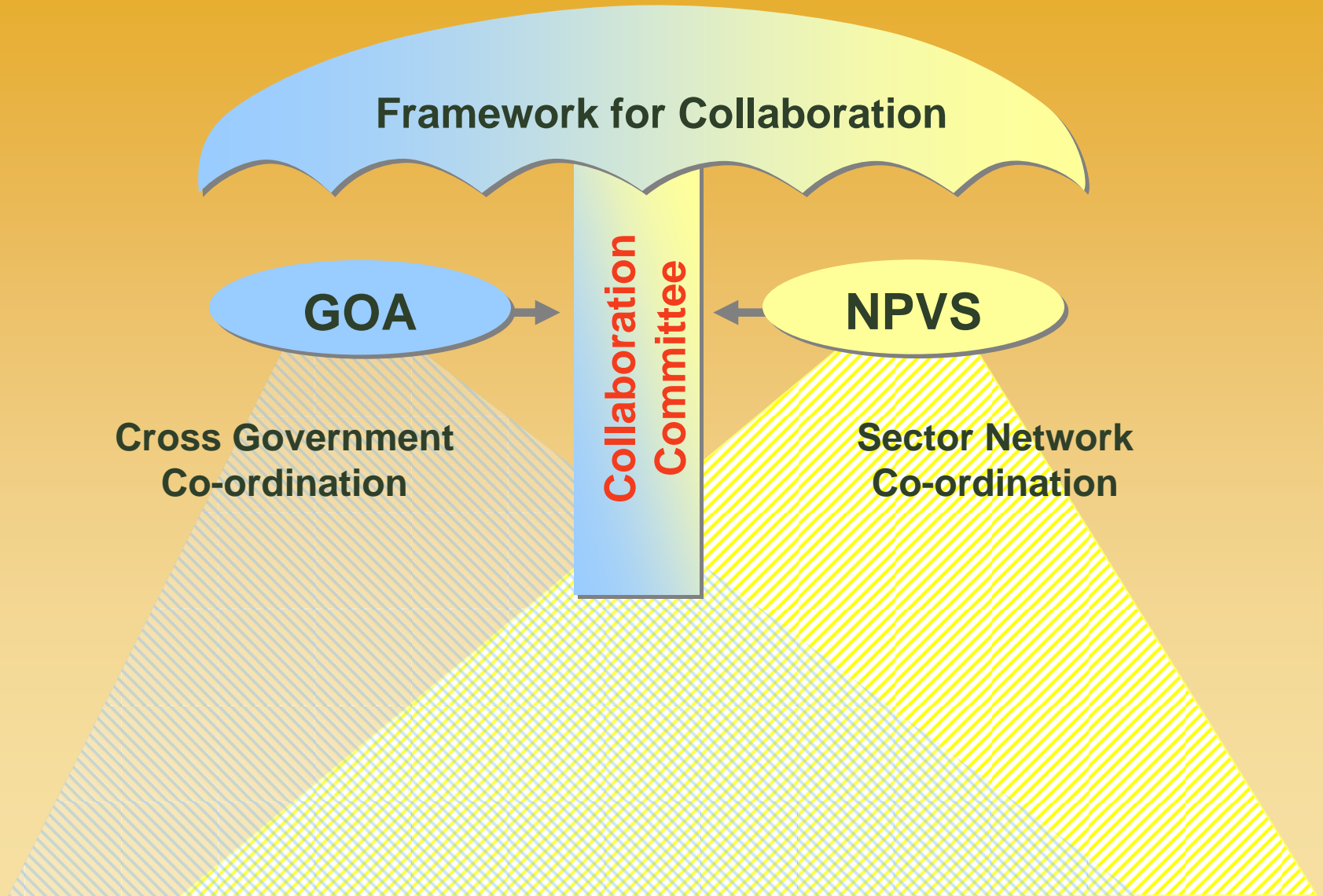
**GOA**

**NPVS**

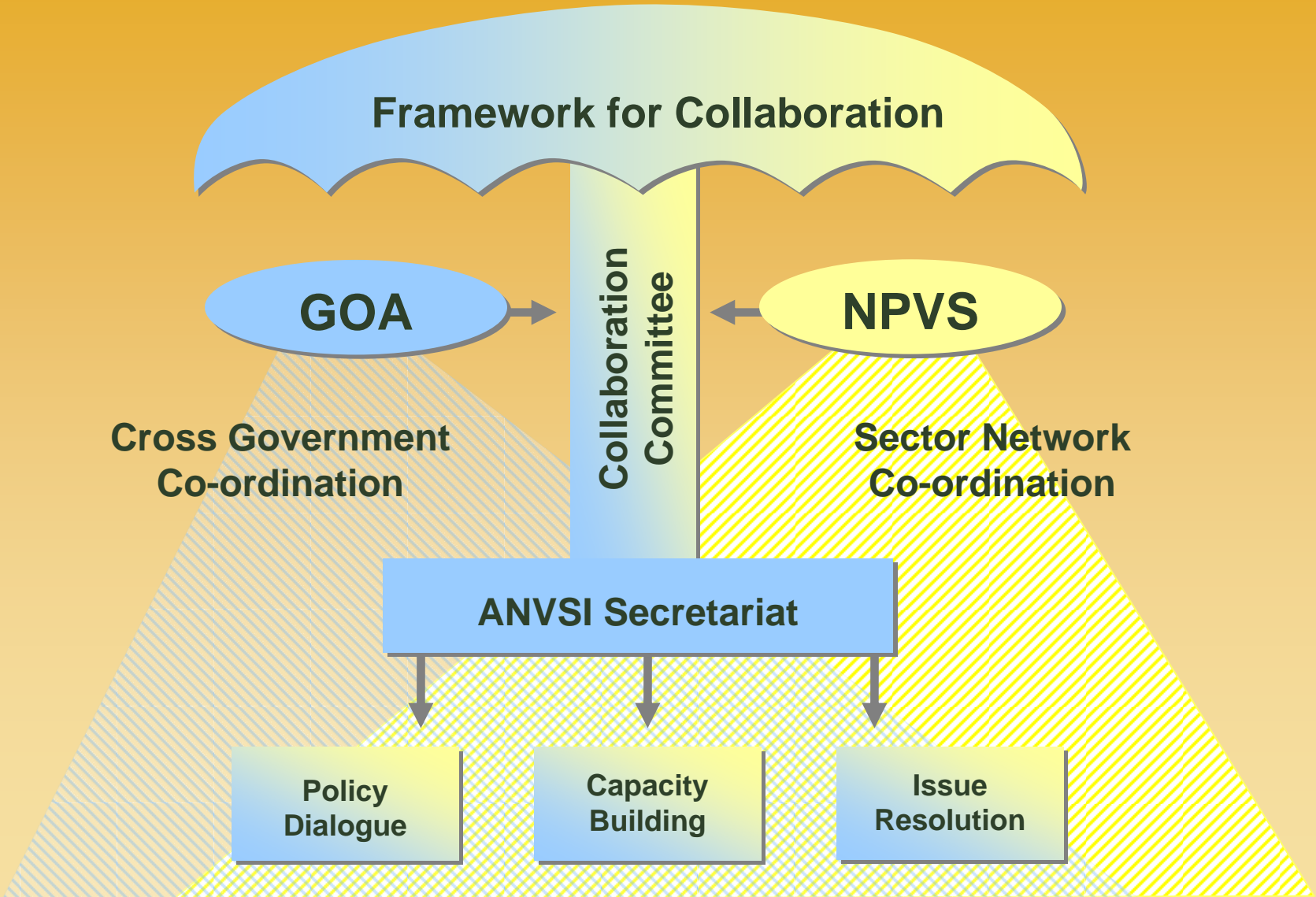
**Collaboration  
Committee**

**Cross Government  
Co-ordination**

**Sector Network  
Co-ordination**



Working  
To Achieve  
Cross-sectoral  
**Outcomes**



# Framework for Collaboration

**GOA**

**NPVS**

**Collaboration  
Committee**

**Cross Government  
Co-ordination**

**Sector Network  
Co-ordination**

**ANVSI Secretariat**

**Policy  
Dialogue**

**Capacity  
Building**

**Issue  
Resolution**

# Key Learnings

- Sector ownership and engagement in the initiative is critical to its success
- Single ministry support is not enough - the initiative needs Cabinet-level support
- Senior bureaucrats engaged in the initiative must be able to take creative risks
- A culture shift from “them and us” to “we” is critical – it's about a **Partnership**
- Keep the Money off the table

# Key Learnings

- A Framework is ineffective without a deliberate plan to implement
- Trust is the key element in a Partnership
- You need to meet together to build trust
- It takes time to develop trust
- A partnership commits to an equal number of members at the table
- You need to show up to play

**Thank you !**