

Cultural and creative initiatives within leisure services.

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Introduction

- "The quality, not the longevity, of one's life is what is important" Dr. Martin Luther King
- The world as we know it today is rapidly changing in all spheres that impact our lives.
- Leisure provides opportunities for individuals to transform (Edginton et al, 2008)

Why do we need to transform?

- "He who rejects change is the architect of decay. The only human institution which rejects progress is the cemetery."
 Harold Wilson
- Transformation is about improving our quality of life to leave behind a legacy for future generations to enjoy
- "Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever." Mahatma Gandhi
- Transformation is inherent in everything we do, the way we live, work and play.

Leisure and Transformation

- Leisure can be viewed as a "state of mind" or a "state of being" – freedom to choose experiences that will enhance ones quality of life.
- Historically, it has been suggested that leisure participation can lead to upliftment, nourish, enhance, and support the wellbeing of individuals, communities and nations, (Edginton et al, 2008)
- The creation of smart cities and livable communities promotes a leisure oriented society.
- The need for social policies will greatly influence the drive to sustainable leisure communities.

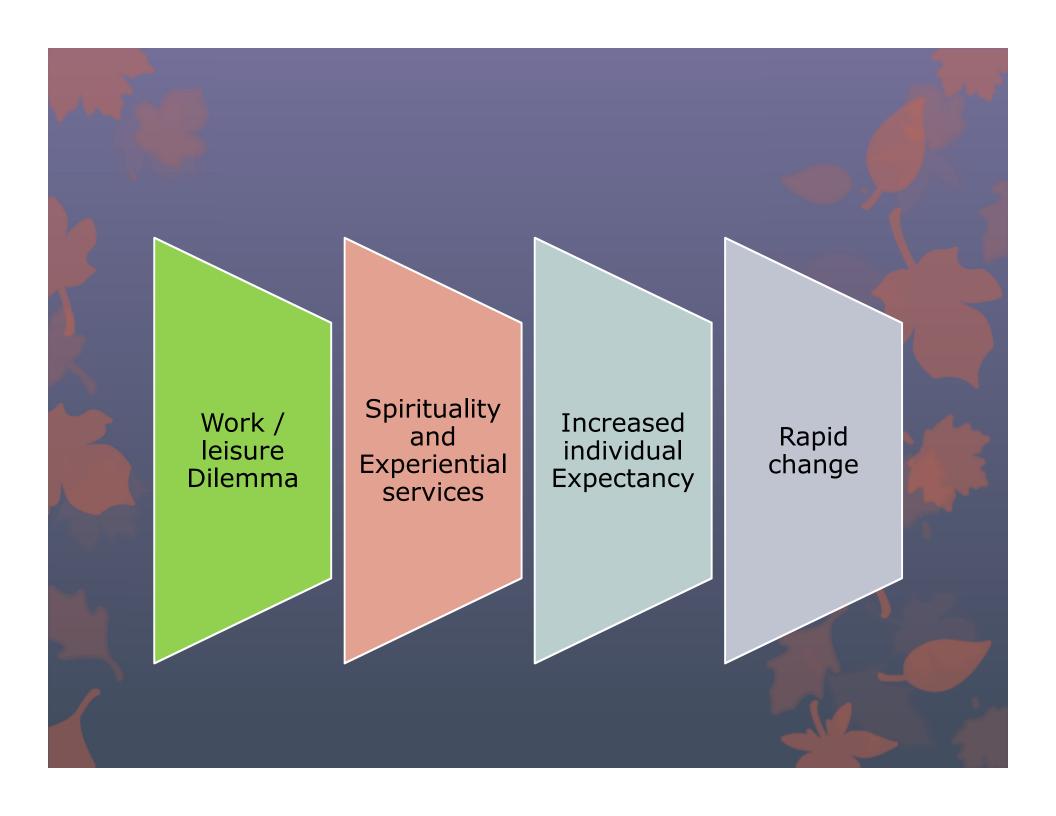


Networking

Globalisation

Partnerships and collaboration

Technology



Power of Transformation

O Madam Wu Yi, Vice Premier of the Peoples Republic of China expressed at the 2006 World Leisure High Level Forum in Hangzhou, 2006: "I believe that developed or undeveloped countries, government or non-governmental organisations, enterprises, academic associations, all should be creative thinkers in exploring workable measures to bring leisure to the majority of our people and advocate for civilised and healthy lifestyles." (Edginton et al, 2008)

Leisure interventions

- Arts with offenders benefits improving quality of life, improvement in arousal levels, emotional literacy
- Creating community celebrations, arts and wellbeing, within and across local communities.
- Creative cities enhancing the economy and improving quality of life for residents are linked through the concept of quality of place.
- Indigenous cultural festivals impact on community health and wellbeing.
- Leisure as a community catalyst
- Arts enhancing after school programs

Indicators for transformation

- Wellbeing of children, women, people with disabilities and communities
- Empowered people to serve as agents for transformation
- Transformed relationships
- Transformed public systems, policies and structures
- Reduced burden of disease



"A nation must be embraced, rehabilitated and expressed as a tangible sign of human creativity and as an integral element of mankind's heritage." – Abdelaziz Bouteflika (Algerian statesman, 1936)