Now...here's my plan...
The Bird’s Eye View...

- Welcome
- Who we are?
- Creative Problem Solving, in 4 minutes
- CPS v6.1 → CPS, The Thinking Skills Model
- What’s new?
- Building on existing principles
- A quick bit of practice!
- Debrief
- Questions...Questions...Questions...
- Contact Information
- Powerpoint to be made available via YWCA
- But...before we start...
Bringing a diversity of perspectives to creativity, innovation and change leadership

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Creative Problem Solving (CPS) is...
...like a cognitive map that can lead you to finding new solutions.
Alex Osborne
Advertisement Executive
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HISTORICAL EVOLUTION OF THE CPS MODEL...
CHALLENGE
The need for an explicit or defined creative process.

OUTCOME
The initial CPS model, guidelines and tools for generating ideas.

7 STEPS
CHALLENGE
The need for a validated instructional program to deliberately develop creative talents.

OUTCOME
The Creative Studies Project and CPS instructional materials.
CHALLENGE
The need to respond to key learning from the Creative Studies Project.

OUTCOME
The development and clustering into the three main components of the CPS process.
1992

**CHALLENGE**

The need to respond to developments in cognitive science.

**OUTCOME**

A style neutral and prescriptive approach to CPS and the introduction of task appraisal.
The need for a systematic way to process the results from task appraisal.

The integration of people, context, and desired results into the CPS framework and the introduction of common, accessible language and tools.
WORDS ARE GREAT, BUT HELP US VISUALIZE!
CPS v6.1™ FRAMEWORK

Understanding the Challenge

Generating Ideas

Designing Process

Appraising Tasks

Planning Your Approach

Preparing for Action

Constructing Opportunities

Exploding Data

Framing Problems

Developing Solutions

Building Acceptance
AFFECTIVE SKILLS

Clarification
- Dreaming: Exploring the Vision
- Sensing Gaps: Formulating Challenges

Implementation
- Tolerance for Risk: Formulating a Plan
- Sensitivity to Environment: Exploring Acceptance

Transformation
- Playfulness: Exploring Ideas
- Avoiding Premature Closure: Formulating Solutions

Mindfulness: Assess the Situation
Building on existing principles...
DIVERGENT THINKING

- Defer judgment
- Go for quantity
- Make connections
- Seek novelty

CONVERGENT THINKING

- Apply affirmative judgment
- Keep novelty alive
- Stay focused
- Check your objectives

★ Allow for incubation
Strive for Dynamic Balance
SO FAR SO GOOD... CAN YOU HIGHLIGHT THE KEY DIFFERENCES?
Assessing the Situation

It’s not just about identifying information relevant to the problem.

It’s about getting information that will help you decide which part of the process will be the most effective when starting your problem-solving.
Diagnostic Thinking

The ability to use information to make decisions about appropriate process steps to be taken.
Diagnostic thinking is supported by the affective skill of Mindfulness.

Mindfulness begins in bringing awareness to current experience, attending thoughts, feelings, and sensations relative to the present situation by regulating the focus of attention.
Mindfulness is based in...

**CURIOSITY**

*Wanting to know more – Being Inquisitive.*

Which means engaging in exploratory behavior
Speaking of exploratory behaviour...

Turn to a fresh page, and grab a pen...
Think of one personal or professional challenge you have in your real life.

Once you get it, write down on the page.
TAKE A DEEP BREATH
Take the time to incubate on these questions, and see if you develop any additional insight.

Restate your challenge by adding any new data or insights you’ve gathered through this process.
Brief Debrief and Potential Next Steps...
**FACTS**
- What are all the facts related to this question?
- Who is involved?
- When did this start?
- Where is this taking place?
- How have you handled similar situations?
- Why is this a challenge?

**HUNCHES**
- What ‘signs’ have you noticed - both internally and externally?
- When you reflect on this question, what do you notice?

**FEELINGS**
- What are your feelings about this question?
- What excites you?
- What are you afraid of?
- What makes you anxious?
- How does this question affect your emotions?

**Challenge Question**
GPS for CPS
Exploring the vision
Picture, dream, look at, forecast, contemplate, see, speculate, ponder, wonder about.

Formulating Challenges
Clarify, untangle, explicate, define, decipher, clear up, uncover, discern why.

Exploring Ideas
Come up, invent, break through, originate, innovate, hatch, fashion, think up, find a way, make up, design a way.

Formulating Solutions
Develop, elaborate, expand, evaluate, flesh out, strength, refine, analyze, maximize, build on.

Exploring acceptance
Sell, convince, market, promote, leverage, influence, persuade, pitch, position, introduce, advocate, popularize, recommend.

Formulating a Plan
Execute, implement on, script, orchestrate, devise, plot, outline, organize, rollout, sequence, act, carry out.
QUESTIONS?

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