

# Opportunities for Local Media

Home Range Story Kitchen | Midtown Radio and CKMS 102.7  
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## About the Problem

There has been a steady diminution of local/regional media in all forms over the last 20-30 years. Could this be an opportunity for building a better civic news, information, and deliberation ecosystem? Could there be a platform-syncretic approach that does not set out to further disrupt what remains of the established order but builds on what exists, operating as a mandate-based civic enterprise designed for engagement from both professional and non-market, community-based talents and energies?

## Community Partner

The Home Range Story Kitchen is an offshoot of the Commons Studio at The Working Centre. The main activity has been carrying on with a set of exploratory intergenerational and interdisciplinary "learning by doing" programs originally developed at the studio. Current Story Kitchen activities include producing Promenade, an experimental "community radio magazine" that airs on Midtown Radio and on CKMS 102.7, and pilot episodes for a set of new program concepts in partnership with Peace for All Canada and CKMS 102.7 Radio Waterloo.

## Impact on the Organization

Home Range is working on imagining, planning and growing the equivalent of a community-based orchestra, choir, theatre group, band or club to operate in the local/regional media content / digital storytelling field, dedicated towards serving as a resource, a connector and an incubator for the local/regional civic deliberation and creativity ecosystem.

## Potential Connections

Home Range has been working with representatives of a range of student and community media organizations to organize a congress of people in the field. Two years ago Midtown Radio organized a workshop on this topic at the SDG Idea Factory that was well attended, with strong representation from professionals who have left the field, including leaders of the Ink Stained Wretches, a nation-wide campaign led by a scrum of former Waterloo Record newsroom staffers "dedicated to building a culture of appreciation for quality journalism in aid of democracy." Home Range has been working with the Peace for All Canada conflict transformation initiative on relevant content creation and a digital media equipment library and learning centre and with CKMS Radio Waterloo to design and launch a youth engagement initiative that will serve all these organizations.



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