

# Civic fusion

## theory and practise



**Time: June 15**  
**04:00 PM (CET) SWEDEN**

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93154604626?pwd=NXdzV2lnQkR4dWRFK3RZbkdFOGhwQT09>

**Meeting ID: 931 5460 4626**

**Passcode: 241523**

Susan Podziba, a public policy mediator from Boston USA, and Jenny Christensen, a business strategist in Åmål Sweden, will present on an approach that has helped institutions, communities, politicians and other diverse stakeholders work together to improve development.

Susan has termed this approach “civic fusion” and has applied it in local, state, national and international contexts. Most recently, she has created process design tools for and trained World Bank mediators from around the world in its use. Jenny works in a small town with companies, public sector, and other stakeholders. She has used the civic fusion approach for her work in helping develop the town’s different infrastructures to promote business and citizen growth.

Jenny Christensen is a business strategist in Åmål municipality in Sweden who will present a method to help institutions, communities, politicians to communicate in a better way and to improve the community development.

Jenny works in a small town with companies, public sector.

Her main focus is to help developing the town’s different infrastructures leading to business and population growth.

### Programme

16.00-16.30 Civic fusion theory Susan Podziba

16.30-16.35 Break

16.35-16.50 Civic fusion practise Jenny Christensen

We expect the conference will be interactive with active use of the chat facility. Welcome !

### Organizer:

*Innovation Circle Network  
& Christina Svensson, Sweden*

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### CIVIC FUSION: MEDIATING POLARIZED PUBLIC DISPUTES

Learn how people with clashing interests and values can bond to resolve controversial policy conflicts.

Amidst political polarization, public policy mediators help disputing parties contribute their wisdom and experiences to resolve their complex public conflicts. Mediators trigger and sustain civic fusion, a phenomenon in which people with passionately different political positions bond to address common public goals without sacrificing their core values.

In *Civic Fusion: Mediating Polarized Public Disputes*, I draw on three of my past projects to explain how to move parties from polarization to deliberative negotiations that result in innovative consensus solutions.

