

What are Fogo Sessions?

Fogo Sessions allow mission-aligned organizations to sharpen and hone their community economic development practices on Fogo Island: where innovation thrives through commitment to place. Participants gain rare access to immersive learning about Shorefast's approach during a four-night retreat at Fogo Island Inn.



Learn



Connect



Innovate

Why Fogo Sessions?

Fogo Sessions are immersive experiences for community organizations, businesses, government representatives, investors, academic institutions, and others to explore, exchange, and reimagine what community economic development can look like in their own contexts.

Shorefast shares the story of its place-based social enterprise model as an evolving case study to spark engagement with the principles behind the work, encouraging participants to consider what resonates with their own opportunities.

Potential topics for deeper dives include:

- art, design, and cultural knowledge
- regenerative, community- rooted tourism
- place-based funding models
- foodways and systems mapping
- other areas where Shorefast's experience may be relevant to participants' work

Fogo Island and Fogo Island Inn

Fogo Sessions are hosted by Shorefast in our community of practice: Fogo Island. Here, participants witness the results of decades of groundbreaking community economic development: from the formation of the Fogo Island Co-Operative Society that keeps our fishery locally owned, to Shorefast's suite of businesses and programs spanning hospitality, art, coastal environmental stewardship, foodways, and more.

Fogo Sessions are held at Fogo Island Inn, Shorefast's flagship community business. During exclusive periods in March and November, with the Inn closed to regular guests, the property is reimaged under an simplified service model.

While parts of the Inn experience during a Fogo Session differ significantly from the property's regular offering, this intentional shift allows for focused engagement with Fogo Island as learners and collaborators as shared meals, immersive site visits, and dynamic conversations challenge assumptions and ignite new thinking.





What you can expect

- **A transformative, tailored learning experience** on an island off an island, where distance from the everyday creates space to think, work, and learn alongside your team.
- **A customized agenda** designed according to your group's specific needs and goals.
- **Practical tools, frameworks and models** you can adapt and apply in your own community.
- **Access to a growing network of practitioners** advancing place-based approaches across Canada.

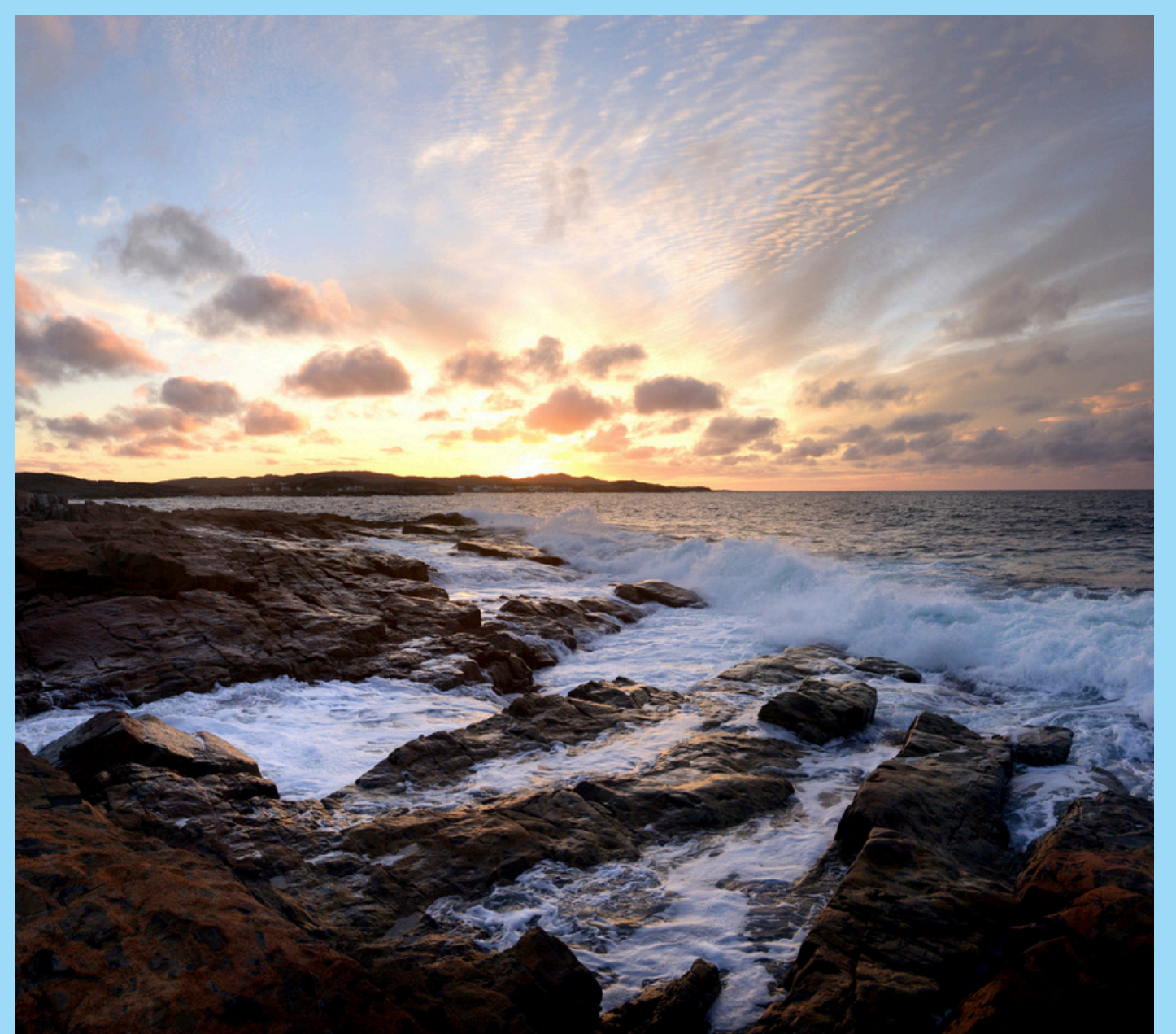
Sample Agenda *This agenda is fully customizable and will be tailored to your organization's objectives.*

Day 1	Travel, arrivals, and group dinner
Days 2-4	Learnings, Discussions, Sharing, Exploration
	<p>Mornings are for in-depth workshops on place-based economic development</p> <hr/> <p>Early afternoons are for experiential learning through excursions & community visits</p> <hr/> <p>Late afternoons are spent in groups for peer-to-peer learning and reflection</p> <hr/> <p>Evenings are for leisurely suppers, film nights, discussions, and downtime</p>
Day 5	Breakfast and departures

Our Team

Fogo Sessions are run by a team of experienced practitioners based on Fogo Island and from away.

Subject matter experts rotate depending on Session theme and audience, and include senior leaders from across Canada with direct experience building and scaling businesses and community development projects. Industry experience includes corporate, community economic development, accounting, finance, technology, philanthropy, hospitality, and human-centered design. Shorefast is led by Zita Cobb, an eighth generation Fogo Islander, Canadian business leader, and social entrepreneur.



Interested? Get in touch with us to discuss your agenda & dates.

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