'Equity' is embedded in Minnesota

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The following information is an important part of answering the question, how did critical race theory get so far advanced into Minnesota?

Regional government/nonprofits such as **Service Coops (ex. Sourcelwell) and League of Minnesota Cities** have been organized and equipped over many years, even decades.

The [Minnesota Equity Blueprint](#) was created by a coalition of leftist organizations (primarily [Growth and Justice](#)); nonprofits (primarily the McKnight Foundation); Minnesota's regional development government; and Minnesota's six Rural Initiative Foundations.

This blueprint is driving policies and programs throughout Minnesota's local jurisdictions and is driving state legislation and state administrative policies and practices. Whether economic development, transportation, land planning, water, agriculture, industry, housing, childcare, education, environmental justice, etc. it is grounded in the paradigm of 'equity,' or equal outcomes based on identity (race, gender, sexuality, economic status, age). This is the real 'systemic' racism. It is fundamentally a Marxist paradigm, and it is compliant with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Here is a snapshot summary of Minnesota's regional government system:

Minnesota was early to organize these entities:
1) "Regional Development Commissions" (1969)
These RDCs are state government organized and funded, initially established to utilize federal grants for development programs that crossed city/county/township boundaries. "The federal Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Commerce provided funding for economic development agencies across the United States. In response to this, the state legislature created an act for the development of regional development commissions in areas where existing planning organizations did not exist." [Regional Development Commissions - Wikipedia](#).

They create, organize, and execute plans by unelected bureaucrats, overseen by unelected boards that are made up of individuals chosen from elected local city councils, township boards, county commissioners, and local school boards and their appointed administrations. They then send these plans back to the local jurisdictions to be rubber-stamped. The RDCs also accept a steady supply of grants from state government programs and from numerous nonprofits. They have access to a lot of resources.

"**Anti-government sentiment led to the dissolution of some regional development commissions**. These included Region 4 in western Minnesota, Region 7W near the center of the state and Region 10 which consisted of the 11 county area in southeastern Minnesota." [Regional Development Commissions - Wikipedia](#) "Region 4 designated the non-profit

organization **West Central Initiative to become their de facto Regional Development Organization in 1984** and it was designated as a federal development agency in 1985 for the same area."

[The Minnesota Association of Development Organizations](#) (MADO) ties them all together so that they are working collaboratively on the same agenda. A description of what the RDCs do is available on the MADO website.

2) **Minnesota Service Co-ops (1976) which followed the same boundaries as the RDCs**
These MSCs, led primarily by Sourcewell, are state government organized, established to provide services to local jurisdictions to implement the plans and policies of city councils, township boards, county commissioners, and local school boards and their appointed administrations. The MSCs also are run by appointments, many from local jurisdictions, and they accept a steady supply of grants from state government programs and from various nonprofits. Regional Co-ops have access to a lot of resources. In many communities, city, county, and school responsibilities are outsourced to them, and the local jurisdictions pay them to do it: hiring teachers, training administrators, setting up 'welcoming committees,' staffing 'welcoming committees,' ordering curriculum, teaching cultural competency, etc.

For example, STEM is a program tied in directly to the UN Sustainability Goals (SDGs). [Sustainable Development Goals in STEM Education - Scientix blog Scientix blog](#). The Sourcewell Co-op implements the UN SDGs in the local business community. [Wanted: Local business leaders, educators, & community members (sourcewell-mn.gov)](#). While Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) are clearly important education programs, planning and administering our local STEM education programs should not be orchestrated through a global UN planning agency which has global governance as its ultimate goal.

Schools outsource their responsibilities to Service Co-ops such as Sourcewell, which incorporates all of the Equity agenda in its content, including the SEED program, [Ed_ProgramGuide_2019-2020_FinalForWeb.pdf (sourcewell-mn.gov)](#). SEED teaches some of the most radical anti-American "systemic racism" materials. [SEED (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity) Training: Spreading Seeds of Division | CPL Action](#)

> SEED Seminar Join SEED (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity), a peer-led program promoting change and helping create equitable curriculum, schools, and communities. You'll participate with fellow regional educators in seminars that challenge your personal beliefs and practices and help you better connect with others. SEED leader and Sourcewell Education Consultant Rachel Logan leads the seminars

Many of the School Programs bypass the Curriculum altogether, making it difficult for parents and concerned citizens to follow their tracks. School Boards will often block access to records of programs like SEED.

3) **In the Mid-1980's the McKnight Foundation established six Minnesota Initiative Foundations throughout greater Minnesota**

These Initiative Foundations are a massive nonprofit network that drive local policy and initiatives for land use, schools, childcare, transportation, economic development, etc. They have huge impact on setting local plans and priorities.

For example, the McKnight Foundation is deep pockets for funding advocacy for all of the Big Green project, [Talk About Bad Timing: McKnight Foundation Announces Big Green Giveaway One Day Before Jamie Long Scandal Breaks (americanexperiment.org)](). McKnight is one of the big Minnesota nonprofits that funds leftist organization through their grant programs. Yet they are directing local government development through their Initiative organizations.

All three of these entities operate out of an 'equity' agenda. They interact together as a powerful, well-funded, unrecognized network of government transformation: legislative, city governments, counties, and schools. The plans they put together for local jurisdictions are all compliant with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations Agenda 2030 (formerly Agenda 21). Minnesota has organized all of Minnesota government around the SDGs. (See Addendum below.)

Growth and Justice describes bringing these entities together to create the state plans for 'Equity.' Together they have created a [Rural Minnesota Equity Action Guide]() published in April 2021 based on the Equity Blueprint. Their *Action Guide* is especially focused on *Welcoming Communities*, a program straight out of the UN that is created to transform communities.

> Local Collaboration and Functional Ecosystems: Interviews with five regional development organizations in different parts of the state confirm a high level of collaboration on local economic development projects. These regional entities operate in an environment where each county usually has its own economic development staff as do many cities and towns. Often these local entities will initiate an economic development project, for example assisting an existing business with expansion. The MIFs [Initiative Foundations] and the RDCs are rural development hubs. They are adept at bringing together the resources, expertise, and partners necessary for the local project to succeed. Partners span a full spectrum of public, private, and non-profit organizations in a wide span of issue areas. The MIFs and RDCs have helped construct support ecosystem that generally seems to function effectively.

> Meanwhile, the regional entities are also focused on systemic problems that inhibit economic growth and vitality, such as housing, workforce development and childcare as mentioned earlier. On these region-wide issues, there also generally appears to be strong collaboration among the different actors.

> • DevelopMN: MADO's "Develop MN" policy agenda illustrates collaboration at a state-wide level. Prior to the One Minnesota Equity Blueprint, MADO undertook a two-year process to craft a Greater Minnesota policy agenda called "DevelopMN." It synthesizes the CEDS plans of the 10 RDCs, supplemented by data analysis, review of national best practice and meetings with state and local economic development organizations,

philanthropic foundations, local governments, state and local elected officials, the business community, and educational institutions. The final strategy is built around four cornerstones: 1) human capital, 2) economic competitiveness, 3) community resources (local values and social, cultural, and natural assets), and 4) foundational assets (such as infrastructure).

Growth & Justice describes Welcoming communities this way:

> Workforce and Welcoming Communities: The RDCs and the Initiative Foundations have been strengthening the capacities of rural communities **to address local resistance to changing race, ethnicity, and culture**. This work is often conducted under the rubric of "Welcoming Communities" – events, programs, and outreach to help communities understand and accept these new residents. Workforce shortages have often led the business community to participate in the broader Welcoming Community efforts.

> Foundation Influence: Our sense is that the more progressive foundations have been influential in moving regional development organizations towards equity. Blandin has a training program called "Leadership in Ethnically Diverse Communities" to increase the capacity of rural leaders to develop inclusive communities and reduce systemic racial and cultural barriers. It has funded innovative programs such as Region 5 Development Commission's pioneering Welcoming Communities work. More generally, as a funder of development organizations in Greater Minnesota, it can communicate its perspective and help them learn cultural competence skills.

Also, they see themselves opposed to the local community activism, which has become a stumbling block for them:

> Political and Cultural Divides: Nearly all the interviews touched on the political and cultural divides in the state or their region, analogous to the toxic national political climate. Rural Minnesota is going through significant cultural and demographic changes, often precipitating a backlash. The problem extends to urban areas where liberal residents are quick to dismissively characterize Greater Minnesota as "Trump country." **Rural practitioners acknowledge how difficult their work has become because of highly vocal conservative activists.** Although urban-rural coalition building should be possible given commonalities of interest, it is difficult to negotiate in a climate of stark political division.

Now there is One Minnesota 501c4 that is just organizing to orchestrate all of this together. And Governor Walz has set up a One Minnesota Council on Inclusion and Equity / Office of Governor Tim Walz and Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan (mn.gov) office to implement it.
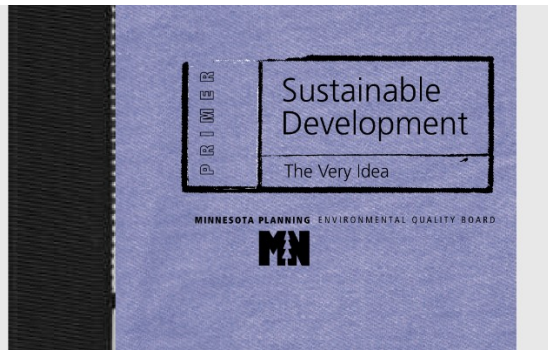
The point of all this is to say, this is the way that the Marxist-driven 'equity' has been embedded into our state.

ADDENDUM

UN Sustainable Development Comprehensive Planning Instituted in Minnesota in 1993 by Governor Arne Carlson

Sustainable Development: The Very Idea
Published in 1998

Excerpts:

A commitment is made

In 1992, the United States and nearly 180 other nations met at the "Earth Summit" in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and agreed that sustainable development should be the goal and operating principle for governments, businesses and individuals around the world. At this meeting, heads of state from more than 150 nations, including the United States, committed to an ambitious plan called Agenda 21, which asks each country to develop a national strategy for sustainable development. In the United States, that commitment led to the establishment of the President's Council on Sustainable Development, a group of corporate executive officers, Cabinet members and other civic leaders who have produced a blueprint for action. Agenda 21 has since been used to guide similar public-private efforts at national, state and local levels.

Governor Arne H. Carlson, the Environmental Quality Board and the commissioner of Trade and Economic Development launched the Minnesota Sustainable Development Initiative in 1993. The initiative is staffed by Minnesota Planning.

Minnesota policy changes include:

- Chapter 454, Minnesota Laws of 1996, which requires **all state agencies, departments and boards** to assess how well their missions and programs reflect and implement the Round Table's principles of sustainable development or how they could be changed to do so.

- Community-Based Planning Act of 1997, which lays out 11 goals that define a framework for **community-based comprehensive planning**.

Promote a more sustainable economy and society

Launch a visioning and planning process to chart the community's future. The Community-Based Planning Act encourages communities to voluntarily plan for their future and offers technical assistance. For more information, contact Minnesota Planning at 612-296-3985.

Such a process could include establishing a long-term community vision; describing the community's environmental, economic and social conditions, trends and assets; producing short- and long-term goals in these three areas; establishing indicators to measure progress; and producing implementation strategies and action steps for reaching the goals.