

Good Governance Practices for Healthy OSS Projects

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Agenda

Importance of governance

Mission, values, and scope to set expectations

Defining roles, responsibilities, and procedures

Company vs. contributing to a foundation

Resources

Final Thoughts

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whoami









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- Geek, traveler, reader
- 20+ yr tech career focused on community & open source (Intel, Puppet, Scale Factory, ...)
- OpenUK Board, CHAOSS Board and Maintainer, TODO Group Steering
- CNCF Contributor Strategy TAG
- PhD from the University of Greenwich focus on Linux kernel collaboration



Governance is about People

Defines how people collaborate and make decisions





Be Explicit

Explicit, documented governance increases project viability





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Mission

Purpose, advantages, and key features





Scope

Avoid misunderstandings and set expectations



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@geekygirldawn

Values / Principles

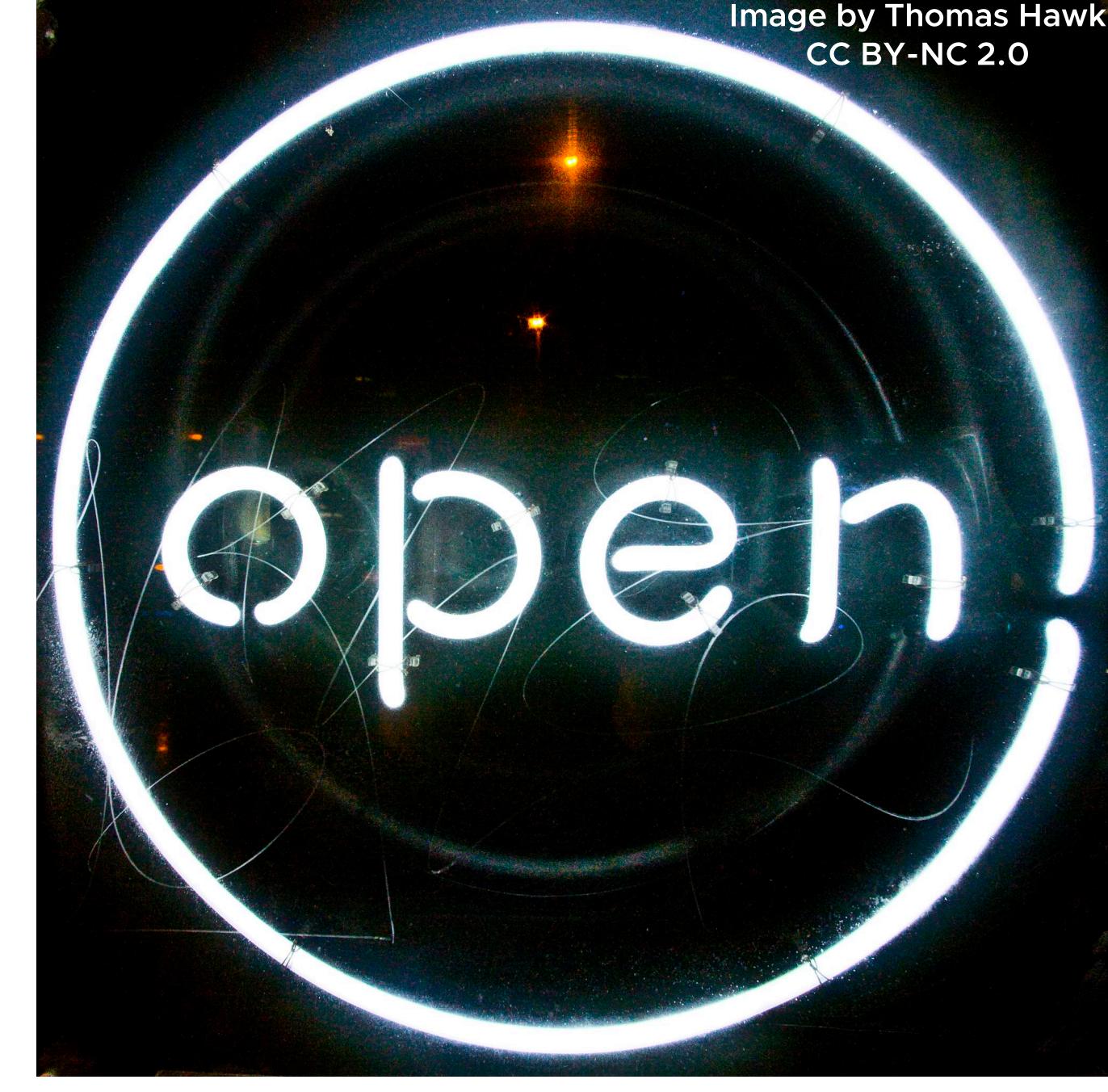
Openness

Fairness

Community over Company

Inclusivity

Culture of participation





Docs and Procedures

Licensing, code of conduct, contribution, and communication process





Security

Process for reporting and responding to security issues



Leadership

Contributors can climb the ladder into leadership



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Building a welcoming and inclusive community







Ownership: Company or Foundation?

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Company Owned

Be honest about governance and decision making



Foundations

Neutral foundations allow collaboration as equals









Contributing to Foundations

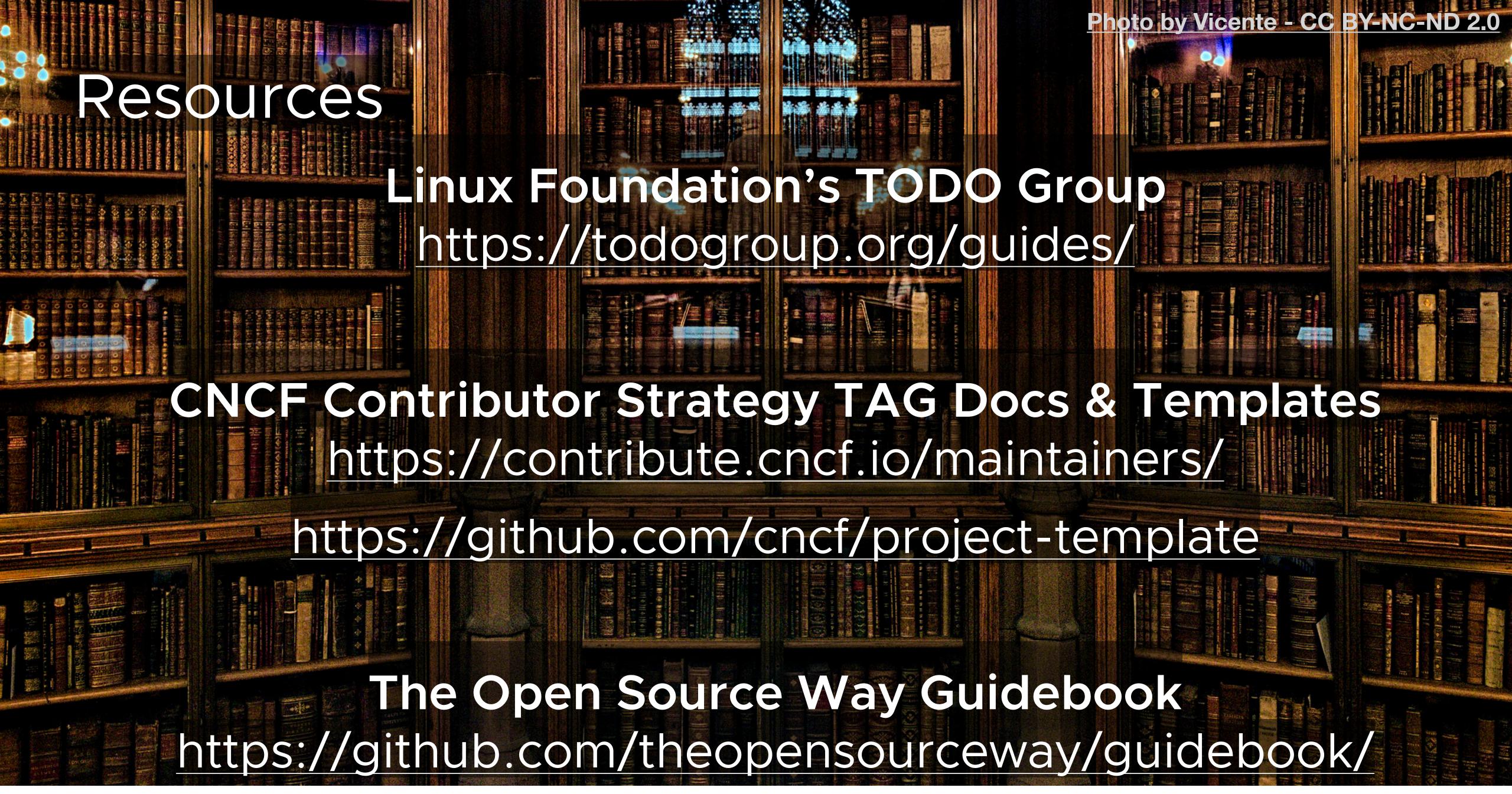
Give up control for increased collaboration



Governance Evolves

Never "done" can always be improved





Final Thoughts

Setting expectations reduces uncertainty and makes people feel welcome



Thank You!

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