

Public Engagement Pilot Program – Nov. 23 Feedback

Total feedback forms received: 31

1. Please rate your overall satisfaction with this event [scale of: 1 (dissatisfied) - 6 (satisfied)]

- 1) none
- 2) none
- 3) none
- 4) 3 participants
- 5) 20 participants
- 6) 8 participants

2. What did you like most/least about this event?

- Event location should be moved around – lots of venues available
- I believe that the process would be best served without Council or staff at tables
- Most: the open source format
- I was disappointed that the topics I was most interested in weren't discussed
- Engagement
- Very friendly
- Everyone was given the opportunity to speak
- Open discussion
- Most: the content of discussions
- Public engagement
- Most: Opportunity to listen to others views. Least: 0
- Good briefing at beginning to set the stage
- I liked hearing from people representing different interests/communities, etc. Not as much of a focus on solutions.
- Good dialogue. Opportunity for each person to speak
- Collaborate communication of various issues within Nanaimo community
- Most: format. Least: need more equitable facilitation (control extroverts)
- Most: Informal structure/opportunity to speak. Coffee/cookies. Engineers/managers came! Least: Should be better advertised! Need more input
- I think you did well
- All the interesting problem solving ideas.
- Not enough time with sessions.
- Most: I felt like my opinion mattered. Citizens need to feel like they are involved rather than passive participants
- Great interchange of views
- Interesting format! Fun event, with opportunities to share opinions with members of my community on a variety of potent, current issues.
- Opportunity to speak to what is important. Need to have discussions about local food production
- Very engaged conversations, diverse audience to engage with. Very disappointed that Council didn't really show up for this inaugural event – doesn't bode well for engagement

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- I liked hearing from people who had similar concerns.
- Open dialogue. Not enough time
- I was pleased to see a democratic decision-making process about what the focus group topics were. I think open-dialogue allowed folks to share grievances and challenges freely, but solutions were less common than the problem – which is a fair place to start!
- Wish it was longer. Loved the different format. Enjoyed meeting & talking with all there.
- Some excellent facilitation and very insightful table discussion by participants. Some poor facilitation and poor balance of discussion of policy/versus specific projects.

3. Do you have comments or suggestions to help us in the planning or operation of the next pilot program community engagement event?

- Need an online commentary, vote, etc. mechanism
- Narrow the focus under each topic. Recycling – we had a city staff person which had good & bad points: Good) he got to hear what people had to say, got a sense of how we feel. Bad) session became a Q&A, leading us to not have meaningful dialogue and idea generation.
- Action!
- I would like an email or online evening
- Have it in February
- Following up session to report on any possible actions resulting from public input.
- This event was well thought through and co-ordinated. I really enjoyed it.
- Let's take 5 topics and try specific solutions.
- Advertise to more young people
- I would like more hands on facilitation eg: grabbing onto solution based comments and focusing discussions to that (love the students – this is difficult!)
- More non-profit organization, counsellors, Council and first nation entities participating
- Do the same thing. Invite some keynotes like John Horne.
- More tables for popular topics
- Longer times to discuss each topic.
- What is the plan for using all the information being gathered at these sessions? Is there going to be a practical outcome for the information gathered?
- Facilitators at each table should be vibrant. Time discussions
- Well done.
- Face-to-face communication with other community members is valuable. Refreshments appreciated!
- Since it is Council who need to support initiatives going forward, I would like to see more Councillors showing support for what people are saying.
- Less topics more thorough discussion
- Next session should focus on determining the potential viability of possible solutions to the challenges presented tonight. Working with models that have worked in other places and building/expanding on them could be a valuable springboard.
- It was very well done especially for a pilot.

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- More rigorous training of facilitators, recorders. Perhaps it was the nature of the 3rd-20 session but facilitators seemed to have attitude of “heard & seen it all before” or were pushing their opinions.

4. How did you hear about this event?

1. Newspaper – 8 participants
2. Printed poster – none
3. Word of Mouth – 9 participants
4. Facebook – 11 participants
5. Twitter – 1 participant
6. Facebook event – 9 participants
7. City Facebook Page – 5 participants
8. City Twitter Account – none
9. City Website – 4 participants
10. Other – 3 participants (Pam; email; friend)

5. How much do you agree with the following [scale of: 1 (dissatisfied) - 6 (satisfied)]:

“I felt that I had influence in identifying which topics are important to me.”

- 1) none
- 2) none
- 3) none
- 4) 6 participants
- 5) 15 participants
- 6) 9 participants

“I understood how to participate, and felt welcome and respected while doing so.”

- 1) none
- 2) none
- 3) 1 participant (filled in 3 and 4)
- 4) 2 participants (one filled in 3 and 4)
- 5) 13 participants
- 6) 16 participants

“I felt that my input was valued.”

- 1) none
- 2) none
- 3) none
- 4) 5 participants
- 5) 12 participants
- 6) 13 participants

6. Which area of Nanaimo do you live in? (And how can we contact you?)

- Departure Bay
- Downtown area
- Hospital area.

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- Harewood (Fairview)
- Downtown
- Ashlar Ave.
- University Heights
- Downtown
- Harewood
- North
- North end.
- Near the university
- South – Harewood
- Harewood
- Haliburton.
- Departure Bay
- Harewood
- Downtown – Cameron Island
- Downtown – Stewart
- Quarterway Area near hospital
- Outside Nanaimo
- Rocky Point
- Downtown
- Westwood
- Harewood
- Downtown
- South end
- Harewood / South end
- Central – Country Club.
- Stephenson Point

7. What is your age?

under 18)	none
18 - 34)	4 participants
35 – 49)	5 participants
50 – 64)	14 participants
65 or older)	8 participants