

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PILOT PROGRAM

Building Nanaimo for the Future: What are your priorities?

WELCOME!

Thank you for joining us for the first session of Nanaimo's Community Engagement Pilot Program. This program came about as a result of a motion passed by Council in the fall of 2016 to establish *informal, open topic community engagement and public conversations sessions*.

Spearheaded by the Community Engagement Task Force, a group of Nanaimo citizens eager to find new and meaningful ways to engage the public, these pilot program sessions are intended to foster meaningful conversations and open up the dialogue on issues that matter to citizens of Nanaimo.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission statement for the Community Engagement Committee reads:

Our mission is to work alongside fellow residents, City Council and staff to design, implement and refine a community engagement pilot program which provides a clear and accessible means for citizens to discuss their thoughts and ideas with the community and its leaders.

Our goals and indicators of success are:

- Residents feel that they have influence in identifying which topics are important to them;
- Residents understand how to participate, and feel welcome and respected while doing so; and
- Residents feel that their input is valued.

PARTICIPANTS

The focus of tonight is to hear from residents of Nanaimo, which makes YOU a key participant in this event! We would also like to acknowledge the following groups for their involvement in making tonight's engagement session possible:

Community Engagement Task Force

Members of the Community Engagement Task Force include Les Barclay, Robert Fuller, Ian Gartshore, Erin Hemmens, Bill Manners, Nancy Mitchell, Norm Smith and Peter Urquhart. Tonight wouldn't have been possible without these individuals volunteering their time to help shape this pilot program!

Vancouver Island University – Master of Community Planning Program

We are thrilled to be working with Pam Shaw, the Director of VIU's Master of Community Planning Program, as well as students from the program who will act as facilitators and note-takers.

Nanaimo City Council

This pilot program is an excellent opportunity to engage in dialogue and discussion with members of Nanaimo's City Council.

City of Nanaimo Staff

Staff from the Communications department have been assisting the Community Engagement Task Force since their first session held in July. In addition, we are pleased to have a number of staff liaisons from some of Council's Select Committees in attendance to join in the discussions.

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TONIGHT'S FORMAT

Tonight's event is the first of four public engagement sessions that will be held over the course of the upcoming year. For this first session, we are using the *open space technology* method of engagement.

Citizens of Nanaimo have submitted a number of topics that they are interested in discussing and to facilitate these discussions in the most meaningful way, we will be starting tonight's session off by asking those in attendance to "vote" on which topics they would like to discuss. The top five topics will be the focus of conversations at the different stations around the room, along with a "wild card" table for those interested in an opportunity for broader conversations.

Each table will be facilitated and recorded by students of Vancouver Island University's Masters of Community Planning program. There will be three sessions of 20 minutes at each station, but individuals are welcome to move from table to table freely throughout the course of the evening.

At the conclusion of the evening, there will be a final wrap up where some of the key points from the discussions that occurred will be presented back to the group at large. We encourage you to get involved in the conversation and have your say, but please keep in mind the following:

- *Do not dominate the conversation* – take turns, and allow the opportunity for all of those around the table to speak.
- *Do not interrupt* – please be respectful of others at the table and allow the speaker to finish talking before offering your comments.
- *Be respectful* – remember that although someone else's opinion may differ from yours, this is an opportunity to hear from all sides of the conversation so we encourage everyone to keep an open mind and treat all participants with the same respect that you would wish to be given.
- *Council is here to listen and participate* – members of Council are in attendance but please bear in mind that this is not the forum to be directing them to answer questions; rather, this is an opportunity to engage with them as fellow members of the community and share and discuss with them your views on the topics that matter to you.

CONTACT US:

Stay engaged! There are a number of ways that you can keep the conversation going:

For upcoming public engagement events visit: www.nanaimo.ca/goto/PublicEngagement

For comments, questions or feedback on the pilot program you can reach out via email PublicEngagement@Nanaimo.ca or via phone: (250) 755-4460 ext. 4265.

We encourage you to keep in touch through the City's website (www.nanaimo.ca), Facebook page (www.facebook.com/cityofnanaimo) and Twitter (@cityofnanaimo).

Interested in appearing before Council? For information on how to appear as a delegate visit www.nanaimo.ca/goto/delegation

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THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

Now that you have had a chance to be a part of the first session of Nanaimo's Community Engagement Pilot Program, please answer a few questions to help us in planning for future events. Your feedback is very important to us!

1. How did you hear about tonight's event?
2. What was the most effective part of tonight's event?
3. What was the least effective part of tonight's event?
4. Would you attend another event like this in the future? If not, please tell us why.
5. May we contact you to follow up on your feedback? If so, please provide your email address.
6. What area of Nanaimo do you live in?
7. Do you have any further comments or suggestions to make this program a success?