

What We Heard Engagement Summary

June 2022





Executive Summary

The Official Plan is a city planning document that acts as Toronto's road map for land use matters. It sets out our long-term vision, shared values, and policies that help guide decision-making on land development, economic growth, the environment, and more. It is an important plan that directs where different types of development should and should not go.

The Municipal Comprehensive Review and Official Plan review processes, named Our Plan Toronto, has been shaped by the diverse voices that make up our city. Torontonians from across the city were invited to participate and lend their voice to the review, which will shape the city over the next 30 years.

What we heard during the process and the three phases of engagement has shaped the plan's draft vision, directions, and principles. This has resulted in revisions to the Official Plan that reflects the diversity of our city, and aims to eliminate disparities, take action against climate change, make Toronto the most inclusive city in the world, and take steps toward reconciliation with Indigenous communities.

Our Plan Toronto is part of the Municipal Comprehensive Review, a process to review and update the Official Plan that is required under the Planning Act of Ontario and Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe Area. Provincial requirements related to notices, Indigenous engagement, statutory meetings, and statutory open houses were followed.

How We Engaged



Hearing from Diverse Voices

Community Leaders Circle

The Community Leaders Circle (CLC) was a fundamental component to reach marginalized communities and equity deserving groups. Spanning over 30 community organizations across the City, the CLC members were engaged through workshops and dialogue to provide insights focused on embedding equity both into the Our Plan Toronto process as well as into the Official Plan policies. The CLC was also mobilized for additional outreach and engagement in their respective communities, resulting in multiple additional focused consultations co-designed and/or led by CLC members. CLC participants were compensated for their time through an honorarium, to reduce financial barriers to participation.

Presentation to City Committees

- Planning and Housing Committee
- Economic and Community Development Committee
- Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee
- Confronting Anti-Black Racism Committee
- Film, Television, and Digital Media Advisory Board
- Toronto Accessibility Accountability Committee
- Seniors Strategy Accountability Table

Engagement by the Numbers

2,000 people reached in meetings and workshops

60+ stakeholder meetings and workshops

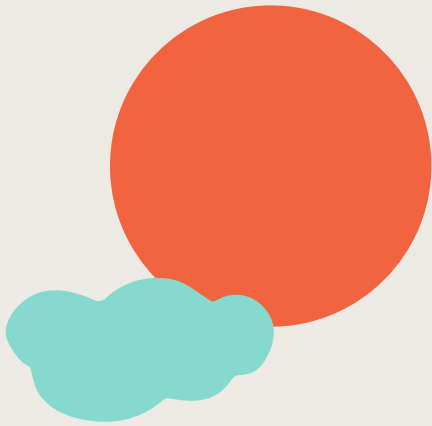
10,900 website and StoryMap visits

1,200 poll responses

10,900 of #OurPlanTO likes, tweets, and retweets from social media releases



What We Engaged On



Phase 1

- The biggest challenges facing Toronto as we grow
- Values for future growth
- Breaking down inequities

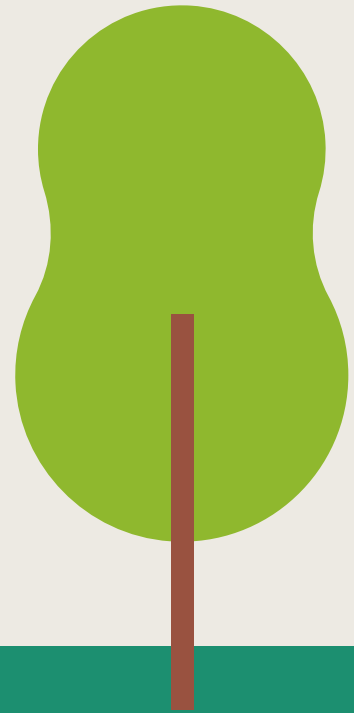
Phase 2

- What's working in communities
- Priorities for the Official Plan
- Focus on building back better, what does “better” look like”

Phase 3

Presented:

- Draft vision statements and principles for Chapter 1
- Draft and recommended environment and climate change, employment, and Major Transit Station Areas
- Gauged support for draft Official Plan vision, directions and principles, including obtaining any refinements



Indigenous Engagement

As part of the Our Plan Toronto process, the City consulted on and looked at how to address the many disparities that exist across our city in an effort to become a more equitable, welcoming, and healthy city for all. In addition applying an equity lens to the engagement process, Our Plan Toronto examined our history through reflection on Indigenous priorities in a manner that supports Indigenous self-determination. The City of Toronto saw Our Plan Toronto as a key opportunity to support Indigenous self-determination through Indigenous inclusion and reflection. To do this, the City of Toronto placed an important emphasis on amplifying Indigenous voices in this planning process.

The Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) 2020 recognizes the important role that Indigenous communities have in land use planning, and requires municipalities to consult with and build relationships with Indigenous communities through meaningful engagement. With this in mind, Our Plan Toronto used a relationship-based approach in the outreach and engagement with Indigenous rights holders, businesses and organizations, to form relationships with individuals and organizations to foster those relationships beyond the life of the Our Plan Toronto process.

Read the [Indigenous engagement summary](#) for more information.

Engagement by the numbers

24	12	52
meetings	one-on-one interviews	participants



How We Engaged

- Introductory letters
- Phone calls and emails
- E-bulletin with updates and notifications
- Meetings with Rights Holders
- Focus Groups
- One-on-one interviews with Indigenous organizations
- Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee (AAAC)
- Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council (TASSC)
- Community Leaders Circle





What We Heard

The Key Themes

- Equity, inclusion, and relationship building
- Aligning priorities and conversations
- Community-led solutions
- Learning from the past and implementation

The most frequently raised issues included:

- Housing affordability
- Scale of intensification
- Environment and climate change
- Indigenous interests and reflection
- Supporting businesses and jobs
- Complete communities and universal design

Read the [Phase 1](#), [Phase 2](#), and [Phase 3](#) engagement summaries for more information.

How We Used Your Feedback

Feedback gathered throughout the engagement process was used to draft the Official Plan Vision Statement that sets out what we want the City to look like in 2051.

The Official Plan will:

Seek to **eliminate disparities** experienced by Torontonians.



Prioritize **climate change action** and sustainability towards net zero by 2040.



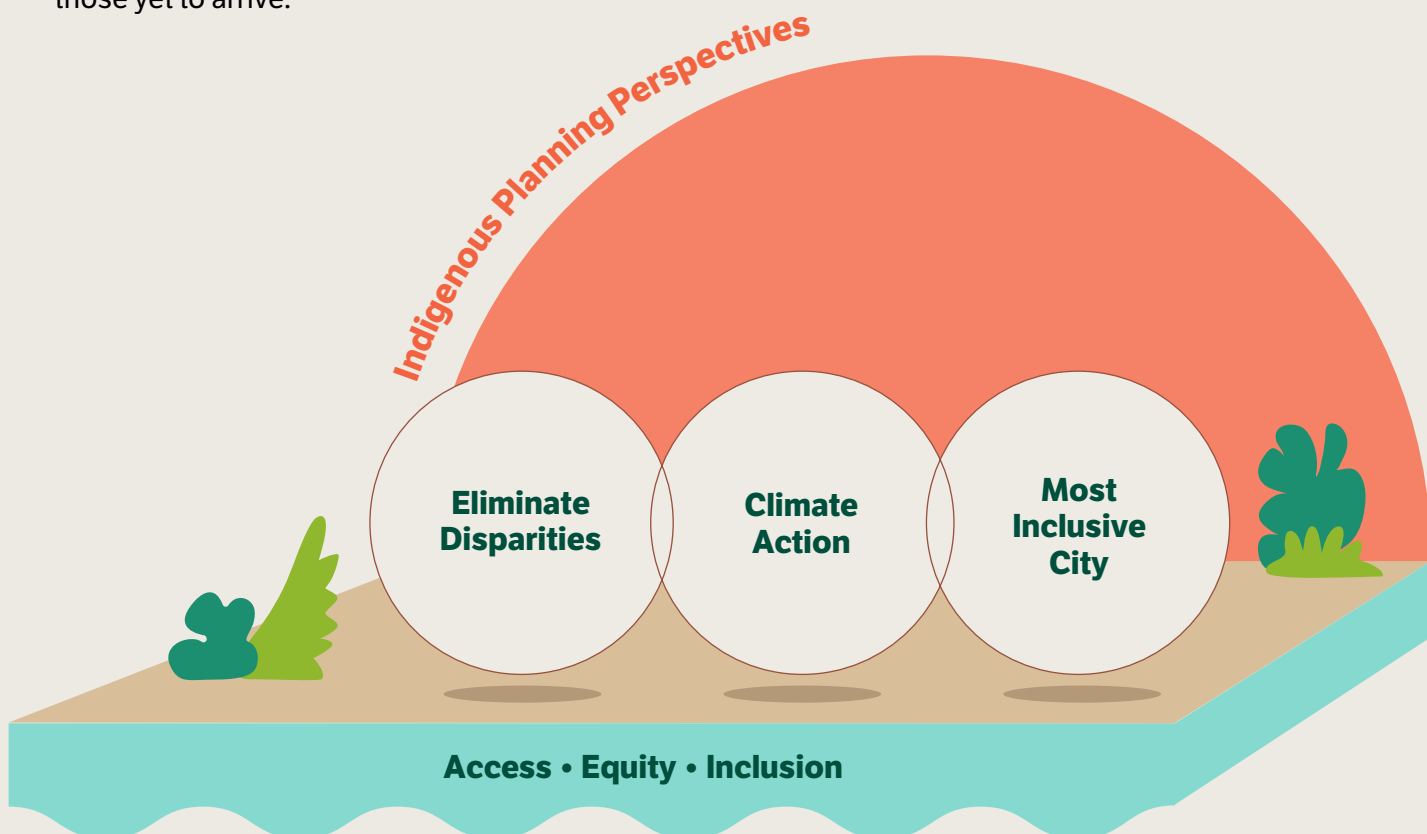
Be the road map for Toronto to become **the most inclusive city in the world**.



The Official Plan

Principles for successful and inclusive city:

- **Access:** improving access to many facets of daily life;
- **Equity:** applying an equity lens that identifies and removes barriers for the City's most marginalized and vulnerable communities for achieving transformative change and inclusive growth; and
- **Inclusion:** creating a safe and inclusive city for all Torontonians and those yet to arrive.



Final Note

Thank you to those who participated in Our Plan Toronto, through public meetings, interviews, stakeholder meetings, community leaders circles, Indigenous organizations and rights holder meetings, survey and polling, emails, social media, the website and our digital resource storymaps. Your insights, perspectives, feedback and input have shaped the future of Toronto with the goals to be a more equitable and inclusive city. Thank you for your time and stay in touch.

Our Plan Toronto

Indigenous Engagement Summary

Prepared by: Dillon Consulting Limited

June 2022



Photo: Sadie Hamilton

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Executive Summary

Indigenous engagement for Our Plan Toronto focused on **building relationships with Indigenous rights holders, businesses, and organizations and understanding Indigenous planning perspectives**. The City of Toronto saw Our Plan Toronto as a key opportunity to support Indigenous self-determination through Indigenous inclusion and reflection. The City of Toronto placed an important emphasis on reflecting and amplifying Indigenous voices in the planning process. Indigenous engagement has included meetings with rights holders, interviews with Indigenous organizations, focus groups, the Community Leaders Circle (CLC) and participation at the Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee (AAAC) and the Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council (TASSC).

Summary of Indigenous Engagement & Communications Activities

Engagement included:

- 8 meetings with Rights Holders
- 12 one-on-one interviews with Indigenous organizations
- 2 Focus Groups
- Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee (AAAC)
- Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council (TASSC)
- 4 meetings with Community Leaders Circle (CLC)
- Coordination with Indigenous Affairs Office (IAO)

Outreach and communications included:

- Introductory letters via Email
- Email and Phone Calls
- Regular E-bulletins
- Project email contact via opreview@toronto.ca

Outreach and communications included the development of a contact list, emails, phone calls, and an e-bulletin to share information about the project and invite people to participate in engagement activities. A working list of Indigenous rights holders and Indigenous organizations that have been contacted for involvement in this engagement process is included on the project webpage.

Key Themes of What We Heard

- Indigenous rights including Duty to Consult
- Inclusion and recognition of Indigenous history in the Official Plan
- The importance of meaningful land acknowledgements
- Focus on Indigenous reconciliation and building relationships

- Increasing Indigenous roles in decision making
- Engage and understand the Indigenous history and community interests during decision making processes
- Embed Indigenous perspectives and traditional knowledge in planning and development
- Create public spaces with an Indigenous presence
- Environment and climate change
- Need for more Indigenous roles in environmental protection, stewardship, and conservation
- Provide affordable housing for Indigenous people close to services and amenities
- Support Indigenous business and employment opportunities

Summary of Recommendations

Based on the input received during Indigenous engagement for Our Plan Toronto, the following recommendations are identified for consideration by the City as they work through the review and update of OP policies:

- Include Indigenous language and world views in the OP, such as connecting people with the land
- Recognize that everything is connected to everything; plan holistically
- Prioritize Indigenous perspectives and recommendations on the natural environment
- Work with Indigenous rights holders to identify a meaningful role in decision making
- City Planning should consider hiring permanent Indigenous team members who are focused on building relationships with rights holders and Indigenous people living and working in Toronto. People who can reflect Indigenous perspectives in planning, inform and guide planning policy / initiatives and support efforts toward planning that is “by Indigenous, for Indigenous”
- Recognition of capacity issues within communities to review planning reports and reasons for non-participation; develop approach to building capacity
- Prioritize values based approaches to planning
- Recognition that Indigenous participation in planning is key to self-determination
- Learn from previous consultations and bring forward past recommendations that are relevant to the OP
 - Spend time reviewing previous Indigenous consultation reports and documents to inform recommendations
- Identify Indigenous approaches and perspectives for environmental policies

- Increase efforts to engage Indigenous rights holders and Indigenous people living and working in Toronto to bring forward Indigenous perspectives in planning

Report Organization

This report is organized into five Sections. Section 1 of this report presents the background, purpose, study process, as well as information on the Provincial Policy Statement and the Reconciliation Action Plan. Section 2 presents the Indigenous engagement approach and considerations. Section 3 provides an overview of engagement and communication activities undertaken during Phase 1, 2 and 3. Section 4 summarizes the input received and identifies the key themes and priorities that emerged. Section 5 outlines recommendations for City review, next steps of the project and outlines future Indigenous engagement on Our Plan Toronto.

Dillon Consulting Limited is the independent engagement and facilitation team retained by the City of Toronto (City) to support consultation and communications for the City's Official Plan Review. This summary report was prepared by the Dillon team and is intended to reflect the key engagement activities and discussion points from engagement. It is not intended to be a verbatim record of all input received.

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Our Plan Toronto is the Official Plan review process that is provincially required to satisfy the Municipal Comprehensive Review and Growth Plan conformity exercise. The Official Plan is a city planning document that acts as Toronto's road map for land use matters. It sets out our long-term vision, shared values, and policies that help guide decision-making on land development, economic growth, the environment, and more.

As part of the Our Plan Toronto process, the City has consulted on and looked at how to address the many disparities that exist across our city in an effort to become a more equitable, welcoming, and healthy city for all. This includes an examination of our history and reflection on Indigenous priorities in a manner that supports Indigenous self-determination.

The City of Toronto saw Our Plan Toronto as a key opportunity to support Indigenous self-determination through Indigenous inclusion and reflection. To do this, the City of Toronto, in partnership with Dillon Consulting Limited, have placed an important emphasis on reflecting and amplifying Indigenous voices in the planning process. As part of the Indigenous engagement process, the City and Dillon team coordinated with the Indigenous Affairs Office (IAO). The IAO provided support to the initial engagement planning process including providing an understanding of how they have engaged Indigenous organizations in the past and current relationships with treaty rights holders.

1.2 Provincial Policy Statement

The Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) is an important planning document that guides land use decisions and planning in the province of Ontario. In 2020, the PPS was updated to include significant changes to the language to reinforce the Duty to Consult and the constructive and cooperative relationships that planning should create with Indigenous Peoples. The PPS also now recognizes the unique relationship Indigenous communities have to the land and its resources, and the importance of traditional knowledge and Indigenous perspectives on land use matters. The PPS update included section 1.2.2 which states that planning authorities shall engage with Indigenous communities and coordinate on land use planning matters. This statement makes it clear that planners must engage with Indigenous communities on land use planning. With the PPS in mind, Our Plan Toronto used a relationship-based approach in the outreach and engagement with Indigenous rights holders, businesses and organizations. Indigenous relationship-building has been a core element of the Our Plan Toronto process.

1.3 Reconciliation Action Plan (2022-2032)

The City of Toronto's first Reconciliation Action Plan was approved by City Council on April 6, 2022, and will guide its actions to advance truth, justice and reconciliation for the next 10 years. It builds on the City's existing commitments to Indigenous Peoples and takes them even further through 28 meaningful actions across the following five themes:

- Actions to restore truth
- Actions to right relations and share power
- Actions for justice
- Actions to make financial reparations
- Actions for the Indigenous Affairs Office

The plan was developed over three years with input from First Nations, Inuit and Métis community members, organizations, Elders, Knowledge Carriers, youth, and Indigenous employees and allies in the Toronto Public Service. Our Plan Toronto will look to the Reconciliation Action Plan for additional learning and incorporate the findings of the plan into the Official Plan.

2 Engagement Approach

The Indigenous Engagement approach began by identifying the interests and preferred communication approaches supported by treaty holders and organizations working in Toronto to support Indigenous populations. Based on initial input through interviews with Indigenous community members and organizations, the engagement tactics were identified that best suit the needs of the communities.

Following initial engagement to understand preferred approach and methods of engagement, a relationship building approach to engagement was developed to begin to understand the history, various perspectives and interests in the Official Plan. The approach included research on rights holders contacts and organization contacts, initial contact through letters and phone calls, introductory meetings with treaty rights holders, focus group sessions, e-bulletins, presentations at Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee and Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council, and inclusion of Indigenous organizations in the Community Leaders Circle. The relationship building approach to engagement intends to help form relationships with individuals and organizations and foster those relationships beyond the life of the Our Plan Toronto process.

2.1 Guiding Principles

Several guiding principles were developed as part of the engagement plan to guide the engagement and communications with Indigenous rights holders and organizations. These included:

- Uphold and follow through with commitments to relationship building and discussions surrounding implementation of rights, interests and self-determination
- Present information on the Official Plan in a clear and relatable way, as the majority of participants will have limited familiarity with the document and with City Planning policies
- Offer multiple channels for engagement tailored to the needs of urban Indigenous community members. Conduct outreach and design events in a manner that is inclusive and considers the diversity of the Indigenous population
- Create space for truth, honour reconciliation, and hold conversations around restorative justice with respect to space in the urban environment
- Communicate with participants often and with a focus on early engagement and reporting back on what was heard, supporting ongoing consultations throughout the Official Plan Review process and beyond

- Allow for adaptability of engagement methods to integrate additional feedback on preferred processes as the engagement unfolds

2.2 Amplifying Indigenous Voices

As part of Our Plan Toronto, Indigenous voices, values and perspectives were prioritized and amplified through the engagement process. In the lead up to the development of the engagement plan, Indigenous organizations who participated in the interviews were asked how the City can ensure that a range of Indigenous voices are heard, and that relationships are built through the engagement process. The following key considerations emerged from these conversations:

- Apply knowledge and learnings from past planning and research reports to all engagement with Indigenous communities, so as to build on this towards deeper understanding and identification of specific policies for the Official Plan
- Go out to the community and reach them where they are through whenever possible, through smaller events and meetings that are convenient and accessible
- Build relationships with participants as individuals as well as with organizations, getting to know them so as to foster those relationships beyond the life of the Our Plan Toronto process
- Offer sufficient time and space for meetings – tight time frames can be challenging to deal with and would constrain the range of voices that can be heard
- Grow outreach and consistent partnerships with a range of small and grassroots based Indigenous organizations, as well as larger service providers

2.3 Culturally Sensitive Approaches

In order to make engagement meaningful and aligned with Indigenous practices on holding community conversations, the following key considerations will be integrated to support a trauma-informed approach and strive for the overall well-being of participants in meetings and events.

- Apply knowledge and learnings from past planning and research reports to all engagement with Indigenous communities, so as to build on this towards deeper understanding and identification of specific policies for the Official Plan. Come prepared to meetings
- Open meetings with a land acknowledgement that is personalized and offers a tribute to how the learning from the session will support truth and reconciliation

- Plan for and offer honoraria and compensation for time invested by participants in meetings, particularly for Elders who would be involved in engagement processes. An Elder should be present to open and close all meetings, and should be engaged in the meeting design as much as possible
- Recognize that past and ongoing trauma can emerge triggered by a range of different kinds of conversations, and be prepared to offer mental health supports in the moment as well as following the meeting through the guidance of Elders and experienced community members
- When engaging with sensitive or vulnerable populations, seek the involvement of an Elder and other experienced professionals with knowledge of the community and who are trained accordingly
- Provide active facilitation, recognizing that there may be contrasting view points on various issues and it is important to make space for conversations and allow all voices to be heard. It is not good practice for a facilitator to interrupt or to move to another speaker prematurely
- Ask about and be prepared for ceremonial practices at the opening and closing of meetings. When engaging in person, offer room/space for participants to smudge, and work with community-based organizations to have traditional medicines on hand and easily accessible
- Include a tobacco offering as a token of appreciation, based on discussion and guidance from Elders and/or event organizers
- Offer food and support attendance by offering on-site childcare services, transportation vouchers/transit passes, etc. whenever possible

3 Communications & Engagement Activities

The following section outlines the key engagement activities completed in Phase 1, 2 and 3. Indigenous relationship-building has been and continues to be a core element of the Our Plan Toronto process. The City of Toronto is committed to supporting Indigenous self-determination and supporting the deeper integration of First Nation, Inuit and Metis perspectives into the policies of the Official Plan. In order to do this, engagement with both urban Indigenous residents as well as the First Nation communities' traditional territory which Toronto occupies are key.

The purpose of the engagement was continue to engage First Nation communities, Indigenous organizations and the general Indigenous public living in Toronto on the Municipal Comprehensive Review to receive feedback on information gathered throughout the Our Plan Toronto engagement and to amplify Indigenous self-determination within the City of Toronto planning policies.

3.1 Indigenous Rights Holders Meetings

In summer 2021, the Our Plan Toronto engagement team spent time reaching out to Indigenous rights holders and care takers to set-up meetings and understand interests in Our Plan Toronto. This effort was informed by input from the Indigenous Affairs Office (IAO) at the City. As part of the engagement in Phase 1, 2 and 3 of Our Plan Toronto, two meetings were held with the Mississauga's of the Credit (MCFN), four meetings with Six Nations of the Grand River (Six Nations), one meeting with the Mississauga's of Scugog Island (MSIFN), and one meeting was held with Curve Lake.

These meetings were centered on the history, rights, interests of rights holders, as well as introductions and project updates for Our Plan Toronto. The meetings also focused on listening to perspectives and interests for the Toronto Official Plan and responding to questions. Building relationships that go beyond Our Plan Toronto was also a focus for these meetings that can be applied more broadly to City Planning initiatives led by the City of Toronto. Outreach to and engagement with Indigenous Rights Holders is ongoing.

3.2 Indigenous Organizations

Developing relationships with Indigenous businesses and service providers is a key aspect of the City's efforts to support Indigenous self-determination and embed Indigenous perspectives in the policies of the new Official Plan. During Phase 1, the Our Plan Toronto team developed a list of organizations to reach out to discuss the best

approach for engagement on Our Plan Toronto. This effort included designing interview surveys to be completed in Phase 2 with Indigenous organizations.

During Phase 2, the project team developed and administered the survey over the phone through one-on-one interviews with Indigenous organizations. The survey focused on identifying the best approaches to consulting with organizations and the Indigenous population living and work in Toronto. Interviews were held with 12 organizations over the course of August and September 2021.

3.3 Community Leaders Circle Meetings

Comprised of representatives and leaders of over 30 community-based and city-wide organizations, the Community Leaders Circle (CLC) was established to share perspectives and help lead outreach to communities and audiences across Toronto. A launch meeting with the CLC members was held on June 3rd, 2021 with a total of 25 participants. The input from the CLC is crucial to ensuring that the outcomes of the Our Plan Toronto process meaningfully contribute towards eliminating disparities created by current planning policies.

Four Community Leaders Circle Meetings (CLC) were held with members of over 30 community-based and city-wide organizations. The CLC was established to share perspectives and help lead outreach to communities and audiences across Toronto and included representatives from Indigenous organizations. Indigenous organizations on the CLC included Nishnawbe Homes and Native Child and Family Services. The CLC helps to reduce the barriers in participating in the City planning process and consultation program. The meetings were held virtually on WebEx or Zoom with interactive polling and MURAL board tools to facilitate the discussions.

3.4 City Committees

The City planning team met with the Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee (AAAC) on June 18, 2021 to present on the purpose of Our Plan Toronto and to receive input on approaches to consulting with Indigenous rights holders, Indigenous organizations and urban residents. The City planning team went back to the AAAC on June 13, 2022 to present the draft policies for the Official Plan and the draft Chapter 1 which includes Indigenous Planning Perspectives.

The City planning team also met with the Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council (TASSC) on June 24, 2021 to present on the purpose of Our Plan Toronto and to receive input on approaches to consulting with Indigenous organizations and urban residents.

3.5 Focus Groups

Based on feedback through the survey interviews, the first Indigenous organizations roundtable meeting was held on December 7, 2021. At this meeting participants learned more about Our Plan Toronto and provided input on the issues and priorities of Indigenous people living and working in Toronto.

3.6 E-Bulletins

To engage with the Indigenous rights holders, businesses, and organizations online, the engagement team sent out a series of consultation notices and project updates through e-bulletins. These communications were sent to the contact list developed in Phase 1 and provided updates on Our Plan Toronto, upcoming engagement events, other ways to engage, and an offer to meet with the City of Toronto team. Contact information was provided.

3.7 Communications Received

The City planning team received communications regarding Our Plan Toronto from the Mississauga's of the Credit and Six Nations.

On December 15, 2020, a letter was received from the Mississauga's of the Credit with key elements for inclusion in the Official Plan. This included an acknowledgement that they are the traditional and continuous stewards of the land, water, and resources, acknowledgement of treaty rights and cultural heritage, and ongoing engagement. On February 16, 2022, Six Nations sent a draft Value Statement to incorporate into the Official Plan including the Indigenous connection to the land and protection of the natural environment.

4 What We Heard

4.1 Highlights of Overall Input Received

Table 1 highlights the key themes of input received during the Indigenous engagement.

Table 1: Themes of Input

Theme	Examples of Topics Raised
Indigenous Rights	Prioritize the Duty to Consult and accommodate Indigenous rights holders in decision making and planning processes. Land back movement awareness.
Reconciliation	Focus on supporting Indigenous relationship building, reconciliation, and increasing Indigenous roles in decision making. Reflect Indigenous knowledge, practices and world views in policies.
Engagement	Continued relationship building. Continue to engage and understand the Indigenous history and interests during decision making process. Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers need to be engaged and present during decision making process. Engage with urban Indigenous populations living and working in Toronto.
Indigenous voices	Embed Indigenous perspectives and traditional knowledge in planning and development.
Placemaking	Create public spaces with Indigenous presence that supports Indigenous culture, art, ceremonies, activities, gatherings, and murals.
Environment and Climate Change	Toronto should become a greener city. Need for more Indigenous roles in environmental protection, stewardship, and conservation. Provide natural spaces for Indigenous people living in Toronto to practice rights and rituals. Impacts of development on environment.
Housing and Intensification	Provide affordable housing for Indigenous people. Locations of Indigenous housing need to be close to Indigenous communities, services, and natural areas to support health and wellbeing.
Neighbourhoods and Complete Communities	Provide more access to nature, green space, services, and resources to support complete communities for Indigenous people.

Theme	Examples of Topics Raised
Future of Work and Employment	Locate jobs close to Indigenous communities. Support Indigenous business and employment opportunities through commercial interests and procurement.

4.2 Input by Theme

The following sections summarize the input received within several key themes: Environment and Climate Change, Indigenous rights and heritage, Indigenous reconciliation, engagement and decision making, inclusion in the Official Plan, place-making and place-keeping, housing and intensification, neighbourhoods and complete communities, and the future of work and employment.

The points documented below summarize the input, feedback and discussions from the Indigenous engagement that took place during Phases 1 to 3 of Our Plan Toronto between May 2021 and July 2022. It is important to note that different Indigenous rights holders and organizations hold different opinions and perspectives. Perspectives are not always shared by different communities and this may be reflected in the comments below. This is intended to be a summary of all of the input received, and doesn't reflect the input from one particular Indigenous community or organization.

4.2.1 Environment & Climate Change

- Concerned with the proximity of development to water and how to protect and care for water
- A key interest for Duty to Consult is to make Toronto a more green city through advancing green requirements with First Nation interests
- Support Indigenous procurement in financing green development and green energy projects
- Rights holders want a larger role in being able to decide whether development is going to impact the environment, habitat, non-human beings (wildlife), water or treaty rights
- Indigenous people should be consulted on environmental conditions reviews prior to the completion of environmental studies
- Urbanization affects Indigenous rights to harvest, collect medicines, plants, and hunt
- Need natural spaces for Indigenous people living in Toronto to practice rights and rituals
- Concern around pollution and the impact that growth may have on air quality, noise, and waste

- Move development away from flood plains and re-naturalize rivers, streams, and waterbodies
- Require more permeable surfaces and reduce impermeable surfaces
- Improve on the tree replacement program
- Need for environmental protection, stewardship, conservation and relationship with the natural environment and biodiversity
- Think holistically, everything is connected to everything including relationships between the socio-economic, natural environment, and economy

4.2.2 Indigenous Rights and Heritage

- Rights holders need to be involved in planning and decision making related to land and water
- Prioritize the Duty to Consult and accommodate Indigenous Rights Holders in land use planning
- Address and be aware of land back movement issues
- Need to improve the process and the importance of archaeology and heritage planning
- Prioritize Indigenous approach to cultural heritage planning on archeology

4.2.3 Indigenous Reconciliation

- Focus on supporting Indigenous relationship building, reconciliation, and increasing Indigenous roles in decision making
- Support Indigenous capacity building in order to provide meaningful role
- Reflect Indigenous knowledge, practices and world views in policies
- Reconciliation should not be nested under equity because reconciliation is fundamentally different and should stand alone

4.2.4 Engagement and Decision Making

- Commit to continued relationship building to support truth and reconciliation with Indigenous communities with honesty and integrity
- Embed Indigenous perspectives, traditional knowledge, family-centered approach, and forward thinking and action oriented approach in planning and development
- Understand the Indigenous history and interests during decision making process
- Indigenous communities need to be notified and consulted during decision making process
- Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers need to be engaged and present during decision making process

- Provide trauma-informed practices that support mental health awareness
- Sharing circles are important to regularly reflect
- Provide funding for roles to support Indigenous capacity building
- Urban Indigenous people who work and live in Toronto need to be engaged
- Engage early and often during the decision making process
- Engage Indigenous organizations and business through social media, newsletters, pop-ups, small groups, focus groups, surveys, one-on-one interviews and events

4.2.5 Inclusion in Official Plan

- The OP should open with a land acknowledgement
- The land acknowledgement should be meaningful in the OP and include acknowledgement of Traditional Territories, Indigenous peoples, Indigenous heritage, pre-contact history and recognition of the Nations before them
- OP should include guidance on Indigenous consultation and engagement

4.2.6 Place-making and Place-keeping

- Create more public spaces that support Indigenous culture, art, ceremonies, activities, gatherings, and murals
- Provide Indigenous presence in public spaces, places and libraries
- Support Indigenous culture, practices, and place-making in communities
- Need for more Indigenous identifiers and recognition of indigenous culture in communities and in public spaces

4.2.7 Housing & Intensification

- Require more affordable housing for Indigenous people, including units with 3 and 4 bedrooms
- Quality of Indigenous housing needs to be improved
- Locations of Indigenous housing in the city needs to be aligned with where Indigenous communities and services are located as well as in proximity to natural areas to support health and wellbeing
- Traditional knowledge needs to be reflected in why and where development and intensification is located
- Policy should require that developers consult with Indigenous communities before a proposal goes forward, before they have designs, and at the very initial points of having an idea for a development or a project
- Consult with Indigenous housing organizations and provides for housing affordability, safety, health and improve wellbeing of Indigenous people

4.2.8 Neighbourhood & Complete Communities

- More access to nature and green spaces is needed in urbanized areas to support complete communities for Indigenous people
- Communities with Indigenous populations need to have Indigenous related services and resources located around them in order to support Indigenous informed complete communities
- Support for Indigenous community hubs where housing, culture, and services are centralized

4.2.9 Future of Work & Employment

- Improve access to employment opportunities for Indigenous people by locating employment close to Indigenous housing
- Support for Indigenous businesses
- Progress economic reconciliation through Indigenous procurement opportunities and commercial interests in economy and environment like green investments

5 Next Steps

The feedback received during Indigenous engagement for Our Plan Toronto is being used to inform the draft policy directions and draft policies which will be presented to Planning and Housing Committee on July 5, 2022. The next steps in the engagement process include ongoing Indigenous engagement on Chapter 1, Indigenous Planning Perspectives between July 2022 and January 2023.

Next steps to include:

- Meet with Indigenous community leaders and rights holders to present Chapter 1 - Indigenous Planning Perspectives and draft 2051 Vision Statement and Principles
- Follow up meetings with Indigenous organizations to present Chapter 1
- Discuss next steps for continuation of relationship building beyond Our Plan Toronto

For more information please visit: www.toronto.ca/ourplan

Our Plan Toronto

Phase 3 Engagement Summary

Prepared by: Dillon Consulting Limited

June 2022



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Executive Summary

Phase 3 engagement and communications for Our Plan Toronto focused on **presenting and receiving feedback on the draft policies, vision and planning directions for Toronto 2051**. To achieve this, outreach and consultation activities focused on engaging in conversations about Toronto's future with a diverse range of people living, working and caring for Toronto. This included coordinating and meeting with residents, community leaders, Indigenous rights holders, stakeholders (including accessibility, environmental groups, tenants associations/organizations, residents associations, businesses, business improvement areas, academics/research institutes, mobility related groups, development industry and community development organizations), committees, internal municipal divisions and the general public.

Outreach and communications during Phase 3 of the project used a multifaceted approach of print, online, social media, video media, email, e-bulletin and community networking to share information about the project and invite people to participate in the consultation. This included utilizing networks of stakeholders and community connections to circulate meeting invitations and share information.

Summary of Phase 3 Engagement & Communications Activities

Meetings completed during Phase 3 engagement, from January through to July 2022, included:

- 2 group meetings with Indigenous Rights Holders
- 16 meetings with stakeholder groups, committees and community organizations
- 1 meeting with the Community Leaders Circle
- 12 public meetings
- In total we met directly with over 1000 people through organized meetings and focus groups

Outreach and communications during Phase 3 engagement included:

- Website updates
- StoryMaps updates
- Major Transit Station Areas (MTSAs) Interactive Engagement Tool
- Public Meeting Notifications (e-bulletins, social media announcements, media release)
- Social media updates and meeting notifications
- Contact List Updates/E-Bulletins
- Email distribution of meeting materials and presentations
- Project email contact via opreview@toronto.ca

Meetings with equity deserving groups and community leaders who work with underrepresented, marginalized and racialized populations continued to be a key focus of outreach and consultation. This effort included outreach and meetings with people that work on community and equity issues related to:

- Accessibility for people with disabilities
- Community services
- Employment
- Housing
- Indigenous people living and working in Toronto
- Indigenous rights holders
- Newcomers and immigrants
- People experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity
- Poverty
- Racialized communities including black people and people of colour
- Seniors and older adults
- Students and young work force (18-30)
- Women
- Youth and at-risk youth
- Many organizations that touch on the cross-section of these inter-related equity issues and equity seeking populations

A working list of stakeholders, community organizations, Indigenous rights holders and Indigenous organizations that have been contacted for involvement in this engagement process is included on the project webpage.

Phase 3 input will be used to finalize the vision, priorities and draft policies that are the focus of this Official Plan (OP) review. Not all policies in the OP are being reviewed at this time. As such, engagement and communications were designed around the elements of the City's review, namely: overall vision, principles and policies related to equity, reconciliation, growth management, intensification, housing, environment and climate change, employment and planning around Major Transit Station Areas.

Conversations during Phase 3 were focused on the following areas of the OP:

1. Chapter 1 of the OP including the Official Plan Vision Statement and Directions, and Indigenous Planning Perspectives
2. Major Transit Station Areas and Protected Major Transit Station Areas
3. Employment Policies, the Future of Work, and Employment Area Conversions

4. Environment and Climate Change
5. Neighbourhoods and Complete Communities
6. Housing and Intensification

Key Themes of What We Heard During Phase 3

The key themes that were most frequently raised regarding priorities for planning to 2051 were addressing **environment and climate change, employment, housing affordability and building complete communities**.

There were a wide range of perspectives provided through consultation that are conflicting in some cases and require a balanced approach for consideration. There is agreement that the City's Official Plan should focus on mitigating climate change, addressing the affordable housing crisis, building complete communities and growing employment areas. The discussion points raised most frequently across different audiences were:

- The history of the land, treaties, Indigenous communities, Rights Holders, archeological history, and recognition of Nations before settlement needs to be included in the OP
- Provide guidance in OP on consultation and engagement with Indigenous communities
- Access to a range of housing options that support families and people of all ages and abilities, including rental and affordable housing
- Build mixed-use, complete communities that are connected to transit and active transportation
- Ensure that growth and intensification are supported by adequate services, infrastructure, parks, telecommunications, recreation space, transit, schools, medical services and social services
- Protect employment lands for sensitive industry uses, the arts sector and business growth
- Focus policies that addresses the climate emergency through stronger policies that protect green space and biodiversity

Summary of Recommendations

Based on the input received during Phase 3 engagement on Our Plan Toronto, the following recommendations are identified for consideration by the City as they finalized the OP policies:

- Continue to provide more engagement opportunities as the policies are implemented, including in-person activities like open houses or pop-ups
- Continue to engage on Protected Major Transit Station Areas and Major Transit Station Areas as studies are completed
- Continue to build relationships with Indigenous Rights Holders and organizations to build communities that reflect Indigenous place making and place keeping
- Prioritize Indigenous perspectives and values to better protect the environment and build climate resiliency
- Bridge the access to housing affordability with supporting services for people with disabilities
- Promote a range of housing options and housing affordability for families
- Prioritize environment policies that protect and promote green spaces, wildlife habitats and trees

Report Organization

This report is organized into four Sections. Section 1 of this report presents the background, purpose, study process, and goals, and objectives of the engagement. Section 2 presents the consultation and communication activities undertaken during Phase 3 (January – July 2022). Section 3 summarizes the input received and identifies the key themes and community priorities that emerged during consultation. Section 4 outlines recommendations for City review, next steps of the project and outlines future consultation activities. The input gathered during Phase 3 will help finalize key policy directions and the vision for the Official Plan.

Dillon Consulting Limited is the independent engagement and facilitation team retained by the City of Toronto (City) to support consultation and communications for the City's Official Plan Review. This summary report was prepared by the Dillon team and is intended to reflect the key engagement activities and discussion points from consultation. It is not intended to be a verbatim record of all input received.

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Our Plan Toronto is the Official Plan review process that is provincially required to satisfy the Municipal Comprehensive Review and Growth Plan conformity exercise. The Official Plan is a city planning document that acts as Toronto's road map for land use matters. It sets out our long-term vision, shared values, and policies that help guide decision-making on land development, economic growth, the environment, and more. It is an essential plan that directs where different types of development should and should not go and what is needed to support healthy, complete, thriving and inclusive communities.

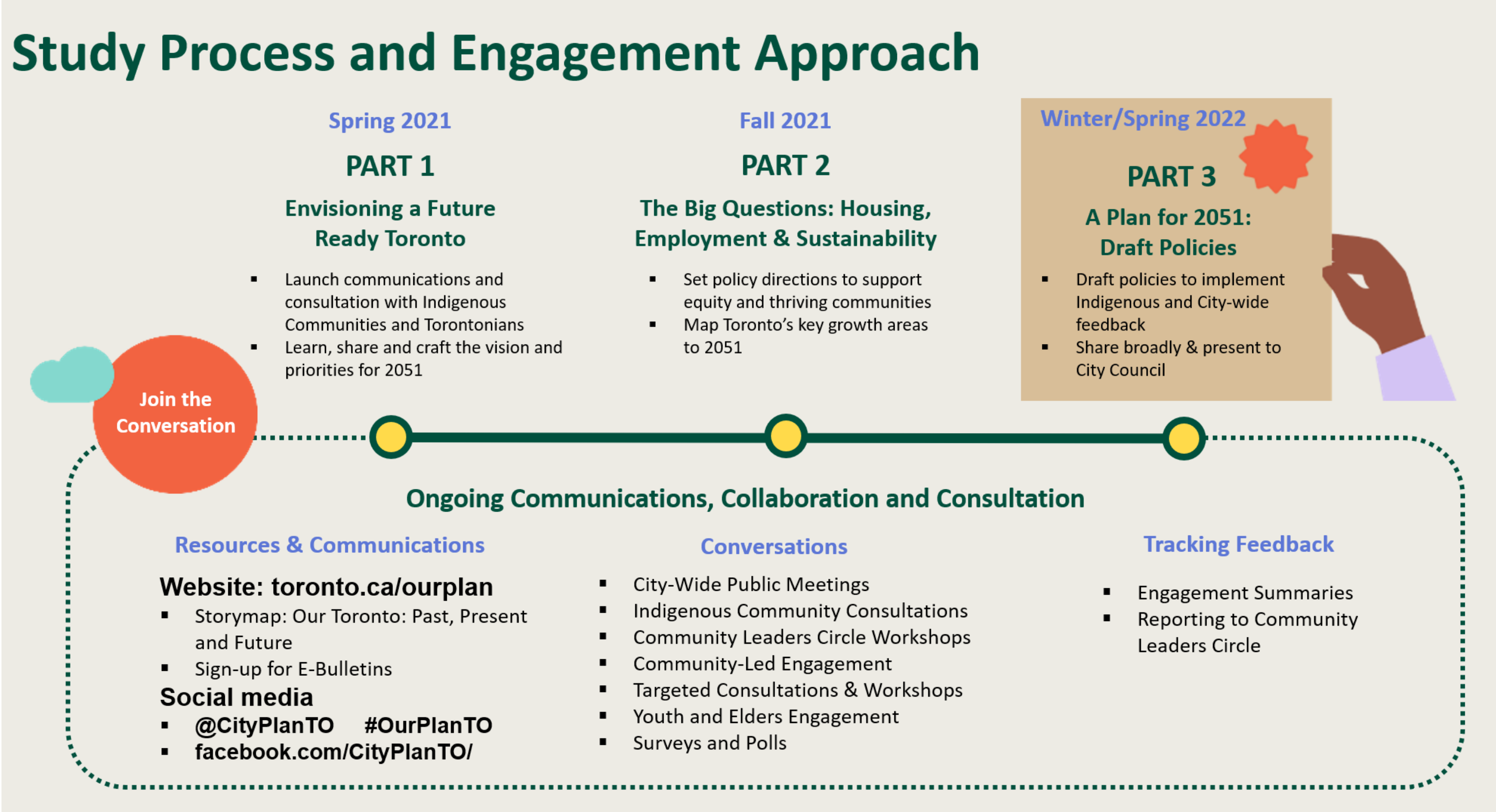
As part of the Our Plan Toronto process, the City will consult on and look at how to address the many disparities that exist across our city in an effort to become a more equitable, welcoming and a healthy city for all. This includes an examination of our history and reflection on Indigenous priorities in a manner that supports Indigenous self-determination.

1.2 Purpose of Engagement

Throughout the Our Plan Toronto process, community input and feedback will inform the technical work for the Official Plan review. Determining the public's needs, desires and interests is important for determining where growth should go and what is needed to support healthy and complete communities. The purpose and overall goals of the engagement program are to ensure that the Official Plan update incorporates input from the public and stakeholders to tackle issues related key topic areas, including housing affordability, equity, employment, environment and climate change. In order to achieve the goals and purpose, the engagement program included three phases of work, as illustrated in **Figure 1**.

1.3 Study Process

Figure 1: Study Process



The first phase of the engagement program included launching the communications and consultation with Indigenous communities, stakeholders, community leaders, internal City divisions and the public to craft the vision and priorities for 2051 through learning and sharing.

The second phase of the engagement program focused on discussing policy expectations for 2051 related to the big topics of growth around environment and climate change, affordable housing and intensification, future of work and employment areas and neighbourhoods and complete communities.

The last engagement phase, Phase 3, focused on providing an overview of the draft policies that reflect the feedback received during Phases 1 and 2. The City also presented the draft OP Vision, Directions, and Principles for an inclusive and successful city. Feedback on the draft policies and vision will inform recommendations for Council consideration. Engagement will continue beyond July 2022 on remaining policy areas of the Official Plan such as the Chapter 1 framework, and specifically engagement with Indigenous rights holders and Indigenous organizations.

1.4 Phase 3 Goals & Objectives

The primary goal for the Phase 3 engagement and communications program was to receive feedback on the draft policies for draft Employment policies, Major Transit Station Area delineations, and Chapter 1 directions. In order to achieve this goal, engagement and communications efforts focused on the following priorities:

- Engage with stakeholders on draft policies for key topic areas, including environment and climate change, employment policies and the future of work, Major Transit Station Areas, housing and intensification and neighbourhoods and complete communities
- Engage with community leaders to apply equity lens to draft policies
- Engage with Indigenous Rights Holders and Indigenous organizations to understand Indigenous planning perspectives and priorities
- Encourage public participants to engage online and at public meetings in the conversations around draft policies
- Update and reflect on where we are in process and what we've heard
- Inform overall direction that the OP is taking and draft policies, vision and directions
- Listen, document and share what we hear

To achieve the Phase 3 goals, a series of engagement and communications activities were identified and executed, including:

- Public Meeting Notifications (e-bulletin, Toronto Star)
- Online Communications (social media, website updates)
- Online Engagement Activities (StoryMaps)
- Public and Stakeholder Consultation Events (Stakeholder Meetings and Public Meetings)
- Community Leaders Circle Meetings
- Indigenous rights holders meetings
- Advisory committees and councils meetings
- Contact List Updates/Email-blast
- Distribution of Public and Stakeholder Presentation Materials

2 Phase 3 Consultation & Communications Activities

2.1 Communications Materials & Activities

The communications materials and activities were designed to reach a broad and diverse audience using online tools to inform the people of the project, understand expectations, clarify Official Plan policies, reflect on what we have heard so far, listen to input, and address questions from the public and stakeholders. The development and release of the communications materials for Phase 3 were aligned with COVID-19 public health guidelines and consists of online consultation activities.

Communications materials and methods of outreach included:

- Public Meeting Notifications – newspaper, e-bulletins and social media releases
- Online Communications – social media, website updates – including promotion of Our Plan Toronto StoryMaps
- Public and Stakeholder Consultation Events – Stakeholder Meetings and Public Meetings
- Community Leaders Circle Meetings
- Indigenous Rights Holders meetings
- Contact List updates and virtual meeting invitations
- Email Distribution of Public and Stakeholder Presentation Materials

Since the beginning of the engagement program, the public has had the opportunity to contact the project team via the contact information available from the project website:

- Email: opreview@toronto.ca
- Phone: 416-392-6578

Over the course of the project so far, there has been significant media attention on Our Plan Toronto and the issues of growth, development, climate change and equity. This includes newspaper, television, online news, social media and radio coverage. Part of the communications program for Our Plan Toronto includes tracking and monitoring issues raised in the media to inform communications and materials for engagement going forward.

2.2 Engagement Activities

Engagement activities were designed to reach a broad and diverse audience using both online tools and virtual meeting platforms. The following sections outline the key engagement activities completed during Phase 3.

2.2.1 Stakeholder Meetings

Stakeholder meetings were held with targeted groups to discuss key theme topics and issues. The meetings were held virtually on WebEx with interactive polling and facilitated discussions. There were focused stakeholder meetings for Environment and Climate Change, Future of Employment Sector, Accessibility and for Scarborough. Stakeholder meetings were also held with BILD and the Neighbourhood Improvement Area (NIA) Local Champions.

The following meetings were conducted:

- Scarborough Focus Meeting Led By Scarborough Community Renewal Organization Led – January 27, 2022
- NIA Local Champions – January 31, 2022
- Accessibility Stakeholders Meeting – February 24, 2022
- Future of Employment Sector-Specific Meetings
 - Institutional and Education – Feb 1, 2022
 - Fashion and Apparel – Feb 4, 2022
 - E-Commerce, Logistics, and Warehousing – Feb 4, 2022
 - Film and Entertainment – Feb 7, 2022
 - Industrial and Manufacturing – Feb 8, 2022
 - Industrial Business Improvement Areas – Feb 9, 2022
 - Information Technology – Feb 9, 2022
 - Life Sciences and Biotechnology – Feb 10, 2022
 - Food and Beverage – Feb 17, 2022
- Environment and Climate Change - Stakeholder Meeting – April 5, 2022
- BILD Meeting (Environment and Climate Change) – April 13, 2022
- BILD Meeting (Employment, Major Transit Station Areas, and Chapter 1) – April 29, 2022

2.2.2 Community Leaders Circle (CLC) Meetings

The fourth CLC meeting was held with 14 members from community-based and city-wide organizations on April 5, 2022. The CLC was established to share perspectives and help lead outreach to diverse communities and audiences across Toronto. The CLC helps to reduce the barriers in participating in the City planning process and consultation program. The meeting was held virtually on WebEx with interactive polling and facilitated discussions. CLC members were able to provide feedback on the draft vision and preliminary policy directions of the Official Plan with applying an equity lens.

2.2.3 Public Meetings

A total of 12 public meetings were held during Phase 3. The meetings were held virtually on WebEx with interactive polling and to facilitate the discussions. There were area specific meetings with Etobicoke, Scarborough, North York and Toronto and East York. Additionally, there were meetings focused on key theme topics, including downtown protected major transit station areas (PMTSA), environment and climate change, employment lands and the future of work, neighbourhoods and complete communities, and housing and intensification. The meeting provided opportunities for the public to provide feedback and ask questions through an open dialogue and the chat function on WebEx.

The following meetings were conducted:

- Downtown PMTSAs Open House – January 5, 2022 (Afternoon and Evening)
- Downtown PMTSAs Open House – January 10, 2022
- Environment and Climate Change Public Meetings – April 12, 2022 (Afternoon and Evening)
- Councillor Mantas Town Hall – April 28, 2022
- Etobicoke York Public Meeting – May 25, 2022
- Scarborough Public Meeting – May 26, 2022
- North York Public Meeting – May 30, 2022
- Toronto and East York Public Meeting – June 1, 2022
- Statutory Public Open House – City-wide – June 7, 2022
- Employment Lands and the Future of Work – June 21, 2022
- Neighbourhoods and Complete Communities – June 22, 2022
- Housing and Intensification – June 23, 2022

2.2.4 Indigenous Rights Holders Meetings

In Phase 3 engagement, the project team met with the Six Nations of the Grand River (Six Nations) and Curve Lake First Nations. Input received through the discussions is integrated into Section 3 and presented in the Indigenous Engagement Report on the Our Plan website.

- Curve Lake First Nation Meeting – February 3, 2022
- Six Nations Meeting – February 23, 2022

2.2.5 Youth and Young Adults

As part of the CLC, there are specific young adult voices represented for the 18-30 age group. In addition, a youth consultation toolkit and survey using StoryMaps was developed for students in Grades 6 through 12. With input from the City, Dillon Consulting and Maximum City, the interactive toolkit was developed to gain input from young people on environmental priorities while also helping youth better understand climate change issues and identify adaption measures found within their respective communities. Input received through the survey is integrated into Section 3 and presented in the Youth Engagement Report on the Our Plan Toronto website.

2.2.6 City Advisory Committees and Boards

As part of engagement planning and outreach, the project team presented to multiple City Committees and Boards to gather input on Our Plan Toronto and listen to recommendations for outreach and engagement of specific key audiences. The committees that the project team presented to include the Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee, Confronting Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee, Economic and Community Development Committee and the Toronto Film, Television and Digital Media Board, and Planning and Housing Committee. Input received through these presentations and discussions is integrated into Section 3.

- Economic and Community Development Committee – January 21, 2022
- Film, Television and Digital Media Advisory Board – April 4, 2022
- Confronting Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee – May 9, 2022
- Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee – June 13, 2022
- Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee – June 13, 2022
- Planning and Housing Committee (Environment and Climate Change) – May 31, 2022
- Planning and Housing Committee (Chapter 1, MTSA and PMTSAs, Employment policies, and draft vision, directions) – July 5, 2022

2.2.7 Social Media, StoryMaps, Website & E-Bulletin

To engage with the public online, the consultation program team sent out a series of consultation notices and project update posts using the hashtag #OurPlanTO on Instagram (@CityPlanTO, @cityoftoronto), Twitter (@CityPlanTO, @cityoftoronto), and Facebook (Toronto City Planning). Social media outputs focused on informing people of the online public meetings, the Draft Vision and Directions and what we heard so far.

In Phase 3, the following 27 social media posts and threads were released:

- All City Planning tweets, as well as those from others using the project hashtag, are available at: <https://twitter.com/hashtag/ourplanTO>.
- Instagram posts are on the CityPlanTO profile at: <https://www.instagram.com/cityplanto/>.
- Facebook posts on the Toronto City Planning Facebook page are available at: <https://www.facebook.com/CityPlanTO/>.

StoryMaps was also used to engage the public and youth. In Phase 3, two Storymaps were released: Major Transit Station Areas and Future Directions. The following are links to the StoryMaps:

- Major Transit Station Areas: <https://arcg.is/1DC4XG>
- Future Directions: <https://arcg.is/1uCm490>

3 What We Heard

3.1 Highlights of Overall Input Received

Table 1 highlights the key themes of input received during Phase 3 engagement.

Table 1: Themes of Input

Theme	Examples of Topics Raised
Indigenous Planning Perspectives	The history of the land, treaties, Indigenous communities, rights holders, archeological history, and recognition of Nations before settlement needs to be included in the OP. Provide guidance on consultation and engagement with Indigenous communities.
Access, Equity and Inclusion	Access to more housing options for people with physical and developmental disabilities to have a choice on where to live, who they live with and access to support. Access to good jobs and education. Access to Wi-Fi. Equitable tree planting across the city.
Environment and Climate Change	A plan to get to Net Zero in the OP. Focus on biodiversity in the draft policies to be implemented as part of development and infrastructure management.
Business, Economy and Employment	Provide more opportunities for community commercial activities in neighbourhoods. Balance of uses in employment areas. Protect employment lands for sensitive industry uses, arts and culture and business growth.
Major Transit Station Areas	Consider transit accessibility, heritage, park space and public realm around stations. Increase density targets at MTSAs. Potential to increase geographical size of station areas.
Housing Affordability	Build more ranges of housing that supports families. Provide more affordable housing for Indigenous people, people of all ages and abilities.
Scale of Intensification	Concern that intensification is too concentrated in certain areas. Ensure density is fairly distributed across the city with supporting infrastructure and services.
Complete Communities	Build mixed-use developments to support live, work and play. Ensure that development is coordinated with transit and active transportation to reduce car use.

3.2 Input by Policy Area

The following sections summarize the input received on the policy areas under review in the Official Plan:

- 1. Chapter 1 of the OP including the Official Plan Vision Statement and Directions, and Indigenous Planning Perspectives:** Key topics include meaningful land acknowledgement, space for Indigenous culture and activities, reflect diversity of Toronto, reflect art and culture in the OP, and accessibility perspectives in planning.
- 2. Major Transit Station Areas and Protected Major Transit Station Areas:** Key topics include complete communities approach at station areas, access to mixed-use spaces, and connectivity to active transportation and services.
- 3. Employment Policies, the Future of Work, and Employment Area Conversions:** Key topics include Indigenous employment and businesses, more range of employment opportunities, protection of employment lands, connectivity to transit and transportation corridors, and infrastructure and mixed uses that support life, work and play.
- 4. Environment and Climate Change:** Key topics include Indigenous connections to the environment, impact of growth and development on the environment, protection of green spaces and trees, urban sprawl, Net Zero goals and active transportation.
- 5. Neighbourhoods and Complete Communities:** Key topics include access to greenspaces for Indigenous people, infrastructure that supports growth, and transit and active transportation connectivity.
- 6. Housing and Intensification:** Key topics include housing affordability, locations of Indigenous housing, housing that support all abilities, and impacts of intensification on existing neighbourhoods.

Discussions related to **Indigenous planning perspectives, access, equity and inclusion, environment and climate change, business, economy and employment, MTSAs, housing affordability, scale of intensification, and complete communities** are documented under the relevant sections below.

The summaries in the subsequent sections reflect various consultation activities with a wide range of audiences during Phase 3 engagement. This includes input through meetings and email with Indigenous organizations. These sections are overall summaries and do not include everything discussed/shared through engagement.

3.2.1 Chapter 1 of the OP including the Official Plan Vision Statement and Directions, and Indigenous Planning Perspectives

Indigenous Rights Holders

- OP needs to include information on the history of the land, what was there before, treaties, community names, rights holders interests, archeological history, and recognition that the city is built within the Nations before them
- Provide guidance on consultation, engagement and who is at the decision making table
- Distinguish between rights holders and stakeholders
- Consideration for rights to harvesting and medicines in the OP
- Support for Indigenous planner to advise on sensitivities for development applications
- Include the Six Nations Values Statement in the OP

Stakeholders

- Reflect the city's art and culture in the plans
- Provide better accessibility perspectives in decision making and planning
- Need more housing support for Indigenous communities

Community Leaders Circle and Equity Deserving Groups

- Reflect diversity and be explicit about being diverse otherwise end up including people of the same background; making sure not being inclusive by assimilation
- Land acknowledgement should include more about the relationship and respect for and healing the land
- Indigenous perspectives and land acknowledge should address inequalities and not just symbolic

General Public

- Indigenous voices should have a major role in the planning process, not just place-making and place-keeping
- Plan more parks with Indigenous roots

3.2.2 Major Transit Station Areas

Stakeholders

- Support for growth and density around transit stations
- Interest to review a priority list of PMTSAs
- Questions around PMTSA designations after the OP is finalized

General Public

- Concern around the site specific approach instead of looking at the whole transit station area in a complete communities approach
- Suggestion to freeze the lands around MTSAs and develop a master plan to support complete communities with housing affordability around the stations
- Consider transit accessibility, heritage, park space and public realm around MTSAs
- Live, work and play services should be balanced along with the density to create complete communities
- New development with density should have pathways to transit station for better live, work and plan
- Minimum density at MTSAs are too low, the City should be more aggressive
- Integrate active transportation at MTSAs
- Transit stations could be considered employment areas for the new age jobs and improve connections for job potential
- Interest in increasing the size of MTSAs to house more people close to transit in a broader area
- Concern that the development of MTSAs will reduce tree canopy
- Concern that the floor space index is too high for the MTSA around Long Branch area

3.2.3 Employment Policies, the Future of Work, and Employment Area Conversions

Stakeholders

- Provide more and a range of employment opportunities throughout the city
- Provide more opportunities for community commercial activities in neighbourhoods
- Need for local employment strategies as communities are redeveloped and with the impact of remote work
- Some municipal employment sites should be relocated to the northeast of Scarborough, not just at the Scarborough Civic Centre
- Need for employment opportunities in NIAs and other emerging neighborhoods
- Improve transit connections to post-secondary campuses and add employment opportunities
- Zoning and land use permissions restrict the location and growth of post-secondary campuses, especially those focused on skilled trades

- Post-secondary campuses are concerned about the location of industrial facilities nearby their campuses because the facilities have noise, smell, truck traffic, air quality, and environmental impacts
- Public Wi-Fi in locations that make sense and support students will partially address the issue of digital inequality
- Reshape land conversations around equity, for example, access to education and access to good jobs afterwards
- Improve transportation and transit connections to industry jobs that are outside the downtown core to attract skilled workers and improve logistics
- Locate industry, e-commerce, logistics, warehousing sectors near highway infrastructure and transit
- Land supply, land value and rent are limiting the expansion of operations for all industries and sectors
- Protect employment lands for sensitive industry uses and business growth
- Provide retail, restaurant, storage, daycare, car rental, and gas station spaces near employment lands
- Provide appropriate industrial zoning and land use permissions that allow all modes of heavy transportation including rail, ship, and truck
- Land use uncertainty and the shrinking of employment lands prevents growth
- Provide incubator space for small manufacturers and entrepreneurs
- Protect the Port Lands for shipping as it is critical for many industries
- Improve telecommunications, broadband and fibre optics infrastructure in employment areas
- Improve transit in existing traditional heavy industry and employment areas
- Policies should include that the permitted office and retail development in employment areas will not affect the operations and future expansion and development on lands zoned for and containing heavy industrial uses
- Restrict places of worship and other incompatible non-contributing uses locating in employment lands
- Policies should have consideration to the size of the business
- Improve policies that support goods movement
- Each employment district is at a different stage of development, citywide policies needs to be localized to address unique operating environments
- Data centres should be located away from residential areas and operate as light industrial
- Primary and Secondary data centres need to be as close to end user as possible, other data centres can be established in Vaughan or Mississauga and still be able to service Toronto

- Locating high-bandwidth infrastructure in areas outside the core (North-Etobicoke, Scarborough) is key to supporting companies who are dependent and rely on high-speed networks to operate
- Support from municipalities and recognition of the service data centres and fiber optics infrastructure provide to communities and businesses
- Need to create a city-wide fibre optics connection plan to align with public works program such as road infrastructure enhancements
- Provide spaces for start-ups, ventures, labs and accelerators
- Locating industry spaces in clusters increases efficiencies in operations, marketability and opportunities for building strategic partnerships both for businesses and employees

Community Leaders Circle and Equity Deserving Groups

- Need for more employment opportunities in neighbourhoods for people with disabilities to provide better accessibility perspectives in decision making and planning

General Public

- Provide more employment opportunities with a wider range of job options with higher quality and higher paying jobs to be created in the area so that people can work near their residence
- Concern on how employment opportunity balances with employment conversion to a land use designation that permits sensitive uses, such as residential use
- Businesses are relocating out of the city because they cannot afford the location
- Employment lands are in demand and vacancy rates are low with interest in multi-level warehouse facilities to provide more efficient use of land
- Introduce potential light industry with residential
- Ensure that people can live close to their jobs even in employment lands and ensure that they can get to those jobs without necessarily needing that extra cost burden that is associated with having to own a car
- Need more spaces for artists and studios, and protections for these spaces to support the arts and culture industry
- Sensitive uses like day cares and places of worship on employment lands could add sustainable and economic development
- Create a culture master plan that supports industries
- Provide more support for employment in the service industry

3.2.4 Environment and Climate Change

Indigenous Rights Holders

- Concerned that not enough attention is given to environment because the city is too focused on building instead of protecting and supporting Mother Earth
- Prioritize environmental values and allow them to be the foundation of decision making

Stakeholders

- Concerns that growth and development will decrease green spaces and trees
- Provide adequate green space, parks and amenities for developments
- Prioritize green initiatives to support healthy communities
- Encourage low impact development
- Need for better flood protection
- Promote TransformTO Climate Action Strategy goals and environmental initiatives through better communications with building management of towers
- Plan for more than Provincial target to curb carbon emissions, protect watersheds and green spaces by diverting population growth away from suburban municipalities and bringing up neighborhood densities to levels that support transit and active transportation
- Focus on biodiversity in the draft policies to be implemented as part of development and infrastructure management
- Expand Net Zero Strategy beyond centers
- Provide built form policies that speak to development parameters and building envelopes that allow us to achieve Net Zero standards
- The OP should express that status quo in existing neighbourhoods is undesirable for the environment
- Focus on increasing parkland provision per person
- Transform city owned and managed golf course to naturalized public open space within the OP
- Provide a target active transportation modal share by 2051 in the OP
- Apply a resiliency lens to our land use and policy planning work
- Help address the disproportionate impact of climate change to low income communities through tools like low impact development guidelines
- Recognize groundwater as a useful resource in the OP
- Introduce policies that discourages the demolition of existing buildings and/or create reusable building materials bank and centralize waste management resources

Community Leaders Circle and Equity Deserving Groups

- Center climate change and responsibility to land as a core foundational piece rather just part of the climate action section
- Ensure complete communities include complete streets, Net Zero, equity, and equitable mobility to improve areas like Scarborough; provide clarity on terms

Youth and Seniors

- Improve climate resilience by planting street trees, and plant them equitably across neighbourhoods and support the growth and naturalization of ravine and marsh areas
- Add more bike lanes and bike sharing stations, installing more garbage and recycling bins, adding more shade structures, and engaging youth more such as through a Youth Climate Council
- Give more attention and resources to low-income areas and those with the least amount of trees and other climate-supportive features
- Youth associated low income with higher land surface temperatures and noted households with high income could invest in private climate mitigation and adaptation measures like planting trees, electric vehicles, and sustainable energy sources
- Water and higher density were associated with lower surface temperatures and areas with cooler summer temperatures might better attract younger residents, or families with young children, and be healthier environments for vulnerable populations

General Public

- Consider policy text change to reflect that the climate is actively being disrupted and destabilized
- Questions around how the City will reach Net Zero targets
- Private trees in neighbourhoods in backyards should be protected because they are critical green infrastructure
- Add new or mitigate impaired wetlands
- Need for applying a food lens to address community resiliency in relation to urban environments and climate change and food deserts
- Consider carbon capture technologies to reduce emissions
- Recognize the importance of nature-based climate solutions/green infrastructure to recognize the important role that natural infrastructure plays in climate mitigation and adaptation

- Allow and promote gentle intensification along arterial roads to restore local shops and services to all neighbourhoods and reduce the need to drive long distances
- Integrate TransformTO goals into the OP
- Ensure pollution heavy industrial facilities are in appropriate areas
- Adopt ecological footprint accounting to ensure growth is sustainable
- Reduce urban footprint through urban form by increasing density
- Ensure equitable implementation of green infrastructure and low impact development
- Strengthen the City's capacity to address biodiversity loss
- Floor reduction should be part of resilience and adaptation policies
- Low carbon initiatives should include urban agriculture and urban farming within neighbourhoods
- Protect and improve employment areas in a creative way, for example the food terminal should be declared untouchable as this is a key location for food supply
- Ensure urban greenery and green space are also built around the area for better living and working environments
- Tree by-laws should consider the expansion of the tree canopy

3.2.5 Neighbourhoods and Complete Communities

Stakeholders

- Provide adequate services, infrastructure, telecommunications, recreation space, transit, schools, medical services and social services to support growth and intensification
- Need for more jobs, green space, community space and better transit infrastructure in Scarborough rather than have these elements concentrated in the downtown core
- Interest for more community engagement in development projects as communities change with engagement that reflects the scale of development
- Improve transit and active transportation connectivity
- Concerns about quality of life related to density and congestion from intensification and high-rise development
- Concerns about the lack of rapid transit connections to community centres in Malvern and Scarborough with youth population higher than the city average
- Provide social community development strategy or impact plan around employment, safety, connectivity and community building for new developments
- Need to consider lighting as a means for safety and security concern

Community Leaders Circle and Equity Deserving Groups

- Build complete communities for those with accessibility needs like mobility, access to transportation to get to necessities such as food stores and other retail, while also nourishing independence, spontaneity and safety
- Need for stronger pedestrian infrastructure throughout all seasons, many with disabilities can't drive, and walking becomes challenging when sidewalks aren't connected or easily accessible or plowed in the winter
- Streamline projects or development applications that improve accessibility
- Emphasize cross divisional or sector collaboration and coordination of urban planning and social service provision in new developments; intentional relationships among City divisions, organizations, and grassroots players are important to make the flow of information meaningful

General Public

- Provide adequate services, infrastructure, sewers, telecommunications, recreation space, transit, schools, medical services and social services to support growth and intensification
- Concern around the loss of parks and recreation facilities in Scarborough due to predicted growth
- Concern that development and over development is occurring without adequate infrastructure in place
- Allow more podiums in towers to be built for community uses like schools, retail, and employment
- Consider planning for growth over the provincial target
- Ensure that development is coordinated with transit expansion
- Create community spaces for art, music and creatives, especially in Scarborough
- Consider provisions for protection of lands for places of worship
- Improve design of new developments to prevent "cookie-cutter" condos
- Ensure sufficient parking is provided for new developments outside the downtown core
- Prioritize the building bike lanes and bus lanes over car lanes and parking
- Provide tree coverage across all walkways in Toronto to protect pedestrians from heat and improve aesthetics

3.2.6 Housing and Intensification

Stakeholders

- Build more family sized apartment or condo units, small units in high rise developments are not desirable and do not support families
- Concern that intensification is too congregated in certain areas
- Provide more gentle density across neighbourhoods
- Support for Toronto to absorb more growth to prevent sprawl into the Greenbelt
- Need more consideration for the impacts of high density developments on adjacent low density neighbourhoods: safety, security, traffic, transit, connectivity, services
- Concern that missing middle zoning permissions will increase property values and displace residents with less affordable and accessible housing
- Provide more affordable housing options for students like rooming houses
- Provide more affordable housing for people of all ages and abilities
- Concern about housing affordability impacts in other parts of the city like Scarborough as downtown becomes less affordable
- Need for multi-generational and immigrant family housing like market housing mixed with affordable rent-geared-to-income units and co-ops within new developments
- Provide definitions for affordability across the spectrum
- Build accessible affordable housing initiatives with care services for people with disabilities
- Improve access to student housing, especially in the downtown core, universities and colleges should be able to pursue private partnerships to meet residential accommodation needs
- Housing affordability negatively impact the ability to attract high skilled labour to technical roles from surrounding areas

Community Leaders Circle and Equity Deserving Groups

- Need for accessible, affordable and supportive housing for those with accessibility needs
- Access to more housing options for people with physical and developmental disabilities to have a choice on where to live, who they live with and access to support they need to help with their disabilities
- Spaces need to have affordable housing and access to services and resources such as healthcare, especially for new residents

General Public

- Concern around impacts of high-rise development on existing low-rise communities in Scarborough
- Concern that development of single family homes into multiplex houses will drive up housing price and taxes, especially seniors will be forced to sell due to higher prices
- Ensure density is fairly distributed across the city
- Concern around density impacts on congestion and noise
- Rental housing should be protected in the OP
- Legalize more multiplexes across the city
- Re-zone single detached areas to accommodate more density

4 Next Steps

The feedback received during Phase 3 of Our Plan Toronto is being used to inform draft policy directions and draft policies which will be presented to Planning and Housing Committee on July 5, 2022. The next steps in the engagement process include ongoing Indigenous engagement on Chapter 1, Indigenous Planning Perspectives between July 2022 and January 2023, as well as additional public engagement, communications and outreach on what we have heard, the draft vision, directions and employment area conversions.

For more information please visit: www.toronto.ca/ourplan