



Toronto Island Park Master Plan

Meeting Summary

Public Visioning Workshop on April 7th, 2021

Overview

On Wednesday, April 7th, 2021 the City of Toronto's Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division (PFR) hosted a virtual Public Visioning Workshop for Phase One of the Toronto Island Park Master Plan. Over 100 members of the public, including from local waterfront organizations, island organizations, city-wide groups, and Indigenous communities, as well as the project team, participated in the workshop. From the project team, representatives from the City of Toronto's PFR Division attended along with members of the consultant Design Team (DTAH), Business Strategy Team (fsSTRATEGY), and Engagement Team (Swerhun Inc. and Nbsiing Consulting).

The purpose of the workshop was to introduce the Master Plan and project team, share the work done to date, present and seek feedback on the draft Values and revised Guiding Principles, and co-develop a vision for the future of Toronto Island Park. The meeting agenda is attached as Appendix B. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and following the advice of public health officials, the workshop was held via web-conferencing software.

The City opened the meeting with a land acknowledgement from Lori Ellis, Senior Project Coordinator. Following the land acknowledgement, Bob Goulais of Nbisiing Consulting shared a teaching moment about the diversity of Indigenous communities across Toronto, who each have different ways of referring and relating to what we now know as Toronto Islands. The teaching moment also spoke to the importance of understanding that Indigenous communities are not homogenous, and we should acknowledge the voices of women, youth, and 2-Spirit people within those diverse communities. Following the opening, the City and its technical teams provided an overview of the work done so far.

This summary is structured to reflect key topics of discussion, including:

- Key themes
- Detailed summary of feedback
 - Ideas for a new vision for Toronto Island Park
 - Feedback on the draft values
 - Feedback on the revised guiding principles
- Other feedback
- Next steps

This summary was written by Swerhun Inc., a third-party facilitation firm retained by the City to help support community engagement for this project. It is not intended to be a verbatim transcript, rather it summarizes key points of discussion shared by participants during the meeting. Swerhun Inc. shared a draft with participants for review before finalizing.

Key themes

These points reflect key themes that emerged throughout the discussion. They are intended to be read along with the more detailed feedback that follows.

Overall, the work to date is interesting and moving in the right direction, especially the emphasis on protecting the island's ecology, honouring Indigenous history, culture, and placekeeping, and maintaining the unique character of Toronto Island. Suggested refinements included strengthening the role of stewardship and acknowledging the water, wildlife, and land as actors.

The Values are on the right track and are complementary to one another. Balance is an important value as the Master Plan should balance the need to protect the Island's ecology and unique character while also improving amenities and access.

The Guiding Principles are also on the right track but could be consolidated and simplified. The breadth of principles covered are a good reflection of opportunities the Master Plan should explore. Consider prioritizing or condensing the principles to a few actionable, achievable items.

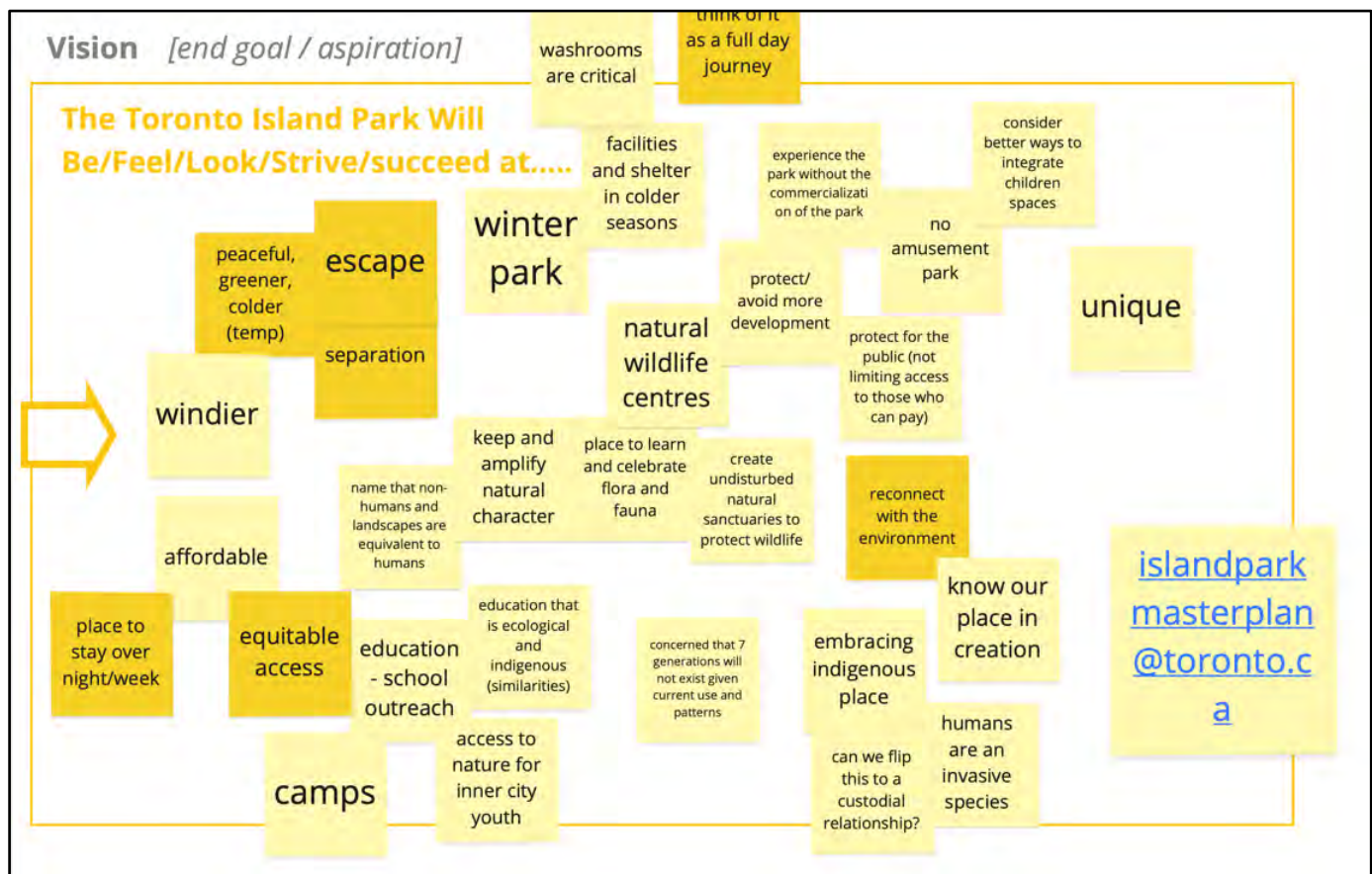
There are many potential visions for the future of Toronto Island Park, including a park that will: preserve the natural environment, honour Indigenous history and culture, be easily accessible, be inclusive of all Torontonians, celebrate the four seasons, continue to be a unique and quiet oasis, strive to be world class, celebrate the existing community, offer more diverse food, educate visitors, and create spaces for local businesses, artists, and non-profits.

Detailed summary feedback

The following is a summary of the questions, suggestions, and comments shared by participants throughout the meeting:

Ideas for a new vision for Toronto Island Park

In breakout rooms, participants shared different ideas on how to finish the sentence "Toronto Island will be/feel/look..." while facilitators documented and grouped feedback using virtual sticky notes. This section reflects a synthesis of visions shared across all breakout rooms.



All of the documented vision statements are included in Appendix D. Participants shared visions of Toronto Island as a park that...:

...will promote, preserve, and prioritize the natural environment and wildlife, by acknowledging the land, water, and wildlife as equivalent to humans; preserving undisturbed natural areas, secluding other areas from human use, and “re-wilding” manicured areas; protecting and enhancing the environmentally significant areas and wetlands; protecting the Island as a sanctuary for unique wildlife, especially migratory birds given the City’s bird-friendly designation; addressing the impact of invasive species; understanding the Island’s carrying capacity and providing infrastructure to support environmental protection; ensuring compliance with existing regulations and policies governing the environment; celebrating and promoting its biodiversity; maintaining the island as vehicle-free and garbage-free; practicing “leave no trace” throughout the park; and inspiring users to act as “stewards” or “custodians” of the Island for generations to come through educational opportunities like signage, interpretive centres, or volunteering.

...will respect, preserve, and celebrate Indigenous history, culture, and placekeeping, by offering safe spaces for Indigenous communities to gather and practice their culture without being regulated or sanctioned; reflecting the four quadrants of the Medicine Wheel in park

planning; teaching visitors about the Indigenous history of Toronto Islands; making the park look and feel Indigenized through its food, programming, art, and design; building meaningful partnerships with Indigenous communities and organizations; and being an example of what reconciliation can look like for Toronto and Canada.

...will be easily accessible and quick to navigate, by improving ferry access and operation, including better year-round access; improving water access to the island through canoes, kayaks, and boat rentals; enabling better movement across the island, including through bike shares or motorized public transit; establishing a seamless wayfinding system that is easy to understand which includes volunteers who provide information to visitors; and connecting Toronto Islands to the broader City and park system.

...is inclusive of all Torontonians, by becoming more affordable or free of cost; encouraging young people and seniors to connect with nature by offering dedicated spaces and programming; prioritizing safety for diverse communities, especially Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour; and addressing barriers to access for equity deserving groups.

...celebrates the four seasons and winter use, by reframing the park as a winter destination; providing winter amenities and programming such as winterized washrooms, a broader winter ferry schedule, cold-water swimming, and winter foods; and welcoming visitors year-round.

...will continue to be a unique and quiet oasis, offering Torontonians an escape to nature, by bringing the park's history to the fore, not erasing it; avoiding commercialization and more development; improving the island but not fundamentally changing it; maintaining the physical separation from the city; and amplifying and protecting its natural character.

...will strive to be world class, by improving its facilities and amenities, especially its washrooms; enabling full-day visits and overnight stays for all with facilities and amenities to support that; and ensuring that existing facilities are better promoted and used. The needle

...will acknowledge and celebrate the existing community and its history, by celebrating the “storied history of the island” – especially its creative communities and past residents.

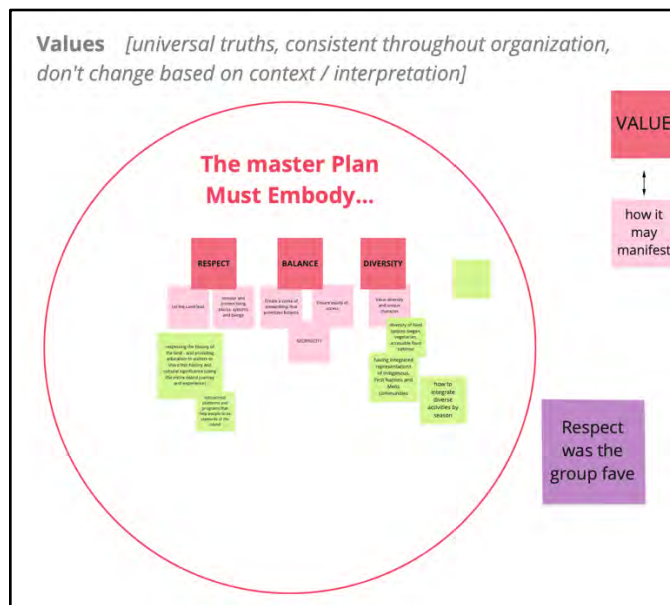
...will offer more diverse and affordable food options, by supporting smaller food vendors, offering more mobile food carts, ensuring food options reflect the diversity of Toronto, and allocating spaces for community gardens.

...will actively educate visitors, by offering amenities and programming for both youth and adults to learn about Indigenous history, Indigenous cultures, and the environment through overnight camps, environmental education centres, and community gardens.

...will succeed at creating spaces for local businesses, artists, and non-profits.

Feedback about the draft Values

As part of its presentation, the City shared and asked for feedback on draft values: universal truths that are not influenced by context or interpretation and required for the overall success of the plan. The draft Values were **respect**, **balance**, and **diversity**.



In breakout rooms, participants shared feedback and ideas about the draft Values, and facilitators documented their advice using virtual sticky-notes. All of the documented feedback and suggestions are included in Appendix D. Common themes from across all breakout rooms include:

Overall, the Values are on the right track. Most participants appreciated the Values, with some saying they complement and play-off one another.

Many agree with “balance” as a value, with some caution. Many said balance is an important value since everything on the island is connected and affects one another. There was some caution, though, that everything should not always be balanced: in some cases, the Master Plan should prioritize protecting nature over human access and use of the park.

Suggested additions and changes to the values include:

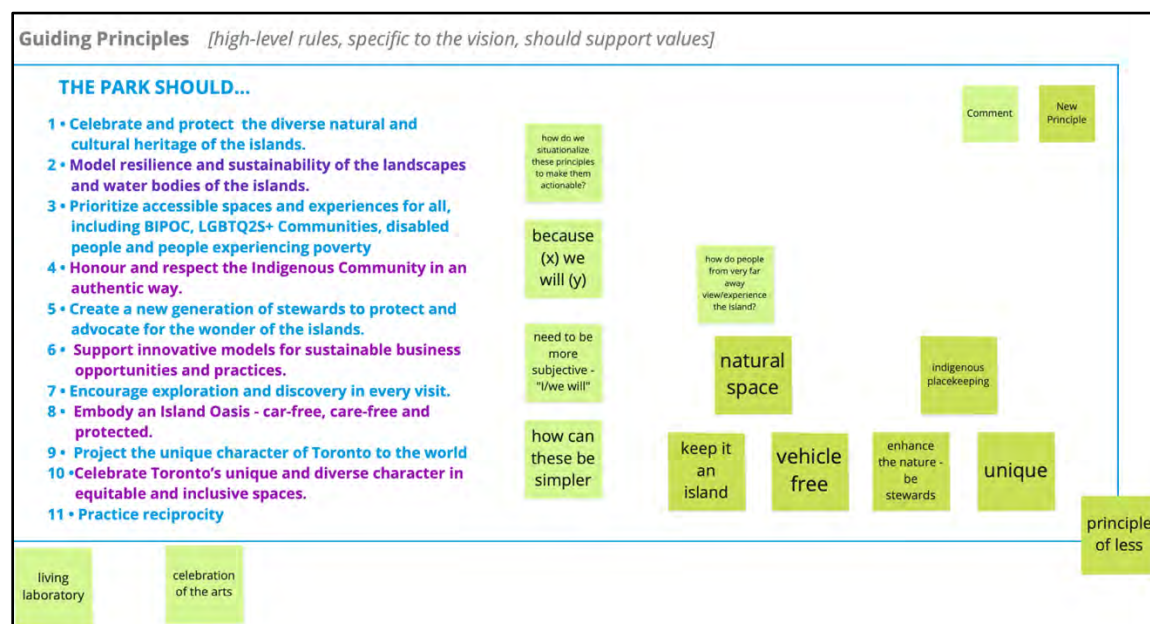
- **Add “protection,” “preservation,” or “eco-system”** as a value to reinforce the importance of maintaining the island’s character and ecosystems while also leaving it open to change. The values currently do not mention wildlife specifically.

- **Add “honesty,” “integrity,” or “transparency”** as values to ensure the Master Plan continues to build trust with communities, share information, and reveal priorities.
- **Reframe “diversity” to “inclusivity” or “accessibility”** to more broadly consider affordability, equity, and access to the Island.
- **Add “sustainability” as a value**, to show wildlife, business, recreation, and usage all working together to maintain and preserve the island.
- **Add “harmony” as an umbrella over all the values.**

Feedback about the revised Guiding Principles

As part of its presentation, the City shared and asked for feedback on revised guiding principles: high-level rules that are specific to the vision and support the Values. They were:

1. Celebrate and protect the diverse natural and cultural heritage of the islands.
2. Model resilience and sustainability of the landscapes and water bodies of the islands.
3. Prioritize accessible spaces and experiences for all, including BIPOC, LGBTQ2S+ communities, disabled people, and people experiencing poverty.
4. Honour and respect the Indigenous Community in an authentic way.
5. Create a new generation of stewards to protect and advocate for the wonder of the islands.
6. Support innovative models for sustainable business opportunities and practices.
7. Encourage exploration and discovery in every visit.
8. Embody an Island Oasis – car free, care-free and protected.
9. Project the unique character of Toronto to the world.
10. Celebrate Toronto’s unique and diverse character in equitable and inclusive spaces.
11. Practice reciprocity.



In breakout rooms, participants shared feedback and ideas about the revised Guiding Principles using virtual sticky-notes. All of the documented feedback and suggestions are included in Appendix D. Common themes from across the breakout rooms include:

Overall, the Guiding Principles are on the right track but need to be consolidated.

Participants liked the diversity of ideas, but many said the Guiding Principles represent a “smorgasbord” or “shotgun” approach. Consider reducing the number of principles by consolidating some or by identifying priorities amongst them. The Master Plan team should also consider which principles are actionable and that the City can commit to implementing.

Stewardship is an important principle that should be strengthened. Participants like the idea of stewardship in principle #5, where visitors are responsible when they arrive on the island, clean after themselves, and respect the environment. The term “steward” could be strengthened by giving it an active role, such as “advocate” “ambassador” or “champion.” The Master Plan should also consider how it will encourage a new generation of stewards to think long-term about protecting the island.

Participants generally liked principle #3, #4, and #5, and some suggested they should be strengthened and prioritized. The Master Plan should not only consider access for Indigenous and equity-deserving communities, but also how to create leadership opportunities for them in the process. One participant asked what honouring and respecting the Indigenous community will look like, whether it’s through ongoing partnerships or dedicated spaces for ceremony and culture?

Define principle #11. Some said #11 could be clearer and would benefit from defining what “reciprocity” means. One participant said reciprocity is an important principle as users should give back to the island not just take from it.

Suggested additions and changes to the revised guiding principles include:

- **Add a new principle about offering education to visitors and young people.** Several participants said the island should be a place to learn about the environment, stewardship, Indigenous history and culture, and ways of relating to the land, especially for young people who don’t interact with nature often. Some suggestions include informational signs and enhancing existing education amenities like the Franklin Gardens.
- **Add a new principle that addresses safety,** including making it a safe place for all people and for the land, water, and wildlife. This focus on safety could be achieved through more regulations, by-laws, signage, and security (though not through increased enforcement via policing).
- **Combine principle #9 and #10,** since both are similar. Some participants also said the “unique character” of Toronto could be defined more.
- **Explicitly name and acknowledge the role and value of wildlife and water** when discussing environmental protection and sustainability.
- **Acknowledge faith communities and religious groups** when discussing inclusivity. The island park should respect and be accessible to people of all faiths.
- **Recognize the connection and movement between Toronto Islands and other key areas.** Participants said the Master Plan should think about the fluidity of migration and connection between the Toronto Islands, the mainland, and other surrounding parks such as the Leslie Spit.
- **Prioritize local business in principle #6.** Participants appreciated the focus on improving island businesses, but encouraged emphasizing unique, quality local services and shops over big chains focused on consumerism.

Other feedback and suggestions

In addition to suggestions for the Vision, and feedback on the draft Values and revised Guiding Principles, participants shared other suggestions and feedback for the Master Plan team to consider. Responses from the project team are italicized:

- **Address role of the airport lands more holistically in the Master Plan.** The airport takes up a fifth of the Toronto Islands and some participants said it was important to consider the

potential for these lands. Others said the Master Plan should engage with the airport boundary, how the park interacts with it, and how to give the Island more agency as a being itself to address the impact of the airport. *The project team, said the City has to focus on the land that it has jurisdiction over, which currently excludes the airport. Should the airport become available as parkland, the vision, values and principles developed through the Master Planning process would apply to that land.*

- **Show more consideration of Centreville Amusement Park.** There is currently very little mention of the amusement park in the work done so far, and participants had mixed views as to whether there should or shouldn't be an amusement park on Toronto Islands. *James Roche, DTAH, said that the team hasn't looked into Centreville Amusement Park a lot of detail yet, but its upcoming work will look at what works now and what areas could be improved, The Business Strategy team is also looking at the existing amenities like Centreville.*
- **Consider the impact of recent legislation on the Master Plan,** including Bill 229 and its influence on conservation authorities such as the TRCA, water protection, and provincial funding.
- **Consider regular environmental assessments** to better understand what the island is experiencing on an ongoing basis. Make sure that the Master Plan is grounded in existing regulations and policy (including municipal and provincial policies) that mandate its protection, such as the Official Plan Amendment 262.
- **Consider adopting a park conservancy model** to encourage more people to have a role in protecting and sustaining Toronto Island Park.
- **Look at developing performance criteria** to measure and monitor the Master Plan's efficacy in improving air quality, reducing energy use, preserving dark skies, and other metrics.
- **Make sure to work across jurisdictions,** since different levels of government and different agencies have different mandates related to the islands.

Next steps

The team thanked participants and committed to sharing the presentation and a draft summary in the coming weeks. They also said the City would share information about Phase Two public engagement as it is confirmed.

Appendix A – Project Team

City of Toronto, Parks, Forestry & Recreation Division

David O'Hara, Project Manager, Strategic Projects, Parks Development and Capital Projects

Lori Ellis, Project Officer, Strategic Projects, Parks Development and Capital Projects

Daniel Fusca, Manager, Public Consultation

Pablo Muñoz, Senior Public Consultation Coordinator

Alex Deighan, Policy Development Officer

Rajesh Sankat, Senior Public Consultation Coordinator

Sejal Kapadia Pocha, Supervisor, Outreach & Special Project

Casey Morris, Senior Project Coordinators

Consultant teams

Design team

Victoria Bell, DTAH

James Roche, DTAH

Business Strategy team

Jeff Dover, fsSTRATEGY

Engagement team

Khly Lamparero, Swerhun Inc,

Ian Malczewski, Swerhun Inc,

Athavarn Srikantharajah, Swerhun Inc,

Bob Goulais, Nbisiing Inc

Appendix B – Agenda

Toronto Island Park Master Plan Public Visioning Workshop

Wednesday, April 7, 2021

6:00pm–8:30pm • Meeting held virtually



Proposed agenda

6:00 PM	Welcome, land acknowledgement, agenda review, introductions City of Toronto & Swerhun Inc.
6:15	Indigenous teaching moment
6:20	Master Plan introduction and towards a vision City of Toronto & DTAH <i>Questions of clarification</i>
6:40	Discussion: towards a vision Toronto Island will be/look/feel/invite...
7:10	Report back
7:30	Values and preliminary guiding principles City, DTAH <i>Questions of clarification</i>
7:50	Discussion: values and preliminary guiding principles Tell us one value that you think is important to include in the Toronto Island Park Master What are your thoughts on the Preliminary Guiding Principles? Are there any in particular that resonate with you? Anything major missing or off-base?
8:15	Report back
8:25	Wrap up and next steps
9:00	Adjourn

Meeting purpose

To introduce the Master Plan, share the work done to date, and discuss Preliminary Guiding Principles and a Vision for Toronto Island Park.

How to share feedback

To share any post-meeting advice or receive drafts of meeting summaries, please email Athavarn Srikantharajah, Swerhun Inc.

(647) 427 5331
asrikantharajah@swerhun.com

The Draft Meeting Summary will include feedback received by **April 14, 2021**.

Appendix C – Virtual White Board Template

Drivers for Change

Challenges and Opportunities



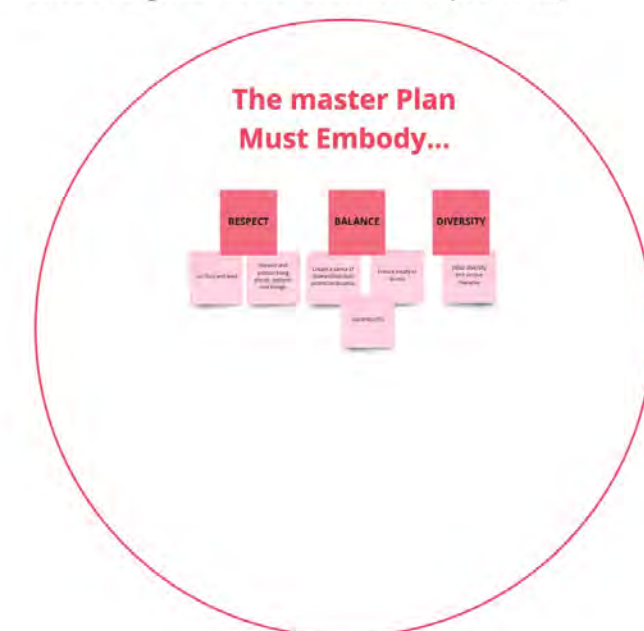
Generative Questions [what if...]

What if the Island was a natural oasis?
What if the Island was easier to get to?
What if the Island was an escape from the city?
What if the Island was a year round destination?
What if the Island had more diverse amenities?
What if the Island was protected?
What if the Island had diverse and affordable food options?
What if the Island was a cultural destination?
What if the Island told its history?
What if the Island didn't change?
What if the Island authentically honoured Indigenous history culture?
What if the Island was clean?
What if the Island had a fixed connection to the city?
What if the Island had more diverse programming?
What if the Island was easily and equally accessible?
What if the Island had something for everyone?
What if the Island was modernized?
What if the Island was a model of sustainability?
What if the Island was Toronto's central park?
What if the Island not commercialized?
What if the Island protected from floods and erosion?
What if the Island was a place for learning and discover?
What if the Island was an overnight destination?

Vision [end goal / aspiration]

The Toronto Island Park Will
Be/Feel/Look/Strive/succeed at....

Values [universal truths, consistent throughout organization, don't change based on context / interpretation]



VALUE

how it may manifest



Guiding Principles [high-level rules, specific to the vision, should support values]

THE PARK SHOULD...

- 1 • Celebrate and protect the diverse natural and cultural heritage of the islands.
- 2 • Model resilience and sustainability of the landscapes and water bodies of the islands.
- 3 • Prioritize accessible spaces and experiences for all, including BIPOC, LGBTQ2S+ Communities, disabled people and people experiencing poverty
- 4 • Honour and respect the Indigenous Community in an authentic way.
- 5 • Create a new generation of stewards to protect and advocate for the wonder of the islands.
- 6 • Support innovative models for sustainable business opportunities and practices.
- 7 • Encourage exploration and discovery in every visit.
- 8 • Embody an Island Oasis - car-free, care-free and protected.
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- 10 • Celebrate Toronto's unique and diverse character in equitable and inclusive spaces.
- 11 • Practice reciprocity

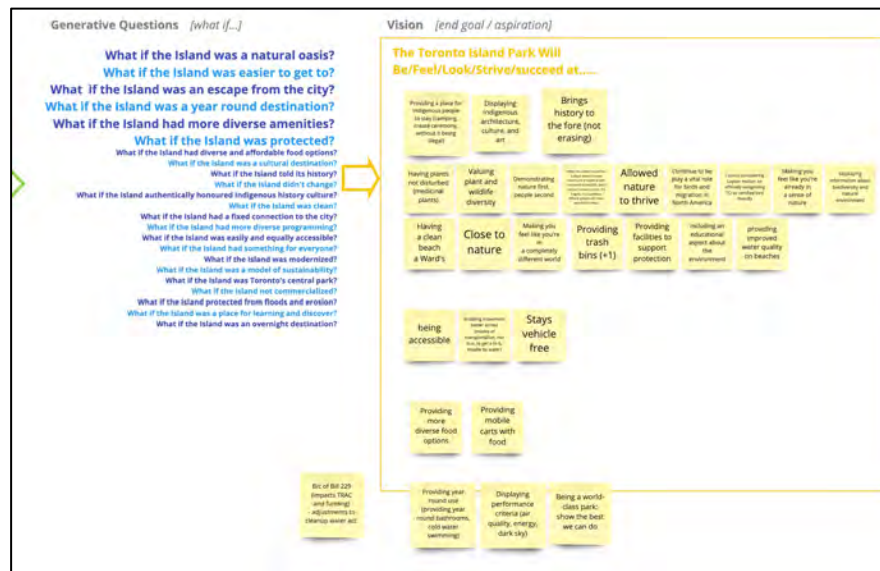
Comment

New Principle

Appendix D – Breakout Room Transcripts

Breakout Room 1

Vision

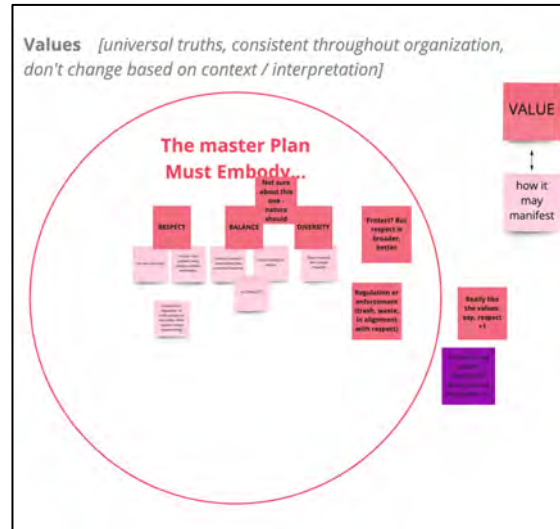


Transcript

- Providing a place for Indigenous people to stay (camping, create ceremony, without it being illegal)
- Displaying Indigenous architecture, culture, and art
- Brings history to the fore (not erasing_
- Having plants not disturbed (medicinal plants)
- Valuing plant and wildlife diversity
- Demonstrating nature first, people second
- What the island should be: a place where human needs are in balance with the needs of wildlife. Don't be too human centric. It's fragile, it's a sandbar. Where people can have wonderful times.
- Allowed nature to thrive

- Continue to play a vital role for birds and migration in North America
- Council considering Layton motion on officially recognizing TO as certified bird friendly
- Making you feel like you're already in a sense of nature
- Displaying information about biodiversity and natural environment
- Having a clean beach a Ward's
- Close to nature
- Making you feel like you're in a completely different world
- Providing trash bins (+1)
- Providing facilities to support protection
- including an educational aspect about the environment
- providing improved water quality on beaches
- being accessible
- Enabling movement better across (modes of transportation, not bus, to get a to b, maybe by water)
- Stays vehicle free
- Providing more diverse food options
- Providing mobile carts with food
- B/c of Bill 229 (impacts TRAC and funding)- adjustments to cleanup water act.
- Providing year-round use (providing year round bathrooms, cold water swimming)
- Displaying performance criteria (air quality, energy, dark sky)
- Being a world- class park: show the best we can do

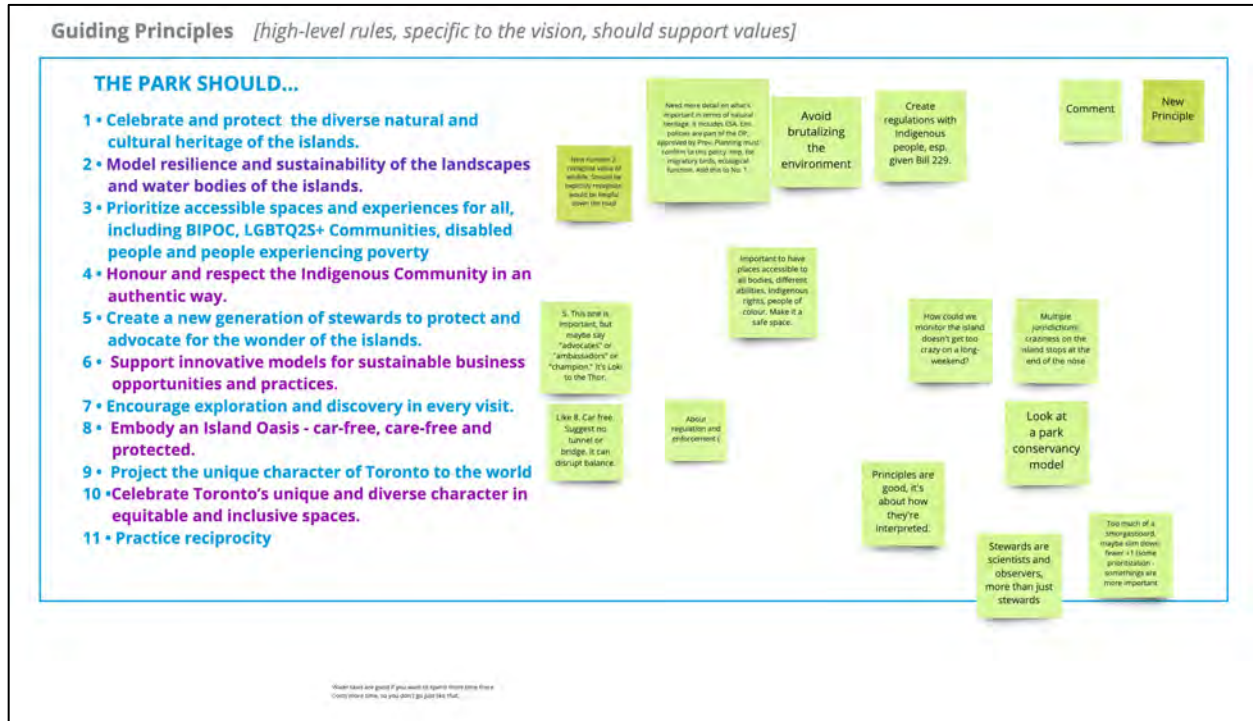
Values



Transcript

- Protect? But respect is broader, better
- Regulation or enforcement (trash, waste, in alignment with respect)
- still fail to see wildlife mentioned (bring in word eco-system +1)
- Really like the values: esp. respect +1
- EXAMPLE: Protection = regulation or enforcement or education. With respect comes responsibility.
- RECIPROCITY
- Not sure about this one - nature should

Guiding Principles



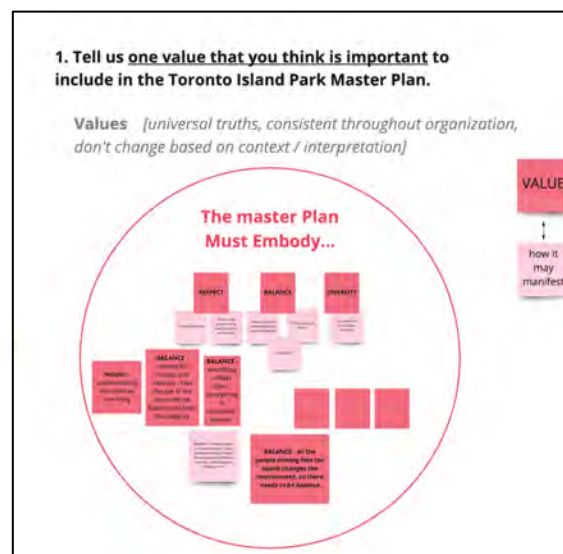
Transcript

- New number 2: recognize value of wildlife. Should be explicitly recognize, would be helpful down the road
- Need more detail on what's important in terms of natural heritage. It includes ESA. Env. policies are part of the OP, approved by Prov. Planning must confirm to this policy. Imp. for migratory birds, ecological function. Add this to No. 1.
- Avoid brutalizing the environment
- Create regulations with Indigenous people, esp. given Bill 229.
- 5. This one is important, but maybe say "advocates" or "ambassadors" or "champion." It's Loki to the Thor.
- Like 8. Car free. Suggest no tunnel or bridge. It can disrupt balance.
- Important to have places accessible to all bodies, different abilities, Indigenous rights, people of colour. Make it a safe space.
- About regulation and enforcement (
- Create regulations with Indigenous people, esp. given Bill 229.
- How could we monitor the island doesn't get too crazy on a long-weekend?

- Principles are good, it's about how they're interpreted.
- Multiple jurisdictions: craziness on the island stops at the end of the nose
- Look at a park conservancy model
- Stewards are scientists and observers, more than just stewards
- Too much of a smorgasbord, maybe slim down, fewer +1 (some prioritization - somethings are more important

Breakout Room 2

Values



Transcript

- holistic - understanding the island as one thing
- BALANCE -
- needed for respect and diversity - how the use of the island will be balanced to keep the integrity
- BALANCE - everything affects
- other (everything is connected -
- people,
- BALANCE - all the people coming into the island changes the environment, so there needs to be balance

- EXAMPLE: to keep balance, not build bridges - have activities that
- don't impact the environment, different cultures, and indigenous backgrounds

Guiding Principles

2. What are your thoughts on the Preliminary Guiding Principles? Are there any in particular that resonate with you? Anything major missing or off-base?

Guiding Principles *[high-level rules, specific to the vision, should support values]*

THE PARK SHOULD...

- 1 • Celebrate and protect the diverse natural and cultural heritage of the islands.
- 2 • Model resilience and sustainability of the landscapes and water bodies of the islands.
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- 9 • Project the unique character of Toronto to the world
- 10 • Celebrate Toronto's unique and diverse character in equitable and inclusive spaces.
- 11 • Practice reciprocity

Comments and New Principles:

- Like: STEWARDSHIP** (people who organize the canoe and yacht clubs, not everyone wants to live in the island)
- part of being a steward doing**
- LIKE: Create a generation of stewards - you care about this place**
- everything sounds great, particularly new generation of stewards - everything we talk about needs people**
- like more innovative and sustainable opportunities for businesses and food options**
- having more unique businesses, more local small shops**
- focus on service instead of consumerism**
- Making it's accessible for people with disabilities**
- reciprocity - giving to the island, not just taking**
- the island is a big place, and always changing, the bigger the island gets, the better you understand that opportunities for exploration**
- LIKE how diverse the ideas**
- LIKE 3, 4 and 5**
- not oversteering about education - there are already existing education opportunities**
- advocating the expansion of the park**
- the airport land is opportunity for eco development and eco diversity - and have it produce.**
- able to live harmoniously with the island**
- LIKE: ENCOURAGE exploration and discovery**

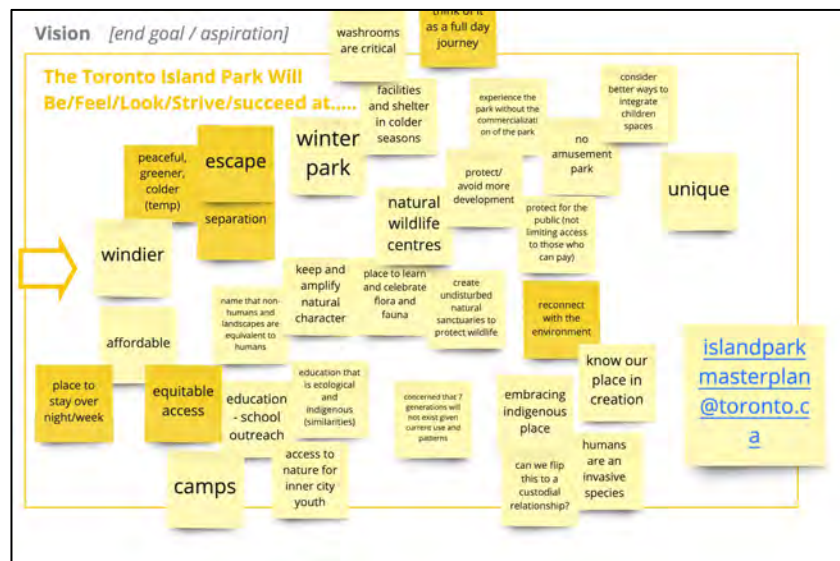
Transcript

- Like: STEWARDSHIP (people who organize the canoe and yacht clubs, not everyone wants to live in the island)
- part of being a steward doing
- LIKE: Create a generation of stewards - you care about this place
- everything sounds great, particularly new generation of stewards - everything we talk about needs people
- how do we get people who come here become stewards? how do you create a space that make that happen naturally - how do you make it happen, so it happens in seven generations
- like more innovative and sustainable opportunities for businesses and food options
- having more unique businesses, more local small shops
- focus on service instead of consumerism

- Making it's accessible for people with disabilities
- reciprocity - giving to the island, not just taking
- LIKE: ENCOURAGE exploration and discovery
- LIKE how diverse the ideas
- LIKE 3, 4 and 5
- not mentioned about education: FRANKLIN GARDENS - there are already existing education opportunities
- the airport land is opportunity for eco development and eco diversity - and have it produce.
- advocating the expansion of the park
- giving the island more agency - how can the MP advocate for itself, not as a passive park - addressing the issue of island airport - NOT LETTING UNEQUITABLE USE
- engaging with the boundary of the airport - bring people in the boundary or understand the inequity in place

Breakout Room 3

Vision

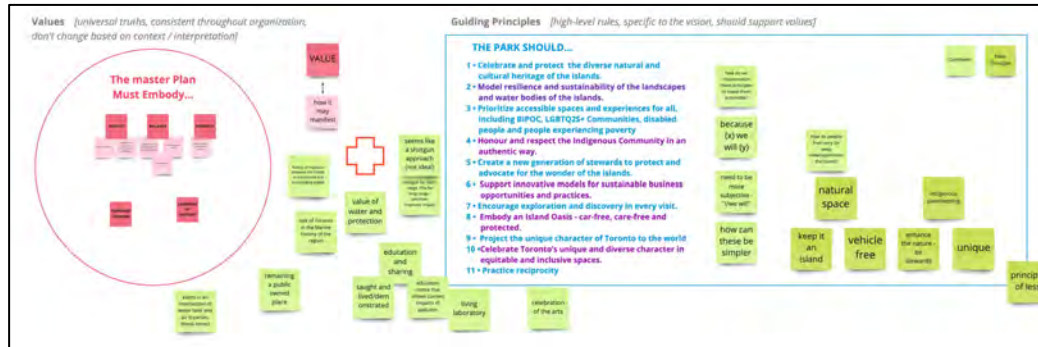


Transcript

- peaceful, greener, colder (temp)

- escape
- windier
- affordable
- place to stay overnight/week
- equitable access
- name that non- humans and landscapes are equivalent to humans
- education - school outreach
- camps
- access to nature for inner city youth
- education that is ecological and indigenous (similarities)
- keep and amplify natural character
- winter park
- washrooms are critical
- think of it as a full day journey
- natural wildlife centres
- place to learn and celebrate flora and fauna
- create undisturbed natural sanctuaries to protect wildlife
- concerned that 7 generations will not exist given current use and patterns
- protect/ avoid more development
- experience the park without the commercialization on of the park
- no amusement park
- protect for the public (not limiting access to those who can pay)
- reconnect with the environment
- embracing indigenous place
- can we flip this to a custodial relationship?
- know our place in creation
- humans are an invasive species
- consider better ways to integrate children spaces
- unique

Values and Guiding Principles

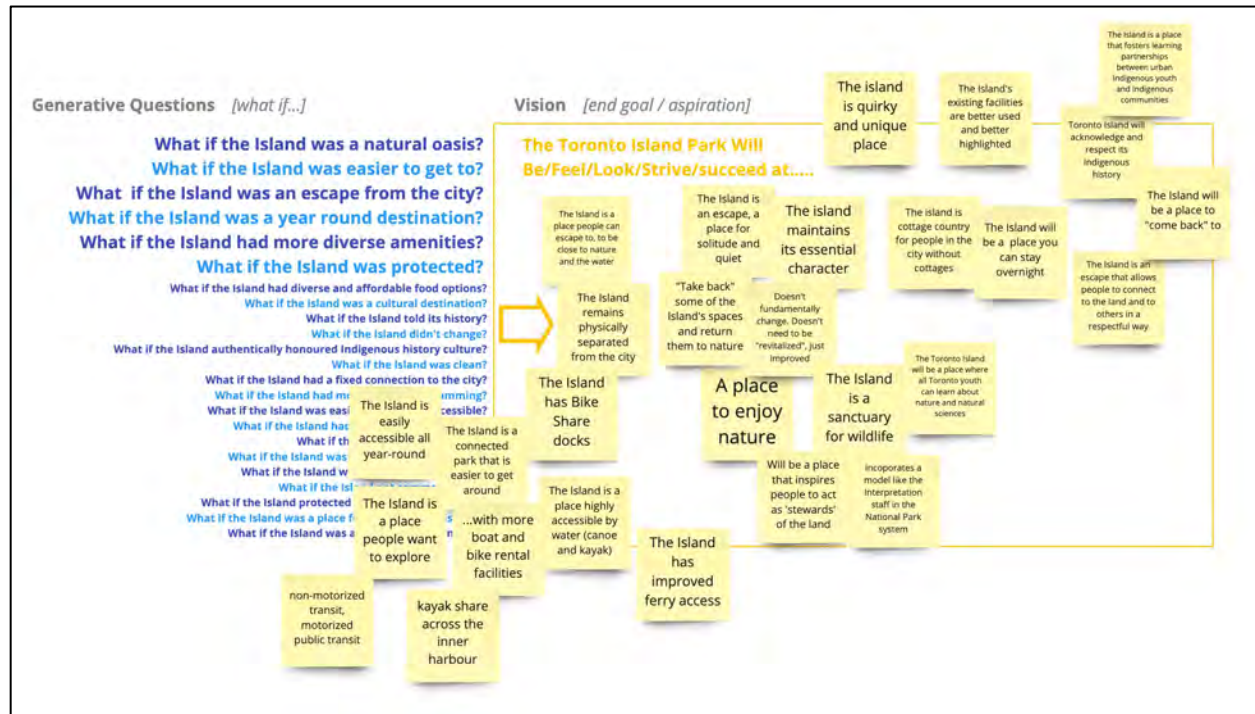


Transcript

- FORWARD LOOKING
- LEARNING OF HISTORY
- fluidity of migration between the islands and mainland and surrounding spaces
- role of Toronto in the Marine history of the region
- exists in an intersection of water land and air (riparian, littoral zones)
- remaining a public owned place
- value of water and protection
- seems like a shotgun approach (not ideal)
- shotgun for short range, rifle for long range - precision improves impact
- education and sharing
- ought and lived/demonstrated
- education centre that shows current impacts of pollution
- living laboratory
- celebration of the arts
- how do we situationalize these principles to make them actionable?
- because (x) we will (y)
- need to be more subjective - "I/we will"
- how can these be simpler
- how do people from very far away view/experience the Island?
- natural space
- keep it an island
- vehicle free
- enhance the nature - be stewards
- indigenous placekeeping
- unique
- principle of less

Breakout Room 4

Vision



Transcript

- The island is quirky and unique place
- The Island is a place that fosters learning partnerships between urban Indigenous youth and Indigenous communities
- The Island's existing facilities are better used
- The Toronto Island will be a place where all Toronto youth can learn about nature and natural sciences
- and better highlighted

- Toronto Island will acknowledge and respect its Indigenous history
- The island is cottage country for people in the city without cottages
- The Island will be a place you can stay overnight
- The Island will be a place to "come back" to
- The Island is an escape that allows people to connect to the land and to others in a respectful way

- The Island is a place people can escape to, to be close to nature and the water
- The Island is an escape, a place for solitude and quiet
- The island maintains its essential character
- The Island remains physically separated from the city
- "Take back"
- some of the Island's spaces and return them to nature
- Doesn't fundamentally change. Doesn't need to be "revitalized", just improved
- The Toronto Island will be a place where all Toronto youth can learn about nature and natural sciences
- The Island is a sanctuary for wildlife
- Incorporates a model like the Interpretation staff in the National Park system
- Will be a place that inspires people to act as 'stewards' of the land
- A place to enjoy nature
- The Island has Bike Share docks
- The Island has improved ferry access
- The Island is a place highly accessible by water (canoe and kayak)
- and equally accessible?
- The Island is easily accessible all year round
- The island is a connected park that is easier to get around
- The Island is a place people want to explore with more boat and bike rental facilities
- The island has improved ferry access
- Non-motorized transit, motorized public transit
- Kayak share across the inner harbour

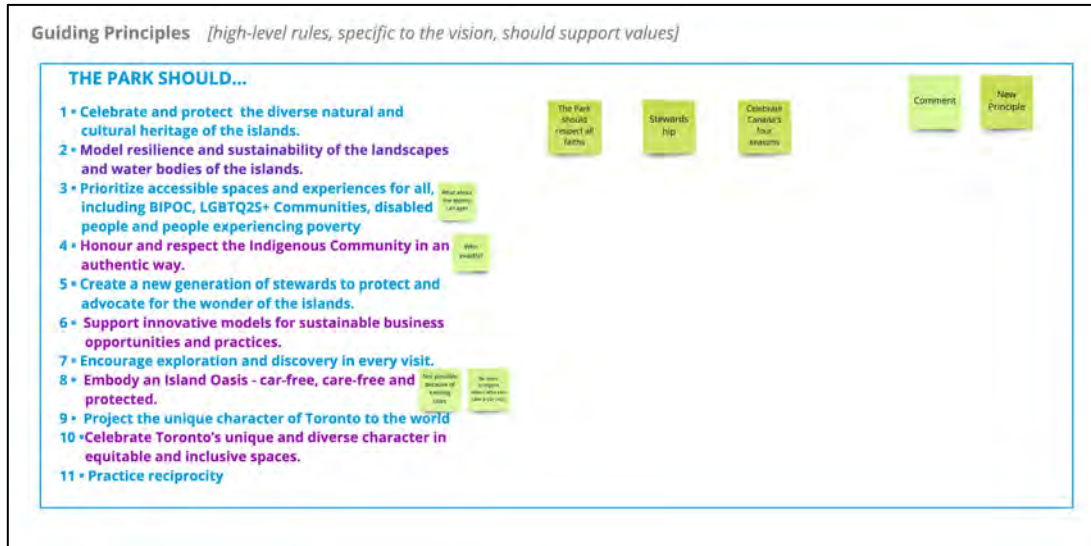
Values



Transcript

- New VALUE: Accessibility
- How it manifests:
 - Let the Land lead
 - Ensure the Island is an authentic experience (i.e. Tiki Taxi is not authentic)
 - Establish standards through City contracts & licensing agreements
 - Ensure the Island is sustainable
 - Make the Island affordable to people
 - Prioritize safety
 - Control motorized traffic
 - Make the Island affordable to people
 - Make the Island a place dedicated to local small businesses: farmers markets, food etc.
 - Avoid monopolies
 - A more welcoming (less hostile) environment for small businesses
 - Equitable transportation plan for getting to the Island
 - More city-side ports
 - Better integrate the ferry service into the wider transportation system
 - Keep the Island vehicle-free (vehicles are creeping in)

Guiding Principles

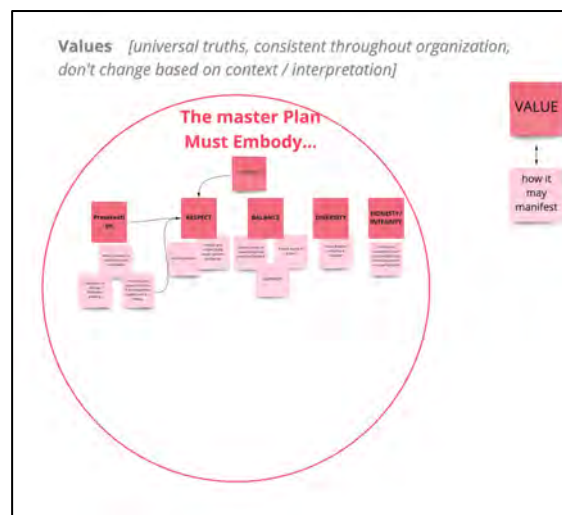


Transcript

- The Park should respect all faiths
- Stewardship
- Celebrate Canada's four seasons
- what about the elderly/all ages
- Indigenous: who exactly

Breakout Room 5

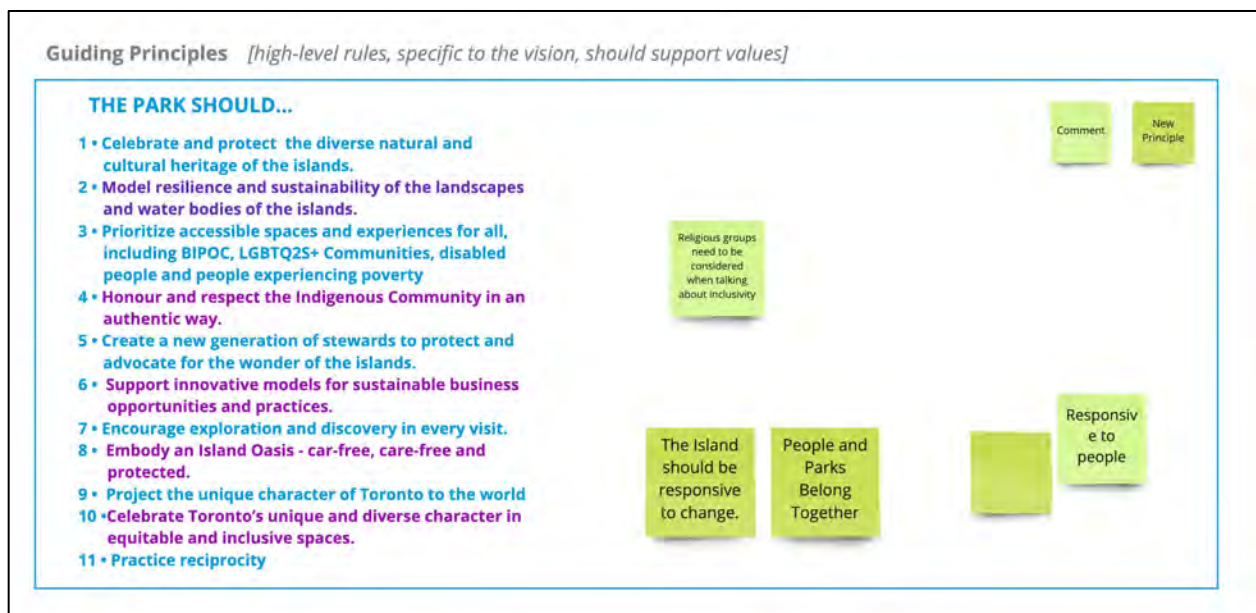
Values



Transcript

- Preservation
- Honesty/integrity
- HARMONY
- What is created, is maintained and sustainable.
- Openness to change. Malleable, evolving.
- Preserves and respects History. It is the past that made it what it is today
- Community, ecosystems over commercialism/commercialization/consumerism/profit

Guiding Principles



Transcript

- Religious groups need to be considered when talking about inclusivity
- The Island should be responsive to change
- People and Parks Belong Together

Breakout 6

Vision

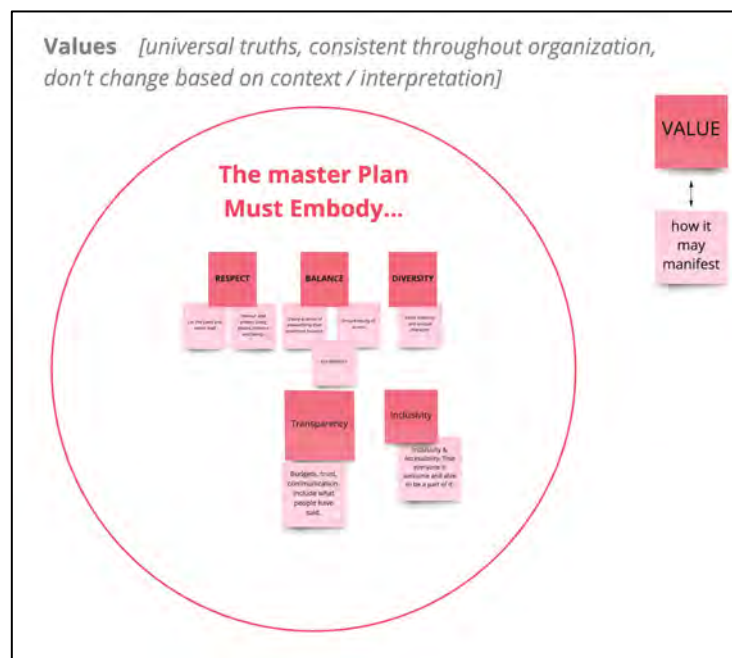


Transcript

- Where children can feel free and safe.
- Will be vehicle free
- Will continue to be an open space to run in and enjoy.
- Will have a central area for activity. It spirals out to areas that are preserved, natural and sacred.
- Will be a place that people will always have to enjoy without costing a lot of money.
- A place for people who don't have the luxury of their own cottages, etc.
- A place for people to visit
- Will be a place of respect for all on the Island.
- Open space, to be able to run. Don't have to worry about traffic.
- Toronto already has ravines...
- Will be Toronto's example of reconciliation (to the rest of Canada)
- Will be a reflection of the Indigenous Medicine Wheel quadrants
- Will be a place of placekeeping and ceremony (thinking about nature, sky, water)

- Will reflect the culture and history of Indigenous community
- Have a place for Indigenous ceremony.
- Will feel like a grounding place to Torontonians
- A place where you can reflect on where you are.
- will reflect the ideas of the people

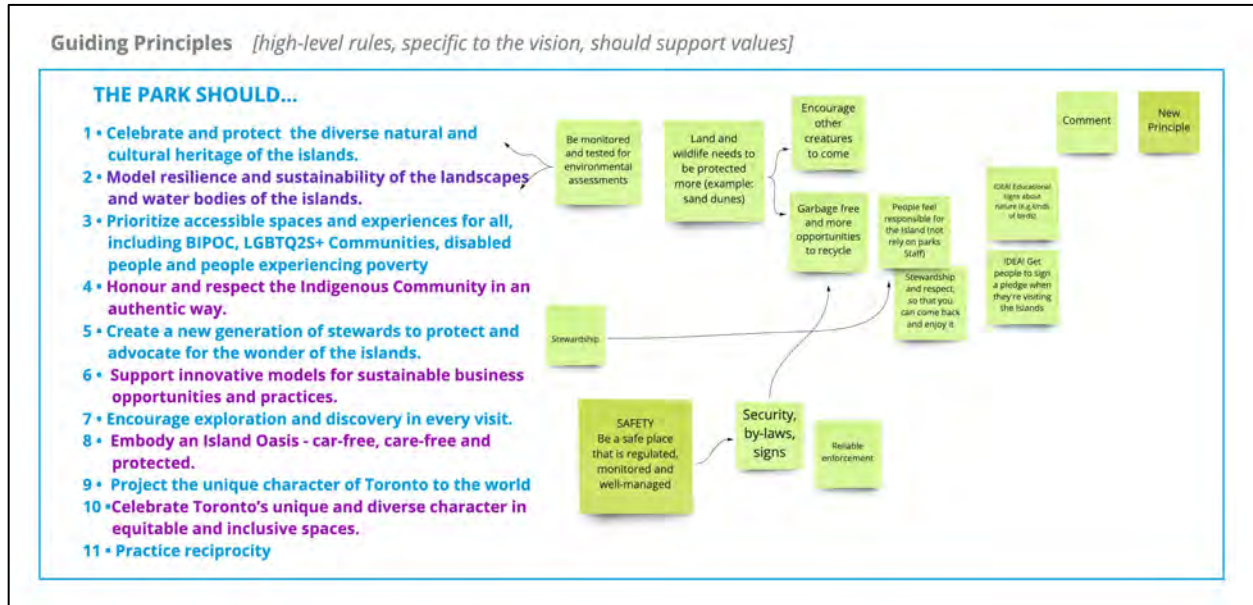
Values



Transcript

- Transparency
- Budgets, trust, communication, include what people have said
- Inclusivity
- Inclusivity and accessibility: that everyone is welcome and able to be a part of it

Guiding Principles

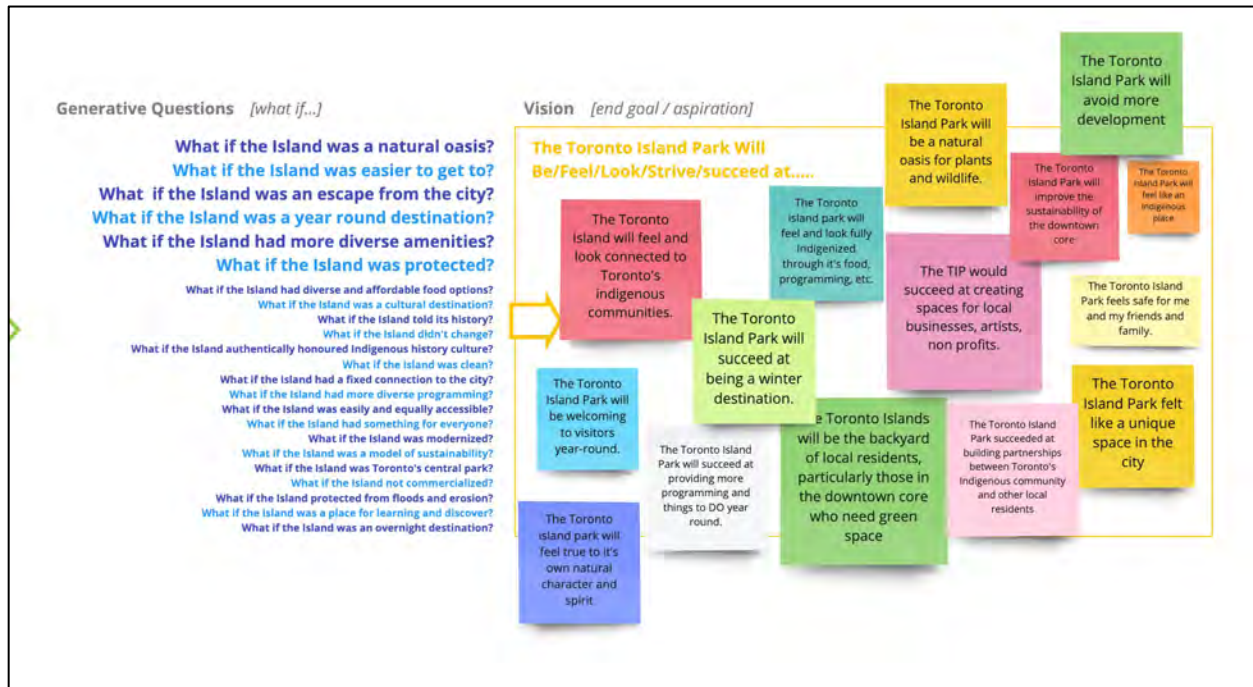


Transcript

- Safety: be a safe place that is regulated monitored and well managed
- Be monitored and tested for environmental assessments
- Stewardship
- Land and wildlife needs to be protected more (example: sand dunes)
- Encourage other creatures to come
- Garbage free and more opportunities to recycle
- Security, by laws, and signs
- Reliable enforcement
- People feel responsible for the island (not rely on parks staff)
- Stewardship and respect so that you can come back and enjoy it
- IDEA: educational signs about nature (ie. Kinds of birds)
- IDEA: get people to sign a pledge when they visit the islands

Breakout Room 7

Vision

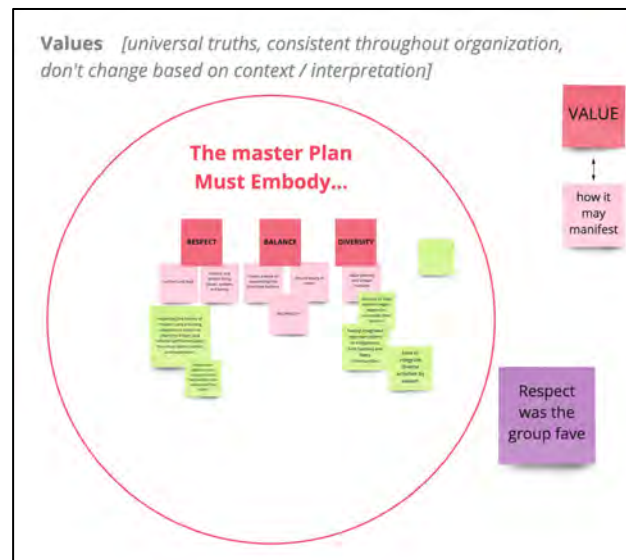


Transcript

- The Toronto Island Park will be welcoming to visitors year-round.
- The Toronto Island will feel and look connected to Toronto's indigenous communities.
- The Toronto island park will feel true to it's own natural character and spirit
- The Toronto Island Park will succeed at being a winter destination.
- The Toronto island park will feel and look fully Indigenized through it's food, programming, etc.
- The Toronto Islands will be the backyard of local residents, particularly those in the downtown core who need green space
- The Toronto Island Park will be a natural oasis for plants and wildlife.
- The TIP would succeed at creating spaces for local businesses, artists, non profits.
- The Toronto Island Park succeeded at building partnerships between Toronto's Indigenous community and other local residents

- The Toronto Island Park will improve the sustainability of the downtown core
- The Toronto Island Park will avoid more development
- The Toronto Island Park will feel like an Indigenous place
- The Toronto Island Park felt like a unique space in the city
- The Toronto Island Park feels safe for me and my friends and family.
- The Toronto Island Park will succeed at providing more programming and things to DO year round.

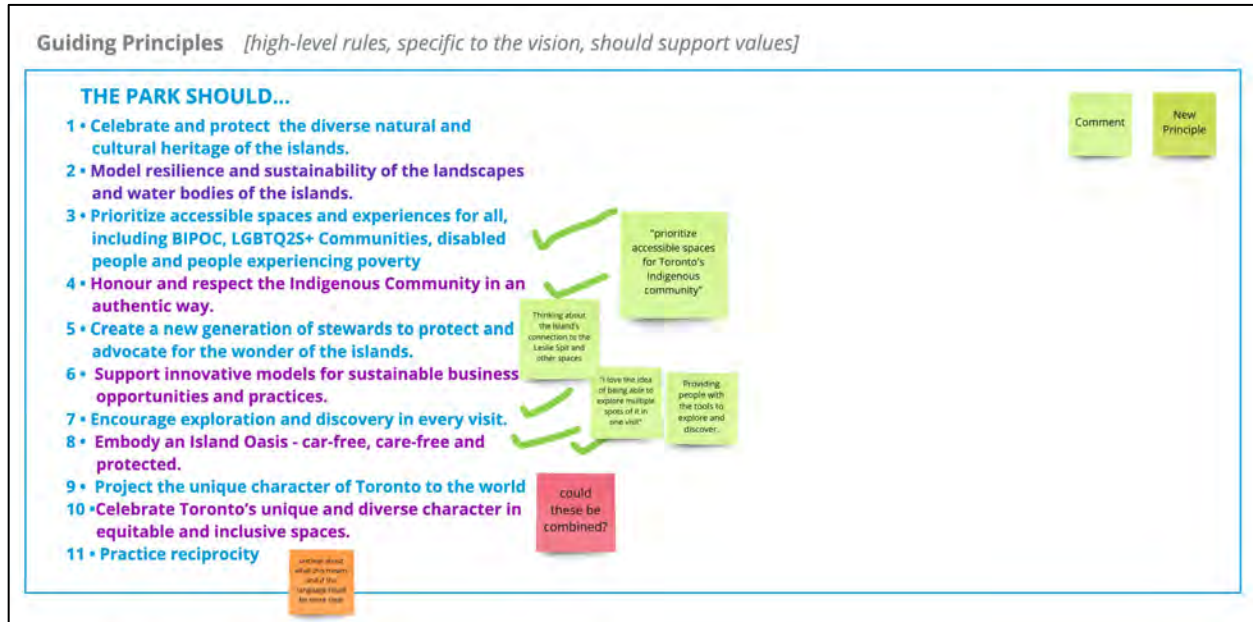
Values



Transcript

- respecting the history of the land - and providing education to visitors to share this history and cultural significance (using the entire island journey and experience)
- educational platforms and programs that help people to be stewards of the island
- diversity of food options (vegan, vegetarian, accessible food options)
- having integrated representations of Indigenous, First Nations and Metis communities
- how to integrate diverse activities by season
- Respect
- was the group fave

Guiding Principles



Transcript

- "prioritize accessible spaces for Toronto's Indigenous community"
- Thinking about the Island's connection to the Leslie Spit and other spaces
- "I love the idea of being able to explore multiple spots of it in one visit"
- Providing people with the tools to explore and discover.
- Could these be combined? (9&10)
- unclear about what this means and if the language could
- be more clear (11)

Breakout Room 8

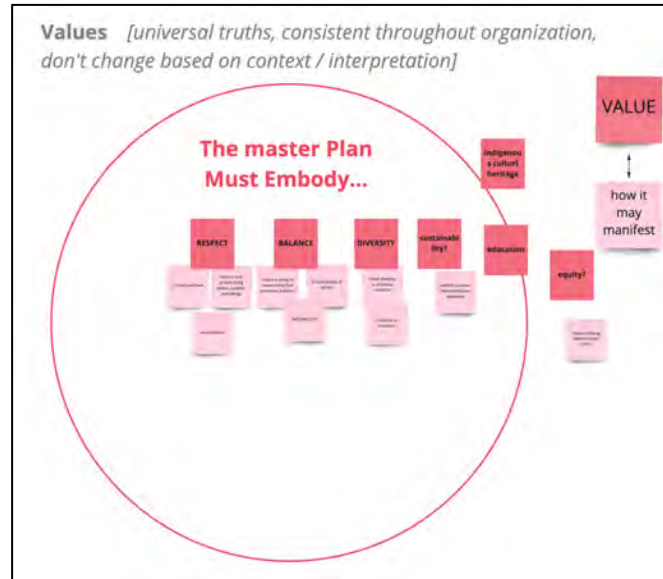
Vision



Transcript

- recognizing indigenous land
- celebrate storied history - including creative communities
- accessibility - balance
- access to island - balance tourists with nature and protected areas - what is the carrying capacity
- preserve island as a protected area for wildlife experience - treating it like an ecosystem - environment, community, recreation
- breaking barriers to be inclusive equitable for BIPOC, racialized minorities, representative of cultural diversity
- supporting local business - small food vendors
- looking at different languages - without QR codes
- Food security on the island - shipping containers - to provide healthier options in
- year round destination
- encourage visitors to be stewards
- hierarchy of systems - leave not trace essence of the island and how we can lean into it - nature preserve / natural environment

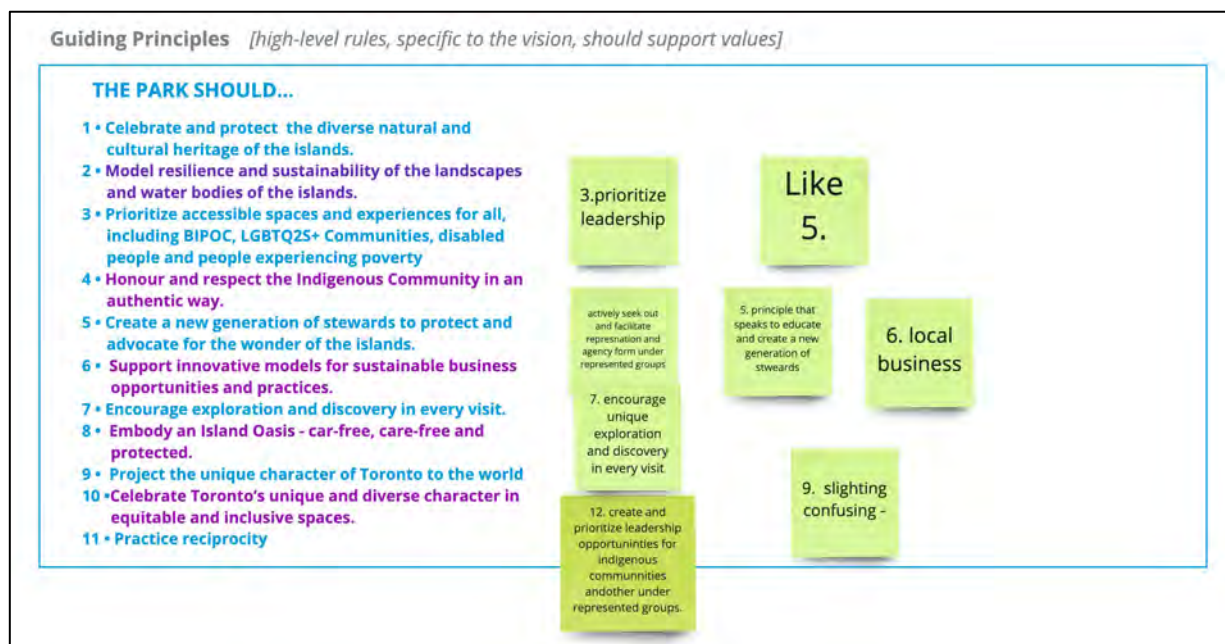
Values



Transcript

- Reconciliation
- Inclusive to everybody
- Wildlife, business, recreation users, ecosystem
- NEW values: Sustainability, equity?, indigenous cultural heritage

Guiding Principles



Transcript

- 3. Prioritize leadership
- Like 5.
- Actively seek out and facilitation representation and agency from underrepresented groups
- 7. Encourage unique exploration and discovery in every visit
- 12. (new) create and prioritize leadership opportunities for indigenous communities and other under represented groups
- 5. Principle that speaks to educate and create a new generation of stewards
- 9. Slightly confusing
- 6. Local business