

monumental

Action Plan for Toronto's Culture Sector

Town Halls, Feb 15 & 22, 2024



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Welcome to the Culture Plan Town Hall

We're so glad you're here. Thank you for joining us.

We'll get started very soon.



Info about Virtual Engagement



Participants will be on mute until the breakout group discussions.



Have questions? Use the Q&A function to ask questions to the organizers.

Need tech support? Send a direct message on Zoom to “Jao - tech support”..

Need accessibility support? Send a direct message to “kumari - accessibility support”.



Cameras are optional (and encouraged!).



Computer audio issues? Use your cell-phone for audio by calling **+1 647 374 4685**

- Enter meeting number 206 452 3486 and #
- Enter the passcode 147611

Meet the team

Engagement consultant:
monumental

In collaboration with:



Photos above of Monumental team:

Top row (left to right) Zahra Ebrahim, Seema Jethalal, Kofi Hope, Sara Udow

Bottom row (left to right): Trina Moyan, Ameer Idreis, Jao Dantes

Agenda

- Welcome & land acknowledgements
- What to expect today
- Musical performance - Zaki Ibrahim
- About the Culture Plan - City of Toronto
- Engagement Approach - Monumental
- Guest speakers share one dream for Toronto
- Breakout groups! (approx 1 hour)
- Closing remarks & next steps

cultureplan@toronto.ca

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Janisa

Musical Performance
for February 15

@janisaquoi

Janisa, pictured above, is standing on the beach in a deep blue dress, with long braids over one shoulder. She is holding an acoustic guitar.



Zaki Ibrahim is pictured above standing against a brick wall, wearing a black collared shirt with a gold sequin square on the front. She is a light skinned bi-racial woman with South African, British and Scottish roots. She has short black hair and wears a gold sun-shaped stud in her left ear.

Zaki Ibrahim

Musical Performance
for February 22

@zatakiwon

City of Toronto Remarks

- Project background
- What will the plan look like
- Why now?
- Project timeline
- How is the plan being developed?

Project background

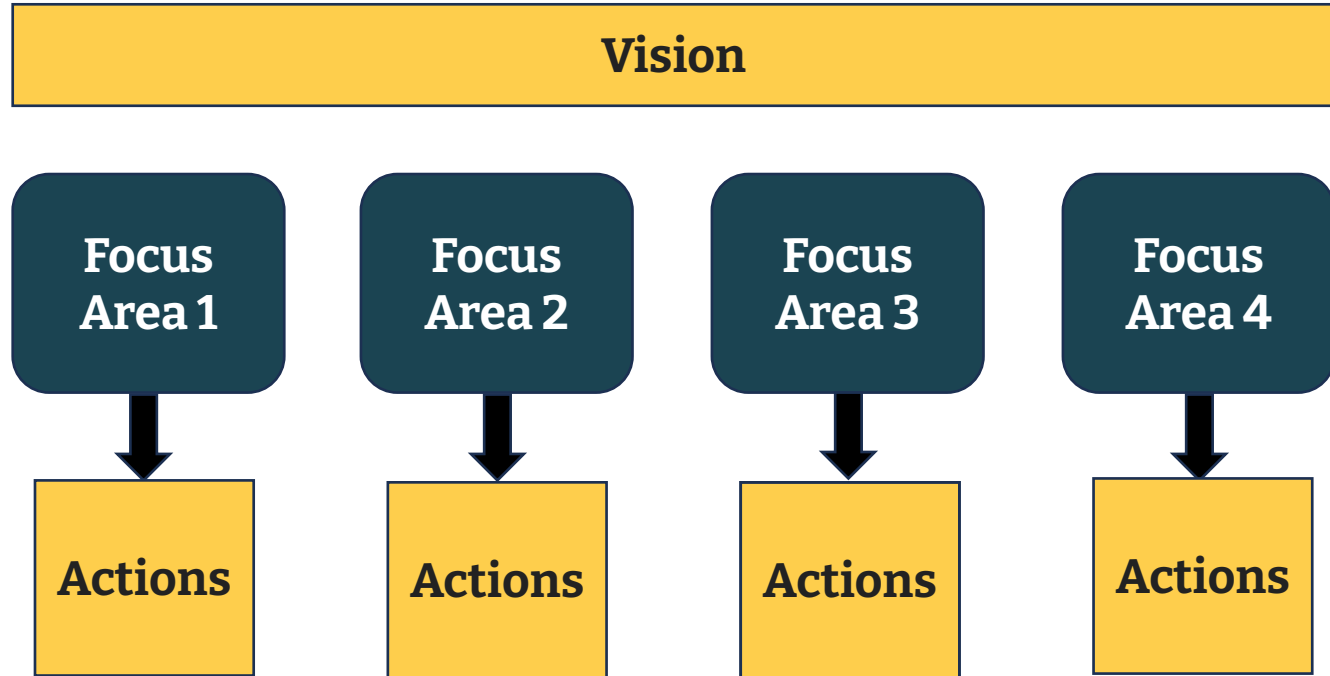
The Action Plan for Toronto's Culture Sector will set an ambitious ten-year vision to support culture in Toronto – including supports for artists and organizations, and for all residents to experience culture in the city.

- Definition of culture encompassing all of City/Toronto Arts Council's mandate, to include the arts, museums and heritage sites, and film and entertainment industries

Why now?

- Shift in policy priorities since adoption of the City's last Culture Plan, "Creative Capital Gains" (2011), with key goals of plan achieved, including:
 - ✓ Increasing arts funding by close to 50% since 2012
 - ✓ Establishing two new Local Arts Service Organizations, with the support of the Toronto Arts Foundation
 - ✓ Expanding access to programming outside the downtown core
 - ✓ New supports for music and film industry
- Emerging from the pandemic, culture in Toronto is at a moment of renewal and change. Culture in Toronto is also facing pressing challenges related to affordability and sustainability, and we need an ambitious new plan to help culture thrive.

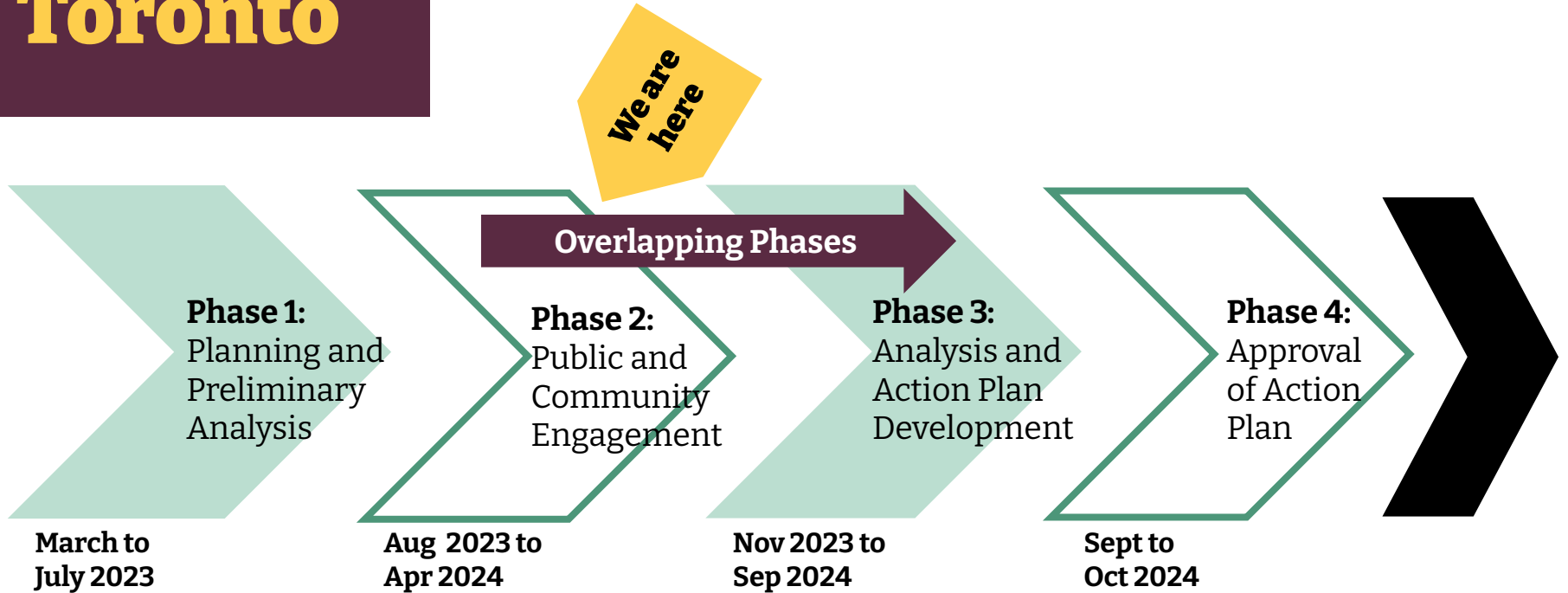
What will the plan look like?



How is the plan being developed?

- Comprehensive **sector and jurisdictional research**, completed in partnership with University of Toronto's School of Cities
- **Inclusive community engagement process**, led by Monumental Projects
- **External advisory panel** of 22 community leaders providing advice on plan development, and strategies for engagement
- Developed alongside new **Action Plan for Toronto's Economy**, and building on findings of other recent City and TAC engagements

Project timeline



External Advisory Panel

Co-Chairs

- maxine bailey
- Councillor Shelley Carroll

Members

- Barry Hughson
- Celia Smith
- Channon Oyeniran
- Cheryl Thompson
- David Norsworthy
- Devyani Saltzman
- Lucie Lalumière
- Jacoba Knaapen
- Kerry Swanson
- Keziah Myers
- Mark Campbell
- Marta Keller Hernandez
- Michael Rubinoff
- Paola Gomez
- Rajni Perera
- Ravi Jain
- Sariena Luy
- Sean Lee
- Stephan Jost
- Umair Jaffar

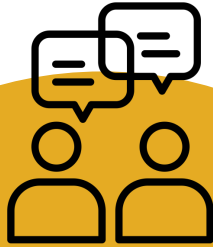
Monumental Remarks

- Our approach
- Overview of the process
- Key challenges & priorities we've heard so far
- Opportunities to get involved



Our Approach

The Process



Stream 1: Targeted Sector Engagement

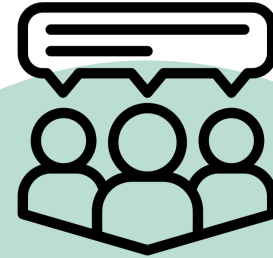
8 Community Conversations

1 Follow-Up Workshop



2 Virtual Town Halls

1 Online Survey



Stream 2: Broad Public Engagement

1 Community Conversation Toolkit

5 Creative Engagements



What we've been hearing...

Some of what we've been hearing...

- Address the affordability crisis
- Address critical live and work space issues
- Improve the process of accessing funding
- Create space for connection
- Expand the definition of culture

“What is one dream you have for culture in Toronto?” Speakers for February 15 Town Hall



Source: [tiff.net](https://www.tiff.net)

Cameron Bailey is wearing thick-rimmed black and clear eyeglasses, a maroon blazer, and a blue polo.



Photo credit: [Rihab Essayh](#)
Source: [phi.ca](https://www.phi.ca)

Rajni Perera is posed in front of a painting wearing a short-sleeve black top and an orange necklace. Rajni's hair is parted in the middle and tied back.



Photo credit: [Felicia Byron Photography](#)

Sean Lee, a male-presenting East-Asian Chinese person smiles at the camera. He wears steampunk circle glasses that are brown with gold frames, and has wavy dark brown hair that pools at his shoulders.

“What is one dream you have for culture in Toronto?”

Speakers for February 22 Town Hall



Photo credit: Chris Ferreiras

Leila Fatemi is posed in front of a wall featuring several blue-hued artworks. Leila is looking over their shoulder wearing a white top, a beige head garment. Hair frame their face.



Photo credit: Felicia Byron Photography

Sean Lee, a male-presenting East-Asian Chinese person smiles at the camera. He wears steampunk circle glasses that are brown with gold frames, and has wavy dark brown hair that pools at his shoulders..



Photo credit: George Pimentel

maxine bailey is posed wearing thick-rimmed black glasses, a black top garment, and a ring on their finger. They have white short hair and red lipstick.



Now we want to hear from you!
(Breakout Groups)

Breakout Groups

Discussion 1:

What's on your mind regarding culture in Toronto?

(What's hard or not working well? What's keeping you up at night?)

Discussion 2:

Let's dream about Toronto's future. Imagine the year is 2034.

If the culture plan addresses your challenges, what could Toronto look like in 10 years?

Breakout Groups

Community Agreements

- **EVERY VOICE IS VALUED:** Let's give everyone the chance to speak and share the space equally.
- **ASSUMPTIONS:** Don't make assumptions about people's pronouns, identities, experiences or backgrounds.
- **"I" STATEMENTS:** Speak on behalf of only yourself and not of others.
- **RESPECT:** Each other's opinions, differences, and ideas
- **PARTICIPATE:** Take ownership of this space and enjoy the dialogue!

Hate speech and discriminatory language will not be tolerated throughout our session. If this occurs, we reserve the ability to remove you from the Zoom altogether.



Reflections, closing & next steps

www.toronto.ca/cultureplan



Thank you!

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