

Summary Report: Second Meeting with Six Nations of the Grand River

Queen's Park North Revitalization
Engagement Phase 2: Exploring Design Options
December 18, 2025



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Introduction

On December 18th, the City of Toronto held their second meeting with the Six Nations of the Grand River to share and seek feedback on emerging design ideas for the Queen's Park North revitalization project and continue discussions about the relationship between the Six Nations of the Grand River and the City as the project continues. This summary was written by Third Party Public and shared with participant for review before being finalized.

Attendance

Six Nations of the Grand River.

Queen's Park North Revitalization Project team: City of Toronto Parks & Recreation, Janet Rosenberg & Studio (JRS), Trophic Design, Third Party Public.

For more information about the project and to review summaries from previous community engagement activities, visit the project webpage:
toronto.ca/QueensParkNorth

Meeting Summary

The Queen's Park North team presented slides reviewing the feedback received through the consultation process to date, the final vision and guiding principles for the park (that have been updated based on feedback received), the status of reporting to City Council, and the emerging design ideas. Slides from the meeting have been shared with Six Nations.

In response to the ideas shared, participants at the meeting shared the following feedback:

Note that text in italics represents comments shared by the Queen's Park North Revitalization team.

- 1. Support for the emerging design ideas.** Participants said that at a high level, they are pleased with the overall direction emerging. They said the concepts and ideas are consistent with what had been shared during the first meeting and there are no unpleasant surprises or major concerns. There was also appreciation that the more granular design stages are still to come, which is when more detailed ideas could be discussed (e.g., opportunity for a counter-statue of a First Nations person). *The Queen's Park North team shared their intention to stay in touch with Six Nations for the long-term, including opportunities for collaborating and/or co-creation of elements of the park, based on the interests and availability of Six Nations. Future discussions are also anticipated related to Indigenous stewardship and governance.*
- 2. Several suggestions were shared, including:**
 - Understory vegetation – public education important. Consider how the community may react to seeing unmowed lawns (i.e., people may complain). To minimize the potential negative response, have strong community education / signage explaining why there will be areas of the park where the grass will intentionally not be cut as well as signage for plant identification. In time, pollinator plantings and the existing meadow will play host to many butterflies and bird species and people will want to be part of this park space.
 - Understory vegetation – limit encroachment. Consider making the line between the mowed and unmowed lawn areas very clear (to minimize the potential for encroachment when the lawns are being mowed) and anticipate desire lines.
 - Understory vegetation – integrate walkways and pathways. Encourage walking on pathways within the meadows and signage to remain on the pathway to enjoy the beauty of the future growth. This worked well at Chiefswood Park (though unfortunately this new growth has since been removed because of new development).
 - Vegetation. Consider having different flowering plants for each part of the season (including late season blooming such as Goldenrod);
 - Treewalk. Carefully select materials to reduce the risk of wildlife entanglement in the structure.
 - Food forest. It may be useful to research experiences in other cities where fruit trees have been removed because the uneaten fruits attract wasps. Public education would

again be helpful here, to help the public understand the benefits of a “messy” park (e.g., the ecological benefits of crushed fallen fruits).

Interest in when the property was acquired for the Provincial Parliament Buildings. *The team noted that the part opened in 1860 and the Province acquired the southern portion of the park for the provincial legislature in 1886.*

Next Steps

Six Nations identified many potential people to connect with, including the Six Nations Consultation team, Lands and Resources Research staff, Ecology and Wildlife research team, the Development Corporation, Kayanase, and others.

The Queen’s Park North team will be refining the design ideas informed by engagement feedback and additional research and study. The refined design thinking will be shared in February 2026. The City looks forward to ongoing discussions with the Six Nations of the Grand River.