



## ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

### Future Owen Sound—Vision 2050

Developed by Jay Pitter Placemaking  
April 2025

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## Introduction

This report provides an overview of engagement processes, methodology and key findings from multiple community and municipal engagement activities conducted for the Future Owen Sound—Vision 2050 Strategic planning process.

Throughout the Future Owen Sound—Vision 2050 project, there have been various opportunities for community members to engage in the process at different stages and through different means. This included identifying opportunities and challenges, providing initial comments on priorities, learning from community experts, brainstorming strategic actions and more.

Methods have included surveys, in-person workshops and online message boards. Additionally, efforts were made to reach specific groups such as individuals who are recipients of social services, children/youth and the local business community, with modifications made to tailor engagement activities to these groups. Overall, engagement activities reached a broad cross-section of the community, including groups often underrepresented in traditional engagement. For example, nearly one third of public survey respondents indicated they were part of an equity-seeking group.

The feedback from these activities will form the basis of a draft Future Owen Sound—Vision 2050 Strategic Plan, which will be delivered to the City of Owen Sound in May 2025.



Attending the seven collaborative visioning sessions was an inspiring experience, highlighted by remarkable community participation. Your voices helped us understand the issues and identify solutions, ensuring that Vision 2050 is based on meaningful input and provides a roadmap that truly represents our city's needs and aspirations.”

— Mayor Ian Boddy, Owen Sound



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## Community Engagement Approach and Initiatives

In order to collect feedback from a broad and diverse group of community members as well as go deeper into the identified priority areas of the Future Owen Sound—Vision 2050 Strategic Plan, we launched a variety of community engagement initiatives.

Each initiative was chosen to seek out information and feedback or to co-create actions at different stages of the process, depending on what inputs were needed at that time. The initiatives were designed to flow into each other, supporting the next stage of the process with critical community and City staff input.

The Future Owen Sound—Vision 2050 planning process included the following five primary community engagement initiatives, which we unpack further below:

1. Strategic Plan Survey
2. Business Engagement Workshop
3. Community Capacity-Building Workshops (City Staff, 10 Local Municipalities and Community Stakeholders)
4. Strategic Planning Sessions
5. Campaign Community Photoshoot

Additionally, because our approach is predicated on equity, creativity and capacity-building, we also undertook additional community engagement initiatives, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Coordinating and co-hosting (in collaboration with Trish Meekins) an informal lunch with leaders and knowledge keepers of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation, primarily Chippewas of Nawash, as members of the Saugeen First Nation were unavailable.
- Preparing a media strategy and liaising with City staff in Communications to provide, and advise on, text for media releases and project updates.
- Reaching out to local non-profit organizations and their leadership to set up conversations and meetings to brief them on the project and upcoming engagement process to receive feedback and learn about how they may want to be involved.
- Speaking with members of the City's Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee on ways they could get involved in the process directly and assist with engagement.
- Developing a 1,000+ community stakeholder list, in conjunction with City staff and Committee members, of local organizations and leaders who may be able to assist in promoting engagement opportunities.
- Creating a Community Advisory Committee of local residents to provide space for involvement outside of the City's official Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee.
- Conducting an extensive comparative review of existing local research undertaken by organizations such as Community Foundation Grey Bruce, the Owen Sound Police Service and the RentSafe Owen Sound Collaborative to assist in analyzing results from the public survey.



- Devising and implementing two community engagement capacity-building sessions for community stakeholders and City staff along with 75+ attendees across 10 neighbouring municipalities regarding inclusive engagement practices ahead of the Strategic Planning Sessions.
- Partnering with the University of Toronto's Urban Studies program to enhance the process through student-led research, resulting in clear definitions, precedents (local and broader) and facts aligned with the strategic priority themes identified by community stakeholders.

All formal and informal initiatives and interactions have been carefully considered and will contribute to the development of The Future Owen Sound—Vision 2050 Strategic Plan.

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## Community Engagement Collaborators

The following individuals and organizations played an integral role in ensuring that the Future Owen Sound—Vision 2050 engagements were a success:

Thank you to members of the City of Owen Sound's Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee, including: Mayor Ian Boddy, Deputy Mayor Scott Greig, Councillor Suneet Kukreja, Councillor Marion Koepke, Steve Lowe, Trish Meekins, Jennifer Smith and Clark MacFarlane.

Thank you as well to community champions who have provided important and ongoing support for this project, from helping to amplify the public survey to co-facilitating a Strategic Vision Session, including: Pat Kelly, Aly Boltman, Jan Chamberlain, Pauline Dantas, Michael Den Tandt, Lori Elliott, Jon Farmer, Carol Merton, Joel Pennington, Robert Rice, Kat Lindsay Scott, Jill Umbach, Stuart Reid and Police Chief Craig Ambrose. Additionally, thank you to singers Diana Meekins and Shea Whalen for sharing their talent during one of the sessions.

Thank you to leaders and knowledge keepers from the Saugeen Ojibway Nation, specifically Chippewas of Nawash, for sharing their time and expertise.

Thank you to the media and local organizations that shared our call for respondents to complete the survey and that provided information about the Strategic Planning Sessions. Also, thank you to the Owen Sound & District Chamber of Commerce for co-organizing the Business Engagement Sessions and to educator David Reitzel for supporting youth engagement during the public survey.

Thank you to Daniel Fusca, Sessional Lecturer at the University of Toronto, as well as to his Urban Studies students, who were key to the success of the Strategic Planning Sessions by undertaking research and notetaking. Students included Braeden Carroll, Daniel Endale, Diana Arsagova, Eric Fallas, Isabel Sagermann, Jake Karpouzis, Jamie Yu, Kayla Tillekeratne, Love Princess Co, Marcus Lee, Sabrina binti Shahidan, Sarah Mehler, Shehzeena Khan, Yanghong (Ella) Jing and Yi En Wang.

Finally, thank you to City of Owen Sound staff members Michelle Palmer (Senior Manager, Strategic Initiatives and Operational Effectiveness) and Carly McArthur (Communications Advisor) for their immense support, expertise and daily dedication to advancing this project in close collaboration with Jay Pitter Placemaking.



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## By The Numbers

- 1,000 survey respondents
- 5,000+ survey qualitative responses received
- 50 local business leaders and entrepreneurs engaged
- 75+ municipal staff and 58 community participants in Community Capacity-Building workshops
- 200+ attendees across seven Strategic Planning Sessions, including community members, City staff and elected officials
- 8 community leaders engaged as co-facilitators
- 14,500 reached through media publications
- 8,000+ people reached through municipal mailing lists

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## What We Heard: Key Highlights

While additional summaries of what we heard in specific engagement initiatives can be found in other sections of this report, overall key feedback included the following:

- Focus attention on revitalizing the downtown as well as the waterfront area, including supporting existing businesses, reducing vacant storefronts and providing new recreational amenities in an environment that is safer, cleaner and more beautiful for everyone.
- Increase local economic development and job creation opportunities by attracting new industries with stable, well-paying jobs as well as ensuring educational opportunities and workforce development programs are in place to both train new workers and retain and attract youth who may otherwise leave the community.
- Provide more support for individuals experiencing homelessness and navigating drug addiction and mental health issues, including social service support through partnerships with existing organizations and diverting calls from police services to other agencies if resources permit.
- Explore the creation of more affordable housing options, including for renters, first-time home buyers and those experiencing homelessness, which could take the form of incentive programs to encourage multi-unit housing development.
- Support and showcase local arts and culture (Indigenous artists, arts collectives, grassroots artists, institutions like Tom Thomson Art Gallery) to uplift homegrown talent, while also encouraging visitors to the community and growing the city's local economy.
- Promote more tourism in Owen Sound by better highlighting the city's natural attractions, local arts and culture, food scene and multiple festivals.
- Improve transportation options in the city—and connections to nearby municipalities and First Nations communities—through investments in better bus service, more connected cycling and pedestrian infrastructure, and better promotion of active transportation (cycling and walking) options.



- Create more opportunities, and clarify existing avenues, for residents to engage with the city, including providing input into developments and other projects, understanding city processes and areas of influence (e.g., committee selection), and connecting non-governmental organizations and groups doing work in similar areas.
- Expand climate change mitigation and resilience initiatives by focusing on moving the city's climate action plan forward as well as increasing naturalization opportunities (e.g., native/resilient plantings and increasing the tree canopy), encouraging green infrastructure development and incentivizing/investing in sustainable development.

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## Strategic Plan Survey

To kick off the project, we launched the Vision 2050 Strategic Plan Public Survey—an information-gathering exercise to understand community priorities, challenges and opportunities. The survey was designed to reach a broad section of the community, including residents of Owen Sound and those who visit, study or work in Owen Sound. Additionally, the survey was used to “test” the previous City of Owen Sound's Strategic Plan priorities by creating an opportunity for community stakeholders to rank those priorities based on relevancy, contribute to their definition and identify any missing priorities.

### Approach

In order to ensure the survey reached a broad section of the population, including groups that are often under-represented in surveys, we deployed a number of inclusive methods, including:

- Providing an online and paper-based survey option, including four mobile survey stations for receiving paper-based surveys (City Hall, Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre, Julie McArthur Regional Recreation Centre, Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library).
- Working with members of the City's Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee as well as a group of community advisors to promote, distribute, and ensure broad and diverse representation in survey results.
- Amplifying the survey through local media outlets, the City's social media channels and non-profit organizations who distributed the survey link to their stakeholders.
- Posting paper posters that included survey information, a web address and a QR code that directed people to the appropriate site to complete the survey.
- Ensuring youth representation by creating a special Children's Survey, and also working with educational and recreation partners to ensure both student completion of the Public Survey and youth-under-eighteen completion of the Children's Survey.
- Working with social service organizations to encourage completion of the survey by social service recipients, including providing paper-based surveys onsite.



Approximately 1,000 community stakeholders responded to the Public Survey, which included over 5,000 comments/qualitative feedback to five open-ended questions. Additionally, the survey reached a diverse cross-section of the community in terms of age, income and Owen Sound residency, with approximately one third of respondents identifying as being from an equity-seeking group.

The full results of the survey, including a breakdown of demographics, were included in the Future Owen Sound—Vision 2050 Survey Report, which was published in September 2024 and presented to the City's Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee.

Key feedback included:

- Addressing issues related to poverty, homelessness, drug use and the fostering of safer spaces, particularly in the downtown area.
- Encouraging a more affordable and economically strong community through job creation (e.g., trades, industrial sector, healthcare), local business development and affordable housing initiatives, while supporting youth/families to remain in, or relocate to, Owen Sound through more educational and workforce opportunities.
- Building on existing cultural assets in Owen Sound by supporting more local talent and events/programming, attracting more tourists to Owen Sound and promoting the city's food, music and arts scene.
- Ensuring the city's natural spaces and streetscapes, specifically the waterfront and downtown area, are clean, beautiful, lively and well-maintained, both for the enjoyment of residents and as a way to encourage economic prosperity through tourism.
- Addressing congestion issues and providing more transportation options, including public transit, rideshare (e.g., Uber), and more walkable and bikeable streets.

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## Business Engagement Workshop

To ensure we understood the specific challenges and opportunities facing the local business community in Owen Sound, we co-organized a business engagement workshop with the City of Owen Sound and the Owen Sound & District Chamber of Commerce hosted at Mudtown. This event attracted 50 participants from various industries, large and small, who were led through a collective exercise to answer three specific questions:

- In addition to economic metrics, how would you define increased prosperity in Owen Sound?
- What is one current underrated resource/asset that is critical to acknowledge in order to build prosperity in Owen Sound?
- What is one key piece of social or physical infrastructure that the City needs to prioritize to build prosperity in Owen Sound?





## Approach

To ensure broad attendance from the business community from multiple sectors, methods included:

- Working with the City of Owen Sound as well as the Owen Sound & District Chamber of Commerce to send out invitations through their respective lists.
- Developing a few conversation prompts centred around the definition of prosperity, the needs of business leaders and shared aspirations.
- Scheduling the workshop after working hours in the early evening to allow for greater attendance.

Key feedback included:

- Ensuring a high quality of life in Owen Sound by going beyond economic metrics, including supporting people experiencing homelessness, welcoming newcomers and connecting them to job opportunities, and ensuring people feel socially integrated.
- Better supporting local industries/entrepreneurs, strengthening relationships with local First Nations communities on development opportunities, and revitalizing the waterfront and downtown area.
- Focusing on delivering great physical and social infrastructure to support a high quality of life and economic development, including healthcare services (e.g., walk-in clinics), affordable housing options, public washrooms and more services for youth and people experiencing homelessness.

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## Community Capacity-Building Workshops

As an additional measure of engagement—and to prepare City staff and the community for future workshops on the seven Strategic Priorities—two workshops were held in October 2024 that focused on building community capacity in terms of inclusive engagement.

Led by Jay Pitter, a municipal session was held during the day that was attended by 75+ City staff from Owen Sound and surrounding municipalities, while an open community session was held in the evening.

## Approach

- Issuing an invitation to municipal staff within and beyond the City of Owen Sound.
- Auditing the types and depth of community engagement currently undertaken in the region.
- Developing and devising a customized capacity-building session inclusive of principles, practice precedents and relevant local case studies.



Key feedback included:

- A growing desire by community stakeholders in the region to be more deeply involved in city-building and overall municipal decision-making processes.
- Receptivity to finding ways of engaging historically excluded and new demographics in the region.
- Challenges related to time and resources with respect to conducting deeper, more productive community engagement.
- Ideas exchange among participants pointing to positive local precedents and persistent challenges.

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## Strategic Planning Sessions

Held over three days in November 2024 (November 8 to 10), the Strategic Planning Sessions were in-person community and City staff workshops at City Hall that dove deeply into the seven Strategic Priorities to gather feedback regarding potential actions as well as resources to support those actions.

Seven workshops were scheduled for each of the Strategic Priorities at a different time of day. Community members were invited to sign up for three workshops, which were co-led by Jay Pitter and local community members who assisted in facilitation and provided specific local expertise. Overall, there were more than 200 attendees, including community members, City staff and elected officials, across the seven sessions.

Additionally, we partnered with the University of Toronto's Urban Studies program, where students helped create pre-session information briefs, set up sessions and take notes.

Each session included the following questions:

- What are some immediate-, mid- and long-term actions that could be taken to move the Strategic Priority forward? (i.e., What can happen in the next year? The next five years? The next ten?)
- Who are the community-based institutions/organizations and individuals with the expertise to support the implementation of these actions? (i.e., Who is best to lead the action? Who else should be involved?)
- What areas of growth or capacity building are required to effectively implement these actions? (i.e., Are there gaps in knowledge or skills that would prevent the action?)



## Approach

To ensure that participants were supported and that everyone at the session was able to start from the same base of knowledge, we undertook several steps, including:

- Distributing notice about the workshops widely across multiple platforms, including local media amplification, the City's social media channels and through a group of community advisors.
- Allowing community members to sign up for in-person workshops while launching an online forum on the City's Our City project page for each priority area so people could provide feedback online if preferable.
- Working alongside community members who assisted in co-facilitating the sessions and provided their own personal and professional expertise in certain priority areas.
- Ensuring an informed community engagement process by producing short informational briefs for each priority area created by University of Toronto Urban Studies students that included an overview of the priority area, academic research backing and precedents to help spark ideas about potential action areas. Students also took notes to ensure all feedback was captured.
- Integrating a mix of small and large group discussions, along with creative prompts and cards for private reflections, in order to respond to a diverse range of communication styles.

We received a large amount of well-informed, smart and creative feedback during each of the seven Strategic Planning Sessions for the Future Owen Sound—Vision 2050 Strategic Priorities. This feedback amounted to over 50 identified actions in total—some of which were overlapping and some of which were distinct—which we have synthesized into seven major themes below. The final Future Owen Sound—Vision 2050 Strategic Plan will provide distinct actions for each of the priority areas.

Major themes include:

- Ensuring Owen Sound is developing programs to retain existing residents—including youth, young families and workers—through educational opportunities, stable job creation and expanded social services, as well as bring new people to the city by increasing tourism and further developing natural and cultural attractions.
- Understanding the City's scope of influence regarding social issues facing the city and what types of policies and programs can be enacted at the City level or in collaboration with non-profit partners or other levels of government to ensure Owen Sound is safer, more affordable and more welcoming.
- Increasing collaborations and partnerships to respectfully leverage the expertise and capacity of local organizations as well as First Nations communities, nearby municipalities and other levels of government to address local challenges as well as unlock new opportunities for funding and knowledge-sharing.
- Developing a city that is accessible, both physically through its infrastructure as well as socially and culturally through programs and policies that ensure everyone can participate.



- Focusing on accountability, transparency and communication in engagement and decision-making so that residents feel informed and involved and understand the challenges and opportunities facing the city and the projects, policies and developments that are underway or being proposed.
- Preparing for a resilient city by addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation and ensuring new developments, parks and natural areas, city programs/policies and local transportation are viewed through a sustainability lens.
- Prioritizing the enhancement and maintenance of physical infrastructure in the city, including in the waterfront and downtown areas, while also focusing on transportation infrastructure that facilitates greater connectivity, walking and cycling.

Community-identified actions in the Strategic Vision Sessions were critical inputs, helping to understand areas of focus and influence. Notes from each of the seven sessions were synthesized to provide a long list of community actions for each priority area. These were then cross-referenced with both existing and forthcoming City plans and strategies and used as the basis on which to draft the final recommended actions for the Future Owen Sound—Vision 2050 Strategic Plan.

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## Campaign Community Photoshoot

A city's strategic plan is ultimately about its people. In order to showcase the community spirit of Owen Sound, we organized a campaign to take photos of Owen Sound residents for inclusion in the final Future Owen Sound—Vision 2050 Strategic Plan and to share on social media. We invited a group of people from diverse backgrounds to both participate in the photoshoot and to include a short message about what they hope for a future Owen Sound.

### Approach

- Working with the City's Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee as well as a group of Community Advisors to identify potential campaign participants, ensuring diverse representation from the community.
- Scheduling two sessions with a photographer at City Hall to accommodate different schedules.

While the campaign photoshoot was not an exercise in receiving official feedback on actions or priorities, we learned from the participants and their visions regarding the future of Owen Sound that people prioritized a city that was caring, sustainable and welcoming. The final photos will be incorporated into the Future Owen Sound—Vision 2050 Strategic Plan, but we also sent digital files of multiple versions of the photos to participants for their own personal use.



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## Evaluation

A key part of an inclusive engagement process is collecting feedback and learning from the process. Where possible, we distributed feedback surveys during sessions to collect participant feedback and reached out to collaborators, city leaders and co-facilitators to provide commentary on how the engagement experience impacted them.

It was clear that the breadth of engagement opportunities—from surveys to capacity-building workshops to action-oriented sessions—was valuable as a learning experience for the community, City leadership and community facilitators, in addition to providing critical input into shaping the Vision 2050 planning process.



The capacity building in the community engagement session led by Jay Pitter was thought provoking. Her varied experience and creative engagement style was energizing. The ideas and community engagement insight shared will be beneficial when planning and implementing future community input opportunities."

— Sherri Walden, Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Hanover



The Owen Sound & District Chamber of Commerce recognizes the City of Owen Sound's inclusive and forward-thinking approach for the Future Owen Sound—Vision 2050 initiative. The Chamber appreciated the emphasis on engaging the business community and leveraging their insights to drive economic growth and innovation. The Chamber is thankful for the City's efforts to ensure that local businesses play a vital role in shaping a prosperous and resilient future for Owen Sound."

— Owen Sound & District Chamber of Commerce

## Strategic Planning Session Co-Facilitator Evaluations

Working with community co-facilitators was a critical part of ensuring the Strategic Planning Sessions centred local expertise. We were fortunate to work with individuals who shared their professional and personal experience during the sessions by helping to relay informational briefs and guide conversation amongst fellow Owen Sound residents.

Feedback shows that this process was not only valuable for participants—who rated the sessions and the facilitators highly—but also for the facilitators themselves:



“

I learned that there are engaged, enthusiastic individuals in our community who want to contribute their time, skills, knowledge and/or resources, and the work that lies ahead of us is how and where those gifts are applied and what role our institutions play in facilitating that.”

— **Joel Pennington**, Founder of Pennington Consultancy and Co-Facilitator, Prosperous City and A City That Moves

“

I very much enjoyed working on the strategic planning sessions with Jay Pitter and the rest of the ad hoc committee. It was nice to see so many participants both from Owen Sound and surrounding areas. I especially appreciate the extra care and attention given to the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON) to discuss how we can show positive effort in terms of reconciliation, being that the SON members are rights holders to these ancestral lands.”

— **Trish Meekins**, Registered Social Worker and Indigenous Cultural Awareness Consultant and Co-Facilitator, Celebrating and Embracing Culture

“

It was exciting to be part of the respectful dialogue and sharing of ideas fostered during these engagement sessions. They gave me a better understanding of the roles of individuals and groups already doing amazing work in Owen Sound. This made me hopeful that with improved communication and coordination, we will be in a better position to tackle the big issues Owen Sound is facing, now and going forward.”

— **Jennifer Smith**, Registered Massage Therapist and Co-Facilitator, Green and Resilient City

“

The pride and potential for our town was evident; indeed, together, we are greater than our individual parts, and by working together and listening we can create positive and productive change.”

— **Pauline Dantas**, Career and Life Coach and Co-Facilitator, Fostering Mutually Beneficial and Respectful Relationships



“

It was a pleasure to co-facilitate the Safe City Community Engagement session with Police Chief Craig Ambrose. This event was an opportunity to connect and engage with the public directly to hear the community's ideas for our shared future as we work together for the benefit of all.”

— **Carol Merton**, City Councillor, Health Care Professional, Host and Co-Producer of Rogers TV Health Link and Co-Facilitator, Safe City

“

It was inspiring and a privilege to be part of the community engagement for Vision 2050. From my perspective as a facilitator, I could see that the participants in the process feel passionate about their city, they are grateful for the abundance they enjoy as citizens, and, most evidently, they feel a strong investment in Owen Sound's pathway to prosperity.”

— **Stuart Reid**, Executive Director, Community Foundation Grey Bruce and Co-Facilitator, Prosperous City

“

It was a real pleasure to co-facilitate the session on infrastructure with Jay and engage with my fellow residents on such an important topic. I was taken by the creativity, passion and desire to ensure our city has the infrastructure needed to be a connected and relatable community. I would like to thank the Mayor, Council and Jay for the opportunity.”

— **Clark MacFarlane**, Operator at The Wayfinding Group and Co-Facilitator, City-Building

## Strategic Vision Session Participant Evaluations

Following the Strategic Planning Sessions, participants were asked to complete a short, anonymous survey to collect feedback about the sessions. A strong majority of participants said the sessions were informative, clearly explained, meaningful and useful. For example, 81% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that the facilitator provided them with information that supported their participation in the session, and 77% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that the facilitators were knowledgeable and communicated ideas in a clear manner. Also, the vast majority of participants agreed or strongly agreed that the facilitators created space for their insights to be heard and valued and that the facilitators provided them with an opportunity to meaningfully exchange ideas with other community stakeholders.



In their written feedback, session participants expressed a sense of excitement and motivation to keep the process moving forward while adding that they will be keenly watching for implementation:

*"Let's get going! Involve community more in the planning and executing all these wonderful initiatives—keep information (sense of excitement) going. Thanks for all this new approach."*

*"This was a very positive and productive session."*

*"Now we wait for implementation."*

## University of Toronto Urban Planning Student Evaluations

In order to support the Strategic Planning Sessions and ensure they were grounded in academic research and precedents, we engaged with University of Toronto Urban Planning students in a class led by Daniel Fusca. The sessions were enriched by the students' participation and research, while students walked away from the sessions with valuable insights into the community engagement process, including inclusive facilitation techniques, leveraging of community expertise and adapting in the moment.



Jay took my students on as if they were part of her team. Not only did she train them through in-class workshops, sharing invaluable insights and practical knowledge with them, but she also generously mentored individual students and teams, patiently guiding them through what was, for many, their first professional experience. For them, I think the opportunity to work with her was eye-opening, offering an excellent introduction to the complexities of public engagement. Her guidance pushed them just outside their comfort zones, fostering both confidence and a deeper engagement with the subject matter. The impact of the experience was clear to me in how the students participated in class after returning from Owen Sound—more thoughtfully and energetically. Overall, this was both a unique opportunity and an invaluable experience that I believe the entire class was extremely grateful for."

— Daniel Fusca, Sessional Lecturer, University of Toronto



Participating in the Future Owen Sound public consultation session provided a valuable insight into community engagement, effective facilitation and the complexities of gathering diverse perspectives. The sessions reinforced the importance of intentional meeting design, adaptable facilitation and active listening in creating a productive and inclusive environment for collaboration."

— Student Participant

The Future Owen Sound—Vision 2050 Strategic Plan will be delivered in May 2025.



