

# LESSONS FROM THE COMMUNITY ON ENERGY, CLIMATE, & LIVELIHOODS

*What downtown Edmonton residents want: a summary from our Communities' Transition Pathways Session*



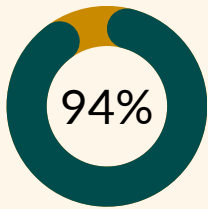
## A COMMUNITY-DRIVEN APPROACH...

In January 2023 Iron & Earth hosted an event in O-day'min, Edmonton, Alberta as part of the Communities Transition Program. The approach for this program is to host sessions facilitated by locals who give a general outline of the themes for the day but is unique in that participants shape the agenda for the day's session as well as subsequent events.

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

Three key interconnected themes emerged from the conversation:

- **Affordability:** Participants were feeling the impact of an increasing cost of life, from housing and transportation to food, utilities, and found more environmentally conscious alternatives cost-prohibitive.
- **Accessibility:** This was key for participants, including access to resources (like food, transportation, and funding), nature, and information. Participants noted how clear, unbiased information felt hard to come by - so many media sources felt like "propaganda." Nature as a gathering & social space was also important.
- **Social Support:** Participants both identified their own needs as well as the desire to look out for "those hit the hardest" in their community. Free public spaces - including warming and cooling centres - as well as mental health and addictions supports, were some of the mentioned ideas.



# of Participants who stated they learned something new by participating, would participate again.





## WHAT'S NEXT

This dialogue will continue both in Edmonton & beyond, with plans for future conversations across Canada including events in Alberta, BC, Newfoundland and Labrador.

The feedback collected from attendees was overwhelmingly positive, with a majority expressing high satisfaction with the discussion and a desire to continue the conversation. The event provided valuable insights and will serve as a foundation for future community sustainability initiatives.

**To read the full report please visit our website: [CommunityTalksCanada.ca](https://CommunityTalksCanada.ca)**

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