

# A BLUEPRINT FOR TALKING ABOUT ENERGY, CLIMATE, & LIVELIHOODS

*What Hinton, AB residents taught us about exploring "contentious" conversations: a summary from our Communities' Transition Pathways Session*



## A COMMUNITY-DRIVEN APPROACH...

In January 2022 we held an event in Hinton, Alberta, to discuss income security, community, and environmental changes. Participants thought that connecting climate change with its economic impacts was sensible and highlighted the desire for local solutions that are comprehensive and support social and cultural aspects for economic transitions to be robust and inclusive.

They emphasized the desire to see decision makers implement these approaches, but to also be involved throughout the process, and for transparency around decisions.

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

Participants spoke about the need to meet the moment and protect their livelihoods in the wake of changing events. Some key themes emerged:

- The **need to be proactive** and not wait for catastrophic weather or economic events;
- **Diversification of industries is valuable in Hinton's future**, while respecting their history;
- **Support is needed** for workers in transition of economies;
- **Community should be included in the policy conversations** to help guide the outcomes.



# of participants who were interested in attending a subsequent session.

## WHAT'S NEXT

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





This event not only provided valuable knowledge about the local community, but provided a clear blueprint for subsequent events. When carefully designed to use language that avoided polarizing terminology, we were able to talk about the climate-induced weather events impacting them, the changing economy, and hear a shared vision for solutions.

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

Sign up to our newsletter & follow us online to stay up to date on future events and findings from the project.

 **WHY HINTON?**

Oil, gas, and coal have built prosperity for Hinton, which is a resource-based economy.. However, the climate-induced weather events have also unduly impacted the community. We offered this session as a space to talk about these issues, understanding the diversity of opinions, and bringing the community together to find innovative solutions tailored specifically to Hinton's needs.

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