



O-day'min, Edmonton



#3 (of 3)

# O-DAY'MIN, EDMONTON: WHAT THE COMMUNITY WANTS IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

## A COMMUNITY-DRIVEN APPROACH...

This report summarizes Iron & Earth's third community conversation, hosted in Ward O-day'min on September 16th, 2023 in Edmonton, Alberta. It concluded our three session series in the ward as part of the Communities Transition Program, in partnership with David Suzuki Foundation, Alberta Ecotrust, Alberta Environmental Network, and Climate Justice Edmonton.

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

This conversation was the third and final workshop in this ward. The conversation was structured around discussion questions that evolved from the first two sessions. This time, participants identified **three major themes** to address their concerns and fears:

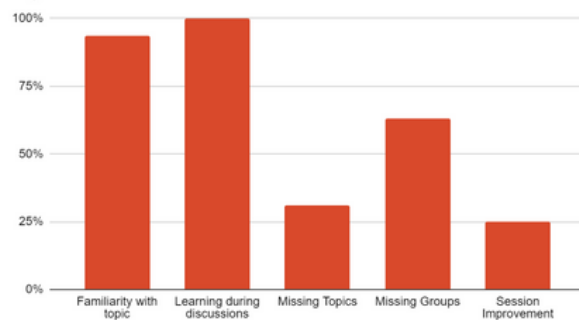
- **Updating curriculums for our changing times:** Participants expressed a sense that existing educational institutions are lagging on adequately preparing students to take advantage of the opportunities available in the net-zero economy.
- **Creating funded skills-training opportunities:** Participants spoke at length about the exorbitant cost of getting an education, the burden of student debt, and their desire for funded training for people at all stages of their careers. Whether it be students starting their first internship or experienced fossil fuel workers seeking to transition into new industries, they articulated that providing financial support is critical to building a well-trained workforce.
- **Support with job-hunting:** Participants discussed the difficulties of job hunting in the digital era, which they described as a laborious, confusing, opaque, and sometimes invasive process when it comes to collection of your information online

## WHY O-DAY'MIN?

While the impacts of climate change will be felt by all Edmontonians, we chose O-day'min as a starting point for these conversations because community members have already voiced concerns about declining economic opportunities, housing unaffordability, and other issues that will be exacerbated by climate change and industry transitions.

## Feedback from Participants:

Figure 3.1 - Feedback Form Results







## KEY TAKEAWAYS

These sessions were held at a pivotal moment in the O-day'min community, following several years of economic challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic and increasing awareness of the immediacy of climate change following the difficult 2023 wildfire season.

The overwhelmingly positive feedback received from participants indicates that we succeeded in providing a non-polarizing environment to discuss the many environmental and economic changes underway in O-day'min and Edmonton at large. Participants shared their fears of the future, expressing exhaustion over the looming threat of climate change and the increasing unaffordability of everyday life.

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

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