



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:

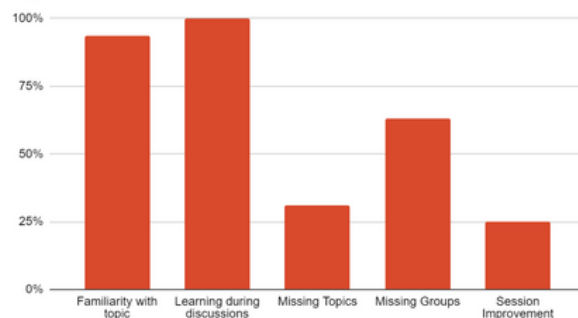
- **Renting experiences:** Participants focused on the challenges experienced by renters in O-day'min, calling for lower utility bills and more mechanisms for those renting to take control of their energy use. They also highlighted the experiences of unhoused people in the community, arguing that they are often left out of conversations about sustainability
- **Changing the public consultation model:** Participants discussed the barriers they encounter in reaching local government and a desire to see the public consultation model revamped to be more interactive, conversational, and action-oriented.
- **Workforce supports:** When asked what supports they require to thrive in the net-zero economy, participants specifically requested updated curriculums to match our rapidly changing economy, further expansion of funded skills-training opportunities, and greater support for job-hunting in the digital age.

## 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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