

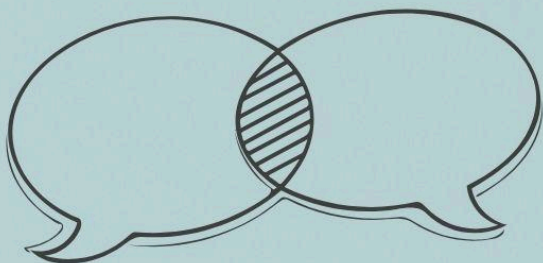


COMMUNITY TALKS

# EDMONTON

## REPORT

Report No. 1 of 3  
May 31, 2025  
Karhiio





# Community Talks - Edmonton, Alberta

*Full Report on Session One: May 31st 2025*

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## Summary

This report summarizes the first community conversation hosted in Ward Karhiio (Southeast Edmonton), Alberta by Iron & Earth, in partnership with David Suzuki Foundation. This event series is funded by generous support from Alberta EcoTrust Foundation. We focused on gathering insight into the key challenges and desires of community members to form the basis of our next two events.

Throughout the conversation, three key themes emerged. Participants discussed the growth of their community, sharing mixed perspectives on densification and concerns about how this growth could impact local infrastructure. Community members spoke about the cost of living, particularly utilities, sharing an interest in solar as a potential alternative energy source. However, they talked at length about fears that the average Edmontonian cannot afford solar. Despite sharing feelings of hopelessness at the notion of creating change, participants expressed finding comfort in their close-knit community. Karhiio was described as a place where people trust one another, providing strong grounds for organizing as a collective.



## **1. Introduction**

### **About Iron & Earth**

Iron & Earth (I&E) is a non-profit organization with roots in the fossil fuel industry that is working toward a future where the workforce is dynamically engaged in a thriving green economy. We envision broad participation in a Just Transition, leading to strengthened economic and climate resilience, expanded accessibility to sustainable energy solutions and meaningful careers. This vision extends beyond workforce mobilization to foster a community-driven transformation, where people actively contribute to a sustainable and equitable future, for their communities and the planet. Its mission is to enable sustainable, community-driven climate solutions and reduce barriers for those seeking a future in the green economy with programs that support greater job security, social protection, and more training opportunities as we move toward a low-carbon economy.

Iron & Earth believes community engagement is an effective way to influence sustainable participation in a Just Transition, and that community-driven solutions have a greater chance of becoming successful and sustainable in the long-term. Iron & Earth takes the time to build relationships and adapt to individual community needs whenever possible.

Community Talks is Iron and Earth's engagement initiative designed to spark conversations about how environmental, social, and economic changes impact people across Canada. It is committed to meeting communities where they are at, by supporting self-determined, community-driven solutions, and offering non-prescriptive support with programs that are designed by the community and for the community.

### **About David Suzuki Foundation**

Through evidence-based research, policy analysis, education and citizen empowerment, the David Suzuki Foundation conserves and protects the natural environment to create a sustainable Canada. For a sustainable Canada, we need inclusive and equitable communities. The David Suzuki Foundation is proud to support Iron and Earth's Community Talks so that community members can identify the issues that impact them and the solutions to make their communities more resilient.

### **Why this community was selected to have a conversation**



Ward Karhiio was selected as the final ward for Iron & Earth's Edmonton Engagement series to ensure that Southeast Edmonton was represented in the conversation. Balancing out our northern (Dene) and central (O-day'min) engagement, Ward Karhiio (pronounced *gar-ee-he-o*) is the Mohawk (Michel First Nation) word for "tall beautiful forest," named for former Michel Band Chief, Michel Karhiio.<sup>1</sup> According to the 2021 Federal Census neighbourhood-level data, there are 94,525 people living in Ward Karhiio, across 32,865 households.<sup>2</sup> Karhiio has a mix of brand new suburban developments, mature residential neighbourhoods, commercial centres, and industrial areas within its boundaries, presenting a wide range of priorities and issues for constituents.<sup>3</sup> It has an above-average number of homeowners: according to Edmonton Public Library, more than half of Karhiio residents own their homes and 41% have lived in the community for five years or longer.<sup>4</sup>

Ward Karhiio's new and growing suburban developments on the south end of Edmonton is a response to Edmonton's growing population<sup>5</sup>, but the resulting need for increased infrastructure, amenities, and accessible transit are concerns for residents. Although the Southeast expansion of the LRT Valley Line has connected Karhiio's Millwoods community to Edmonton's growing LRT system since November 2023<sup>6</sup>, additional modifications to the Edmonton Public Transit bus network redesign presented challenges that concern some residents of the ward, including the reduction of available transit routes and increased

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<sup>1</sup> City of Edmonton. n.d. "Ward Karhiio - Keren Tang."

[https://www.edmonton.ca/city\\_government/city\\_organization/ward-karhiio#:~:text=Ward%20Name%20Origin,Gar%2Dee%2Dhe%2Do](https://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/city_organization/ward-karhiio#:~:text=Ward%20Name%20Origin,Gar%2Dee%2Dhe%2Do)

<sup>2</sup> City of Edmonton. September 11, 2023. "Ward Composition Dashboard," *Tableau*.

<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/city.of.edmonton/viz/WardComposition/WardResidentDemographics>

<sup>3</sup> Theobald, Claire. September 4, 2017. "Ward 11: A microcosm of Edmonton's hot button issues in the southeast ward," *Edmonton Journal*.

<https://edmontonjournal.com/news/local-news/ward-11-a-microcosm-of-edmontons-hot-button-issues-in-southeast-ward>

<sup>4</sup> Wakefield, Jonny. October 8, 2021. "Ward Karhiio: Candidates race to fill Mike Nickel's vacant seat." *Edmonton Journal*. <https://edmontonjournal.com/news/local-news/edmonton-election-ward-profile-karhiio>

<sup>5</sup> Mohatarem, Kashmala Fida. June 23, 2024. "Edmonton's plan to stop Edmonton's plan to stop sprawl faces pushback from developers over housing affordability" *CBC News*. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/edmonton-s-plan-to-stop-sprawl-faces-pushback-from-developers-over-housing-affordability-1.7241110>

<sup>6</sup> City of Edmonton, n.d. "Valley Line".

[https://www.edmonton.ca/projects\\_plans/transit/valley-line-lrt-mill-woods-to-lewis-farms](https://www.edmonton.ca/projects_plans/transit/valley-line-lrt-mill-woods-to-lewis-farms)





walking distance to bus stops<sup>7</sup>. Future transit expansion in the area includes the expansion of the Capital Line LRT South, along Ellerslie Road west of Ward Karhiio<sup>8</sup>.

Residents of Ward Karhiio can offer a valuable perspective on the topics of community growth and the resulting environmental impact as they are directly impacted by the continued commercial and residential development in the area. This first session focused on overall community considerations and challenges to serve as a baseline and guide the conversation for the next two Community Talk sessions in this ward.

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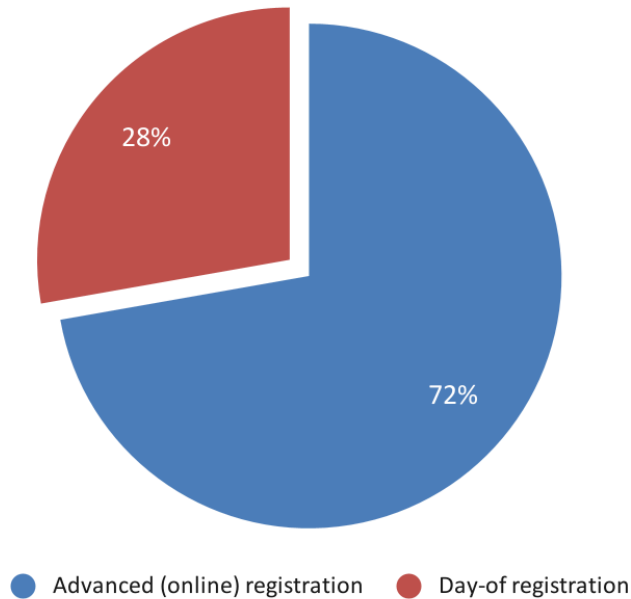
<sup>7</sup> Cook, Stephen. January 19, 2022. "Edmonton working to address bus network redesign concerns". *CBC News*. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/edmonton-working-to-address-bus-network-redesign-concerns-1.6321033>

<sup>8</sup> Government of Alberta, n.d. "Capital Line LRT Expansion South (Ellerslie)". <https://majorprojects.alberta.ca/details/Capital-Line-LRT-Expansion-South-Ellerslie/3448>



## About the conversation participants

Figure 1.1 - Prior Registration Rate



For the first event in Ward Karhiio, 15 people registered online in advance and 13 registrants (87%) attended the session. 5 people attended without prior registration, making the total attendees number 18. *Figure 1.1* outlines the breakdown between attendees who had registered online in advance, and those who filled out the registration form on the day of the session.

The following analysis is based on the registration forms of those in attendance. Some demographics charts include 2021 Census Profile data<sup>9</sup> of the Edmonton population from Statistics Canada wherever relevant, to provide a comparison of the attendees' representation to the community demographics.

<sup>9</sup> Statistics Canada. 2023. (table). Census Profile. 2021 Census of Population. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-X2021001. Ottawa. Released November 15, 2023.  
<https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed September 5, 2025).



Figure 1.2 - First Time Attendance

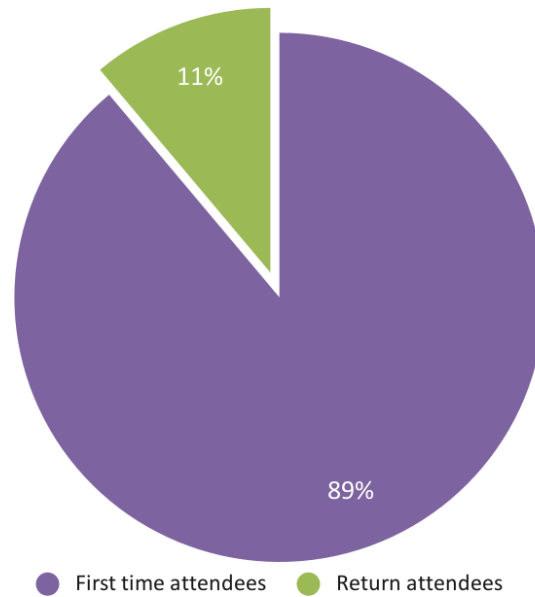


Figure 1.2 shows that most participants (89%) had not been to a previous Community Talk session by I&E.

Figure 1.3 - Outreach Methods

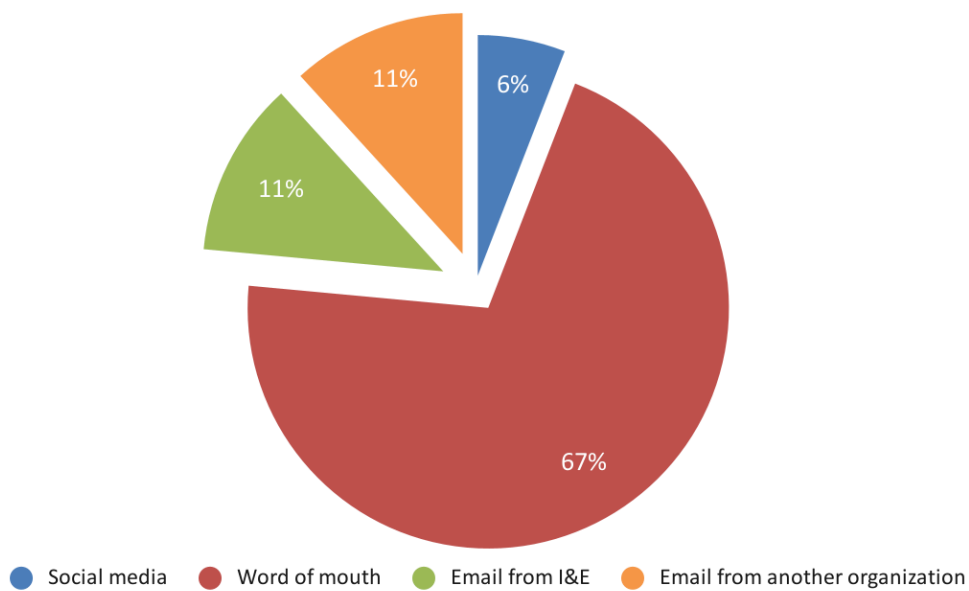




Figure 1.3 demonstrates the methods of how participants were informed about the community conversation. Participants found out about the event through word of mouth (67%), followed by email from I&E (11%) and email from another organization (11%). Note that this question allowed for multiple answers.

**Figure 1.4 - Accommodations**

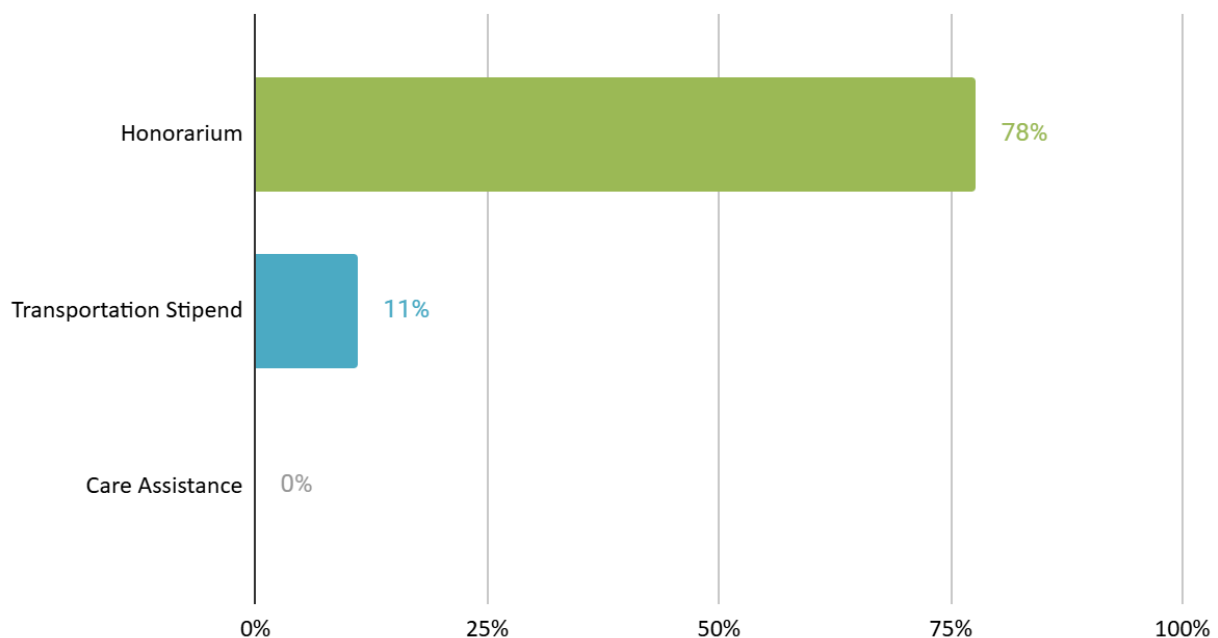


Figure 1.4 shows that most attendees chose to receive an honorarium for their participation. Only 11% of the attendees opted for transportation stipend, and none opted for reimbursements for care assistance. The accommodations, provided as monetary deposits, were available to all participants.





Figure 1.5 - Age Groups (Attendees & Census Data)

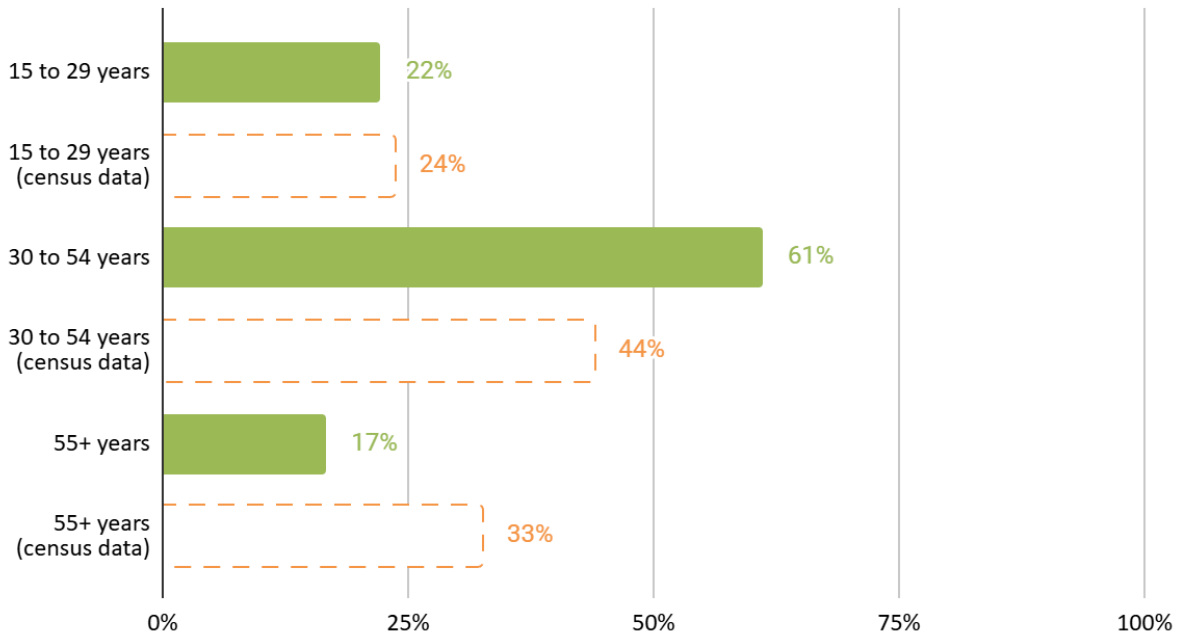


Figure 1.5 provides details on participants' age groups, demonstrating that the highest represented age group was 30-54 years at 61%, followed by 15 to 29 years (22%), and 55+ years represented the least (17%). The age group distributions from the census data categories demonstrate that the 30 to 54 years group was highly overrepresented, while the 15 to 29 years group was appropriately represented, and the 55+ years group was underrepresented.



Figure 1.6 - Gender Categories

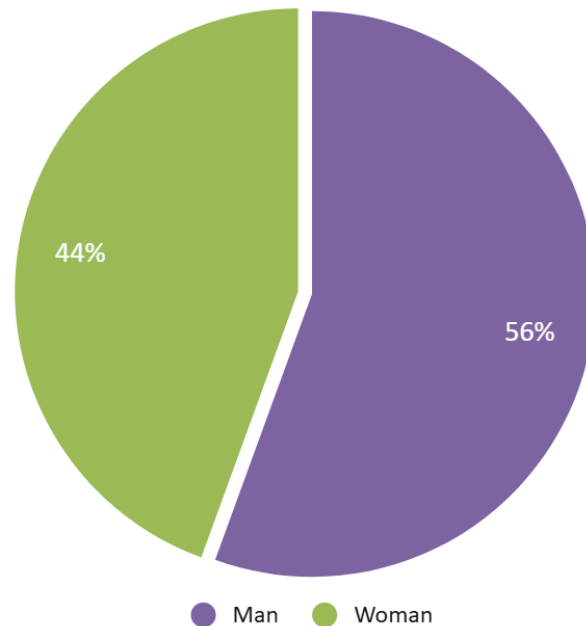


Figure 1.6 shows that a slightly higher number of men were present compared to women.

Figure 1.7 - Languages Spoken At Home (Attendees & Census Data)

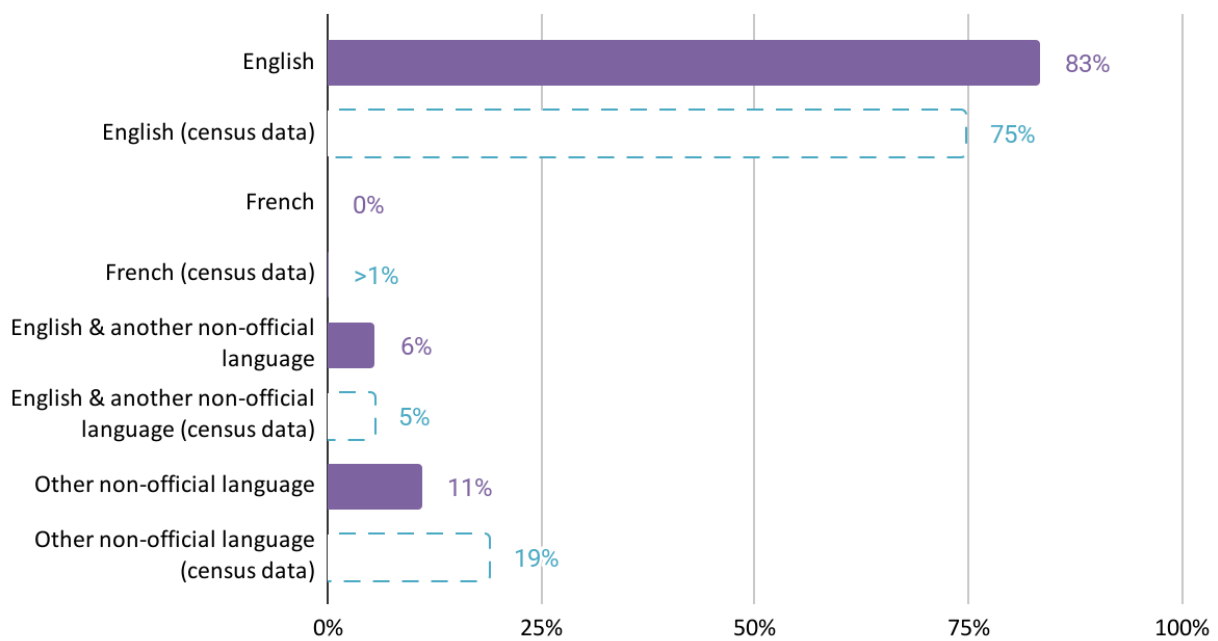
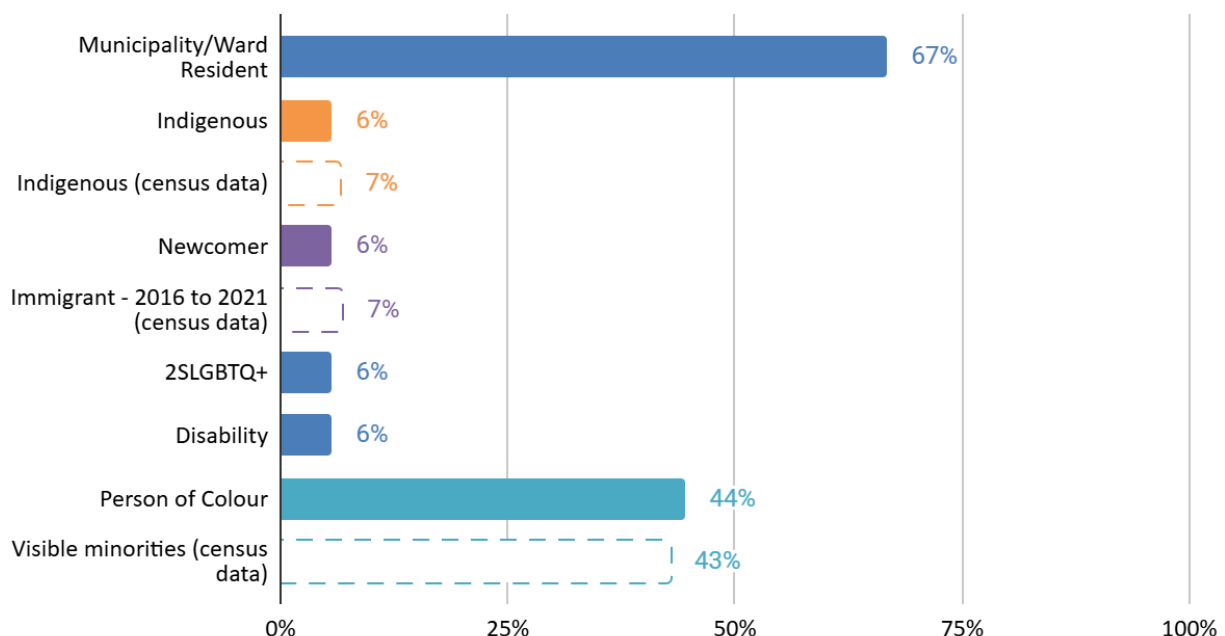




Figure 1.7 shows that most attendees speak English (83%) at home and none speak French. Attendees who indicated that they speak another language at home listed Tagalog, Pangasinan, and Spanish. Compared to the census profile, the distributions of each group were appropriately represented at the session, with less than 10% differences between the attendees data and census profile data. The options “English”, “French”, and “Prefer Not To Say” are provided as default answer options in the registration forms, while the third option “Other” prompts participants to enter an unlisted language. Participants were able to choose more than one entry.

**Figure 1.8 - Identification Categories (Attendees & Census Data)**



As detailed in Figure 1.8 above, 67% of attendees are residents of Karhiio Ward. The categories Indigenous, newcomer, 2SLGBTQ+, or person with disability are each represented at 6% of attendees. Compared to the demographics percentages from census data, the attendees are highly representative of the Indigenous, Newcomer, and Person of Colour categories. The category Newcomer in I&E registration form was defined as “immigrants and permanent residents who have moved to Canada sometime in the last five years”, compared to the category of Immigrant [who arrived at] 2016 to 2021 in the census profile data. Person of colour is compared in the chart to the category of “Visible Minority” in the census profile data.



Figure 1.9 - Income Levels (Attendees & Census Data)

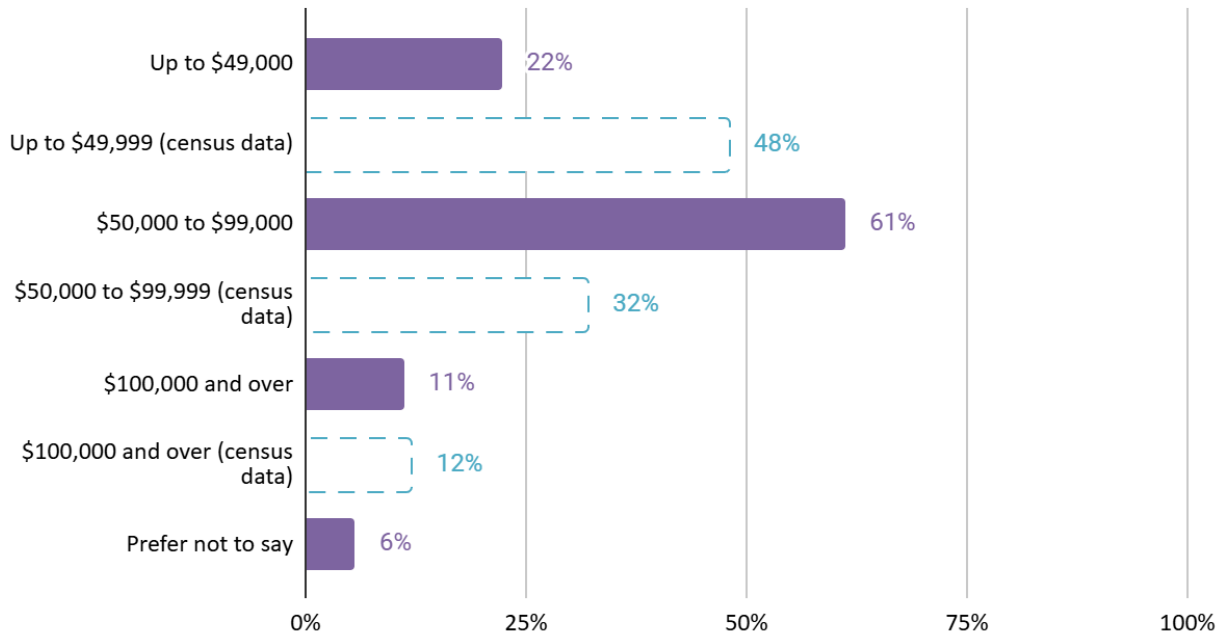


Figure 1.9 shows that over 61% of attendees earned \$50,000 to \$99,000, while a third of the attendants earned up to \$49,000 and \$100,000 and over, cumulatively. The income categories are compared to the closest group categories in the census profile data. Based on the comparison in the chart, the group that earned \$50,000 to \$99,000 is overrepresented, while the group that earned up to \$49,000 is underrepresented. The group with the highest income at \$100,000 and over is represented appropriately.



Figure 1.10a - Job Sectors (Attendees)

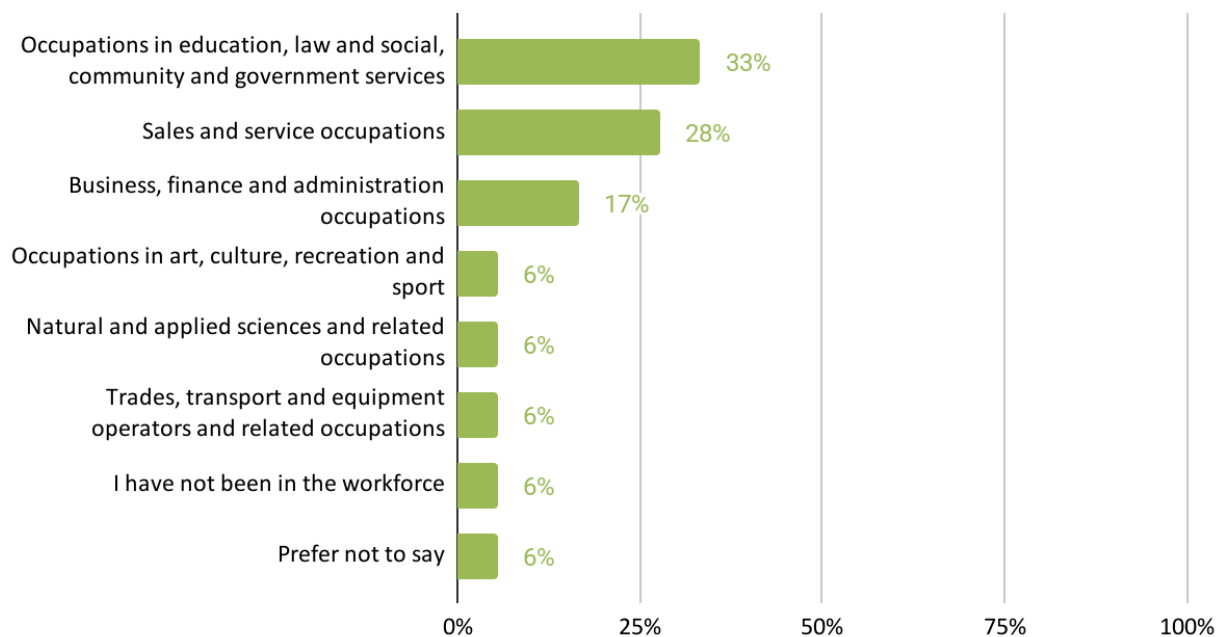


Figure 1.10b - Job Sectors (Census Data)

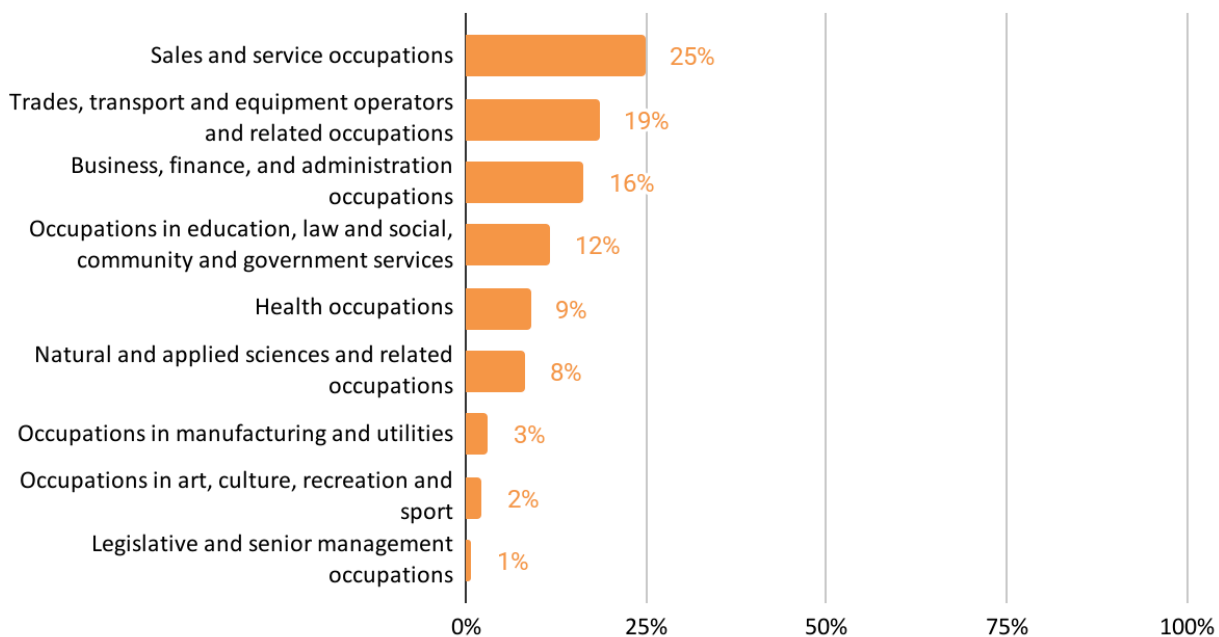




Figure 1.10a shows the breakdown of attendees' job sectors. This question allows for one or more chosen options. The highest job sector represented in the attendees demographics was occupations in education, law and social, community and government services; followed by sales and service occupations. For comparison, Figure 1.10b shows that a quarter of the demographics in Edmonton are in sales and service occupations; followed by trades, transport, and equipment operations at 19%, and business, finance, and administration at 16%.

## **The Community Conversation**

Community conversation events are designed to create an inclusive and collaborative space where community members can engage in meaningful discussions about local issues. To ensure a welcoming environment, we are mindful of language choices, guiding facilitators to avoid potentially polarizing terms. For instance, instead of using "climate change," facilitators referenced "extreme weather events." This approach allows participants to lead the conversation organically and introduce these terms in their own way. Additionally, our facilitators are trained to keep discussions focused on community issues by steering conversations away from specific political figures or parties. For more details on the language used during this session, please refer to our event script (see Appendix A).

This event took place on Saturday, May 31st in the Windemere Conference Room at the Four Points Sheraton Edmonton Gateway Hotel located in Ward Karhiio. The venue was selected due to date availability and easy accessibility to ward residents due to close proximity to transit links. The location was also familiar for participants as the venue was located at Gateway Boulevard and Ellerslie Road, two major roadways in Ward Karhiio. Catering was provided in-house by the restaurant Central Social Hall, with vegetarian and gluten free options available to those with dietary restrictions.

The 18 participants occupied three pre-set tables, with each table having a trained facilitator. The Community Engagement Officer introduced the session, addressed questions that arose, and provided support to the session facilitators. Facilitators were responsible for presenting the session questions, guiding the conversations, and encouraging equal participation by all attendees.

The conversation was recorded to be transcribed, and to respect each participant's consent and data preservation preferences, all names were anonymized and assigned a random letter noted by the facilitator. The facilitator used a recording device, timer and tracking sheet to help with the transcription process. Participants were made aware of the anonymized





recording, and were shown the notepads and pens in the event they preferred to contribute in written or graphic form, and were free to leave at any time.



## 2. What We Heard

### Introduction

The first Ward Karhiio community conversation focused on assessing the top issues occupying Karhiio locals, in an effort to understand the key challenges and strengths this community has. The following questions guided this initial discussion:

1. What are the biggest challenges facing your community today?
2. How does energy production impact your daily life?
3. What strengths do you think our neighborhoods have that could help us adapt to these challenges?

Three themes emerged from this conversation. Participants spoke about the rapid growth they've seen in Edmonton, sharing mixed perspectives on densification and fears about how continued growth could impact local infrastructure. People often discussed the cost of living and utilities, sharing an interest in solar as a possible alternative despite reservations about how affordable it may be for Karhiio residents. The conversation often returned to a focus on the importance of community. Despite a feeling of powerlessness in engaging in politics, participants described finding comfort in their tight-knit neighbourhoods.

### Growing Community

Throughout the conversation, community members expressed a sense that their community is growing quickly. "I think Edmonton, some years ago, didn't expect that it's going to grow this fast and this big," shared one participant. Another person agreed: "Our community is experiencing influxes of people. Edmonton is a city that's growing at a relatively rapid rate." One person highlighted that Karhiio in particular is a landing point for many newcomers: "I've been in this ward for 15 years. [There's] high immigration here...this is their first point of entry."

People had mixed perspectives on this growth and how it should be handled. Some participants expressed frustration about how the growth has been sprawled, with one person remarking that, "we're so spread out...we need to build in as opposed to building into literally the edge of [Edmonton]...we can only have so many single-family house." Another person agreed: "We shouldn't be having so many empty parking lots downtown."



However, others had fears about densification. For some, the concern was about the unknown impacts of new developments on existing properties, as captured in this quote: “People are hesitant to put up solar panels, because they don't know if a developer is going to buy the house next to them and then create shadows.” Another person said, “when I bought my house... [I was] thinking ‘it’s a nice open space... my children can go [play] around the lake’...then all of a sudden I see these cookie cutter houses come up [and a] massive community is built there.”

Some participants shared more specific fears about how a greater influx of people could put stress on existing systems, like the electrical grid and sewage systems. “I've heard people talk about issues with the internet specifically...when everybody's in the community, working at home...the power usage is now high,” said one person. Another person remarked on how new developments were impacted by a flooding incident in Mill Woods in 2012: “We ended up having to spend about a billion dollars to upgrade the sewage infrastructure because we removed so much of the turf through the densification.” The following quote elaborates on this concern:

We know that climate is an issue, so when we're building all this density.. [without] first checking the electrical grid infrastructure and the sewage grid infrastructure, the storm sewers, to see if the community can handle that much densification and removal of green space, which acts as a natural carbon sink and storm overflow.

For others, concerns about growth were rooted in transportation. “Traffic has increased quite a lot, but you cannot help it, people are moving, it's a growing city,” remarked one community member. “Congestion is a big issue,” said another. One participant reflected on how public transit has evolved during their tenure living in Karhiio:

I've lived on the South side for 10 years and I've noticed the difference in commuting. The bus shelters are taken away, some of the bus routes have been taken away...people who want to commute by bus need to walk quite a distance.

## **Affordability and Solar**

The cost of living continued to be a theme in Karhiio, as it was in our O-day'min and Dene Community Talks event. “With the affordability issues, the economic issues that people are facing right now, I think they just want some semblance of stability,” remarked one community member. Some participants discussed the rising cost of utilities, like one person



who shared: “My son used to live with me and then he moved out, but I don't see the difference on my bill. It's the same or it goes higher.” Another person pointed out how utility costs are particularly difficult for seniors living on a fixed income: “In our co-op we're pretty good with having a shared utility function, but people who are on fixed income in our community and around our community, don't have it that easy.”

Solar was a frequent topic of discussion, with many people asking questions about how accessing alternative energy forms could lower their bills. When discussing solar, one participant said, “We're sleeping on a really huge opportunity.” Participants were enthusiastic about the idea of an energy transition towards renewable sources. “Just because we do solar or geothermal, doesn't mean the oil sector is going to disappear, because we're in need of energy.” Another person reiterated the benefits of diversification: “Alberta is an energy-producing province...I think the dominant reliance on energy for the financial stability of the province creates, or at least significantly contributes to, that world of uncertainty... It's a boom-and-bust industry.”

However, within these positive conversations, participants continually returned to the issue of affordability, raising big concerns about how much solar energy costs the average consumer:

[There's a] negative perception. Like, ‘oh yeah, I know it's good, but I'm already dealing with all these bills that I have to pay. On top of me adding solar panels, that's going to increase [the] cost of living, and the cost of living now is already so high. I don't want to add on to that’...a lot of Canadians are living paycheck to paycheck.

The following quote illustrates how the barriers to accessing solar energy can be particularly high in immigrant communities:

I'm in a big immigrant community. The Latino community, we look at those prices and — especially my parents and their friends — feel like it's not worth it for us...I don't know anybody who's gotten solar panels who isn't white, frankly. We have to send [money] back home, so the rebates that you get from the federal government, or even the Clean Energy Improvement Program with the City of Edmonton, it's not enough to convince folks...without a better upfront like subsidy, I don't think more people will [be convinced].



Some participants identified a knowledge gap about renewable energy and solar in particular, in their community: “I fully believe in solar panels, but I feel like a lot of people don't understand the perception of how well solar panels can work on houses.” Another person pointed to a generational dimension to this issue: “How do we educate people?...Like, my parents...they're very old school. Whenever there's new technology, and they have somebody who comes door to door, they're not going to want to believe you. They're scared.

## **Strength of Community**

Participants discussed a feeling of powerlessness when trying to affect change. “It feels like screaming into the void sometimes,” one participant remarked. One participant with experience working in politics elaborated on how the power imbalances involved in trying to affect change can lead to a feeling of hopelessness:

We do have more lower-income folks and we do have more new Canadians in our ward. We know that there are these imbalances of power...[we're] at the mercy of those who are in power and hold the power. How do those of us that may have less power even hold the people in power accountable?... [this] potentially leads into another theme that I don't want to acknowledge, which feels like hopelessness.

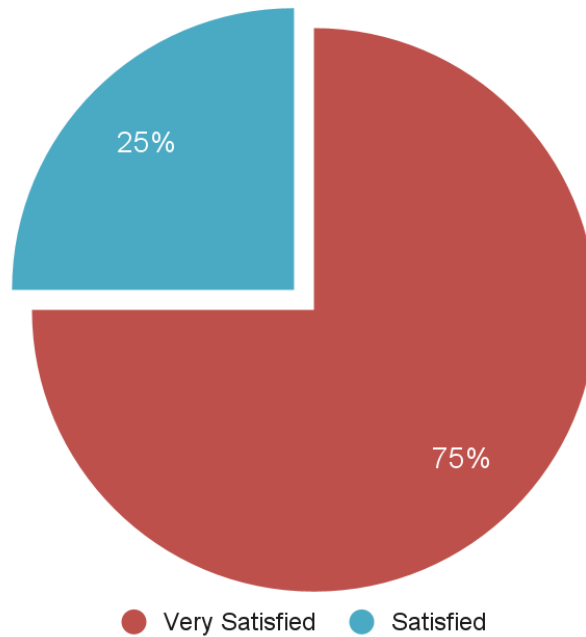
Despite this feeling that creating change is impossible, participants took comfort in the power of community-led action. The idea of strength in numbers was invigorating for some: “There's so much put on us as like the responsibility of the individual, but in reality, how much power do we as individuals actually have?” Another person agreed: “One individual could want something and get nothing. One hundred individuals can want something and make change.”

Participants described Karhiio as a place with high community trust, where all kinds of people have chosen to make their home: “I'll tell you one strength of our neighbourhoods: the people. People are so nice... the behaviour of the people, that is the biggest strength.” Another participant reiterated the fundamental “goodness” of Ward Karhiio: “People are very good, we just need to get together, collectively, and this goodness is going to come out into the community and society.” One community member reflected fondly on the diversity of Karhiio, framing it as a strength of both the ward and the event: “We're an incredibly diverse array of people, particularly in this ward, but I think all over Alberta. It's very encouraging to look around this room and see that. I feel it's an accurate representation of the people that live [here].”



### 3. What We Learned

Figure 3.1 - Level of Satisfaction



We shared a Google feedback form at the end of our session, which was completed by 94% of participants. As shown in *Figure 3.1*, 75% of the participants rated their level of satisfaction as “Very Satisfied”, and 25% as “Satisfied”.





Figure 3.2 - Feedback Form Results

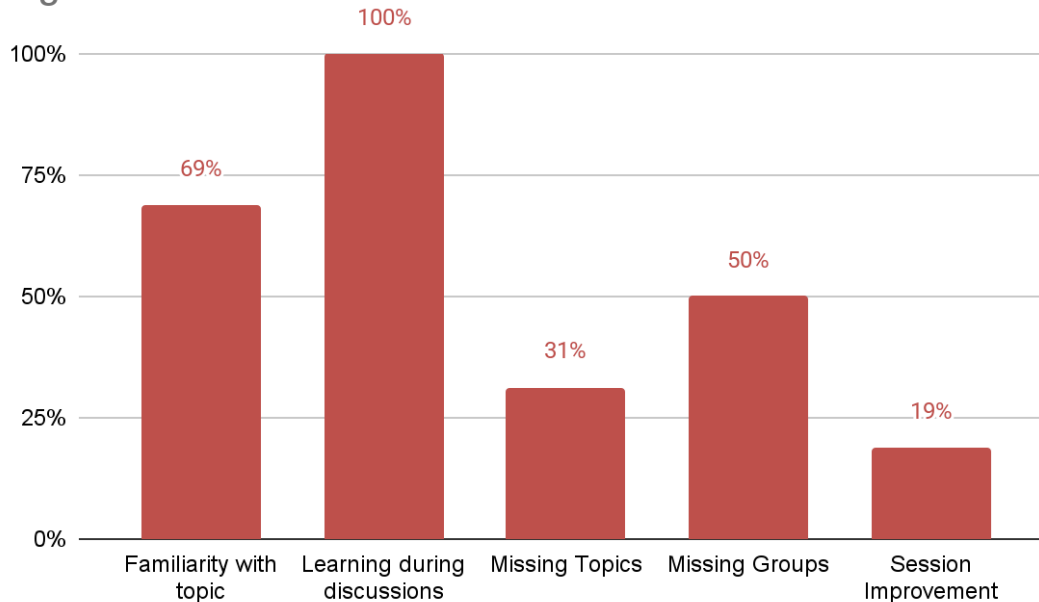


Figure 3.2 provides a summary of the rest of the questions: familiarity with discussion topics, learning experience during the discussions, missing discussion topics that participants would have liked to explore more, and suggestions for future sessions improvement.

69% of participants were familiar with the topics prior to the discussion. All participants learned something new about the conversation topics during the discussion.

31% of respondents identified missing topics in the conversation, such as the transit system, long term consequences of energy sectors, and climate change. 50% also felt that there were some groups, communities, and individuals missing from the discussion, such as city planners, farmers and rural workers, and families. One person requested for clarification on what is defined by “community”. 19% gave suggestions for session improvements, such as more information on what to expect prior to starting the session, and adding more participants per table to reduce quiet times. Feedback on the discussion consists of appreciation for the session.



## Conclusion

Overall, the first Ward Karhiio community conversation indicates that community members are passionate about community-led change and concerned about how growth trends in Edmonton may affect their daily lives.

Participants discussed the rapid growth they've seen across Edmonton, particularly in Karhiio. Perspectives on densification were mixed: some participants felt strongly that development must be curtailed from sprawling to the outer limits of the city, while others felt that efforts to densify their communities could put undo stress on local infrastructure, like the sewage system and electrical grid. As in our O-day'min and Dene sessions, participants frequently discussed the rising cost of living, particularly utilities. They pointed to solar as a possible alternative, but shared reservations about how affordable solar energy is for the average Edmonton consumer. Despite experiencing a feeling of powerlessness at the possibility of affecting political change, participants described Karhiio's strong sense of community as its greatest strength.

The 18 participants who attended this session were overwhelmingly satisfied with their experience, with 100% of participants rating their satisfaction levels as either "Very Satisfied" or "Satisfied." 100% of attendees shared that they had learned something new in the conversation.

## 4. Next Steps

Iron and Earth will proceed with using these findings to inform the second and third installments of the Ward Karhiio community conversations. Once all three events conclude, the findings will be verified with the general public through continued community engagement efforts, before being mobilized through a local advocacy campaign, to bring these findings to the attention of local decision makers. Iron and Earth will return the findings to community participants to continue the dialogue. Eventually, our team will begin to verify the findings with the broader Edmonton community to ensure that the voices present at our engagement events reflect the perspectives of the general rest of the community. If you would like to learn more about the program's progress and the work that takes place after the sessions, please contact us at [communities@ironandearth.org](mailto:communities@ironandearth.org).





## Appendix A

The following appendix contains the script that was used as a general guide by the facilitators for the Community Conversation conducted by Iron & Earth.

Script for Facilitating an Iron and Earth Session - First Karhiio Session

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### CONVERSATION TIME BREAKDOWN:

1. Session Introduction: 20 minutes
2. Breakout Group Setup: 5 minutes
3. Breakout Conversations: 60 minutes
4. Break: 10 minutes
5. Reporting Back: 5 minutes
6. Session Conclusion: 20 minutes

TOTAL TIME: 120 minutes

DOORS CLOSE TIME: 12:45:pm/when max capacity is reached; 40 people

START TIME: 12:30 pm

END TIME: 2:30 pm

SETUP START TIME: 11:00 AM

### SETUP PERSON:

- Set up presentation slides on projector
- Registration: Checking registered names and hand out registration forms if they haven't filled them, for those unregistered. Ensure all participants sign the provided letter of consent.

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### SESSION INTRODUCTION: 20 Minutes

#### Session Overview Introduction:

Greetings, everyone, and welcome to the first Community Talks Session hosted by Iron & Earth in Ward Karhiio, Edmonton. This discussion series focuses on livelihoods, climate change, and the opportunities and developments surrounding a net-zero economy



*[primary facilitator introduce themself]*

- *name*
- *pronouns (if desired)*
- *association with Iron & Earth*
- *Why are you facilitating today? / provide goals for session*

We would like to acknowledge the Indigenous land where we are today within Treaty Six Territory and Métis North Saskatchewan River Territory in amiskwaciy-wâskahikan, so-called Edmonton. The home of many Indigenous Peoples including the Cree, Tsuut'ina, Blackfoot, Métis, Nakota Sioux, Haudenosaunee, Dene Suliné, Anishinaabe, and the Inuit.

We are grateful to have David Suzuki Foundation as our local partner. Funding for this event is generously provided by Alberta Ecotrust Foundation.

This is Iron & Earth's first session in Karhiio, with the goal of building relationships beyond a simple consultation process. We aim to meet communities where they are, understand their perspectives on extreme weather events, the energy transition, potential solutions, and community preparedness.

We have shared a one-page highlights document from previous sessions to help set expectations. However, we recognize that each community is different, and today's conversation will reflect Karhiio's unique needs.

After this session, we will compile a brief report summarizing the insights shared. This report will serve as a resource for community members, stakeholders, decision-makers, and will be published on our website.

Session Structure:

Throughout this conversation, we will discuss your community and its current challenges.

- Each breakout group will address three key questions related to community needs and strengths.
- Participants are encouraged to share their thoughts verbally or use pen and paper for written or graphic responses.
- Each group will have a facilitator to guide the discussion.
- Breakout sessions will last 60 minutes, with each question discussed for approximately 20 minutes.



- We will then reconvene for a quick wrap-up and aim to finish by 2:30 PM.

If you haven't already completed the registration, payment or consent forms, please do so and hand them to a facilitator.

IMPORTANT: This is a space that welcomes diversity of opinions, we ask that these conversations are approached with mutual respect and care. We endeavor to have a meaningful conversation with the participants who have diverse perspectives, backgrounds, and experience.

#### Privacy Policy:

You were provided a letter of consent outlining participation, reimbursement, and confidentiality processes. Key highlights:

- We will be recording today's conversation, but all transcripts and notes will only be shared among Iron & Earth staff.
- Once this process is complete, all notes will remain with Iron & Earth and will be used to produce our reports. However, your participation will remain anonymous.
- While we may include quotes in our community and final reports, these will not be attributed to specific individuals.
- You are free to leave at any time during the session—we truly appreciate your time and respect your privacy.
- To protect the integrity of the conversation, we ask that you do not record or take photos during the session.

#### Facilitator Introductions:

We have 3 other local facilitators with us today.

- *Name*
- *Pronouns (if desired)*
- *Association with Iron & Earth*
- *Why are you facilitating today? / provide goals for session*

#### Conversation Introduction:

What is this conversation about?





- Livelihoods: The means by which individuals meet their basic needs (e.g., food, shelter, employment).
- Climate Change: The impact of human-driven extreme weather events and rising global temperatures on communities.
- Energy Transition Opportunities: The shift from fossil fuel dependence to renewable energy sources.

What's going on in Karhiio?

- Edmonton has faced extreme weather events, including heat waves, cold snaps, and heavy precipitation. The Edmonton Bus Network Redesign significantly impacted Karhiio, with the most bus stops removed and the fewest on-demand stops added.
- In November 2023, the Valley Line LRT launched its southern extension, connecting Mill Woods Town Centre to western Edmonton.
- Edmonton Research Park, approved in 1979, continues to foster innovation and collaboration by providing networking and mentorship opportunities for tenants

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BREAKOUT CONVERSATIONS: 60 Minutes

*[Facilitators turn on recorder in the breakout group, Ensure to fill in the speaker tracking sheet and name list for the table]*

1. Question 1 20 Minutes

What are the biggest challenges facing your community today?

2. Question 2 - 20 Minutes

How does energy production impact your daily life?

3. Question 3 - 20 Minutes

What strengths do you think our neighborhoods have that could help us adapt to these challenges?

BREAK: 10 MINUTES

Reporting back to the room: 5 minutes

COMMUNITY TALKS





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## CONCLUSION: 20 MINUTES

Please take a moment to share your feedback on today's conversation:

- Let us know if we missed anything important.
- Share insights you gained.
- Provide any other thoughts you'd like us to consider.

*[Distribute Feedback Forms & Allow Time for Completion]*

We will conduct three sessions in Ward Karhiio and this is the first session for Ward Karhiio. After each session, we compile a detailed report summarizing the needs and perspectives of Karhiio residents. These reports will be shared with our outreach network, key stakeholders, and decision-makers, and will also be published on our website for public access.

Our next two sessions in Karhiio will take place on June 14th and July 12th!

If you're interested in learning more about the program's progress and post-session work, please reach out to [communities@ironandearth.org](mailto:communities@ironandearth.org) and one of our team members will be happy to provide an update.

On behalf of Iron & Earth, I'd like to thank you again for joining us. Have a wonderful rest of your day!

[SESSION END]

*[Collect remaining registration and consent forms and Audio Recording Devices]*