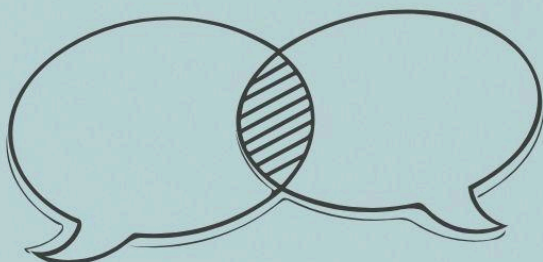


COMMUNITY TALKS  
**EDMONTON**  
REPORT

Report No. 3 of 3  
July 12, 2025  
Karhiio





# Community Talks - Edmonton, Alberta

*Full Report on Session Three: July 12th 2025*

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## Summary

This report summarizes the third and final Community Talks event hosted in Ward Karhiio (Southeast Edmonton), Alberta by Iron & Earth in partnership with David Suzuki Foundation, and generously funded by Alberta EcoTrust Foundation.

This event built upon themes identified in the first two community conversations, including a desire for community-building, an interest in solar energy, and visions of the future rooted in growth. In this discussion, participants shared a sense of fear and apathy about approaching local leaders with their concerns, identifying a need for consistent engagement beyond election times, collaborative decision-making, and a mix of online and in-person engagement. When asked about best practices for government and industry looking to interact with Karhiio, community members articulated a request for transparent, simple communication to build trust with community members. People were curious about community energy projects and interested in the idea of converting underutilized spaces, like parking lots, rooftops, or lamp posts, into solar projects. As in previous sessions, the majority of participants were not interested in renewable energy outside of small-scale solar projects.



## **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 three-ward Edmonton Engagement series to ensure that Southeast Edmonton was represented in the conversation. This third and final session for Ward Karhiio balanced 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, more than half of whom are homeowners.<sup>34</sup>

As explored in previous reports, Ward Karhiio's growing suburban developments on the south end of Edmonton is a response to broader population growth trends across the city.<sup>5</sup> With this growth brings changes to the infrastructure, including the Edmonton Public Transit bus network, which has been undergoing a redesign since 2021. The changes have created challenges that concern some residents of the ward, including less transit routes and greater walking distance to bus stops<sup>6</sup>. The Valley Line LRT expansion to the Millwoods community has been operational since November 2023<sup>7</sup>, with future transit expansion in the area including the expansion of the Capital Line LRT South along Ellerslie Road west of Ward Karhiio<sup>8</sup>.

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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%2DDee%2Dhe%2Do](https://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/city_organization/ward-karhiio#:~:text=Ward%20Name%20Origin,Gar%2DDee%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 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> 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>7</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)

<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>





Given the mix of new and mature residential neighbourhoods, and the continued commercial and residential development in the area, residents of Ward Karhiio offer a valuable perspective on the topics of community growth and the resulting environmental impact. This conversation is was particularly urgent, given that the provincial riding of Edmonton-Ellerslie within Ward Karhiio had recently held a provincial by-election on June 23rd 2025<sup>9</sup>, and the Ward will have the upcoming municipal election on October 20th 2025<sup>10</sup>.

### About the conversation participants

For the first event in Ward Karhiio, 44 people registered online in advance and 33 registrants (75%) attended the session. Walk-in registration was not permitted due to the high amount of online registration. The following analysis is based on the registration forms of those in attendance. Some demographics charts include 2021 Census Profile data<sup>11</sup> of the Edmonton population from Statistics Canada wherever relevant, to provide a comparison of the attendees' representation to the community demographics.

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<sup>9</sup> Sandhor, Steven. June 23, 2025. "NDP holds Edmonton-Ellerslie as Brar leads former PC MLA" *Edmonton Journal*. <https://edmontonjournal.com/news/local-news/ellerslie-byelection-ndp-brar-win>

<sup>10</sup> City of Edmonton, n.d. "Edmonton Elections".

[https://www.edmonton.ca/city\\_government/edmonton-elections](https://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/edmonton-elections)

<sup>11</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 1.1 - First Time Attendance

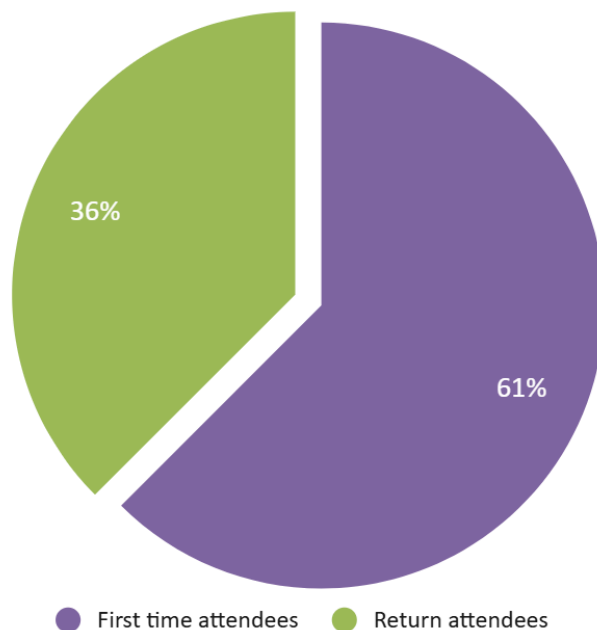


Figure 1.1 shows that more than half of participants (61%) had not been to a previous Community Talk session by I&E.

Figure 1.2 - Outreach Methods

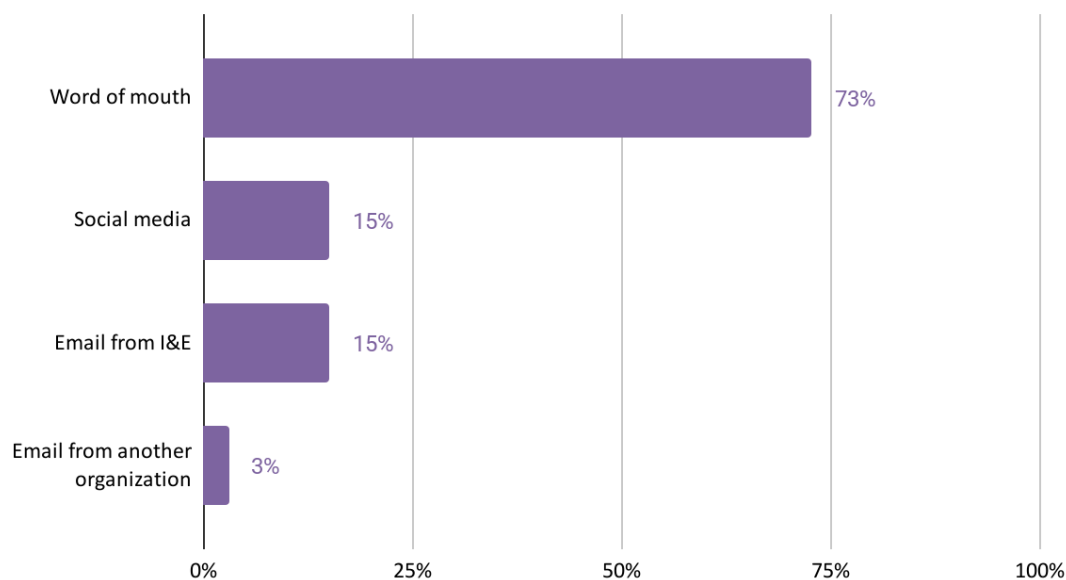




Figure 1.2 demonstrates the methods of how participants were informed about the community conversation. Most participants found out about the event through word of mouth (73%), followed by social media (15%) or email from I&E (15%), and lastly email from another organization (3%). Note that this question allowed for multiple answers.

Figure 1.3 - Accommodations

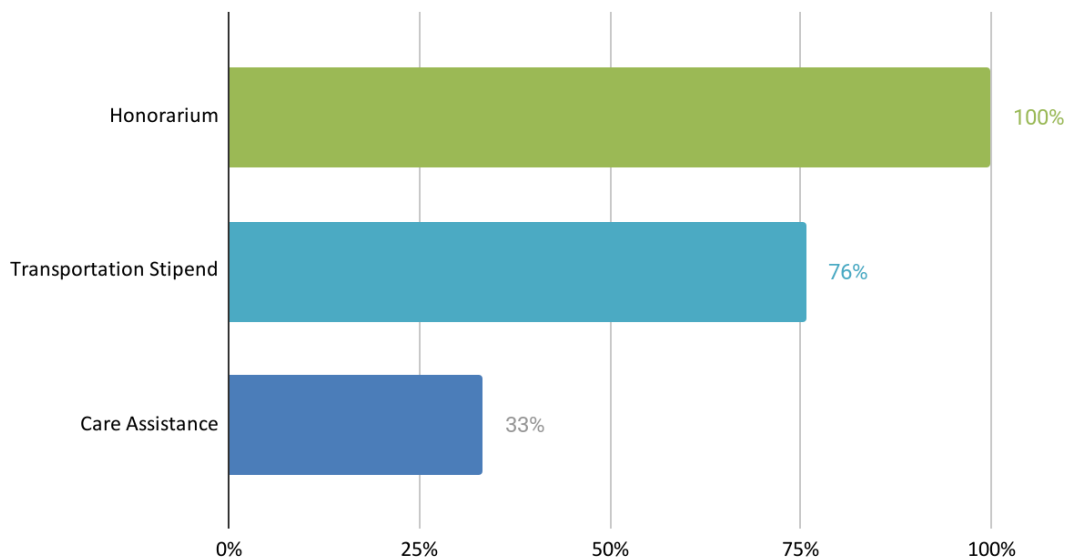


Figure 1.3 shows that all attendees chose to receive an honorarium for their participation. Most attendees (76%) opted for transportation stipend, and 33% opted for reimbursements for care assistance. The accommodations, provided as monetary deposits, were available to all participants.



Figure 1.4 - Age Groups (Attendees & Census Data)

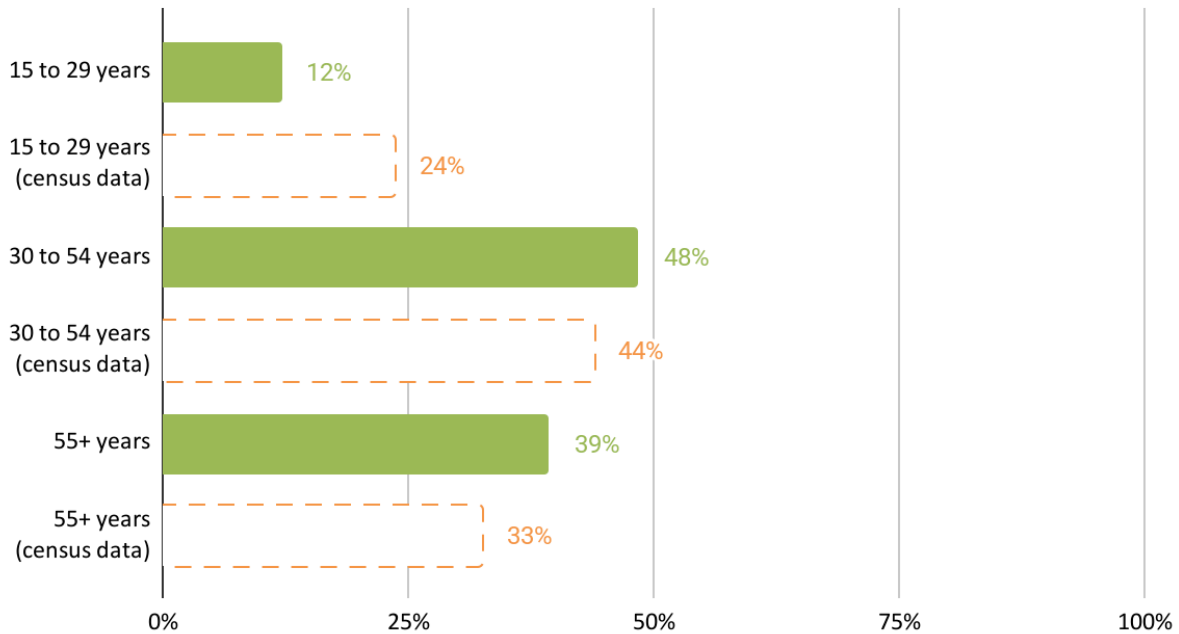


Figure 1.4 provides details on participants' age groups, demonstrating that the highest represented age group was 30-54 years (48%), followed by 55+ years (39%), and 15 to 29 years represented the least (12%). The age group distributions from the census data categories demonstrate that the 30 to 54 years and 55+ groups were appropriately represented, while the 15 to 29 years group was slightly underrepresented.





Figure 1.5 - Gender Categories

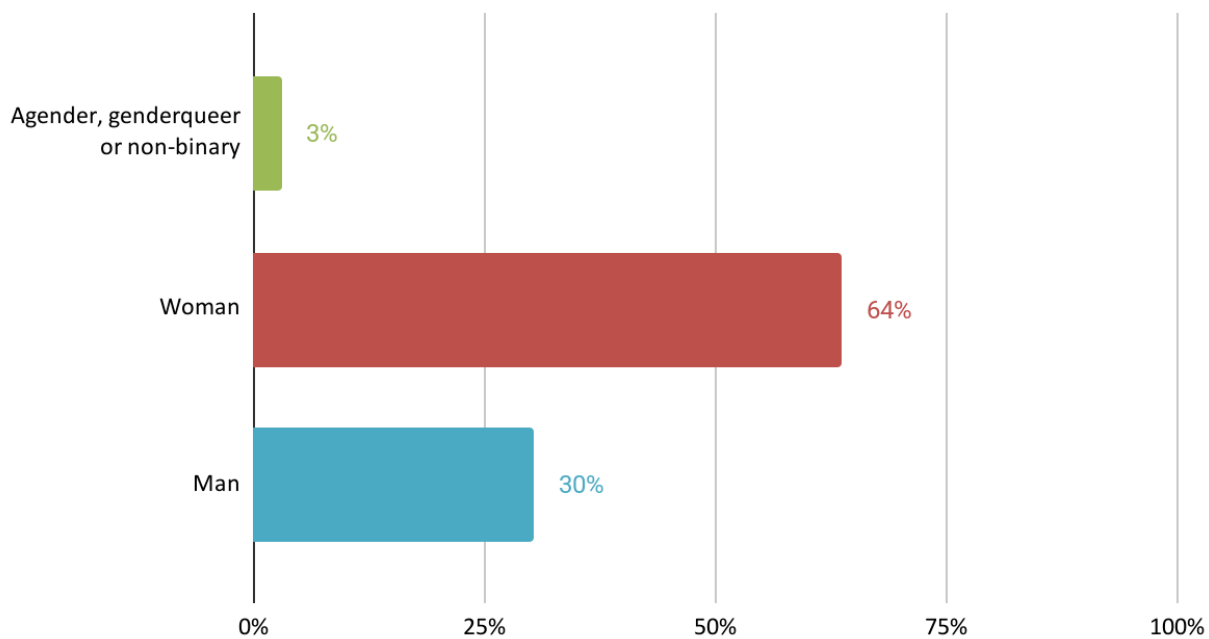


Figure 1.5 shows that more than half (64%) of the participants are women. Only 3% identified as agender, genderqueer or non-binary. Note that this question allows for multiple answers.



Figure 1.6 - Languages Spoken At Home (Attendees & Census Data)

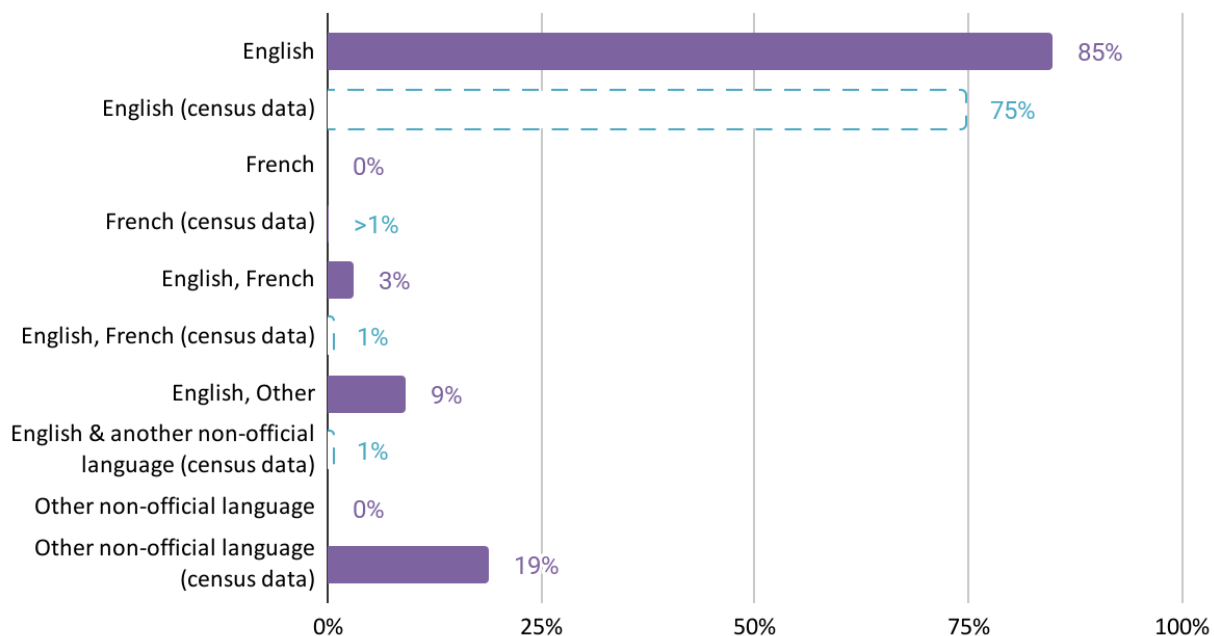
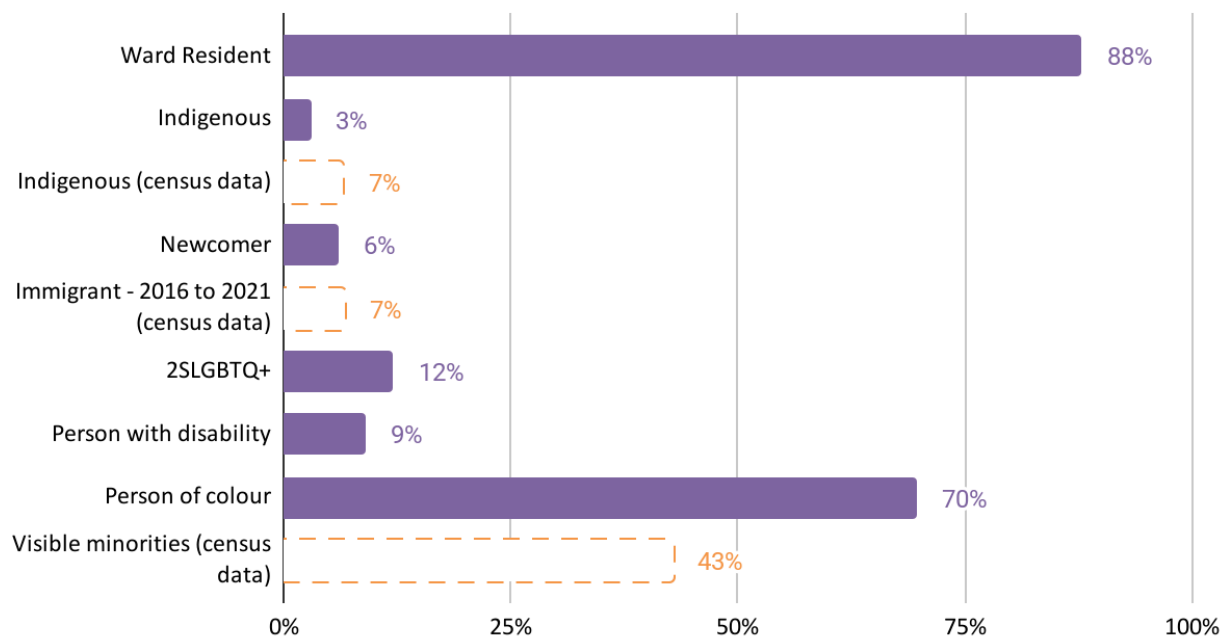


Figure 1.6 shows that most attendees speak English (85%) at home. 9% speak English and another non-official language, and 3% speak English and French. Compared to the census profile, the group that only spoke English was slightly overrepresented at the session, with 10% differences between the attendees data and census profile data. Those who speak other non-official languages are underrepresented. Note that “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 1.7 - Identification Categories (Attendees & Census Data)



As detailed in *Figure 1.7*, most of the attendees (88%) are residents of Karhiio Ward, and most (70%) are persons of colour. While 12% identify as 2LGBTQ+, the categories Indigenous, newcomer, or person with disability are each represented at less than 10% of attendees. Compared to the “Visible Minority” demographics percentages from census data, attendees are highly representative of the Person of Colour category. 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.



Figure 1.8 - Income Levels (Attendees & Census Data)

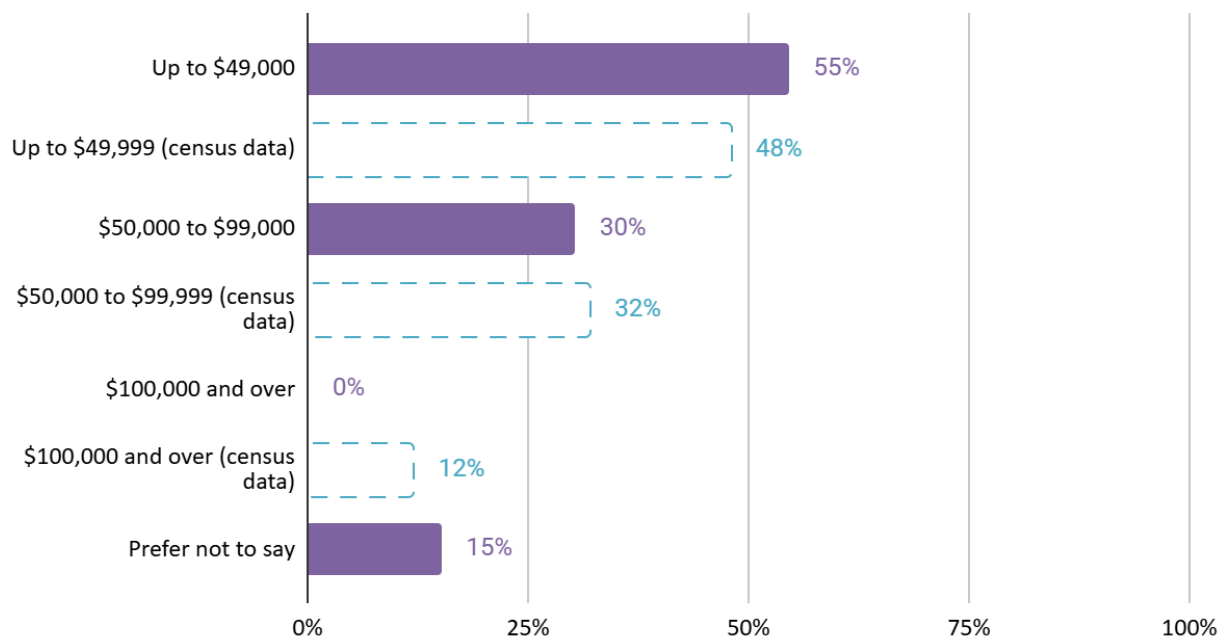


Figure 1.8 shows that half (55%) of attendees earned up to \$49,000, while 30% earned \$50,000 to \$99,000. The income categories are compared to the closest group categories in the census profile data. Based on the comparison in the chart, the groups that earned up to \$49,999 and \$50,000 to \$99,999 are appropriately represented, while the group that earned \$100,000 and over is underrepresented. 15% of attendees preferred not to disclose their personal income range.



Figure 1.9a - Job Sectors (Attendees)

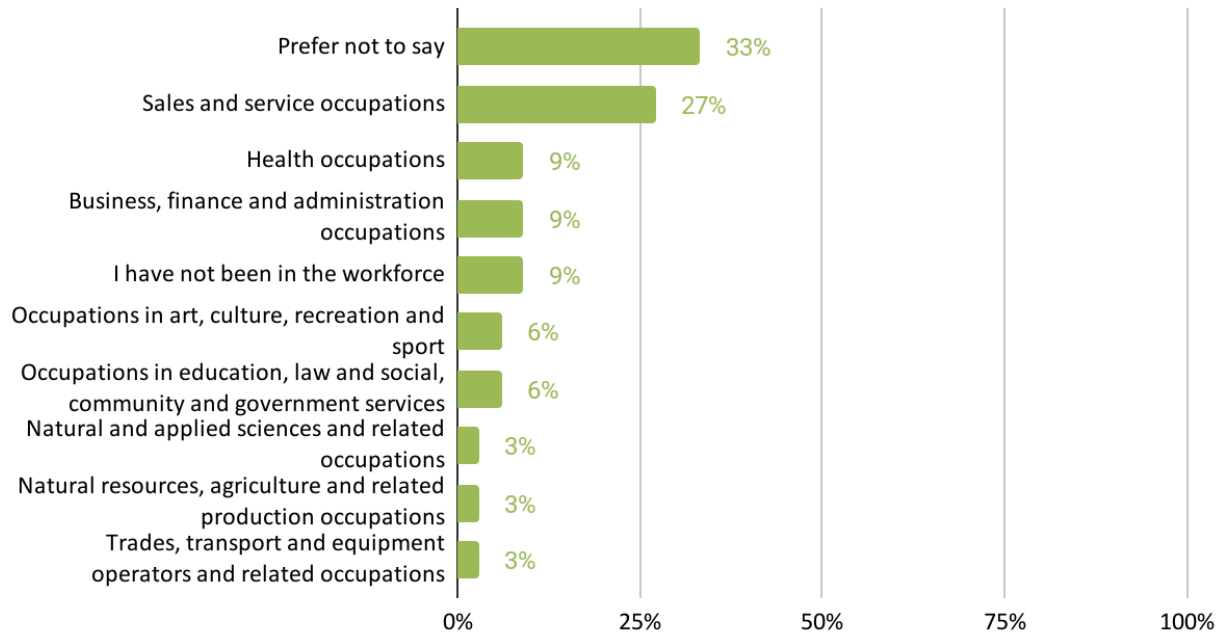


Figure 1.9b - Job Sectors (Census Data)

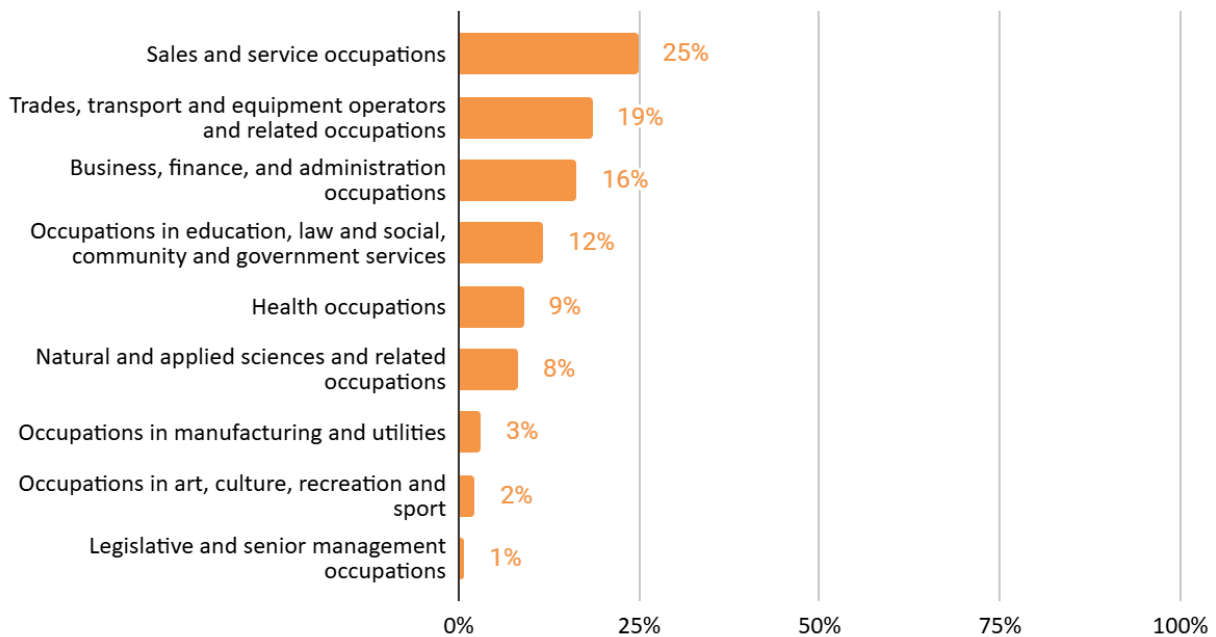




Figure 1.9a shows the breakdown of attendees' job sectors. This question allows for one or more chosen options. The highest job sector represented in the attendees demographics was occupations in sales and service occupations (24%). For comparison, Figure 1.9b outlines the breakdown of job sectors in the census data. Although the sales and service occupations category is appropriately represented in the attendees' data, the trades, transport, and equipment operators and related occupations category is underrepresented.

## The Community Conversation

Community Talks events are designed to create an inclusive and collaborative space where community members can engage in non-polarizing, impactful discussions about local issues. To ensure a welcoming environment, facilitators were mindful of language and were advised to avoid terms that could polarize participants. For instance, rather than discussing “energy transition” directly, the topic was framed as “changes in the local economy.” 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).

The third Ward Karhiio session took place on Saturday, July 12th in the Windemere Conference Room at the Four Points Sheraton Edmonton Gateway Hotel located in Ward Karhiio. All three sessions were booked at this location at the same time due to date availability, easy accessibility in the ward with a nearby transit line and a large parking lot for those driving. Participants also were familiar with the location from previous sessions, as well as the venue being located at two major roadways in Ward Karhiio. Catering was provided by Culina, with vegetarian and gluten free options for those with dietary restrictions.

The room was set up in the same layout as the previous two sessions, which would have been familiar to returning participants. Four large tables were set up in advance, with notepads, pens, water bottles, and the discussion questions. There were 33 participants for the third Karhiio session, occupying all four conversation tables, with three trained facilitators and one Community Engagement Officer supporting the discussion. Facilitators presented the session questions, guided the conversations, and encouraged 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 facilitators used a recording device, timer and tracking sheet to help with the transcription process. Participants were made aware of the anonymized recording, and were provided notepads and pens in the event they preferred to contribute in written or graphic form. An honorarium and reimbursements for childcare and travel expenses were available to reduce barriers to attendance, and activity sheets were available for children who attended with their parents..

## 2. What We Heard

### Introduction

In previous sessions, participants consistently identified their primary concerns to be community growth, a desire for meaningful community-building, and an interest in community-building. Participants offered many solutions regarding accessing renewable energy options, ideal visions of the future, and making participation in community life more vibrant and participatory.

Because those solutions-oriented discussions were so fruitful, we wanted to shift focus for the final event and ask Karhiio community members some questions we had proposed in other Edmonton wards, to see how their perspectives compared. We also introduced a question about community energy projects, a topic at the intersection of energy, affordability, and community building — three themes of interest to Karhiio residents. Given these considerations, we asked the following questions:

1. How would you like to see local leaders engage the Karhiio community in the decision-making process? (from Ward O-day'min)
2. What do you want the relationship between the local energy industry and your community to look like? (from Ward Dene)
3. What is your vision of what community energy projects look like and how might one function in Karhiio?

Participants shared that they often feel fear and apathy about approaching politicians with their concerns, sharing a need for consistent engagement outside of election periods. They wanted collaborative decision-making and hybrid (both online and in-person) engagement opportunities. They shared similar needs from both government officials and energy



companies looking to interact with Karhiio community members: transparent, simple communication to build trust. People were curious about community energy projects in underutilized spaces like parking lots, rooftops, or lamp posts. These conversations were almost exclusively focused on small-scale solar projects.

## Rules for Public Engagement

The most frequently discussed topic throughout this session was a desire for more engagement from local decision makers. A few participants shared positive experiences engaging with their local city councilor, saying “she’s very active [in the community],” and “she’s accessible for discussion, which I appreciate.” However, most participants described feeling uncertain about how to engage with local politicians. “I respect them, but sometimes it’s very hard... to approach them when you have a problem,” said one person. Another person expressed the feeling that voicing concerns to decision-makers wasn’t worth their time: “When a politician is answering the question, they’ll be as vague as possible... their job [is just] to get re-elected.”

When asked about their engagement preferences, they discussed wanting consistency above all. Many people were frustrated with feeling as though their perspectives were only valuable during election periods. “For me, it’s better not only during the time of election that they come and knock on our house. They should do that quarterly,” said one person. Another person agreed: “When elections are approaching, I do get people knocking my door sometimes and asking if [I have] any concerns... [but it is only] very close to elections.” Several participants mentioned wanting year-around engagement, as one person stated: “Maybe have a summer meeting... get together with the whole community, because we never have that, a block party session.”

Community members often talked about wanting decision-making to be more collaborative, sharing a desire for their input to be taken seriously. “There’s no collaboration with communities,” shared one person. Another participant expanded on this idea: “I think another really important piece when I think about engaging communities to make decisions is, you have to give them a sense of ownership to the decisions that are coming into play.” Someone else agreed, saying that their community needs more “participation and engagement in the decision making.”



Participants also discussed a desire for engagement in a variety of formats. “When there's something about the Karhiio community, then we need to know, we need to talk to them if we have some concerns. I would [like it to be a] one-on-one talk to them, not just from the newsletter,” shared one participant. Another person emphasized the importance of online events for accessibility purposes: “Online is a good thing for people that can't leave home. There's so many with disabilities.” Others preferred in-person engagement: “Each neighbourhood should have some sort of suggestion box where people can come in and give their suggestions. I do know social media is used for a lot of information, but a personal touch is something which sometimes is missing.” A mix of in-person and online engagement was preferred to maximize the amount of people reached.

### **Access to Information (Government & Industry)**

When asked about best practices for government and industry looking to interact in Ward Karhiio, community members articulated a shared need for transparent, simple communication. Particularly with regards to the energy industry, participants expressed a lack of trust that companies are being transparent. The following quote illustrates a sense of skepticism directed towards both government and industry:

I come from an oil field family. I wish [energy companies would just be truthful. I know my utilities are going to go up in the next month. There's nothing you can do about it. You can't, and if there's somebody out there saying, “if you vote for me, I'll bring your utilities,” they're lying...we invest in oil and gas companies that tear up the earth and destroy the land. I'd like to know if these companies are doing the same. Just be honest.

Transparent communication in simple language was identified as the solution to this lack of trust. This idea applied to both energy companies and government communications. “Transparency [and] effective communication [have] always been missing to some degree... you have to make all the language that's used in these discussions very accessible... you're speaking to a diverse audience of people who come from different backgrounds.” said one participant in reference to energy companies. Another person spoke similarly about municipal-level communications:

There's a really big difference between [effective communication] and compiling information into a repository. That's exactly what most city and government websites



are...you just have to cycle through these giant tables of contents, these big lists...most people aren't versed on how to effectively work through those systems.

The following quote captures how important it is to have a shared understanding of language being used to discuss community issues:

I think if people understood the actual processes that take place, the steps and methods that occur, and the roadblocks that can happen, you build a community that is more informed. Then, you get less disagreement and more insightful conversation, and something that can progress and improve in a more meaningful way, because everyone is speaking on the same terms and on the same definitions, instead of having vagueness.

A few participants discussed the importance of ensuring simple communications are available in multiple languages, with one person saying: “About communication, there is a language barrier with some of us that are not born here.” As another person put it, “I'd rather listen to a grassroots person who's connected, who knows who their people are in their community, and can say hello in a lot of different languages.”

## **Perspectives on Community Energy Projects**

When asked about community energy projects, people responded with curiosity. Participants responded positively to the idea of their energy being connected to their community: “Community is important...I trust my neighbour. Maybe they work as a mechanic for a small business — I'm going to go to them first instead of someone else, because you trust them.” Another person agreed: “We want our community to work together and help each other. There were a few one-off comments about other kinds of projects, including: the possibility of a community reclamation project to address toxic chemicals, a community campfire, a pilot project for heated roads, and a community stationary bike to generate electricity. Outside comments, the conversations focused entirely on solar energy.

One participant pointed to the financial benefits of community power: “We have lots of empty places here [where] they could put...solar panels. Per house, they cannot afford it. Why not make it affordable and build solar power up for the whole [community]?” In terms of locations, participants discussed the following possibilities for community solar:

- Solar-powered lamp posts

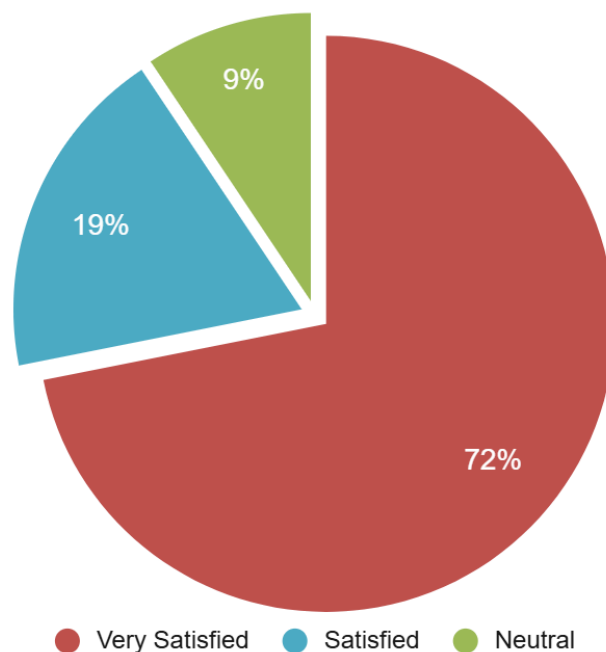


- Converting parking lots into solar projects
- Rooftop solar in the community
- Solar-powered heated community hubs to make the winter more habitable when waiting for the bus

As explored in the previous section, participants identified a lack of trust between industry and the community as the biggest barrier to a community energy project thriving in Ward Karhiio. “I don't think the energy sector would like that because they're not going to make money,” said one participant. Participants emphasized that if an energy project were to thrive in the community, it would need to be staffed with locals: “If you're going to have an energy project here in Edmonton, hire the local people. You have such a diverse population in Alberta.” Another person agreed that any project needs to “engage each cultural community in that city or that town and ask them” for their input on the project. Another person reiterated that hiring local represents an act of respect for the community: “Compassion. If you don't hire people, you don't have any care for them.”

### 3. What We Learned

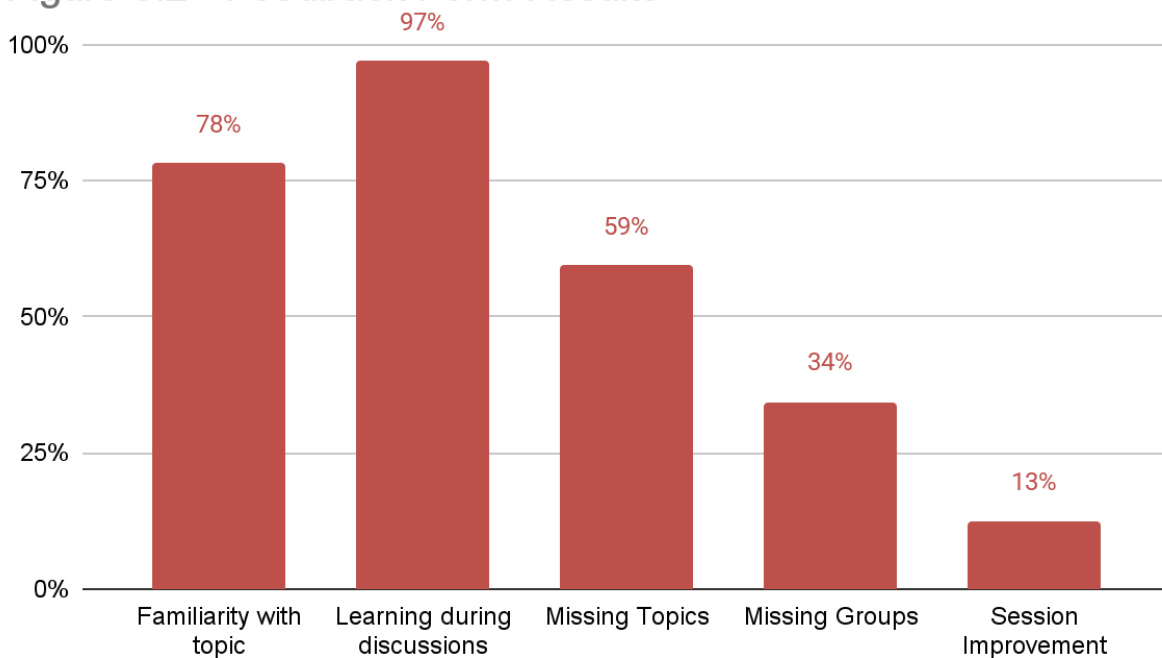
Figure 3.1 - Level of Satisfaction





We shared a Google feedback form at the end of our session, which was completed by 32 of the participants (97%). As shown in *Figure 3.1 - Level of Satisfaction*, 72% of the participants rated their level of satisfaction as “Very Satisfied”, and 19% 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.

78% of participants were familiar with the topics prior to the discussion. 97% of participants learned something new about the conversation topics during the discussion.

59% of respondents identified missing topics in the conversation, such as different energy options and the time taken to implement them; public transit facilities; health care and housing; topics regarding senior citizens; and education for the younger generation. 34% felt that there were some groups, communities, and individuals missing from the discussion, such as city counselors and traffic officials; younger generations; and people with disabilities. 13% gave suggestions for session improvements, such as more discussion time; venue selection closer to LRT; and allowing more participants in the event. Feedback on the discussion





consists of appreciation for the session, and suggestion to disallow participants from using vulgar language.

## Conclusion

The results of the third and final community conversation in Ward Karhiio indicate that participants are interested in meaningful engagement from those who hold power, whether that be those in government or private industry. Community members remained committed to developments that improve the lives of locals, whether that be through job growth, lowering the costs of utilities, or transforming empty spaces into community energy projects.

While a few individuals shared positive experiences engaging with their city councilor, most people were nervous or apathetic about engaging with local politicians. They spoke to a need for more consistent engagement outside of active election times, a desire for collaborative decision-making, and a mix of in-person and online engagement opportunities. Community members frequently discussed wanting simple, transparent communication from government and industry alike as a way to build trust. The Karhiio residents we spoke with were curious about the possibilities of community energy, particularly in underutilized spaces, like parking lots, rooftops, or lamp posts. They emphasized that any project in the community needs to be staffed by locals. This conversation, like previous events, was almost entirely focused on solar energy.

Overall, community members were happy with their experience participating in this Community Talks event. 91% of participants rated their experience as either “Very Satisfied” or “Satisfied.” 97% of participants shared that they learned something new from participating in this conversation.

## 4. Next Steps

This event concludes Iron & Earth’s first round of engagement in Ward Karhiio, as well as our three-ward engagement across Edmonton. In the coming months, these findings will be verified through a series of “dotmocracy” engagement events, to ensure that the themes collected resonate with the general public. At the same time, our team will begin undertaking



a local advocacy campaign, sharing our findings with local decision makers and stakeholders in the community, to ensure community needs reach those in power. 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 & Earth Session -Third 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 third 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 third 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 4 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.
  - Provincial By-Election was called for Edmonton-Ellerslie, a community within Karhiio, for June 2025 and the Karhiio Ward will have a municipal election in October 2025
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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]*

Preamble: In the last session, we were blown away by the amount of solutions that participants offered to big questions regarding accessing renewable energy options, ideal visions of the future, and making participation in community life more viable. Because that solutions-oriented discussion was so fruitful, we wanted to shift focus and ask Karhiio community members some questions we had proposed in other Edmonton wards, to see how our perspectives compare.

1. Question 1 20 Minutes

Preamble: This is a question we previously asked in Ward O-day'min (downtown Edmonton).

- Question: How would you like to see local leaders engage the Karhiio community in the decision-making process?





## 2. Question 2 - 20 Minutes

Preamble: This is a question we previously asked in Ward Dene (northeast Edmonton).

- Question: What do you want the relationship between the local energy industry and your community to look like?

## 3. Question 3 - 20 Minutes

Preamble: In the last session, we heard community members discuss a need for more affordable + accessible renewable energy options, as well as a need for a greater connection to the community. From Iron & Earth's perspective, community energy projects are at the centre of these two issues.

- Question: What is your vision of what community energy projects look like and how might one function in Karhiio?

BREAK: 10 MINUTES

Reporting back to the room: 5 minutes

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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 third and final 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.



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]*