



Edmonton, Alberta



Session 2 (of 3)

COMMUNITY TALKS EDMONTON: WARD KARHIO SESSION #2



A community-driven approach...

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. Community Talks is Iron and Earth's engagement initiative designed to spark conversations about how environmental, social, and economic changes impact people across Canada. This report summarizes the third and final community conversation hosted in Ward Karhiio (Southeast Edmonton), in partnership with David Suzuki Foundation. This event series is funded by generous support from Alberta EcoTrust Foundation and Natural Resources Canada.

Key takeaways

Expanding Accessibility to Solar: Participants overwhelmingly focused on solar when discussing renewable energy, identifying four areas to focus on in making renewable energy more accessible: affordability, access to information, taking advantage of the bandwagon effect, and gradual pacing.

Visions of the Future: They offered a wide range of visions, with an overarching perspective in population growth and densification, and a range of needs in the future related to worsening climate impacts, city services, and safety.

Fostering Community Connections: Participants offered a consensus that people are isolated due to technology, mental health, post-COVID shifts in socialization, general exhaustion due to working life, Edmonton being a "cold weather culture." As the community continues to grow, they shared a desire for more "structured" opportunities to participate in community life, pointing to a range of potential solutions to encourage connections.

Feedback

91% of participants rating their satisfaction levels as either “Very Satisfied” or “Satisfied.”

About Participants

- **23 people** participated in the second Karhiio session
- 52% of participants identified themselves as **people of colour**
- Most participants were in the 30-54 **age group** (48%), followed 55+ (39%), and 15 to 29 (13%).
- Most participants fell within the **low income** bracket, making up to \$49,000 annually
- 9% of participants identified as **newcomers** to Canada

Excerpts

“We just see our energy prices going up, we don't know why.”

“I wish the housing will be more accessible or affordable for people.”

“We're assuming that our seasons are going to be in the same general pattern that they are today, [but] with the impacts of climate change, how much is that going to change?”

“It's so important for us to figure out ways for the community to meet each other, and I think it's good for our mental health as our communities keep growing.”

