Quality
in Canada's Built Environment:
Roadmap to Equity,
Social Value and
Sustainability

Full Verbatim Transcripts and Summaries: Halifax Convention 2024

Section 4- Public Debates and National Strategies

"First Version of 14 roadmaps to quality in Canada's built environment"
May 1& May 2, 2024

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ROOM 1

Workshop 4- **Public Debates and National Strategies**

Room1_ Location: Medjuck Architecture Building - Room 1202			**12 Participants**
First Name	**Last Name**	**Organisation**	**Research Site**
Mariana	Esponda	Carleton University	Carleton University
Brian	Sinclair	University of Calgary	University of Calgary
Alanna	Thain	McGill University	McGill University
Mike	Brennan	Royal Architectural Institute of Canada	National Partners
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Room 1 - Workshop 4 - Public Debates and National Strategies
Thursday, May 2, 2024, from 14:00 am to 15:30 pm

Date of report: 2024-06-12

Report produced by
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1.1. Summary

> *• Do we need to redefine the strategic outputs of the research partnership?*
> *• What are the best means for dissemination?*
> *• What future national actions should or could be undertaken by the research partnership in 2024 – 2025?*

Individual site strategies
- Insurance, bankers, and politicians are absent from Carleton discussions. Mapping abandoned buildings in Ottawa and considering strategic accessibility for Carleton.
- Developing a sense of ownership strategy for Big River tiny houses.
- Expanding perspective on heritage strategy for ICOMOS.
- Representation and cataloguing of African and Mi'kmaw heritage strategy for CAHP. CAHP is trying to discover its priorities based on a survey and using regional chapters to disseminate.
- Increasing trade capacity and restoring housing autonomy are strategic goals for U. Manitoba's research site tiny houses. There may be ways to leverage the relationship between the architecture firm and the university to reach more students.
- A shift towards more community-based values is crucial for the University of British Columbia research site policy direction. It is essential to align planners and designers with shared values and to bridge the gap between communities and municipalities.
- How to engage in community conversations and reach the people affected by the project – a national approach would be too broad.
- RAIC has expressed a short-term goal of strengthening network connections outside of conferences. Without a stronger network, we will have to reevaluate everything annually. We also need to disseminate information at an appropriate rate, tailored to specific needs rather than using a one-size-fits-all approach.

Unclear project strategic goals
- The following question was discussed: Do we need to redefine strategic outputs of partnership? What were they anyway?
- There was some concern that the trajectory suggests the project will not be as big, bold, and celebrated as it needs to be.
- The simple fact that we are having conversations across disciplines and sectors of society is an achievement. Connections may lead to tangible outputs.
- Does the project have goalposts? Do we know what the expectations are?

- Alternate funding groups have difficulty describing the project and conveying value to firms.

Reflections on the project
- First year – academics took the lead. Community partners emphasized the need to establish trust, cultivate relationships, and truly understand each other's values before moving forward with production.
- The unplanned relationship that developed from the project to assist with poverty alleviation is the unexpected strategic outcome.
- Time is limited for the project, but the work must continue beyond that.
- Do not strive for nationally shared values; instead, find strength in accepting uniqueness.

Suggestions for the project
- More focus is suggested on governments, deciding whether to be collaborative or antagonistic.
- The focus area may be developing political acuity and understanding how policy is enacted. Process mapping was used to effect change—grassroots, laterally, and top-down academics.
- The project can advocate from within. The government already supports the project. We can embed ourselves in a place where decisions are made.
- We are trying to sell a product or service. We don't have a marketing and communication strategy in place, and we believe it would be beneficial to bring in experts who can guide us and advise us on the best course of action, especially when it comes to targeting academic audiences.

1.1.   Detailed Transcription of the Workshop Discussion

Time + name

[00:00:11] Brian Sinclair	This is the final workshop dealing with strategic outputs and national strategies.
	And then the second dimension is really looking at the national picture and how we as a group think we should be proceeding by way of recommendations.
	Mariana and I were discussing some of the language is a bit confusing because we were all each site was required to produce a list of notable outputs, and in the moderators' notes we're to talk about strategic outputs which might be the same, but then also compare those to global outputs which we're translating as national concerns or considerations so.
	If that doesn't confuse you, we're just going to jump in. And so I'll start and I'll mention the Calgary site outputs we, in our annual report, we looked at outputs a little bit different than just papers and that sort of thing. We have a list of probably 40 papers from the fields of architecture and community health and social work. But we didn't see those as things that we wanted to necessarily acknowledge because we're doing that anyway. But the question of across two years, what did we what have we come away with or what sort of learnings have we realized that are maybe valuable? And these are, we can talk later on about sort of national considerations. So, I'll just mention the four outputs very quickly. So the first is intersection and collaboration.
	So in that regard, we've seen benefit through the collision cooperation and sectors, fields, players, partners who we argue are conventionally separated and isolated, sort of rendering for a level of dysfunction as pertains to design and planning of the built environment.
	And we also acknowledge that through that intersection, we sort of struggle in a healthy way with forging agendas and coming to terms with values, and for our site, and I'm sure for all the sites in Canada, this issue of how you both understand values and then to the extent you can or shouldn't reconcile those values is important as well. At our last round table, we had a number of community groups say very clearly, it's not about seeking shared values necessarily, or certainly not forcing the issue, but it's about accepting differences and then looking for where there are synergies.
	So the second output was what we called transdisciplinary means. And in that regard, we basically said it's been healthy for us to crawl out of our narrow disciplinary views, sort of myopic vision in our site. As I mentioned earlier, we have landscape architecture planning but also medicine in particular community health, social work, sociology and other fields as well.
	And again, through that coming together of very diverse people, unique voices, it's required us as a site to be open minded, empathetic and willing to question ourselves.
	So the third we call pivot of perspective. So academic to have these jargon terms with pivot of perspective and basically that's talking about moving beyond a narrow focus on tangible and easily measured dimensions such as aesthetics or form or materiality. And maybe not abandoning those in any way,

but complementing them with emotions, differences and lived experience. For example, so two years of the project in Calgary have increasingly underscored a shift to community from individuals to inclusivity and to ensuring a city that has community spaces and places for all.

And then finally, holism and integrated knowledge. So our world is endemically fragmented. We find places for everything, and it's hard to move them around or certainly interconnect them. So we tend to have a very narrow set of scopes and too often a very short term set of agendas or goals.

So I mentioned earlier that are especially the Community partners have reminded us the academics especially - we need to build trust. We need to forge relationships. We need to understand each other and really have a grasp of each other's values before we just charge ahead with the sort of maybe hamster wheel of production. So a part of this was understanding a need not to rush, to not be confined and not to find comfort in the status quo.

And so, on the contrary, our project in Calgary has placed a spotlight on doing business in new ways and hearing from a broader array of people.

And tackling the crafting of spaces and places with an eye to foster health, equity and sustainability, which those are the themes of the Calgary site. So especially health and wellness of the city and in the city.

[00:06:38]
Mariana
Esponda

So from Carleton, where we were specifically, one of the most important output that we got, it was when we organized with the National Heritage Trust and CAHP, we organized like a cafe workshop and we did a site visit in the afternoon. We were like probably between 60 to 70 people meeting and talking about adaptive reuse and climate action so was the full day talking about this, so something that was really, really interesting is one of a CAHP member, she was looking which professionals were not on the table to talk about it and but that they were very interesting to include it specifically on existing buildings. So after speaking with her and other people, we found that people that work in insurance, the risk is so important for them.

So they don't want to insurance heritage properties for that. So, we invited one of the persons from Ecclesiastical, I think that is the name of the insurance company. So this company is starting specifically on sacred buildings. It's insuring, putting insurance. So that was very, very interesting to see how we can do it.

And the other thing is another, because that we're looking how to bring in that session workshop politicians. So we have policymakers in the table, but not politicians. And we wanted to. But we were not able. We were not successful to grab any anyone didn't come there was a, hopefully because we are going to have another one in Montreal in November, so hopefully we could get it.

So the other people that we thought that we haven't done to talk about that was bankers like who can lend the money to do those investments. And again was like, well, we don't want to give investments in existing buildings because we don't know the, the structure. So how is the stability of the buildings? So but that was very, very interesting. They came. So we were having discussions and what we were doing is we were working in eight different questions, different perspectives about adaptive reuse. So that was super. I think that was very well, like, we produce a lot like all the details. I have it in the in the yearly report. So if anybody wants, I have it so there. So they were

just like the insurance, the bank, the politician. So that was something that was very, very interesting.

The other thing and that's from that reason, something that we are going to be developing because we found that it's something very, very interesting as a strategic output is we want to document in this summer, in Ottawa specifically, all the buildings that are abandoned. To see the state, but also like, which typology they have, so that's something that is like for us like right now is the next step to do it like those I think there is a strategic point to see what we can do it. And the other thing is now with the students we want to specifically in Ottawa, go to the hiring subcommittee to understand, like all the political sides on those subcommittees to understand. If there is any gap that we can start looking how adaptive use can help in that in that thing.

And the last thing that we have we identify as something that we need to look at as a strategic thing that we need to address is accessibility. How accessibility with existing buildings and somebody was talking about accessibility yesterday, so I thought that was very important. How accessible to everyone, one, but also accessible to people with impairment.

So that's one of the main points that we're looking at. In the July report, there are everything.

[00:11:07] Éloïse Richard Choquette	Uh, for us, like I think we know the process, we know the citizen and the what are the main the concern about it. So I think the challenge will to test the process. On a really a lot of consultation to know more about the interaction the main concern, what can we do to facilitate the process. So, I think that will necessarily like multiply the even to know more about it and find a way to solve the problem that that we see to really have a 360 vision about it so that will be it.
[00:12:13] Anonymous	Can I ask a question? I'm just reading again what you said. One of the questions is do we need to redefine the strategic outputs of the research partnership? Somebody new to the new-ish to the research partnership? I don't really know what they were first place.
[00:12:39] Brian Sinclair	Yeah, we're supposed to refer to the current strategic outputs as well as the global strategic outputs and to be honest, I'm one of the architects of the original grant. So I'm not sure exactly how that even could… Yeah. So I think we have to kind of improvise. We have to wing it.
[00:13:11] Cara Shan	Thank you for saying that, because that's the plenary this afternoon and those are the questions and we're going to ask… so yeah, this is like the fodder for, like the plenary later. What are we doing?
[00:13:28] Brian Sinclair	OK. We're inventing it, that's OK. We're inventing it, so.
[00:13:33] Alan Sukut	OK. Did you want me to invent something?
[00:13:38] Alan Sukut	Because I feel I can invent it off the cuff.

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	I guess it's moving forward as far as I can see that things are working for me and my biggest hurdle is after this next house, where are we going with it? Like what's happening and yeah, we've got, I've got it figured out - I need to talk to the next participant to see what they want and really iron out again, site location and all these things.
	But is it accessible for everybody in the in Big River and or is it just for youth or and again it's like person like everyone wants their own house, their own like identity and ownership. And I think that was the other thing this this whole project was to give the participants ownership of their house.
	Because initially the first very first approach, I don't think Danny mentioned this, but he didn't take ownership of it because he didn't have a part in building it. And so he never viewed it as his own. And I think when people are, not in a deficit but don't have, don't feel the right to that, they have no connection to it or they have little connection to it… And I feel like we're pulling that together and like I haven't yet, but I do have them come in and we walk around the house and we do site like do the house design with them and then they discuss changes and I would like to have Walt, like Walter's the next participant, he's here today, come in and help do the painting and help with these and that gives them more of a sense of ownership. So I guess that's winging it off the cuff.
[00:15:29] Brian Sinclair	But so, I did have a question so. And this I guess, pertains to the Manitoba team more generally, but, do you sort of take things as they come, or do you look a year out to envision five years out you would like to have X number of students in the schools working?
[00:15:45] Alan Sukut	I do. I do. I would. We have a lot of moving cogs. So it's like I I'm already think about retirement. So but that said, when I retire I want this to be a functioning thing and high school students.
[00:16:06] Mariana Esponda	How many high school students?
[00:16:07] Alan Sukut	In my classroom, in my in my program is 24 students. No, and it really can't be because it's all place-based learning, experiential learning. It's all it's students that cannot learn in the like in traditional education ways. So we place them into, so we have math outcomes that are met through cooking. We have a restaurant we run at the school, we have a greenhouse that we build and run a plant sale out of and a tiny house that we build. So there's all these outcomes that they can't like, they don't want to write it down. And so they're either presenting or you know, they're learning by doing them. So it's, that's why I don't think we can have that many students cause, and we're also dealing with students with that. I mean all students are have anxiety issues now more so than they had previously. So they don't want a big class.
[00:17:30] Anonymous	Do you see that? That anxiety excess.
[00:17:17] Alan Sukut	Oh, even me. I have anxiety from four years ago or five years ago, and I'm like, where did that come from? Um, maybe it's building tiny houses, I don't know. (haha)
[00:41:51] Anonymous	Global pandemic, perhaps?
[00:17:32] Alan Sukut	Now I actually do. I do think it was global pandemic that set things awry. But anyway, that's neither here nor there. Well, it is here, but.

[00:17:45] Rosa Milito	Yeah. Hi. Hi. My name is Rosa. I think I came here very late, so I'm working with Mariana at her project at Carleton on adaptive reuse, thinking to where we will want to be in three years from now. Thinking of, you know, working through definitely all this strategic output that have been stated here and adding you know I'm an adjunct professor here, Dalhousie and probably the only one is who is doing conservation and it's an elective. So if I would be able to expand a little bit of that in the sense that expanding the perspective on heritage and also the multi disciplinal but also the multi dimensional perspective the diagonal dimension of heritage in different aspect of urban and architecture practice that will be that will be definitely a great goal because it's definitely related to cultural values, to community values and will bring, will involve communities and will definitely raise the bar of the quality of our urban spaces.
	So I think through adaptive reuse, but also through the involvement of other dimension intangible as well as you were saying, so I'm saying that a combination of all the strategic output that should be our road map and probably my inputs in the in the work considering also the also the different actors and different roles that actors and not that, not necessarily professionally involved but there are a lot of aspects. There are a lot of challenges around this. How and why and in which way we can leverage the cultural aspect of not only heritage designated building, but of the existing, but sorry, the existing with a built environment, let's say.
	In order to strengthen communities, and so, I mean, I don't have, I started now. So, but I mean for example I, I was last week, 3 days was in North Cape Breton for a small project and there's a bunch of an organization, a small nonprofit organization with no money, they're trying desperately to save the a place in the lighthouse that they have there and everything.
	We just want to keep it, you know, just try. We have to try to do our best and try to get money for every source, every possible source, in order to keep that element. That is part of our identity. So it's a, you know, I think it's a lot of a lot of work to do.
[00:24:11] Anonymous	I have to apologize. I'm a bit late to the party. My name is Seamus McGrail. I was invited by Mariana, maybe just Friday to this conference. So, I'm a bit late. I'm here representing the Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals, CAHP. I'm President of the Atlantic chapter. So, the Atlantic Canada Association affairs professionals.
	We formed just 2 1/2 years ago. So we've been in operation, Rosa is on the board with me and we tried to do outreach to communities, municipalities and the four provinces, four Atlantic provinces, and we're traveling to New Brunswick this year to reach out to heritage professionals there and start a dialogue around shared interests.
	I'm also a heritage planner with the heritage property program for the city of Halifax.
	And we have a lot of challenges in introducing more diversity into our heritage property program. So we currently have a pilot project to identify African Nova Scotian Heritage resources. We only have 5 registered heritage buildings that are associated with African Nova Scotian community values and so we're, we have a pilot project now to really reach out to African Nova Scotian communities and find more resources of value to them and help them develop and their communities of Beachville and Lucasville in the Preston areas as well. So it's a big, big push for that. Also outreach to the

	indigenous Miq'maw community is a big part of our programming right now. We don't have any registered heritage properties that are associated with the Miq'maw. So we're reaching out to that community and trying to identify properties of heritage significance finding, trying to find ways, methodologies to identify potential study areas for heritage potential and we're working with Dalhousie University and Rosa to try to establish those kinds of methodologies. But also representation. How do we develop interpretive programs and planning programs to help tell their story for the Mi'kmaw and the African Nova Scotian community in in particular? But I'll leave it at that. We're interested as a municipality in partnering, we're very interested in this road map tool that Mariana is developing and is something can be applicable to ACAHP as an organization, to disseminate tools, to communities that don't have a lot of most communities where Halifax is very lucky that we have a four staff, heritage staff and most communities in Nova Scotia have one heritage staff person or one staffer with a heritage portfolio. And so supplying them with tools would be very helpful. And if that can come from academia, I think that's where the standards largely came from. And so that that, that toolkit would be very important for us to work with.
[00:24:03] Mariana Esponda	And he gave a wonderful tour until they about Barrington St. about their pollution because Barrington.
[00:24:11] Anonymous	Yeah, we have 4 heritage conservation districts just in the downtown area and I took some of your students around to down Barrington St. the capital area, the old South suburb. And if you haven't visited Schmidtville yet, I highly recommend. It's right over there, that direction that 1830s first subdivision of Halifax. There's some interpreter panels that we put up that tells the story right outside the right across from the library. The Central Library. So if you haven't had a chance to take a walk around there, I highly recommend it. A lot of buildings there are dating back to the 18th century, 1830s subdivision, so. I'll leave it at that. Thank you.
[00:24:51] Rosa Milito	I'm here representing ICOMOS Canada and also ICOMOS international.
[00:25:37] Jason Surkan	Do you have chapters in Western Canada, too?
[00:25:43] Anonymous	Yes, the Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals, they have chapters, they have chapters everywhere now so they just the Ontario Association of Heritage Professionals is kind of the 1st chapter and there's a British Columbia Association of Heritage Professionals. There's the Quebec, Quebec is trying to be more active, but they've been around for a while. And then Atlantic Canada Association here, professionals, we formed 2 1/2 years ago and just this year the Prairies Association of Heritage Professionals just started. This year. I just I was talking to the new President yesterday. So CAHP is really seeing the chapters as their way forward to disseminate tools. We're trying to discover what our mandate is in Atlantic Canada and we're doing a survey. We're putting out a survey in the next few weeks to trying to find out what our prior priority focus area should be, because we're kind of just focusing on our own experiences and interests and we probably

	shouldn't do that. We should probably try to find out what, where are we needed? Yeah.
[00:26:59] Mariana Esponda	Jeannie, Jeannie was in in the in the representing CAHP. So that's something that when I was looking about who will be in table, I thought that CAHP will be good because these projects is all Canada, so I thought that that would be something important to have, like representation through the chapters. Yeah. So if you want it, I can, I can put in contact. Absolutely would be great.
[00:27:24] Anonymous	Great. Thank you.
[00:27:26] Jason Surkan	Forgive me, the question is future directions?
[00:27:30] Brian Sinclair	Strategic direction.
[00:27:31] Jason Surkan	Strategic directions for our project moving forward. I think Alan covered some of it. Yeah, I'll go -
	Our project, like I've shared earlier is, is kind of diverse and we're running like parallel projects as well to the road maps. And I think that's our way of working with like we're very collaborative, right, so I think there's a number of projects that we're going to be working on moving forward, but I do feel like we're on a really good trajectory and we just need to kind of keep our trajectory.
	Moving forward on it, I think ideally like in a future direction we would be increasing trade capacity increasing like kind of confidence and abilities of community members outside of just like Saskatoon High School students, you know, like where are the students in the First Nations and the many communities we're working in and how are we getting them to a point where they're confident in their abilities to restore, like housing autonomy to their community and themselves like they shared lots about housing autonomy, how we were autonomous up until like a couple of generations or a few generations ago. So, I think restoring that and in our communities and I think Alan's got a really good start on developing the housing model in the way of building you know it's obtainable. It's at a scale, it's obtainable. And a cost, it's obtainable of being a small home.
	So I think, yeah, that's future trajectories and directions would be translating that into the community, and I don't know how exactly we do it, but maybe it's more partnerships with the high schools there and helping their high schools get set up with tool cribs and training materials and drawings and continuing, we have done some design build courses and very simple stuff, but like I went out to as an architect and taught them how to build and frame a deck, but there's a lot of other skills in framing a wooden deck. You learn what? How to read a tape measure. You learn how to use a saw. You learn how to nail things together and I agree, like if you can frame a deck that's level and square, you could probably frame a house, right? So it's a start, you know.
	For a lot of the participants have never picked up a tool or a hammer, and by the end of the eight-hour day we had a finished deck and we had all the students had to use every tool that was there and they had a fundamental understanding. So, I think just continuing our trajectory, but I think really trying to get more boots on the ground actually in the community. You know,

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	like the work in Saskatoon is really, really good and should and will continue on. But if we can kind of connect with community members directly and getting them building.
[00:29:59] Brian Sinclair	Question for you.
	So, many architecture schools, including my own, have design build with the architecture students. Have you thought about, or do you already include U of M in in your work? Like I know you talked about connecting with them on the design side, but in terms of getting them up to the northern communities to actually build?
[00:30:19] Jason Surkan	No, I do not because of my remoteness, my remoteness.
[00:30:23] Brian Sinclair	OK. But they couldn't come up and you know, for the summer time.
00:30:27 [Jason Surkan]	In theory, they could. Yeah. In theory they could. But like I'm over 10 hours at the closest school of architecture.
[00:30:34] Brian Sinclair	Right. But if they came up to do like, I don't know if you know the rural studio in Alabama with Sam Rockwell, he's deceased now. But I show a film to my students every year. It's called Citizen Architect. And it's such a touching film because they doing small houses for impoverished black people. You know, it's just an amazing story.
[00:30:34] Jason Surkan	Yeah, yeah.
[00:30:55] Brian Sinclair	Yeah, it would seem, and this is an aside, when I was Dean at my school in 2003, I started, I forged a trilateral agreement with the US and Mexico and Canada 3 schools in each in each country, and we would move around. So Merida or Mexico City or, you know, a couple places in the US, Saint Louis. But one semester they went to Churchill and they were they were based the three Mexican schools, three US schools, 3 Canada schools, all gathered together in Churchill. Yeah. And so, so I think, you know, there might be ways because your project, you know, your project is fantastic.
[00:31:36] Jason Surkan	The Yeah, the timing. Yeah. It's just a, it is a matter of timing for me. Yeah. My firm is a year and a half years old, that's all.
	Yeah, like I've run a lot of projects here in a year and a half, but yeah, it's a matter of time. And so in due time, in due time, yes.
[00:31:54] Brian Sinclair	But there might be resources available as well through the university. I know for us like we go down to Tijuana, we do all sorts of things to build stuff so.
[00:32:01] Jason Surkan	Yeah. No, it's in the works, but it's, it's in due time.
	I think we're just, we're just establishing my like property and I do have 80 acres of land I do have a sawmill, access to wood and timber everything so it's. But it's coming from a grassroots independent perspective, me doing it. U of M has a four school that they're doing which is really fascinating that it's being pushed forward. It's actually really interesting though, like, it's heavily

	funded, you know, the university will fund and there's lots of dollars there for it. But the liabilities of students being out on the land are crippling it.
	Whereas I have no funding, but I have no liabilities as an independent in a way like you know. So, it's this interesting thing where like, yes, I would like to run a design build school with my practice, like a ghost lab or a world studio.
[00:32:50] Jason Surkan	But it's in due time, I think. Sure. Yeah, because there's a lot that comes with that. Yeah, it's a facilities to have people somewhere to host them. The all of these things, so.
[00:33:01] Brian Sinclair	I guess on a positive note from my experience, the growth that students experience by working with someone like you, especially in a remote place is profound.
[00:33:10] Jason Surkan	Yeah., it will come. It's not maybe inside the 10 years
[00:33:13] Brian Sinclair	Yeah, sure. Great. Thank you.
[00:33:18] Seamus	Evan Hunter, he's an architect and operator of Winnipeg. He's the president of their new Association of health professionals. So if you, if you wanna reach out to connect and yeah.
[00:33:33] Jason Surkan	Yeah, I have an archive of maybe 50 historical structures. That are Metis-specific in the prairies, a personal archive of photos, drawings. Something to maybe talk about.
[00:33:47] Brian Sinclair	UBC.
[00:33:53] Narita Ico	Probably don't have that clear of an answer to be honest. I think at the beginning when we kind of began, we had, like I said before, we had an idea that we were going to make documents kind of strategized towards the municipality and changing policy. But as we've gone through the process over the past two years and looking at the complexities of the situation and developing value- more kind of community based values along the way. I think our strategy has changed a lot.
	Looking at it now, I think we are shifting more towards work that supports the community, not as much… I think we still want to support city planners, but with our Conservative government, I think it's I think we realized that we want work that can support planners and designers, that where our values are aligned and I think that's a difficult thing to find, but really creating information that's easily accessible to community members and the public easily digestible, especially to people who may not have the same education because a lot of our work.
	It's impacting those communities directly. So just refocusing and re strategizing.
[00:35:22] Cara Shan	How? How are you going to communicate to the people who should… yeah.
[00:35:28] Narita Ico	Yeah, I think someone said it before, but it starts with like relationship building, yeah. Really, putting our boots on the ground and realizing our place of privilege of where we are, and we have this, we have obviously really good

	backgrounds and education, but in doing so I think a lot of the times our field we tend to talk to people with the same education and the same background. And I think we limit our views and our perspectives through that way. So I think going out, I mean of course going out into the community and talking to people.
	But it's not even just talking, it's building the relationship that's the most important thing, because they're never going to trust us. If we don't build that first.
[00:36:17] Cara Shan	Yeah. Just sorry. Just like thinking one level, you know, up in these questions that they've set out for us like where they're asking, how are we going to have this and they, they call it a national debate, maybe it's not a debate, maybe it's a discussion. How are we going to have this conversation? This discussion? Who is the audience? And I don't know. I'm just struggling out loud, like how we're going to answer that for this entire project, like for you, it's clearer in your…
[00:36:52] Narita Ico	Yeah, that's the thing. I don't, I don't even know if, like, the national- It's like a national approach cause these are such like, specific communities, I don't think we could apply the same approach to everywhere. I think that'd be wrong, to be honest.
[00:37:16] Rosa Milito	So are you working with the local communities, understanding values and their values and try to leverage those and is are you thinking also to connect to use this as an example and also connect with the with probably the municipality or governance there, in order to kind of bridging… I think those are the needs that should be listened to, and then and then responded eventually in terms of policies. Are you thinking about that as well and, and that's how we can be an example.
[00:37:54] Naita Ico	Yeah, that's a great point. Umm, I think right now the communities and those like they're separate systems, they're very separate systems. So I think when you say like bridging, I think that's a great way to put it because right now there's no, there's no really good, there's no relationship, it's not a proper relationship. And I think our work can help towards developing that relationship, but there's so many steps that need to be done, especially on this side of the city, in order for those to be made.
	And I hope that can help and hopefully we can be a precedent for that. But it's yeah, in the long run it's a long process and a lot of apologies need to be made that have not been made and yeah, it's. There's just like, so much a doubt and mistrust that and yeah, it's a difficult one.
[00:39:00] Mike Brennan	Thank you.
	So I wasn't here this morning, I apologize, but as well. I'm Mike Brennan. I'm from the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. So I guess we don't have a project.
[00:39:15] Brian Sinclair	But you have strategies.
[00:39:19] Mike Brennan	Right. So correct, right. So, I think that that you know from again from our lens, I'll always preface with that- I've just jotted some notes down about what I think and what our organization will be thinking or is thinking about the projects this, this what we're doing and from a short, medium long term perspective.

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What some of those aspirations and maybe some of it is aspirational, but I think that when I look at our strategic plan where we're going and what fits and a lot can fit anywhere, what is the priority and so we value through our integrity, climate action and reconciliation, social justice innovation, those are our five key areas of values, but what do they mean to us?

And how do we get the message out of what that might mean to others.

Because there's other work being done, we just talked about bridging gaps. So, and values that not equate to, but move to behaviors and I think people are always the key element to everything anybody ever does. We can do whatever we want in the end of the day if people aren't being taken care of in some way, shape or form globally, then we're not doing what we need to do as humans to take care of this planet. And so that's big, Big Sky stuff. So as you as you drill it down or as I drill it overarching aspirations of the collective and the short term is I feel that our networks so all the projects we come together annually at the conference and we meet and we talk and we see all the work that's been done or hasn't been done where what different stages or levels groups are at. So what's happening along the way, what's happening from that when that previous year, sure there's people talking and there's some collaboration, but there's no… It's not planned. It's really unorganized. And so I would hope in the short term that and I'm pointing like I'm pointing that I'm there's three fingers pointing back at me. I'm part of the problem and I want to be part of the solution. And so I think that a stronger network outside of conferences needs to be enhanced. That's short-term enhanced.

Because without that, we're going to continue to have like we're going to question everything all the time annually, right, kind of sort of and I'm not, I'm not being a jerk and saying this project is that it sucks or anything I'm saying there's an opportunity for improvement and to enhance that because that will get us to the medium term.

I think keeping all of those other values in check because we all have them, we're all implementing them in some way, shape or form to make a difference, and I think we'll do that, but appropriate dissemination in the medium term and we have to execute and the rate of execution needs to be really good because otherwise we're just going to… you said hamster wheel earlier and it triggered something and because we need to get off the wheel and just do one thing. Right. And that one thing needs to be really good, but how we just and I don't have the answers you know.

[00 :42:31] Brian Sinclair	You know what 'appropriate' means?
[00:42:32] Mike Brennan	That appropriate means a lot of things, and it's not that it would be inappropriate necessarily, but it needs to make sense to the recipients. Right, so how is it disseminated? What the wording is like, it has to be different for each audience, so that's what I mean by appropriate. I hope that's helpful. Yeah, right. So and it's and it not the like one size does not fit all right, so we need to figure that out and it's OK to do one to three things first, and they could be like- I have a rule at work and I tell my staff, you know what, sometimes 90% is good enough. You don't like, just like check the box and let's go. Because. Because everything that we do in life is not everything. Everything at work is subject to change. And I think in life as well to some degree. And so it's OK if you put something out that's 90%.

You're always going to get one or two people- Why did you do that? They're going to ***** and complain about. That's fine. Let them. But as long as it's with good intent. Get it done and leave room to improve it. And that to me is a really good practice. So I think that would help in that medium term. Long term I think about so long term for me is the fourth year in this project is what I mean by long term and then post five years of this program and I think I talked a little bit about this yesterday. I'm not worried, but I my spider senses tingle when I think about what? What like it's about… what the trajectory could look like or what it should look like, what I believe it could be, and I worry a little bit that it's not going to be as big, bold and celebrated as it needs to be. So I want, I'm going to try to figure out how our organization, our people is. I think it's something that you know and Jean Pierre mentioned it today and just randomly at a meeting he's like you know for all just come into conference and enjoy each other's company once a year.

That's also really good thing, but outcomes so the application of the research and I wrote outcomes question mark question mark because you know that's important and it's just it's all blurry to me and so I would like I want to figure out how we can see clarity, get clarity and I think it's like- to see clearly, necessarily. But maybe we do, because we have to ask the questions we need to get outside of ourselves to figure out, but also ask ourselves what like? How do we make it clear to ourselves? There's no answers to any of these things; I'd love to hear people's comments on what I'm saying, but I guess and I guess overarching aspirations of the collective is how I kind of put this together. So I'll stop there.

I'm learning how to do the mic drop by the way.

[00:45:27] Brian Sinclair	Yeah, yeah. So yeah, thank you. Thank you, Mike, for that. So one thing I'm curious to hear from you about is the sort of management of expectations and you know, I putting this in perspective- so the grant involves a lot of people from across the country, most of the contributions are in kind, which is a good thing. The core cash from SSHRC, 2.5 million, which at any of our schools translates to, I think 19,500 in cash to us. So you know I get more per year from the construction industry. So. So in terms of managing things because often and I've got a large team in Calgary, there's sort of anxiety that you know we're not producing, we're not producing enough. And we're often reminded, especially by the community partners, just the fact that these various sectors are coming together to chat the way they are, and there's eighteen of us from Calgary down here. That alone is a huge success story that is discounted in a pretty serious way. I would say it's not seen as too much to celebrate. On the other hand, I think is a tremendous amount to celebrate and things we move that we achieve beyond that are sort of gravy and we want to be doing that. We want to be achieving more things and we will. But you know, just the simple fact that we've got 4 sectors of society coming together when they haven't come together before and we're having candid conversations, let's say, in in Calgary. You know, twice a year with 70 or 80 people at the table asking hard questions about poverty alleviation, how, you know, homelessness, all sorts of things, health in in the city.

So I'm curious, from your point of view as the CEO of RAIC, what is your thought on managing expectations? Like underachieving over promising? |
| [00:47:26] Mike Brennan | Well, I have my own personal models on, you know, never promise too much so. |

[00:47:31] Brian Sinclair	Like, are we succeeding?
[00:47:32] Mike Brennan	Well, see. And that's- and I wrote that down as you were speaking because managing of expectations to me- So you always have goal posts or should goal posts. And do we have goal posts? I know we do in our organization we have we have, we have goals, we set them, and we don't keep moving them. Yeah, right. Sometimes they have to shift a little bit to let a little more in or a little less in, but it's always usually pretty understood, pretty well understood. Yeah. And so, managing expectations is, is measurement. Yeah, for sure. So how do you measure the performance criteria. So when you talked about your team, you get together. It's wonderful. It's celebratory. Who else is doing that and who's communicating the celebrations? Because I agree with you that is very important to, to recognize that because you're disseminating, right? It's you're getting it out. Right? So. And I know lots of groups and teams are actually doing that, but it's not communicated, it's not out there it's. I mean, sure it's celebrated, but maybe it's a little more siloed than I would hope. So as we manage that, if we set we should be setting up systems pretty easy systems where I don't know and I know everyone's busy and there's volunteers and there's all of those things that occur, right. But at the same time, there's a way to without it being quite so fractured to bring those things together, but like I was saying, do three things right, so maybe that is one of the three things right is, I don't know draft a 2 paragraph brief on what you celebrated the most in the last two months. And they bring all that together. You pool it and you celebrate it together. It doesn't have to be in person, right? But it's pretty simple to do. And so I think. And maybe that's a really bad example. I don't know. I'm just going on a little bit of a rant, but, but I think managing the expectations to answer your question, just straight up, I think it's about you need to know what the expectations are. And you can't manage them unless you know what they are. So that's what I what I maybe I'd be struggling with that. OK, you know what? You they are at in Calgary.
[00:49:55] Brian Sinclair	Yeah, to an extent. But yeah.
[00:49:55] Mike Brennan	But the expectations are I know what they are at the RAIC but a collective for this project, we might not.
[0050 :03] Mariana Esponsa	I think that collectively probably we- like again, I think that like at Carleton with adaptive re-use- we and something that we did is, which were our initial goals and what we, today I didn't bring my laptop but like we have it like in in black, like in bold like which were the originals. And then in the following year we look at which that we set at we continue and which ones we have added and that's what we are doing every year to see it. But what I think that like what I'm looking at is like, those goals, like I measure expectations, but I think that's I am not disseminating as much as what we what like those goals? So I like I like I started and I continue, but then like I think that and that's I think that is good to know what you were saying like honestly resonated and I and I really appreciate that that critical eye because that is going to helping us.

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But what I think is what we and probably the second part of this session, that is how we can look at as a national, I think that that's where, like honestly like if you move me a little bit and I'm shake it off it's in that part like I know what I'm doing but I don't know what we are doing it's going to help the whole grant, and that's what I like and I think that that's absolutely like shake it up because I don't know.

[00:51:43] Rosa Milito	Looking at the values and the different values and different strategic points that you mentioned before in the different groups, because basically those are the said that the area that we are working on.
	Comparing and also see where are the signals, but I think probably the, and I'm new to the researchers. I'm not sure what has been done. What has been told so far, but we kind of we should then as a second parts OK those are some values and I didn't, and maybe some of them are really local or whatever but.
	How so? Moving in the road map that we are thinking about the identification of one is probably the first and foremost step. But then how after this identification and recognition etcetera, how we can go to the next step in providing quality. So there are probably all these, all these examples that you know some of us are involved in different places can be a part of a possible strategies, possible actions, possible way to move forward, for you know.
	Because otherwise you, yes, these are the values there. But then in 10 years, the value stays valued. Maybe the community has lost the value because he there's nothing to protect it. And I'm not talking about the tangible, only tangible things. It's always a mix.
	So coming to your point, the short, medium and long term strategy should be also looked at the road map and then the sub Rd. maps for each of the elements. How they can be articulated and, in this research, could be really collecting together a number of examples can go and support specific points. Can be positive or negative. Examples, but then we learn and see where is the you know where is the weakness, where is the strength of that, that, that. It's a lot of work, you know, but how many years we have to work? Two more? Three more? Maybe we need to get we need to get another round of this.
[00:54:17] Brian Sinclair	So I just wanted to throw in a couple of more points, Mike. So in our first year, the academics were clearly sort of at the helm.
	And our community partners said, we know you have to produce, you keep telling us you have to produce, you're under pressure to produce. Slow down.
	So we're much more interested in building relationships amongst the four groups than we are about shiny objects, and that was good. And you know, I mentioned the other day that I'm a psychologist and an architect and the psychologist in me tells me that forging those relationships is an achievement and it's a good thing, but it's always discounted.
	You know, it's always like, especially university environments, but you know, the head is preferred over the heart, thinking is, you know, better than feelings and things like that. So I think that's important. The other thing I was going to, and I was reminded, I do a lot of work in the country Bhutan but sometimes things are more important than you know, our Western measures of success and progress. So there's all sorts of ways to measure these things. Gross national happiness might be one. The other thing I want to mention is spin offs and the sort of unanticipated consequences. So in, I guess, January, Megan Reed, who's here today, she's the executive director

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of the Vibrant Communities Calgary. She contacted myself and Grace Coulter Sherlock from Le May. So two of us worked with her to basically talk about design charettes cause she wanted to run when she want us to run it. We could have, but she was she wanted to run it as the executive director of a group that it deals with poverty alleviation.

And she got a whole group of Calgary executive directors. And that together at Fort Calgary and ran a workshop on what would a better city look like.

That was an unanticipated consequence of our project.

Is it a deliverable? Is it a strategic outcome? Yes, absolutely. And you know, she's got a bunch of these little zines she produced. If you see them, they're just really quite magical. But I think that's important as well, I think, when I, you know, and I know you're coming from a business side of things, I've got my own company as well and do a lot of work around the world. It's one thing, but what we're dealing with this partnership is very different. It's got space for things that are not about key performance indicators and bottom line thinking and things like that. You know how well is this you know entity going to do? So I think that's one of the benefits. It's a magical part of our partnership. And I think when I talk about managing expectations, we can't be too hard on ourselves. You know, maybe just by the connections we make and the things we do, there'll be tangible outputs. But there'll be things that will be enduring as well just by virtue of our collision.

[00:57:15] Anonymous	I am, I kind of align more with you in terms of tangible outcomes. I hear what you're saying and I think relationship building is extremely important and it's probably like a fault of mine that I don't focus enough on that in my line of work. But I do wonder when we're talking about the outcomes and you know the research leading to action, if there needs to actually be a little bit more focus on governments, I was scanning through the program. I think there's only three or four of us here from government, from across all the sites. And I know you have partners who aren't here today in, in the various sites, but I do think that like insertions into the policy development process. Both from like a theoretical perspective, but also from like under just understanding who the players are in the various levels of government and like literally who the people are. I think that's probably applicable to most of the projects and like there's different ways you can do that, right? Like I was reflecting on what you were saying Narita about, you know, like, demonstrating how much the city of Vancouver has spent on these, like, what's the term like the aggressive arc? Yeah, the, the enforcements, the, the putting up the, the fencing. Whatever, and like, that's almost like a disruptive or like antagonistic way of going about making change, which is a good route right, like from an activist perspective, but I think maybe understanding what those routes are and like figuring out if you want to go like more collaborative versus more like antagonistic versus subversive like you guys are doing right. But I think like it's almost like a political acuity piece on how to transform research into action and you have to work with the governments in most cases, right? So I don't know if that is maybe a focus for the partnership as a whole over the next- I don't know two years, two and a half.
[00:59:20] Brian Sinclair	Just a quick a quick comment. So we've got 2 government bureaucrats with us, David Down and Don Clark. But we were having dinner last night and they were saying it appears from their involvement with the project that there

	isn't a sound understanding of the way the policy gets enacted. You know about, you know, so in Calgary for the last week, we've had a very heated debate around what they call blanket zoning changes. It's very controversial. But, you know, a huge public consultation process and not that some of the changes we would look to enact would be that intense.
	But still there is a long lead up time, you know, and I talked for our presentation and our presentation about evidence based design informing the policy thing, but we fully understand that it's like a two or three year process. We don't have enough time left in the partnership to enact many of the changes, so it's got to be enduring after the partnership. So yeah.
[01:00:03] Mariana Esponda	No, I just want to know like do you think that having more government representatives will help to implement, or at least to make awareness of these situations?
[001:00:20] Anonymous	I think it's difficult to it's difficult to know who the right people are, and maybe there's too many of the right people. There's so many of us.
[01:00:27] Mariana Esponda	No, no. Like specifically in in our, in our case was a shame. And of course, like there are a lot of things that changed, but like when we were working with heritage conservation services, the director change, so move to another department. So we were very lucky because the two people that they were moved, they say well even though we because they moved to the apartment but in their department they were also interesting to continue working so he and she like both they have been continue working even that now they are not in HCS they're in another department.
	Ah, like but like I want to continue working with HCS. So now they are put me in contact with the new director and I'm trying to grab them. So it's like it's kind of like I think that I was lucky that they were even that they changed from that department. They were very interested to continue working with us so.
	But it's absolutely great to have it, but it's not an easy…
[01:01:25] Rosa Milito	But I think also the it's important to have the government at the table different, but you know and we are also working with Seamus. We are starting to do some things together with the city etc.
	But I think fundamentally we need to building the relationship at the community level. It's really the base because the government needs to respond to that. So that's clarifying set and clarifying what are the needs and what are the values together, it's not a diachronic evolution. We can do things you know can be done things at a different level. It's definitely, you can do the other one without the other. We cannot. You know, you cannot expect to get quality if there is no policy in place or not supporting it. But more than so after policy, it's not only the policy, it's the bylaw and how is applied in practice is the is, you know how, if there are guidelines, there's a number of other tools that can help down the road to achieve those, the quality of the urban environment and the of our environment. But really we need to start -it's important to start to enable the conversation, enable the relationship, enable the communication and in that case, if there is no communication, I mean it's a group and another group we will never get there.
	So just a just a just a point, say yes, that's right.
[01:03:04] Anonymous	Yeah, I agree with you and you know, government does have to respond to citizen groups who make noise. So that's definitely a good strategy as well,

	like maybe an outcome for the partnership in terms of their deliverable is like process mapping the different ways you can effect change like that being one of them like from grassroots up perspective versus you know like coming in laterally versus coming in top down as academics.
[01:03:26] Rosa Milito	Exactly, but not only. I mean, I'm not saying only activists and you have to listen because but also working together with the different groups. That's also important, but you've kind of established that connection, that conversations are super important.
[01:03:45 Mike Brennan]	Yeah. So I just, I think the project means it could mean many different things to different groups and different people and that's also OK as long as we all kind of have the what's, what's, what's, what's out there and what, yeah, what's the end result because we it can't, it can't be all for nothing. And to your point I agree with you and the fact that the government needs to be included more. But also the government needs to be open to being included more.
	Right. And so and at different levels, so we, we're the RAIC, we're the national we're the only national voice for architects and architectural built environment in Canada there's no, we have no competition and our regulators regulate and their provincial and that's their mandate. So we have a lot of flexibility and so when our organization, it was, it was. 1907 was the year it was brought to light. And for decades and decades and decades, we'd write letters, we'd go beat on the feds' doors and we'd and you know where it ends up. It ends up in the recycle bin about a week later.
	So I've changed our strategy and the way we do things with the federal government that's allowed us to get down to the municipalities and that's only going to get further and further enhanced. So in 2019 the interim executive director that was there during a mix of, I mean the RAIC went through stuff. But I mean, I'm not going to go there, I'm being recorded. My God anyway so. So we'll cut that out. Edit. So there's going to be. so I think that so the PSPC was knocking on our door to do a competition for Block 2. The precinct directly across from the center block and our board and everybody said no way, no no, absolutely not. And then so that was kind of shut down. Then I came on board and so they have a new guy.
	I said absolutely and right and so. So bringing that opportunity to light and then doing what we need to do to run a very successful competition and with, with, with an international presence, celebratory.
	That was the first stepping stone to what we do today, so we don't, the odd time. We'll write a nasty letter, right? There's no question if we have to, we will and I'll, I'll and I'll go on record to give you a really good example of what we do now versus what we what people think we should be.
	We advocate from within. We advocate from within, we get a seat at the table with the decision makers and the politicians, and that gives us a voice and we are the voice for architects in Canada. We have architects that feed us the information to tell us what their needs are, how we get it out there and it's extremely successful. It just and it also happens to have a monetary value attached to it. So and we're providing jobs to, to architects to help guide the work because not everybody knows what they're supposed to be doing. Unfortunately, sometimes we get we come in midway, or when governments like help us please and so we do. But it's nice to get in at the beginning. So there's a way to advocate from within to those who are willing and we don't have to sit back and wait to be for someone knocking on our door, we have

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your support. The government supports it and we have them here in their presence and I'm working with Miriam and her team now on getting this. How do we expand that? I want an architect from real properties. You get over here too. Volunteer your time. Let's be part of this process. Make it bigger. Better stronger. So anyway.

The example I'm going to give you is, is that some of you may or may not know the Afghan memorial catastrophe where Canadian heritage and Veterans Affairs ran a competition because that's what they do and there was a jury and the jury is there to make a selection. Sorry, sorry. Yeah, that's right. Not make a selection. The jury is there to make a recommendation.

It's always the client's decision at the end of the day, but not the way that the government did it. They really made a mess of it. And so our members are very small corner, maybe less than 1% knocked on our door and said you need to kill them, you need to go after them. You need to write letters. You need to go and knock on their door. You need it has to go right up the chain and we said just calm down. Just relax.

The brain starts working OK and I've been trying to get in front of Canadian heritage for quite some time because I'd like to run all their competitions. And so I said opportunity, I said we're not going to write a nasty letter. So instead we're going to put an article in a magazine.

There's a whole and I'll stop their cause there's other stuff that's been happening since some of you may have read it, I don't know. And so we wrote a nice article addressing not just not the that that particular memorial and that catastrophe. We basically and we didn't shame anybody. We said, you know what? It's really unfortunate that this was so terrible and how can we help? How can we help? Raise your hand. So now the residential school National Monument that's being put in Ottawa on West Block, we're right in the middle of that. And we were dealing like it's indigenous-led there's 30 1st and 2nd generation survivors.

That are leading that team and they're struggling and governments in their way. And so for all of the political reasons, but they're also in their own way so we can come in and we can broker something. And so that's what we do. And now the, the DGs and the EDMs are calling me saying Mike, we need your help now before there's another competition. So now this is these are the things that this group, this organized, this, this, I call it maybe an organization, this this project can do that embed themselves in a place where decision can be made. But then we go back. So I'm part of, I don't know if you know this, so the OAA, the Rick Hansen foundation, so Susan Spiegel and Dormy and some of you may have heard talk about, and the RAIC, we've kind of split off and done this little subgroup thing to raise more money. So we're we don't even call ourselves and we're not an entity, but we're trying to put together information that makes sense to the people we're delivering the information to – firms: we want their money give us money to help support all students across Canada. Get here to these conferences and fund their travel, fund their meals, and they're like, research? What's that? And so we're like, well, we're explaining it. We're trying to. So we we're not doing a good enough job in space. So we there's like we're on revision 16 for this deck, but we're putting it out there and we're Jean Pierre's like, you know, he's in the know. So it's all good. But anyway, I guess what I'm saying is that there's the opportunity for me for in my from my perspective is, to get us closer, we need to see to the table. And I don't know how. Like we can ask for it. Or is it? How do? How does? Because you're here? How? What's the willingness

	to say you need to come to this and then and then? And then who does that? Because coming to the table could be like 40 people. So, I mean it's hard. Challenge other challenge.
[01:11:05] Brian Sinclair	Two minutes. Yeah. We just got to sign up this thing here from the boss. The boss? Yeah.
[01:11:14] Cara Shan	In the past few years, current strategic outputs that are missing.
[01:11:22] Anonymous	So, I think that it's super important to show the making process making to show changes that are going to happen. I think that that is extremely important, like in my opinion, but.
[01:11:41] Cara Shan	Yeah. So that would be like a national action and…
[01:11:46] Mariana Esponda	I think that will be both. I think the 1st we need to do it. For each clusters. And from there we can build that. And the other thing that I thought that the idea about the values like if we see which are our values for each cluster and then from there we can see or collide with these collide with that and then we can make us as which are the values for the for the like I don't know.
[01:12:13] Brian Sinclair	Like, yeah, I think you know, furthering from that caution around national push versus the local fit. So and again, you know in, in the calendar round table that we had for every 2 or 3, they said to us the community members. Don't push for common shared values, but look for some overlap, but except that we're each going to have our uniqueness and we gain strength by accepting that uniqueness.
[01:12:42] Mariana Esponda	And I think that is great because when you were talking your, your reality is very unique, but I think, hearing your identity, your hearing, your unique based identity. And I think that it's so important that we can because we try to put it all together, I think that was this, this match and I think that no. We have to.
[01:13:05] Brian Sinclair	Can't put it in a blender.
[01:13:09] Rosa Milito	Understand. Different clusters and different values and what need to be done that I'm pretty sure that there are common things so kind of linking those elements. And because I mean it's not that.
[01:13:21] Brian Sinclair	Yeah, seek those threads.
[01:13:26] Rosa Milito	Or you're going to fall over the things. So they're all interconnected or working on interconnection. And I don't. I'm not sure if.
[01:13:45] Mike Brennan	One thing, and I don't know which is probably to the group, but I think it's a good opportunity on question an overarching part of our overarching national strategy, which is really directly to the question. So we're we have we're kind of selling something here. We need to sell something and we don't have a marketing and communication strategy and I think that's a big thing. Yeah. And I think there's an opportunity to bring in experts to help guide us all and tell us what to do? So.
[01:14:10] Mariana Esponda	No, no, no, definitely no.

25

[01:14:12] Brian Sinclair	Yeah, that's good. Especially with academics.
[01:14:17] Cara Shan	Marketing is missing from our national from our strategic-
[01:14:23] Anonymous	Marketing and communication, marketing and communication, so to disseminate and communicate.

ROOM 2

Workshop 4- **Public Debates and National Strategies**

Room2_ Location: G.H. Murray Building - G215			**13 Participants**
First Name	**Last Name**	**Organisation**	**Research Site**
Robert	Wright	University of Toronto	University of Toronto
Enrica	Dall'Ara	University of Calgary	University of Calgary
Izabel	Amaral	Université de Montréal	Université de Montréal
Grace	Coulter Sherlock	AAA Representative - Lemay	Alberta
Michael	McClelland	ERA Architects	Carleton University
Robert	Balay	Town of Athabasca	Athabasca University
Talayeh	Saghatchian Shomali	Open Architecture Collaborative Canada (OACC)	Toronto Metropolitan University
Sonia	Blank	Architecture Sans Frontières Québec	McGill University
Shantanu Biswas	Linkon	Université de Montréal	Université de Montréal
Justine	Bochenek	Toronto Metropolitan University	Toronto Metropolitan University
Michaela	Pratt-Tremblay	Laurentian University	Laurentian University
Nic	Kuzmochka	Dalhousie University	Dalhousie University
Meg	Berry	Athabasca University	Athabasca University

Room 2 - Workshop 4 - Public Debates and National Strategies
Thursday, May 2, 2024, from 14:00 am to 15:30 pm

Date of report: 2024-06-05

Report produced by
Kuzmochka, Nic *(Dalhousie University)*

2.1. Summary

During the workshop, it was discussed two main points: 1) how to initiate a national debate and 2) who the target audience is for this initiative. We concluded that we need to better define the concept of a national debate to effectively engage with it. When involving others in our efforts, we should strive to create more inclusive and varied forms of participation, such as art competitions and accessible dialogue sessions. Additionally, it's important to reassess the relationship between our work and the people it serves, with the goal of providing meaningful contributions rather than assuming the needs of the community.

- Completing summary of the morning session.

Projects should consider their audience and adjust work and reporting to meet their needs. Priority audiences include:
  - Policymakers/ politicians
  - Professional organizations
  - Educational institutions
  - Rightsholders or stakeholder groups (i.e. Indigenous communities)
  - The public
  - Those in related professions that are not already in the discussion (i.e. planners, trades)
  - Other academic/ professional disciplines
  - Advocacy/ activism organizations

- Making change is a challenging and intricate process that involves engaging with various levels and interacting with systems that are often unclear and remain opaque to us. Factors such as funding, public policy, and organizational procedures make it uncertain how change occurs. Additionally, the timing for making a change may not align with the timing of the system; for example, some organizations have waiting periods of several years before reassessing their policies.

- We need to engage people in more accessible and interesting ways. Arts-based contests, design competitions, etc., may be productive ways of doing this, moving participation to a less academically focused environment.

- As the project stands, we feel quite disconnected from the groups for whom we are executing the projects. It would be beneficial to have more representatives from these groups attend the next convention and provide a dedicated space to discuss the impacts that the projects have had during a plenary session.

- We need to proceed with an understanding of the organizations we work with and their needs and wants. When working with Indigenous communities, we should make space for their leadership and knowledge production. This may involve incorporating methods such as land-based learning, which may not neatly align with our academic approaches.

- It is crucial to have a national discussion about quality in the built environment, but we need to have a better understanding of what "national" means. We should decide if this discussion is intended for those with established interests or for everyone. If it is for everyone, we need to ensure that it is clear and accessible and recognize that not everyone will have the means to participate.

2.2. Detailed Transcription of the Workshop Discussion

Time + name

[00:00 :02] Enrica	We are restarting our work, engaging in the fourth workshop instructions. Provide us with new input. One is about the duration that is not two hours until 4:00 PM but is one hour and half. And of course that has implications on what we will prioritize in the discussion. We will prioritize responding to the second question. Another piece of information is about this workshop not being reported in the summary this afternoon. So we were told that the students will report only on the morning workshop and about the morning workshop we. We didn't finalize the one of the points. So, we try to go back to that very quickly and then we proceed with. So we didn't summarize the main impressions about the road maps. We discussed broadly, but the summary so maybe we should wait for Maggie to come back. OK, so we wait, or are we? Yes.
[00 :02 :45] Grace	She's going to ask Isabella if she can think of hate the words anyhow, or so you're so good at that. Yeah, because you're still good at capturing.
[00:02 :58] Isabel	So how to answer the question, what are your main impressions and insights about the road maps? So I I guess that from our discussion in in this morning. There was generally positive feedback on the road maps. We had some particular comments about the road maps that needed to be visually clarified and find ways to be interactive. If we can say those are impressions, the impression is that they could be more operational if they can be more flexible and interactive.
[00:03 :42] Shantanu	I think I'm not sure, but I think we appreciated the diversity of the road maps according to sites, maybe every site, some are more from epistemological perspectives, some are. Right to the site-based project based. So, I think there was one point like OK, it's good to have a like we have 14 institutions, 14 universities. So it's good to not have on kind of Rd. maps rather than 14 for a kind.
[00:04 :14] Enrica	So one point could be to feature the diversity of specificity of each site project through the road maps.
[00:04:15] Isabel	The group appreciated the fact that the road maps were either specific or more oriented towards global objectives and that was seen for by the group as a quality, not as a default. So that actually different maps respond to different projects and needs. .And it's good to have that scale and a variety of road maps. What else did we discuss? If anyone wants to jump in?
[00:04 :55] Enrica	And it's good to have that scale and variety of road maps maps. What else did we discuss? If anyone wants to jump in? We were more interested in

envisioning. Other components or another way of representing things in the? In the refinement and development of them so. So we focused more on the second part of the question.

[00:06:53] Shantanu	No, What I have written like I am supposed to write 2 main impressions. OK. So for the first one, the feature of SPC specificity and diversity of the road maps according to the site. Across Canada and the second one is the projection of outcomes for different level of short-, medium- and long-term level. Anything to add because it's the space is short. We just have two lines.
[00:07:24] Isabel	That's perfect.
[00:07:27] Enrica	About she mentioned again, but I think we need to embed somewhere we. There was a comment, a criticism, that they are like flat so. Yes, an observation is that.
[00:07:50] Isabel	I guess we're done with the catch up of this morning session, so we can focus. So we can proceed. Maybe we should just ask Shantanu. Are you OK? Can we continue?
[00:08:19] Shantanu	Yeah, yeah. Because he's taking the notes for now. No, I distributed the task because I was supposed to for the first one.
[00:08:28] Enrica	So going back to the question, we started discussing what national actions should be undertaken by the partnership in the coming year in order to spark a national debate on quality. Then follow up the question: who are we trying to target with these actions?
[00:09:33] Rob	I think we should just start with the follow up question of who we're trying to target. And I think that will lead into what actions need to occur.
[00:09:53] Enrica	I just added in informal chats about the road maps outside as this room. There was also a conversation around to be able to think about how to represent and communicate the road maps. We should consider who we are. Who our audience will be, I think is a bit similar question who we are targeting with the work, sorry.
[00:10:28] Isabel	Let's start with who we are targeting, yes.

[00:10:34]
Rob

So are we focused on policymakers that are that that will make that can make change, whether it's all the way to into the building codes or it's just more of local bylaws or zoning by municipalities, you know, then I guess that could transcend up into. The provincial bodies where that's where building codes are decided and there's changes for. That I'm not sure as far as for the social aspects of everything, who there is, who there is to target, but that has political connotations as well.

[00:11:22]
Sonia

For target, OK I would go with. Politicians. No. But policymakers is a I think it's an important one. I think, like, since we're at a conference about architects. We should target architects as well and give them tools to be able to communicate this in their like work environment too and to integrate those thinking those teaching into their work as well. So, I think reaching out to architects and to design professionals in general should be one of the goals of this partnership. The general public, I think we talked about yesterday in terms of activism, advocacy is also another target. So they're all very different. And we talked also about students. I think that's also a good group of people to target if we want to. There's a lot of Advocacy organization.

[00:12:36]
Isabel

What advocacy organizations are you thinking of

[00:12:39]
Sonia

I mean, there's a lot. Hmm. I don't know if. Anyone wants to?

[00:13:04]
Talia

I was thinking about this question and what Sonia said about it's hard to communicate when you talk about 14 different projects if like who you want to target specifically. But in terms of activism and activist, I think it would be good to. Maybe have like a specific target for people who talk about this issue because from the other side of someone who advocates for rights of people often demand housing. But you don't talk about quality of housing, right? Like that's something that we leave to the experts, like architects like, you know, some of you in this room. And I think it's important that when you, you know we go and March and demand because we need more housing, we want that. But from all the projects I've learned that it's important who the how the project is done, how it's done, the importance of community engagement, but also the quality of the work that you put in. It's important that when we demand from policymakers, we know what we are demanding and what is our, you know, benchmark what is our standard to demand that. So that's what I wanted to say about that. It would also be good to educate the advocacy organizations in terms of suggestions, and nationally there are many of them, but you know Canadian Women's Foundation, the national organization that provides a lot of grants to organization who work on women issues, but also gender diverse people gives lots of small grants to grassroot organization across Canada. I'm trying to sorry my knowledge is very Toronto centric. EGALE, which is the equality for gay and lesbians Canada talking about the International n Indigenous Organization who work nationally just to make sure that you know, they also have this knowledge to pass it on to smaller organizations that they work with.

[00:15:10]
Grace

As something you said reminded me of an example that I think there's some scalability to it. So where was I? OK, so. This was years ago, and the terms are now less relevant. I think it's like evolving the language, but a job that we were took on 7-8 years ago longer than that was a joint research project funded by the Alberta government and they were trying to understand vulnerable housing gaps in the Alberta context. Specifically, they wanted to start in Edmonton and in Calgary, so they engaged us as a private practice to do this work. And the means and methods that they set out was we had access different levels of government, so like Alberta Health, we were able to understand Alberta justice understanding who was being housed in jail, essentially because they didn't have a house like who was in the system and but the bulk of the work is we engaged with and I believe it was like 50 per city non for profits working specifically in that sector to then create a road map of what did they tell us that we needed in terms of the housing typologies. And it was very different from what the hypothesis at the onset was, and then it was a really unique like there was some really interesting gaps that came out of it that was specifically targeted to the vulnerable population. And again, that definition is different now and it's not a term that we use. All that to say, we weren't imposing ideas as architects or from an academic perspective of what we thought the houses were. We went out and talked to the frontline groups that were doing all of the work and being funded and had the knowledge and were well set up for it. And then taking that, consolidating it, and then applying that then back to, here's what we should be trying to do. And I wonder if there are ways that we can take a similar approach when thinking about how to amplify the quality by the engagement with those groups that maybe are looking at this from a practical tactical on the streets dealing with this day in, day out, etcetera, etcetera. That would be beneficial. Those are a really long way of giving an example.

[00:17:48]
Enrica

I was also thinking about the professional associations we have the representation, for instance, from the Alberta Association of Architects for the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects. There is Grant, who is a part of the Committee for Indigenous matters and promoting indigenous knowledge, but I think we should find out a way in a more systematic form to have representation of all as the national level association, CSLA, the architecture one and the CIP that I haven't seen. part of the Canadian Institute of Planners. I think also reaching out to planners would be absolutely relevant given what we are and let them know about the project. So they can become also a medium for dissemination at the national level in the professional communities. Because I do think that embracing concepts and not only concepts, but the methods we are trying to develop, having them in the daily practice would enrich the discourse in practice.

[00:19:33]
Grace

Yeah. I agree with that. So the professional associations are self governing and it's mandatory like you can't you can't practice in Canada. So I've reciprocal licensing across the prairies as well. To insight meaningful change on the profession side, you would need to garner, like you can start it at education, but you need to garner the support of the professional associations and and leverage the different means and methods that they have for cascading information and then find ways that work within the channels that they have in place. They could then share that information. So, I mentioned before we have mandatory 'con Ed' requirements in the profession that come up on a two year annual cycle. Lots of the associations

will include specific regional mandatory courses within that. So, a few years ago we had to take a specific to Alberta building code or building envelope course. It was mandatory you had to do it or you weren't going to be licensed. There are things like that. There's also task force. Within the Association for people to find specific ways to augment all of the rules that we have in place, the best practices, they inform the building code. Lots of our association works with groups that are making those changes etcetera. So I think that it would be trying to find ways to synergistically raise awareness and then find a way to disseminate the information to the architects, the landscape architects, the planners, the planners have such a huge impact. It's kind of wild that we don't have more representation from. Yeah, that's nuts to me as we're talking it out.

[00:21:53] Nic	I think one of the groups that is like, very involved in building construction, we haven't talked very much about are like trades and people like actually doing the building. I've like in our experience with schools, we've seen a number of schools that were really, really, like beautifully and well-designed but weren't very well built. So they've created like all of these new issues that are part of the quality of the built environment, but aren't related to design. And I haven't really seen representation of that at this conference or heard a lot of discussion of it. So, I just wanted to put that out there.
[00:22:37] Dani	I think it's super interesting that you bring it up. I worked at the wood shop or workshop for a Co-op term and in the Faculty of Architecture like Craft or Trade was almost like a dirty word it seemed. I just wanted to say that and that like, I don't know, I have so much more respect for craft and trade after doing this placement. And I think it's really important to honor that a little bit.
[00:23:10] Isabel	Just as an answer to Nic's question, we did have partners. Maybe they're just in another room, they were really from the construction industry and they were there. I don't know, but they were at the Montreal conference as well.
[00:23:29] Grace	Bill Black was from the Calgary Construction Association and Andrew Payne was representing the Ontario Masonries Association. I remember those two. They gave the feedback essentially that for them, like the means and methods of providing access to their industry is really distant from where the project is right now. So I don't want to like, speak on behalf of them, but I have had a lot of these conversations and I would also note observationally because we're maybe one step closer, let's say through part of the role of building things as you're on site, right, so you are engaging and working directly with the trades as part of the role. So the language we use, but also the sheer volume of and diversity of trades that exist now is something to think about, because Andrew's representing masonry, but we have in an incredibly vast amount of different techniques, requirements, building room code requirements across Canada, which is so distinct that it has as many climates as it needs. As it does so, I think that that's another sort of thing to navigate about. When you're talking about trades and boots on the ground, like just recognize the volume of that task at hand in order to get knowledge out there.
[00:24:58] Rob	So, I guess as far as going back to who we're targeting as far as social housing is concerned, I know that the United Way has got tons of data and

they've been commissioned by the Alberta government to do pilot studies in several communities on housing. And I don't know if what they have would benefit this group, but maybe someone should reach out to see if what they've gathered can be of use for some of the projects anyways.

[00:25:49] Meg	Could someone just catch me up on where we are?
[00:25:57] Enrica	This workshop will be shorter than the other ones, so they asked us to wrap up at 3:30 and we are focusing on the second part of the question. So we are we were discussing what national action should be undertaken. And who are we trying to target with these actions? And we decided to flip it and to start discussing who we are targeting and then from there, having the conversation about what national actions should be undertaken.
[00:26:55] Shauna	Dani and I just came from an extended meeting with Athabasca University regarding this project in relation to, well, convergence. We've been talking about how the project might converge and where we have similarities and of course Athabasca is very interested in indigenous ways of seeing and topics in education. So I think rather than try to summarize that two hour meeting, we just had Meg, I do see that there is a bit of emphasis on education. One of the messages we were kind of Paula in her Latin way was saying, well, we're always focused on solution solutions. We anyone who give us a solution, give us a how to. But we're still learning and actually there's something broken with the education and in that case, we were talking about the lack of connection to two-eyed-seeing and actually understanding the history of this land on which we're building as well. So I think I I'm pretty sure our projects are trying to target educators and specifically design educators, and including a the perspective of those people and beings that don't get represented in the design process too much. So I think that that that's coming out really a lot in who we're trying to target. You know, as an educator, maybe everything like the way they say about carpenters when you're a Carpenter everything looks like nail, I forget the analogy. But anyways, yeah, I see. The problem is maybe with me. So that we could maybe make a difference. If the students we were producing in the design industry were a little more educated about things that would be helpful. And service based learning a little more education about history of our place. Those are all things that came up and two-eyed-seeing was coming up, which is a lot is more beyond sustainable design. We're talking about positive architecture, regenerative design, better connection the land, you know all those old lessons backwards are going to give us the seven generations forward. So. But going back to Grace's demand, how do we do that? That's kind of our job, right? That's our job. The how. I don't have a solution. That was my comment.
[00:29:47] Dani	When I think about who to target, I also have a research assistant job with Elder Valerie Seymour, who's the faculty of architectures about at Elder in Residence. We're working on a project right now called calendar ceremonies, which looks at how seven different nations in Manitoba practice ceremony and how it's linked to language and why it's important. And the

only reason I bring this up is because, like the Faculty of architecture is really siloed on our campus and, like law is really siloed and like education is really siloed. And through this project, we're trying to link or like partner with all these other people on our campus campuses to like, not silo the conversation anymore. So, when I think of a target audience, I think from a planning perspective, how it's important to be teaching not only like practitioners or our students but like are like the other faculties on our campuses, so that they know about this project and they know why it's important. And then especially from a policy perspective like, partnering with law or partnering and architecture does partner with engineering, but engineering can also be siloed as well. I don't know exactly where know where I'm going with this, but like just other faculties outside of architecture that can be important to know this about quality.

[00:31:27] Isabel	That's such a great comment. Thank you so. Want to totally agree and give examples. For example, in Montreal, there's a Centre for Public Rights on the city. Something like this, which is at the Faculty of Law. It's entirely run by scholars in law, but they made a huge survey on public parks in Montreal showing that none of them were accessible or only two out of 900 were accessible. They were already doing the work so there's like more people than we think that are already working towards the right direction and trying to get things out so that we can fix them if it's and then it's us as designers can learn how to better fix them. I believe there are many synergies, there's maybe health departments that work with public spaces or urban health, which is in our case another other faculty of Urban Health. So they're dealing with similar issues. And we're also trying to figure out connections within our own university. So help, I think it's a good thing. It can be either civic rights group or research centers. Or public Health, for example. So, I believe that there are many universities have similar. Structures. OK, so I don't know if anyone wants to add up more actors to this big network
[00:33:03] Meg	I'm just looking at the last question. Who are we trying to target with these actions? And I work a lot with like municipalities and rural communities and I just want to go back to like they are really the people on the ground making the decisions and the planners and I just wonder if there's opportunity for us to target them so that they can start making some difference within small communities as we go along. So rather than like again the top down, we go in from the side and you know try to change things on the ground and then that's you know that's mentorship. And then someone says, hey, they did it over there. They did it in Okotoks, or they did it in Athabasca and then that's a great opportunity for someone to say, oh, that's a great case study and, oh, look, it came out of quality in Canada, built environment and here's the website with all the other resources
[00:33:56] Isabel	But in that case, which specific department within a municipality?
[00:34:00] Meg	So in small municipalities, and Robert, you can speak to this more fully, but they all work together. I find like they're not siloed, they really work together. So whenever I'm working with them, I have someone to plan. I have someone from infrastructure. And so, I wouldn't say a specific department, but I think that there. Might just be opportunities for tidbits of information to trickle down to those people because they are the boots on the ground.

[00:34:27] Rob	Yeah, you hit it right on the on on the nail. They're smaller organizations, so they don't have departments, so the like, for instance, our CAO is actually our development officer, but you would also if there was a project planned you wouldn't, you would involve the the public works director and uur engineering firm as well, but that's contract firm. So I mean when you're planning projects, it's all-encompassing, right? So and that being said, sort of what they follow is whatever is in the municipal development plan, that's kind of the playbook, and that is what is all the nuts and bolts of what's allowed to be built of what's not allowed to be built. So you know, if we're going to take an honest look of and make change, it would have to happen at that level. So and then that is also when the Council gets involved because they are the policymakers and they would develop what, what, what's in there? Let's say if there was 'I don't know if our MDP addresses tiny houses', but you know, we would have to open that up if that's the direction that we were going to go. So that's kind of where it has to start, I guess, totally correct. And that's probably one of the main targets.
[00:36:01] Isabel	I want to add 1 more. I don't have the right words, but the constructions are funded sometimes by the government, by banks. And people who are funding need to know the best practices so that they expect how things are done. So there's a better expectations and also insurance. Because people who are insuring buildings or institutions who are providing insurance, they need to take into account the better ways of doing and they will be probably interested to know that for some buildings that it can be insured that way and it for others who didn't follow the best practice insurance will be in a different situation. So, I think it's important to get them into the conversation at some point.
[00:36:56] Rob	It'll trickle down even into the different inspectors, right, that are that are going to be doing it, so it has to be pretty broad. I don't know if they would play a role so much because they're going to do whatever is interpreted in the building code. Or in your municipal bylaws, or your municipal development plan. But you know they will play a role.
[00:37:25] Meg	And just building out what you were saying Izabella, I think that's again hitting the nail right on the head. When the World Bank added social responsibility to their grants and included in their heritage resource responsibility and management, that changed the accessibility of grants for a lot of communities, and it also limited the destruction of cultural heritage. So it all came out of the destruction of Agilery, which is a 25 to 50,000 year old rock shelter in Australia when Rio Tinto blew it up and after that, Rio Tinto kind of said, OK, we ought to stop and pause. But because they added that to their responsibility, Rio Tinto the massive organization. the World Bank added it to theirs. And so for big corporations and big banks and other people to get funding, they now need to include social responsibility and have very distinct things within this social responsibility that they check box and that's a great opportunity to include some of the findings from this work I think. Sorry, that was a little off topic, but I kind of pulled it around.
[00:38:36] Grace	I'm going to go totally off topic. I've talked to some groups before and one thing that they talked about is systemically creating inequity within the practice at large and the professional association is access and access

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starts at a way earlier stage of engagement. So, I think that there's something to be done for looking at early education and engagement. So, like primary school etcetera and how you can start to normalize the concept of like quality in the built environment and the associated armatures etcetera. So I think that that's and that's a little bit different. I think it was brought up earlier about how there is a gap in the Canadian system at large, which then, you know, you see all these patterns. So I think that that would be an interesting group to try and early educators. That she was really was a different direction, Robert.

[00:39:41] Enrica	The challenge will be that they still ask for two, so no, just to have in mind, it's absolutely right for us to address the plurality. However, at a certain moment this afternoon, we will summarize everything into two ideas for national actions. and who they target. Again, I don't mean to stop the broader conversation. That is very helpful to have and constructive to have, but we need to always be cautious of what we have to do.
[00:40:35] Isabel	So, two ideas for actions, but who they target. It can be a plurality of actors. Let's start now. We'll talk about national actions for the partnership. For next year to spark a national debate on quality. So, what can we do as a group? Connecting 14 different sites.
[00:41:42] Shauna	So at our meeting with Josie, it was fun. After our conversation yesterday about being provocative, at our meeting, Jose was saying we should write a letter. Who was she going to write it to? The RIC?
[00:42:01] Dani	She wanted this Living Atlas of Quality to write a letter to the 14 architectural schools like all the schools involved in the project about two-eyed-seeing?
[00:42:19] Shauna	Yeah, that we had to mandate two-eyed-seeing to understand quality in architecture into our programs.
[00:42:40] Isabel	Where we have to target the right public so the right public if we want to target architecture, architecture, education and we have to address this issue, we're saying which is a Canadian Council schools of architecture or the Canadian certification or architecture, the CACB. And the and I'm the chair of the of one of them, which is the Canadian School of Architecture. So we are already revisioning accreditation. And we're going to have a discussion, I guess. Every school should be already seeing what was proposed by the work group and it was a long process, so that's also going to be a topic of negotiation with the ROAC, which is the group, all the orders of architects. And the schools and the orders agreed together on what are the items for accreditations. So we have to have both partners on the same boat to agree on something that will make a change. So we had very significant and positive changes that align with what we were doing. I was one of the members of the writing committee. Like the issue of social responsibility in architecture, sustainable development, generative architectural, trying to embed those items within, we say just don't not only

learn design abilities but putting more meaningful terms to define those design abilities so they have actually been designed for people and design that cares for the environment, for example. So that's something to follow up, and each school can follow up individually with our directors and then with the Council. But we need to follow up with every provincial order to agree on these.

[00:44:32] Enrica	We are talking about more than one order because the partnership is across professions including landscape architecture professionals. The yeah learners. The partnership. So I think can be related to what we discussed also before regarding the professional associations being a target because then the professional associations are related to their accreditation boards. And the accreditation Board sets standards for the schools.
[00:45:24] Isabel	There's one accreditation organization in Canada, only one. There's only one. Set the norm that has to be used by. All schools have to abide for to be an accredited school. And yeah, it's a it's a big discussion, but I believe that it there are many alignments on what was already being done at the at the revision of accreditation. Yeah. It's a long process because, you know, those are revised every six or seven years. It was just approved last year, so now you have to wait six years.
[00:46:15] Enrica	And sustainability in unity, social justice, environmental justice. So the language. Notation mitigation.
[00:46:25] Shauna	The point is the action is. To call for it and the target is those people, the change can happen later. This is informing that change process.
[00:46:38] Grace	Can we define national debate?
[00:46:41] Isabel	Across Canada.
[00:47:04] Enrica	I think so.
[00:47:05] Grace	OK. And then I think like she's never going to care about, like, what the architect Association says. Like, I think that that's like goes back to the whole, like, burn it down. Ohh don't transcribe that part. Like what is the what is the how do you put this in the discourse. Remember yesterday when we were like taking cues from populist politician tactics to like, get people talking? When I saw that sparked national debate, that's what was triggering my head. It's like, OK, how do you bring this forward in the public realm is something we should all be talking about because, and this hasn't come up yet and I think it should, when you think about what fundamental shift, people who have zero design education now have access to tools that they can use to create spaces. Buildings. There's like more than ever. You've got

an app on your phone. You might be able to CNC blocks and build your own XYZ. I mean, my girlfriend, who's a diagnostic imager, is building our urban chicken coops, like you can do a lot now with access. There's tool shares, so there's a democratization of people being able to participate in building . You can just Google and buy a blueprint off Etsy now and build your own E frame. And that's amazing. But so there's a whole other realm of access we can talk about sparking debate with.

[00:48:33] Dani	Shauna wants to make a T-shirt about or architecture being hostile to the land.
[00:48:49] Meg	I'd wear that T-shirt. I'd wear that T.- shirt. I'm just wondering if there's opportunities to hear back from our partners and the communities that we're hoping to serve. And you know, if like the next conference could be rather than us talking about what we've achieved hearing back from them. And I wonder if that might spark some debate on quality, and if that's an opportunity.
[00:49:22] Dani	Like do you mean our partners like One House, Many Nations or like?
[00:49:27] Meg	Community centers here and even other groups that you know are our target audience. I'm just curious, like is what we're doing service serving them or like what kind of limitations have they come across since we started this process and things like that? So yeah, I would just like to hear back from other our partners. Cause, I've talked to some of the partner groups that are here and some of them feel that this is very academic, and they cannot transcribe it and put it into action. And so it would just be wonderful to hear from them what they're seeing and what they're hearing and how they can actually like. Work this into their work plans and their methodologies as well.
[00:50:15] Dani	This might be like interesting if we like during the plenary part of it had some of the partners speak, like I've had the luxury of being able to bounce around. So I've heard different people talking, but you've had the same group, which is another luxury. But yeah, it's just interesting. Maybe like when we're all together, hearing from the partners.
[00:50:40] Nic	I'm thinking about the framing of a national debate like we were talking about, and the idea that, like, you know, you want to get, you know, your mom to talk about it. I wonder if, like, that is a helpful framing at all. And if that, like is or should be the goal of this kind of project. Every person can't talk about every issue all of the time and like we are very limited in what we can talk about, what we can check into and so well, I'm like all for the idea of getting the public more involved and more engaged. I do think that there has to be a recognition that part of identifying the audience is also identifying who has enough of a vested interest to care. And it I don't just mean vested interest in the idea that you've like already entered into a program or something. I mean that like you are engaged in this, I think there are a lot of people who just aren't going to engage with this, not because anything's

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being done wrong, but because it's not the conversation that they want to be a part of. And that goes for both people who just don't have like kind of the bandwidth for it, they've just picked other fights and people who just aren't just don't care. And I don't think that's necessarily a problem. And I guess for me it's more about how to make space for everyone who wants to be part of the conversation and who can be part of the conversation rather than trying to reach every single person.

[00:52:12] Grace	I agree to an extent with the idea. I know that there are topics like I'm never - I'm not going to go back and take high school biology, so there's a whole field of knowledge that's lost. But shelter is something that because of who we are, we require it. So it's fundamentally something that we spend all of our time in, and when you think even down to the choices people are making about the volume of space that they're taking and heating and their resources, like there's lots of people that are not inherently trying to make bad decisions, but they just aren't equipped with knowledge. So I feel like it's sort of like a fundamental, there are some things that people should be equipped to understand when they're making choices about the buildings that they're either building or buying or living in, or they're health is associated with it. That's my belief, but I understand what you're saying.
[00:53:13] Enrica	So about the group's composition. There was a conversation during lunch time that our group is mostly of academics and other groups, conversely, ever. So this is like, no, no, this is just water. I was just saying that in other in other groups there is a Community component that is larger than what we have here. And less conversation about what the universities did so. It has been a luxury.
[00:54:12] Isabel	It's all part of a plan. It's all all intentional. I don't know, I don't think so.
[00:54:57] Dani	OK. Yeah, I guess like action coming from a grassroots organization like One House Many Nations I guess I think of like very activist kind of art - I also have a Fine Arts background - as a way to capture a larger audience. So maybe punch lines on a T-shirt, do work. And also like work like in the session this morning with Jason we talked a lot about circumventing policy and I think that is also a like really interesting concept and about choosing culture over politics. He talked about, which again I think is really interesting, he's like I spend more time with elders than I do with band council, who are influencing policy decisions or are influenced by policy decisions. And so I think, like those are kind of like little bits of knowledge that, like would grab my attention. Like back to our being radical statements to just pull people in to knowing about the Atlas of Quality living.
[00:55:50] Shauna	Oh shoot. I. Just lost my train of thought. What they what they were saying is that some of those hard problems we have in Canadian society, if you solve them for First Nations people, you'd solve them for every. All the issues about diabetes, all the issues about food sovereignty, all those issues about housing, if you could solve them for First Nation people in Canada, water quality, if you solve them for them, you'll sell them for everybody. You'll lift everybody up. So there was. So if that was the focus then you'd actually be lifting everybody in Canada.

[00:56:53] Isabel	To summarize, I guess that we have at least one point out of the two that we have the right to discuss and present. Make a T-shirt. I have better terminology. I'm an academic. Promote debate through art. Stay involved at community level instead of politics. Does it capture? Or reconnect with community organizations, promote debate through art, be involved at community level instead of politics, so take one. OK, let's see what we can handle our second action. Sure. This is an example of the remote debate through art. T-shirts, podcasts and mural art.
[00:57:45] Dani	And I think on the on the on that chart there, there is something about… Oh can I see the chart for a second? Something about disseminating the work. Oh, Competitions. And I think these ideas competitions are like you can have art competition. I know we had that photo competition last year. I don't know what happened to the competition this year. It's supposed to be a video competition. I don't think anything happened with it. But I think these ideas competitions are interesting ideas for especially the production of art to get more youth involved or elders involved would be also interesting.
[00:58:31] Shauna	Just don't make it due 3 weeks before the end of term. That was the problem with the photo project.
[00:58:51] Isabel	Ideas competition for art ideas to promote debate so that could be decided through a competition. I don't have the right terminology. That's a language problem. For promoting debate idea, competition for art based, methods to promote debate on quality in the built environment. We have two actions.
[00:59:27] Dani	Both of them are art focused though, so do we have any other actions?
[00:59:42] Sonia	So I know you. Danny also talked about that you built together the houses, and I think there's something that could be done that would be interesting, something we try to do as a like, intermediate kind of citizen organization is partner up with local architecture offices so that they or like other resources that give like time or that to their project bono and we connect them with the organizations and make sure like the process is ethical and functions, but just it's just a way of like connecting resources with some needs and doing a project. It's actually to respond to the organizations that are on the field to their urgent needs in the moment. Also, if the project and the people are interested, then you document how it goes and it allows us to better the process, but just this kind of creating links to do projects together. Actually I think that could be something that could really be done in the this partnership but yeah, I think that speaks to the collaboration that. John Pierre brought up in the first like in the opening. Like we there's collaborating with communities, but then there's also like this is a form of co-collaboration. But as if we're also being like building something together. That would be interesting. I'm thinking of more physical thing, not just discussion but like actually building something.
[01:01:00] Dani	I think that speaks to the collaboration that. John Pierre brought up in the first like in the opening. Like we there's collaborating with communities, but then there's also like this is a form of co-collaboration. But like if we're also

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being like building something together. That would be interesting. I'm thinking of more physical things, not just discussion but like actually building something.

[01:01:21]
Grace

Here's the barrier to that. Well, there's a model around it, and I know this because I tried this like 10 years ago with the Alberta Architects Association. So, in the states they have this program where you can donate back a percentage of time, whereas in Canada, the professions or I can't speak on behalf of all of them, but I can speak on behalf of some of them, they mandate that you're actually not allowed to like donate professional time, so there's not that mechanism. And if you can figure it out South of the border like, that's another easy advocacy within the professional associations to perhaps create the space that would then allow for like charitable giving. Essentially, but deploying the professional knowledge base to support XYZ and right now there's barriers, so you have to compensate. Now how much you have to compensate that's a whole other can of worms. Or maybe it's something else to address, but I think it's a really good idea. I think that's where you start to see people in academic settings who aren't bound by those professional rules yet being able to do like Gorilla type design or people that aren't within the profession. And then you see this almost like professional handcuffing of licensed architects, etcetera. Where you can see that would be quite impactful if you were able to.

[01:02:44]
Rob

Could you overcome that barrier by? Creating an income tax incentive, a receipt where they get a tax?

[01:03:00]
Isabel

Not too far ago, 2022, there was a big meeting in Ottawa. A gathering for the CACB which is the Canadian Council for Accreditation for Certification of Professional and Schools. And then we had all the professions were represented. Every single President of the order was there with a local architect. All the school directors were there and they were, so they were representatives from, really, from the entire profession. And we were like putting actions and then putting, you know, red tags or green tags on things that we agreed upon or not, and there was one about pro bono hours for architects or for interns. And there was one of the most with the most red tags. Completely covered with tags. With architects, I believe the profession is already doing a lot because they're volunteering with schools. When they come and teach, for example, what schools and universities can afford to pay as a salary doesn't compensate. What they do at the office. It's a kind of compensation, but not really to the level - Someone could just work more hours in the office and
not teach. So there was limitation.

[01:04:37]
Rob

When we do projects when we get companies to like, I'm talking about engineers, not necessarily architects, right. And we're designing a heliport, and you know we'll provide them with an in kind tax receipt. Right, that they can write that off. So I mean, there is a direct benefit for that right now. I don't know how companies are structured and how many tax breaks they need. Engineers make a lot of money, so I'm thinking that it will be beneficial. So I don't know why couldn't that apply to an architect.

[01:05:15] Sonia	Yeah. And I, I to bounce off that, I think like from what I've been experiencing with local firms like, yes, it's true in at a certain point that's like are like intern architects for example, are already overworked and do like over hours. But what I feel is like the feedback I've gotten from some of the offices is that for things that really matter for them it's like it's an opportunity to get something else than financial compensation. And I agree that it should be also financially compensated, but it brings other kind of value to their daily routine and life and work, and they're just happy also to do something for their community. So yes, but I think there's solutions that we can find so that we can make happen more.
[01:06:11] Rob	And for municipal projects, municipalities can issue charitable tax receipts.
[01:06:21] Dani	This is a little bit of a deviation from the topic, or maybe a big deviation from the topic. But I was thinking this morning in our in our discussion about this policy thing, I found out about this year where band councils are the only governing bodies that don't qualify for nonprofit funding. So I think that's really interesting. One House, Many Nations that is becoming a nonprofit or it has become a nonprofit organization. So because Band Councils are not able to be receive charitable funding, there's less NGO's or nonprofit organizations in rural areas and that is something that affects the quality of the built environment in rural areas. So I don't know if that translate into translates into an action, but it's just something that is was on my mind.
[01:07:41] Isabel	I mean, would it be an action to map the financial barriers to the quality of architecture? Because it's something that the constructors also say that, you know we only paid so far. We can only do so good. And also like, when municipalities hire public procurement processes only go with the law of the less expensive offer. Not always, but most of the times it is what is and that's a problem. So what can be built out of this? It means that there's probably not enough money being invested in the built environment.
[01:08:13] Dani	I think especially talking about rural and like more like urban environments like there's a huge cultural bit like it forces people to move to more urban centers and then those linguistic kind of sanctuaries and cultural sanctuaries, that reserves can be when they're when they're functioning at their best, they that that gets put at risk. It's an action I think you're right about, like a kind of mapping.
[01:08:47] Isabel	Yeah, mapping the the financial barriers or process t that lead to the situation where that can be an action, but then you what you said can also be an action, but I need to put it on an active verb can you just maybe summarize again?
[01:09:06] Dani	Ohh no, this is why this is recorded. Like summarize that like First Nations bound councils are the only governing bodies that can't receive nonprofit

funding is that what you wanted or the rural to the urban? OK, so, yeah, like I'm getting this from Chelsea Vowel's book Indigenous Writes and she talks about reserves being like moving off the reserve is not a solution because the reserves, even if they're broken systems because of the Indian Act and all the broken policy that forces like, I don't know all these barriers, but they are still linguistic and cultural reserves and so removing them is not the answer. And so cutting off the funding or making hydro so expensive up in the north, forcing people to move to urban centres is something that's very problematic. I don't know how to summarize that for you.

[01:10:12] Isabel	So maybe map the influence of population displacement that leads to the loss of culture and -
[01:10:24] Dani	And like linguistic and land-based learning and culture. And like linguistic and land-based learning and culture. Yeah, because like, I think if you if you can't, in the quality have culturally appropriate housing then you're losing quality.
[01:11:08] Enrica	And it's not just about, it's not just about housing. It's not about it is about also the management of the land that as a landscape architect, I try to expand from the building towards the context. So I think it's broader than the architectural object. Is actually about how we transform the environment for our living.
[01:11:13] Dani	Yeah. Even with One house, Many nations, all the good things that have been coming, like our tiny houses are still very kind of minimalistic, like kind of influenced by the tiny house movement, which is kind of bougie. And like we're doing a great job, but like making them fit like belong like making designing them a little bit more to look like they belong in Big river is something that I was thinking of working on if I stayed in interior design or switched to architecture, but I switched to city planning so I'll just be tackling the problem from a different angle. There's so many areas to tackle it from.
[01:12:01] Isabel	OK. I'm trying to Group 5 items into two so we can put our points. So I'll try to group point1,2 and three. as an action. To reconnect with community organizations through public debates, that includes art, involves youth, responds to organizational needs and includes process of collaboration and co-design.
[01:12:46] Grace	Say that one more time.
[01:12:48] Isabel	We still have 15 minutes, but we need to maybe project the two sentences on the screen so that we can agree on what will be summarized. This is not going to be presented at the summary tonight, but it's going to be part of the report. So we want to make sure that we have good points.
[01:13:00]	I thought the word reconnect was maybe not the right word at the beginning.

Grace	
[01:13:07] Isabel	OK. Maybe just maybe connect.
[01:13:12] Grace	Because with reconnect, I'm worried that it sounds like we're going to tell the community organizations as opposed to listen to and have them inform, be informed by the community. Organizations. Or maybe there's a different word. I don't know. You guys are the word people.
[01:13:31] Isabel	Yeah, I think if we, Justine, if you maybe replace reconnect for getting informed by community organizations.
[01:13:46] Enrica	Is that was because I remember before. Is that more specific in the perspective of the forthcoming Convention? I remember that was about also during the Convention, the role of the communities to structure the debate in the roundtables and provide us their feedback about real impact of being in this project. I think it was also about the next conventions.
[01:14:24] Isabel	What we should do between now and the next time we meet. So actually I tried to summarize, but it was maybe not be ideal because we actually we can those actions, there's they're not limited by a number too like we were limited before. So we can just maybe get them split again and talk about at least four or five items if we want to. So getting formed by community organizations. Produce ideas for art competition. Ah, that was better said like a while ago, and probably your notes are better than whatever I'll say right now. The idea of art competitions. To promote methods for sparking debate on quality of architecture. To partner local offices to develop projects, to respond to organizations needs and collaboration or Co-design. Mapping financial barriers that lead to poor quality of construction and then mapping the influence of population displacement that lead to the loss of culture, language and language traditions and its influence in the quality of the built environment. So those are like 5. Items that every site could work across the partnership.
[01:15:51] Dani	Yes, just add land based learning or education to the last one. So link culture and linguistic preservation and then like land based knowledge.
[01:16:07] Isabel	That part of the influence of population displacement that leads to the loss of culture I would put in brackets, language, tradition, land based knowledge. I'm right up here. I can put it. On the screen. That's what my no call kind of. You guys really want to see my notes?
[01:18:00] Shauna	Within our project, there is room for provoking a conversation and calling for changed education.
[01:18:12] Enrica	Should we include also the one about advancing the dissemination of the project into the professional communities, I still think that is relevant because

professionals daily deal with transformation of the built environment at different scales. So we have 8 minutes for sharing. The last thought this.

[01:19:20] Isabel	One thing that I think is this is just food for the steering committee. And then they will hear from each of the 10 workshops and see what. They will go to the report, they will wait for the reports first.
[01:19:41] Grace	Was there anything as you were moving through different rooms because you mentioned how like? That you felt, for example, at lunch I went for a walk with people that were in different rooms and it seems like there was very different types of conversations happening. Like I would describe this room as like largely consensus building in the process which is really lovely. We've got 7 minutes to spare. But I think sometimes you also get two really interesting outcomes in other ways. Yeah. So I'm just curious if there's anything you thought that we should know.
[01:20:28] Dani	I actually just picked 2 rooms, so I've been bouncing between one with Alan Sukat and Jason Serkan and who are work for One House Many Nations because they I admired them both in one to hear what they had to say and then this room. I know from talking to Alan and Jason that they were getting quite a bit of pushback yesterday when I wasn't there about disseminating the work for One House Many Nations, and then we got quite a bit of pushback on our poster presentation, which was interesting. But it was, it was constructive criticism and uh, but overall the vibe has - I don't know, this group I do really enjoy the consensus and the active of listening that everyone is doing. There might be a little bit more synergy here, but I don't know. It's hard to say. Yeah, I just did the two groups.
[01:21:42] Sonia	I think you did a great job at moderating, honestly, because it's not always fun to do that.
[01:21:53] Shantanu	It was always OK, this is the our target. Yes, you can deviate, but not much.
[01:22:01] Sonia	Yeah, but it's a tough job
[01:22:03] Rob	Like herding cats, you did a good job, yeah.
[01:22:12] Meg	I feel really inspired listening to everyone that it was sitting in here from just how you speak about the project and your own projects and it's just beautiful and eloquent and it's inspired me to go back into my communities and take the next step. So I really appreciate it.
[01:22:32] Isabel	I think it's great when we have fun working and we feel that we are accomplishing things that will be positive for the future, so I'm sure we're going to be on the right track and going to give great food for the steering committee so we can get back with plans for the next steps for the partnership and have tons of work to do before next year.

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[01:23:11] Dani	I don't know who was here in Calgary last year that got to go on the walk, but I think that like the group building exercise times are really fun as well and decolonial. So I feel like hopefully we do more of that in Toronto.
[01:23:36] Isabel	I think it's fine if we finish four minutes before. Thank you all. The group already left.
[01:23:49] Enrica	Thank you to everyone. It was really enjoyable and thank you to everyone.

ROOM 3

Workshop 4- **Public Debates and National Strategies**

Room3_ Location: Medjuck Architecture Building - Room 1208			**13 Participants**
First Name	**Last Name**	**Organisation**	**Research Site**
Susan	Fitzgerald	Dalhousie University	Dalhousie University
Anne	Cormier	Université de Montréal	Université de Montréal
Stéphane	Roche	Université Laval	Université Laval
Terrance	Galvin	Laurentian University	Laurentian University
Nathalie	Dion	Provencher Roy	Université de Montréal
David	Down	City of Calgary	University of Calgary
Afsaneh	Tafazzoli	Open Architecture Collaborative Canada (OACC)	Toronto Metropolitan University
Adrien	Kazup	Vivre en Ville	Concordia University
Tatev	Yesayan	Concordia University	Concordia University
Sneha	Mandhan	University of Toronto	University of Toronto
Camille	Simard	Université Laval	Université Laval
Victorian	Thibault-Malo	Université de Montréal	Université de Montréal
Nirmal	Adhikari	Dalhousie University	Dalhousie University

Room 3 - Workshop 4 - Public Debates and National Strategies
Thursday, May 2, 2024, from 14:00 am to 15:30 pm

Date of report: 2024-06-17

Report produced by
Yesayan, Tatev *(Concordia University)*

3.1. Summary

The purpose of the first question of Café-workshop 4 was to establish the missing strategic outputs of the partnership and how each site's research fits within those strategic outputs. The conversation also began with a call from the moderator to consider the involvement of national partners like the Rick Hansen Foundation, RAIC and PSPC, as they have expressed confusion as to where their involvement is required. The discussion turned to the confusion around the meaning of the term "strategic output". The strategic outcomes are meant to determine the bigger outcome goals of each site, such as improved accessibility, procurement, etc.

- Part of looking at strategic outputs is about determining ways of communicating the goals of the project to the bigger public.
  - Narratives and storytelling as a method of communicating to the broader public. This is where indigenous knowledge can come in and play a bigger role in each site of the partnership.
- Restating the bigger goal, the "final what": redefining quality that moves us to heightened equity, social value and sustainability.
- Suggestion to go around the table and summarize what the goals of each local projects is, in the context of boarder project, in plain language, so that anyone can find the content of the living atlas accessible.
  - Toronto: Looking for opportunities to build equitable parks in the city of Toronto by layering of various components of quality (environmental/ ecological, infrastructural/ spatial, social/ cultural).
  - UdeM: Looking at awarded designed spaces to determine what quality they offer to people with special needs, such as people on autism spectrum, in a way that that benefits everyone and enhances the global quality of the built environment. (Universal Design)
  - Concordia: Build a ground-up and integrated approach to quality (integrating livability, biodiversity and decarbonization) that centers around the real needs of the aging population in Montreal.
  - ULaval: Looking at each type of actor involved in a design process and see how their perceptions on the same components of a project vary, applied in the context of the project Quartier la Canardière innovation zone.

- UdeM's project sparks discussion about building for the needs of tomorrow. Is it even possible to consider future needs or is the future to nebulous? What are the pitfalls of "perfectism"?
    - o Preventive design considering future floods for example, still needs to be implemented.
    - o Indigenous knowledge highlights the importance of thinking 7 generation into the future. Short-term thinking is the true pitfall.
    - o Western view: short-term problem-solving thinking, vs Indigenous view: focus on not creating problems in the first place.
- How to make the broader public understand the role of quality in the built environment to get more engagement from them?
- There are trade-offs in design, and sometimes design excellence needs to be sacrificed to the benefit of more grounded actual needs of the population, such as maintenance. This points to giving a greater role for the public in the design of the built environment.

Final thoughts: (1) The public's understanding of what is important makes them demand more. (2) Quality is the relation between many layers – information, design, metrics, etc.

3.2. Detailed Transcription of the Workshop Discussion

Time + name

[00:00:00] Terrance Galvin	This session in particular is that we're looking to see, one, the last session that we had discussing what's the commonality and what themes or what issues keep arising across all 14 sites. That's one. We've touched on that. The second one, and I think this is another layer of complexity, the RAIC, the Architecture Group, the Rick Hanson Foundation, the PSPC, Procurement Canada. Those, for instance, are national partners. Don't think I'm missing any. They're the three national partners in addition to the associations. And one of the questions has been, how are they being engaged? As a city partner, you or I are in clusters. All of us are in research clusters. But those three groups, like as I said, unless you reach out to the Rick Hansen Foundation or reach out about procurement to PSPC, they're national partners, but they don't have a specific role in each of the clusters. So that's come up. So I think a few months ago in preparation for this meeting, the conference, there were special meetings with those groups to see... Because they keep asking, just like you were asking the question, how am I not consulted before the roadmap?
[00:01:11] Terrance Galvin	They're saying, "we're here, we're at the table, we support it, but what's our actual role?" So in our case, we've tried to engage the Rick Hanson Foundation. So it's been left to each cluster to, say, seek those groups out. That might even be new information to some of us. You may not know that there's those national partners that you're meant to be able to engage, but they're not just going to call each of us and say, I want to get involved in the Calgary project, right? So I think this national strategy, that issue of what's the national role, what's the part of the national actions? They had a few meetings to try to prepare what they could do and how they could see themselves being more involved. And I think that led to the question then, what are the commonalities between the 14 sites? And let's say you said accessibility was one, like you said earlier, decarbonization might be one or climate change. They're saying, RAIC is clearly an advocate for architecture in a big way, nationally. Rick Hansen Foundation are the specialists on accessibility with their own certification program. I mentioned 3,000 plus buildings cataloged as case studies.
[00:02:18] Terrance Galvin	The PSPC is the one that I know least about. They're at the table, but as procurement for national projects and big sites and competitions and so on, they want to have a role in this and believe that they're open to how procurement might change. We talked about that in several discussions, but nobody that I know yet in the 14 sites has engaged them for a specific project directly. Those are the two issues. I think the commonality between us and how to think about if there was national action that we made, how would those three groups, not all of them, but any of the three groups be folded into that. That gives a bit of context, I think. And I'll pull up the strategic outcomes.

[00:03:05] Afsaneh Tafazzoli	So shouldn't we then read these questions at all?
[00:03:13] Terrance Galvin	Yes. Can you read them while I look for them?
[00:03:16] Afsaneh Tafazzoli	Yeah, I think the ones that you outlined are great ones to maybe focus, but there are also a couple of questions. So the first one is looking at the partnership current strategic outputs after two years. Are there strategic outputs missing? How does the current work being done in your research site fit within these global strategic outputs? So that's the first question.
[00:03:47] Susan Fitzgerald	We'll have to know what those outputs were.
[00:03:50] Susan Fitzgerald	What they were listed as. What you were calling them.
[00:03:54] Afsaneh Tafazzoli	Yeah, the one that you were calling. But I think we can start with what Neteri mentioned about commonalities and also how we can engage those three national partners. Do you want to start?
[00:04:12] Terrance Galvin	Maybe it's come up in the discussion with clusters, how to think about those groups, and maybe not, and that's where it's starting.
[00:04:19] David Down	Yeah. Just trying to think. How are they engaged currently? I If we're talking about Rick Hansen procurement, the RAIC, how are they engaged? If we're talking about greater engagement or more fulsome engagement, how do we change what's happening now? I guess would be my first question. And it goes to the broader question of partners generally. How are they engaged? How often are they engaged? What means of engagement are there? I don't know how the RAIC, I mean, Mike is here. Is that the single point touch of engagement?
[00:05:07] Terrance Galvin	Well, they're all here, right? So Mike Brennan is here, Miriam, I forget her last name from PSPC, and Doramy and Laura McBride spoke yesterday. So four, two people from Rick Hansen and RAIC and procurement are here. They're following the conversations. They're here. Canadian Architect, sorry. That's the other group. So Canadian Architect is technically a partner, but they've wondered, again, what's their role? Is it sharing documents?
[00:05:35] David Down	Is Canadian Architect here?

[00:05:38] Terrance Galvin	They're not here this time, but they've been wondering, again, they've been supportive, but they're saying, what's our role? Do we put updates in Canadian Architect? They're each looking to see how they engage each of our roadmaps, let's say.
[00:05:51] Anne Cormier	What does that mean strategic output?
[00:05:54] Terrance Galvin	I'm just looking.
[00:05:55] Anne Comier	No, but what is the meaning of strategic output?
[00:05:59] Susan Fitzgerald	I think they were defined in the grant.
[00:06:03] Anne Cormier	No, I'm not asking what are the strategic output. I'm asking what is the meaning of strategic output? I don't know what it means. Okay.
[00:06:12] Terrance Galvin	So there was a section in the partnership grant that says, "Partnered research strategies and methodologies". In there, you have to say your strategy for the partnership over the five years is... So we said... But year one was "Questions and Methods". Year two was called "Theories and Models". Year three, this was embedded deep in the grant. Year 3 was called "Initial Roadmaps". Year four was called "Revised Projects". Oh, you're going to write it down. Good. And year five was "Adjusted Roadmaps". Remember we said the roadmap again. So these were wide, broad categories. So we said questions and methods. That was really the theme of the first conference in Montreal. What are your questions per group and how do you think you'll progress? And then theories was exemplary corpus and ways of measuring quality, more like what Stefan was asking about data. And then initial roadmaps were at the beginning of year three, which was first recommendations for public procurement and participation. Those were categories..
[00:07:32] Terrance Galvin	A lot of our dilemmas is for everybody to know all this stuff coming into this. Unless you're writing the grant or sitting with the grant all the time, how would you know this bigger picture when you're working on your site, right?
[00:07:47] Afsaneh Tafazzoli	And then, Terry, does it mean that the goal is that we continue for another five year because we only get to the adjusted roadmaps? After the year five?

[00:08:03] Terrance Galvin	That is what... Again, this was how it was written two and a half years ago, right? Two and a half years ago? Because the SSHRC asks you for the color table of what are your knowledge of organization when they ask you, what's your strategic outcome? So we picked these themes.
[00:08:20] Susan Fitzgerald	I think the roadmap is the outcome. It is an outcome in itself.
[00:08:27] Afsaneh Tafazzoli	Because I don't know. I remember that there was a discussion that maybe the whole research continued for another... No? Am I misunderstanding? Okay.
[00:08:39] Terrance Galvin	Susan, am I not connected? Sorry, can you just...
[00:08:41] Susan Fitzgerald	Yeah, just a moment.
[00:08:42] David Down	What's the difference between revised and adjusted roadmaps?
[00:08:52] Susan Fitzgerald	I think that's wrong, actually. I think revised roadmaps-
[00:08:56] Nathalie Dion	And I write "revised projects". I don't know what it means, but it was revised projects.
[00:09:01] Anne Cormier	But I think the project is the project of each group.
[00:09:23] David Down	It probably should have a title that suggests an outcome, another step in a process.
[00:09:31] Afsaneh Tafazzoli	I think they put it together in two years.
[00:09:36] Nirmal Adhikari	Even up to year five, we're still adding the roadway.
[00:09:41] Anne Cormier	Maybe if I may take a mic. Rereading, looking at the partnership, current strategic output, and looking at, its meaning in French, "résultat stratégique". It gives me a better idea of what this may mean. I think it's basically, looking at the

	roadmap, looking at where we are up to now and what we have achieved up to now, what it is that we should achieve, what is missing. That's my translation.
[00:10:16] Afsaneh Tafazzoli	That's actually the first question, what's missing from this strategic output. I don't know.
[00:10:31] Nirmal Adhikari	But what are the strategic output? Is this the strategic output?
[00:10:37] Anne Cormier	No, but I think the strategic output are from the roadmap. It is the strategic output that comes out of every roadmap. So what we've been looking at up to now, I don't know if they're strategic or not, but there's a result, there's output.
[00:11:01] Sneha Mandhan	Are the outcomes what are in parentheses after each of the analysis of project manuals, gray zones of quality problems, theories, versus those are the outputs?
[00:11:15] Afsaneh Tafazzoli	Which ones were the outputs?
[00:11:17] Susan Fitzgerald	They're in brackets.
[00:11:28] Terrance Galvin	I'm going to go and ask on the others. I'm sorry, I wasn't ready for this. I'll hear it back in a moment.
[00:11:36] Afsaneh Tafazzoli	I think to your point, Anne we can just talk about the outputs that we've heard from each other during these previous workshops, and maybe point out what's missing or- How can we align them or converge them, something like that. Start with that and then see what they mean. Do you want to take a stab at it or start?
[00:12:09] Nathalie Dion	Anne you mentioned something earlier. Would it be like what we discussed over lunch time, for instance, in the case of University of Montreal, to include the Indigenous component to evaluate what are their special needs or special Not special needs, but how do they treat... I'm not sure it's the right word, but what's required for the people from their nations that have special needs? How do they accommodate those special needs according to their beliefs? Can you phrase it in a different way?
[00:12:53] Anne Cormier	In our case, in the case of University de Montréal, we are dealing with the question of special need in general. And listening to the first discussion of this morning, we were wondering, "Okay, what can we learn from the First Nations?"

	And it doesn't seem obvious because we think the context of our research is so separated from the demands of the First Nation.
[00:13:29] Anne Cormier	But then again, there was a request from the First Nation, an invitation to consult them. And we were discussing over lunch that one of the the subjects we're thinking about is how to cope or help or integrate better with architecture, people with special needs. And Virginie Lassalle, who's the specialist of our group was there, and we said, okay, how do First Nation cope? How do they manage? And we thought that it could be helpful for us to consult with them to find out what would they do with the situation that we are discussing and we don't find obvious to solve. So it could become a strategic output for us, one that we had not thought about yet. So is this the kind of Questions and Answer that we are looking for?
[00:14:41] Terrance Galvin	So I haven't... From the source.
[00:14:47] Anne Cormier	Not from the source. The person who talked to the source.
[00:14:50] Terrance Galvin	That's it. The translator. So I just said to Jean-Pierre "which strategic outcomes?" And he said, you know, we need to have this bigger conversation about the project. So he said, we're always I always ask to describe the project to a journalist or to a group or to another citizen group. So he said the strategic, - it's not really outcomes, it's really like, "how do we describe the project?" So our local project - it would be interesting to go around the table and say, "our local project in relation to the bigger set of goals on quality in the built environment". So he said, every time we're trying to describe that, there's a difficulty. So what could that be? And then part two would be that, how do we take what we said in the first time. How do we include those other citizen groups, REIC and Rick Hansen Foundation, into this? If you were to say it's a national strategy, if you said, "we're working on quality in the built environment because of this, this, this". It's the politics, it's the policies, it's all those things. But how would we describe that, again, a bit in common language?
[00:15:49] Terrance Galvin	So that somebody, if a journalist from CBC or Radio Canada says, "Qu'est-ce que tu fais?" We're always saying, "well, we're working on this". So what they're saying this session is like searching, and the other group is now there looking at their roadmaps again to try to see, can you go through the roadmaps and say, what is your strategy and our strategy and your strategy? And can we try to find a way to describe that? So there's one or maybe a few, but a couple of articulate descriptions of the bigger goals of the project. That's what he said, the strategies meant that. Like the bigger after the fact, not specific outcomes of year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, but what are the bigger outcome goals? So like you'd say, as an example Sneha, you'd probably say if you could end up with some guidelines that

redesigned parks, more around, say, cultural and social guidelines from knowing the bit of your roadmap, that might be an outcome. You'd be able to say that to somebody who says, I want to write an article on that. And if we did that 14 times, would there be a set of things? Well, I think accessibility.

[00:16:55] Terrance Galvin	That's why I guess those national partners that came in, REIC would say, I'm there because of discussion architecture in the built environment. Hanson Foundation would say, "we're there because we have accessibility programs, even, and guidelines established". Procurement Canada would say, "we're interested in changing from the ground up the way procurement happens". They'd say that. I don't know how we do it. It's a different question, but those are the voices, the national voices that have joined the table, given funds, and they are interested, but how do we engage them? I think so. Is that more clear? It's still a lot of pieces. Let's just say the first part is, how would we describe what each of us is doing in this? It's what Adrian was saying in the earlier session, in a more clear way to somebody that's not, say, in the design disciplines.
[00:17:48] Afsaneh Tafazzoli	Can I just add something to this? Regarding what's missing and how we can actually maybe explain it to other people who's not part of this research. I think narratives and storytelling, it helps a lot. And that's the art that Indigenous people really have. And any of them, when they start talking, they're talking about the stories, narratives, and that's a storyline. Even Athabasca in their roadmap, they're the only one that try to put that narrative together. And that stays with people, so you will remember them. I don't know how easy this is to make a narrative out of your research site and try to explain it in a storyline. I know it's not like a story, but at least for yourself, when you try to tell a story, you will see, okay, where to start? All stories have a starting point, ending, and let's say, a content. So having that- and I'm coming from that culture as well. Everything is like going heart to heart through stories. So that will help. So I think the missing, maybe, output is that storyline that helps everyone to explain it to the journalist, to the other people. So I think maybe we can get help from the Indigenous group to start having that eye and maybe come up with that story lines.
[00:19:37] Terrance Galvin	Just to that point, our story roadmap is not graphically that, but one of our points is to say, act like a storyteller. That was part of our gathering and listening. And we take that from Albert Marshall that was mentioned this morning. His teaching was always through telling stories. And in our group, you heard Will Morin tell those stories this morning and unpack different words. So storytelling is a method that's been under us for one of the methods. I think the lived experience, actually, last year, part of it, that was not in the original grant in any way. Even the term lived experience isn't used as much in architecture as it is in other fields. The Hanson Foundation, they always start with lived experience and what you're coming from. But in architecture, it's not prevalent. I think last year, the whole lived experience, the focus on that came out of many of the indigenous partners saying, I'll tell you my story. You heard that again this morning. I think

narratives and storytelling and then indigenous inclusion or indigenous knowledge inclusion that we mentioned, those two things might be hand in hand of things that are maybe missing throughout, across the board. If we say, do all 14 people group share that? Probably not, right?

[00:20:54] Tatev Yesayan	Just in terms... Yeah, I'm just wondering, so how specific or broad should those narratives be? Because are we talking about the partnership as a whole or site-specific, even sub-aspects of the research from which narratives come out? Because there is the case studies that we've done. So this was part of my own personal research, but I ended up revisiting one of the sites that we had researched in this project. And I went and I interviewed them, and I did a short 10-minute documentary. And it's very much storytelling-focused, so you really get into their world. And so because this was my personal research, I haven't included it anywhere in the roadmap. But Morteza was suggesting that it should be on the Living Atlas somewhere. Sorry, I can't speak. Yeah, but it's very much a specific narrative within one of the sites that we've studied. So that's where I'm wondering, there's so many narratives. Yeah.
[00:22:15] Sneha Mandhan	I wonder if it's a set of nested stories where every lived experience is a set of stories that tells the story of, in our case, equitable resilience at the neighborhood park scale, which then contributes to the story of redefining quality in the built environment. It's almost like nested. But I was also wondering if we think about... Your comment about changing culture has stayed with me. I'm wondering if that's one of the ways in which we... That's one of the national actions is actually having a discussion on what is the culture of all of the industries that we're working with at the local and the national scale, and then what needs to shift because it's not just the policy barriers, it's also how we talk about things and how we come together. And there's so many folks that are not at these tables. So it's about how do we teach at schools? How do we recruit certain types of students to be in our classes? Things like that. So I'm wondering if there is a national action related to actually talking about the culture of industries related to...
[00:23:26] David Down	Well, this is the notion of bigger goal. Terry mentioned that we talked about earlier, this idea of a bigger goal. And I wonder in the grant, in the original language, what does it say the bigger goal of all of this is? If we just refresh our minds with what was originally written, is it actually capturing what we're talking about today?
[00:23:56] Terrance Galvin	It's going to take us a little bit sideways, but...
[00:24:14] Terrance Galvin	So this was not bad to read. It test. That was a draft. But this was the summary was to say we were looking for even the title change, right? Built Environment Roadmaps to Equity, Social Value, and Sustainability, establishes quality as a new interdisciplinary research field at the junction of municipal and national

forums. That's the point, the 14 sites and then national forums. Our main challenge is to redefine quality through the inclusion of growing expectations from our democratic, equitable, and sustainable built environment The Five Year program addresses the rich diversity of public environments impacting the everyday life of millions of Canadians in urban spaces, buildings, and landscapes.

[00:24:54] David Down	Can you just read the last three lines?
[00:25:00] Terrance Galvin	Three lines where? Down?
[00:25:01] David Down	The very last.
[00:25:03] Terrance Galvin	Like on this page? Yeah. So this is the other part with the Living Atlas. This session is really also from Jean-Pierre's point and Dimitri, they're thinking, how does this stuff that goes on Living Atlas find an audience? So the partnership will stimulate a vital dialog between stakeholders. And that meant when we wrote it, it meant internally to each cluster, but also across the clusters. It will demonstrate how all the actors in the built environment across Canada can contribute to a redefinition of quality that moves us to heightened equity, more social value, and greater sustainability. Those were the three keywords. And then these four numbers here, they were the four... They're still there. You saw them in the slides yesterday. Spatial Justice and Heightened Quality of Life, because we took the 14 clusters' initial titles and tried to see what they fell under, and they fell under these. Spatial Justice and Heightened Quality of Life, Integrated Resilience. So your group has resilience still in your title. Material, Culture, and Adaptive Reuse. That was an umbrella. Inclusive Design for Health, Wellness, Aging, like Concordius, and Special Needs, and Process and Policy, Support the Reinvention of Built environment.
[00:26:12] Terrance Galvin	Those were four headings, that we said the 14 projects at that time, and still now, we still fall under it Laurentian, we're still falling under material culture and Integrated Resilience. How to be limber and resilient in a place like the north, which doesn't have access to the same infrastructure. So I think those are still very much... They've been guiding, I think, the 14 sites. But as I said, lived experience wasn't in here at that time. For instance, that came in in the second year in the discussion, which led to the focus of that in the Calgary conference. It also led, I think this was written before partners were really at the table. And just like you'd said, Adrian, when many partners sat down and started talking about what their expectation was. It was like, I don't understand what you're talking about. The language is too rarefied, too specialized, or I'm in graphics, I'm not an architect. I should be able to understand what's being said. So then that widened it and the lived experience came in on that axis.

[00:27:21] David Down	And if I look at that, I see a whole lot of how until I get to the final line. And the final line says, a redefinition of quality that moves us to heightened equity, more social value, and greater sustainability at a critical moment for our planet. So for me, that's the overarching outcome all over the rest. And we're in the how. How right now, but we always need to be thinking of that final what.
[00:27:52] Sneha Mandhan	I think we need to continue to be in the how. While we're figuring out the what.
[00:28:04] Susan Fitzgerald	I quite like the idea of, I don't know who said it, but if we actually went around and each person described their local project in the context of the overarching project.
[00:28:21] Terrance Galvin	Yes, good idea. Let's try that.
[00:28:22] Susan Fitzgerald	I think that would... And very quickly.
[00:28:25] Terrance Galvin	Yeah. Maybe give a... Based on that last paragraph, as we reading it, right? I'm thinking of all of our projects, including that. So I think if you say that, maybe what you're doing relates to that, and then maybe what is-
[00:28:39] Susan Fitzgerald	You can go first.
[00:28:40] Terrance Galvin	And maybe what part is missing, right? That would be interesting to say, you set out for resilience, and is the other part there, or was it not part of your grant, or is it maybe something that has gotten lost?
[00:28:51] Sneha Mandhan	I might need a moment to think about that part, but I can summarize very quickly. For us, we are trying to create- We started with trying to understand the challenges and opportunities that come with or the inhibitors and enablers that come with layering environmental infrastructural/physical and social-cultural parameters on top of each other to find where there are opportunities for equitable resilience to be built into neighborhood parks. At the city of Toronto level.
[00:29:33] Afsaneh Tafazzoli	And what's the overarching ?
[00:29:36] Sneha Mandhan	And part of that was saying that quality is not just a spatial... It's not just spatial quality. Quality comes from the layering of those multidimensional and the

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interaction between people and space and nature and infrastructure. So it's- Yeah, it's the interaction that happens between the layers that actually defines quality.

[00:30:08] Terrance Galvin	That's so good because back to the awards groups again, right? Mostly. I mean, we've all sat on juries, probably somewhere or submitted. Usually on juries, the quality discussion is always about the object in front of you, the design of the thing, whatever that is at whatever scale. I've never been in a jury, for instance, that said the quality of a project might be the overall layers of getting to something, even though I've been on juries which try to have widen the definition of what, say, a building performance might be, right? If we say that the goal is to stimulate a debate, a new debate about what quality might be, that's a good one, right? I think if people saw that quality was these interrelations between layers, already, I think that opens up the discussion that it's not about this gets a gold star because it's whatever. It's like this is actually a redefinition of thinking about what quality is as an overarching concept.
[00:31:01] Sneha Mandhan	Yeah. Because it also helps define where the gaps are. If we're not thinking about the ecology in a project, it actually highlights those gaps a little bit better. Or so far, that's what we're finding. For now, we haven't really gotten to the engagement and finding the lived experience because quality is also the perception part of it is missing from our project right now just because we haven't gotten to that point where we're asked. We don't know what questions we're asking just yet. And I think we've been grappling with- Because our team is primarily landscape architects and planners, we've been grappling with, I guess, the scale of intervention because we started at the sub-watershed level and we're trying to move to a neighborhood park level. And so we're constantly moving between scales, and that sometimes can be debilitating in terms of process. So I don't know if that's just a challenge of where we are in the process or whether that's a gap, but that's all I can think of for right now.
[00:32:01] Afsaneh Tafazzoli	So you meant infrastructure, social, cultural, resilience, and what is the-
[00:32:05] Sneha Mandhan	Ecological or environmental. So the layers we've been mapping is like environmental, ecological, physical, sorry, infrastructural or spatial, and then social, cultural.
[00:32:20] Camille Simard	I just have a question, real quick. Yes, I need the mic. Okay. So my question is, is this round right now, to summarize really in a vulgarization way, every goal of each site. Is this what we're doing right now? I just want to make sure I understand what we're doing right now, explaining briefly what we're doing in plain language.

[00:32:56] Susan Fitzgerald	To describe the local project in the context of the national project.
[00:33:03] Camille Simard	Okay, so basically, words that everyone can understand. Okay, just about that. I think I did not get what you said in plain language. It was actually quite complicated to me. Maybe not complicated, maybe more complex. So yeah, maybe how would you explain it to a 12 years old?
[00:33:28] Terrance Galvin	I'll just say off the record, one of the questions here is, who are we trying to target? That's, again, the output. Who's the audience? That's where this question is a good one, because if we can't explain it internally, how is the person on the street going to get it? But that is one these questions for this session, is who's the audience, and how can that Living Atlas of Quality be a resource for somebody? Like the guy that runs the cafe across the road wants to learn more about quality from his street life. So then he wants to go on our site. If they can't navigate, they can't penetrate, they can't understand what we're saying, they're right. Then it's not going to progress the conversation. So they're related.
[00:34:10] Sneha Mandhan	So I think when we started with this larger conversation around how do we redefine what quality means for local parks, so for the residential neighborhoods in this particular neighborhood in Black Creek in Toronto. We started with trying to understand how is quality currently understood, and at the city level, it's understood as, in a lot of ways, the actual object. So what is the quality of the vegetation, or what is the quality of the benches, and things like that. And we wanted to take that and try to layer it in with other things, such as not just the quality of... Sorry. It's a little bit more... Technical stuff, not only technical stuff. But also experiential. So if we start from the experience, experience of being in a park is not just about... It's about your identity, but it's also how you use the space. And oftentimes, those are not obvious things. So it's like, you might just subconsciously sit at that favorite bench, but that might be your favorite bench because it's under a shady tree, or it's near a tree that smells really nice.
[00:35:28] Camille Simard	So basically, your site, the research is on mostly parks and-
[00:35:41] Sneha Mandhan	Local parks.
[00:35:43] Camille Simard	What's "végétal" in English? Vegetation?

[00:35:47] Sneha Mandhan	It's not just vegetation. It's a combination of infrastructure, including pathways, and where is the urban... The benches, and the trash cans, and the lighting in the parks. How do you get to the park. So accessibility in terms of actually reaching the parks, fencing, the physical elements, the infrastructural elements, but also access to the park. So from a social demographic perspective, is there a good quality park within walking distance from every resident in a neighborhood, for example?
[00:36:25] Camille Simard	What would be one or two words to englobe, like parks and trash cans and pathways and ways to reach the park and the surroundings? What would that be?
[00:36:40] Sneha Mandhan	So we're still figuring that out. I would say "quality" might be the word.
[00:36:47] Camille Simard	Urban design, like she said, maybe?
[00:36:53] Sneha Mandhan	So some of these parks are not actually designed. Somebody at some point just made the decision that, Oh, there should be a baseball-
[00:37:00] Camille Simard	I think you said that earlier today.
[00:37:01] Sneha Mandhan	Yeah. So that's why I don't like using the word design, because there might not have been intention put into the placement of the bench, for example. So I think it is about quality, if I had to pick a word.
[00:37:16] Camille Simard	I was looking at the roadmaps, and usually the titles are super long and not friendly for people that are not university level. So I was thinking of ways maybe that they could be shorter. And I know that's difficult. I've been fighting with Michel about this. Everything is super long, and it's hard to make them shorter. But I think it would help. Yeah, just a thought, I think.
[00:37:49] Sneha Mandhan	I think it's about when we... Because as residents, if I go to my local neighborhood park, I'm looking for seating or for trash. But there's also ecological things. So for example, Toronto has a lot of flooding issues. So we're also mapping where the flood zones are and looking at which sidewalks get flooded, for example. Because that also contributes to accessibility. It contributes to ecosystem services and stuff like that. So it's about for our project, we're thinking about how can we build parks that are not only good quality for the humans that use them, but also for the more than human beings. So for the water, for the plants, for the racoons.

[00:38:35] Camille Simard	Okay. I get why you said that what englobes it would be quality. I get it. It's just a- Because everything is quality.
[00:38:47] Victorian Thibault-Malo	Because also it depends on who you ask. If you ask a kid what he's looking for in a park, it would be playgrounds. If you ask an older person, it would be benches so I can talk with a friend and everything. So I think it depends on the neighborhood also you're targeting.
[00:39:07] Sneha Mandhan	Yeah. And that's the social demographic layer, looking at age. So for example, a lot of paths and neighborhood parks in Toronto don't have seating, or a lot of sidewalks don't have seating. And so seniors won't walk there because they need to take breaks and sit. So it's about how do we put amenities that respond to local residents?
[00:39:36] David Down	And since we're talking about parks, because parks is also in my portfolio, I have urban design and parks.
[00:39:46] Sneha Mandhan	That's a lot.
[00:39:49] Terrance Galvin	That's why you're here.
[00:39:53] David Down	We have a 311 group as well that take calls. And so the public's biggest indicator of quality in park space is the maintenance. So it's the operation of the park that determines whether people have a positive view of the park or not. And if we run out of money to do whatever it is, clean up, repair benches, that thing, that's when people start to not like that particular park, which is very interesting because it isn't about the design of the park at all, in most cases, it's about how well it's kept.
[00:40:28] Sneha Mandhan	And I feel perception. So for example, in the city of Toronto, if more than 20 people need to assemble in a park, they need a permit. That costs a certain amount of money. And that's a cultural barrier because a lot of non-white families are actually bigger than Just a family is bigger than 20 people. So them gathering will need a permit. And so also thinking about, we talked about barriers in the last session. So also looking at permits and all of the city processes that are currently creating barriers those spaces being used by different racial, ethnic, cultural groups. So, yeah, lots of layers. I don't really know how to simplify it to two words.
[00:41:16] Anne Cormier	Okay, for University de Montréal, what we are working on is really thinking... We're working on designed space, space that have been thought of and designed and built. So it's mainly building, and mainly building that were given

an award, and public spaces that were given an award. So that's the material with which we're working. And what we're trying to understand is if they are- what quality do they offer to people with special needs? And for instance, people on the autism spectrum, and also, how do they work for people who are beneficiary attendant, like "préposé au bénéficiaires". So we're trying to see what quality those building offer to those people. So the notion of equity is really important in our project, and we believe that has a social value. And also, in the search of quality, there's the hope to learn from those special needs that will not not only benefit to people who have special needs, but to everyone. So it's to enhance the global quality and experience of building. And we believe that has an effect on greater sustainability because those spaces, if we're understanding and are able to communicate them properly, could lead to better design and environment. So I think that's summarize what we're doing.

[00:43:37] Terrance Galvin	I love it. You're our test, you're our 12-year-old. You become the measure.
[00:43:58] Tatev Yesayan	So if the purpose of the project is to really come at a better definition of what quality is, then in that context, for Concordia, I feel like a lot of our work that we've been doing to redefine quality has been in our direct one-on-one interactions with the people of the sites that we've been studying. Because when we went on each of these sites, initially, we would do a photo documentation, and then we would have this architect's perspective of the environment. And we would be like, Oh, this is not good. This is not good. This is not good. This is good. This is good. This is good. And then we go and talk to them, and their priorities are completely different. And they point at things that we didn't think about. And it's like, maybe they don't need the fanciest bench. They just need more benches. So I think in that... And then another layer of that is really integrating it with, like I said, those three different components. If we're talking about decarbonization, where it intersects with livability and biodiversity is where... How can I put this?
[00:45:24] Tatev Yesayan	Basically, it's like you don't want to implement decarbonization practices that will have benefits for climate change, let's say, if they can have negative impacts on livability. So you want to pick the path that has co-benefits with livability and biodiversity to- So that's maybe where you're redefining quality when it comes to decarbonization as well. What is it something that will have benefits at multiple levels, not just one. Same thing, I think, with biodiversity, that, too. It's like when you talk to people, you're also getting more of a sense of their relationship with nature and what they actually need. And as I think you were saying, considering also the benefits for nature itself. So, yeah, I feel like having this really integrated approach is how we're redefining quality instead of coming from these silos of expertise. We're trying to redefine it from the ground up through all three. So does that answer that?

[00:46:36] Camille Simard	In one sentence or two, what would the project... I know it's horrible. It's an horrible question. I know it's an horrible question. So it's basically people's perspective of the built environment, vs the architect's- Essentially-perspective.
[00:46:56] Tatev Yesayan	I'm going to say that, yes, it is.
[00:46:58] Terrance Galvin	Have a contaminated mic. Thank you.
[00:47:02] Tatev Yesayan	Yes, that's what I think. I think it's really giving a different perspective. And really, same thing with... Like somebody was talking about parks, right? There was really an emphasis on having benches in the shade. That's what they want. Once again, not necessarily the fanciest park, but- Just give the people what they really want and will use. Yeah. Trying to understand what makes actually a difference in their lives.
[00:47:30] Camille Simard	I thought Concordia was aging community? Yes.
[00:47:34] Tatev Yesayan	So that's what I mean. We're talking about that in terms of the aging population.
[00:47:39] Camille Simard	So what aging people, their perspective.
[00:47:43] Tatev Yesayan	Basically, trying to redefine quality and the built environment by having the needs, the actual needs of aging population at the heart of it.
[00:47:50] Camille Simard	You know what? This is very clear. I get it now.
[00:48:00] Adrien Kazup	We're together. Yeah, we're together. Again, I'm too new to resume anything.
[00:48:08] Camille Simard	I think I'm Université Laval in this room. Where is Stéphane?
[00:48:17] Anne Cormier	I don't know. Disappeared.

[00:48:19] Camille Simard	I will do my very best, but it will be brief, and I might just pass because I have a very-
[00:48:27] Terrance Galvin	I think what would be fun for you, and good for us, is to have you explain. I know you're new, but if you had to explain the project to my mother, what would you say?
[00:48:38] Camille Simard	Université Laval? Honestly it's because I don't quite understand it. Because at the moment, what we have, it was like, well, the title is Capturing Quality Concepts from the actor's perspective. And what I understood from that is that the actors are like architects, organizations, they're citizens, and basically, workers too, everyone involved in the whole process, basically, because we work on processes. And it's where these different actors, their perspective... How would I say that? *Ça serait à quel point ces acteurs-là sont présents à différents moments dans le processus?* That's why in our roadmap, we have a space that's basically you take environment, and then you see two times environment, and then you see how architects see environment, and then you see how citizens view environment, and then you see how they look at the same principle, which is environment, but they don't see it the same at all. So that impacts the process, basically, and how they will be involved in the project they're working on. So this is my understanding of the project.
[00:50:21] Terrance Galvin	Mine, too. I would say your group's project, having seen it. I mean, I've seen them all because I've been on the steering committee, right? So every two weeks I see them, and then we plan these things, and then I've seen the grant from the beginning, so I feel like I have more insight than I need. But I think in there, Michel had said from the beginning, that's why Stefan joining with the data expert, looking at how that perception works. What I've been wondering is, and maybe you know now, is there a pilot project? It's the process of what? To me, that was always the part less clear, even now in the roadmap. Are you taking case studies?
[00:50:59] Camille Simard	Yeah, it's not a case study, but we are working on a project in Quebec City, specifically, it's Quartier La Canardière. It's like an innovation project.
[00:51:10] Terrance Galvin	Oh, an innovative park. Innovation Park. Right.
[00:51:12] Camille Simard	It's an innovation zone. And basically, we're working on this zone specifically.
[00:51:19] Terrance Galvin	Okay. So it's not actors in the abstract. It's the people that are involved in that project in this process.

[00:51:24] Camille Simard	And we use like, Quebec City's consultations. We use the official City's consultation. So we have like... My God, there's so much. There's so much things to read. We use the official, the City's consultation. So we have plenty of material to use, and it's really for the Quartier La Canardière directement.
[00:51:48] Terrance Galvin	Okay. So it is specific to that. Yeah. So yeah, that's a good summary.
[00:51:54] Victorian Thibault-Malo	I think Anne made a really good job at describing the project. I think what you just said at the end about when we build for special needs, we build for a better place for everyone. And I think that's something we need to put emphasis on it because sometimes we think that it's something we add to a building like, Oh, I need to add that. So it will benefit with people with wheelchair or people with... But actually, I think I saw it on your roadmap that the fact that there's stairs and a ramp, but all people could benefit to use the ramp. So at the end, I feel like the project is just we are using special needs as a context of the study, but in the end, it's going to benefit everyone.
[00:53:04] Terrance Galvin	That's where it's interesting. I said the Rick Hanson Foundation, who I've known for a long time, their aspect has been... Now we have aging in place as part of senior planning in many projects. But the Rick Hansen Foundation for decades has been saying, if the world was just universally designed, accessible, when you're able-bodied, then you're using it. When you suddenly... They have a term for us. They call us TABs. You're temporarily able-bodied because at some point I'll have a stroke, or I'll be... No, seriously, or I'll be 80, or you'll have a stroke at 25, which happens, too, right? Or somebody gets sick in the faculty here. So suddenly then you don't have to move out of your place. That's the philosophy. And I feel like that has always made sense to me. I just think if we all... But we don't teach that way.
[00:53:49] Terrance Galvin	Even our design studios, I tried at Laurentian to say, "let's do every design studio, accessibly design". And it worked for a couple of terms, and then everybody went back to the building code and the minimum requirements, and now it's lost. So that's why the Rick Hansen Foundation is still, I would say, they're national, but they're marginal in a way. And they jumped on the chance to come to this grant because they were hoping to get their voice heard. But they've done a lot of research that we don't have to do. We just have to know how to use their research.
[00:54:17] Anne Cormier	I'd just like to add, it's a good point. But however, when you consider a broad range of special needs, there's a next level of complication that arise. So the issue, the solution that you are talking about is interesting, but it's slightly more complex than that. But it's a good way to summarizing it to a journalist, I guess, that you could do it that way. However, the fact that special needs are broader is very important to consider within this project, because one of the thing we are

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dealing with is try to avoid stigmatization. Anyway, I'm going to make things too complicated if I ...

[00:55:26] Victorian Thibault-Malo	And also the fact that if we answer those needs, if we answer the needs, most of the needs, the building will not be seen as, I don't know how to say it in English, but I don't know how to say it in French either. "Désuet?" Outdated. Outdated in a few years because I think that it can be more sustainable in a way if you answer those needs. I don't know if maybe it's an hypothesis, but the fact that if we answer those needs, it won't need to be re-updated in a few years saying, Oh, maybe we should have put... I'm using the ramp example, but we should have put a bigger ramp or this and that. And now you need a building built in 2015, and now you need to add those things again because you didn't think about that when you were drawing it. It was efficient, too. Yeah, efficient. Efficiency, sustainability. Yeah. And the fact that we need to think for other generations of people, so not build for the needs now, but building for the needs of tomorrow also. Yeah.
[00:57:00] Nirmal Adhikari	But how do you know what will be the need for tomorrow? There is always question, you never know what is coming next. What happens is you can at least think at the moment. Most possibly, you can try to think. But what happens tomorrow is what happens tomorrow. You never know. So the things and need is more constantly changes. I also answered some of the questions. When you come to adopt, even talking about accessibility, you cannot address everything because it's very huge. So the thing here is we need to understand the concept of perfectism. You cannot make 100% perfect. For example, there is, I think, the story It's very famous in our region. The God made everything, and then he tried to make a perfect animal. He tried to add up all of the attributes and then make... At the end, he made a a camel. If you see it has a body of everything, but it is not a perfect animal. It's not like you cannot make 100% perfect, but it's like how extent you want to include at least as much as possible.
[00:58:16] Victorian Thibault-Malo	I understand. I think that what Stefan brought this morning, the prospective method is interesting, and the fact that you can project yourself in a few years or build and think about that. As you said, Toronto as a flooding areas. You need to prevent, not prevent, but... Yeah, descend. But the fact that you need to... The flooding hasn't happened yet. So you need to say, Okay, it may happen there, it may happen there and there and there, depending on each... I think so. So we need to do these things to prevent that. Yeah. Okay.
[00:59:02] Camille Simard	I think this is where it's fun because we're in 2024, so we have all these years behind us to not know for sure, but to see how we evolve for accessibility, people's needs, what were they in their past. So we can guess what they're going to need for the future or something, I think.
[00:59:36] Nathalie Dion	Then I guess we could have guessed before.

[00:59:40] Nirmal Adhikari	It's a very difficult thing to answer, this question, but that's why we need to understand. It's very easy to say those things, but can you think what happens to 15 years ago, what generation will change, what people will think in terms of design? You cannot. You can at least make an estimation of this is how they might think. But actually in reality they won't because everything will be changed, the circumstances will be changed. The needs would be changed, the priority would be changed. So that's why it's the same thing like you say "Why didn't you again, further think about accessibility" and then they didn't design the building as the accessibility. Maybe they didn't have a need as that time and then later we realized, oh, we have a need because there is a certain people that feels like OK, we need to include them as well. That's why you can only imagine for a certain extent, but you cannot think as like it will happen in reality. So it's the change is like always change, change is not the not... the word change means like it constantly keep changing so we cannot address everything and we don't have to think about we need to address everything. We just have to be at a certain extent by thinking, OK, this might help up to a certain level. So that's how we need to think.
[01:01:09] Terrance Galvin	However, that's still quite a Western view because the people I sit down with that are elders, again, right? Seven generational thinking, it's real. And when they sit down now, with people like Will Morin and others, they're saying now, you know, Sudbury draws up policy for climate change locally. And they say there's a prophecy, right, even in the region that I'm in that this was coming, that we would use all the resources that we would destroy the planet, that things would be out of balance. So from their perspective and the two eyed seeing again. Everybody that I know would say that they, for thousands of years, have thought ahead and behind them, which is different than the way you just define, which is the way I would say I was raised right. But that short term thinking has gotten us into, from their perspective, this quest now to try to tie traditional ecological knowledge right, which they call TEK, with like western sustainability. So that's one of those interesting intersections.
[01:02:01] Sneha Mandhan	I think part of that is also, because from a western perspective, where it's like "this is a problem let's solve it", and from an indigenous perspective, it's like relationality and like it's a consistent relationality not just a, "this is a problem right now, let's solve it for right now", not a Band-Aid.
[01:02:18] Terrance Galvin	I walked over there from 5:00 to 2:00 and I left in the middle of a sentence where someone said "all you folks, western folks are wired for problem-solving. We're wired for not making a problem and solving it, we think differently, so yeah.
[01:02:32] Sneha Mandhan	Sorry, sorry if that's repetitive.
[01:02:37] Nathalie Dion	I don't have anything to add on the project, on the roadmap of University de Montreal, especially since I wasn't there, but I was thinking that one of the challenges that we would have, especially since like Camille brought up this "how can we explain this to a 12 year old?" But in general I think one of the challenges that this project will have is how to explain to public how it- I think at

government levels some people understand the quality, maybe not the way we want to define it, but they might know what it is, except they- it's often a time or money issue, but in the public generally, how do we explain them? How do we make them understand our work? Like you were saying, for them, a perception of a park that is working is when it's operational and it's really well clean and that's what they're asking for and sometimes also architecture or built environment are when it comes to architect, I would say they would think that it's something that is not for everyone. Like, what's the role of an architect in the society apart from building projects, sometimes that are not perceived as, you know, public project, but we are there in all of the projects. and what I meant is...

[01:04:03]
Nathalie Dion

So how do we make the public understand that a better quality with all the addition of this social value is something that is good for them too, because it makes it easier to understand or be part of it? If you understand what's in there for you, how it improves the quality of your life. And I think that's something that is hard to, you know, to make understand about public, like everyone understand what's the role of a doctor. You need to see him when you're sick. But what's the role of quality built environment? That's a tougher time thing to define and I think that's part of our, it should be part of our roadmap too. So how to explain it to somebody that is not in architecture and how to make them believe what's so great about this exercise.

[01:04:54]
Terrance
Galvin

So that might be a good one. Because in our wrap up, even though we don't have to submit a slide, it would be interesting I think just to conclude with what it did say to us. What our pointer to, like at a national strategy level, right? That might be... I just think what you said is a good one, right in terms of explaining to that audience how they would see themselves, right that improving the quality helps. And probably add to that, how do they see themselves reflected in the decision making, right because...

[01:05:20]
Nathalie Dion

Sure. Ohh yeah, yeah, that's part of this. It's part of this.

[01:05:24]
Sneha
Mandhan

So very quickly, I think transparency because like similar to what you said and we've been thinking about this in our project as well as often times when we're trying to achieve benefits at multiple layers, there are trade-offs happening. So I'm thinking about like Toronto has this sidewalk or curb side cafe patio program. And I remember reading a letter. That was submitted to the municipality by like solid waste removal company, saying that these patios are interrupting our sort of trucks, turning radii and so thinking about what are the, sort of, trade-offs that are happening in decision making and being transparent about that. Be like "this is why this particular path is designed in this way because we need a fire truck to enter" like often that's not obvious. And so how do we communicate the trade-offs that are being made and make a decision because it's not always going to be OK with like it's not going to- Everyone's not going to be happy like at the end of the day and so it's like, how do we communicate that.

[01:06:28]
Afsaneh
Tafazzoli

Just talking about this trade off thing, you know... So on the trade off part, it was interesting, you know, seeing the reaction about from you, like yesterday about the middle ground, because, you know, as designers and you know as people who lead, let's say the design or project and things, yeah, we always look for design excellence, but you know tradeoffs have to happen. Otherwise we if we

cannot, you know, answer to the needs of the users and the people because they don't look for the best, let's say the I don't know material or detail. Although I'm not talking, we should have them for the durability of the building. So those are basics. But what I'm trying to say, they would rather to spend money on maybe some other things rather than, you know, making the best, you know, quality, that's like kind of an egocentric from the architect point of view. So the trade-offs should happen in all the levels if we want to, you know, be equitable with the built environment. Because otherwise we don't have the money. You are at the city, right? So we don't have the money and time to make everything perfect. And so we have to pick and choose and prioritize. And now seeing the needs of the end user, maybe we have to, you know, sacrifice some of those design excellence items to get to what they want. So it's hard. You know, I'm an architect, it's hard, but. Maybe we should just, you know, shift that kind of mindset. And I would actually question that it's not the architects role anymore. So we want to say it's, you know, it's not the architect who has that role. It's like the whole stakeholders and actors that, you know, have that role and we all need to be educated. And I won't even get to my project because I think...

[01:08:46] Nathalie Dion	I'm sorry I didn't think it was the architect that had that role, I just say that-
[01:08:50] Afsaneh Tafazzoli	Yeah, built environment role and you corrected it and I like that.
[01:08:54] Nathalie Dion	Yeah, yeah. I mean it's it, but it's the role also of the architect to build eventually and understand all the needs and to incorporate all the deeds. You'll be the one in the end building the product, the designing the project.
[01:09:08] Afsaneh Tafazzoli	The person who puts the RFP together, you know that's the one who defined the, let's say the programs and things. So no, actually the architect, I think doesn't have that much of power at all. So David has much more power, David has much more power. It's the traditional thinking about the architects. Like building something beautiful doesn't mean that it works for everyone. I, you know, strongly believed that David has the most power in here because he can define, you know, what the projects should be, how the projects you know should develop and prioritize the money. The time, you know what I mean. But it's the mindset.
[01:09:54] Terrance Galvin	We're going to keep going around and we'll finish. So that was your 3 minutes.
[01:10:00] David Down	I don't know if I'm going to have time to talk about this because there's too much in my head, so I'm going to talk about trade-offs for a moment because of what you've both said, I think it's very interesting but again, I want to differentiate between civic projects built by cities procured by cities, those projects, typically, they go through a process, it's competitive, they hire good architects, they engage with citizens, say it's a Public Library. There's a whole process to understand, you know, what the users would like to see in that building and the city sets standards for what it would like to see. And most cities feel that they have to set the example for other builders of other typologies within the city.

That's a tiny, tiny portion of the built environment, and we're talking, I think, about so much more than that. The trade-offs for me, my whole day is trade-offs as I deal with developers making applications on everything else out there and they're working with architects as well, but they're really tied to pro formas and economics, and I have my set of evaluative criteria that are pushing them to do a better job of how that you know, massive multi-unit mixed-use building meets the street. But it's the economics of the developers pro forma that's telling me what's possible and what's not possible, and that's where I think that a public understanding of what's important in urban design and architecture and any kind of built environment quality will help the public to demand more and not just sit back and say, oh, you know that 350 unit building is what it is. We don't have any control. I think that if the public came to that, whatever public hearing and said, this is a piece of crap, we don't want this in our neighborhood, we deserve better then that helps politicians understand where they can force developers to do a better job. I go to Planning Commission every couple of weeks where the development permits are approved or not approved, and the Planning Commission complains to me how staff has done a poor job of getting this project to a higher quality level then they approve it. They have the power to not approve it, to send it back and send a message. But they almost never do. They complain that staff has done a bad job, not the architects. Not the developer. We haven't pushed them hard enough and then, sorry, I'm ranting. But I think. It's in that very broad, much broader area of our of built environment design that we also have to not forget. We need to find some power there not and not just me can't be up to me. It has to be it everybody else. Everybody else.

[01:12:53] Nathalie Dion	What I meant in a way, I'm not just talking about my project or the projects we do generally. I think the challenge is to make the public understand how the quality of the environment counts for them and that they are the better "porte-paroles". The ones that will be asking for more, that's what I meant. Whether it's us building or you guys giving the project together, we need to convince the public of that.
[01:13:22] David Down	Everyone having that shared understanding.
[01:13:26] Terrance Galvin	So that's one of our national we'll have two national points at the end. We are finishing and Susan's the last one.
[01:13:40] Susan Fitzgerald	We are rethinking the design of schools to enhance social value and to heighten equity. Do you understand? It was so fast. We are rethinking the design of schools to enhance social value and heighten equity.
[01:14:01] Camille Simard	So clear. Yeah, I got that.
[01:14:04] Susan Fitzgerald	But, I would just like to say, kind of, I mean, one thing is when you meet with many different groups. Most of the time when you're working on something that you know, I mean a school, there are many, many schools designed. It's one of those building types that- it's not a library, it doesn't have the process that something such as a library has or an art gallery has. And what I find is, people

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	ask for staff, they ask for bigger gyms, they just they ask for staff. They don't really ask for quality in the built environment and therein we go back around to the education. Because people don't know how to ask for the quality and the built environment?
[01:15:03] Terrance Galvin	So that's very good. And can I say this, even we're not reporting, that conversation, I think 2 points that we said, two ideas for national actions, right? That was the question here, and what would they target to see if that comes up in the summary plenary. So I wrote down: **the public's understanding of what is important makes them demand more.** That was a point you mentioned. And the point you mentioned earlier is that quality is the relation. I like that a lot, just like not as a quality of the thing, but that **quality is the relation between many layers** of what you said: information, design, metrics and so on. So I think, relationally, those two things could be like national if we said what are we extracting from this for a general discussion, then I think each of those national partners can see what their relationship is to those two points within the sites. Is that fair, Madam?
[01:15:54] Camille Simard	The second point you said, this is like a great summary for the whole project actually. Like what is quality in general like, that's actually kind of great and so easy to understand.
[01:16:12] Terrance Galvin	We have to stop. But now that we have that great understanding, how do you do it? Is the whole other- the next three years. OK. Next year's discussion. To be continued. Thanks everyone. Thank you. Fun doing this with you, all of you hope it was OK.

ROOM 4

Workshop 4- **Public Debates and National Strategies**

First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Research Site
Room4_ Location: Medjuck Architecture Building - B015			**13 Participants**
Josie	Auger	Athabasca University	Athabasca University
Fatih	Sekercioglu	Toronto Metropolitan University	Toronto Metropolitan University
Gavin	McCormack	University of Calgary	University of Calgary
Brian	Lilley	Dalhousie University	Dalhousie University
Bill	Black	Calgary Construction Association	University of Calgary
Miriam	MacNeil	Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC)	National Partners
Simon	Blakeley	reThink Green	Laurentian University
Doramy	Ehling	Rick Hansen Foundation	National Partners
Steve	Bowers	Pedesting Corporation	University of Calgary
Taly-Dawn	Salyn	University of Calgary	University of Calgary
Tess	Adebar	University of British Columbia	University of British Columbia
James	Barrett	Dalhousie University	Dalhousie University
Negarsadat	Rahimi	Concordia University	Concordia University

Room 4 - Workshop 4 - Public Debates and National Strategies
Thursday, May 2, 2024, from 14:00 am to 15:30 pm

 Date of report: 2024-06-26

Report produced by:
Salyn, TalyDawn *(University of Calgary)*

4.1. Summary
Guiding Questions:

1. Do we need to redefine the strategic outputs of the research partnership?

2. What are the best means for dissemination?

3. What are the future national actions that need or could be undertaken by the research partnership in 2024 – 2025?

This workshop focused on strategic outputs, information dissemination, and future actions for the research partnership. A key discussion point was the need to change "public debates" into more collaborative "public conversations," indicating an advance toward inclusivity and cooperation. This will promote meaningful discussion among research groups, thereby improving collaborative problem-solving. As well, participants believed that structured advocacy and public involvement were critical for influencing policy and engaging the public. Suggestions included holding town halls and open forums across cities and provinces to share research findings and seek public feedback.

The workshop also emphasized the need for a comprehensive communication strategy with heart-centred messaging to connect with diverse audiences. This involves organizing public forums and creating engaging content, such as short videos and infographics, to make information more digestible through plain language and visual tools. Personal stories and lived experiences were suggested as ways to engage a wider audience.

Participants discussed utilizing various platforms, including social media, podcasts, and videos, for broad and effective dissemination of information. The idea of research sites preparing short videos for the November 2024 online convention was proposed. These videos would feature powerful statements and visual storytelling to highlight the project's impact and relevance. Various creative approaches were discussed, such as having multiple people say one word to create a statement or preparing individuals to discuss topics like parks and accessibility, then finding statements from those interviews.

The communication strategy should cater to both the general public and the academic audience. For the general public, the focus would be on simplified language and visually

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appealing content to raise awareness and understanding. For the academic and professional audience, the strategy would involve detailed educational tools and resources integrated into university curricula and professional training programs.

Overall, the workshop set a clear direction for future actions, emphasizing collaborative efforts, structured advocacy, and a comprehensive communication strategy to advance the goals of the research partnership.

4.2. Detailed Transcription of the Workshop Discussion

Time + name	
[00:00:16] Fatih	There will be a shorter session just 1 1/2 hours. So we are going to stop around 3:30.Who kind of wants to start? This is going to be all about, I think, a continuation of our conversation about yesterday's session, trying to come up with some strategies to share the knowledge, share what we have and maybe some national actions. Maybe we can start with Partners.
[00:01:01] Doramy	This one, as we talked about this morning, I think that there's a huge opportunity here. Yes, I do. So as we talked about this morning, I think. The piece here is to really look at how we take these road maps and move them into action and what does that look like and where are the gaps? What are the challenges being faced by the various research projects that where the? National partners can help, and that Jean Pierre and for the rest of us here, that was a lot of discussion around what we could do that links the various research groups together so that there's actually more opportunities for dialogue across groups and looking for where some of those bigger challenges are. And that how national partners then can be integrated into the solutions pieces because we all felt that we had something can contribute now that we could sort of see where the road maps were going. So we have a level of specificity that we can actually act upon now and see how we could work together to come up with some common solutions and some common best practices that could then be part of the legacy of the project. The question I would have. Because I the title of the public debates and national strategies is I would be interested in hearing more around what the expectation is of a public debate. So I totally agree with the point that was made about that. You know, if we only talked to each other then we haven't succeeded. The whole idea of this is knowledge mobilization and how do we get others to take up the cause, hear what we have to say. Have a chance to learn and participate and have a chance to hear the recommendations and help form the recommendations, and then how does that go into practice? But I would really be interested in hearing more about what the expectation is of a public debate. Are we thinking? Town halls where we take the information out and test it. Or, you know, just a little bit more behind the thinking of what we are hoping to do in that area. Miriam, did you want?

[00:03:09]

Miriam

So I I wondered and been reflecting since yesterday about the actual the the word debate. And if that's maybe the right word or if it's if it's not, I I I feel like the work that's being done as part of the partnership contributes to like a conversation and helping, umm , you know, different organizations move forward in quality in the built environment and creating more equitable spaces. So I think you know I I would maybe suggest that we we set aside the word debate, but more like this project has the potential to contribute to a better conversation and including, you know, standards for quality and built environment.

On elements that don't exist today, so and you know the National portion part of that is a lot of organizations that were find that in Jean Pierre and some of us find that is that other groups, whether they're professional associations or others, are doing this type of work as well.

That's similar I guess and what I would say is I think I want to make sure that the work we do together as a partnership has its own identity that is clear enough so we can be, you know, in associations with those other groups or support, etcetera. So I think that's maybe you know, to get to a national stage or those types of conversations, we need to make sure that we've defined properly the identity of the project. I think you'll hear me say that a bit in the in the plenary tant tôt.

But just to and help kind of communicate out to others what this has the potential to do for, for the built environment, for architecture, for planning, you know, public realm, etcetera. So yeah, so just the comment on the word debate. May maybe less. And actually I think because that can be seen as not confrontation but we're questioning but I think the project has the potential to contribute to a conversation, and advancing the work in in Canada, so stop there for now.

[00:05:33]

Gavin

The word debate threw me off a little bit, but if it is a debate, I think we need to know. Through the date, who's in this debate?

And what's being argued or debated. So obviously there would need to be some thought there. But I was thinking it was more like and I think you're kind of alluding it to it, more like an, it's almost like an open house kind of possibility where, you know, it's sort of a, you know, maybe it's within all the cities and and various and provinces about you know presenting this to the public and having a public forum, so I guess might be a another way of looking at it where if there's going to be debated or emerged naturally. So that's yeah, just one idea.

[00:06:18]

Jean-Pierre

To clarify, although I'd like to, although I'd like to have Doramy's take on it, because you know, if a group is trying to launch a national debate on accessibility, it's really the Rick Hanson foundation. So yes, the word debate, you know, I guess in the states I would never use, so maybe it comes from a bit too much from my European background, but I feel that there is a Canadian take

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also on the on the debate, there is a, you know, so if it's just a public forum, imagine that all the road maps are perfect, right? Imagine we have 14 very good road maps. So well put together.

How do we go out? How do we actually use them to change things? Are they ready to change? I mean there. I mean, you were saying, for example yesterday that now some construction in the construction industry is, you know is saying pushing back, say, whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa, you are the 2030 agenda and accessibility where we'll see. Or that was in 2040. Sorry. So forget about debate.

You know, how do we actually, you know, invite or maybe just communicate I guess communicate say we have good road maps are we able to do something with it with them.

| [00:07:34]

Simon | Shall I jump in?

Yeah. I think the communications of this inevitably and probably is going to be a really key piece. And obviously we've seen movements build, particularly the covered period, kind of the whole build back better. And the Black Lives Matter every lives matter. And so finding a hashtag or something to unite around is certainly going to help for some community partners there and maybe interested in what we do, want to show support but not haven't got the time to expend on this but could circulate that message and give them some space to do that, and if you have bits here kind of about.

Who we're engaging in this process as well, I mean, obviously the indigenous perspective is and we're still a lot more to do there to uncover that. I'm a newcomer relatively to Canada and as other newcomers, part of this forum as well, but you know.

We know that they're one of the fastest growing populations in Canada as well and the we talked a bit about the insights that they bring in the Northern European perspective as well and how we can learn from that. And I do have some connections into place, like the world Circular Economy Forum for instance. So I'd be happy to make some introductions cause they've got insights or they have previous examples of where they've done this work that we could leverage moving forward.

But yeah, it's being mindful that you know when the growing populations, this newcomer population and so particularly international students right now living on top of each other, often right in in crammed accommodations. It's all contributing to the housing crisis that we're all facing and accelerating costs.

But yeah, maybe there's something in that as well. And I was speaking to a lady who was a guest of somebody. Actually she's an air hostess primarily. But in her spare time, she volunteers with uh conventional refugees to Canada. And I find that really interesting that she just again brings that different perspective that |

we're not really. I haven't heard yet in this debate. So I just want to bring that into the fore.

[00:09:30]

Gavin

So I guess just to follow up on the last two comments, so this isn't my area of expertise, but advocacy, right? And so some actual structured organised plan around advocacy in, in getting this out to various audiences and really pushing this whole quality of the built environment matters.

Right now, maybe there's a hashtag for it as well, right? But really, you know, putting in resources into that.

I think in terms of you know where there's going to be many, I would say walls are pushing up against, right. So if we're looking to change policy, that's going to be an issue, not only from a sort of a governance side, but also from a public approval side, right. And so I think you know and I mentioned the open house as an example only you know at the end of the day.

The public, if they're against an idea or don't like an idea, politicians are going to ride that. It's not going to end up in policy, in the policies, and it's nothing's going to happen. Right. So, you know, power to the people, I guess in some sense. But I think really this is around, you know, a real push around advocacy. And that comes with its own challenges, right?

[00:10:39]

Fatih

So just so you have a continuation of our conversation yesterday, we were able to talk about the living atlas of quality, which is a very much repository at this point. High level like technical information stored and I can think of a lot of departments both in colleges and universities. Actually they can incorporate this information into their teaching. Like I think there's a huge potential.

And we can all promote like 14 universities plus several other universities. We can just promote once this is kind of done and kind of designed in a way that a professor can actually get some case studies there to use in their teachings and some information like we can have some info graphs, some visuals that you can actually incorporate into. They say it housing and built environments I could have so much information from here. I could just take and use in my lectures. So that's something like an actionable item for this high level information. And the other part I think we kind of already discussed but just simplifying the information for the public.

They will want to just share it with the public. I think social media is, for now at least, a great idea to simplify the language and over the next couple of years, now that we have some things ready to be shared and presented, I think it's a good time. I think if we had this conversation last year, it would be a bit immature. But right now, this year and next year.

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Think it will be especially next year once we are going to have more and more projects almost completed, it will be I think quite important to collaborate with like some university departments that can actually help us with that kind of visual component and share that you know customized information with with the public.

[00:12:33]

Doramy

Yeah, no, just building off of that. And what you were saying too, Gavin. I think that advocacy is a very challenging road to go down, but at the same time, that was the whole point of this exercise. So I think you know what we're trying to do is build the research that we can then take it and and put it into practice.

So I think if if you put that advocacy hat on when you develop your, you know your your communication strategy in the next steps that's going to be critically important because we need a multi phased approach over the next couple of years. And we look at how we bring communities together and along and you have to start in each centre.

Because the more voices you have, diverse voices speaking on this, so it's not just seen as an academic exercise. I think the better and I think you have the is everybody here said you know the plain language simple message repeated over and over again but have a campaign so that we all understand here's what we're going to do. Here's how we're going to use our partnerships to get into the rooms with key influencers that we have to try and say and then target and say these are our top three things we're going to go after and just be steadfast in that. But that kind of work needs to be done now. So that in the next two years we can take the time to build the community that's going to support us to go out there and do it. You can't just wait and say well, now we're done, we've got the 14 perfect road maps and then take it out. It's too late because you also want to make sure you have voices along the way included in those road maps, because otherwise you're going to get a lot of backlash from people, so that's going to be really critically important.

[00:14:08]

James

I think what you just brought up is really important in regards to taking this outside of academia. As someone who's truly like very new to this research grant, I don't have a dog in the race.

I think it's going to be like very challenging to get a citizenry engaged to any degree outside of academia, and I think Steve would probably have some experience in terms of, I mean, how do you market a product or an idea to like a very noisy communication sector? So like there's a lot of questions about like capital and where that funding comes from. When if this is like a private sector pursuit or public sector pursuit, but I think as an outsider of that, that's a huge I don't say hurdle because that's framing it negatively, but something to definitely navigate this how do you appeal to like a very broad citizen group about a very broad topic in like an academic?

Kind of echo chamber like how do you make that resonate across a broad kind of populist?

[00:15:11]

Simon

Just wondering, don't if it's been discussed anywhere and but like whether it's an app or something like social media, obviously that's where people are at the scrolling for the phones all the time. And we've talked about how we need to get people there.

How do you ascertain what they define as quality? So is there an option where you can kind of swipe to say like this one's more favorable I this is more quality than that so then you could achieve some data from that as an actual exercise and I don't know how that could be produced from a technological perspective. Or the data analysis that could come from that, or or what the specific questions or examples would be even, or whether it's regionalised but.

Yeah, I'm just wondering if something in that as a open forum and access a platform for people to comment.

[00:15:58]

Steve

So you know in that theme, thanks team for bringing that up because this is actually my first time involved in a research project in my life. Guys, this has been a very informative thing for me you know. But I think in I think I think in the terms of systems and and infrastructure and back end.

That would be a technical term you know the problem with technology is we we're we're told, to speak plainly and you know, we love our acronyms. Acronyms to me mean something. Context of my acronyms are probably very different than everyone in this room. So you know how do we bring that knowledge together to speak plainly, I think is one important aspect of this and the analytics that exist, Simon, are far more insightful than we might believe exists to be in place what they know about us is far more than what we would like to know with what, what, what we would like to admit that they know about us every time we buy a device. Every time we sign up for an application, every time we accept their terms of condition.

We are signing off a lot of our own rights just by clicking a button. The level of insight that Apple, Google have on our habits, tendencies, marketing. You know

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what our interests are? All of those things are sort of far more understood than we might believe in this room.

How do we? I don't want to use this word, but I'm going to. How can that information be weaponized for the good of the people when it comes to accessibility, specifically in our environment? Doramy Right? But that's just one level of this in my opinion. I think that there's far more understanding of this problem, in the technology world then, we might believe Cupertino. You know where Apple is based is an absolutely futuristic building. I mean, Google thinks about where they put their infrastructure for server farms in the ocean, to avoid tax scenarios, you know they're thinking of every single possible angle you could imagine. OK, so there's a lot more analytics to this that already exists today.

The built environment is digitized in a lot of ways, mainly that satellite technology. You know, looking at things from a distance, you know from the skies, it's a little bit different. We're talking about inside of a building. You sort of need to be allowed into the room or given permission to come inside.

So that's a little bit of, you know, one of the challenges that exists within this we're over talking public spaces versus private spaces and you know governance and policy sort of ties back to that.

But I think that there's work being done that, you know, I'll take this is a take away from me really that maybe I can connect some dots when it comes to some of the research boards that exist out there when it comes to the analytics that are already in play today.

So I will circle back on that and see if I can help in any way. If I'm connecting some dots there guys.

[00:19:37]

Gavin

So this sounds like a problem for someone that have or a group that has expertise and knowledge mobilization and exchange and translation. Right? And so I curious, you know, I don't know the nature of all the teams and or the national team, but I don't think you know within the Calgary side we have anyone in there that's an expert in knowledge mobilisation, right, so.

As academics, we tend to have a list, a sort of a checklist of things that we're going to do in disseminating, and whether that happens or not. The question and anything beyond that, we often have groups within the university, for example, that will assist us in reaching out to the media, doing social media and stuff like that. So to me, it seems like this is really, you know, it would be useful to have on board with the national team.

Either from the sites or someone independent or group independent that have these expertise right? Cause some of what you're saying sounds more like almost like when you say weaponization, you know, weaponizing information.

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Basically, it's almost like PR kind, you know, and but then there's the what we're looking at, too, is knowledge mobilization.

And so.

[00:20:47]

Trishtina

So like when I was thinking about this over the past, you know, few weeks I guess or months really since we've been discussing this Convention.

There's been this threat of lived experiences that's been woven from the beginning of our journey, and I'm wondering if a huge part of being able to spark a debate or spark some sort of, you know, a general knowledge mobilization strategy would include us actually sharing the lived experiences behind each of the sites.

Right. So like we have national partner, there's a reason you're here.

Right. You are like, who needs to say something and in a very public way where it could be done in tastefully? Right. But we can't outsource it to hire someone to do it. Like, I just don't see that being feasible. It's not attached to research funding. Sadly, it should be. But I think that what we have is a bunch of people here who are passionate. Have reasons to be here and those reasons are not being shared and shared at all on any platform like YouTube or even like LinkedIn and not in a coordinated effort. So that could be something that like if you create like a video series which is not that hard for us to do, we're already doing it by recording our sessions or even we're recording audio even being able to take those clips and court like have a theme coming out of it. That might be a way for us to then start to look into advancing that through hiring somebody because we have the content to then do itI'll stop there.

[00:22:21]

Gavin

So I was. I was. It's just that we necessarily go out and hire anyone. There's. I'm sure there's going to be internal expertise within even bringing people onto the project site, the project groups, right. So even though they might not have been involved with any of the collecting of data or conceptualising what was done, the person would come in and come up with a strategy based on what's available, what information is available, what the goals of the projects are and everything like that. And so they're in that way. They're independent in some, they're not invested so much in the findings themselves. But getting the findings out there or getting change how, you know, making change. But you're, I mean, yeah. I mean, I think there's a lot we can do in.

We can do all ourselves and I think bringing all the groups together to come up with some sort of common strategies and learned experiences and so on, based on ways of translating knowledge, translation and mobilization.

But I feel like something so big and so important requires some investment in knowledge mobilization and if we don't have the expertise in House, we need to get. Then some other way.

[00:23:26]

Doramy

Yeah, I just. It's going to go off of both of those comments cause I totally agree. And I think that the authenticity comes from here as a starting point, but we just had it, our accessible and professional network conference we held, we created a booth where everybody could go and be recorded in a professional setting to share their views on accessibility.

So we have 1000 clips now of people saying here's my view of what that looks like so we could do the same thing here with what's my view of quality in the built environment. What does that mean? You know where we could each talk about something that's near and dear to us and then that could be compiled in some way to be created.

To your point, you need the overarching strategy to then link that up to, you know, I mean, so that it has something that we can take on the road to speak. And I was hoping that with our dissemination and Outreach committee that there would be some talk about this and where we might have to invite others.

I mean, we all have relationships. We can always seek if there's others that we know that are experts and knowledge mobilization or excellent or experts in public relations, I wouldn't be surprised if we couldn't go talk to a few that might say here's an opportunity of a lifetime come. You could be part of this project and look at how you could help change the world. You know, I mean, so that might be motivating.

Or someone that otherwise might charge us a significant amount of money to be involved. But to be part of the journey. So that's another thought that we can sort of look at, but I agree with you. I'd be interested for the universities because I've worked on other research projects. They've always had somebody on the team that's been involved. That's been their knowledge mobilization partner who came in and would help take that and translate it out for public dissemination. And I don't know if that's common practice now. That's been my experience at EBC and Research project, so I don't know.

[00:25:14]

Fatih

Again, I can probably talk for… At Western University, Guelph, and now TMU.

But I think universities are a little bit lazy with those things. Like, I mean there is always a section in funding applications about knowledge mobilization, but then I kind of feel like we repeat the same stories over and over again like it's very generic, it's not creative. What we probably need here is to be a bit more creative, especially for the public.

What is it for them? like why they should even listen to us, why should they should even care? I think the first step will be almost.

Raising awareness about like what we are trying to talk about and we can probably have a million word here, but we are going to promote probably only a couple of sentences out of that million word that will really get their attention and raise their awareness and they're going to be had this aha kind of an effect on them, right?

That's probably the public buying. If you talk about the lay public. Other than that, our educated audience, our students like, you know, using some teaching materials, things like that, I think using our repository, I think it's a great idea.

We should definitely have that storage space for our college university use, for our curriculum. I can we can promote that very easily. I think that will be a good buy in we we always look for newer cases, newer ideas to teach our students like I don't want to teach 15 year old material again. Like I think this is a great project and we have so many updated information. Newer concepts that we built based on the literature, so I think we have some amazing projects to share with students. But for the lay public, we've got to be extremely careful and simplify the message, shorten it and come up with those. Like almost mini clips.

That's going to take a lot of attention, you know.

[00:27:01] Josie	Go around to everyone and then ask them to come up with one jazzy little statement. We go with this stuff.
[00:27:18] Simon	Suppose word quality. It needs to be in there to reflect the research project. But yeah, it's that in itself is such a vague
[00:27:40] Josie	I was just going to suggest that maybe what we do then is like come up each one come up with one sentence, one clip of what that actually means…
[00:27:56] Jean-Pierre	Can I ask on what level? Is it the local level or the national level? Because there are two things here. Do we want to explain the project and is it worth it or do we want to start from each of the 14 windows or doors? And then open a discussion question.

Because whenever I'm asked to explain the project by the way, I'm very bad at it, so it fails and I'm excited because there are so many people.. But for what he said, well, you know, we want to raise the bar of quality, but for what you know because that's totally…

You know, it took us two years to come up there. |

But OK, so I said I'm going to give you an example. This site is working on, you know, making the parks more accessible. Do you know that you know only in Montreal 5% of the parks are really accessible 5% and then they go with something. So that's a typical, you know, journalist mediatic problem I guess you know you have to give them a bone to chew or something and then they can.

Do we want to play that game? Maybe we don't want to do. Maybe we don't want to simplify and that's why we said at one point a debate, you know, maybe we it's a kind of public, umm, you know a way to raise awareness at a at a kind of more public level. But what does it mean exactly? You know, even some some people said, who cares?

You know you only care about one thing. You don't care about. Yeah.Idea.

[00:29:30] Fatih	But I think like how about.. Like maybe next year when we invite again our next Convention, maybe each site can come with these one or two very catchy statements that could be our homework to come, and anyone has those short videos that we just discussed earlier, right? Having like on site members like just right here on the spot like have these videos and then it is something. That's going to highlight their work and it can be even like lay public, like simplified language, but very catchy statement, just like you said Jean-Pierre. Like that 5% thing, like something that people are going to. Ohh, that's something really interesting. We never even thought about it. We never thought it would be that bad or we never thought this is, you know, something that's needed in Toronto's waterfront, let's say for our project. Something that we can come up with throughout our work and this is the perfect time. Like like as we discussed since the get go with developed relationships we develop projects. I think this year is quite critical, you know until we meet next time. We should have some concrete results, some outcomes, some ideas, kind of matured, and then that time would be a great time. Next year, next convention to share those with those messages.
[00:30:39] Jean-Pierre	So, can we do it for November? Sorry, can we do that? But for the November online convention instead?
[00:30:47] Fatih	yeah
[00:30:47] Jean-Pierre	Is it too, is it too short? Do you think? No. I love your idea. I'm just saying
[00:30:50] Fatih	I mean, we thought about this videos like actually because we all have a lot in this project that we feel very excited about it having, like personalizing it with our

maybe site representatives and having like videos around it, some some like something for the repository for our like right, right

[00:31:06] Jean-Pierre	I know, I know, but I'm saying, you know, the next convention is in November
[00:31:09] Fatih	That's the virtual one, right, like? Yeah, that's three months.
[00:31:26] Trishtina	So I'm even wondering cause maybe some people might not be comfortably might want to have like a actual video crew or whatnot, but with the courses that I've been working on, which is more related to like nursing for example, we had to do a like a lived experience on what indigenous people face when they go into healthcare systems and like some of their experiences. And we interviewed like doctors in remote locations, and we didn't go to them. We didn't have a huge budget. So, we just used zoom or teams and we just had questions. So, we had a couple of questions that we really wanted to ask and we let them tell their story and somehow I became the video editor. I've never tried it before, but it's not that hard and you can create like a short series and that that contextualizes our work. But it could also. It's also engaging, and I know personally I watched the Museum of Modern Arts architectural videos. I watched YouTube videos to learn about stuff. So I think that might be something that's accessible and we can do it. Throughout this process, but most likely wouldn't be able to go live until next year, or it could be staggered so we have time to edit.
[00:32:32] Jean-Pierre	Yeah, so maybe we need two videos, like a video of the problem video of the proposal.
[00:32:38] Trishtina	I would think each site
[00:32:40] Jean-Pierre	Yeah, yeah, yeah. Each site the two videos so that we actually distinguish between, you know, we, we, we kind of explicit the crisis on the one hand and then so would that be difficult or would it be possible.
[00:32:56] Trishtina	You pretty much just have to talk for two hours. Or have questions, go through it and we just cut edit
[00:33:10] Brian	A shameless plug for the boat tour tonight. We are actually having a video loop and a video loop and it will be mounted above the bar, so we hope everyone.

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One of the members in our group is actually a theatre director from Zuba Circus. And you might remember him from a few conferences back. He did a a montage, and he's actually been thinking a lot about this and he's come up with an idea that combines kind of keywords with some images. So I think I think tonight might be nice.

Just to keep these kind of ideas rolling. Yeah. And I think for Jean Pierre, what would be important would be just setting down some ground rules for all the groups so that we have some sort of continuity, whether it's length or text style or whatever but but I think basic questions and basic format would go a long way.

[00:34:40] Brian	No, I was just saying that on the boat ride tonight. Yes. Do you remember Alex McLean?
	The photo in Super theatre. He's put together some video montage, OK? And so it's just something to keep the this idea going.

[00:34:56] Jean-Pierre	Just one question. Sorry we're doing, will it be possible to have a 10-15 minutes? You know, quiet moment. During the boat trip, can we request that for a special guest special Guest, 3 special guests?

[00:35:08] Brian	Ohh yes.

[00:35:17] Jean-Pierre	Yeah. OK, good.

[00:35:46] Brian	All of us really saying Jean Pierre is, you know, this is something we think it's really good. We do have resources in our group
	With Alex and I think essentially if we wanted to do it for November, we just need to know some basic things like what kind of format, length, style, basic things, yeah

[00:36:28] Trishtina	We could use those CIS's or we could have our own group utilize how we're already doing it online and we could essentially use some of the student graduate student budget that we've been struggling to find an acceptable endeavor.
	But that we could use that to fund the students to actually do the editing and kind of compile all that information and finish the storytelling. And it works out. Yeah, people can get paid.

[00:37:01]

Negarsadat

I was going to ask like I really like the idea of making these videos, but who's the audience? Is it going to be public or… Just us because you know.

Is that like we we all know our project, our goals, but maybe the next step is to face public. Maybe it's better to explain it in other words to public. So maybe if we could like these videos, it's really good idea to have two kinds of videos.

Listening from public and like answering, somehow responding to them. But you know, in a way that you know we, we we need to communicate with others rather than ourselves. So, so then we can hear from them. So it can be in case of like could be video or podcast or something. And maybe even we could have somebody who is interested in public, like normal people and want to have interviews. So some research group will go there and so have interview from them. So in that case, maybe we could hear from more people and encouraging people to, you know, integrate with their goals.

[00:38:12]

Josie

It's interesting. I just want. It's Josie and I wanted to just ask Brian. So about this theatre person that you have involved in the past sometimes like I think like it's really great to see like visuals and experiential like expressions of theatre like through. Forum Theatre or?...

Forum theatres are actually an interesting way or popular theatre or even like building like a tableau with people to kind of like express what quality is.

And I'm not sure if you're if the theatre practitioner does that kind of work with groups even.

[00:38:57]

Brian

Yeah, this interesting. He does. Yes, in the short.

[00:39:00]

Josie

Yeah.Because that yeah, that doesn't take that much time to even like create or to do. But I mean you need, you would need like the time to be able to do something like that, I suppose. Maybe just an idea, but I'd like to sort of see almost like what that would look like.Yeah

[00:39:24]

Miriam

It's great to hear this kind of energy and coming around for the November convention around kind of being able to communicate out and you know, maybe this individual and I think we're putting a lot on on, on your artist that's working on but maybe could be a bit of a witness at the Fall Convention and maybe kind of like I like this idea of bringing images to the project and what and I think just even me being challenged to communicate the project what it's about even if in a few images, even if they're abstract or something, I think it will help kind of ground the research project.

And you know, a lot of folks are design professionals around the table. Not everyone is, but I think it'll really speak to the, you know, we have a lot of good words as part of this project. But I think maybe we need the few kind of images or pieces of, you know, kind of artistic expression that would help.

So I think that's great and it's part of that, you know, we yesterday we talked a bit about the legacy of the project, et cetera. What are the kind of pieces that will leave that are the traces of all this work.

So that's great and I think I would challenge, as Jean Pierre has said, like the November Convention to kind of come around on communicating out what each research site is. And maybe there's a few like 123 questions or pieces, one is kind of the problematic as you mentioned. The Jean Pierre, what are the kind of emerging recommendations?

And a bit of the public message out a bit like I think you could do a video that could touch on all those things in a certain way. And then at the November Convention with all of us witnessing that, then I think it'll help kind of showcase what's the thread throughout the research project that keeps us together? 14 research sites is a lot from the outside anyway. It's great. But then are there kind of themes that are kind of coming through that are going to inform the kind of end product?

And I think there are some. I see them already a little bit personally. But anyway I think that's great to kind of DNA for the November convention. So great, great discussion.

[00:41:42]

So I had a couple of projects earlier working with graphic design departments. I think with 14 universities we have good internal connections and it's free labour almost. We have students actually who are completing their course projects and we actually benefit from them. So we can always approach the professors and say we have tThis kind of project idea, do you have some available students even pay them like a, you know, like an RA rate or just even like an assignment. So anyone can kind of everyone kind of benefit from it.

So when we have the simplified kind of messaging, let's say from a site, we have this one or two really catchy statement for the public, like coming to the Negar's point. But then I think the next step should be for more information, go to this. So there should be almost some kind of background information that's going to because we can't leave it there, right, so we raise the awareness stand. What's going to be next.

That should be again like very easy to absorb publicly available link which can be under our repository. But this repository is great like there's a lot of technical stuff right now, but that should be almost like a public access interface where we

simplify the language where we simplify our messaging and then we can have public just follow that link. Just reach that information.

[00:43:02] James	I just want to go back to what Negar was saying about, Who kind of is the audience of, like, consumption in terms of public, not just academic? And what Josie brought up yesterday about.. You know, there's all these milestones and you kind of reach a point and then it, you know, what are the actionable items and I think and the only reason I'm harping on this is like I used to work in tech sales and I worked in financial tech before that and I think… It's a massive exercise to really understand your audience, and it's really hard to get #1 audience to consume any amount of information. It's remarkably hard to get the information to the point where you're going to consume it, like that's even harder. So I think you need to have an like an obsessive understanding of who your audience is. And, you know, we have a very broad kind of research group. So like there's lots of good ideas that we're having about messaging and things to bring it to the next convention. But I think to not underestimate the amount of you know resources and knowledge to #1 identifying audience, but then to get your information in front of them is, you know companies spend millions and millions and millions of dollars on departments to make advertising work. So it's going to be you just need to be very strategic and focused and, you know, whittle it down to a a key consumer
[00:44:21] Doramy	It's your bang on right though, and it's storytelling.
[00:44:29] James	Just, you know, just very not even realistic. Just.. It is a huge undertaking to make any kind of knowledge disseminate deployment base so that doesn't know. Or maybe it's not.
[00:44:44] Doramy	100 percent, I think you stated it very, very well and I think unless you can affect people here so that they care and that's why the narratives and the storytelling is so important, because otherwise it's just a theoretical exercise and they'll go, I have other things that I have to worry about But I was just going to also add that I think that as part of whatever we do like, there's a whole I think we need a national strategy that then makes it super simple. For all our sites to take it and then build on it so that we build up momentum in that role and we have regional relevance and we have regional partners and and community behind it, which I think is really good too, but there are we should also be thinking of what's the call to action. What are we asking our various publics to

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do? Is there something we want them to do to take action to support the activity or to have a voice to say yes, I agree with this or I sign a petition or I you know, take this to my government because I think this is important.

And there's layers of that. That, and I think if we start with some form of a creative brief of what we want, then we can share it collectively, get input to it, Mariam, to your point, and have it in November so that we all agree, yes, this is what we're going to do. Here's our communication strategy. Here's what we want to do from a PR point of view. Here's what we need to do in terms of our markets, I think if we have that all laid out.

And we had a national approach that we can then each regionalize. I think that makes it more doable for people. So I think there's an opportunity here for that, so.

[00:46:13]

Simon

So I was wondering as much as defining who the audience is, who the allies are, who's going to amplify our message. Is there any awareness of people that might actually be opposed to what we're doing here? Like, you know, vested interest, big development corporations like the financial sector, banks? I don't know. Like, maybe there's people that would push back.

See this as too innovative, too whatever term they want to use and and not like it. So having that awareness and be able to track, monitor, overcome, have push back messages to kind of count that would be one point as well. Yeah.

What was the other and also like just looking at the way that communications have gone from influencers, right? Everyone's pouting on camera now on Instagram and stuff like that, like. But in this space, in the architectural world, in the planning, in the urban design, sustainability, equity, including all of these factors that we've talked about, who are the leading voices of that in Canada? And I can't say I've got any idea who those people are.

But defining them and having them on board, potentially endorsing, would also be another way to kind of help amplify the project, I would say.

[00:47:29]

Jean-Pierre

Yeah, I'd like to challenge again this this issue because this is exactly the way we addressed it in the dissemination Outreach Committee. We need to understand the audience and then we've been stuck for a year.

Not for money. You know, we are the biggest, the well, the best funded project in Canada for this kind of research project ever. And if we don't succeed in communicating we we're talking about $8 million in in total, right we we send we send the report to SSHRC each year we gather one more $1,000,000 on top of the SSHRC grant, So the schools and the communities are super generous in this project.

If we don't succeed in communicating, it's going to be a long time before there will be another SSHRC partnership in our fields. You know they're going to use the money for other things.

A lot of people who were concerned with homelessness yesterday, there have been tons of partnership projects for homelessness, more or less they have failed. So this is that's what I I said. I said to a few people yesterday. We are always struck by this issue. It's a very important issue. But unfortunately, we're not equipped to address this issue in this project, so we are equipped to address a series of issues.

Starting with, I would say integrating indigenous knowledge and values into the built environment in Canada, that's where it should start because anyway, so we should not, you know, believe this as being a kind of big company. I mean, the Rick Hansen Foundation is much more equipped than we are. And they find it very difficult.

So if we go there, we're going to everybody's going to retreat and say, well, you know, I finished my road map and that's it. Bye.

So no, what I would like us to acknowledge and I like the idea of storytelling, is that we have many stories to say, you know, see, see, what have been happening in 10 rooms in parallel in the last two days.

We have so much to say. We're recording it. You know, we have a lot of material. You guys miss a lot of the common integrity, common integrity seminars, but there have been amazing moments. Amazing, some were bad. But some were really good. Yeah. No, some were, you know, people selling their stuff and that's it.

Even Profs doing it, so no, I think we have a lot of material. I think we should be proud of this material, but now you, I agree we need to find an easy. So I really like the idea of you know videos. So no, so OK, my question was about podcast because a few people came out with this and I said, I think of podcasting architecture, but we are so visual, like Miriam said, you know, we.

Guys.

You know most of the things we deal with are visual. I mean, it's a visual material doesn't mean it's aesthetically visual or interesting. It's there is a visual aspect to it.

Which we cannot do through podcast, right? So I'm not too used to podcasts, but what I understand of podcast, you know, of course, I've listened to a few of them, but… they need to be either very well narrated or have to have an amazing content. For example some kind of philosophical, didactic super interesting content. You know, so are we ready for that? And sometimes I wonder. So some of you have thoughts on podcast

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[00:50:54] Trishtina	So I would say that…

Me and Josie, when we worked on that one of the micro credentials like learning from the land one we did a podcast. But the purpose of the podcast was just to collect sound bites that you could digest. You could break out into smaller pieces that add context and even with me and Twyla, when we were doing working on that nursing course, we were given some stories that were extremely painful stories.

And rather than having a visual of the person just having the audio with the subtitles was in a black screen was so impactful because you can really sit with the capturing of it, but it was embedded within a greater clip video clip where then you could, you know, move on to an orator or a knowledge keeper, or a, you know, having, let's say, Doramy or someone who's speaking to it and presenting a visual component that adds like it. It kind of prepares the story, prepares the person with the story that's void of too much stimulation.

So they can hear the pain and the real feeling behind it and it can prepare them to move into a visual moment. So that's how I would use not have a podcast series, but collect audio stories.

[00:52:13] Jean-Pierre

May I add something I just forgot to say? Don't forget we have the living Atlas. This is where someone said, you know, we shouldn't. We at one point what we do should direct to the research. So the research will be stored nicely by the end of the year and the living Atlas, which is a real database coming up.

So what about, you know, having sound bites? Little videos which help dragging people to the 14 doors of the living Atlas, and then, you know, we'll see how they move.

[00:52:52] Doramy

I was just thinking, you know, thinking of all the conversations been happening, whether we could in November, if each site could do a Ted talk, right, because you have a short time frame, you have to get your point across.

It has to be in plain language, you could have a visual if you wanted to, like we could set some parameters for that and then see what comes out of that. I think that could then lead to your. Here's the door that opens into. I OK, I got my two-minute or my 5 minute and then boom, move into the next right, I think. And that might then lead us to some of our thinking about the storytelling side of it too, not just the we're, you know, here's the people and whatnot, but it's like, here's what we're really trying to.

[00:53:35] Steve

To add to that Doramy, I think that's a great idea.

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Visuals are not necessarily how we consume content. We like the visuals, but the visual is the sizzle. The audio is the steak. And we have to be as simple as.

That right, I think we have to boil it down the message, the message has to be short and sweet, even though we got a lot of content, we got 14 universities or how do we boil all of what we've learned down into very short, powerful messages?

PR people need to be involved for sure, but the audio piece, to your point Trish, is absolutely the most important part here. We consume content mainly via our ears, right? And to me it has to be something that has to be narrated. Well, like you say, Jean Pierre, there has to be real good audio content in this. It has to be engineered, there has to be audio engineers in behind it that make it engaging.

[00:54:47]

Josie

I guess I'm curious, like about the Ted talk aspect. I think that would be interesting. I guess it really depends if you're minimalist or maximalist and what you think is like important, like in terms of communication because having like a sound bite and trying to, you know, telepathically communicate that, like so that everybody understands, like with the gist of what you're trying to say, might be just a little bit difficult.

I do appreciate sound bites. I think they're really important. I also think like the podcast, like 20 minutes of a podcast is enough. Beyond that 40 minutes, it's too much. 20 minutes is good. Get a sound bite. Use a sound bite for an Instagram thing you know have the Doramy sound bite on, you know inclusion in and the quality in the in the environment, they can just have something that makes sense and to the point

I'm curious, really curious about the Ted talks I like.

I'm probably more of a maximalist in this regard because trying to get like my house is organized no sort of…

But I like the idea of the visuals as well too, I think it's important and it's also got to be like cross cultural, you know, because it's coast to coast to coast. And so how do you how do you communicate that to everybody? But I think I think sticking with the bottom line on everything is really important.

That you want to boil it down to, but I think that there's a story to tell, like and how people express it. Like, what if it's on a Ted talk? Like how would how would that would that be expressed versus, you know, one line about what that is. So I think there's more stories to tell and whose stories to tell is important.

[00:56:34]

TalyDawn

I'm feeling like a little bit confused over. I feel like we've talked about many different video, many different like options and the tech side is amazing. Bless you tech people who can do that

But like, are these videos meant for the public again? Are they meant for us? Are they meant for cause? If I'm thinking it's for us that short and sweet, I don't… I just, you know, like there's something if we're doing lived experience and we're capturing people telling their story, speaking to their journey, speaking from their heart. Like that's not a quick thing. It's not a quick one message kind of thing. It's like we want to honor that right and so, I'm like confused.

I suppose about like what's what direction folks are thinking? This should go in and and how? And you know, I agree. Like the storytelling is like the heart of it and that can be done in many different modes that can be done through visual art that can be done through podcast. That can be done through videos that can be done through dance. It can be done through. Anything, right?

But like, are we honoring the heart of the stories that people are sharing? Right. So how can we ensure that that is like front and centre? Because if you think about it too, the people who are going to be like tuned in to us in this project have a vested interest, right? But we also in reality, if you want to create change, you need to get the people that that have no interest in us and those sound bites or whatever, that's important. But you also have to find a commonality. You have to find something within them that they can find a heart connection to in order to, like, solidify that. If if that makes sense.

[00:58:26]	So I totally hear what you're saying. I think it's almost like a 2-layered approach like..
Fatih	

One part is, For the educated audience, if you call it that way, maybe like it educational tool for universities, colleges, even high schools actually like school boards like we can promote the materials like these stories, podcasts like some materials we can just direct them to our repository in a way we should have a probably separate section for like education tools kind of.

But the second part is just for the lay public. So the key statement can be like…

Did you ever think about Toronto's waterfront? Let's say, as a catch statement for the public. And then, you know, there's the link with some infograph some really easy information, cartoons to absorb by the public, like some key messaging where we promote accessibility, maybe some even, like some basic challenges, but it's very simplified language just for the public.

So it's almost like 2-layered approach

How we can best use all this repository? It's a great tool, but it's very scientific. Right now, only an educated or interested person can. It can be appealing to a certain population, not for everyone, right? So but I think Jean Pierre's concern was like how we can just make it to the public. I think the only easiest way.

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As we all agree, the simplified language shorter statements that's going to take them to certain resources, they can easily absorb, understand both visually and language wise as.

[00:59:54]

TalyDawn

I'm wondering if then this is like comes down to the communication strategy, right? Like it has to be pretty clear and like, there's something like in me that's that feels like, even at the heart of that communication strategy needs to be like a very holistic, a very heart centred approach.

Yeah, I don't know when I think of communication strategy, I think very like businessy and I'm just not like that…

[01:00:26]

Trishtina

If I could add so like how maybe I'm envisioning it based off of how we've doing it and keep in mind we're not PR people like I'm just a student. Twyla's a student like and we're designing three credit courses for nurses that are already practitioners and grad students.

So it's like that is a public audience.

We don't have to be thinking in terms of like influencers and like and like 20 year olds that have nothing to do with this like, because that's not where we're taking one step forward

One step that's it. One step. So it just has to be reflective of people. It has to be reflective of us. And what would interest us? And then you're going to find people who are like us also searching for the same thing. We just have to stay true to us. And that's kind of the point.

Once we start getting into the fuzziness, we're going to lose ourselves and our message and the purpose.

But in terms of staying heart centred like we can have 20 minute video clips for each of the sites and what I mean by those little short clips, I don't mean sound bites. I don't mean like. Something marketing level, I mean you can have one. I'll use Josie as an example. Sorry Josie. I had to parse through all of the audio of our podcast, which was just an audio conversation between a few people where I asked questions and Josie was one of the people and I just asked her, can you tell us about your earliest experience like on the reserve and she said I didn't even realize I was on the reserve until I left the reserve.

And that by itself is probably the most powerful statement. It's so powerful, and it was organic. She didn't. She wasn't planning it out. She was organically just speaking to her experience. And if you just have no video behind that and just the words that sinks that sits with you, and then you can move into explaining some of these terms that are jargon that we all get like what is built environment.

Why is that related to parks? Why is that related to accessibility? You you prepare them for that, but you can do that in a 20 minute clip. That's educational. It's genuine and reflects us.

[01:02:47]

Simon

No, I'm agree with everything that I've heard here. And I wrote down hook, line and sinker.

Recognizing the context, the Atlantic guests that were in, yeah. So the short videos to kind of draw people in. And I thought that could have multiple different voices, people saying 1 words, creating story and you know, visually different perspectives and diversity and background. The line of it would be the long, long form videos content.

All of the stuff on the Atlas, anything that people can use to engage, and the sinker really is the the participation piece. It's like, are we creating an experiment? We're asking people to kind of provide their views. We're asking them to advocate, lobby, do whatever they're doing at the the community level. So maybe framing it in the communications strategy and 3 different components and keeping the authenticity at the same time because you know it's just I think we're on the same page about where it's going. Just want to add that in.

[01:03:52]

Brian

Yeah. Along that line, Simon, I think… It'd be really interesting perhaps, if the November conference was something like when you first preview a movie and you you have an audience that is incredibly critical and in that way we we actually get to our, you know, kind of before we spend any money or before we get any Kind of experts in if you like, we just have a message that we ourselves are comfortable with.

[01:04:23]

Doramy

I just want to build off Taly's point and say that if you think I can think in my own head of the Ted talks that have had the most profound impact on me and it's because they told a story and because it came from the heart. It wasn't a technical presentation, it wasn't marketing. It was a story. And so I guess that's the challenge to each of the 14 sites is how do you get someone to tell a story that makes your work mean something to somebody beyond everybody that's here and that would be the challenge? But I couldn't agree more of that has to happen because without that you won't get the level of engagement that you're hoping to actually see change, right? So.

[01:05:03]

Shyniaya

I was just going to add so like whenever I set up lectures for the classes that I teach, it's always for me about telling a story. Mostly because like when I was a student, I had undiagnosed ADHD. I now have ADHD that can't be treated for some other reasons, so I I manage but basically.

Like when I was in school, it was kind of like just being lectured at there wasn't that communication piece. There wasn't a story being told. And so when I set up

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my lectures, I very much focus on, OK, at the end of the day, what do I want students to take away from this lecture? Like, what is the lesson here and it always comes back to a piece of how can they go forward from here, utilizing the knowledge shared today? Not in a sense that like what I teach them is right, but in a way that they can critically think about it.

And so when I set up that story piece, how it often happens is I have like intermediate pieces that always tie back to that overarching topic. To keep that story going throughout the lecture, and I find what happens is that those pieces that it creates a lot more engagement than just sitting and lecturing at students, which is my least favorite part of teaching, and so it's about bringing that story cohesively through what we're sharing. And so.

Like for this would be breaking it up per topic almost and not only tying in the pieces about the research, but also the pieces about like why should you care about this? And it's like the sound bite example that you used of like I didn't realize I was on a reserve until I left a reserve.

I was just chatting with two indigenous architects upstairs and one of them made the joke. It's like 10% of the indigenous architects in Canada were in a room, and I'm like, there's two of you and like, and like, The thing is like, that was said jokingly, but like, The thing is, if you were to tell someone 10% of the indigenous architects were in a room. How many would you envision because a lot of people wouldn't think that it's only two and a few years ago that number could have been one so

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[01:07:41]

James

I think you Shyniaya what you said about… And Doramy and Taly and Trish.

But, like making people care like it needs to. Like, I think that's the biggest piece of this is like there's a like, why should the population care? And there's like obviously no lack of passion at this conference and like there's fourteen things that mean a lot to a lot of people.

So I think I don't know, it sounds like you're well on your way to messaging anyway, just speaking about it like passionately and earnestly. But it is a big question of like, why should I care as a, as an uninvested individual or even like a partially invested like someone in our community?

Why should we care about these issues and like these sound bites, the sound bite both the reserve like it's totally those kind of things that like appeal to your heart that are going to be the things that probably pull people in.

[01:08:41]

TalyDawn

I just one more thought kind of coming back to this, this thing that I said before.

Like I and I'm want like from everybody's experience like and having more experience maybe with communications or marketing or whatever, if you're trying to reach people who have opposing ideas or like because in reality change

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doesn't have like it, it can happen obviously, but like global wider change is really like you need to reach those folks.

Need to, you know, like change minds, hearts, mentalities, whatever.

Is is that something that could be like written into a communication strategy like or is it just maybe like? A natural process.

So that like I'm, I don't know, like I'm just to me that seems so important and I I want to make sure that like that is like reflect, I don't know, touched upon, I don't know

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[01:09:37]

Simon

Yeah. If you can find that magic sauce, then please share it with me because you know, trying to communicate sustainability in the context that we live in, it's like sometimes certain messages work, sometimes we frame it in all different ways. Titles of events. It can be the draw can be.

The presenter, like we've experiment all the time really. The latest thing that we did was back in November. It was a four part series and Net zero hero. We called it and it was this tree character and it looked all fierce and miserable.

Well and, but it determined nonetheless to like, achieve net zero. And so there was intrigue around what is this character? How can it help you? And so the next stage will be to build upon that and you know, have its own voice and create a forum for discussion around this, this tree. So if a mascot is part of this or not. But yeah, designers could.

Certainly feed into that process for sure

[01:10:34]

Doramy

I was just going to agree with you. I think that that's it's an important part. There is a psychology behind it. And as you say, we all work really hard to try and make it work and we test things all the time and some things work and some don't. But it's not by accident. You know it goes back to the work that you talked about earlier you.

Have to do your research to figure it out.

But I think that there is a piece where especially when you have limited resources, you want to be super strategic about how you shape those messages. And again, I think it all stems back from how meaningful it is to someone who says I get it.

I understand what you're trying to do, and I'm prepared to join you. And when we look at who we're trying to influence, as you said from the very beginning, if if governments, as an example, as a key partner that we want to influence because it's policy, regulation, legislation, whatever, then there'll be a different set of

messages for them. But knowing that the public's on side is going to be really important.

So one of the things we normally do in something like this is we create a whole persona for the naysayers, you know, and then you have the naysayers. You're never going to convert. So you don't spend too much time on them, but you have probably that middle ground where you go. Yeah, we could probably get them onto our side if we can do these things. So there's probably some work we can contribute.For how we do that.

[01:11:49]

James

That's all. I was literally going to say your point about the like. I think it's very iterative, but I think there is like a whole group of people that you're never going to convert and that's fine. And there's people you know 100% with you. So it's just about finding messaging for that kind of middle, I don't know. Apolitical kind of group. But it's iterative and fun so.

[01:12:17]

Fatih

Hello. It's kind of 10 minutes left. I've been so happy to be a part of this group. Honestly, I think we have the perfect balance. I hope we can continue our conversations next year as well with the same kind of group. I think we have the perfect balance here. Thanks a lot for making things a lot easier for me as facilitator as well.

So yeah, we have 10 minutes. I think we can just use bio break and then we can just take our time. If you have final words absolutely free

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[01:12:55]

Doramy

Miriam and I were talking about this earlier, and we said, you know what? Because we've had really good synergies as a group, like we were suggesting. If any of the key sites would like to have like.

They put lay and land a problem on the table and you want us to help organize a meeting? We'd be happy to do that. We could do something on teams or zoom and pull us together and say, OK, I've got a real struggle. I'd like to know something. Does anybody know anything about civic engagement? Have you seen a model and we could all go away and say, OK, what can we bring to that meeting?

I think that there's there was an interest we thought that would be really cool if we could sort of do that and it doesn't have to be organized by Jean Pierre and Dimitri. And but there could be an opportunity for ongoing dialogue for problem solving or creative solutions or ideas or whatever

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[01:13:44]

Brian

Yeah, I can find the problem. I think both Trishtina and I are in a similar place, that there is a mechanism in place for gathering information and It'd be really

interesting for me at least, to understand methods of consensus. I think it's important to our whole group, actually.

We have one woman in our group who's quite useful for this sort of thing, but it might be something worth sharing across the whole network

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[01:14:22]

Trishtina

You need to get together virtually.maybe we need to get the groups that have a lot more overlap together and then also bring the partners into that so that we can all have that similar experience that we had this morning where we really saw how where we could fit and then we can kind of work together a little bit more. Go for funding that we need to go for, start doing the stuff that we need to do. Break it up into tasks.

[01:15:01]

Josie

So what are your principles like for consensus? I guess, like how do you get to how do you get to yes?

Like, do you stand in a circle and everybody who puts their foot in is like in a in consensus or like, do you have to know, do you have to know like All the no's first before you get to yes?

And do you have to put your money down on what's going to be most cost effective? So this is like some questions like I have about consensus and like we're talking about strategies, what is the cheap cheapest, right? Yeah. Does it need to be really cheap? We have some money. So can we spread it around?

Yeah. Yeah. So those are just like my thoughts on consensus anyway.

[01:15:53]

Brian

But you know the teaching that you were talking about so well this morning, I think there's something about being able to get in a position of sharing, opening eyes, you know, this idea of the spider web, the idea of like everyone kind of moving in the same direction on very important issues and I do believe that the two eyed seeing have a lot to do with it

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[01:16:32]

Steve

I think we have to be brave and willing to fail in some of our efforts too, guys, right and trying is not necessarily failing. OK.

I come from a world where, you know, there's a lot of failed ideas. OK, yes, 100% iterations, right. And I think that, you know, we can, we can talk in circles over this stuff and we have to be willing to try different things.

Right. Because this, it's this doesn't cost a ton of money to do. We have a very engaged group, right? So the willingness is there, right? We talked about it a little bit quickly, Simon, you know one of the NVIDIA. That's set the CEO's. That's his main message. Be willing to fail and fail quickly.

And learn from it. And you know now they're one of the most, you know, high valued stocks in the world. So I think that, you know, from a private sector perspective, I have to bring that message to the table that it's, you know, we have to be willing to try something, whether it's perfect and not, you know.

Corners might not all be rounded. We have to be willing to try something to see what happens, because the feedback loop will educate us on the process.

[01:17:56]

Josie

Yeah. I just wanted to comment back on to Brian's question about that. I guess like one of the elders that I've talked to you about have have often mentioned like a closed spirit. And so having a closed spirit is not conducive like in this consensus building process.

So I think like in terms of two eyed seeing approach, Wink, Wink.

[laugh] Sorry, it's kind of like the end of the day

But no. But quite seriously, like you have to have like an open spirit, right? And so like for us, like when we start the day we're smudging, we're we're cleaning our energies and coming forward like in that way and it's about having that open heart, but also that humor so.

I think it's really important like that the stories that we share.

Uhm, you know many times like during this conference, like I, I've felt like people wanted to cry and I've seen people have tears in their eyes and I think that, like that, those are the. Those are the things that we want to respect and to honor and stuff like that. But if you have a closed spirit and you, you don't. You're not attuned to uh, you know.

Talking to people about their feelings or people are not accustomed to sharing their feelings, then that makes it a bit difficult too as well.

So all I'm saying is that like from that two eyed seeing approach like it was going back to what Catherine said is like heart and humor and and that was what she said at the very beginning.

So I think we come to that like with an open spirit and to embrace that like, as part of the two eyed seeing approach. But we're here to kind of like, you know, roll up our sleeves and work together in a good way

[01:19:51]

Brian

I just want to say I was speaking to Mike Brennan last night, you know, from the RIC. And I was asking him how he saw the direction of the RIC moving. And he said, well, we've become very good at is running competitions. And so that was good news to me because I worked in Germany for quite a long time and I asked him, well, how do you do that? And he says basically we have our foot in more than one camp we have, we have knowledge of the practitioners, but we also

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have knowledge of the client group. And so we feel like we can resolve difficulties relatively smoothly or quickly.

Just because they trust us, you know, like there's trust on both sides. And so I think that kind of aligns with two eyed seeing and being able to or different hats or be able to work with different groups and find some consensus. That's my hope

[01:20:53] Fatih	All right. So that's kind of wraps up the conversation. Thank you. Right. Thanks again for. Thank you. [Thank you's and applause]

ROOM 5

Workshop 4- **Public Debates and National Strategies**

Room5_ Location: G.H. Murray Building - G214			**13 Participants**
First Name	**Last Name**	**Organisation**	**Research Site**
Henry	Tsang	Athabasca University	Athabasca University
Martha	Radice	Dalhousie University	Dalhousie University
Sara	Jacobs	University of British Columbia	University of British Columbia
Thomas	Strickland	McEwen School of Architecture	Laurentian University
Gregory	MacNeil	The Association for Preservation Technology International	Carleton University
Danielle	Catley	Royal Architectural Institute of Canada	National Partners
Isabelle	Cardinal	Société Logique	Université de Montréal
Matt	Nomura	Calgary Homeless Foundation	University of Calgary
Ben	Johnston	Dalhousie University	Dalhousie University
Maisie	Berens	University of Manitoba	University of Manitoba
Yolene	Handabaka Ames	Université de Montréal	Université de Montréal
Ryan Bang Yan	Ma	Toronto Metropolitan University	Toronto Metropolitan University
Alex	Larose	Carleton University	Carleton University

Room 5 - Workshop 4 - Public Debates and National Strategies
Thursday, May 2, 2024, from 14:00 am to 15:30 pm

Date of report: 2024-07-03

Report produced by
Ma, Ryan Bang Yan Ma *(Toronto Metropolitan University)*
Larose, Alex *(Carleton University)*

5.1. Summary
The workshop focused on discussing national actions to be undertaken by the partnership to spark a national debate on quality in the built environment. The conversation revolved around defining quality, engaging various audiences, and strategizing effective communication methods. The themes discussed included the importance of inclusivity, collaboration, and the need for clear and simplified language in national actions. Additionally, the conversation highlighted the significance of storytelling and narrative in engaging the public and professionals.

Main Questions:

1. What national actions should the partnership undertake in the coming year to spark a national debate on quality?
2. Who are we trying to target with these actions?
3. How can we involve voices currently unheard or not at the table?
4. What mediums should be used to communicate these actions in a meaningful way?
5. How do we redefine or add to the current definitions of quality in the built environment?

List of Topics Discussed:

1. National Actions and Audience:
    - Defining quality in plain language.
    - Targeting a broader audience beyond the partnership.
    - Engaging voices not currently involved in the conversation.
2. Communication and Collaboration:
    - Strategies for disseminating information and sparking debates.
    - The role of frameworks and simplification in communication.
    - Collaboration across different groups and communities.
3. Inclusivity and Equity:
    - Ensuring inclusivity in defining quality.
    - Considering the perspectives of users and communities.
    - Addressing issues of accessibility and social value.
4. Storytelling and Narrative:
    - Importance of narrative and storytelling in engaging the public.

- Use stories to illustrate the impact of design and quality on people's lives.
- Engaging with media outlets and platforms for broader reach.

5. Local and National Engagement:
   - Acting locally while thinking globally.
   - Leveraging local initiatives and examples to inform national actions.
   - Engaging with national partners and professional organizations.

6. Educational and Professional Development:
   - Involving students from various disciplines in the conversation.
   - Promoting interdisciplinary collaboration.
   - Educating future professionals on the importance of quality and social value in design.

5.2. Detailed Transcription of the Workshop Discussion

Time + name

[00:00:01] Sara Jacobs	Have a little bit of a shorter session this afternoon and break a little bit early. I know I think. Probably talked through most of the things that we need to by this point, but we're really going to focus on kind of next steps and sort of where things go from here, so. The question that we have for this next session is what national actions should be undertaken by the partnership in the coming year in order to spark a national debate on quality. And I've had some more conversation with Sean Pierre about what he meant by national debate. And I think that he's thinking about how do we sort of take this project to a broader audience? How is it communicated to others beyond just those in the partnership? So not necessarily a debate and that they're sort of. Opposing sides, but more how does it sort of present a conversation moving forward?
[00:01:06] Alex Larose	Did he say who? Who this broader audience was or just like?
[00:01:10] Sara Jacobs	So that's one of the questions about the audience also. So, I'll just read the question again and then the follow-up question. So, what national actions should be undertaken by the partnership in the coming year in order to spark a national debate? And as a follow up to that, we're asked to think about who we are trying to target with these actions. So also, who would the audience be?
[00:01:40] Danielle Catley	Yes, good afternoon. We talked about the voices that are unheard or that are not at the table and how do we bring them in? I think it really ties into these questions and I think the audience is just not defined because it's the people who are at the table and wanting their input into this. Just we've talked about it a lot at the DNC and shop has been just really asking for more information on how to move forward on it so that you see is looking for a lot of input on. Yeah, who the audience is and what medium we use to communicate with them in a meaningful way where it's not just that, you know, the consultation. This is collaboration, so yeah.
[00:02:38] Matt Nomura	I think we've discussed a lot of actions over the last two days. If you go back to the earlier conversations that we had on definition of quality, plain language and simplification in our language would be a national action that we could consider. So, when we think about the frameworks to define what quality was meant to be in a framework, there's some work nationally that can be done, and I'm taking the word nationally as all of us across Canada as a part of this research group. I'm assuming that's the right interpretation, right?
[00:03:12] Sara Jacobs	I think so, but I think that there's a there's a second potential question of how. How does this become a conversation outside of this partnership too? So in the realm of perhaps, our own perspectives.

[00:03:29] Matt Nomura	Totally. So the first part would still remain the same. I mean, I think that that definition work needs to be to be done. You take a look at the websites, there's no call to action, not drawing it anywhere. So to spark a debate, I think the DOC needs to determine the question of the dates and then a specific strategy to disseminate the simplification of what's been brought forth so far across the groups, because it's nice to have the conversations that we've had, but we're ingrained in the work or right about the work as academics. So how are you going to how will we, strategize communication outwards. That appeals. So couple of things that I think we've discussed at great length. Actually as a group, we could do.
[00:04:31] Sara Jacobs	Is it worth discussing what that call to action might be?
[00:04:31] Gregory MacNeil	Is it a call to action or is it a... Not a debate, but a dialogue with the profession and then determine a call to action.
[00:05:07] Sara Jacobs	I don't think that would be my approach, but that's probably a different view than others might have. I think I'm wary of catering to existing professionals. Because I feel like that addresses very little structural change.
[00:05:50] Ben Johnston	Should there be more like it's disseminating to students as well, and like to the next generation, like have more like public exhibits and bringing past the students that are within the actual group.
[00:06:12] Danielle Catley	There was also a question of just the broad general public engaging them and having their lived experience and the different themes that each site is exploring and having their input so that it's not as closed in to your respective groups.
[00:06:30] Martha Radice	But we are already engaging in lived experience in the research.
[00:06:35] Danielle Catley	Both people outside of who you're talking to. So just really. General public as in like. Something very like simplistic but having choosing a specific community and at that community center, hosting a forum where everyone's invited from any kind of path of life and they get to discuss it and participate.
[00:07:00] Martha Radice	I think that only works if it's already an issue that the Community is engaged in and you see that endlessly with new buildings like the Central Library. Yes, there out the window, for instance, had an amazing community engagement process when it was being designed. In spite of all the outreach attempts they did, in spite of like, you know, the in spite of the publicity it got in spite of the energy and really wonderful intentions that was put into it, I went to four out of the five community engagement sessions. And I had a student go to the one that I couldn't go to, and nearly everybody there. A member of a professional group or quasi professional

group that had some kind of interest in the library, so it although they were public sessions and there were, you know, a handful of, you know, faithful, dedicated members of the public who went along, it was mostly architecture and planning students, librarians, people on the library boards, you know, it was mainly people with some kind of existing interest and I think that. I mean on the one hand I you know, I appreciate Sarah's perspective of being careful about catering to existing professional norms. But on the other hand, I'm also concerned about, like, imposing an agenda that isn't there. And also, I mean, we were just talking with our schools project at lunchtime we had a little meeting within our team and you know the concerns of the public would be. In some respects, in relation to schools would be so kind of partial that, like there's so much explanation you have to do to explain, well, this is how come your school got to get your school was built in the 1st place or this school was built in the 1st place, you know which is not to say you shouldn't do that, but just saying that that that the. You have to kind of... Educate in order to create a debate and then you know who would come to it anyway, which is not, say, it should be done, but then... I'm equally way of kind of imposing a creating a debate that isn't there or imposing a consultation, you know, a debate from the outside as well.

[00:09:55] Isabelle Cardinal	I totally agree with you that public consultations, I'd say people attracts often the same people. Looking for some exposure or so it's one way I think you say I will always say the same thing. This is one way to reach the public. We have to think of many ways different ways. We talked about diffusion, diffusion, ways of reaching yesterday, so it's the same thing. If we want to reach either the public and I come back with our three avenues of action that we have in our team if we talk about educational actions. Is there is some way of reaching he students or the future planners? If we plan on action for the professionals, we have to think about ways of reaching the professionals. We, the architects in Quebec, we have some reunions every year. Maybe it would be interesting to reunite. All are many architects from all over Canada. Yeah. And if we for our part, we have political action. This is more difficult to attract these people and to find way to speak to. But we talked about it yesterday. If we want to speak to these people, we have to have in our on our side people who are able to speak to them in their own language. And yes, there are some people missing. The people we talked about yesterday, but even in our team, I'm there to represent. People with special needs. I'm not a person with special needs. Well, maybe. I have set a special need but and our team when I talked about that, Jean Pierre told me that in the research, the ethic. It's complicated, so to go in public and to have them participate, it's a it's a complicated. What am but my perspective on the project? On a national level we are 14 teams. And when I see that just between the 14 teams, we don't even share that much. I think that the is it for me to say, but I don't understand that a team that works on architecture in Montreal. The result or should be at least exchange with other school of architecture of Miguel and invested Adal. But I'm not even sure that they will do it and with your faculty of architecture and school yard you're with. So at least inside of your own university or faculty? There should be a plan to communicate within your own.
[00:14:15] Ben Johnston	Going through things and like how are you going to make a conversation happen locally? I think I kind of dislike like the wording of debate national debate because it does have, like, these inferences of, like, disagreement and negative. Yeah. And I think it's like we said before, like saying like a conversation because a conversation and it doesn't even have to be like how you can get people talking to each other. It's how are you going to get someone talking internally about how

they think. And we talked yesterday about AHA and like the what they have done and something that they did that we would see because there's the design competition that they did that was about housing surplus in Halifax and they used and it's saying I guess I just I love, yeah, like very gorilla on the grounds way word of mouth by signposts, just pamphlets and signs. You'd see them all over the city. I think something like that in like what we're saying before as well about, like, trying to disseminate through new avenues and like not the website, but like, more established means even if you have like a beautiful graphic to your local project, put it on a bunch of post sign post. Like, ask a cafe if you could put it up in the cafe window. You're going to get a lot more people, so I'm waiting for the bus. Someone waiting for their coffee and just a QR code. And like an attractive image that gets some interested. And then that can bring up to your individual local projects because. I kind of struggle to think that like someone like the average person in Vancouver would see something that's like ohh, they're redoing the provincial guidelines in Nova Scotia. Why do I care? But they'll see about like hostile architecture in like the parks in Vancouver and that would be much more local and make them understand like there could be like a small part. Where it is like by the way, this stuff's happening all across Canada, but like keeping it specific local and accessible.

[00:16:37] Alex Larose	I think too, like if they're looking like, just the layperson's perspective, I think there's so much diversity across the project that like I could look at your project and act as like a layperson because I like I'm. It's like a like a like a public like. Somebody who just would engage with it, not from necessarily like the perspective of an architect or. So like maybe that's a way that we could do it without like imposing any sort of agenda, but getting some sort. Like non expert opinion just to get some sort of conversation going, and maybe that's a way to start the conversation between some of the research sites.
[00:17:45] Gregory MacNeil	What about a national exhibition? A touring exhibition of the (sites), and the outcomes. Just put it out in the public as a piece that tours and see what the feedback is open, open it up to everybody giving feedback. You can't have feedback and say we're going to exclude professionals because at the end of the day the professionals landscape would ever have to implement it if it's of any value. If it's of no value, just keep it internally and leave it as an intellectual adventure, if you will. But I would. I would look at it as a national (exhibition) and the area I could probably facilitate that. Essentially, be brave enough to put it out in the open, and if it's really good, it'll stand. And if it's not, you'll find out very quickly.
[00:18:42] Alex Larose	I don't think the idea was to exclude professionals. I think they were like just trying to, like, encourage the general public to come in addition to professionals is sometimes challenging. But yeah, maybe an exhibition is a way.
[00:18:56] Gregory MacNeil	I get that I get that.
[00:19:04] Ben Johnston	To do that and engage it in a different way I think then sorry. I think then you would be. So if it's in an architecture school. If it's in a library, if it's in like even in like a gallery or something where it's, but mostly in like a library or community center somewhere that is highly, highly public and accessible to and inviting to all.

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[00:19:32] Danielle Catley	I could just slightly elaborate on the RAC like we have our annual conference, but we also have like we have different mediums that we could use. We already have our current channels, usually it's more around the design professionals, but there are ways to engage the public. We have chapters like local chapters, provincially and then city specific, and they've often engaged with the public in a very successful way. They're currently not within each province, so it's not consistent nationally, but it is a model that could be looked at to. So I'm sure there is many different opportunities that the RNC can assist with this type of public engagement and if it's venue or touring, whatever that looks like there, there is that facilitation about funding really. At the end of the day.
[00:20:28] Matt Nomura	I think it's also about starting in in, for example, at the memorial there are there are some in the in the Faculty of Architecture, they are putting into practice the accessibility and also the project that they are working on. Well, directed by Mechano that is in the in the in the team, no is exactly that is, accept the project is a library this this cycle. But it students are, are they have to apply, you know the accessibility? Codes or in the design, so it's a good way if we talk about faculties and also the city Of Montreal is doing a a project of collecting positive lift experience no and then OK we at the end of the project. We would like to see how. They disseminate the information because maybe if it's good, of course they are. They are doing this project because they want to know what is the positively the experience of buildings in Montreal. So if they start and they go, they spread, you know the the positive experience, maybe some other cities are also going to start doing something like that. So that would be good, no? In a in a political, no. If we talk about political level, you know, and in educational we can also do that. And in professional if we talk about. Are I also that could be also like finding ways of starting somewhere and then sometimes it replicates. So if there is a good way of just spreading the information.
[00:22:20] Thomas Strickland	I guess my question would be what we would hope to get from the public engagement as far as the discussions concerned. So that would make a difference. For example the like it you can imagine, it'd be kind of an interesting experience for the you know, people to come to some kind of an event or a gallery show where they are put in a situation where they answer questions or pass through an exhibit that that asks them to reflect on their lived experience. So it's you know, to be specific about it might be one way of doing it the other. We would say, OK, we're building this project and we're going to start by, you know, the Public Library in Halifax, the Public Library. In Sudbury, somewhere in Montreal, they all have very small shows that people sort of start to see it. They're like, oh, that's interesting, but it's weird. I don't get it right. And then and then maybe a year later, there's a bigger one or some we ask people to respond to that, like, do you get what we're doing and then no. So, so then we can reflect on them and do something else. So I think it's like it's, you know, I've done a number of sort of public oriented art pieces and the turnouts never really great. Some people love it. They go because they've got nothing to do on the weekend or something like that. Some of them are really have been targeted and are successful in the 20 people that show up somewhere in a venue where millions pass by like the plus fifteens in Calgary, millions of people are passing through those all the time. You could have a little. You know, you know, I don't know. Somebody in a stand asking questions, I don't know, but. But it's a busy place, right? So. So. But to me, it could be something like we sort of would know what public response is and then build on that. I I think you know like because we ourselves are sort. Not absolutely defined as to what the quality we're after is right? What that definition? So maybe

this is something we start to get back from the public like it becomes a part of the a bigger idea within the research project about where we can take our work because the public can start to tell us what they think is at stake for them. And the idea of quality and.

[00:24:41] Gregory MacNeil	While architecture is only one part of it, there is National Architecture Day. Which is doesn't really get a nod of celebration, so you duplicate it 10/20/30 times and put it out as a as an event for national for National Architecture Day. And I think that would. Yeah, with World Architecture Day by the AI. So that's an interesting opportunity and I think most of the regulators would welcome an opportunity to put that out as well.
[00:25:20] Danielle Catley	So the RAC has an annual Congress in addition to their conference in October, which falls on World Architecture Day. So it could be in a sense that if there was a touring exhibition or something that leads up to World Architecture Day where you have the larger exploits and events. That that brings everyone together just. But just FYI, we do host an event during that day.
[00:25:58] Henry Tsang	I think my thought is very similar to yours professor Strickland's. Idea is that I you know the 1st reaction is that what? What are we trying to get from the public and are they are they also going to get anything from us presenting? 14 research projects and I think it has to... We have to be very clear on what we are trying to either communicate to them or what are we trying to. The response might not be as expected. It's not going to be like 200 people coming to our Calgary, right and I feel like you, you said, you know it might be very specific people, you know, architecture students, architecture people already involved in the field and the built environment who are interested to come so. I'm kind of wondering if it's if it's maybe too early to even discuss about this right now because we don't have a consensus on what we are, what? What's the message we're trying to communicate. But I do think that Greg's point was interesting. Maybe that one the, call to action is maybe to have this dialogue involving a bigger community, which I think we should first of all leverage our national partners like the Ric, they're Hanson Foundation. They haven't been very involved in, you know, they haven't seen our our road maps and we haven't consulted them at a national... You know, as a collaboration. So I think that the first thing is to involve, the national partners, if we're looking at a national call to action is, you know, to look within ourselves and our resources, but expanding it to the RAC maybe. The National or Association for urban planners and, you know, looking beyond the players who are involved in the built environment, 1st and I kind of like this idea that Isabel suggested too, that we should probably establish stronger connections locally first. Because I think I'm a strong believer of acting local and thinking global. Why should we stop at the national level if we can start to thinking broadly in terms of engaging international partners as well, but starting locally, focusing on local problems that may be repeated, maybe somewhere in Amsterdam, somewhere in China, somewhere in Africa. But you know, finding concrete solutions to at a local level, first and finding who those are. So I think you know the question was what are what is our national action. I think that's probably where we should start. I think engaging the public is maybe too early and I'm not quite sure what we're trying to get from doing that right now.

[00:29:27] Gregory MacNeil	I think if you're going to engage the public, you have to decide whether you're going to engage with a complete it. And I think that's the big question to ask. I think as far as engaging on a national exhibition, you pretty well have to have something that's completed. That's a thought provoking thing and that you have buy in on. But I think the provincial ones, the other thing to look at is every single regulator in the country has an annual general meeting and they love to advertise the fact they exist. So that's an opportunity to actually get them to put the thing on in public. And that's within their mandate.
[00:30:23] Sara Jacobs	I'm trying to remember Daniel and the like the pieces that you read out this morning going back to like the framing of the project, what are the is there like an issue that's identified as the research project addressing? Like is it about sort of like defining quality in Canada's built environment because there's currently a lack of quality or a lack of sort of definitions around quality? Or I'm just thinking about like as we're discussing what this call to action is, it just sort of expecting like, well, what is it that we're actually as a national project? Responding to like as like as a research question, right, like what is the... What is the kind of primary like problem or issue, that has necessitated these 14 projects to sort of occur?
[00:31:14] Isabelle Cardinal	Well, it's all about the social value. Well, it's I understood that it's about the social value of the built environment that we all think we all know. It's essential to quality, but in the reality check, many say the contrary, contrary that. Our built environment excludes many people.
[00:32:04] Sara Jacobs	I understand that part, but I guess what I'm asking is it is there sort of a?... An argument then being made that we need to consider the social value of quality, or is that like currently not being considered? Or like I'm just giving money. Like, what is the sort of like question that?
[00:32:26] Isabelle Cardinal	We think it's considered, but from the point of view of users, it appears that we don't succeed.
[00:32:35] Alex Larose	When I first started the project, there was like a presentation to like it was like an onboarding thing and it was like basically stating that they want to challenge current definitions of quality. So like I think it has to do more with like the definition of quality and like coming up with a collective way forward if that answers.
[00:33:05] Sara Jacobs	Yeah. No, I think that's OK. And I think that's like I'm asking this like just kind of as a refresher to myself as well.
[00:33:12] Alex Larose	Yeah, yeah. I'm not sure if that's still the case. Like I think it was old material that we were given, so maybe this has changed. Like it seems like the project has evolved.
[00:33:16] Sara Jacobs	But even asking like how we redefine quality to include, equity, social value and sustainability. Like that sort of opens the door for a call to action. Then if there are response. I think things I think things through by like, talking, talking it out. So I need to know what it is that I'm like responding to before we can be like what is

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this called action? And I think just as a reminder like what is it that we're actually addressing to us very helpful. Thank you.

[00:34:07] Gregory MacNeil	I tend to agree with you. Are we looking to redefine quality or add to the quality that we expect in the future?
[00:34:23] Sara Jacobs	I think it could be either of those.
[00:34:26] Gregory MacNeil	Yeah, because we already have quality by some measure. Yeah, we can't. We can't go out and say there's no quality in current architecture or urban planning or whatever. We have some measure of quality for how we exist today. Now, it may be deficient. So I'm saying are we going to try attempt to change the definition of quality or are we going to add to it and refresh it?
[00:35:05] Isabelle Cardinal	We want to, well, maybe it's going to be a new definition, but my understanding is we want to refine it. And to consider the social aspects that the social aspects have more important weight.
[00:35:26] Gregory MacNeil	But I feel like goes back to like more like the social, the equity social value and sustainability has more weight and understanding quality for who, though and what and in what context still like again, like, who is the audience because I think.
[00:35:47] Sara Jacobs	I'm not like, I think it's debatable whether we have sort of standards of quality because there is plenty of like places and contexts in this country where and I'm thinking of some of the projects that we're working on for the UBC project, where it's like a crisis of housing and there's it's hard to even talk about quality when people are kind of like risking so much to just have a place to sleep for one night, and that's precarious, and that's unstable. And so to start talking about sort of expanding definitions of quality. I think it's debatable. I I'm. I think it depends on the context and. I mean, I think there is there is certain things that we would say are very simplified versions of what quality is. For example, you know the building code requires that there is light in every room, right? I mean and that's gives a quality to space, right? Not every room. But you know, every room you going to sleep in, which apparently I heard the other day that they changed in Vancouver also.
[00:35:47] Thomas Strickland	Yeah. And they changed it in Calgary as well. So there's a an assault on quality, right? But I think you know, you could start by saying, you know, as Greg said there, there is a kind of standard right now whatever that is to ensure there is a certain quality to what's being built, right, so... So there's a starting point, and are we then saying we need to add to that starting point, right, the bare minimum that we're kind of living with right now and then there's then there's the idea of quality that you know is perpetuated historically amongst the schools that involves ascetic and experience and volume and all those kinds of different things and materiality, right, which is another piece of what? How quality is defined? So there's the civic, you know, bylaws that are about public the quality of public life. And then there's the quality defined by the architecture school. So those two things don't always align by any means. And then I guess maybe what we're adding to them is we're saying, OK, there's another level of quality that doesn't necessarily and some of

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the bylaws and code is changing to adapt to this is the sustainability piece, right, and then you know in in the 90s they did introduce accessibility standards, right? That standard has evolved. So we could go back to that introduction of that standard and say, OK, how has it, how, how how's our understanding of what is quality in that area evolved so that we need to really, you know, visit that. So I think there is something you know that that's there. That defines... a valuable space, right? But the, you know, do we? Are we adding to it by bringing in the value of social issues and where does that fit into it? Right. And then that could be something that we could then perhaps have a discussion around, but maybe we need a sort of baseline for what is now understood as quality in the built environment?

[00:39:29]
Henry Tsang

I tend to agree with Thomas. I think that you know, if we had, if we had a hundred projects on the table right now, we'd probably be able to have a consensus on... At least somewhat of a consensus of what we think would be the top ten projects. Maybe we will not all agree on which one is the best project, but I think we, you know. You know things that we know, like aesthetics, form and beauty and hug, context, context and light. And you know, all that things that we know as designers and people who have experienced buildings, we probably have a consensus of what good design and the bad design is at a very basic kind of understanding but I think that the social value component is harder to see until the building is built and lived and had time to really exist, right? o I think that that's a new concept. I think for us, you know, as academics we're only used to looking at design phase and designing buildings. But you know you were talking about post occupancy I think that component has to kind of take up a bigger role in how we evaluate quality in, in in the built environment. What's next on the list?

[00:41:24]
Sara Jacobs

Well, it's going to just maybe I'll just repeat the question that we sort of started with because I think it has been a like productive sort of round about like almost like back to where we started on day one. But so in this kind of question of like, what is the? As I understand like what is the kind of common understanding of quality or what is the sort of baseline or sort of? What, then, might national actions be? Within the part like taken by the partnership in short term. So this question like the question is asking about the next year specifically.

[00:42:06]
Thomas Strickland

Maybe on one hand this is just, you know, throwing ideas out there. Maybe on one hand, if we wanted to take an activist position, right, one could say, OK, it's OK now to have a bedroom without light. You know if as a group, we were to write it. Write something in in a national newspaper and saying this is extremely problematic based on, you know, we are the partnership and we have decided and we pushed on those things. It might be a way to bring some public debate like if we picked a few things that we think are extremely troubling that we would like to specifically address, and surely the housing crisis is one thing. But I mean that's that's big and it's being dealt with in so many ways, but maybe to for the public to be aware of our questions we find things that that, you know, reflect this lack of quality or a change in quality in the built environment. And we actually just start kind of hitting a few media outlets about it. I mean that's a bit activist, it means we're going to get some kickback, but we'll be more visible. And if that's what we're after, some visibility, that might be a way to go about it. And that's not too long. That's like 100 words in an editorial column. Something like that.

[00:43:26] Thomas Strickland	And I guess the other thing you have to consider is the really the fundamental role of an architect after we received a post occupancy evaluation is to listen and learn. So we can also take the approach of saying instead of a call to action, we've listened and learned. And here's what we think is the other approach. Instead of an argumentative or debate approach.
[00:43:53] Martha Radice	Yeah, the idea of using OP EDS, which are well op Eds are more like 800 words, but you know. You can push yourself and or the conversation, you know the that the conversation it's vulgarization project for getting mainly academic research into a popular popularized format. I don't know if they Commission pieces, but certainly you can approach them as an academic and say I want to publicize this finding.
[00:44:42] Henry Tsang	Topics, right, every month or every once they have a specific topic that they recruiting, like AI and intellectual property or something like that.
[00:44:48] Martha Radice	Right. Yeah. Yeah, that's yeah. They do calls, don't they? Yeah. But that, that, that can be, uh. And they're often they're tailored so that they get they often get reproduced outright. There's a special copyright license on them that they can be reprinted in other media outlets. I think it's called a condescension in French.
[00:45:14] Henry Tsang	It's an interesting publication because it's almost like a news outlet. It's fast. You don't have to wait a year to go through peer reviews and stuff like that. So you just write an article and it comes out a few weeks later and it's at the time when people are still talking about it, you know, it's like, oh, right, now we're talking about AI and ChatGPT. And you know, the academic is writing about that and it comes out at the same time when people see it on the news. So it's not like a publication that comes out a year after, like 3 pre reviews and like a few conferences.
[00:45:55] Alex Larose	In the GSC, they've been talking for a little while about starting up a podcast within the partnership, and I think that could be an interesting way to go about it. It's kind of an easy way to put out information relatively quickly and like spark conversation so it could be something similar like along the same lines but maybe that's how we would approach the podcast, because it does seem like that's something they are planning on putting forward in the near future. And I think that could be successful.
[00:46:39] Sara Jacobs	Just to say another thing that I think is it podcast idea is great and I think it's just about the conversation. The publication sites, not the conversation generally is there. I think it's limited to 1000 words and they... I really appreciate the way that they do citations within. It is always like links to other things, so it's not just like a list of articles, it's like everything is a live link to another news article. Or, you know the living Atlas or a school's website. So it sort of creates this like network and web of ideas just in this kind of relatively short piece, which is also written for like a popular audience instead of Academy.
[00:47:27] Martha Radice	Just thinking of regarding podcasts. Thinking of what Walter was bringing up yesterday of, you know, it might make more sense to get in on other people's podcasts rather than try and start one from scratch and build it and build an audience and so on. It's probably better to identify existing podcasts that discuss urban issues or if it's about First Nations housing, indigenous issues or whatever

it happens to be, it's better to kind of get in on other peoples, cause people, podcasters who are doing it as a major part of their creativity and practice are always looking for people to interview and for content, so that that it might be better to think about that rather than think of trying to start show partnership podcasts that will probably run dry after a while so. But and that's why you know the the conversation I have. Like I'm on the website now and it's... It's just really cool and they have it in French as well. But you know, there's kind of a take an angle based on their research and write a thing that will then get. It's interesting, there's a lot of different stuff.

[00:49:11] Danielle Catley	You'd have to limit just the to this to this platform of the conversation. Like there's all these different media platforms. Also, national media platforms, but the same piece could be shared into a press release kind of thing, right? So just share it to a bunch of targeted media outlets and specific journalists who have an interest in that. And then it gets picked up. But you'd have to specifically only this one, this one and that one like you can just push it.
[00:49:47] Sara Jacobs	The only other thing, yeah, there's lots of different outlets. I think that are are similar and.. Another thing I just appreciate about the sort of short format, kind of more for a popular audience is that you kind of have to like pitch an idea. So it's not just a description of what it is that we're doing, but have you know for outlet like the conversation? And there would need to be a bit of an argument. You know, this is like I feel. Like a, you know, a task. Task for like jeanville but you know like how do you start to coalesce that some into a cohesive narrative or something and argue like even if it's sort of hypothetical at this point. But how do you sort of put forward an argument which is essentially what a you know what an academic research project does, and I think that that needs to happen in order to advocate for policy and have policy. You know, if the if the final goal of this project is that it's architectural design in Canada in order to even have policy be rewritten, you first have to be able to show. That what it is that you're addressing and what that sort of kind of gap or feeling is?
[00:51:19] Danielle Catley	I'm wondering if there's any interest in this because like the sites and the teams are all multidisciplinary and from different backgrounds. If there would be any value in adding like students from columns and marketing so that because it's not because like your university student and that you're young that you know how to use these platforms. And do it successfully. Everyone thinks that's the case. That is not the case. So it might be interesting to involve people like students who are actually studying marketing, social media, PR communications in order to develop this. And actually, you know, have a instead of kind of winging it and trying to figure it out and it. Just takes longer.
[00:51:59] Sara Jacobs	Like there's people who know how to do this.
[00:52:01] Danielle Catley	Yeah, exactly like you. You go to school for it for a reason, you know like.

[00:52:01] Ben Johnston	Would this be something that we would want to like? The partnership would want to tackle at, like an overhead partnership level? Or is that risking too much generalization again and instead it should be a like each site should be trying to promote their site as a specific thing to these outlets.
[00:52:30] Danielle Catley	I can say that at the DU. C level when? Like talking about this high level, the intent was more around providing a framework and options and that the sites would be responsible in producing their content around the framework that's provided so that there is some form of consistency throughout, but it's really. Individualized by each research site.
[00:52:53] Thomas Strickland	But that would then be funneled up to the national level that would distribute something like that, so that that there is a kind of place that this is all going and being recorded. So it doesn't just like disappear into the you know the local area, it becomes a national that they.
[00:53:30] Gregory MacNeil	There is another piece at a national presentation too. You can hire. You can get Coms people in, but I have worked on a project where we got a graphic designer and we had several projects to link together in one format. And boy, did that ever put the questions back. It it really did because architects like to think that they can all draw and communicate. But when you have to put it into a common format, that graphic designer is going to come back with a lot of very pressing questions about what you actually... I mean, and I think that's a a betterment of the experience. I really think that would actually take the project to a whole other level.
[00:54:23 Henry Tsang	I was just thinking of the concept of podcasts, and I wonder if you've ever heard of this podcast called 99% Invisible. Yeah, right. So I think that it's an interesting podcast because they communicate issues related to design and architecture in a very vulgarized way and connects to how you know how you live in a city and you, everything is designed right. Something is, you know, the graphic, the graphic design. There's like the industrial design and the architecture design, the cost of 99% of indivisible is that you don't really notice it. Which makes it good design, right? It's something that stands out that it it's unnatural when it it's poorly designed. So when you don't notice it, it's actually what? What good design actually means. So I really like that concept. I think it in a way, what we're trying to do with the 14 sites is also to kind of strive towards this a similar principle of you know, design is not for the 1% but for the 99% of people. So maybe that that could be one potential podcast that we can distribute disseminate the information to. I know that they're based in the US so, but right.
[00:55:50] Ben Johnston	They also like the way that a lot of their like episodes go now is that they kind of curate podcasts so. With like there's something like that that has like hundreds and hundreds of backlog. It also gives us a very good like compendium of other podcasts that also have these audiences of like going down and like coming up, I guess like 90 nines, like basically like the tip of the pyramid, but... Places that like maybe a bit smaller that pick got picked up by 99% visible, but like also would be a little bit more accessible for a first stop. And then going cross-platform, there's also like Vox does a very similar like video series where they will and they've done things in Canada as well where they will like bring someone on location to like spaces and discuss the built environment in that way.

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[00:56:49] Henry Tsang	Yeah, I think it doesn't have to be them specifically, right. But I think we can definitely learn from how they are able to connect good design and good architecture to why people should understand and know about it. And I think one last year I was interviewed by CBC because I was, I did a project in Chinatown in Calgary that try to reflect the local culture in in the buildings. So how do you reflect the Chinese Canadian experience in the design of build? Things and CPC picked it up and they said, oh, this is the architect storyteller who's trying to connect community with architectural design. And you know, I got thousands of views on CBC on the, on their, on their YouTube. But the fact was not nobody was looking at the actual design, but they were interested in the story that an architect is actually talking to community to think about design that reflects their identity. I don't think anyone actually looked at the actual plans and drawings and the facades and stuff like that, and the details of the materiality, but they were so they were really interested in the story of how design could affect their, their cultural identity. And I think that's the kind of stories and storytelling that we need to kind of be much better at if we want to connect to the social value or the communities is they need to understand why design is important and how it affects.
[00:58:31] Ben Johnston	CBC's like a huge spot for like that. We might have like overlooked and I don't know about anywhere else but here. Still CBC Radio has a massive draw like my partner had a like 5 minute clip about cyanobacteria. And we were getting text messages for three days. Being like we heard you on the radio from like, random people from all over. So it's like... It's still like we kind of, I guess, think like radio sucks, but like it's there's still a lot of people that like that it can get like brought to a large mass that it's very I guess like active way for us to really just in one go get to a bunch of people.
[00:59:21] Danielle Catley	CBC is actually quite accessible like some people might think that it's not, but because it's so big and actually, but it's actually quite accessible. The only trick into getting in is to find. Finding those specific journalists or content curators to target, because if you just send it to anyone, they won't pick it up. But if it's if you're actually doing your research on who's interested in these types of topics will be picked up right away.
[00:59:49] Sara Jacobs	Yeah, I think this just to for me speaks to the like importance of narrative and storytelling, which I think has come up a few times already and I am I think I personally feel excited thinking about kind of like all of just the knowledge that is sort of held within each of the teams and the sort of. Narratives that come from either, like academic sort of specialties or kind of lived experiences within. It's like how do we start to tell some of the stories that are of the people actually like involved in the project? Works that we're working on in a because they completely agree. I think that's what people would go back to our conversation yesterday with like the three social media things like educational, engaging and inspiring is like everyone relates to a story because inevitably we relate it to something in our own experience and ur own life and I, and I think that it starts that starts to also answer just some of the basic questions that I think need to have more folks engaging with the project of like why like why is it that the built environment and design is important because it affects all of us and starting to then tell through specific stories how that's the case. Just really clearly illustrates then why, like rethinking or redefining or kind of understanding quality in different ways is important to have more like livable environments.

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[01:01:46] Sara Jacobs	So our final task. Is to have two ideas for national actions and who they target.
[01:01:58] Danielle Catley	I've been taking notes. I just underlined two of them that I just thought were national actions and I was going to pick up the microphone before. So the two that we had, we had the activist position with and then the other one was a narrative and storytelling. And I find those two can go together, but they can also be quite different. Yeah. So those are the two that I've underlined from all of my notes and our conversations because everything else kind of can fit under one of those two and how you want to frame those positions.
[01:02:45] Martha Radice	Those two things give us a lot to think about. Like, how do you tell the story of Crab Park? So that in Vancouver so that attention is paid to people who don't have houses, houses to live in. Or how do you take a position on an activist position on boil water advisories on First Nations? Like we're still at the boiled water advisory boil water advisories. Really. But yeah, you know, but let's get people talking about that again or whatever it happens to be.
[01:03:32] Danielle Catley	I also liked earlier what Thomas you said that like each research site, finding those specific items that are of like issues that should be brought forward and that those like the those are like the two kind of high level frameworks status site can position themselves in by once those have been identified. So that there is some kind of guidance to this. So it's not just like left free for all and Willy nilly kind of thing. So yeah that there's like that finding. What are those specific issues that want to be addressed and brought forward to the public? And then finding what is the best approach with whether it's through an activism approach or narrative and storytelling? Because you'll get different types of responses from either order.
[01:04:29] Henry Tsang	Any last comments? So, 15 minute break. Thank you. Thank you.

ROOM 6

Workshop 4- **Public Debates and National Strategies**

Room6_ Location: G.H. Murray Building - G215			**13 Participants**
First Name	**Last Name**	**Organisation**	**Research Site**
Douglas	MacLeod	Athabasca University	Athabasca University
Ipek	Tureli	McGill University	McGill University
Robert	Wright	University of Toronto	University of Toronto
Jonathan	Jucker	University of Calgary	University of Calgary
Giovanna	Boniface	Royal Architectural Institute of Canada	National Partners
Leah	Perrin	Halifax Regional Municipality	Dalhousie University
Laura	McBride	Rick Hansen Foundation	National Partners
Sarah	Huxley	Fondation Véro & Louis	Université de Montréal
Panos	Polyzois	University of Manitoba	University of Manitoba
Maëlanne	Armstrong	Université Laval	Université Laval
Marc-	Fournier	University of Waterloo	University of Waterloo
Andrée-Ann	Langevin	Carleton University	Carleton University

Room 6 - Workshop 4 - Public Debates and National Strategies
Thursday, May 2, 2024, from 14:00 am to 15:30 pm

Date of report: 2024-06-03

Report produced by
Fournier, Marc*- (University of Waterloo)*

6.1. Summary

- A uniform graphic language between sites would facilitate comparison and the identification of convergences and divergences across research projects. Standardized layouts could make the information quicker to grasp at a glance.
- Recurring definitions should be harmonized so that the partnership can develop a common understanding of the key studied concepts and principles.
- Lived experiences could be disseminated as a way to engage the general public.
- The partnership should employ a range of diverse media (both physical and digital) to disseminate the research to the various target audiences. Specific groups require specific media and content.
- The partnership outputs should be clear, precise, and prescriptive to raise the bar on quality in the built environment. They should be as concrete as possible, rather than general statements of goodwill regarding sustainability, equity, and social value.
- The professional expertise of communications and social media experts is necessary to ensure a coherent communications and dissemination plan.

6.2. Detailed Transcription of the Workshop Discussion

Time + name

00:01:01 Sarah Huxley	Jean-Pierre mentioned (that) in the plenary afterwards, that we're going to talk about like our main ideas. Like you know the students. About the national debate.
00:01:19 Robert Wright	So question one, do we need to refine the strategic inputs of the research partnership
00:01:26 Sarah Huxley	I think we need to define.
00:01:27 Jonathan Jucker	Yeah, I think so.
00:01:38 Andrée-Ann Langevin	Are the strategic outputs somewhere?
00:01:39 Marc- Fournier	I think they're in the slides. I'll try to find them.
00:01:43 Ipek Tureli	OK, I'll just…
00:01:46 Laura McBride	Are the strategic elements the roadmaps?
00:01:49 Sarah Huxley	Are they… (flips through the program) … this?
00:01:54 Jonathan Jucker	I think they're probably within that. I think.
00:01:59 Ipek Tureli	The strategic outputs. OK, material needed for the café-workshop. Participants to think about strategic outputs: page 168.
00:02:39 Sarah Huxley	C'est le *back up* ça.
[00:02:47] Marc- Fournier	I have here the research outputs inventory. Does that sound like it could be similar?
[00:02:58] Ipek Tureli	Workshop #2 or Workshop #4?

00:03:00 Marc-Fournier	Yeah, but it referred to the materials of workshop #2 too.
00:03:07 Unknown	OK.
00:03:17 Ipek Tureli	Is it this page?
00:03:19 Marc- Fournier	If you go back, there's expected outcome summary, I think that's probably what they mean. So that's page… I can't see the page, 150.
00:03:38 Marc- Fournier	Or 149.
00:03:43 Robert Wright	We could just say no. (laughter) Then we're done. (more laughter)
00:03:49 Laura McBride	We're good.
00:03:55 Marc- Fournier	Yes, this one's this one. The version that's on Dropbox.
00:04:02 Maëlanne Armstrong	The one we transferred, I think.
00:04:06 Marc- Fournier	Yeah. So the first section, from what I understand, is Knowledge Creation. And then there's Student Training and Skill Development, Social Benefits, Enhanced Public Discourse, and Professional Practice. So they're kind of broken down into categories, I guess.
00:04:29 Robert Wright	I still say no.
00:04:37 Marc- Fournier	Yeah, they took her to me.
00:04:39 Laura McBride	Outcomes summary.
00:04:42 Marc- Fournier	I think this must be it.
00:04:46 Laura McBride	You're not reaching the part. Knowledge Creation… That seems good. Student training…
00:05:03 Unknown	So, if you say no, there's no need to redefine?

00:05:06 Sarah Huxley	There should be a list of partnership current (strategic outputs). Like it's this material we did.
00:05:06 Robert Wright	Yeah.
00:05:11 Sarah Huxley	List of partnership current strategic outputs.
00:05:13 Marc- Fournier	Yeah, from café-workshop #2 so if you go back in the document. It's on page 150 I think.
00:05:26 Marc- Fournier	150, sorry.
00:05:34 Marc- Fournier	There's Expected Outcomes Summary.
00:05:41 Ipek Tureli	OK. Which one?
00:05:44 Laura McBride	Keep going.
00:05:46 Marc- Fournier	OK. Yeah, maybe. Yeah, it's just the one after that. I think they're desynchronized. This one.
00:06:00 Marc- Fournier	No worries! And there is a page right after it. I don't know if this is the right document…
00:06:05 Ipek Tureli	OK, I wasn't… It seems like…
00:06:08 Marc- Fournier	It looks like it.
00:06:09 Ipek Tureli	Yeah.
00:06:18 Unknown	Well, I think we've talked about it a lot of this morning.
00:06:20 Andrée-Ann Langevin	This morning I was trying to go back to the question on the screen because I read the one in the afternoon and mostly I answered those and not specifically the one.
00:06:33 Sarah Huxley	I think like, we can go through them one by one and see if we're still… If we should keep or toss.
00:06:42	(Douglas enters the room) My sincere apologies. We were having a very intense discussion with the University of Manitoba. On all the indigenous

Douglas MacLeod	learning and… Sorry! I appreciate that. I, I do apologize, but what it was one of those discussions where I didn't want to leave and insult people so… But is it all solved? Everything done? (laughter)
00:07:12 Sarah Huxley	The answer is no.
00:07:13 Douglas MacLeod	Actually, there is a wonderful thing. Richard Sennett wrote a book about… He's a urbanist planner, and he wrote this wonderful book. And he said that sometimes it's important for the experts to get out of the room and leave people to talk amongst themselves without being bugged by the experts. So…
00:07:35 Andrée-Ann Langevin	The thing was… Panos said that (when) you meet the group and the indigenous young, they will not talk, but maybe they scare them with all the academia with the presentation. It's hard to talk after as a teenager, talking about after an academic.
00:07:55 Jonathan Jucker	I was walking at lunch with one of our community partners who was in another group, and he was saying that their session was like just pure… Like he felt like he was in a lecture. So…
00:08:09 Jonathan Jucker	I'm glad that this one isn't like that.
00:08:12 Sarah Huxley	I think we have the best group. (laughter) From what I've heard…
00:08:21 Douglas MacLeod	Well, it is. It's actually fun. When we relax and the ideas start to come, it's kind of like exciting. So, what do we got now?
00:08:35 Sarah Huxley	We're going through the Expected Outcomes Summary and checking out if we want to keep them or change them.
00:08:44 Sarah Huxley	And we lost our screen… So we're pulling them up on our computers. So, there are four main sort of categories. There's Knowledge Creation, Student Training and Skill Development, Social Benefits, Enhanced Public Discourse and Professional Practice.
00:09:07 Robert Wright	We just said the answer was no.
00:09:07 Douglas MacLeod	Well, that's easy.
00:09:09	We don't need to redefine them.

Robert Wright	
00:09:11 Douglas MacLeod	It is… It is a good group.
00:09:15 Laura McBride	Seems very fulsome.
00:09:18 Sarah Huxley	I mean… Developing 15 to 30 roadmaps. I don't think we need 30.
00:09:23 Robert Wright	No.
00:09:24 Douglas MacLeod	Would it be? Yeah, that's why I loved the idea about AI generating a roadmap for us this morning. And see what people thought of it so.
00:09:31 Andrée-Ann Langevin	Something that could be done is if the grant (could) produce like a template. I know they produced an example of a roadmap. But if they really want to unify (them) at the end, (they would need) to send a graphics with bubbles ready to be filled.
00:09:51 Douglas MacLeo	That'd be interesting. Yeah, yes.
00:09:53 Andrée-Ann Langevin	Yeah, we as students can easily fill the template with the (font)… They choose everything… But if they want to unify the graphics, they should send like (a) step by step: "You should have eight steps with that. One with that." A little square to write your title. If we want to go in that direction, but I think universities, the people doing all the research, could find it difficult to apply to that. So it's also something (to discuss). Do we all agree that we want to unify our graphics at the end? Between all the universities? It will be a decision that we have to take as a group or not.
00:10:43 Marc- Fournier	But not even just graphics. But as Sarah was suggesting this morning, maybe having the same template could be useful just in order to have some kind of convergence and divergence between the roadmaps so that they have a more standardized format. It doesn't mean that all of the research just needs to be summarized within that roadmap, but kind of having the same document with all of the different perspectives, or the different methods for raising quality might be interesting. Rather than attempting to understand each one of them individually.
00:11:22 Laura McBride	You know, having like a best practice one. To use it as an example. And maybe not everybody follows eight steps. You have two or you have four… But yeah, guidelines.

00:11:34 Andrée-Ann Langevin	The guidelines.
00:11:40 Douglas MacLeod	Yes, best practices are often very useful to enable to, you know, learn from them, because it's kind of like in the best instances, you're benefiting from somebody's lived experience kind of thing. So…
00:11:45 Laura McBride	Yeah.
00:11:55 Douglas MacLeod	Like I keep coming… Lived experience was one of the things we talked about last year and it's so critical because this morning… You know, last night I was sitting with Twyla at dinner, and we were yakking about all sorts of things but it wasn't until this morning when she shared the situation, the circumstances of her housing in (her community), that I really had an insight into, you know, what that whole situation is all about and how there's so much to unpack and to understand. There's so many things, so many layers, like in terms of addressing it and that's why, you know… Panos said it here, but the fact that they're not just building houses in York Factry, they're teaching people how to build houses. And that's such a critical aspect of it. How do we make more of those kinds of instances, and how do we share? How do we get those stories out so that everybody can hear them?
00:12:54 Douglas MacLeod	I do keep returning to Rick Hanson. I'll tell you why. We had him speak at our convocation.
00:13:02 Robert Wright	Third pitch, third pitch!
00:13:03 Douglas MacLeod	Third pitch! But here's why. I was having to present degrees that day, so I was on the stage and Rick Hansen is talking and it gets to the end of his talk and he said that somebody once asked him: if you knew what was going to happen to you when you got in that pickup truck that day, would you still have done it? And now I'm tearing up again? And yeah, I'm on stage and there's just tears streaming down my face because the story is so compelling and powerful. And you go if we can get people to tell stories like that. Then that's the key to getting…
00:13:28 Laura McBride	Yeah.
00:13:36 Douglas MacLeod	… people to change.
00:13:38 Laura McBride	Yeah, I agree. I think the storytelling is a big part and maybe there's… Maybe we can take stories out of these learnings of this partnership and share them. Almost like blog stories or something like… And you have

	more. We have little snippets to draw people there, but a writer to tell the stories of the learnings would be interesting.
00:14:03 Douglas MacLeod	I mean, think of the posters today, the roadmaps and the posters. Think about if we just had stories. With an image and a story of different people's experience of the built environment across Canada. It would be… It would actually be a very powerful tool.
00:14:22 Sarah Huxley	Each roadmap has a story associated to it.
00:14:25 Sarah Huxley	Of places, of the context of why that issue is…
00:14:35 Andrée-Ann Langevin	(being handed the microphone) I didn't ask for (the mic). It was for my pen, but it gave me an idea. We have a student initiative to do a public professor. You heard a bit about it and I think what you just mentioned could be a really nice idea for next year. Like to draw something… We have to write a lot about quality and what is our perception of it or a different question about that. We had the option to illustrate that here, but I don't know if students took that opportunity. But making it an image, a photography or a montage… I feel it would be a very nice little exposition, or works to do.
00:15:22 Jonathan Jucker	Yeah, I think that kind of goes back to the idea that we were talking about yesterday of personification. And by actually connecting what we're talking about with real people stories. And obviously I think we would aim for kind of a diversity of different people and different stories. And some might be positive, right? And some could be negative about what needs to be improved. I think that could really help ground what we're doing in sort of some reality for people who we're trying to reach out to.
00:15:59 Sarah Huxley	Yeah, I know. The more we talk about it because we were talking about like the standardized framework for the roadmaps, which I continue to think is a good idea, but perhaps people will have some resistance to it in some ways. But I think that you have to keep that sort of creative process within that. Like we can have the roadmap and then have you know, a video of like… Of a lived experience and we can have the notion of podcasts like comes back throughout the program. So, like a podcast where someone is interviewed about their experience. Or like there's a podcast of sort of a round table like a tiny example of what we're doing. So different people can go, can be drawn into the road map through different channels. Through what interests them? Yeah. Like. Yeah. So I think there's a lot of… drawings or montage or like. Yeah, I think there could be different ways to draw people in to the roadmap.
00:17:07 Maëlanne Armstrong	I was looking on my computer and last year we used a tool that's called an experience map where you take the personification and you try to put them in a context or a little story basically to understand how they see and live life from their point of view, and I wonder if it could be an exercise that could be useful in this context to take a lived experience and try to put them on maps essentially.

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00:17:48 Douglas MacLeod	Some of our students went to the Sutu and we stopped in Johannesburg and we were working with a graphic novel designer and he was talking about Alexanderplatz, which is one of the areas of Johannesburg, sort of like Soweto. And he gave each of the students a character from his graphic novel and asked them to start to explore that in terms of their life and what they would do… And each of the characters actually had it… He provided some background and it would be really interesting in terms of personification, in some cases, to start to develop studios and design things like thinking about somebody with mobility issues or thinking about somebody who was neurodiverse, and thinking about all sorts of different people and making… One of our research assistants, well, Christina, she said that at the last conference she said… Or at her seminar she said: "We have to be uncomfortable and we need to be uncomfortable if we're actually going to change the way that we do things." And so, taking people out of their comfort zone and asking them to think in a different way, it could be a very valuable output of all of this.
00:19:05 Laura McBride	And I think there's different ways to tell stories. Like you can use the long format of like a blog or you can use video or you can use infographics to maybe do something, but there's different ways to tell the story too. So we could think about that as well.
00:19:31 Jonathan Jucker	If I could just share something, one of our community partners gave me at lunch. She's with Vibrant Communities Calgary and they created these little booklets and they went around and planted them in all the little free libraries in Calgary. So, yeah… I'll pass those around if you want, but yeah, so a very creative way. And also like physical media, you know, not everybody is totally like connected, right? And it's worthwhile to do both (digital and analog) or all of it.
00:20:04 Douglas MacLeod	Enough, OK, this is. This is beautiful. Yeah. Can you download these from their website? Oh, I don't know. Ok, I'll pass it. Pass it that way.
00:20:10 Jonathan Jucker	Probably. I think some newer versions.
00:20:20 Laura McBride	Put them in libraries.
00:20:21 Jonathan Jucker	Like the Little Free Library boxes, yeah.
00:20:26 Ipek Tureli	Actually, can I have one? Do you have extra?
00:20:31 Jonathan Jucker	No, but I can ask her. Yeah, I think she has a bag full left. She's in one of the other buildings.

00:20:37 Leah Perrin	Do you…? It reminds me a lot of the little Bible tracks.
00:20:48 Douglas MacLeod	But these are, yeah, these are great.
00:20:50 Douglas MacLeod	And it's called Enough for All? Or is it Vibrant Calgary?
00:20:53 Jonathan Jucker	The organization is called Vibrant Communities Calgary.
00:20:57 Douglas MacLeod	OK. But it looks like their website is…
00:20:59 Jonathan Jucker	enoughforall.ca. Yeah, she said, like the newer versions of this have a QR code that you can scan.
00:21:07 Laura McBride	And that's the question: what would you add to the city? Yeah. And then they go to the QR… They go to the site and they can comment or…
00:21:16 Jonathan Jucker	Yeah, they're all slightly different.
00:21:22 Ipek Tureli	OK. I don't know.
00:21:32 Douglas MacLeod	And I love the fact that they put them in the libraries.
00:21:35 Jonathan Jucker	Yeah, they just like sneak them in.
00:21:38 Douglas MacLeod	Marketing can be kind of brilliant or insidious, and I'll just very quickly (share) this story. You know, the Gallo brothers, who are the second largest vintners in the entire world. They made their fortune on a fortified wine called Thunderbird, which was specifically designed for people on Skid Row, and the way they marketed was their salespeople went out and left empty bottles of Thunderbird lying around in Skid Row and that's how they got people hooked on this. This very high alcoholic but sweet wine that they had called Thunderbird. Yeah, that's what they did!

00:22:20 Jonathan Jucker	It's bad stuff. Yeah, yeah.
00:22:21 Douglas MacLeod	It's super bad stuff! (laughs)
00:22:25 Andrée-Ann Langevin	Imagine if we did that. (Put out) some beer…
00:22:31 Douglas MacLeod	So that's what we'll do. We'll go and figure out where we can leave things. OK, so I think though we're OK with the strategic outputs, so then the question is what are the best means of dissemination? And I also think we've got some, some good ideas about that working at various levels and layers in terms of being able to shift the message depending on who the audience is and reach people at… Everybody from the general public to those who need (the) very specifics.
00:23:07 Laura McBride	I think it has to be very integrated.
00:23:10 Laura McBride	You can't just use one channel, you have to use different channels.
00:23:11 Douglas MacLeod	Yeah. And I think we also suggested though that maybe we need to get some outside expertise because we're not the experts at communications or even at graphic design which we'v learnt.
00:23:25 Andrée-Ann Langevin	We talk(ed) about so much things for the simulation and I think they're all great ideas.
00:23:30 Douglas MacLeod	Oh sorry! I've got both microphones.
00:23:34 Andrée-Ann Langevin	We talk(ed) a lot about strategy to dissemination and you are doing that job acting in your foundation, your job of marketing. I think we need a full communication plan for the like…
00:23:50 Douglas MacLeod	Yeah.
00:23:52 Andrée-Ann Langevin	So, I don't know if it will be us as researcher(s) or it will be someone in that they will hire someone but they… It's not just a part of the website it's ready to make a plan to be disseminated if you want all those five years to be really use(d) at their full potential.

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00:24:12 Douglas MacLeod	And I believe there even is a... Let's see there... There is a Dissemination and Outreach Committee that's meeting tomorrow at 8:30, but it's kind of like, think they should be telling us, like, what their plan is.
00:24:25 Laura McBride	We actually had a plan, but it's more of a plan for the project overall… And so there is a plan but it needs content and now that I think the roadmaps are… further along and we have more content to work with, I think, and it's becoming clearer, I think we could use that framework of what we have…
00:24:58 Andrée-Ann Langevin	Right now. Just to start the process for now.
00:25:07 Douglas MacLeod	I don't know if they're going to talk about it. We're running out of time to talk about things, I guess, but there is… There's a whole plan that was put forward called Rise, which is about an architectural policy for Canada and I'm not… I'm trying to remember… Did someone talk about it in Calgary? But Darrell Condon, who's sort of instrumental in that, has been going around and talking to all sorts of groups about… And Jean Pierre definitely knows about this. The sad part about Rise is that it… It was too vague and so when it came in front of the provincial regulators like the Ontario Association of Architects and the Alberta Association of Architects, people are going, well… Everybody agreed in principle, but there's no specific goals for this plan. It, you know, it said all the right things; it spoke about equity, diversity and inclusion. But it didn't say: OK, what are we gonna do about that? Like it didn't say we have to increase the percentage of underrepresented groups in architecture by 10%. It just said, you know, we should do this. So, does anybody know anything more about that?
00:26:20 Marc- Fournier	It's on page 168 of the document.
00:26:23 Douglas MacLeod	OK. I guess that shows that I didn't get as far as 168 (laughs). What does it say?
00:26:35 Marc- Fournier	So, it talks about Rise. It says: "Rise for architecture is an initiative of the regulatory organizations of architecture in Canada, ROAC with support from the Canadian Council of University Schools…" The vision… There's two quotes about it. So, "Canadians are facing many intersecting challenges that are both impacting and being impacted by architecture. The climate crisis, social justice, truth and reconciliation, human health, and well-being, economic disparity and political instability can all be hindered or helped by architecture. And there's a Why now? section. But it doesn't say much about it. I don't know…
00:27:21 Douglas MacLeod	But it actually says this is for Cafe #4 right, which is what we're doing.
00:27:34 Laura McBride	The RAIC development?

00:27:44 Douglas MacLeod	No, it's the ROAC is the… Something architectural. It's like the ROAC is the provincial regulators plus the schools. It used to be called CALA or something else, but now it's ROAC. And it's… One of the problems is… I have to be careful what I say, but the RAIC isn't at the table and the regulators are wondering why they're not at the table for something which is national in scope and the RAIC is supposed to be the national voice of architecture in Canada and this would seem to be critical to it. So, the fact that they're supportive of it, but they're not… They're asking the provincial regulators to fund it all. And that has put the regulators' nose… And again, it's… You can't disagree with any of this stuff, right? But, OK, o what? Like, if we don't have goals, what can we do? And that's probably a good lesson for us too. If we don't set goals, people will just kind of ignore it because we don't have a vision. Well, they have a vision and it's a very good one I think. But for example, the appendices to the Rise document, which (are) very long, (are) a really interesting study of architectural policies in other countries. So, in France, for example, if you have a building that costs over a certain amount or a certain square footage, you have to have a competition for it. And so, competitions in Canada have kind of fallen away. They used to be a bigger deal, but now they're kind of disappearing. So now it's like, OK, well, what are you saying? Should we have more competitions or less competitions? And that's where it it doesn't go far enough. And so, I guess we're supposed to discuss it. This is a great document but…
00:29:46 Jonathan Jucker	I think that's the importance of the performance indicators, right? The short, medium, long term, we need to have signposts that we're measuring our progress against.
00:29:56 Laura McBride	Is it recommendations for architecture?
00:30:01 Douglas MacLeod	No, it's more like aspirational statements, you know like that says, well… It says about the importance of equity in architecture, but it doesn't say what they're going to do. And it talks about, you know… It talks about the importance of climate change and sustainability but doesn't say all buildings will be net 0 by 2050. So yeah, it's an interesting document. Maybe it'll come up at the... In fact, if it does come up, I might even ask the question at the next, at the last plenary, because I'd like to know whether we're in support of it or not.
00:30:41 Leah Perrin	Yeah, reading that column, that's what is an architecture policy for Canada. Like, it sounds an awful lot like just design guidelines that cities would use in their planning documents. So it's just been really interesting to me kind of coming into this space that's dominated, maybe not in this room, but most of this research project is sort of dominated by architecture, but I'm like: "It's just planning guys." (laughs) Like just coming over to the dark side to planning you know. And I think even this is the Faculty of Architecture and Planning, but having been a student in the School of Planning, I can tell you that they do not talk to each other. It's a problem and you know the more, like, interdisciplinary the work can be, I think, the better. Yeah.

00:31:37 Douglas MacLeod	Sorry, now I'm starting to be an old man telling stories. When I was doing my Masters degree, I was sitting in the same… Exactly to what your point is... Sorry, this was the University of Calgary and they had architecture, they had environmental design, they had environmental science and they had industrial design. And there was a high degree of pecking order and I was sitting there one night in the computer lab and there was an architecture student talking to an environmental scientist and the environmental scientist asked the architecture student: "Well, what are you doing?." "Well, I'm doing a historical case study. I'm looking at a famous Canadian building." And the other student who was an environmental scientist, she said: "Ohh, that's great. So you could look at like the Anne of Green Gables House!" And the architecture student turned to her and said: "why on earth would I want to do that?" So he was saying this house, which is beloved (by) millions of people around the world, was beneath his level of study. And that's really what the problem with architecture is, because you sort of said it, bleakly (that) the suburbs… Oh yeah, (they) must be terrible places because millions of people want to live there!
00:32:54 Robert Wright	Also, Anne of Green Gables House doesn't actually exist.
00:32:58 Douglas MacLeod	Yeah, I know, but…
00:32:59 Robert Wright	It's not even really a house. It's made up.
00:33:01 Jonathan Jucker	But it is the economic engine of a whole province.
00:33:04 Douglas MacLeod	The only economic engine (laughs). But it is a problem. It is a bit of a problem, and you can watch the pendulum swing, if you live long enough, because when my father bought up in Thornhill, just north of Toronto in 1955, everybody wanted to live in the suburbs. And then gradually, the pendulum swung, and all of a sudden the suburbs were a terrible place to live, and it was only… People only wanted to live in the cities. And then the pandemic came along, and all of a sudden people wanted to get out of the cities and live somewhere else. So it's kind of fascinating how things change, and I think we talked... You raised it: quality changes overtime.
00:33:48 Leah Perrin	Yeah, I often think about planning as a kind of community-wide change management exercise and it's, like, you can really only make change happen (when) we live in a democracy. You can really only make change

happen as you're kind of having these conversations happen and in Halifax we have relatively new zoning in the core of the city and they've written the zones for the residential neighborhoods, and they're called Established Residential, and I was always very concerned – I continue to be concerned about that terminology. Because saying Established Residential is telling people that their neighborhoods aren't going to change, and that just isn't true. And now we're, you know, rewriting those zones with this housing accelerator fund, kind of… And the housing crisis pushing it along. But we've like, given people this expectation that like, no, that the neighborhoods over there are going to change but your neighborhood is established; it's not going to change. And I think a lot of the things we've been talking about through this research project has been like there's a need for change so that we can push forward on sustainability and equity, social justice, all of those things. And we're not going to get there by like pretending that change isn't constantly happening around us and how do we… How can we be active in helping that along but also active in helping people who are maybe resistant to change, understand and be a participant in it without being kind of top-down? Yeah.

00:35:26 Douglas MacLeod	I'm just looking again at our questions. I think we certainly have answered that idea of, you know, strategic outputs and best means of dissemination. I think we've got some good ideas. So the future national actions that need or could be undertaken by the research partnership in (20)24-(20)25. Does anybody have any thoughts on what that could be?
00:35:49 Leah Perrin	It's been interesting to watch with the housing crisis and, I'm sure, the backdrop of like an imminent government election, a federal election has pushed this along. But there are some prominent people in the sort of housing space that have figured out how to network with the politicians to make things happen. So, they say things loudly and with authority, and then it becomes government policy. So, one action at the end of this project might (to appoint) some spokespeople for this work and (meet) with the right people to push some of these things forward. If there's like tangible things that you want to see happen in terms of policy change.
00:36:39 Jonathan Jucker	I think that ties into what we've been saying already about getting like professional designers and professional social media people. Like, just communications as a whole really need to be stepped up, I think, and professionalized and done in a very intentional manner.
00:37:00 Maëlanne Armstrong	One thing that could be done and it's… I won't say not hard, but it's maybe realistic in like the next year is (that) there should be a kind of uniformity between the roadmaps and the contents that are put out. They don't need to all look the same, but for example if there is a pictogram that represent the environment it should be the same for everybody because at the end of the day, it's one big project with like sub-categories, (and) one way to show that to somebody who is external, who is outside of the project is to have a very cohesive image that helps with being even taken seriously. Sorry. Like cohesion helps in that regard.

00:37:51 Robert Wright	So, when we're thinking about this morning's two eyes. Imagine being an indigenous person and told you have to have a cohesive view of quality in the built environment from one perspective. Right? This is their form of colonization, right? When we determine what the rules are and then everybody follows them. So, I think that that's one of the issues with, you know, one complete view. I certainly think we need to be clear on the objectives so they are comparable and (understood) based on the last three terms in our statement. And say: what is social equity to an indigenous group that (is) working on indigenous housing for example? That's quite different than when we're looking at open space in large cities from a kind of social economic equity kind of process, right.
00:38:41 Sarah Huxley	But again, I think there are different views and different perspectives, but that should be presented in a cohesive… Like it's the presentation that's cohesive. When you talk about community you have the same symbol and the same color code. So that like it takes away from the whole interpretation and learning to learn what's being presented. But I think there's room for (difference) because our projects are so different. Like the content will be different but the presentation…
00:39:11 Andrée-Ann Langevin	It give(s) me… You just mentioned that everybody (has) different definitions of different terms. Maybe it was done in the previous year of the research; I just joined the research that year. But (an) exercise that could be nice to do is to find words that keep (being used) like equity or sustainability, and make each university write a two or three sentence definition for it. And see at which level (they differ) and at which level (they) converge and see if we are all along in the same direction because we have projects (that are) very different, but at the end of the day it's all for the community and the population and sustainability like we mentioned. So, we're going in the same direction. So, just checking if (our) definitions fit, maybe could be nice.
00:40:02 Laura McBride	Yeah, I like… Just building on those ideas is maybe you could take the SSHRC branding because there is a brand on the website and then you can use like different colors for (the) equity pillar. (The) sustainability pillar could be green and… I don't know what the other one is, but… The social right? The three words?
00:40:26 Robert Wright	Sustainability, equity, social value.
00:40:36 Laura McBride	Yeah. Yeah. So, when we're communicating about the findings in those themes, they can be presented in a branded way that make(s) it feel like this is a SSHRC thing. They're giving out this communication and then you can find stories within those themes that are about each project.
00:40:52 Sarah Huxley	Yeah, your point is important and it keeps coming back throughout the years, I think of having common definitions for the words we use. First of all, because there are different partners that have different understandings, or no understanding, of certain acronyms, certain terms that are used in the world of academia or architecture. And in November I was tasked with moderating one of the conversations at the online

meeting. I don't remember if any of you were in my group, but… and it was on defining our values, like, are those values that are on the cover page like… Do we have a shared understanding of what those values are? Do we even agree on them, and it wasn't that simple. I was terrified to do that exercise. I think it went OK, but… Yeah. And I think that that issue keeps following us through the partnership: of definition, of agreeing on basic values. And if we don't clarify those, we'll always get stuck in that loop.

00:41:58 Andrée-Ann Langevin	I feel like at the end every university should have a clear definition of the keywords and it should be published with the roadmaps. So, if the general public (tries) to understand it they will understand it better because… We can write sustainability, but in the mind of everybody and the general public, it (might not be understood) in the way we want (it to be). So yeah, it feels necessary to understand the whole project.

| 00:42:27 Leah Perrin | Well, maybe you're like… The roadmaps actually…There's sort of an old saying about municipal budgets. Like, if you want to understand people's values, you look to the budget. So, it's like the actions or the way that you're doing the work defines your values. You don't really have to agree on the words that define the thing. Who cares? Everybody is going to use slightly different words, but it's the way that we're working that exemplifies those values and what we're trying to do. I think over time it's changed behavior, not just on paper… And so, you can, you know, make as much paper to disseminate as you want but ultimately it's like: how does the practice change over time? That will be interesting. So, maybe going back to one of the questions from this morning about like the KPIs, it's like those should be action-oriented things. Sorry, we probably had this conversation. I'm just like… It's clicking right now, but yeah.

Yeah, I think it's like… How are the things that you're doing and that we're hoping that those roadmaps will (accomplish) telling people how to, you know, demonstrate your values through them? |
|---|---|

00:43:46 Douglas MacLeod	It is. It is interesting looking at the subtitle. The subtitle, you know, Equity, Social Value and Sustainability. How would you actually indicate…(How would you) give somebody an example of how the built environment affects equity or social value? Because if, you know… When you first come to it… OK, well, how does like is this building emphasize or is it an example of equity, or is it of social value? And we have to kind of dig deeper into some of these and find even more powerful examples. There's this thing called the Prescott model or the Cleveland model. Prescott is in the United Kingdom and Cleveland, of course, in the United States. They both did the same thing, though. They decided that their anchor institutions, like hospitals, schools and everything else, would only source labor and materials from the local community. And you think? So? I mean. But it made a huge difference to both these cities. All of a sudden their economies were booming because local industry was being encouraged. So, when we talk about – a number of people have used the adjective extractive and it's absolutely true – a building can be extractive if a company comes in, works for a while, brings in all the labor and then leaves. There's nothing except the building left behind, whereas if they train people to help build the building then there's skillsets left behind, and

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that could be one thing that we could push for is, I think they call it, social procurement. And one company that does it is Chandos construction out of Edmonton. They actually have a policy of trying to leave skills and other advantages behind.

So it's almost like we need more examples of not just good stuff, but perhaps sometimes bad stuff that we need to highlight for people.

00:45:52 Andrée-Ann Langevin	(Putting an) image on those definitions that can be…
00:46:20 Douglas MacLeod	True. Yeah, showing examples and… Even sustainability if we want to bring it home to people to say… You know, show somebody standing in front of a passive house saying I save $200 a month on my energy bills. That is a good selling point. Do we want...? I mean we're doing really well, I think. So... Maybe we could take a break. Five minutes? Ten minutes.
00:46:53 Douglas MacLeod	Because I think we're almost… We could probably wrap up even now. I notice everybody around the table is yawning a little bit. So, we know that we it's been a long…
00:47:07 Douglas MacLeod	Oh, they want us to finish at 3:30 today. OK, bye.
00:47:09 Robert Wright	Yeah, yeah, yeah, they're half earlier than (yesterday). Yeah, exactly.
00:47:13 Ipek Tureli	I am going to fall asleep because of the…
00:47:17 Andrée-Ann Langevin	We can reopen the window, yeah.
00:47:39 Douglas MacLeod	Should we take five and get some coffee and get…
00:47:42 Andrée-Ann Langevin	OK. And we then summarize…
00:47:44 Douglas MacLeod	Yeah, come back and we'll wrap up…
00:47:05	(end of recording)

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ROOM 7

Workshop 4- **Public Debates and National Strategies**

Room7_ Location: Medjuck Architecture Building - Room B102			**13 Participants**
First Name	**Last Name**	**Organisation**	**Research Site**
Federica	Goffi	Carleton University	Carleton University
William	Morin	Laurentian University	Laurentian University
Virginie	LaSalle	Université de Montréal	Université de Montréal
Shannon	Bassett	McEwen School of Architecture (MSoA)	Laurentian University
Sam	Oboh	Ensight+ AAA	University of Calgary
Susan	Speigel	Ontario Association of Architects (OAA)	National Partners
Mylène	Gauthier	Ville de Quebec	Ville de Quebec
Victor	Bouguin	Vivre en Ville	Concordia University
Marjorie	Knight	House of Friendship	University of Waterloo
Cara	Chellew	McGill University	McGill University
Cynthia	San	University of British Columbia	University of British Columbia
Brianna	Brown	University of Waterloo	University of Waterloo
Iris	Pintiuta	McGill University	McGill University
Kaiden	Reding	Athabasca University	Athabasca University

Room 7 - Workshop 4 - Public Debates and National Strategies
Thursday, May 2, 2024, from 14:00 am to 15:30 pm

Date of report: 2024-06-17

Report produced by
San, Cynthia *(University of British Columbia)*

7.1. Summary

The overarching theme of public debates and national actions brought forth three key questions in our group: Who is the audience for this research? What is quality in the built environment? What are our foundational principles to guide the next few years of research?

We need to determine who is the audience of this research in quality, and how to create digestible information for these audiences before we disseminate. Adapting the platform using the principle of "the medium is the message" in accordance with the main audience will create a stronger end result. As opposed to creating a paper that will potentially sit on a shelf in a library, we agreed that using multiple innovative methods of dissemination will enable greater conversations between generations and different demographics. There should be a nudge to expose this work to people in power who are uncomfortable with change in policy and those who have not embraced a decolonial, two eyed seeing perspective of Turtle Island.

While it may seem apparent as to what quality means at an individual scale, we must define what "quality" is in a broader sense to explain our purpose to the broader audience. While this research has been interdisciplinary, there are still members of the community and experts who are not attending these conversations to share their lived experiences. Quantifying social quality in the built environment can be informed through foundational principles shared among everyone.

To move forward into our goals of national action, we must determine our foundational principles that guide our 14 different research sites and projects. There are multiple convergences between each project, creating an interconnectedness that inherently shares overarching ideas of what quality is. These principles, whatever they may be, will then continue to inform policy change from all levels; the town, the gown and the crown. This will create a template for all site, although it is "a" model, not "the" model. They should encompass compassion and empathy, balancing the pragmatic and social aspects of our goals for creating quality in the built environment. These principals can be guided through the respect for humans, the land and all living things and to repair relationships to achieve quality for all. Respect and repair were the key words used to describe the foundational principles throughout the group. With set principles, it will be easier to enact change at a legislative level.

- Overarching principle: Repair and repair all to create mutual benefit.
- Marshal McLarin: "the medium is the message" and innovate how we disseminate this dialogue to a broader audience
- Continue to integrate voices of experts from the community and invest in fostering wealth of relationships and lived experiences, which will then inform quality.
- Roadmaps should not be linear but be intricate and converge with one another.

7.2. Detailed Transcription of the Workshop Discussion

Time + name

[00:00:00] Susan Speigel	We really need to talk about what the strategic outputs are, which we started to do this morning and the discussion about dissemination; how we think this is going to be best disseminated and the future national actions that need to be undertaken by us. Because I mean, as you'll hear me talk about, I've been writing and re writing this thing and no one has heard of it. It's like the best project that I can think of in architecture, aside from RISE, which is a national policy for architecture, and we're doing great research, and we have to figure out a way to codify, strategize it, and disseminate it. I don't know who's got experience in this, but please everybody, I think we just go around the table once actually. For people to answer those three questions, what their best ideas would be for that and who is recording?
[00:01:07] Cynthia San	I am taking meeting minutes.
[00:01:08] Susan Speigel	Meeting minutes, okay.
[00:01:10] Cara Chellew	I have the backup recording and we're all set for that. I think that we just need to say our names like that.
[00:01:15] Susan Speigel	Yes, we should go around - we want to go around first one time. Susan, OAA.
[00:01:35] Cara Chellew	Cara Chellew, McGill University.
[00:01:38] Cynthia San	Cynthia San, University of British Columbia.
[00:01:40] Fredrica Goffi	Fredrica Goffi, Carleton University.
[00:01:44] Brianna Brown	Brianna Brown, University of Waterloo.
[00:01:47] Marjorie Knight	Marjorie Knight, University of Waterloo.
[00:01:51] Sam Oboh	Sam Oboh from Ensight + AAA and part of the University of the University of Calgary.

[00:01:59] Fredrica Goffi	You didn't say your name.
[00:02:10] William Morin	William Morin, Shannon Bassey Laurentian School of Architecture Laurentian University
[00:02:17] Susan Speigel	I didn't say my whole name. Susan Speigel from the Ontario Association of Architects. OK, who wants to go first with the big question, Cara is holding the microphone.
[00:02:30] Cara Chellew	I don't know if I can answer the big question, but I can offer one way of dissemination about the project, about individual about project sites and even the main project. So of course, there's journal articles and stuff like that. But I think that it would be worthwhile for folks to write. For popular audience audiences so for editorials, there's like spacing magazine. I'm sure there's some architectural magazines as well. That really introduces people outside of these fields to the work that we're doing. So, this is just one of my suggestions.
[00:03:18] Cynthia San	I think in order to also build relationships with the younger audience, it might be good to maybe tackle stuff on like Instagram or TikTok. Some may know the AHA is really prominent, when doing this work.
[00:03:35] Brianna Brown	Architects Against Housing Alienation
[00:03:55] Cynthia San	And so they have a lot of these posts that kind of defined really generic phrases that we have like What is housing? What is the housing crisis? And they start to define what these issues are and set the idea for people who might not be in the architectural field to just grasp it a bit better. So, I think going through social media would be like one way to go about it for sure.
[00:04:04] Susan Speigel	I know that we always talk about this with Jean Pierre here and just to put a different tone on this (the microphone right in front of me) And you know, academics are not really that interested in social media at that level. They don't really like sound bites of deep research. So take that into consideration when we're thinking about this. I know the that the OAA has like a lot of really good social media and it seems to me that that's a layer that we can handle even though we have a very serious job of being like the regulator. So maybe we need to have to convince Jean Pierre or we need to make the posts less silly.
[00:04:44] Cara Chellew	Well, you know this is coming from, if we're talking about connecting to the younger generation, this is the younger generation telling us.
[00:04:54] Susan Speigel	That's what they want here, yes.

[00:04:56] Cara Chellew	So, it's up to the older generation to listen.
[00:05:00] Sam Oboh	But it's not even about the generational divide. It's about effectiveness in communicating in the work that you are doing. Yes, it's true that in a lot of academic setting right there is that conservative nature, right? Your approach, you know, to research work, you don't like sound bites, but unfortunately sound bites are a medium of communication. So if you cannot have that eight second speech about what this research is, than you've lost the ordinary people. The other thing also is the connection between. There was a project, you know that I did in Edmonton. That was really very instrumental in shaping my philosophy in how I see the relationship between the town, gown and the crown.
[00:06:02] Sam Oboh	So, it is a project, the legislation project. So, you know the crown dealing with the academia and dealing with the community and dealing with the government. It is a tripartite that is always very important, but there's always a break in the link between the gown and the town because the gowns, they are kind of high there, they speak a language that the town doesn't understand. Unfortunately, or fortunately, there's a lot of work going on in the gown that is impacting and influencing the lives of people in the town. How do you make sure that the town kind of appreciates what the gown is doing?
[00:06:52] Sam Oboh	Now to break it down further, when you see a lot of the so-called populism that you see in in the polity around the world today. It stems from that idea that the ordinary people in the community cannot relate and connect to the good work that is happening in the University, So it's the responsibility of the researchers and the academic people to make sure that, their research work can be understood by the people that you are claiming to do the work for. So that also includes you communicating that in a way in a manner that they can consume. If you can't communicate it in a manner that they can consume it, then it's absolutely not useful. You know, at that grassroots level. I think it's important to kind of look at the kind of language. A lot of the times we always tease and talk about all the languages that architectures use like the fenestrations, and you use all these words and then everybody will know that here but others absolutely have no clue.
[00:08:04] Sam Oboh	We talk about the materiality. And so, what is that? One of the things that's unique about this work is that this work is probably the first research I've seen that is interdisciplinary, right? I'm sure most sites are like that, like the University of Calgary site. We have everybody from social workers to the Faculty of Medicine. Everybody is kind of involved because it's about the quality of the built environment. So, the architects are not the custodian of the built environment. You know, we're just facilitators, right? The actual people that know something about the built environment are the people. That kind of know our built environment and the built environment. Our ability to be able to explain some of these intricate issues in a very simple language is what will make this different. You have to use everyday language. So then if you have to learn how to post things on Instagram and explain the whole concept, that's what you need to do.

[00:09:25] Susan Speigel	I have no problem doing that and I know the OAA has made a really big effort to do that and what I find a lot of people say, "Ohh, he's doing such cool things", which they've always been doing. But we haven't posted in that way. So, I think it works and it doesn't dumb down what we're doing at all. We may have to take on academia and push that a little bit and show how it can be very useful. OK, so.
[00:09:56] Cara Chellew	I just want to give a quick example of how I've used social media to promote my own academic work of a project called Defensive TO. I document, hostile or defensive architecture starting in Toronto, and in Montreal and take pictures of it whenever I can and I started posting on Instagram social media just to start making sense of what I saw and the I used a website to compile all my images and was able to categorize what I was seeing into main themes. Then through my website and through my social media presence, people have approached me to talk and ask me about my work, and I've, you know, been able to have a bit of a platform.
[00:10:49] Susan Speigel	So you are political, you are the mayor.
[00:10:51] Cara Chellew	I think that it's not a big scary world, and I think that there's although social media right now is falling apart basically like the platforms -
[00:11:06] Sam Oboh	They are changing.
[00:11:07] Cara Chellew	Yes, it's changing. It's a very strange world, but there is a lot of potential to get a lot of reach.
[00:11:20] Cynthia San	Even now, I just searched it up and it's there. It's very accessible, but I guess we also have to consider who is actually accessing or is able to access this media because not everybody has a phone or not everyone is carrying a laptop. I'm not too sure what else to suggest but something like paper copy could be nice?
[00:11:41] Susan Speigel	So, one of the conversations is - do you think when you're all using the website and posting to the website, and you have an obligation every month whether you know it or not to post one page to the website? Yes, everyone. If you didn't know it, you're not doing it or somebody from your site must be doing it.
[00:12:03] Susan Speigel	It's a much more cumbersome vehicle, but do you think that given that it does have a lot of riches and a lot of things that have happened over the process of getting us to our midpoint, is there some usefulness in making use of that? Because I know that's a question that's come up and I about it to you because you know you're a varied bunch of ages. Would you use it? Do you think we could revitalize what it is to make it work for us as not the only form or platform, but one of them?

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[00:12:43] Victor Bouguin	Yeah. I think our organization, like us, like the community. We definitely can use that because like, we're kind of the bridge between academics and the field. Yes, we have good outreach. We even talk to like, elected officials. So, we can definitely bridge that gap and it will definitely be useful to us for our everyday work. There are people we are working with that is definitely not using a tool that they would use like taking the Concordia site for example, working with elderly people. They're definitely not the population that would go like to a website to get information stored. So yes, it has to be transmitted through either organizations or just through community centers or things on paper. Things like that.
[00:13:53] Sam Oboh	I guess the question is, who is the audience? So if you can answer what the audience is, then I'm not saying that you have to use one medium, right? You have to use multiple mediums to reach different audiences. If you have to use tactile, brail, then that's what you need to do if it's about making sure that there is that effectiveness in communication. Also, remembering what Marshall McLuhan will say, "the medium is the message". So, this good work that you made, if you use the wrong medium, the message will never go across.
[00:14:33] Shannon Bassett	I was just thinking like I have a few ideas. I know because I do a lot of Instagram posts that you can share across platforms and tags. Maybe the idea that we do use the platform that we have with the partnership, but then we cross post. I agree, I think Instagram is very - I mean my students check it like every second a day, right? And don't check their e-mail. I was also thinking, going beyond like, I mean, I've had Alex Bozikovic who's the critic for the globe talk in my class and he makes a good point. A very small fraction of the population are architects, right, or designers. So, like he writes about architecture and urban design, but like to a broader audience. We could think about it and maybe he would be interested in maybe this and that or well, I know that too. People from Ottawa who was a part of the RISE Art for Architecture also publishes op-eds in The Citizen, right? So, I think that that to me is also interesting. And then I think I was talking to yesterday initially thought, oh, maybe Dalhousie Press of Queens, McGill Press, which again would be more academic. I think that there's different voices, and different ways to disseminate.
[00:16:02] Susan Speigel	Yeah, and well, there's multiple platforms, but I think the point in this is my point where I will make later today coming, you know from like who's the audience and maybe it is different audiences.
[00:16:17] Cara Chellew	Your comments just inspired a thought. Well, what about an edited book with a chapter from each site? Written like, it can be in depth, but written for a popular audience or an educated audience.
[00:16:35] Sam Oboh	Well, what about the whole idea that you're still preaching to the choir? All I'm hearing is you're still preaching to the choir.
[00:16:41] Susan Speigel	That was my comment on Bozikovic is that he does go beyond that.

[00:16:46] Sam Oboh	When you talk about inclusiveness, the University of Alberta just did a conference recently where they're talking about decolonizing writing with the academic curriculum and all that, and that conversation went into the idea of this same medium of Dalhousie press or Oxford press or Instagram or whatever is still one thing that relates to the elites of the society that can afford that. How do you get to know those people? You know that your question earlier about those people that this society has deemed homeless. Now having said that, I guess the question the real question in this research work is who is the audience? The audience is not you working on it, in my opinion. The audience are the decision makers - the communities themselves. How do you reach? Because there's that aspect of awareness. You're reaching the community not because you want them to do something or you want them to actually be aware to ask the right question, to push their members.
[00:18:07] Sam Oboh	I'm glad you mentioned, you know, reaching the politicians and all that. I think there are different layers of audience. You have to reach, and you have to use different mediums to kind of read them. I think we should move away from that temptation of going with the traditional medium that we're used to. Yes, it's a comfort level, but it would be nice to actually come up with something innovative, you know, differently.
[00:18:32] Brianna Brown	Also in this conversation, thinking about the particular audience as you mentioned, like not preaching to the choir. I think I also share the same sentiments as Cynthia insofar as if we're speaking about creating that paradigm shift, I do think that there's a huge importance to introduce that into the curriculum, like being that we're working with 14 different University sites, it would be, remiss not to also introduce it to our own Universities at large. So, for instance, I think the success of Architects Against House Alienation that Adrian Blackwell from the University of Waterloo was working with is that he's introduced a lot of the principles that they're working with to the student body. In the last urbanism course that he taught this past semester, he introduced those same principles that they've outlined and then brought it to the studio so that all of these students would have to work with these same principles. And introduced into their work such that if we want this paradigm shift, they can begin to become aware of all of the things pertaining to quality that we're talking about. I think Adrian is hoping to introduce this in his next semester that he teaches the course.
[00:19:43] Shannon Bassett	Also along those lines, I know Venice is kind of far away but that was an example of where - or maybe it's not Venice - but maybe it's like venues locally or in in the different cities that we're part of, and it could be a kind of traveling exhibition of the work. Whether or not it's at universities or art galleries or in a city or square, I think that could be interesting and could be disseminated to a broader audience.
[00:20:16] Sam Oboh	The manifestos of political parties is elections in most places, so you need to have this agenda. I'm assuming well, call it whatever. Whatever the outcome is, it has to be in a digestible form and that a politician can say these are my seven point item on the environment. It has to be in that kind of format. Not necessarily in one.
[00:20:43] Shannon Bassett	I'm sure we have all our contacts too.
[00:20:49] Iris Pintiuta	Yes. I guess the question of audience it's a really important. One, because I think oftentimes, and based on what we've heard about, people are working on. We are kind of collecting knowledge and information from minoritized

	group one way or the other, but the point is not then to give the information necessarily back to those groups that they already know what the problems are, right? Our job is to be mediators from the position that we're in, and to talk to the people who are made uncomfortable by our findings. That's kind of where we need to push and use our university affiliations and titles and PHD's to enact change. And I think that at least in my opinion, that's where the output that we're creating break down a little bit. It's not just about creating these outputs, but it's about kind of getting them through the door and in front of the people who have something to say.
[00:22:01] Iris Pintiuta	So in in our example, if there's communities that are fighting against certain good initiatives for people experiencing homelessness, they are the people that we should be talking to and we should use, our McGill status to convince them that this is a good idea, shut up. As opposed to necessarily, going back to the people using these centers to tell them, "Oh yeah, it sucks. Here's three resources you can access". Most of them already know. So obviously that's also important, but I think we need to focus more of our energy on conversations that these people are not allowed to have because they don't have the voice for it.
[00:22:45] Susan Speigel	That's a half an hour, and now that was easy question because we all have opinions on this. Do we need to redefine the strategic outputs of the research partnership? We are in the middle of the research. right now, this is like 2 1/2 years and we've got another 2 1/2 years. This is an opportunity to really reflect on what we've done and where we're going to go. And lessons learned, do we need to turn the ship 180°? What's our sense? And I think it's kind of hard to say at this moment because we need to process it, but we need to say it at this moment - at least our first thought. So that's number one. And #2, what are the future national actions that we need to undertake for the next year? OK. I see a taker, Marjorie.
[00:23:51] Marjorie Knight	I think that especially listening to the conversations that we have had here, is that we need to look at partnerships, look at who are in partnerships with and whether we need to broaden the parameters of partners can be and that they don't have to be academic. They can be from your communities. I think it is important that you expand to your communities because then who else are you building for? In terms of future national actions, I think this research is very important. It's touching on a lot of hot topics that are out there in the communities and when we were talking about expertise and how we framed quality and what it means and all the things and all these iterations it becomes clear to me that on a national basis, you need to become a part of another conversation. Not just the conversation on how to build and move forward, but how to be a part of the solution when it comes to things like homelessness. When it comes to things about public land. When it comes to things of that nature because you have a very strong voice. You have an academic voice. You have a voice that is recognized in circles that some of us don't have access to. So how you can possibly align yourselves with others who are also in this push about homelessness and buildings and standards of building becomes more important? That's my thoughts.
[00:26:04] Susan Speigel	Correct. OK. You're shaking your head so you have to go next. Im pulling you out now
[00:26:32] Brianna Brown	I was also just thinking about the sentiment that Marjorie shared yesterday about expertise and why its saddening or a little bit disheartening that we're having this conversation together when in some instances we all have an area of expertise that is recognized by this partnership. But there are other

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	individuals that have expertise and the lives that they live that we're studying that aren't here. If the partnership is going to shift, it should shift in that direction
[00:26:32] Fredrica Goffi	Thank you. I mean from the beginning, I think there has been the discussion on policies and I still think that that's very relevant because all of these case studies, lived experiences, in everything that emerges from that and from each research site, I feel like there has to be a way to bring that back to municipalities and provinces. This notion of a national level broken down on all of the forms of legislation and understanding from what we learn here. Where does this information need to go so that it is not an isolated case study and it becomes a model that has the potential to be reflected in policies that are meaningful? Of course I agree with everything that has been said, so I'm not going to repeat what you all said. There was very, very clear. One aspect of the notion of preaching to the choir. I still feel that the choir is not yet singing together or maybe not the same even song.
[00:28:00] Fredrica Goffi	I sort of feel like that a portion of that has to do with education and the new generations. I also feel like many times that I learned from my students. They actually have a voice in their thesis, in their PHD's. I find that sometimes they bring this issue to us before we get there. So, there is something about empowering the new generations and their ideas. Pitching this especially, they carry forward with what they do. Some of the thesis kind of remain in the library. How do we really empower new generations? It's one thing for our own group, we are trying to do 1 international event. We're going to try to take our topics and the questions of what's coming out from the work and try to turn it into an international call so that we hear. If you have questions when you put them out on the larger stage of adaptability with all of the questions of EDI like what comes back to us and how and where do we intersect with those voices? So we are hoping to do it in 2026 and then turn that into potentially a publication, maybe a book and a journal, or a few journals, depending on what happens. And of course, it's open to everybody, so the call will go out for everyone to consider.
[00:29:28] Cynthia San	I actually also agree with what everybody else has been saying thus far definitely about sponsoring those partnerships with people who are currently not here. I think me personally, I didn't realize that we were supposed to be posting on the website. Maybe that's just like on our end that we didn't get that memo, but maybe being able to see some of the process work that we're doing like on the ground and seeing whos actually living in those buildings that you're inter interviewing and like having that process like showing. In that one platform would be interesting to see.
[00:30:02] Susan Speigel	I think all of these projects are really great, but I would like to turn them into prototypes instead of being trapped in the weeds of your topic because it's they're very interesting topics and the weeds are very interesting. But if you could prototype them, that means that anybody can use them and then that when our publication goes viral. These will become like models or recipes for how to deal with situations and I think that there's kind of two things that have to happen to all of the projects for the next prototype and that is they have to be taken through the kind of depth that I think we arrived at our last session about respect, reseeing, and reconnecting riches as relationships and access. I don't have a fancy way of saying that at the moment, but there there's a way that you got town, gown, and crown. I like that. But I haven't found a way because it's just too fresh. So that if we do every project from the depth of that and then take all the weeds that you're in and

	I pull it up into a prototype so that every project has got a recipe. Based on real lived research and experience that I think that would be brilliant, and then where we disseminated that, I don't know. Everywhere, I like all the platforms.
[00:31:35] Shannon Bassett	I was thinking something along the lines of when you do community engagement and you charette like, when you put something that's a synthesis, which I think you're saying like a prototype and then you get feedback. That's kind of what I was thinking without jumping ahead to an architectural project. Just a community charette of some kind of feedback.
[00:32:09] Susan Speigel	Yes, and I have to talk about this later. I think one of the things that really inspired me was in the lecture yesterday. You have to hear me repeat. I really like the model of the partnership that, not only is it a partnership that we have our partners, but that our model of conversation is a partnership. That's what's happening at this table. We have a partnership and that we created trust. With both a process and a product. And I think that the model that creates dialogue so that if you do a prototype and you send it out to partners as a partnership for people to discuss it. Then you get a whole feedback system going.
[00:32:48] Shannon Bassett	You mean like a ladder? The participation ladder.
[00:32:53] Susan Speigel	Yes. Somebody takes this away from me and speak.
[00:33:00] Victor Bouguin	For the first convention, we also had to submit different case studies to, give our opinion on like living quality space and that might be a thing like to use those case studies to broadcast what we've been doing.
[00:32:53] Susan Speigel	Now these are the case studies. You mean that our projects are the case studies since? Yes.
[00:33:00] Victor Bouguin	Yes, they have case studies, but we all had to submit one that are not specific. That is not all in the projects. So, like sometimes we could like use another one that's maybe closer to the communities to help disseminate the subject
[00:33:43] Susan Speigel	Why don't we become the case? Studies like people go "Oh my God. Have you seen this book of case studies? There's fourteen, and they're amazing, and they've covered every aspect of the things we have to deal with in our lives". Yeah, we're beyond that. I will. Beyond other people's case studies now because the research is deep.
[00:34:06] Virginie LaSalle	I agree with what would you say, because I think that case studies are good window on each research site. What we really do concretely because I think the challenge is to express the complexity of each site, and after, that the complexity of the partnership. So with the case studies, I think it can be very simple or very much simple to the public. [speaking French]
[00:35:22] Victor Bouguin	It is just a translation, it was just to have, a window through like for every site and have case studies. Then when you have all the sites together it gives you like a whole image of what the partnership is through case studies.
[00:35:39] Susan Speigel	Did you also say when I invented this, that there would be like a list of proclamations or these are the steps you need to go through or the understands you need to have in order to have quality in the built environment based on our study of these case studies. I mean, I do this a lot. I study things and then I say to the government, here's 37 steps you

	need to take in order to do long term. Here if you want to know, you don't need to take the first seven. But here's the whole number. Here's your cheat sheet, so if you're going to do this, this is what you should do. I mean, I would like to see that the partnership and I think that if We just push your model one a little bit further, we could have that.
[00:36:15] Sam Oboh	I think taking that further, you almost want to develop principles. There is work that Brian Sinclair and myself did for Global Affairs Canada in terms of the building. So it's called the Design Excellence Protocol for Canadian embassies and buildings we're considering. There's certain principles that needs to be in every consideration, every step of the way like culture or sustainability. You break it down to the Athabasca University did something like that in terms of breaking down things into principles and the guiding values people can actually use those principles and interpret them in whatever way they deem fit on their projects.
[00:37:04] Sam Oboh	I think that's the beauty. You don't want to be prescriptive. Whatever the outcome is because being prescriptive just narrows how you can apply it. But when you have broad based foundational principles, then people can apply and you'll be amazed as to how people interpret. You will probably not know how applicable these things are to certain real-world situation, but people can apply and they can see themselves. If you take that principle-based approach, you know then it makes it easy. A principle-based approach can be something as simple as a one pager. It can be 500 pages. That's the beauty of it. And it can be project specific too. So if you're solving the problem in the city of Halifax, you can apply those principles and still come up with something that defines what quality is. In essence, it's about defining quality from a principle based perspective that this is what you know your quality is not achieved in your project if you've not met these principles.
[00:38:39] Susan Speigel	That's a good way of saying it. OK. Let's kind of turn this if you can discussion into what are the actions like if we were giving an assignment now to all the 14 groups, would that come up with the principles and that would be the next six months of study? What are the principles that we've discussed and that come out of your project or that haven't come out of your project that need to based on the kind of deep grounding we had.
[00:39:05] Shannon Bassett	Maybe moving towards a proposal, like a prototype.
[00:39:12] Sam Oboh	And the principle should be like seven. When we get to global affairs, we get to that 7 and they're also related to each other so you can speak on different things.
[00:39:20] Susan Speigel	No. Let's say 7 is a good luck number. It's our group 7.
[00:39:35] William Morin	Merci, Samuel. The humility that was mentioned earlier is key in what we present and that we present is "a" version and "a" model, a set of principles, but not "the" principle. Understanding that openness to that. This is where we are at. this is what we see. But guess what? Once our eyes open up more, we're going to see more. When we include more people, the ones that are not at the table come, we might see more with their presence and

contribution. So we need to be humble in what it is that we put forward. But that's powerful if we have a template on which that it is a growing template. It is something in a place where this knowledge can be shared, but that it be presented in such a way that join us contribute to us participate? Your perspective help us broaden a better understanding that we can all see differently and see deeper to better help other people, because that's the core value is what I'm feeling is needed. At the same time, many of the barriers that are being met within those environments where we want these models to be introduced or implemented are dealing with barriers that are impenetrable. There are moral barriers. There are economic barriers. There are social barriers. There are political barriers that people don't want changed.

[00:41:05] William Morin	That too is also a principle. Is that, we need to begin looking at how to scare people with not scaring them. "We don't want to offend anybody". We are going to offend anybody. We are going to offend everybody. so we need to say, OK, things got to happen. Things are going to change. We got to make some implementations of new ways of doing things. Are you on board? No. OK, see that door? Take a hike because we got more people to be meeting needs of. How to encourage them? And so that's where the diplomats come into play. So, I am an action person, but sometimes some of my actions are not diplomatic. It's because of who it is that I'm defending or speaking for that has no one speaking for then prior. The people that I'm pushing aside or aggressively addressing haven't been listening. We all become the target for the criticism so that the people that we're trying to help are not the target. The portal those templates, those policies, those principles are put in such a way; in a vehicle, a site, a location where it's accessible, but it becomes a place where that criticism can be then deflected from the work that's trying to be done. Let's get some implementation, but also some deflecting barrier or shields so that we don't hurt people because of this work. We're not adding more problems to this solution we're trying to propose.
[00:42:46] Susan Speigel	Perhaps I'm getting too practical now, but if we were to try and put this summary in an order, so we have principles which are the most foundational. So, we have principles to achieve quality. Then we have our work, which is the 14 universities that are case studies evidencing what happens when those principles are put to work. To show that if you use those principles, then you can get this really good work. Then we need to disseminate them.
[00:43:26] Sam Oboh	Cheat sheets
[00:43:28] Susan Speigel	Cheat sheets, but we have to get this out. Both for a discussion. Maybe people say "I don't agree with that principle", so we do want to have a national conversation about this. That's part of the aim unless we all disagree?
[00:43:44] Sam Oboh	When you say national conversation, I feel conversation will keep going on forever. That shouldn't be the target. Yes, you want to be having the conversation but the reason why you use the word cheat sheet is: these principles and the case studies that you've shown, how do I apply it to my

project? How do I apply it to my life or to my work, or to my decision making? As a city, you know employee or as a politician? I think that is that's what will generate the conversation. You talk about later that conversation. That's what will generate it. But the part, the pragmatic aspect of how you can apply this, I think, that's one area that will really be very beneficial. You don't want to leave this research hanging in an academic, sitting on the shelf. How do you practicalize it? And one way of doing it is to see this work as a nudge. To nudge and steer people in the right direction on anything that they're doing.

[00:45:00] Sam Oboh	So, you're talking about how to address climate change. How to address health and wellness in buildings. Well, a lot of emphasis is on where we live. For instance, what about where we work? Or where we play? What we do? There are all those aspects. How do you apply it? And I think now, and this is the beauty of principles. With principles, for instance, it can be applied even in very broad way, but you can also be very specific on certain things. If you identify that certain things are really essential is a must right, then it becomes a mandatory kind of element that maybe the action item now is "how do we introduce this into the National building code?". Or how do we take it from that suggestive realm to a mandatory realm that this is a deal breaker if you don't do it. I don't know if there's anything like that, but you never know.
[00:46:10] Cara Chellew	Just talking about how to create principles and to make them as some sort of practical stepping point for work. I'm thinking about the Principles of Universal Design, which is widely used and accepted, so that can definitely be something that we can take for inspiration. It's general enough, like equitable use, flexibility in use, simple intuitive use. There are things that are general enough that you can interpret it and you can figure out how that is, but it's not giving you the only way that you can do universal design. So maybe that's something that we can look at.
[00:46:43] Susan Speigel	I just did an international charette with 14 projects and they were all great projects, and they had all of these principles, they had all of these ideas and not dissimilar. And people are asking, "Well, where's the innovation? We've seen all this before" which is something I do want us to address, and personally, I think the innovation is not like fancy tips and tricks off the top but it's actually, in a way, what William and what the indigenous people have brought to the thought to this project. I'm wondering if we could talk a bit about that, because maybe that underlies the principles. I mean, we've all seen this before. If you've done enough of this work, you've seen this something we have to find like, what's the new? But what's the thing that's going to give this fire? Is that kind of what I'm looking for. What's going to make this important and different not to act and make us a glorious people, but to actually have an impact. So maybe we could focus a little bit on trying to wordsmith what it is that we thought be the conversation, like yesterday and this morning, pretty powerful because I think we all felt it, but we haven't put it into words.
[00:48:00] William Morin	Are we willing to make it sexy? Trendy? Quinoa?

[00:48:05] Susan Speigel	No, I don't think so
[00:48:08] William Morin	Those are the cautions because, I've seen the cycle of "Ohh this is trendy" and then it's not.
[00:48:13] Susan Speigel	No, it's the profundity, the profoundness that we want.
[00:48:15] William Morin	So, that's my thought. What is it that we are wanting to do? The thing is, does that bring us back to an assessment of a reading of where is the consciousness of the movers and the shakers? Because the consumers will be guided along like McDonald's. This will sell the latest new bad things or reintroduce the McRib. The way in which marketing and advertising is to promote. If we're trying to make a change, there has to be multiple levels of application of said change. So, it's not so much the what it's the how and if the how is too focused and too narrow, we're going to miss the broader benefit and impact.
[00:49:12] Susan Speigel	Well, I think that's going to be superseded by the notion of the principle as opposed to the prescriptive. Like it's a performance spec as opposed to a prescriptive spec. You can use these three materials, or you can use a material that aspirationally will do this. So I think we're looking at aspirational principles as opposed to.
[00:49:31] William Morin	Mutual benefit of taking a highway, and get out of town.
[00:49:35] Sam Oboh	The diplomat will tell you "No we can't say that".
[00:49:39] William Morin	I agree. I think this is what I'm saying, is that we can sugar coat it. We can dress it up, but we have to be stern with regards to what it is. The values that we're proposing through the principles. Our principle is mutual benefit or get out. We have to be bold and clear. It's that simple because ultimately the opposite of that is what we have now.
[00:50:04] Sam Oboh	I think the principles won't do it for you and this is why in terms of pragmatic implementation, you have the principles. If you identify maybe out of the seven principles, you think that two are very important and foundational, that door that you're showing is called the code. You put that in something that is mandatory, that must be followed for approval. That's how you achieved that.
[00:50:34] William Morin	As we all know, there are ways around everything. If whatever we implement in the way of policies and procedures and changes, and the people that don't want to respect them, we'll find a way around it.
[00:50:47] Sam Oboh	We'll make it difficult for them.

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[00:50:50] William Morin	And that's what I'm looking forward to. So, if you're an implementor, I want to hear from you too.
[00:50:56] Susan Speigel	I don't know. I'm kind of stuck on this notion of: what's underlying the principles? Are people of the mind that what we talked about yesterday is the notion of a deep respect that everybody. It's not inclusionary, it's deep respect that all people are to be heard from and listen to and taken care of. Like a kindness and care model.
[00:51:27] Sam Oboh	It is not about just talking about the principle, it is also identifying the elements in each principles that must be achieved. We're talking about quality in the built environment. Quality in the built environment, everybody occupies this built environment in different ways. The life of a fisherman in the built environment is not the same as the life of someone that works in a factory or a farmer or whatever. But you want to cover the entire spectrum. So, what that means is you identify generic foundational principles, and these are the five elements. Then you cannot get into that pragmatic that this is what we want to see. The whole idea is the quality cannot be achieved or quality cannot be said to be achieved without you achieving this. Sustainability, for instance, you want it to be measurable. Everybody can say what they're doing is sustainable, but this is where some of those elements that you identify in that principles is 0 emission. What does that mean? Even in residential you know you want to break it down to the pragmatic.
[00:52:57] Sam Oboh	I think breaking it down to that very core essence. That elemental level right would be very helpful. So, it takes away that sexiness and the lead, but it's more about, OK, these are the principles, these are the elements, this is how you are defining quality. Well, essentially, you're trying to define quality instead of a descriptive manner, you are defining the quality in the built environment based on those principles that when you amalgamate all these principles together, you've achieved quality in the built environment. It's still subjective because those that are not at the table here will probably have other better ideas that we don't have, but it speaks to what you're saying earlier, Susan. That conversation should continue, and I think that's one aspect.
[00:54:00] Susan Speigel	Anybody want to talk about this and how do we think that we can have national actions. What national actions do it? If this is a model that we're creating, or maybe if you don't accept it as a model of creating, what are the national actions that we should be looking to create out of the next year or two of work?
[00:52:57] Sam Oboh	When you say actions, is that specific to the research outcomes? Because I will separate it. The research itself has to have an outcome that at the end of the day, be the heading of the research is quality in the built environment. For me, as an audience or a consumer, I want to know, what is quality in the built environment? That's essentially what this five years of research is. That's what I want to know.
[00:55:02]	That's what everyone wants to know.

Susan Speigel	
[00:55:03] Sam Oboh	When you've done that, that's a body of work in itself. The second aspect that you're talking about in terms of implementation of action items or whatever that becomes a chapter that these are the steps and these are the implementations. Talk to your MP, have poster. You can create all sorts of ideas. This is where you know creativity and innovation comes into play. But the core essence of that product that you've created is still intact and it can take different forms, I think it has to be seen as different. Maybe bring in the right experts, or influencers to address that second part of your question as to how do we really disseminate?
[00:55:56] Susan Speigel	Yeah. So that's what it goes back to. That's what I was suddenly realizing. We talked about dissemination then we went back to: what is quality in the built environment? Is it these principles? Then the action is actually the implementation and is actually this dissemination.
[00:56:29] Victor Bouguin	If I take the case of Concordia, they made a tool to measure the capacity of people living in elderly people's homes. Like the length they can go depending on whether it's like an autonomous home or if they have limitations. So, they built a tool to help see how far they can navigate. I think they have an example.
[00:56:55] Victor Bouguin	Yes. They built a tool that takes into consideration the state of the infrastructure, like the pedestrian infrastructures, if the street is well designed or the stiffness of the streets. So that's a tool that they're using for their research, but it's also very useful to us, like for people who work on projects with municipalities and people in the field. So, if some tools are created like in different sites, it would be amazing to share these tools with the partners and like every other member.
[00:57:42] Susan Speigel	A toolkit based on the case studies and the principles, the principles and the case studies.
[00:57:47] Victor Bouguin	Yes. If there is a tool that can be shared that would be amazing.
[00:57:59] Cara Chellew	I'm also thinking we've talking about the need for making a difference in policy changes. So, what's out strategy with engaging with decision makers and policy makers like that needs to be thought through? Besides just dissemination, I think that's really central in action.
[00:58:29] Susan Speigel	We vote you as our new mayor.
[00:58:32] Sam Oboh	Is this related to the RISE project? Because I see a relationship.

[00:58:35] Susan Speigel	Yes, I do too but not everyone loves that.

[00:58:38] Sam Oboh	But it has to. I mean, everybody does not have to like it.

[00:58:41] Susan Speigel	Oh, I know. I see the Rise project, which I happen to love as being the enactment of a policy that we are the research content for. That's how I see it and not everybody sees it that way. But I think that in the end, if we're going to make use of these incredible national initiatives that have happened, ours and theirs, we need to join hands. I might get killed for saying this because we're the carrot. They're the stick. We're the thinkers. They're the doers. And that's how the policy is going to get enacted. It's going to be the national building code, the national policy for Canada but we're the fire underneath. That's what I think.

[00:59:20] Sam Oboh	It's not just the fire, it's the evidence or the demonstration or the body of work that supports whatever they're implementing. They say, look, you have 14 universities that have really dived into this in detail. It gives it a bit of weight.

[00:59:42] Susan Speigel	This will have to be an in-camera conversation with the steering committee and governance because we might be able to say that in public.

[00:59:54] Shannon Bassett	I mean, I was just curious because I remember Tone came to our school in 2020. And so just wondering, I haven't been keeping up, how successful have they been with it?

[01:00:03] Susan Speigel	I think they've been immensely successful. They have a great document, they did great research, they did great surveys, and you can all read about it. Canadian Architect did a number of great articles on it. You could just consume it in 2 pages.

[01:00:15] Fredrica Goffi	What is it?

[01:00:20] Susan Speigel	It is a national policy for architecture, and they did an Angus Reed study across Canada as to how the public felt about architecture and we failed. 37 percent. No one felt listened to. If they were part of a community engagement, they weren't listened to. And if they thought they were listened to and when they saw what got built, they didn't understand it.

[01:00:36] Shannon Bassett	I think he was also talking about the current procurement with the federal government that they take the lowest contract.

[01:00:45] Susan Speigel	Yeah. Well, it's even the QBS ends up with the lowest common denominator in general or the usual suspects. One of those two. They are trying to develop a national policy which will make people more responsible for building capacity. I don't even know if they said this, but I'm thinking this

building capacity in proper community engagement rather than "check mark" community engagement. I mean which is what very much we're all about here. Maybe we could talk more about it, but it would be like the national building code. The policy of national architecture policy would be then embedded into a building code that you would have to do it. You have to have this level climate savvy. You have to have this level of accessibility. You have to have these things. Guess what? You don't get a building permit. And yes, you have to pay for it. So that's the stick that we're all looking for. People who work in the field because you could say to your client, it'd be really nice if we could not have to spend a ton of money on energy. Spend $100 a year on your energy instead of $1000, or $10,000 or $100,000. But that costs a lot of money to do it and to convince people to do it. If you have a law that says you have to do it, then you just have to do it. You have to find the money, and that's what happened with AODA Accessibility.

[01:02:11] Victor Bouguin	Yes, the Quebec government recently passed the Politique nationale de l'architecture et de l'aménagement du territoire. I don't know, like on the architecture side if it's really restrictive, if there are any things. I don't know if you've heard of it. Because I think it's more of a vision and I know for the l'aménagement du territoire part, it's more vision. We have like big principles, but it's not restrictive like you can go against it like. So it should be like rules and make sure it gets applied to the project.
[01:03:05] Susan Speigel	That seems to sit somewhere in between a national policy and a set of principles, but I don't know. I can't say because I didn't read it.
[01:03:16] William Morin	Let's write an article and review that report that Angus Reed studied and critique it and what it what we have that they don't have that they did a judgment on. Just like the awards that we talked about yesterday with regards to we need to create our new awards because those awards were meant for old way of thinking. We got new way of thinking so we need new awards. So then come at it from an academic level to critique that, so that those institutions and the industry will have to recognize that we are challenging those bodies or those studies that the government relies on and have to listen to them. And so if we're critiquing them, then we're getting involved. We're at the table, we're discussing it with them. We're saying, OK, look at now we're going to judge you. You judge them, we're going to judge you now. We're going to review you. We're going to assess you. This is what we as young architects, young community groups, young interdisciplinary thinking peoples and saying, well, they're still missing stuff.
[01:04:15] William Morin	So let's go a little bit farther. So that's what my recommendations as a push forward is that we move towards addressing those bodies that force those industries into action by way of government policy and have our voices at the table. What do you think? That's something that can be done right. Those post secondary institutions like to write papers So let's get to writing papers on behalf of this body.
[01:04:42] Sam Oboh	And it is also a matter of achieving balance between what you can legislate and what is culture. When I mean culture, I'm talking about everyday culture. A lot of times in the Western society, we rely on court precedents, right? Or

the court rules that. Blah blah blah blah. We use it as the presidents to guide them. We also forget the fact that less than 0.001% of issues end up in court. Most times, a lot of the issues that kind of govern the society comes from everyday culture. What we subscribe to and the way of doing things. A very good example of this is that I used to contrast Canada is Australia. In Canada based on your building code, you have to sign the schedule. That makes it mandatory for you to have architect engineers and all that to sign. In Australia, yes, architect is a protected profession, engineers are protected profession. But as a building owner. I am not required to have an architect.

[01:06:02]
Sam Oboh

As long as I meet all the requirements of the bill, you comply. But guess what? The rate of use of architects in Australia is way higher than the rate of use of architects in Canada. In Australia, I think the adoption rates of use of architects, especially in residential, is probably about 65 to 70%. In Canada it's less than 40%. Here you have mandatory requirement. There it was more about they use different tools - it's more about awareness. For instance, like the state of Victoria, the City of Melbourne, they use a lot of carrot and stick. They give a lot of incentives if you use professionals, like architects or whatever will give you 10% relaxation on your building. You buy low requirements and for a developer that's the difference of having two-story penthouse that will fetch me millions of dollars. So, they're nudging people to make the right decision rather than rely on just the law. The mandatory part of the law. I think that was one thing that was really quite striking. When you look at both communities, as you know, relying on the law and the on the people who go around. They'll find a way. People will go around. But you have to use a combination. You know where you nudge certain people. They react better to nudges. You know where you give them incentive. Certain people you have to be strict, you know. So, you have to use all to be able to achieve at the end of the day is the goal that you want to achieve that matters. We want everybody to really enjoy this quality in the built environment. These are all the tools. You can use or you can apply right, you know to it.

[01:08:20]
Susan
Speigel

You've so we have 15 minutes now to condense it. There's a lot of notes.

[01:09:06]
Susan
Speigel

We talked 1st about dissemination. We kind of went and we did the easy route first. So I don't know if you want to do it in that order, but I'm just saying there was a whole conversation about dissemination. People came up with great ideas, but one that I think that the guiding principles here is we have to determine who the audience is and then use the correct dissemination protocol or platform. Let's just say that's like a principle as opposed to a prescriptive. "Use Instagram". OK, so because it might be the correct platform, is a book to an academic audience and to someone who's thinking about architecture schools, Instagram or TikTok. OK so That that would be like a principle of dissemination, that we came up with even though we had many great examples and that, I mean, although we talked about using simple language into an academic, no, we might want to use academic language so that we have to torque the dissemination, the platform and the vehicle towards the each of the audiences determined to be people who we want to reach. I really like the medium, is the message. You're all too young

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	to know about Marshall McLuhan. But I think that that's a really big sentence that we could use that would appeal to some older people in the audience.
[01:10:25] Sam Oboh	Marshall McLuhan. An Edmontonian. He's a professor at UofT but he was born in Edmonton.
[01:10:41] Susan Speigel	He's a world-renowned kind of smarty pants.
[01:10:43] William Morin	We've used his phrases without knowing. Information Highway, Global Village, the Internet. All of those.
[01:10:53] Susan Speigel	The Internet of Things. The medium is the message. The message is carried in the platform. So, you can't divide the message, the content, from the structure basically is what that is saying. That's our opinion on that. Then we went to preaching to the choir. I think this was more about dissemination.
[01:11:21] Sam Oboh	Sometimes you have to preach to the choir to keep the choir intact, or else they can be lost.
[01:11:27] Susan Speigel	OK. We were talking about doing a paradigm shift in how will this dissemination. I think then we're going to jump over. We came then we kind of jumped that part and we're going to come back to it. Then we started to talk about what are the outputs, the strategic outputs of the research partnership. We have to answer that question and that is principles of quality. I'm trying to take time for you to type madly and that then our beautiful 14 case studies across the whole nation become our case studies that people refer to rather than referring to case studies that helped us, we are the case studies. We are the prototypes. Those case studies become prototypes that people can follow. "Hey, you got to park. Yeah, go to Cynthia's. You know, UBC? That's the one you got to go to." So we have design principles. We are not talking about a lot of design excellence. From there, we have design principles that are evidenced by our 14 case studies. 14 university case studies that are demonstrations of our principles.
[01:12:57] Susan Speigel	Then we go back to dissemination from those principles we have to reverbalize them or the medium is the message. So what? Whoever we want to reach, we have to speak to them in their language. Creates digestible.
[01:13:12] Sam Oboh	Create digestible.
[01:13:13] Susan Speigel	Create digestible sound bites or whatever. Something better sounding than that. What's missing for me is and I we haven't managed to capture what we heard this morning from the indigenous, like those real, the whole notion of the lived experience, which was talked about yesterday and today. Demonstrated. I mean, I keep saying it's the respect like re-looking. It sounds more important and so respect. Respect and relations and the

	wealth of relationships. That that's the premise of our principles based on that depth.
[01:14:20] Sam Oboh	I think that has been answered in a way. Because we've not gone into the details of what the principles are, right? Maybe that's why you're still thinking it's not been addressed. I feel that that's one important principle, that aspect that you're talking about becomes principle number one or whatever, for instance.
[01:14:41] Susan Speigel	See, to me, that's the lens of all the principles. That's where we're different.
[01:14:46] Sam Oboh	Yes. For me, look at it for instance in the African context. There's a popular word called Ubuntu. Ubuntu is the principle that I am because we are. So when you have that as a principle, it becomes more like the umbrella principle for every other thing.
[01:15:07] Susan Speigel	OK, so that's what I'm trying to find. Because we're not saying what the principles are, we have to have a way to describe that. That's a very important notion that's got to be the lens that develops all the principles. The umbrellas. Something about that and because otherwise, we just sound like everybody else. Everybody else will have all these principles they have seen them a million times. I hate to say that.
[01:15:33] William Morin	That inclusive pronoun and preferences that we're speaking to, it's that we instead of the me. That's the primary element.
[01:15:40] Cara Chellew	How about a decolonial lens. That would make us different, but it can't be token.
[01:15:50] Susan Speigel	Yes, but we don't want to be different for the sake of being different.
[01:15:52] Cara Chellew	Well, we keep on bringing back in the notion of two eyed seeing.
[01:16:01] William Morin	One of the things I had a colleague that I worked with and sometimes got frustrated with because she came from Wales, married a Germany, after educating, was the student of mine, then became a part-time teacher but still struggled with the term. When I used the word in a casual conversation by saying decolonization, which was a catch phrase on a lot of indigenous academia. To decolonize, what does that mean? That's a loaded gun. Let's come up with our own term. What is our term if we're talking about this, it's about quality, making quality of life making. What would be a term or phrase to refer to what it is that we're talking about. Which also or can speak to those concepts of what decolonization means?
[01:16:55] William Morin	Decolonization is asking for too much from some people who don't want to share. Who don't want to change. Who don't want to adapt another way of doing because they're quite comfortable, or they're too wounded to think of

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anything other than themselves. And so, this is what I'm seeing, here is our opportunity. This is your catch phrase opportunity to make something that's unique and innovative. We come up with our own term that speaks to what it is that we're trying to do about bringing humanity back to humans in our doing. So, building or repairing or healing and so that's why my symbol of the four elements to repair. Our building concept.

[01:17:42] Susan Speigel	I'm going to do an exercise, OK? I'm going to send this microphone round. You have 10 seconds to say a word of this concept.
[01:17:47] William Morin	Repair.
[01:17:56] Susan Speigel	Just do it. What's the underpinning feeling about this. It's kind of hard to list a one-word phrase – it could be a phrase.
[01:18:13] Sam Oboh	It's about empathy.
[01:18:15] Susan Speigel	Empathy. OK, just shout it out. We don't have to send the microphone, its making people very nervous.
[01:18:22] Virginie LaSalle	Dignity.
[01:18:28] Victor Bouguin	Awareness.
[01:18:33] Cara Chellew	I don't know.
[01:18:33] Susan Speigel	I don't know. IDK.
[01:18:34] Sam Oboh	IDK.
[01:18:37] Cynthia San	Like Will said earlier, human in humanity?
[01:18:44] Fredrica Goffi	I was going to say repair. With our research, it really works because we look at the notion of adaptability and how in architecture every act is an act of adaptability. Every time we're touching something we're all doing something and thinking about the first layer being Turtle Island. So, every time you are

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	touching a building you are adapting something. You have to think of all of its past history. I sort of feel that that layer of repair, you know, it fits very well.
[01:19:23] Brianna Brown	I'm also at a loss, but probably something akin to true autonomy without explaining it, something like that.
[01:19:37] Brianna Brown	As an artist, I've been in the process of redesigning the recycle logo to include repair, so it's already been copyrighted, but you could use it. You could still use it.
[01:19:48] Marjorie Knight	I thought something about care creation.
[01:19:57] Sam Oboh	Maybe something that is sensitive to the environment. I still like the principle of Ubuntu, so whatever the translation. Ubuntu is actually a very difficult word to translate. It's all about empathy. It's all about interconnectedness. It's all about community. It's one word that kind of encompasses a lot of things.
[01:20:25] Susan Speigel	We're going to say interconnectedness.
[01:20:27] Sam Oboh	A friend of mine some few years ago actually gave me the Cree interpretation of that. I can't remember the word, but I wrote it down. I can send it.
[01:20:37] Marjorie Knight	That might be a good one.
[01:20:40] Iris Pintiuta	I was going to say that I think the focus shouldn't necessarily be on bringing humanity back to the human because a lot of the things that we do go beyond this human and involve the earth and the environment as well. I don't think we need to lose sight of that connection. I think that the framework of repair and respect together pretty much encapsulates it. Because repair is about relationships. That without connecting to something else and then respect comes in to say, OK, once we've done the work, we need to respect it and uphold it as well as in order to do the work, we need to respect it enough to listen.
[01:21:25] Susan Speigel	To respect and then repair, then you create relationships maybe.
[01:21:29] Iris Pintiuta	Yes. It's kind of respect then repair, respect and that kind of goes for circles.
[01:21:34]	Then it went round and round.

Susan Speigel	
[01:21:38] Iris Pintiuta	We don't necessarily just have to focus on humans.
[01:21:39] William Morin	OK, it's cyclical. Meaning that its organic and its always going to.
[01:21:44] Sam Oboh	The Lion King.
[01:21:53] Sam Oboh's Guest	Essentially what im hearing is and the word that pop up the most are empathy, deconstruction of architecture, if that sounds counterintuitive. But that's kind of the way I'm hearing this, and from what everybody's saying, so basically empathy and architecture. Again, it goes back to what you said as well. Like the idea of respect so. How everything is cyclical, everything has to incorporate different groups. Everybody has to work together for it to really be something cohesive and something sustainable.
[01:22:22] Iris Pintiuta	Can I add something? I think this we were talking about this earlier, you just reminded me of it. I think it would good for all of us as groups to kind of change those roadmaps from A to B. As if you start here and you are there, to make it more of an ongoing cyclical process because I think we're all sort of struggling to put together these roadmaps based on these templates that we were given. When actually what is needed has a more kind of network, cyclical shape than just A to B, B to C etc.
[01:23:08] Shannon Bassett	I was also thinking I wrote the exercise we did yesterday where we started to commingle. That's not the word, but with other groups. What was the word you used?
[01:23:20] Marjorie Knight	Convergence.
[01:23:21] Shannon Bassett	Convergence. I was thinking that would be an interesting road map to the convergence roadmap. And just before I forget it. Recovery, repair, and reset are my ideas.
[01:24:01] Mylène Gauthier	[Speaking French] Key point: Recovery and repair. When you have the respect, there is no need for repair. The ideas of respect and renewal is not necessarily a cyclical cycle. There is a way to continue and not be entirely static.
[01:24:29] Iris Pintiuta	That's a good point. Just being stuck in a cycle. I feel that does not allow – so it should be a cycle that kind of grows bigger.
[01:24:33] Susan Speigel	A spiral. Or maybe just a convergence.

[01:24:42] Cara Chellew	Continuity?
[01:24:47] William Morin	That's why I mentioned about that need for it to be an ongoing, growing kind of adding to contributing, to expanding on so that it's not static.
[01:25:09] Susan Speigel	Oh, you started. Yes, we're back at the beginning. We've solved all the world's problems.
[01:25:20] William Morin	GO TEAM!
[01:25:23] Susan Speigel	Pretty intense, but wonderful. Yes, thank everybody for just being so great.
[01:25:30] Cara Chellew	Thanks for facilitating.

ROOM 8

Workshop 4- **Public Debates and National Strategies**

First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Research Site
Room8_ Location: Medjuck Architecture Building - Room 1005			**13 Participants**
Derek	Reilly	Dalhousie University	Dalhousie University
Leila	Farah	Toronto Metropolitan University	Toronto Metropolitan University
Carmela	Cucuzzella	Université de Montréal	Université de Montréal
Adrian	Blackwell	University of Waterloo	University of Waterloo
Jonathan	Monfries	AAA Representative - Stantec	University of Calgary
Jeanne	Leblanc-Trudeau	Ville de Montréal	National Partners
Michelle	Gagnon-Creeley	CRAB Park Tent City / Ay'x Village	University of British Columbia
Michael	Otchie	BAIDA - ERA Architects	Athabasca University
Sarah	Danhay	BEA-Calgary	University of Calgary
Zen	Thompson	University of Winnipeg	University of Manitoba
Belle	Gutierrez-Kellam	University of Calgary	University of Calgary
Achraf	Alaoui Mdaghri	Université de Montréal	Université de Montréal
Benjamin	Dunn	University of Toronto	University of Toronto
Kayleigh	Hutt-Taylor	Concordia University	Concordia University

Room 8 - Workshop 4 - Public Debates and National Strategies
Thursday, May 2, 2024, from 14:00 am to 15:30 pm

Date of report: 2024-06-18

Report produced by
Hutt-Taylo, Kayleigh *(Concordia University)*
Linkon, Shantanu Biswas *(Université de Montréal)*

8.1. Summary

Overall, our group saw a large theme in priorities and existing frictions in quality. For example, how can we discuss changing award systems in design, while also hearing that housing is completely inaccessible or unsafe for much of our population? We need to meet the basic needs and human rights of our communities. And then there's another piece to the roadmaps of how do we prioritize the remaining aspects of quality and output? How do we hold reducing carbon, climate resiliency, accessibility while also a significant portion of the population has no access to clean drinking water. The group feels we need to frame these two "types" of priorities to create a collective vision moving forward for Canada.

Most groups saw a common theme that following a linear movement felt slightly uncomfortable in the roadmaps. Many research sites specifically mentioned how they tried (and failed) to create a non-linear path or even feedback loop that could more accurately visualize the process or learning.

- Dialogue around who isn't at the table right now? Who are we missing? Some people felt that there are as many people missing from the conversation as are involved.
- Noticing many groups used icons in their roadmaps. Could this be a universal language across sites? Need to also acknowledge the harmful stereotypes that icons can perpetuate if they are generic and not well thought-out. For example, showing a cartoon home with a traditional mother and father. Are these representative? No as they are currently.
- Seems like we have a good grasp/influence on changing education systems based on our outputs, however policy seems is not well defined and we haven't yet identified the policies that are preventing quality. This needs to be a priority looking ahead.
- Could we use the knowledge from all research sites to create a meta-roadmap or meta-analysis to highlight common themes, distinct differences from the partnership
- We are lacking strong representation from professionals. And most participants agree in this group they are a huge target for change. They could help identify

barriers to implementation.

- We need to focus on innovation and incentivization rather than changing old systems. We need new attempts at solving the problem. How can the partnership support creativity and innovation to enhance mobility for example?

8.2. Detailed Transcription of the Workshop Discussion

[00:00:02] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	So I was not involved in the at all. So questions on like why it's red?
[00:00:31] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	So, as I was saying our posters rather than doing just a straight across roadmap through both of them, we wanted to kind of separate the road map from the actual research methods and objectives. So, on this side of our poster here, we have kind of our guiding research questions and then a few of the different kind of methodologies and then outcomes that have come from it. And then using the data that we had gained from these sessions.
[00:00:47] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	We wanted to work into building our road map here and at our site, similar to many of the other sites. We didn't just want a linear path, we wanted to show a circular feedback loop.
[00:00:58] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	Is really in in the end any sort of thing that you implement, you need to have a feedback on and more often than not something will need to change. And then we're right back at the beginning but looking more at the roadmap and some of some of the actions that we are aiming to see here is.
[00:01:17] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	First off, we want to invite more groups who are not at the table and whose voices.
[00:01:24] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	Are not being heard to have input into the way that our cities are being built and then through this kind of broader community voice, we want to consider the lived experience as a very valuable metric and then kind of moving forward some of the like actions that we're looking on doing is heightening that educational impact. So as I was mentioning in one of the sessions.
[00:01:50] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	Uh, yesterday in in one of Brian's courses, every week he had a different partner from the project come in and teach other students and talk to the students about what they are working on in the city. And then this will allow us to create systems that can adapt to the different priorities and the different values of these different stakeholder groups.
[00:02:13] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	Um, and then essentially and these two are I'm not the most familiar with but.
[00:02:24] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	Looking more kind of towards the end we really want this, this holistic approach that then we can use to kind of inform the policy changes or the different actions that we will take, which will then lead to that implementation and then from that implementation essentially we are striving to go back to then back to the beginning with the with the round tables to then get that circular feedback and almost start from the beginning, because there's no, there's no really end to to this kind of definition of quality. This this is a problem that's going to be always evolving and always needing to change. And so that's…
[00:03:10] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	That is essentially how we created this circular feedback loop.
[00:03:22] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	I know I didn't. I didn't speak much about the research because I know I know the session is on the on the roadmaps and for the, for the purpose of time I wanted to keep it short.
[00:03:31] Kayleigh Hutt-Taylor	No problem. My comment is for the right side, so I I really appreciate.

[00:03:39] Kayleigh Hutt-Taylor	This cyclical nature, I think it's been a theme for a lot of us of.
[00:03:43] Kayleigh Hutt-Taylor	Saying that integrating maybe feedback loops or finding a way to show a more cyclical process or way that these processes are are actually not linear and being able to introduce that complexity without over complicating the roadmap. And I think you guys have done a good job of that.
[00:04:04] Kayleigh Hutt-Taylor	I have a question out of curiosity of this.
[00:04:07] Kayleigh Hutt-Taylor	I'm not sure if you weren't designing, but I was curious what this is signifying like the red. What is there a meaning behind this?
[00:04:12] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	Yeah. So the meaning of this was to signify that. The table like our table is not full. We are sitting here, and we are trying to find out who all of these missing groups are OK at the conversation. Yeah.
[00:04:35] Derek Reilly	So I have a question about what action means when I read this I see OK questions. Research, a form of action. Implementation, a form of action.
[00:04:46] Derek Reilly	Getting feedback, a form of action so it but is but the way it's presented here it feels like the roadmap is a separate thing that happens between research and before implementation. Is that how I should read it.
[00:05:00] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	So I think what the, like the designer, was getting at who created this was.
[00:05:06] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	That after the research step we then move into these six separate actions that are outlined, which then lead into implementation and then from implementation were almost sent back into redeveloping the questions based off of the inputs.
[00:05:23] Derek Reilly	Yeah, I guess I kind of read it differently because of my background. So like in software design right implementation would definitely involve:
[00:05:35] Derek Reilly	Brought in community voices considering lived experience. You know, you do that iteratively as well. You know you'd implement features and in in increments and evaluate them, right? So I don't know if that model. I guess I'm asking do you think that model where you do have the sort of?
[00:05:55] Derek Reilly	The roadmap, could it also be applied to different phases in that whole process?
[00:06:02] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	I think it could, yes, yeah.
[00:06:04] Carmela Cucuzzella	Or else is it what's the difference between the roadmaps? Because yeah, it's a good question because now that you look at it a little clearer, roadmap and implementation, what's implementation then?
[00:06:14] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	From what I understood, when Brian was working on this poster with us, that implementation was the actual changes that are being seen or like the actual policy being pushed or that that is what the implementation was. But I don't like we haven't made it to that step in the project, so.
[00:06:35] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	Similar like to some of the other sites where we're still, we're still working through this, right, We're...

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[00:06:40] Carmela Cucuzzella	Or impact, maybe it's impact.
[00:06:56] Speaker 8	No mais, as for who else is missing at the table? Who do you have?
[00:07:02] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	Who do we have? And so, these are all of our community partners at the bottom here and then.
[00:07:14] Derek Reilly	That's the upside down.
[00:07:20] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	And then and then kind of. So what we're working on at the moment for our Round Table 5 because technically our Round Table 4 is one-on-one interviews, but for our Round Table 5 is we're working on creating a public event and we're struggling with how to.
[00:07:40] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	Have this event where we aren't just getting the kind of like the head of stakeholders, right? We want to see those individuals who are working at like the base level jobs at some of these organizations and the people that that we that like all the different.
[00:08:00] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	Citizens that this change is impacting and not just the heads of the organization, so that's really who we believe is missing, but.
[00:08:09] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	I mean, there's lots of people missing. There's more people missing than there are in involved is what I would say. And I would say that about almost every project
[00:08:18] Speaker 8	And what's difficult to reach out to them?
[00:08:20] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	The method of because we like, we're not sure if whether using a social media to create this event or like how can we get engagement to our events. That's what our site is almost struggling with people coming to the events we reach out, we send the emails, we send the invitations and then.
[00:08:39] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	Most people don't RSVP or they don't come, or so that's what we're struggling.
[00:08:44] Speaker 8	Does, it has to be a big event. Can it just be someone walking down the street and talking to?
[00:08:48] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	We don't have ethics approval for that.
[00:08:52] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	Yeah. Like to just to just one-on-one. Well, I think that's what I think there's one section, so we're interdisciplinary.
[00:08:58] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	I mostly work with the Faculty of Arts side of it, but we do have architecture, medicine and faculty of social work so.
[00:09:06] Jeanne Leblanc-Trudeau	Yeah, just because you were mentioning the troubles, having people to come sometimes playing with the hours sometimes in the evening outside the regular hours it can help too.
[00:09:21] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	Yeah, yeah. Yeah, I'll definitely talk to the leads researchers.
[00:09:29] Benjamin Dunn	I had a question about transdisciplinary which I think.

[00:09:31] Benjamin Dunn	Does it necessarily need to be answered to me per say, but more like making that clear, maybe on the roadmap?
[00:09:40] Benjamin Dunn	About how it is transdisciplinary disciplinary like who are these different disciplines that are involved and you know to what capacity they're involved. Like you said, you mentioned a few, which I think is really cool, but like, I'm not seeing that on the roadmap.
[00:09:57] Benjamin Dunn	And then it's not exactly clear to me like what is being redesigned like is it the whole city? Is it like… the city's approach to design like is it is it everything like what is and maybe I just misunderstood in the presentation along the way. But like, yeah, like what is being redesigned?
[00:10:17] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	So our city is look, our university is looking at like kind of just the design process within the city in general, it's very broad, like I honestly, I mostly just work with the case studies, so I'm I'm not the best to answer some of these broad questions. Most of my work has to do with the case studies. But interestingly enough, our case studies in the first year were all award-winning buildings and most of the students working on it didn't agree with almost every choice of building.
[00:10:46] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	And then in the second year, Brian allowed us all to choose our own cases and not one student picked a building that had won an award. They were all buildings that meant a quality to us. And so that's like that. That's more of the work that I do.
[00:11:04] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	Yeah. So maybe kind of integrating that into the poster would be a good. Like a way to kind of show some of that [inaudible].
[00:11:10] Benjamin Dunn	Yeah, maybe some way, some way to ground it, like to visually see like, what these spaces look like. Yeah, yeah, yeah.
[00:11:19] Michael Otchie (Michael)	A great presentation and I guess I was, I was just looking at the the question at the start again and I think in terms of the, the Health, equity sustainability, I mean it's also written there slightly differently as inclusion, sustainability and health.
[00:11:37] Michael Otchie	I think the sheet two, the one on the right. It makes the inclusion quite clear, like in terms of the dialogue and that being part of the feedback. But I don't think the sustainability and health portion stands out so much and well the question I guess I had is it is it more about perceptions of sustainability and health?
[00:12:02] Michael Otchie	Rather than measure looking at metrics that are associated with sustainability and health, and one of the things I was thinking about was, yesterday…
[00:12:10] Michael Otchie	When the whole subject of the 15-minute city came up and that's something that you know conceptually relates directly to ideas of sustainability and health. But there are these very difficult perceptions surrounding it in in terms of what it means, and you know how people are engaging with it on the kind of on the streets. So, I was wondering if it.
[00:12:35] Michael Otchie	If that would be sufficient to kind of cross examine what sustainability and health and the built environment needs to be means to people rather than.
[00:12:42] Speaker 8	Yeah. No, that's a that's a very good question. Most of the work that has been done so far has definitely been more on the inclusion side and I don't know if that's because it was kind of that was the initial issue that we found was trying to get this inclusion of these different

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	community members so. But I do know Gavin McCormick on our project from the Cumming School of Medicine.
[00:13:14] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	He's doing a specific work that is for our project that looks at the health of our train stations and so his work on that would is definitely in this field, but it's at kind of the beginning stage is at at the moment. So yeah.
[00:13:33] Anonymous	I was thinking about this roadmap in a bit in relation to ours and some of the things like how we would work to improve that and I was being instead of the generic skyline, I wonder if keying in the work you're doing to the actual skyline kind of like similar feedback that I got over there and then I would love to know more about the case studies. And I feel like you've made them by method, which I think is interesting but.
[00:14:01] Anonymous	In a roadmap, I don't know if that's, I don't know. I'm. I'm like everybody. I'm thinking like, who's reading it and what are they gaining from it and really what people want to gain from design and the city movements and mean towards wellness is like the benefits of doing it this way are so great. So I don't know if methods.
[00:14:20] Anonymous	I don't know I've been thinking. I've been thinking about that. Like, is that the best way to communicate what it is that we're doing by? Is that just a very academic way of doing it? That's all, because that's how I do.
[00:14:28] Anonymous	In my kind of more building science work and the other thing I was thinking of is all of us have used little icon graphics as a generic way like in the middle where it says people in place and it's the people with the cartoon.
[00:14:40] Anonymous	Most people don't even really aspire to live in a cartoon house, or there's question marks around that with two parents and a child, which I think is what that is. And I'm just like, wondering.
[00:14:52] Anonymous	I mean, we totally did it too. And we talked about it and thought about it, and we all actually used icons of generic, like, Equitable economics as like a person holding. I don't even know what that is. But you know what I'm saying? We all use these little icons to mean something of standing for something. And I wonder if that's part of the problem is we need new.
[00:15:11] Anonymous	Icons for stuff we have like we're updating the language, we're updating things. That's probably a whole other project of figuring out.
[00:15:25] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	I think we can blame clip Art and PowerPoint for a lot.
[00:15:43] Derek Reilly	We had a lot of these were picked because they were created by a graphic designer on our team, so they weren't copyrighted. So, a lot of these like we just had a like we, we have a graphic designer on our team who came and would create them so then we didn't have to take copyrighted images, but yeah.
[00:15:47] Anonymous	Yah, icons need to be evocative, and they need to be understandable.
[00:16:00] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	Yeah, it's hard. I think it's very, very hard to do, but people in place, we just want to be careful. We're not like sticking to stereotypes that are, yeah, not what we want to…
[00:16:02] Anonymous	Well, so interestingly enough, there was.

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[00:16:04] Derek Reilly	Or you maybe make people think this isn't about me.
[00:16:04] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	This isn't about me.
[00:16:36] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	We did have a different title here and it was changed because of well, myself, being a sociologist and then the Faculty of Social work, we changed the title that was originally here. It was Civitas and Communitas. But to our Faculty of social work friends, that is, that is not a inclusive statement to use. And it's a very kind of a colonial statement and so for us that that just didn't feel right. And so we needed to find words that.
[00:16:40] Derek Reilly	Were more neutral of tone. I mean that's, that's where people of place came from.
[00:16:42] Anonymous	This is real interdisciplinary.
[00:16:45] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	Yeah, I don't know I don't know.
[00:17:04] Achraf Alaoui Mdaghri (Adrian)	No, and that's it's we had we had a lot of meetings on this and myself and then some of the graphic designers got into a few different kind of debates over what is kind of appropriate to use and what is inclusive versus what is exclusionary so.
[00:17:10] Jeanne Leblanc-Trudeau (Jeanne)	I think we should we only have 10 minutes in this half. So I think we should move on.
[00:17:20] Anonymous	It was a general comment, based on Terry's comment…
[00:17:24] Anonymous	I just feel like housing affordability being such an issue, it feels so mean to, like, always draw…[inaudible] house.
[00:18:02] Jeanne Leblanc-Trudeau	Ohh statement, No it's just that based on Terry's comment, but I don't know if that's what you meant, but we all try to make icons differently but and they kind of they translate rules and priorities. But is it our common language in each road map to node?
[00:18:15] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Or to have this. Maybe the this language of icons or something that we can see in all the road maps, I don't know, maybe.
[00:18:39] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	I guess I can go. I will start off by saying that because I am a community partner, I had no like I did not. I gave them information. Then they made something about Crab Park. So I will try my best to like synthesize this information. This team has been looking at spatial equity with regards to parks in the city of Vancouver and just analyzing.
[00:18:59] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	I guess the Community communities that parks in the city serve and what that looks like throughout the city and then picking a couple of case studies to really go deeper into that and I guess backtracking with regards to special equity, who makes those decisions within the city. So, looking.

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[00:19:12] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	At both the governance that that plays a role in this, but also community members and what those processes currently look like and how it's shaped the city as we know it.
[00:19:32] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	So I guess they started with doing a spatial analysis of the City of Vancouver itself. There's actually a great deal of green space in the in the city that there is discrepancy between different social groups and different like class groups. So I guess we'll get into it when we get to crowd Park.
[00:19:36] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	For instance, the downtown east side is in this area and there's like Three parks relative to other places within Vancouver, where there's a lot more green space because the city was originally planned to have parks within 5 minute walking distance like that was the. Yeah. Anyways. Yeah. So they then started to look at to you at the players within the decision making process.
[00:20:28] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	And doing a really like amazing analysis of of that going everywhere from. The community, which would also encompass like City Council and then the Parks board because Vancouver is very particular and that it's parks are governed by a separate board outside of the city, but they are all also elected officials and and then also looking at the way that these groups are engaging with community.
[00:20:47] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Yeah. So last year when they were presenting work, they had looked at two different parks. They looked at Trout Lake, and I can't remember the name of the other space, but they were parks that were being renewed and renovated, and they were going through the decision-making processes about how they made those decisions to revitalize.
[00:20:56] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Those spaces. And then this and then this year they decided to shift and look specifically at Crab Park, which is the citizen group that I am involved with.
[00:21:33] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Crab Park is a park in the downtown east side. That's kind of like, yeah, it's along the waterfront. And for the last 2 1/2 years, it has been home to about 30. The numbers fluctuate but 30 to 60 residents, it's the only place within I want to say Canada, but definitely within Vancouver, where you're allowed to do daytime sheltering, so there's a rule within the park that the Parks board created a couple of years ago when they were seeing a rise in house lessness that people could shelter temporarily outdoors.
[00:21:44] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	At night between the hours of 10:[00 PM to 8:00 AM, and then you'd have to pack up and leave and at Crab Park. They have a very special condition where they don't have to do that.
[00:21:56] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	And and so this is like a very like comprehensive analysis of like Crab Park pre colonization to what we know it as today.
[00:22:09] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	I don't know what else to add. I guess with regards to the research or like the work that I've been collaborating with, I've just been, I guess, speaking to the evolution of of.
[00:22:28]	Crab Park, but also the decision-making factors that have gone into why the space is the way that it is today, because it is the first space

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Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	for daytime sheltering is allowed and this was done by a court ruling. The city has to engage with residents of Crab Park.
[00:22:37] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	And so they do this. They were doing this once a week and I would be present at those meetings and I would take note of what was happening. And then.
[00:23:12] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Basically, gave all that information to UBC for them to analyze. I guess, like that kind of consultation process, because it really didn't feel like we were giving all of this information constantly to the City of Vancouver, letting them know like this is what people need to survive and to live. And then the city would end up doing the exact opposite of that or not listening at all, which kind of has just created a a broader conversation, I think with our cohort about like, yeah, what public participation looks like and.
[00:23:30] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Yeah, just like the processes that go into place when we're trying to decide who gets to be in public space and who is the public and why do we see certain groups as their opinions being more important than others.
[00:23:44] Adrian Blackwell (Adrian)	Yeah, I think I'll end there.
[00:24:00] Adrian Blackwell	I love the way this case study has kind of zoomed in on an issue about public space, which is very present across the country and so I think it's.
[00:24:11] Adrian Blackwell	Yeah, it's a great. I think it's a great process of zooming into a real problem about how public space is used and who it's for and it really.
[00:24:22] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Yeah, I like the direction of it and the fact that there's a working relationship with the community through your group is very powerful.
[00:24:38] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Yeah, I guess it's been really helpful to have students from UBC doing this kind of research because, like, even though I'm a practitioner and I'm thinking about all these things all the time and I like, want to write down what I'm learning and seeing I am on the ground doing frontline work.
[00:24:50] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	And so, I have no capacity right now to do this kind of analysis and I think that it is so important because it's really legitimizing the problem that I'm seeing on the ground that I can't otherwise communicate.
[00:25:13] Benjamin Dunn	Yeah, I'm curious. Like what the what the long term intention is with this work, is it to, you know, reimagine park spaces as you know, opportunities to provide housing for, you know, unhoused individuals?
[00:25:16] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Yeah, I guess just generally think about that.
[00:25:34] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Good question. I think we're still trying to figure out like what exactly the outcome looks like. But I think the reality is is like as landscape architects like this is not something that even five years ago we would have been having discussions about like the idea that in-house folks are living in public spaces and ideally like.
[00:26:10]	Yeah, I'm not a I'm not a housing specialist and I never thought that this would be like my scope of work. But people in this interim space

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Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	until we build enough housing for everyone are going to continue living in public spaces. So I think that the hope is that we can open this dialogue up to figure out, like, how do we create spaces that are more inclusive and that can respond to like these really basic needs that a community is looking for, like in the in the case of Crab park like there's the wash the clean like the washrooms that are usable are 5 minute walk away. There's no showers, there's no access to clean water, there's no power.
[00:26:37] Michael Otchie (Michael)	And so trying to even just bring in like we've been asking for those basic things and the city is like not interested, but it is like these are all really basic needs for people to survive and these are like really easy interventions that as a landscape architect you have agency over and that you can put those in. And it's not just for non house community, it's for the community at large.
[00:27:01] Michael Otchie	A great presentation, I guess, One of the things that kind of stands out with this visually on its own, especially with the Crab Park diagram on the left there is so equal amount space has been given to water and land and like I think conceptually it's very easy to grasp this relationship between.
[00:27:07] Adrian Blackwell	You know the people in the land, like almost like creating this sort of Commons rather than like a traditional park that you see in in cities, but I don't know. I was wondering if there was more you wanted to share about the water. You know, I was thinking also back to the presentation this morning and almost let this idea that we have to.
[00:27:34] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Adopt A different way of seeing and I know you know for many especially within First Nations communities like water holds a tremendous amount of significance.
[00:28:04] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Yeah, that was that's very intentional. I think we're trying to argue like that. Yeah. It's important that when we are designing our spaces that we like really include like all factors that include land and water. And with regards to Crab Park, it's a really interesting space. I don't I think it's like mentioned in the timeline, but there's no graphic for it, but Crab Park initially was just like concrete Portland in the 80s, and a group of indigenous youth.
[00:28:23] Michael Otchie	Who lived in the downtown east side who had no access to water? It's the only neighborhood in Vancouver that has that had no access to water at the time, and they decided to camp there in protest, saying that they wanted access to water and crab actually stands for create a real and affordable beach.
[00:28:25] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Yeah. So it's got a really has a really interesting historical precedent. I think it's actually so fascinating that it started off as an encampment and has now become another kind of encampment, but yeah, it was. It was the indigenous, the urban indigenous community asking for access to the water because it was very important to them. And I think that that still remains pertinent because 50% of the residents at Crab Park are indigenous.
[00:28:54] Derek Reilly	How can you use design to change peoples' attitudes toward people who are living in these camps?
[00:29:05] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Really good question.

[00:29:11] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	I'm still trying to figure that out myself. I have somehow in my role of being a volunteer. There have gotten thrown into media relations and I've been speaking to journalists a lot about what's been going on and that has actually seemed to have gotten through like we've actually gotten a lot of really lovely public affirmation.
[00:29:30] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Because of because we've been really trying hard to like speak out about the story and yeah, I feel like that's been a really interesting way to build empathy from, like, a spatial design standpoint. I'm still. I'm still not sure what that looks like.
[00:29:46] Adrian Blackwell	I'm just thinking like that was great and we should probably move on to one hour. So, thanks so much, Michelle.
[00:30:02] Adrian Blackwell	This, but maybe we can sit down and we can begin the next phase.
[00:30:33] Adrian Blackwell	You doing? Are you doing another report?
[00:30:41] Kayleigh Hutt-Taylor	Yeah. Yeah. So, I I gathered from my notes from what we did this morning, but if you want, I can send another one.
[00:30:51] Adrian Blackwell	So we only need to do one…
[00:30:56] Kayleigh Hutt-Taylor	We don't, actually, we pivoted because I guess timing for the boat to where they don't want the boat to leave without us, so it's feeling a bit pressed. So they said in the plenary we'll just present the morning.
[00:31:39] Adrian Blackwell	Great. So I think we have the a very challenging task now, which is to somehow sort of zoom out. We've been, you know we've had something pretty concrete to look at in the morning. Like look at these graphic Rd. maps and try to think about how to improve them and now we're looking at the partnerships current strategic outputs after two years.
[00:31:59] Adrian Blackwell	Are there strategic outputs that are missing? So we're trying to think I, I mean, I understand it as trying to think across projects and kind of zoom out to the whole partnership and think about what are the things that are missing within the strategic outputs.
[00:32:08] Adrian Blackwell	How does the current work being done in your research site fit with these global strategic outputs?
	So yeah, does anyone have any thoughts about what the strategic outputs are of the whole partnership?
[00:32:22] Kayleigh Hutt-Taylor	Do we have a slide with those? Or just with the global strategic what they are as a prompt.
[00:32:27] Adrian Blackwell	Good question. Do you know Carmella?
[00:32:29] Carmela Cucuzzella	I think that's in general. The sorry, I think in general two of the strategic outputs are the shift in education systems, so that we teach architects, landscape architects, urban planners, etcetera, all the things that we're learning and also policy that because remember that's what he said yesterday. Jean Pierre is one of the things he said was this has become a political project.

[00:32:51] Carmela Cucuzzella	And policy becomes or the shifting, or the nudging of policy is going to be a goal for the big SHHRC PG. So do the do the are the are the 14 sites aligned to at least those two? and and if yes, how? And if and, there's probably a lot more that each of the sites are doing. And what are they? And could we and then I think the next question would be is do we modify the objective that was the largest SHHRC PG to include the diversity of things we've learned in this second and a half year period or third year period.
[00:33:31] Sarah Danahy (Sarah)	Just just a thought on having listed those two of sort of like education as one policy as another from the presentations, it seems like education is in a good place. It's something you can all impact and you're doing it now and like is identified clearly. And I would say policy is not defined at all like none of them really has like this is clearly the policy that's blocking what we're trying to do. It's like the black box. Next step of even figuring out what those barriers are. So maybe that in.
[00:34:02] Sarah Danahy	Yeah. And trying to prioritize your next steps, I guess even that's a question is like do you then put your effort into the thing that you can impact more easily or that there's like all this other work to do to have the other change happen?
[00:34:39] Jonathon Monfries	What about like for educating? It's a lot about. Like you're saying, like educating, you know the students, the next generation. But like, what about educating like the professionals who are out there designing? I kind of mentioned it yesterday, but like you know.
[00:34:45] Jonathon Monfries	The old Architects landscape architects who are out there still doing what they're doing.
[00:35:19] Jonathon Monfries	And doing it wrong like it's not like what can we do to ensure that, you know, they're also being educated. I know some of them may not want to be educated at that stage in their life, but I feel like that's something that like, that does need to be addressed to the people who are, because it's all great and dandy when you're in school and you're very passionate and, you know, everything is very. You know you want to change the world, then you graduate and into practice. And it's like, oh, I have to design A concrete and steel building that's you know, like all virgin materials like it's it's like reality kind of sets in. So how do we…
[00:35:48] Jonathon Monfries	Ensure that this does kind of permeate outside of, like the kind of silo of, you know, academia and nonprofits that are all doing good things. But then the people building the projects are not really, you know, being informed. Because I'd like to see that kind of permeate. I don't. If it's a matter of, like, getting like firms like involved somehow or, yeah, like what? That kind of process is but.
[00:36:29] Derek Reilly	So I really like seeing the diversity, but also the common themes, common motivations, the assumptions, the methods you know over the the course of this morning. And I would imagine that an outcome is going to be some kind of meta-analysis or meta roadmap. You know we can look at what if we can be reflexive. And think about what worked, what didn't, and why we all have different domains, different scopes, different goals to a certain extent, but a lot of commonality as well. So there's real. There's a rich ground there for.
[00:36:37] Anonymous	For, for, for, for building a higher-level understanding, I think at the end of this process.

[00:37:07] Anonymous	I think a theme in everybody's project seems to be designers are working to achieve a kind of goal. The intent and then we are going and studying the actual lived experience. And there's a disconnect between those things like I think almost every single project is like that. So if we're thinking of improving education and policy, I think we're also looking to improve like the process of practice and like how we're able to meet our design intent better.
[00:37:17] Anonymous	I don't know. I think that that might be our how we could impact practice like I think the education piece. But I thought education was more.
	Like training, I'm not sure if practice is things that they're being educated somehow, like. I'm not sure if that's the right fit, but but if you frame it as if we are improving their their process so that they can meet their design intent better, they can do what they what it is that they want to do. We're going to assume that they want to do more inclusive, accessible, beautiful quality of life. Cities, but.
[00:37:44] Adrian Blackwell	You you're going to go away.
[00:37:45] Adrian Blackwell	OK. I just wanted to jump in. I was just wondering. I was looking at the UM poster and there are the three strategic things. There's political, professional and educational.
[00:37:58] Adrian Blackwell	But was is professional something that was inserted because you first said there were just the two?
[00:38:02] Carmela Cucuzzella	No, there were no. It's always short, medium and long term. But I did when I was talking about the SHHRC PG main outputs. One of the things that I forgot to say is one of the things that was also on the original plan was procurement practices. Don't forget the original plan for the SHHRC PG was public spaces and buildings.
[00:38:22] Carmela Cucuzzella	But now it's more than that because we have people doing residential and.
[00:38:25] Carmela Cucuzzella	Others, but originally it was public spaces and buildings, which means public procurement practices have to change and in the SSHRC PG when it was being written. So there was changing education systems so that students start to understand the new ways of of going into practice and understanding communities, understanding lived experience.
[00:38:46] Carmela Cucuzzella	Then then it's the shift in policy so that you can abide by standards and norms that are written because otherwise, like you said, there's a big gap between what is designed and what is built but also procurement practices is how does the how does the city, how does the governments, you know make the call? What are the specific cities? What is the, you know, the sheep that goes out to say this is exactly what we need to do. So those were the original intents.
[00:39:13] Carmela Cucuzzella	This is why we also did professional in the middle, but I'm not sure, so I'm just putting it out there.
[00:39:26] Benjamin Dunn	Yeah, me and my team were talking yesterday at dinner that this is such an unprecedented, unprecedented project where we have like professionals and the discipline of design from diverse disciplines of design all across Canada. We have so much power collectively like through our collective voice that maybe we should be thinking bigger.

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	Like maybe we have the power to be changing laws and maybe we should be less timid and like someone had. We were talking yesterday about the experience of being in a wheelchair and having to navigate public space. And someone said why not ask the mayor to do that like.
[00:40:01] Benjamin Dunn	I think that's yeah, like if if hundreds of designers from across Canada like petitioned leaders of of cities and provinces to do this and, like actually experience without, like, whether it's being in a wheelchair or having some other sort of just being blind or something, I don't know.
[00:40:18] Benjamin Dunn	Just thinking bigger to that regard or like how governments? Have laws for us like maybe there is a way that we could flip it on them and it's like it is a law that every single human in Canada must have access to clean drinking water like.
[00:40:34] Benjamin Dunn	And then and then there's some sort of metric that holds them accountable in the same way that they hold us accountable with, like, fines or something. I don't know. Like, maybe maybe there's just a way that we could think better broadly don't have specifics, but just generally.
[00:40:52] Achraf Alaoui Mdaghri	If I may, I I do agree that like the kind of political aspect is quite hazy for now and I absolutely agree with you that we should be aiming bigger and I believe this is some kind of reversed final approach. So if we start with like the next generation.
[00:41:06] Achraf Alaoui Mdaghri	And then move on to the professionals who can like apply pressure, not gradually, but more like more targeted and more targeted. So it's basically like a massive mass to have more momentum to have more torque to move things forward.
[00:41:26] Sarah Danahy	Yeah, I would suggest that maybe getting more professionals in this part of the conversation is important because that's how you would identify what the barriers to implementation are like. There's a handful, but it's people that happen to be representing a community group or the Rep of. The Architects Association, or whatever, it's not like.
[00:41:47] Sarah Danahy	And maybe it's not general and it's more like now that the projects are in the second stage and you're starting to identify.
[00:41:55] Sarah Danahy	What some of the like pressure points are then identify what professionals might you even just interview or something? If they're not sort of like a new partner, but like, how do you really dig into what those problems are in a really tangible way?
[00:42:12] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Yeah, I agree. I think working as a professional, I feel very constrained by what my client wants and it's often developers who like are trying to cut corners in every way possible. So and they're not interested in building anything of quality unless like they're legally required to either through the building code or through like the city plans.
[00:42:33] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	So I think like it kind of has to start with policy because I, yeah, I as a as a professional, I cannot do anything nice because like my clients are not interested in that.
[00:42:46] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	So yeah, I think there's a huge disconnect.
[00:42:49]	It's interesting like it is so valuable when it comes down to, like the city plan stuff, because like in Edmonton, like we've been, we redid city planning and we redid our zoning baller recently. And I'm on our

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Jonathon Monfries	Edmonton design committee, which is like our urban design panel and we're recently like redoing our criteria for like judging the projects that comes through that go through the review process because.
[00:43:11] Jonathon Monfries	If we reject a project, then the client is going to be mad because now the project is delayed, but it kind of gives the professional a bit of weight and kind of like what they say because something is getting approved based on this criteria and like our criteria for these new urban design requirements for submissions includes things like well-being and like climate resiliency and, like, inclusivity and stuff like that for projects. So it's almost like.
[00:43:39] Jonathon Monfries	It gives professionals like that additional voice where it's not just like, OK, we'll forget about, there's no budget for it. But like, oh, this is actually, yeah, this is kind of like you have to do it or else just go back and forth and constantly get delayed. And then your project gets, you know, doesn't get built in the long run. So.
[00:43:57] Achraf Alaoui Mdaghri	We could in in that instance because I don't think we need laws per se. But if like there is a consensus between all the professionals, like for instance, OK, you need to have quality in your building and OK, I will go elsewhere and elsewhere you need to have quality in your building, some kind of like the like medic medicine. Like doctors have like there's a code.
[00:44:21] Achraf Alaoui Mdaghri	Besides the law to abide because I mean someone Democrat is for the well-being of people and when you go to the doctor when you're sick, but like when you're in the built environment, you're like responsible for the rest of the time for the well-being of these people.
[00:44:37] Jonathon Monfries	But it's like the difference, like I don't know, like with the architects. Like, you know, it's like someone coming in and just telling them, take an Advil and go home versus getting, like, the proper treatment they need, like, so, like, it's different. Like, some architects are just trying to get buildings built and do what they need for the client. And that's why it does come to a question where it's like.
[00:44:56] Jonathon Monfries	The client, whoever has the money, is sort of the one in power at the end of the day. Which is, you know.
[00:45:02] Speaker-17	Yeah, I mean, those are great points like it seems like when you have this consensus that you're talking about or these other codes that you got to follow, it's still, it's still just another box to check and even if another firm needs to get involved, if you don't like one idea, you go to the next one and they're going to check their box too. What we need to do is instead create incentive like create some reason for people to get creative with these types of with these types of issues.
[00:45:23] Speaker-17	So we're going back and forth on these awards and and how they're awarding the wrong thing. Maybe if we were to create some sort of awards on innovative ways to enhance mobility in there and then like what we need is innovation, we don't more of the same crap. You know, we need new attempts at these problems, and I think incentivizing people so that they want to do it differently is is a good way to do that. So we got to drive the incentive away from purely financial, I mean ego is a great thing in architecture. A lot of people have it. I think we know that. So like if you're winning awards because of this innovation, then then all of a sudden you're feeling that motivation already.
[00:46:05] Anonymous	What about like client awards?

[00:46:09] Anonymous	Should make client awards like incentivizing the.
[00:46:12] Anonymous	Yeah, what a great client, you know. And then and just like we do architecture words cause we all know that you can have that, it depends on the client obviously, right.
[00:46:30] Anonymous	What if you didn't just make it about money, but you made it like the client is doing all of these innovative things? You could spin a story the way that we deal with architecture awards.
[00:46:45] Derek Reilly	I was going to ask in relation to awards, are there like People's Choice Awards as well like so?
[00:46:51] Derek Reilly	People who live in in those environments that they. But you should.
[00:46:53] Anonymous	Publicize the clients name. Do you mean make it feel like it's about them?
[00:46:58] Anonymous	And then maybe then when they're doing something else, they're like, Oh yeah, I I last year got to find somewhere and I gotta really try. I don't know because the egos are there too we all know that.
[00:47:10] Michael Otchie	Yeah. I mean, one of the things that I was kind of thinking about largely in relation to awards also kind of like discussing about accessibility is.
[00:47:22] Michael Otchie	I mean in terms of strategic outputs, you know with within a lot of broad issues and maybe there's a kind of like a few umbrellas that we need to think about that captures quality. And I think maybe one of them is just like a human rights approach to quality because I think.
[00:47:42] Michael Otchie	You know, like if an award was given and it was through a lens of human rights, then you know, a lot of things would come to the service, like accessibility, maybe even very basic issues like, you know, does this help provide water to people, you know, affordability, certainly.
[00:48:02] Michael Otchie	So I'm just wondering if there's kind of like certain umbrellas that we need to think about.
[00:48:07] Carmela Cucuzzella	I just want to say because we've done a big research on a variety of different awards in Canada and across the world and there exists social awards. The problem is there are, you know, most of us are probably aware of some of the base major ones. It's just that and and even for the developer award that I was mentioning before, I still think though that they may be awarded. Well, maybe not the social awards. I think that those are probably better equipped.
[00:48:32] Carmela Cucuzzella	But for the developer awards, they may be awarded for the wrong reasons, so we still have to rethink how these guys are being awarded, you know, so the whole criteria of awarding systems has to be rethought.
[00:48:46] Michael Otchie	I'll just add quickly. One of the reasons I bring up human rights is because, you know this legislation connected to human rights, so it may kind of put more pressure on, you know, the the presence of certain aspects of design in order to fulfill human rights.
[00:49:05] Benjamin Dunn	In terms of national outputs, something I've always felt just as a citizen devoid of this project is that like, I'm so sick of, like buzzwords like accessibility and inclusivity and climate resilience where a developer, something will say that and it's like, well, this is just like any other building or project so like.

[00:49:24] Benjamin Dunn	Ensuring that whatever definitions we have are like quantifiable. They're measurable. They're specific and it's something that you can almost like grade against. It's like, you know, it's met all of these criteria in a very specific way. And so I kind of someone had mentioned like some sort of meta analysis earlier like that kind of makes sense to me in terms of like, OK, well, there's open spaces people are looking at parks and people are looking at urban environments, rural environments and then so kind of working down that checklist people are talking about accessibility, inclusivity, resilience across from that. Like what does that look like? Like what specifically is climate resilience so that we don't get caught in the same trap that we have been, where it's like we're just talking at each other, but nothing's actually happening?
[00:50:19] Adrian Blackwell	Now I'm forgetting. Well, I just wanted to talk about the human rights approach. I went Karen Kubby at UofT, had a seminar around the human rights approach to housing, and it was very interesting. And there is, as you say, there are mechanisms in place. So the City of Toronto, there is, I forget exactly what it's called, but there's an accountability committee to the human right to housing. And there's also the…there's a federal office that's monitoring the human right to housing. So even though it doesn't have, it doesn't have legislative teeth, it's going around and looking at certain things, like, especially recently, indigenous communities in the north and trying to apply the human rights framework to those things. So I think I I agree with you, I think it's a very.
[00:51:09] Adrian Blackwell	Powerful tool and that's one of the reasons we're trying to integrate it better into our research as a variable because it has, you know, the seven points, so around housing anyway. So there's seven ideas that you can integrate into architecture.
[00:51:28] Kayleigh Hutt-Taylor	Yeah, I think my thought was along the same lines of just. I appreciate the human rights kind of approach or what that might look like. I find that like there's a lot to dig into and I think I find it interesting because I think I'm revisiting our conversation this morning and I think I'm revisiting this idea. I think we're taking a national perspective.
[00:51:51] Kayleigh Hutt-Taylor	I think we're also being asked where the project is going and what the outputs are, and I think it's the intent to bring in like young indigenous voices. I also look across this room and I do see projects I see like maybe like two projects that are really focused. But I think that we heard like I I think I would like to acknowledge some of the hypocrisy that's existing of some of what we heard this morning and like awards criteria and I think that we have a opportunity and a voice and a platform to like and power to acknowledge that hypocrisy and really center to ourselves. I don't know. I personally think that those conversations made me feel that there needs to be a recentering. I think human rights could be an interesting approach because I think it gathers both of those ideas in a more tangible way, perhaps.
[00:52:55] Speaker 8	Whoever mentioned you know, having a sorry. What's your name? Jonathan. A meeting. Like an update. Like, you know when you're a doctor or and when you're in the health care system. Every year you'll have to pass a new test. You'll have to attend these meetings. These can you say format, formation, no formal training.
[00:53:22] Speaker 8	Training it can be just two days online.

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[00:53:25 Speaker 8	It it's easy and I don't understand why do architects or designers and everybody in this field don't have that implemented as is so crucial and we would have such we would be way more forward in this conversation if that was already in place. I was really surprised when I, because I'm just at my first year, right, I don't know much about architecture and I'm just learning, but I was really surprised to know that there's only one exam and that's it for me. It's like to be part of the "Ordre".
[00:54:04] Adrian Blackwell	I thought there were seven.
[00:54:10] Speaker 8	OK, I I thought there was.
[00:54:14] Kayleigh Hutt-Taylor	That's interesting, even just that is interesting.
[00:54:16] Speaker 8	But like once you're part of the association, then that's it. Am I right? No. OK.
[00:54:24] Jonathon Monfries	Yeah, I kind of mentioned that yesterday.
[00:54:27] Jonathon Monfries	Like there maybe there's an opportunity with like the structured learning like with I mean…
[00:54:34] Jonathon Monfries	I think like the AAA like you, you have to. There's like a certain amount that has to be, you know, related to like sustainability or whatever. And obviously that's been evolving and that's very old and whatever sustainability means. But maybe it should be more specific, con-Ed, that is that is structured because the unstructured runs everyone just feels whatever they can watch online so that it is kind of like something that everyone who wants a license has to take part in, but.
[00:55:04] Jonathon Monfries	Yeah, I that's one thing that I think I could I could be looked at. That's like already in place. But yeah, I don't know.
[00:55:16] Adrian Blackwell	Just a quick follow up. I was thinking you know presenting at the RIC, IOA, AAA and these kinds of professional conferences presenting this research in those contexts would probably be useful way of changing the conversation.
[00:55:33] Adrian Blackwell	I don't know how we. I don't think we've been proactive about that as a as a team, we've already got our yearly conference. So, like to have to go to other ones is a is a lot of work, but it would be a place that would be relevant to speak at least, maybe in the later years of the project.
[00:55:56] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	I can speak to in Calgary, we have we have one student who just presented a paper that was based off our project in Vienna and then we have another student who's going out to EEAA or one of the European architecture conferences in Denmark this year to present a paper that is on our project as well so Calgary is working towards kind of those outputs beyond the project conferences and moving in towards more, more industry specific conferences. And I think I think that like throughout the project, if we can do more of that like

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	throughout more of the sites it would allow more individuals to kind of understand what we're working on beyond just looking up our website or talking to one of us.
[00:56:55] Carmela Cucuzzella	There's going to be a bunch of other architects that are going here about the project across Canada who are not here.
[00:57:48] Achraf Alaoui Mdaghri (Achraf)	In the spirit of making it partnership, I think in these years to come, while it's still on, framing that as a conversation is probably important too. It's not just look at this great research we're doing because I think. There will be a yeah, otherwise, because professionals are also working in the space. Have tried a lot of things that we just don't know about in, like research worlds, right. And so taking those learnings will be helpful as well. So that like it's not just met with ohh no that doesn't work.
[00:57:59] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	It's more of a question, but are there like any kind of architects or built environment professional activists?
[00:58:03] Achraf Alaoui Mdaghri	I think I feel like I am like I'm a landscape designer, but I'm also very much an advocate.
[00:58:07] Jeanne Leblanc-Trudeau	How organized are they?
[00:58:14] Adrian Blackwell	That's my question.
[00:59:06] Achraf Alaoui Mdaghri	Yeah. Well, I should say, I mean, I have an answer. I mean, I think there are two very powerful activist architectural groups that have emerged in the last few years. One is the architecture lobby that looks at architecture and labour. The labour of of being an architect and the other is Dark Matter University, which is thinking a lot about architectural education and race structural racism within architectural education and I would also say that architects against housing alienation is a Canadian project which is activist in orientation. It's probably soul searching a bit trying to figure out how it is that and how it will move forward, but I think it's it's a nascent activist organization, so.
[00:59:11] Adrian Blackwell	My follow-up question is are, are, are these people or the representative at our table?
[00:59:15] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	There's also black indigenous. I mentioned it yesterday, but the black and indigenous design collective that's based in Vancouver. I'm on the board, so I guess I'm representing them. But yeah, yeah, there's like, there are groups that I feel like we're not all working like collectively on like a unified front.
[00:59:32] Anonymous	I like this list that we're making. What are other ones like? Yeah.
[00:59:40] Anonymous	The parlor thing that's going on next week looks really good. I don't know if anybody has seen. It's it's Australia, but it's like exactly on the topic I'm interested in, which is. Well-being and education in architecture education. And it they're taping it. So I don't know if people are interested in that parlor.
[00:59:58] Adrian Blackwell	It's called The Parlor?

[01:00:01] Anonymous	It's sort of like beat, right, but a bit further.
[01:00:06] Anonymous	But it's like an online conference or it's a real conference. Sorry, it's an in-person conference in Australia, but they're taking parts of it. A lot of the topics we've been talking about education and well-being and inclusivity in education, they have specific things on it. Looks awesome. So.
[01:00:39] Carmela Cucuzzella	And I just want to add you said dark matter education, but dark matter, period. Just meaning dark matter is a is an organization that deals with the decommodification of buildings like architecture and do you guys know Jane Angle?
[01:01:01] Adrian Blackwell	No Jane Angle. OK. So well, she's to. She's to run McConnell foundation, but now she's a prof at Mcgill architecture and she works there now and she's a huge advocate. Like an activist, I would say in this whole, you know, decommodification whatever of architecture. So. So there's so dark matter is even a bigger group than dark matter education, you know, I mean that's what I'm.
[01:01:02] Carmela Cucuzzella	Are they at our university.
[01:01:11] Carmela Cucuzzella	It's just called dark matters. Just dark matter. And when I I remember when, Jane Angle came over and she discussed it, I said What does that mean?
[01:01:17] Achraf Alaoui Mdaghri	And so I still don't know what dark matter means, but whatever.
	So is there a way like to have like a comprehensive list of these groups? What are like the objectives are and kind of kind of trying? Steal their strategies if they're good.
[01:01:31] Carmela Cucuzzella	Not steal their strategies bring them to the table.
[01:01:31] Achraf Alaoui Mdaghri	Absolutely, and their strategies abduct them.
[01:01:40] Achraf Alaoui Mdaghri	Because like most of my life, I've been like in the syndicates for students and syndicates get stuff done because they know the pressure points and where to actually like, gather and scream on the top of the lungs usually but.
[01:01:58] Achraf Alaoui Mdaghri	Is there like, not a consolidation, but like a structure to gather these people and learn from them?
[01:02:09] Achraf Alaoui Mdaghri	And teach them as well.
[01:02:12] Michael Otchie	I mean, I think there's some really interesting points. I guess what I'm struggling a little bit with is like even if you read like documents produced by the AIA, like the American Institute of Architects, I know they've kind of toyed with ideas of like a Charter that architects should try to fulfil, and if you were to read that, you would think there were you. You'd think they were an activist group, but then.
[01:02:40] Michael Otchie	You know these are the same people that are.

[01:02:43] Michael Otchie	Designing the $1,000,000 you know, multi $1,000,000 homes and stuff and.
[01:02:49] Michael Otchie	I'm not against activism by any stretch, but I think there's also a lot of strength in just having very well run institutions as well that reach the broadest amount of people and are able to elevate people into situations of education. But.
[01:03:08] Adrian Blackwell	Yeah, I think that's a that's a very good point. And I was thinking about Karen Kuby at UofT also has been running a unit within the AIA in, in the US. On housing, justice and human rights approach to housing. So I think and you know, we have the indigenous task force.
[01:03:30] Adrian Blackwell	I know it's not called that, but csla but also in the RAIC and I think that's made it's made a big difference in how the RAIC works. So yeah, I think there's a lot of opportunity to influence, especially because the RAIC is here. So like I think you're right, influencing existing organizations, changing them as well as having other alternative organizations, yeah.
[01:04:08] Jeanne Leblanc-Trudeau	I was thinking about the original question, which is about a strategic output of all the roadmaps, right and what I'm thinking because I was in the professional world before being in the more institutional world at the city actually and a lot, what I can see is that that everybody have a responsibility, education in the education world, the professional world and also political, which the cities are part of and a lot is on the shoulders of professionals.
[01:04:59] Jeanne Leblanc-Trudeau	And it's true. And that's what I heard is that.
[01:05:03] Jeanne Leblanc-Trudeau	I guess that what I heard earlier is. What could be important is finding strategies, and that's what we did, raising awareness and how to be a better client for the public clients, for through their public procurements and also the private client.
[01:05:24] Jeanne Leblanc-Trudeau	And yeah, at this city lately, let's say we heard complaints about winner architectural firm who won. How do you say? Concours?
[01:05:43] Jeanne Leblanc-Trudeau	Contest architecture contest.
[01:05:47] Jeanne Leblanc-Trudeau	Competition. Thank you. And yeah, there, there's a lot of complaints on some. Some people say I don't see where is the quality because the building that won the prize based on criteria that were well outlined before the competition, like in all public competition, they don't see how it's quality because it's not let's say for everybody because of many, many, many reasons.
[01:06:26] Jeanne Leblanc-Trudeau	We thought of it and we were wondering and how can the city be a better client and it's based on how we can make better criteria for the, the buildings, let's say in competition and how sometimes the, the sorry I'm thinking while I'm speaking, but the sometimes the criterias are really general. So if we can be more specific on how we ask, let's say and it's linked also on what you said like greenwashing and social washing. So how can a building be inclusive and how maybe instead of being great at in, in being environmentally good, socially good. Maybe we aim on one. It's all about priority priorities. So maybe we don't check all the boxes, but we prioritize just one thing in in one, one building and let's say this, this building will be 100% inclusive and instead of being really, really general in what we ask.
[01:08:05] Achraf Alaoui Mdaghri	Maybe that would be a good start point to how to be a good client.

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[01:08:24] Benjamin Dunn	What do you think about having social influencers added to our mix?
[01:08:58] Benjamin Dunn	And I actually think that's a good idea, not in like a like, a cheesy. We need to make tick tocks way. But like, if you if you could like find people who have influence who are, or they have some foundation that is related to one of these things, like for example. I'm really interested in regenerative agriculture and like Woody Harrelson, I think it was like just recently released a, a documentary about it. Like, that's the kind of leverage point where if you can get in contact with someone like him. You never know. And like with the kind of reach that he has.
[01:09:21] Derek Reilly	So yeah, I mean I think that's something to think about for sure. I quite like that idea. And it also like helps to make sure that the work that we do doesn't end in a few years when this research project is done. But like, how can we make sure that conversations about improving quality continue as you know our understanding, our standings, our understanding of quality continues to change.
[01:09:33] Benjamin Dunn	You don't want it to be like Mr. T saying. Don't do drugs. Great, because that didn't last. That doesn't have the same sway these days. Yeah, that's all I was going to say.
[01:09:35] Derek Reilly	Don't do drugs, kids.
[01:09:43] Adrian Blackwell	Yeah. Yeah, that's true. It maybe it had an impact, yeah.
[01:10:14] Adrian Blackwell	I was just wondering if this point about priorities like projects can't do everything, so we need to prioritize certain things. I feel like yesterday in our wrap up one of the one of the two main points was that we should focus our approaches to quality on high priorities, which I think is interesting. I don't know how that fits in slightly different use of the word priorities, but I think thinking about how to prioritize is interesting. Like what are the?
[01:10:41] Adrian Blackwell	Now, where do we need to really address quality. I mean one place that has come out very strongly thanks to nala's contributions is in very substandard indigenous housing. I think like Crab Park might be another place that's really important, like where people have the deepest housing insecurity, for instance.
[01:11:07] Adrian Blackwell	I mean, I think there are a lot of points here that are prior that can be prioritized, but how do we as teams come up with also common priorities amongst the 14 sites? I guess like if we're going to, we're each working in situated projects, but insofar as we're trying to change quality across the country. There's A and we're working in situated projects, but we're also working on specific topics.
[01:11:19] Belle Gutierrez-Kellam	So if we want to bring that knowledge together, then we need to be strategic about how we pull priorities out of that, I think.
[01:11:52] Jeanne Leblanc-Trudeau	Well, there there's many ways to see it, but it can be comforting to think that all the projects can be complementary, complementary, complementary, so, so and as all the buildings and public spaces in this city, we can't put the money and resources in all priorities.
[01:12:58] Sarah Danahy	In one projects, it's just too much, too much pressure. So to see the city, as in all the buildings and all the places and all the people, and just like us as complementary entities and how? How to prioritize?

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	Well, I I will sound, sounds like I'm making advertisement for the toolkit. But we have this activity consultation activity. When in Group we prioritize for each project we say OK in this project and sometimes the scale is big enough to have many priorities. It depends on the scale of the project, but it's like it's a, it's a consultation or co, co-working activity where we all decide, OK, on this project we will put let's say short term money and resources and environmental issues because that's important there, that's what's missing.
[01:13:07] Sarah Danahy	I was going to say something very similar as well and maybe and thinking of it in sort of like the format of roadmaps.
[01:13:29] Sarah Danahy	There's sort of two different types of priorities. There's ones that are like similar for everyone. That's probably like sort of the meeting, basic needs, human rights aspect of it. So if all projects are addressing A and then another piece to the road map is, how do you prioritize to what you were just saying? So there's of like.
[01:14:01] Derek Reilly	A list of shared values. But then how do you sort that out in future projects, but even maybe of how to bring some… not consistency, but sort of like a through thread of the storytelling of it is being like, OK, well, this one is addressing AB and D and this one is addressing AC and F or whatever those things are. So then you're like altogether capturing the different pieces.
	Maybe to build on that a little bit is something that struck me as you were presenting your the work at Université de Montréal maybe it has to do with the presentation, but it almost felt a little bit like you were devising, you know, a pattern language, right? So a set of principles problems that have different manifestations. And solve in solve in different ways of solving them using the same principles but differently. I guess every time. And I wonder if we couldn't, you know, at the end have a sort of pattern language for for equality, you know? Yeah.
[01:14:41] Michael Otchie	Well, I was going to say a similar thing like I want. I'm wondering if, you know, getting into the sort of nuts and bolts, whether we almost need just like a kit of, of being able to say this is the cut kit of parts that we need to be able to supply at a certain cost and you know, maybe certain materials.
[01:15:02] Michael Otchie	Need to be subsidized? I don't. I don't know. It just seems like there's a way to build and is it common knowledge to build a, you know, a structure that is sufficiently well insulated. The addresses mold, but at the same time is of a certain cost that is sort of deployable.
[01:15:26] Michael Otchie	Because it seems like some of the some of the solutions are potentially quite simple.
[01:15:33] Michael Otchie	No, I mean, yeah, and is there just like?
[01:15:38] Michael Otchie	Is it more of a communication thing? Is it? Is it a subsidisation thing that needs to happen because the cost of poverty is, yeah, is incredible. Like it. The cost of doing things wrong is incredible.
[01:15:51] Speaker 8	Yeah, I mean the, the, the buildings are being built, right? And the money is being used and I'm just trying to think like how? How can we still?
[01:16:02] Speaker 8	You know, they try to cut corners. Because it's all about money and. OK, that's OK. Well, no, it's not. But that's going to happen anyways. So how can we use that and make?

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[01:16:18] Speaker 8	We're building them. We're building the houses, so we just need to find a way that they don't get moldy.
[01:16:25] Speaker 8	I don't know, how is it that difficult, right? Because just on our walk here, we can see they're installing the.
[01:16:32] Speaker 8	Parar.
[01:16:33] Speaker 8	How do you say Parar in English?
[01:16:40] Speaker 8	I mean, they're doing. They're doing such a nice job and it's not that difficult. You just got to do it, right? I don't know. For me, it's like if you come, if you come to do a job, just get it done. Right. Don't you know if you don't know how to ask if you can't do it, you know don't do it.
[01:16:59] Speaker 8	But I know the world doesn't work that way. I'm not that innocent and, but yeah, I don't understand how, how we can't get proper housing when we are getting housing, but it's like it's it's just a tiny gap close it.
[01:17:17] Jonathon Monfries	I like the toolkit idea. I like the toolkit ideas. I'm just thinking even like for that example, like with the housing like we recently worked with one of the First Nations groups near Edmonton.
[01:17:33] Jonathon Monfries	To that had like the rapid housing funding or whatever from the government and we worked with a local concrete company, so not great, but they were able to prefabricate like insulated concrete panels so that the house was incredibly robust and durable. And it and we were able to like to paint the panels like different colours and stuff based on whatever the nation wanted. So.
[01:18:00] Jonathon Monfries	You know, from a quality standpoint, it's incredibly robust and like durable. The next question will be OK, you know carbon and all that component, but when it comes to like just having a House to live, that's not going to mold and rot and fall apart like this is a really, you know, good solution and it's some that's like prefabricated modular. It can be shipped to site like you don't having to deal with issues like that, but then obviously other issues come to play.
[01:18:28] Jonathon Monfries	You know, concrete it's not, you know, if you want more low carb materials but at least it's a robust house.
[01:18:35] Achraf Alaoui Mdaghri	I just want to attract our attention. That's where very closely approaching the kind of thinking that engineers do.
[01:18:43] Achraf Alaoui Mdaghri	So is that the solution?
[01:18:47] Achraf Alaoui Mdaghri	Are we engineering this?
[01:18:50] Adrian Blackwell	When I yeah, I mean that's a good question. And I wanted to respond too to some of these questions about prefabrication tool toolkit, especially in, in, in indigenous communities. I've been working closely with David Fortane on a few projects. He's a Meti architect teaching at the University of Waterloo and he was he.

[01:19:11] Adrian Blackwell	Was approached by, I think CMHC to do housing in the north.
[01:19:16] Adrian Blackwell	And he said he didn't really want to design. He didn't think he could design housing by himself, and he gathered a group of indigenous architects from across the country. I think 6 different indigenous architects and they each they, they privileged, trying to develop processes for working with. They weren't necessarily from the communities that they were going to be working in, but they were indigenous architects, and they went into specific communities and developed processes for working with the community to develop a prototype.
[01:19:46] Adrian Blackwell	So there were six prototypes that were designed through that process and one of them, I think David's own firm was involved in. And it was, they developed a kind of mechanical unit that you could insert in different houses basically.
[01:20:05] Adrian Blackwell	But it's interesting they've been building it and the cost is very high. It's not a very, you know, it's very expensive to build in the north for these, but to but the process is important. And so I mean I I bring it up for two reasons. One, one of the UN rights for housing is cultural adequacy.
[01:20:25] Adrian Blackwell	So it's it's like considered a fundamental right. And so, you know, making a prototype that you drop into a community is obviously one of the fundamental problems. And I mean, I think David's group in the architects against housing Alienation Project developed a demand. We demand First Nation home building lodges.
[01:20:47] Adrian Blackwell	And the First Nation home building Lodge is a place where people on reserve can learn how about design and building of buildings and bring the economic circuits of housing production into the reserve, which I think is very much. I mean some of the same partners that we're working with, David on that like Jon Bailey and Alex Wilson are part of the Manitoba project, so it's already very much doing that work the same it's it's part of this project too, but I think, yeah, we need a lot more radical solutions than just prefabrication. We need to understand how to embed building in communities. Yeah.
[01:21:37] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	I guess to your point, Jonathan, I guess I I'm thinking about how like.
[01:21:42] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	And also do yours like we're just we're.
[01:21:46] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	We're talking about this, this quality in the built space, but also like there are these very real situations right now where like we're kind of like in a crisis where, like, there's so many people who don't have adequate, like basic shelter right now.
[01:21:59] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	And I think that it's great that we're having these conversations about like what things are going to go, what things could be in the future to ensure that like everyone has access to, like, really quality spaces. But like, I'm still trying to wrap my head around like what's what is the interim right now. And like, people actually don't have anything. And how do we.

[01:22:19] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	How do I don't know. I don't know where I'm going with.
[01:22:22] Jonathon Monfries	It's like an issue of like, how do you rank?
[01:22:26] Jonathon Monfries	Like we're all you know. You know, people are arguing about climate resiliency or, you know, like reducing carbon. But like, there's people who don't even have clean drinking water in Canada, like, why are we, why are we bickering about, you know, these issues that when they're people who are, like dying today, like, this is?
[01:22:34] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Well, that's it. Yeah.
[01:22:42] Jonathon Monfries	Canadian architecture, or a lack thereof? You know. So yeah, it's and when you, when you find, when you talk to, when you talk to people you know who are familiar with the project you, you talk about quality and kind of building the first they think about is you're talking about like is Canadian architecture pretty like is it like do we have nice architecture? It's like it's like no, it's actually from people not being able to live in a home, have access to drinking water all the way, right through to like, yeah, I'm thinking about like your story about the concrete footing. And it's like, yeah, like, that's not ideal. Like, we don't want to be using that material, but also it's the quickest and most efficient way that we can.
[01:23:20] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Ensure that somebody has something right now and so like. Yeah, it almost feels like this Band-Aid solution and we're just trying to, like, fix things as quickly as possible. But then it does result in, like, things that really like that. Concrete won't be like the most sustainable thing, but it's what it's the best thing we.
[01:23:35] Michelle Gagnon-Creeley	Can do right now.
[01:23:40] Benjamin Dunn	Yeah. Something I was thinking about was think about was. I don't know kind of modularity in these rush solutions and northern environments and like, you know, plug and play solutions or the way we build homes in one place may not be the best way to build homes in another place and like specifically calling on municipal and federal governments to look at laws that are preventing innovations in sustainability like I know in Alberta for example, it is illegal to harvest and reuse grey water when grey water is perfectly fine to use in your gardens, you can collect and rainwater you can collect from your home, and you can use indoors like composting toilets for example. Like there are so many solutions out there.
[01:24:25] Benjamin Dunn	That are easy and affordable to implement, but that are actually illegal to do, like you can only use grey water on your landscape if you're in an RV but not in a home. And this is again, this is very like we're done. Oh, OK, it is. It is very like province and place dependent but like specifically calling on a review of laws that are restricting innovations in sustainability in particular just because that's my own specific knowledge fields. But I know that there's other areas as well.

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[01:25:03] Jeanne Leblanc-Trudeau	That we're, we're done. No, but it's not. Well, it will not be my words. But it's it just sounds like something again is lost between the good intentions and the implement implementation.
[01:25:22] Jeanne Leblanc-Trudeau	The laws, exactly so to, to and we put it as a long term. Well, the politics, yes, but maybe it should be all together and not seeing this at the end or the end goal, but is it can it, can it work together at the same time, maybe it would help a lot.
[01:25:55] Kayleigh Hutt-Taylor	No, I think that's a good place to.
[01:25:57] Adrian Blackwell	Are we ready for the summary?
[01:26:00] Kayleigh Hutt-Taylor	We're not doing the summary this afternoon, but I sent the one from this morning already.
[01:26:02] Adrian Blackwell	OK, So we don't have to report this afternoon.
[inaudible discussion about report back in plenary] [01:26:15] Kayleigh Hutt-Taylor	He wants one from the morning. Oh yeah, which is sent. It's just from this afternoon because they feel it's a bit too rush to to send them then present.
[01:26:30] Adrian Blackwell	Thanks everyone. I'm going to miss everybody. It's been so nice. We've had. We've had eight hours together.
[01:26:38] Adrian Blackwell	Nice work.

ROOM 9

Workshop 4- **Public Debates and National Strategies**

Room9_ Location: IDEA Building - Room 1003			**14 Participants**
First Name	**Last Name**	**Organisation**	**Research Site**
Veronica	Madonna	Athabasca University Mino Bimaadiziwin	Athabasca University
Shirley	Thompson	University of Manitoba	University of Manitoba
Darryl	Garcia Wastesicoot	York Factory First Nation	University of Manitoba
Fadi	Masoud	University of Toronto	University of Toronto
Michel	de Blois	Université Laval	Université Laval
Lyne	Parent	Association des architectes en pratique privée du Québec	National Partners
Grant	Clarke	City of Calgary	University of Calgary
Dawn	Clarke	City of Calgary	University of Calgary
Marveh	Farhoodi	Open Architecture Collaborative Canada(OACC)	Toronto Metropolitan University
Chris	Wiebe	National Trust for Canada	Carleton University
Paniz	Mousavi Samimi	University of Calgary	University of Calgary
Firdous	Nizar	Université de Montréal	Université de Montréal
Sarah	Jervis	Dalhousie University	Dalhousie University
Nicole	Yu	Concordia University	Concordia University

Room 9 - Workshop 4 - Public Debates and National Strategies
Thursday, May 2, 2024, from 14:00 am to 15:30 pm

Date of report: 2024-06-24

Report produced by
Nizar, Firdous *(Université de Montréal)*

9.1. Summary

The group worked their way through several topics pertinent to a national debate, who are the potential actors for this debate and what could be the potential benefits of such a debate. The session kickstarted with the premise that housing crisis is a topic worthy of national reflection, which then moved into zoning laws and definitions of land ownership and values. Canadian attitudes to the built environment, both governance and the general public, were discussed and bringing more awareness to issues such as access to basic quality through education reforms, campaigns, etc. were also proposed. Comparative studies with other countries (other than US which is the normal point of comparison for Canada) on public vs private spaces, land rights and zoning laws, climate crisis, homelessness, aging populations, etc. were collectively agreed by the group is innovative strategies at the national level.

- Using the term crisis for housing has misrepresented the systemic issue as something recent when in reality it has been affecting Canada for almost a century now. Rephrasing it to a right to housing perspective could shift people's attitudes and points of action toward potential solutions.
- Who owns the land and how do they influence the use of the land by developers, for example, who are profit-oriented vs those who are denied rights to affordable housing?
- How do we resolve the tensions between public and private spaces in countries like Canada where occupying parks for protests and dissenting voices, for example, are seen as inconveniences that need to be eliminated?
- What are the overarching values of Canada as a country who has ample resources? Why does Canadian attitude toward quality in the built environment continue with the mindset of self-inflicted scarcity? How can we effectively mobilize existing resources to the right causes?
- What do we stand to gain from eliciting a national debate on quality in the built environment? What are the benchmarks for discussion? Are we assuming that people are already aware of what is missing and what could be done better in the spaces they live and/or frequent?
- Data (particularly collecting lived experiences before, during and after projects) is vital to informing stakeholders on outdated building practices through evidence-based communication of the long-term benefits of alternative interventions. Notable example in this discussion is the mixing of affordable housing units with condominiums which faces resistance from people who think

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their properties will drop in value when the reverse is the outcome.

- Embedding the values of co-creation is imperative to improved quality in the built environment in Canada, where the focus should be on increased transdisciplinary action on major issues such as public transportation, land use, housing, access to healthcare, etc.
- The Rebuilding Haiti journalistic piece has potential on ways to engage people on the complexity of addressing housing, land, policy, etc. while also providing realistic calls to action such as contacting and/or collaborating with the right stakeholders for change in the built environment.

9.2. Detailed Transcription of the Workshop Discussion

Time + name

00:00:01 Fadi Masoud	[The questions given are] kind of similar to the previous set of questions, in a way. I mean, we began answering them. Perhaps one way to focus it a little bit is to talk about a national debate on quality. How the context of Montreal, Calgary, Toronto, Halifax, rural, arctic, etc….so many different contexts that national debate might be a bit weird thing to put it all together, and if so, who are we targeting with a national set of actions?
00:00:56 Lyne Parent	I think we have to find a common ground. What is common to the problem? I know it's not what we're working on, but I think we have to find the common denominator between the provinces. I'm just going to put an idea out. I know it's out a little bit out of our scope, but the *crise du logement*, ie., housing crisis, we go through it in every city across Canada and every region across Canada. So maybe it's an opportunity to talk about the importance of diversity, inclusion, equity and the quality of our environment. I don't know, I put this out there.
00:01:51 Fadi Masoud	Maybe the climate crisis is also a national one. You know the fires from Alberta, or in Toronto last year, in Quebec. I mean, I think maybe there's some national crisis, well, it's an international one. But might have a way to nationally speak about the crisis that has implications on the built environment. So maybe there's a thread in each of our projects that hits on climate emergency and puts that in this front and center.
00:02:31 Grant Fahlgren	When I was working on the national adaptation strategy, a lot of the issues that were raised were about the access to information too to make informed decisions. Some areas had really good mapping like Toronto and certain areas and than others; they really didn't have access to that. And that was a big issue. That is something that right to that information is really important to being able to protect yourself in meaningful ways. I guess with the housing crisis: we used to do it, we used to build public housing. What has changed in our values? Have our values shifted at a national level?
00:03:18 Sarah Jervis	I can speak to this because my master's thesis was on the homelessness situation in this city [Halifax] in this province [Nova Scotia] and how things have evolved over the last few years. A lot of sociologists of homelessness are very resistant to the phrasing housing crisis because the words housing crisis, the first time in Canada it appeared on a newspaper was 1910, and they appear regularly in the newspaper every five to 10 years since then. So, as much as people living on the street is an emergency and it is seen as a crisis, it's the normal state of affairs at this point. It's what's been normal for the past 30-50 years, maybe not 100 years, but the urban homelessness began to escalate in the 80s when government started prioritizing austerity and diverting funds away from social welfare. So, I mean, a lot of it is the way that we're distributing the wealth in our society.
00:04:34 Grant Fahlgren	I mean, simultaneous to that, though, there's been enormous wealth gained through ownership of housing. In other areas, right and I wonder how those two track next to each other. What if it's a crisis every five to 10 years or we reidentify it? So, it's an ongoing underlying issue. Is it more convincing to talk

about the fact that we've had this issue forever or does that normalize it for people? What is sociology's take on how to change the conversation?

| 00:05:13 Sarah Jervis | Well, treating it as a crisis sort of implies that the social situation that has caused it has happened recently. And the social situation that caused this homelessness has been ongoing since the 70s and the 80s. And so the verbiage of crisis sort of distracts from the structural causes of homelessness. So it's not something that happened five years ago and that's why so many more people are homeless. It's something that's been evolving since Reaganomics. And so focusing on what short term things that we can do here in the city is sort of distracting from the fact that we have people paying their mortgages with other people's money. People profiting off of other people's housing, and that system has been normalized and the fact that we're not building public housing and we haven't built public housing in 30 plus years. |

| 00:06:21 Lyne Parent | Yeah, I agree with that. It's because housing is related to the market. It's a free market. But I think the instead of talking about the housing crisis, maybe we the angle should be and I'm sorry, I'm just going to say it in French because I don't know how to translate it: *Le droit au logement.* This is the right to housing and it starts from there. And how do you recognize that right in public policies and in the economic policies? So maybe that's the right angle instead of the housing crisis. |

| 00:07:02 Michel de Blois | I think you use the right word to when you use right. You talked about values. I don't think it's possible to identify common values, but there are a set of values that I think we share that we understand that are very important. As a national objective would be first to identify what are, what are these values? Can we pinpoint some kind of identity? And I think one of them maybe, not accessibility, but the right to have access to quality. Something that the First Nations brought forward, which is really true is that before even talking about quality, if you don't even have the basic, you cannot talk about quality. So just to make sure that at least the baseline Is accessible. I think should be one of our priority and that includes homelessness and, poor communities, elderly. So before having contest about a nice library, can we address our basic needs? I think if we're not able to guarantee that, you know, it's a total failure for me. So I would be willing to make a lot of sacrifices for my nice library to make sure that the person who's on the street can have a roof to be able to read the book that's in the library. So when we talk about values, I also know that for the First Nation the concept of ownership does not exist. You don't own a piece of land, no, you're part of it. So for me, this concept of ownership, I think should be a collective one and not a personal one individual one. So maybe trying to come back and say, OK, what are these values? We're talking about a lot of things, but what's the baseline here? |

| 00:09:14 Grant Fahlgren | It feels like a lot of us have some shared values in this room though, but the other side of the debate isn't necessarily present here because there is a laissez-faire capitalist side that is probably the majority in this country that maybe isn't like this partnership. In some way they haven't been included and do we [include them]? If we talk about national debates, do we need to hear the free market side of this? If we're sticking to our values of what we say, we want public debate to hear both sides in order to better understand what the concerns are, or the fears that we were talking about earlier? Are we sticking to our own lane too much to convince or to understand better? I don't know. |

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I'm just thinking that there's another side to this argument that isn't being represented here necessarily. And I don't agree with, but it still is not here.

| 00:10:34 Dawne Clarke | I think you're totally right. We're in the middle of our second week of housing hearings in Calgary and there's both voices. There's the pros and the cons and now there are a lot more people who are speaking against it than for it for all of the reasons. To pretend that it doesn't exist… I think you have to acknowledge and you have to understand the argument, whether you agree with it or not, so that you can counter it, right? Or so that you can collaborate and come up with a solution that might win for both parties, if there is a middle ground. You ultimately do end up compromising and that's just the reality of the beast. But you can't compromise if you don't understand what those other voices are saying. And those other drivers, they're a very real force at the table. And I think they have a stronger voice than ever. Quite honestly, developers want to make money, period. And we don't live in a society, unfortunately, where the greater good is the greater concern. That's just not where we live. So what do we do with the reality we have to turn it into something that is more of the reality that we want, right? We don't do this in a vacuum, as much as it would be easier in some ways if we did. But we have to work with those opposing voices all the time. And they have a stronger voice. So how does our voice become equally strong so that it can really be heard and given the weight that it needs at the table? |

| 00:12:25 Shirley Thompson | So we're in such an interesting moment with pro-Palestine demonstrations on campus, which is occupying the stand, often students, very peaceful. And it is about a right, in some ways, to occupy public space, which U of T is saying is private space. So, this is an interesting moment about how people use space, how people can set up. I have a Search The Landfill [badge?], it's a movement, if you don't know or maybe you know, about the murdered and missing [indigenous] women in and around the area of the landfill. So every day I pass an occupation right outside the landfill. For a month, I was giving food once a day. That was during December during my holidays. I have since not, but I'm just saying I was there when they were given a mandate to leave the landfill. And the police didn't come at that moment, people left when they were told that they were going to get arrested. They really recommended people to leave. But having said that, they reset up there as well as at the forks, right? So, thinking about the right to housing in a moment where academics are actually called to take a side and be in that movement around whether they believe whichever side. But people have a right to protest, right? And people have a right to housing. So I think it's a moment and maybe that's something we could speak to as a group because we're about housing. I know that again it's money and power and it's disciplinary action, right? But housing is housing, space is space, universities have a right for public protest, peaceful protest. So, I know this is not probably something that that this group wants to talk about, but maybe there's something that we could all agree on. |

| 00:14:51 Fadi Masoud | I mean the privatization of so much of our public space also is a problem because I think there's something very fascinating about how Anglophone cities and francophone cities were also designed differently in a way. There are these commons; the Boston Common, there's Halifax common, there's these park-like settings in which there is very little human density around them in a way versus in Montreal and Quebec and other cities that are built up in a way where people used to gather in public spaces, there's a bit of a difference. |

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I'm going back to that national debate conversation again. Public space is seen, at least in Toronto, as nonexistent. We don't have a word for it: public. We have two squares: Nathan Philips Square and Dundas Square. Everything else is called the park. Even though many of those things are not parks; Love Park is not a park, it's a plaza. There's a competition for a park, anything that is even paved. And I think that terminology is meant to also instigate something passive. A park is a more passive space versus a *place* or a square is a social space. It's a place for demonstration. Those two squares that we have, Nathan Phillips Square is the only real public square Toronto has actually, because Dundas Square is a private parking lot. I'm trying to get to the point of talking about how, in reality, we don't even have a lot of public space and the surface material of a space sometimes instigates a bias that somehow is unconscious about these ideas that the park is a passive calm place. So, when the encampments happened in Toronto over the COVID time, the police came in full force and basically evicted homeless encampments, which I'm not here to argue for or against them, but there's no other public spaces in most of our cities because protest is actually frowned upon. We don't want place of dissent. We don't want places for dissent in in the public sphere. And so, I think it's really interesting how places are designed with the political agenda. There's a political agenda inherit that we also take for granted. And in the suburbs; if you were in Mississauga, where you going to protest? In the parking lot of Square One? There's the Plaza of City Hall, but then think about our suburban fabric where it's designed for people to disassociate, right? People gather in the Tim Horton's Plaza, shopping mall. But that's a design decision too. Those are all private spaces. So, I think this public private debate is important when it comes to quality a little bit and I don't want to go in too many tangents. But I think we also have to remember that this is not a poor country. I don't understand how we always speak in a place [where] there's lack of [something]. But coming as an immigrant from the Middle East with my family, this is not a poor country. There's no lack, there's no lack of resources, there's no lack of human power, there's no lack of creativity. We always speak in a way that there's a scarcity and I don't understand that at all as an attitude. So, I think when we speak of a lot of the quality things, I feel like we're always scraping the bottom of the barrel as if there's not enough, there's not enough land, there's not enough housing, there's not enough money. It's true that there isn't, because we've created that scarcity, but it's a self-inflicted scarcity. So, the developers get greedy, but it's a system that has enabled all that. So those are the two things that a national agenda could be across is that there is self-inflicted scarcity and there is an actual diversion away from publicness: public land, public housing, public sharing, public funding in favor of the very powerful interest groups that want to permeate more private holdings. So, sorry for my rant.

00:19:03
Sarah Jervis

On this topic of public and private lands, something that I discovered in my research that was very alarming is that federal and provincial governments are essentially giving away Crown land to developers for the development of affordable housing. So, the deal is, if you agree to put affordable units in your apartment, you can have this land. And so, we're just giving away public land and once it's given to a private company, we're not going to get that back. We're creating less land to provide public services, to provide public housing because it's all governed by that profit motive, people's need to profit off of housing. So, the public land becomes private.

00:20:02 Grant Fahlgren	The most recent policy from the federal government, though. A lot of it is for 99-year long-term lease on the land that they're trying to put into housing. That was announced just weeks ago that they're making sure that that's a requirement so that they're not giving up the land in perpetuity.
00:20:20 Sarah Jervis	OK, I didn't see these 99-year agreements. What I was seeing is that the lands were being given to these developers and then the developers were on a contract to provide affordable housing for 25 years and then after that point, the housing doesn't even have to be affordable anymore. And affordable is defined by 80% of the median market rent, not actually based on people's incomes. *[Fahlgren: It's not income-based]* No, it's not income based at all. It's the median market rent. So, as the market escalates, the affordability of housing becomes less affordable.
00:21:05 Grant Fahlgren	I mean, for indigenous people, this is interesting because part of the land claim process that's happened in particular cities has been the only way to generate the type of trust and wealth that can actually help a nation forward because so few other economic development opportunities been presented. But it's really rights holders in particular places like Treaty One territory in Winnipeg or the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh in Vancouver and a few other right now that are settling claims and they're generating billions of dollars through real estate and partly delivering housing. And it's one of the only ways, by shifting things around that, what I was talking about earlier this morning, it's never enough to address the underlying issues. Some of this land back is starting to be enough to have investment and make it cyclical that that initial money that you're going to get from those lands can be reinvested and you actually have capital to do things within the capitalistic society.
00:22:17 Lyne Parent	I just wanted to say that some programs are like this, but there are also other programs where the lands are given to nonprofit organizations; co-op housing or nonprofits. So, there are those programs that are criticized, but other programs, especially in municipalities, the land will be given or sold for $1.00 to nonprofit organizations. So, there are some programs that are more aimed at perpetuity.
00:22:45 Sarah Jervis	And not to say that there's anything wrong with nonprofit organizations, but they're still private businesses, [these] nonprofit organizations.
00:23:03 Shirley Thompson	In Winnipeg, there was a case of a senior's home that was not-for-profit. The Lions; it was run by the Lions [Housing Centres Inc]. And yeah, that went private. They sold it to private, so they can go from one to the other, right?
00:23:20 Lyne Parent	In my knowledge, it's the exception. I mean, it's up to us to make sure that this doesn't happen. But people who put these projects together have to be *[Thompson: aware/enabled? legally; audio not clear]*.
00:23:34 Grant Fahlgren	Well, I guess the underlying question is, what does Crown land mean? If it's not to house the people then what purpose does it serve being held, right? The portfolio of Crown Land is extensive and far beyond and what is required by the by the Crown? So yeah, I don't know the answer, but I think that's an important question, right? I think we should use it to our best advantage.

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Sometimes there's other higher values, but why have we been sort of constraining ourselves to some extent that has caused this issue?

00:24:35 Michel de Blois	I like your comment about public and private space or private and public land. If you compare to France, let's say. In France, everything's private, totally everything. The forest is private with almost small exceptions. So private ownership, they manage the wood and the resources on those lands. And if let's say the crown or the government wants to take over control, they have to buy back these lands. Here, in Quebec and Canada, you can almost go anywhere, almost freely. You cannot necessarily buy the land or use the land, but you have most of the time access to it. And the perception or the conception of private and public gets blurry for the First Nation, because for them it's totally the opposite. They've been taken away from their land and now they've been put on certain areas where they say, well, this is yours and only there. So, it's a bit weird. *[Fahlgren: And it's not ours either, it's still owned by the Crown.]* Yeah, it's not even yours, even worse. So, you're talking about urban areas mainly, places where you can take over and make manifestation or other. But if you take it more broadly, I think that it really does raise very interesting issues of where can you have the liberty to make interventions for the benefit of the whole public? So, if you want to make a park or a square or whatever, so people can use it, but it's surrounded by private places. You infringe on these private rights because you make noise, or you make lights or you have a party or whatever. So, there's always going to be this line that shouldn't be there somehow. Cause in law, your rights and where the others begin? So, It's not an easy question. But I would have liked to hear more about what you *[Masoud]* talk about self-inflicted scarcity. Is it a concern that you've…?
00:27:20 Grant Fahlgren	Your *[Masoud]* research is about zoning, right? Not all but part of your research has been about zoning, which is self-inflicted scarcity, in some ways, the limitations and what are the values that are underlying that push forward certain modes of living on other groups, and it really depends on who was living there first that now has a vote and determines what can happen in the future.
00:27:50 Fadi Masoud	Yeah, I don't know if you heard the term yellow belt in Toronto. So, the yellow is the colour of single-family residential zoning up until very recently. That's why Toronto has a sea of single-family homes and then seventy story skyscrapers on the same street because that's self-inflicted scarcity, right? We have rows, basically a sea, of single-family homes within a 5-minute walk to a subway station. And then what does that do to prices? Because you can't do anything with these properties other than have a single-family home because of zoning. That's just one example in which you create a housing crisis by making it impossible to have a four-storey apartment or duplexes, triplex. Now, they've changed the zoning to help make it easier, but the economy of scale of land values has made it so impossible that it's a self-inflicted scarcity. Then you've got everything from just development fee processes to red line. I heard this amazing podcast the other day, I don't know if anyone ever listens to Ezra Klein, but he talked about a one and a half million-dollar bathroom in a park in San Francisco. So, they wanted to install a bathroom, in San Francisco, in a public park, they got the money, and it was costing one and a half million dollars to put one toilet and one sink. That's self-inflicted scarcity. It's always the amount of processes, red tape, procedure, that make things so

unattainable that if it's trying to be equitable, which is put a public bathroom become so difficult to do because of all of the issues and roadblocks and things that come in the way that it's actually easier and cheaper to not put it at all. That's just on the urban scale. But then there's also money. I mean, Canada is not a poor country. But the distribution, the way things work make it that we are always fighting for the public good, as if it's a nice to have but a difficult thing to achieve.

| 00:30:15 Lyne Parent | So what you're saying, if we try to put that in a positive way, is that we should collectively decide what type of development we want in our cities and in our regions. *[Masoud: It's an attitude change.]* It's a shift. Those policies should be decided collectively for the greater good. |

| 00:30:38 Grant Fahlgren | And we're talking about a national debate. What's interesting is that Edmonton has one of the most progressive policies in terms of the gradation of housing as of right development that's allowed in Edmonton. And I don't know if a lot of people are aware of that. It doesn't seem like Edmonton would be the place to go for housing policy, but it is in a lot of ways. And I think that learning from jurisdiction to jurisdiction would be something that would benefit from a national debate. To talk about different instances and how that's played out. In my neighborhood, when I was growing up, they had an old school that got decommissioned because of the changing demographics of the neighborhood. So, the city sold off the land to developers and they were building four-storey residential apartment buildings. And the people across the street were freaking out about their house prices that they would actually go down. But then they ended up going up and had the reverse [effect]. It was strange how there was this crisis mentality for the people living across the street like everything would change and they would be totally unrecognizable. And now 10 years later, or however many years later, it [works]. |

| 00:31:58 Fadi Masoud | Doug Ford called them four-storey towers recently. "We don't want four-storey towers." [Which is strange.] Because to qualify for the federal money, they were saying that Toronto or Ontario has to allow for as of right four-storeys densification. So, Doug Ford said we don't want four-storey towers in our neighborhoods, which is absolutely absurd. But that goes to your *[Falhgren]* fire and front door and everyone screaming like it's the end of the world. Another national thing, and maybe I'll just put on the table, is aging populations. As Canada gets older, the demographic shift, I think there's crises both, not just in healthcare, but how we retrofit our cities to make them more aging friendly. And I think that's kind of connected to research that you guys *[Nicole Yu; Concordia]* are doing. But I think it's about housing stocks where you've got a ton of people who are aging and cannot age-in-place or age-in-community, public transit systems that come in and allow for freedom of mobility, healthcare that is decentralized versus everyone having to move into [nursing homes]. That I think could be a national thing. |

| 00:33:31 Nicole Yu | So that makes me think of something, because if we want to spark national debate, is there any comparison that Canada always does to another country? For Hong Kong, it's always Singapore. Because some of the issues that were mentioned about being self-inflicted. I'm trying not to say, but why are you doing all this car stuff? We don't have problems in Hong Kong as the elderly are fully [independent]. The whole 15-minute city thing is so bizarre to me |

because I live in a freaking 15 minute city because we do things upwards. And then yesterday we were talking to our partners who were saying that the elderly can't have two-storey buildings, because then you'd have to put an elevator because they can't take the stairs. And I live on the 14th floor, my grandparents live in on 36, and they're fine. If the elevator breaks, they're not shut in because that was their concern. So, I feel like if we look at other places which have public housing or more denser models. Because there are so many places, all of them, each are case studies. I don't know if that way we can spark national debate by comparing with other countries. I'm learning more about how the indigenous communities are in the reserves and it's so bizarre because people think of going to Canada for a better life when they're not even treating the people there correctly. And so, I think these all need to be hot topics that will bring people to debating. Because every time you compare Singapore to Hong Kong, there's a huge uproar. So, I wonder if there's something similar here that can spark a national debate or see examples overseas and ask, "why aren't we like that?"

| 00:35:09 Veronica Madonna | I'm just going to add, sorry I walked in late, might be totally off track. I think there's also a part of it is breaking stigmas around really important issues. I'll just bring this up to start talking about seniors and elderly and how they're housed. I had a client come up to me wanting to do an amazing development. They wanted to have a school to educate their constituents in the community. They want to stay in the community. Their land was being pressured to be sold to a developer [but they] said "no, we want the land because we need teaching space, and we need affordable living for our senior community. And then we want to have market rental for our family communities, all in one building." And then, all of a sudden, I said "yes, let's do it. We can do it, go for grants, I can help you." And then they start talking to a developer, but they said "no, no market rental wants to live in an affordable housing unit, so you should divide your land. Sell off 1 portion for market rental and the other part will be affordable housing." So, there's a stigma involved. And then there's also probably a development kind of issue; how do you turn a condo development into affordable housing and into an institutional, all in one building? And I just question, "why can't we do that?" Because to me, living where your children and your grandparents are and being able to be in a wholesome community sounds like a wonderful life. |

| 00:36:47 Grant Fahlgren | In Vancouver, when they're mixing social and market housing, they had separate entrances on buildings, and they had to eliminate that from [the design/policy?]. And it was always off to the side and had a totally different character or you would come through the bottom, park your car and then come up through the separate elevator. They'd never have to interact. And they'd have even separate amenity spaces in some of the buildings. *[de Blois: Segregation!]* Yeah, essentially, but vertical. And you put the low-income on the low floors so that you push your tower up higher so you get more views to mountains. |

| 00:37:33 Lyne Parent | It's not going to help our decision-making process, but that's why we need data. I'll give you an example. We have a neighbourhood in Montreal, *Fubo-Québec(?),* where the land was ready to be developed and all the community groups asked if we would be able to develop social housing on the land. And it was decided that half of it would be social housing and other half private property condos because most of the neighborhoods in Montreal are mixed. |

There's a lot of advantages to that obviously. It's a way of doing things. And so, they did these projects which took 10-12 years and now you go in this neighborhood, and you cannot tell which are the private condos and which is the [public housing]. People were really afraid saying, "We cannot build social housing next to condos and it's going to devaluate our properties." So, we need to go back to these experiences and document it and say, "You were wrong. It is possible to do things that way."

00:38:40 Fadi Masoud	It actually reminded me of a model that I think is helpful, which is Waterfront Toronto. How Toronto's waterfront is being redeveloped, which is all three levels of government, but also leading with design excellence and leading with landscape is their model. Of course, there's affordable housing mixed into every development. You can never tell what's what and there's a higher percentage because it's mostly all built on public land. But their method was very different than other [projects]. It's a for-profit public agency in charge of redeveloping the Waterfront. But they spent a lot of money upfront on parks. Soon, the Don River Park is going to open, which is a $1.3 billion revitalization of the mouth of the river. It started with a design competition led by landscape architects but overtime a lot of indigenous presence also became relevant to the story about restoring the Earth and the marsh and the seeds. And there's a lot of things that got built in overtime that then refined that work in a really important way. But now the island that will emerge, for example, called Villiers Island, is supposed to be a precedent of how to build both design excellence and a huge amount of affordable housing surrounded by parkland and wetlands. There's a lot of examples of how to do this on a public land that I think maybe could be extrapolated as a national strategy in which revitalization came from green space first and then a really high percentage of affordable housing. And then it's supposed to be good quality design which comes in to then have a market, creates the tax base for profit. I don't know if you *[Fahlgren]* have more to say on that process on how their approach has been different than other large scale public revitalization processes. I think their method is different than in other places and it's public.
00:41:02 Grant Fahlgren	It's the largest waterfront redevelopment, I think, presently going on in the world, and it has this social value that's embedded in it. It's hard to see it in the character of the neighborhoods yet, though. So that's the social cultural aspect. I think the values are there, the provision of things are there and it's going to take time for those other things to develop and to be enriched. But I think it's a lot better than other examples. I was going to actually talk about Vancouver, when I was talking about the separate entrances. But it's funny because Vancouver lost its way or forgot lessons that it had already figured out because it has some of the best co-op housing projects that have been built in Falls Creek. And now they're talking about redeveloping those and actually going with some of the repetition of models that have been done elsewhere that will just replicate what's happened downtown instead of protecting some of those existing areas and making space for the co-op models to come back. And it's funny how a city can forget. And I'm thinking about what's the benefit of the public debate? Like Montreal, is there some that are ahead and don't have lessons to be learned? I think Vancouver is always a little bit insecure as a little brother to Toronto or to Montreal. And I think the scrutiny or other cities celebrating the co-op housing would maybe make them rethink the decisions that they're making in some way. And what is the value of sharing that information and how would you frame it to rethink

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your own situation? I come from Winnipeg and we were trying to open up Portage and Main which is one of the main intersections in Winnipeg and one of the most important intersections in the country. And forever you have to go into a tunnel to cross the street, right? And that has been totally normalized and, even speaking to my friends, they're just like, "no, that is a very normal thing to do because the traffic has to get through." And I'm like, "Tokyo is some of the busiest cities in the world, they do not shut down intersections. We could make this work." And the thing that changed it was that it was going to cost $76,000,000 to renovate the tunnels. So, they're like, "OK, we're going to open it up" because of money thing in the end. But it's just weird that they for some reason are on this island and have particular values that are oriented around it because it's become a little bit isolated and it's become normalized there.

00:43:58 Shirley Thompson	So maybe the quality architecture will benefit from the bad quality architecture where everything is costing so much, or infrastructure. The other aspect in Winnipeg is there's railroads that divide the city. And there is a North End that's the poorest lots of indigenous, lots of Ukrainians, very old area. There is a bridge that will cost so much to replace that they're now considering taking out rail lines – the rail lines are not the right size to actually do the work anymore – and creating a National Park there. So that's kind of the debate, but it's about equity. So, it's at Point Douglas, that's right downtown and it's really changing how we think about parks too, as a national cultural park that provides access to green to open space in an area where there really isn't any public space. So yeah, maybe building on the fact that everything costs money, we can actually shape the money debate and use that for our own discussion. And I know we're all exhausted. So we talked about a few things like the right to housing, which of course we should talk about. That's an absolute must to talk about and that is a national debate. I wrote a paper for Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, and I just usually get things published in the Manitoba version, but they're saying, "well, this is the national thing. So, we want to give this to national office." So this is national consideration. And then the Land Back, I think you mentioned, and the public versus private space and how maybe this debate around pro-Palestine is at the root of this. We could talk about that, right? Dissecting it a little bit and opening it up into whose space is this and what space should be used for.
00:46:45 Fadi Masoud	I think when you *[Yu]* said Hong Kong compares itself to Singapore, I think we compare ourselves to the US, which is not a high bar. So, I think we seem better in so many respects when you compare ourselves to the USA but yeah. We've got healthcare. We've got better housing.
00:47:11 Grant Fahlgren	But the most fundamental thing that bothered me living in the States, and it didn't impact my life at all, is about how property taxes go to fund particular schools and it is neighborhood-by-neighborhood, which just reinforces the segregation. It's not as distributional as it is in Canadian systems. In Winnipeg, we have the school division number one which is massive. There're very wealthy areas, very poor areas; the money gets compiled, it's distributed per student. It doesn't really matter how wealthy you are other than maybe fundraising things for uniforms or underlying things. So, everybody's starting off on a more equal ground, not fully equal, but more so than if you have this embedded in their neighborhoods that you're fighting and scrapping to get into a lottery to go to that school. *[Masoud: Let alone if you fall and break your leg it'll cost another $20,000.]*

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Right, and then the healthcare. So, this is a problem. It's a low bar for us to compare. We feel good about ourselves instead of looking in the mirror and be, "we have some issues that we have to fix."

00:48:28 Michel de Blois	National debate? Education. Just a short story. In my previous life, I was in the construction business, general contractor, manufacturer, professional consultant, whatever, and I was always confronted with the fact that project managers, builders, architects, engineers, they were not able to talk together, exchange proper information and get on the same page and focus on the values of the project and they were all pulling their own interest in the project. But mainly there were tensions between the design and the construction processes. A lot of tensions. And I started doing, in the early 90s, Design-Builds where you bring all people together and that was really, really difficult to get out of those disciplinary visions or way of doing things. And I was trying to educate the people I was working with. And I would say that almost 90% of people that I worked with could not understand the principle and the benefits of working in partnership, in co-creation and all of that. And I was putting a lot of energy and trying to say, "look, it works!" I was showing to them, "this project we did it that way and it did work." But it was very, very difficult to change not only the attitude, the vision, but the basic, fundamental way of doing things. "We've done it this way all the time and it works." But no, it doesn't work. And I said to myself, "I'm going to stop trying to change people's ways of doing right now because they won't change. The only way I can change things is maybe by teaching the future generation how to do it." And, in 2004, I closed 6 businesses that I had to go back to school, to understand why it was not working. And my research has been focusing on this exchange and tensions between these multiple processes. And I was able to grasp and understand why it doesn't work. I'm not going to make an exposé but basically, they're based on totally different paradigms, totally two different ways of thinking. Management science actually is based on nothing. It's mainly tools, it's tool-oriented, methods-oriented. And design is process-oriented, and it's based on empathy, understanding, ethnography. It's based on multiple sciences. Well, it should be, terrifically. But they don't understand each other. The objective of management is very different from the conception and design. So, I went back to school to understand. Right now, I'm trying to teach the younger generation. It's like, "OK, the old ways are not good. Disciplinary fragmentation is not good. You're a good example of that, this is how you think. And you look at the old generations, 'Why are they doing it that way? And it doesn't make sense,' for you. And for me, at the time, it didn't make sense either, but 95% of people were doing things that way for the wrong reasons, but they didn't know better somehow. So, I don't want to put the hammer on these people, but they actually didn't know better. But you know better because you had a chance to be able to evolve in the field where people are more open to that kind of way of doing things." So, I trust the next generation that will change ways of doing and it's not going to be easy, but you will get there eventually. So, I think the national debate for us is trying to transmit the values and what we think should be. Future orientation is to focus on this. Make sure that our schools teach these approaches. *[Thompson: And how do we do that?]* Well, I'm doing it right now! This is what I do in my day-to-day teaching. It's like, "think different."
00:53:28 Grant	I hope, for this project, at our next conference, we can open it up. It's really great having these conversations, but I hope we can invite public in some way

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Fahlgren	to get our work out there and think about how we would communicate it. And then we also talked about dissenting views. Should we try to challenge ourselves a little bit more and to actually have debate? [Right now] everybody is sort of agreeing and we're varying maybe slightly, but do we need to bring in people to stir it up a little bit and to challenge us?
00:54:13 Nicole Yu	Yeah. So, I think this would be a good point to mention the idea I had thought of yesterday when we were talking about how currently we're promoting only on LinkedIn. So, if people use TikTok or Instagram – I'm a bit of a boomer, but I notice what my sister is into, she's six years younger – you have personality quizzes where you check "what type of traveling person you are" and then you could be like 'adventurous' or like 'very planned' or whatever. People are really interested in finding categories that they belong to and assessing their own lives with these quizzes. I feel, for quality of life or quality in the built environment, if we had some kind of [quiz]. It doesn't have to be scientific; it could be done in a scientific way, way for people to evaluate their own quality of life. And then based on some of the topics that we have, they are answering those questions and then they come up with values? I don't know. If you've ever done a test for "how ADHD you are", people really like that stuff, and it also gives them the opportunity to reflect on how much of each of these they have. Yeah, exactly, like BuzzFeed quizzes. So, something that's really approachable that they can use their lived experience to assess and also invite them to think about the issues that we're talking about. Because some of these things like their housing or their neighbors' housing, they may not know unless they're given or presented with what could be or how right now it's not good. And so, because we know that was our research, we can just come up with a tool and maybe use it as an online campaign to get more people to think about this. That was one idea I had, and it could be developed because I don't know if the ethics of collecting that information of people's [lived experiences]. Does it matter that the goal, the score that they actually get, does it have to be based on science? Or is it just enough that we use this as a tool to communicate that we have this project because it's so relevant to so many people? And also, maybe at the end it could show that you have this quality score but then also look at how people are living in the reserves, they don't even have that. It could be a nice way for advocacy, whether for the whole project or each individual team who has their own little quiz.
00:56:43 Firdous Nizar	Thanks. So, Nicole and I, we were talking about this over the lunch break, and I think it's a really cool idea because, I also took a course on interactive journalism, and I think it's very vital to improve our journalistic tools to be able to communicate more freely in a two-way manner with the public. So, I have an example I'd like to share, just for us to openly reflect on what are the pros and cons of having such an interactive tool to begin with. So that's the link: apps.rue89.com/haiti/en/. OK, so this is something that I found as one of the very few funded independent journalism projects. I think it was awarded by European Journalism Centre and the Innovation in Development Reporting Grant Program. So, it was about raising awareness about Haiti and the sort of crises of redevelopment, rebuilding Haiti after the earthquake. And so, this format of journalism is called long-form journalism. So, it starts as though as a blog, but then it also enters into a quiz, sort of like what Nicole was mentioning. And here they introduce a little bit of context of what happened and then they ask you a question. So, it's kind of a choose-your-own-adventure quiz. It has multiple outcomes. So, it's not linear in any way. It starts

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with *[reading from site]* "What is your priority?" "You launch a major project to relocate the homeless", "you grant access to health for all", "you improve public schools". So, I don't know, do we want to pick something? We can try schools. OK, let's go for schools. So there [it says], "Well, you might have to lower your ambitions in Haiti. Most of the international aid is benefited to donor countries. For example, on the US governments $1.6 billion have has been used to repay the Pentagon for the military intervention of 20,000 marines in the weeks following the earthquake. Ultimately, the Haitian state has received about 9% of the entire aid." "What is your plan B?" "You at least rebuild destroyed public buildings?" "You improve access to drinking water for the people of Port au France." Which one [do we pick]? Water? [Thomspon: Wow, that's so telling. That's such a great way of saying that. Otherwise, it would never come up.] Yeah. "OK, not so simple. You're not in command. The reconstruction prospect generated a gold rush for the foreign private sector. Of the 1490 contracts awarded by the United States, only 23 were for local businesses, plus a lot of the money was wasted in corruption. And anyway, the long term has not been a priority. $1.2 billion were spent on emergency solutions, tents, temporary shelters, etc. So, what do you do then? Well, maybe it would be best to help our NGO then?" That's the only one left to click. And so [it says], "What a great heart you have, but the main foreign NGOs have been benefited from most of the earthquake's money because they had access to the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission chaired by Bill Clinton. So, as you might have understood, in Haiti, things are often more complicated than they see. Rebuilding the country is a long, difficult, and often chaotic process." So, they walk you through different chapters. It's actually a whole thing, we'll share the link later, but it goes on. *[Masoud: This is way better than everything else.] [Clarke: Yeah, now we have a precedent!] [Madonna: It's interactive!] [Thompson: I liked it!]* Yeah, I agree. I'll send the link. And so, in here, they actually have collected lived experience in a certain way. They have photos here, very compelling captions, very direct, to the point, but also there's long form if you want more information, more context. And yeah, there are interviews in here, real people. And again, it goes into the next challenge and more questions and stuff so. *[Fahlgren: I love it, this is very good.]*

01:02:01 Veronica Madonna	I think this is a great educational tool. We've been using somewhat of a similar format of interactive teaching methodologies through online, micro credentialing in energy efficiency in the built environment. So the student will go through [the course], but they have interactive ways of getting the knowledge rather than just text upon text. But they also then take AI experiences to put them into very difficult situations to help prepare them for some of the challenges they might have in the real world. This is great, I think this is super interesting. I wanted to just share another point, but if we wanted to carry on the conversation here first, I don't want to sidetrack it. *[Room: brief exchange on how to access the site]*
01:03:15 Grant Fahlgren	There's an incredible U of T thesis project that I just saw that looked at the Mexican border. Did you *[Masoud]* see that project? *[Masoud: Yeah, I've seen that one.] (not clear about exact source) [Clarke: Did you want to say more?]* No.
01:03:34 Michel de Blois	Do you know Gonzalo Lizarrelde from University of Montreal? *[Nizar: No.]* He's a specialist on this. I think he spent years in the [field]. His specialty is rebuilding after disaster.

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| 01:03:40 | Oh, okay, nice! Yeah, but it's so interesting to see it in this format because |
| Firdous Nizar | people don't often understand the complexity. |

01:03:48 Veronica Madonna	I wonder if this could help too. Because we just came; I was late because we were having a conversation with the Josie and William and Trish and Twyla and a number of people. One of the things that came out was about true reciprocal co-creation and thinking about breaking hierarchy. Not just as a kind of tokenism, but truly living up to the Truth and Reconciliation action plans that we had set out. So, we were asking, "How do you do that?" And it was just not a simple question to answer. I don't think, at all. But I think it starts to come out too about what's happening here. And just in terms of national actions and debate, I think we should have this conversation as to how do we truly have a reciprocal co-creation process? And maybe really look very critically at our process and are we really doing that? And if we are, great. If not, how can we do better? I think maybe that could be an action item of the national action, just coming out of the conversation I was just in. It was a very powerful and important one.
01:05:36 Nicole Yu	*[Room: brief exchange on notetaking for this session and how it has been productive.]* I think I might have to say it [in the reporting session]. *[Nizar: Yeah, we could add these points.]* Because, I think in the previous workshop, we were asked also how the road maps should be improved, and another room had said that they could be made into a graphic novel. So, I had heard that they had wanted us to give very tangible explanations, examples that I don't think we mentioned [in the previous workshop] other than videos.
01:05:54 Grant Fahlgren	I think the graphic novel is engaging but more passive, and this [Rebuilding Haiti example] is engaging, but maybe more active. And it is a values[-based example]. You get to pick and I like that sometimes you pick but you don't get your choice. It's like, "No. Too bad. That's how that thing works." It's like, "You want that, but good luck!"
01:06:08 Dawne Clarke	I think that maybe the benefit that we could get out of the graphics, the 14 roadmaps, is looking for those shared values and then those are potentially the path [in the potential interactive piece], right? Your three options essentially, right? Because everyone is going to connect to something different. So, there's got to be more than one way that people can see themselves and see their way into a project. And I think maybe that's something that the road maps could kind of start to pinpoint what those shared values are. And then, I think, in terms of the data and what kind of response people have, maybe it doesn't matter so much what response people have as much as that they have a response that encourages them to click the next button and click the next button. Like, if we've got, stupid public art in Calgary and it's another stupid horse, "really great, who cares?" But if we have this, blue ring, everyone b*tches about it or they love it, right? It elicits a response that starts a conversation, whereas the horse is like, "Yeah, whatever. Yet another horse." So, we've got the lovers of the blue ring. We've got the haters of the blue ring. And they fight about it in public. And maybe it's enough to just have a response and a reaction to get the conversation started. So, not being neutral, right? Doing something that's more controversial and stirring the pot.
01:07:59 Lyne Parent	Well, that kind of tool is really interesting. It could be used, for instance, we were talking about policy changes. To educate people about, "OK, make a choice." "OK, that cannot happen because there's a law saying this or there's a bylaw saying this or there's a public policy saying this. So, if you want to do this, it would have to be changed this way or you'd have to talk to this kind of

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person to have a change in your neighborhood or at your provincial level because we have many jurisdictions in Canada" So, could be something toward teaching what we were saying this morning about how you influence public policies to have better built environment.

01:08:39 Fadi Masoud	We could have a hyperlink to contact your MP. *[Fahlgren: Right.]* Automatic letters. Or support this community group. Or here's the different groups that are linked to this. *[Nizar: Donate to the SSHRC project!]* Because I think these one-click actions actually are very helpful because let's say you go through the end and you want to change the bylaw, but you don't know who [to reach out]. So, you have the direct letter, those automated ones where you just put your postal code and then it just populates the letter for helping you know what language to use to advocate for something. But that's where your communication strategist comes in too.
01:09:20 Lyne Parent	Yeah, well, that kind of strategy, it loses the credibility of it. Everybody writes to somebody without knowing what they're writing about. Sometimes it takes the credibility out of the action.
01:09:34 Fadi Masoud	But there's an action that people can take at the end of learning this. Donate. Connect. Be a part of something.
01:09:42 Grant Fahlgren	I was working on a project that we advised the developer, "You cannot cut down this mature cedar tree." They're like, "No, it's in the way of our building, we're going to cut it down." We got 23,000 signatures on change.org to say "No, you have to save that tree!" And it all triggered [the outcome]. So, we ended up saving the tree anyway and it cost them massive amounts of money than if they had just done it in the 1st place. I think those things are like really important. I think people then they walk by that neighborhood they say, "We saved this tree! This is the tree that we all [saved]. There're 23,000 signatures." In North Bend, which is in Vancouver, it's a 50,000-person community, but there's enough people that care that were like, "we have to do something." So, the Council, all of a sudden, was like, "Oh my God, we already gave him the permit to cut it." And so, the developer couldn't still cut it down and they chose, "You know what? We can't handle the PR hit for this."
01:10:38 Firdous Nizar	Yeah. But that's it. That's because it's value that prevailed. It's the sentiments of the people, but also the mobilization that happened. The Change.org platform that enabled that change. I think, in this one [Rebuilding Haiti example], what's also interesting is the gamification aspect of this tool. The fact that you can go back and be like, "OK what if there is a good outcome to this?" and go back and I actually try to do it. And then people's rose-tinted glasses fall apart and go like, "OK, I see it now." And then their values kind of shift. Definitely, I also agree that there needs to be calls to action. We can't just make tools that are interactive or fun to look at and stop there. They need to be able to do something right after to inform change.
01:11:39 Shirley Thompson	And this looks like an ArcGIS StoryMap, which a lot of news, but maybe it isn't. But I'm really interested in finding out because I think this is very doable.

01:11:52 Firdous Nizar	In our course, when we were looking at these projects, it needs a whole team to work to make stuff like this, and it also needs maintenance and updating with current information. *[Masoud: And it become stale after a while.]* Yeah, and it has a lot of funding and resources than we think. So, the turnaround for longform journalism like this, with all its depths and layers of interactivity, although it's beneficial, it's very long term. We're not doing it for now. We're doing it for, like you said, long term.
01:12:35 Michel de Blois	But this is something that could get some additional funding. *[Nizar: Yeah, it could if we manage to mobilize that.]* Because there's the educational side of it, that's very important.
01:12:45 Grant Fahlgren	And sometimes you need to go this far, or you need to really invest in it. Because if we're like, "oh, it's really hard to do that." Does everything that we're generating just sit there because we didn't take that one step that was really going to be the thing that connected it to people and amplify its impact?
01:13:12 Michel de Blois	That [Rebuilding Haiti example] will get some traction. Something like that, I'm positive it gets people engaged. Even the younger generation. Gamification, *les jouets intelligents*, smart games. You want to learn more. You want to go further. You want to build. You want to understand. There's a story behind it. You can appropriate it. You identify with it. So, there's so many advantages to having people choose through the process how they can go further and learn the difficulties and the frustrations and be revolted. It's like, "Oh my God, OK, only 1% of the budget has been spent on people over there." And then it gives you the will to take action. So, what you *[Clarke]* said, initiate the response, go with controversies and stimulate the engagement. I think it works very well.
01:14:21 Fadi Masoud	I think social media can also keep it alive somehow if it's linked. The problem is just curating because there's a lot of also dissent, there's a lot of bots and a lot of ways of not being able to filter. But if there's social media engagement, sometimes it keeps these things current. Like if they connect to a hashtag or connect to a specific Instagram account, or something like that, because it becomes easier than updating the website and keeps the conversation going. But at the same time, there's a moderating effort that goes into it. There's a lot of energy to moderate these social media posts so that people are not posting… *[Thompson: I think it's time to wrap it up.]* Yeah, great conversations today. Thank you everybody.
01:15:20 Shirley Thompson	So, I think everybody loves this longform journalism and see the potential. And you mentioned education. And I don't want to forget your *[Yu]* point about comparative [studies]. Maybe we wouldn't compare to Singapore, but we could compare to somewhere other than the US, like Denmark or Scotland. When I do energy stuff, it's always Scotland. So, you don't compare worse areas, even city to city. And Edmonton actually is a good model, you're *[Fahlgren]* right, compared to Winnipeg for many things. So sometimes it's relative. And housing is a human right and how to bring that right out properly. And considering the Indian Act is one thing, maybe that's a different section, but it really does look at the barriers and I would love to do a long form journalism on that. Because people don't understand what a barrier the Indian Act is. That you can't apply to get a mortgage from the bank, right? So, it would grant itself really well to that. Anything I forgot? Yes, there is climate change

and the private versus public space. *[Nizar: Talking about the land and the developers, market housing versus affordable housing.] [de Blois: Shifting values.]* And not calling it a housing crisis, calling it a right to housing. Considering the Crown land giveaways, there is a problematic there. So, wow, we did so much. Anything else? Yes. *[Fahlgren: We talked about aging populations.]* And densification. How we can play into that densification aspect? *[Nizar: Scarcity.]* Of resources when we're really rich. *[Masoud: Self-inflicted scarcity as a national strategy. I think it's a really important one.]* Yeah, that is a huge shift. So, rebranding Canada! Thank you. You guys are amazing.

ROOM 10

Workshop 4- **Public Debates and National Strategies**

Room10_ Location: IDEA Building - Room 1004			**13 Participants**
First Name	**Last Name**	**Organisation**	**Research Site**
Trevor	Butler	Athabasca University	Athabasca University
Samantha	Biglieri	Toronto Metropolitan University	Toronto Metropolitan University
Mercedes	Garcia Holguera	University of Manitoba	University of Manitoba
Bechara	Helal	Université de Montréal	Université de Montréal
Catherine	Riddell	ERA Architects	Carleton University
Darrell	MacDonald	Nova Scotia Department of Public Works	Dalhousie University
Meaghon	Reid	Vibrant Communities Calgary	University of Calgary
Kevin	Ng	Rick Hansen Foundation (RHF)	National Partners
William	Straw	Montreal 24/24	McGill University
Paloma	Castonguay-Rufino	Université de Montréal	Université de Montréal
Brendan	Roworth	Dalhousie University	Dalhousie University
Alexandre	Néron	McGill University	McGill University
Paula	Rodrigues Affonso Alves	University of Manitoba	University of Manitoba

Room 10 - Workshop 4 - Public Debates and National Strategies
Thursday, May 2, 2024, from 14:00 am to 15:30 pm

Date of report: 2024-06-14

Report produced by
Néron, Alexandre *(McGill University)*

10.1. Summary

Variety of outputs across sites:
- Recognize each group's specificity when thinking out the outcomes. Some groups will have overlapping output strategies, and some will have their own.
- What are thematic clusters of overlap across sites?
- Which blind spots do we need to overcome to have a holistic approach to quality?
- How can we make room for new themes to emerge and challenge our biases?

Policy Influence and Advocacy:
- Policy is crucial for driving change and impacting quality.
- Clear, accessible policy briefs are essential for influencing senior policymakers.
- Need to distill complex information into concise, impactful briefs.
- Disseminate distilled information on social media, media interviews, etc.
- Need to sustain relationships with policymakers. Make them part of the team to understand what they need to implement change.

Community Engagement:
- All sites have a component of community engagement we should capitalize on.
- Importance of sharing engagement tools and strategies across projects.
- Explore and share innovative tools like zines, interactive mapping, storytelling platforms. (consider impact, scalability, and involvement/resources requirements).
- Leveraging existing tools and adapting them across diverse projects.

Collaboration and sharing opportunities:
- Limited resources call for greater sharing of the tools each sites develop in silo.
- Go further than the monthly forums. Identify targeted elements to share and create contexts to share them.
- Share methodologies, tools, training, goals, and community organization expertise.
- Each site has its area of excellence they could distill for other sites to use.
- Students could play a crucial role in exchanging across sites and maintaining overlaps between projects.

- Create opportunities for graduate students with publications (journals, books) and teaching (workshops).

Skill development and training:
- Organize workshops to learn/share from one another or learn together on common needs. (policy skills, engagement tools, dissemination practices, changing curriculum strategies, etc.)
- Consider opening these workshops to/with/by community actors.

Data and Storytelling:
- Qualitative data through storytelling is powerful in understanding community needs.
- What should we do with the data we collect? How could we create a forum for the data to live on and continue to impact change?

Conference critique:
- Criticism of unequal treatment and compensation for Indigenous participants compared to others at the conference.
- Inadequate and racist practices include wrongful name tags, dehumanizing interactions, and tokenism.
- Emphasis on valuing Indigenous knowledge and labor beyond symbolic gestures.
- The imbalance inherent in the convention format favors researchers over participants with lived experience, creating a power disparity.
- We have a responsibility to educate ourselves about the realities of the participants we invite and be sensible to center and valorize their input rather than make them feel inadequate.

Proposal for guiding principles:
- Establish clear partnership guidelines across sites for fair and equivalent compensation and inclusive practices. (For partners, students, researchers, etc.).

Advocate for inclusive practices that accommodate diverse personal situations to enhance participation (diversity of actors present).

10.2. Detailed Transcription of the Workshop Discussion

Time + name

00:00:19 Bechara Helal	From my understanding we have to start by finalizing whatever we discussed this morning.
00:00:55 Samantha Biglieri	We are missing three very important members of our conversation from this morning. Do we want to wait for them to come back? Where do we want to go from here? What do we want those next steps to be?
00:01:58 Darrell MacDonald	One of my questions from this morning was about having 14 projects and the way the questions are worded. It is as if there's only one site. Every site will have a different need for communication. I'm not sure how we reconcile that or what the what the intent is to reconcile that what we say. Where are we trying to go? Well, we could be going in 14 directions.
[00:02:29 Bechara Helal	I'm not sure we're going to end up with one very large definition of quality. We want to end up with at least 14 actions that go beyond the partnership. I mean we're having discussion. We are thinking together about our different sites to see: Where did we end up, what's not working, what can we do to go further. The whole idea of a road map is to project into the future. 2-3 years down the road we want actions to happen. The question is: what do we want to see happen? There might be different things and according to different sites they can be the same thing. In our in our case at University of Montreal we are putting some new courses in place. It is important for us to teach the new generation, future architects, different ways of thinking. We're not thinking of accessibility as an afterthought. We want it to become the source of actual thinking, but that's not what the Manitoba team is doing. They're really working on the ground to build houses, to make sure people have houses, or so it's completely different. If go back to the list suggested here, they're working on pilot projects. At University of Montreal, we are working on changing the curriculum. There is a wide range of possible outcomes and they're different. I don't think we should end up with one specific outcome that is the same for everybody.
00:04:18 Darrell MacDonald	Yeah, that that's exactly what I was asking about. The Dalhousie Group have a very, very specific outcome. I just met with them at lunch. Their outcome is to influence the work I'm doing. At the end of the day, we want to affect change. So that's a very concrete outcome. The steps are maybe a little different than the others. I'm sure we can find overlaps.
00:04:51 Bechara Helal	Do you see anything that becomes like constructive where two sides can work together towards one common goal. Maybe their goals can influence your goals. You know on your side that that's the whole point of the discussion today. The goal is to open the door to links across sites. It's absolutely not to you know. Last year there were very short presentation. We had 7 minutes to present our sites, and everybody presented in 7

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minutes. Then we were done and then we went on. There wasn't really time to discuss things. The forums that were put in place were centered on the road map. The idea here today is to see how we can influence each other or help each other out.

00:05:59 Brendan Roworth	I remember yesterday when we were talking about mapping and looking at what the sidewalk conditions are, what tree canopies look like, what resources are available in the neighborhood. It got me thinking we went through a similar exercise at the start of our research surrounding our school sites. What places do students and staff have in the community that they might go to before or after school? What community groups are there? It just got me thinking that there are not only shared outcomes or shared goals, but also common research methods and information in how we approach the topics that we're looking at that we can share with each other. If we have something that's working well for us, it would be very helpful to share with others.
00:06:54 Carly Ziter	I think that would be really useful moving forward. We did have the monthly forums, which helped a little bit with this to get a sense of what other sites are doing. We could have some more targeted opportunities to share methodologies so that we're not reinventing the wheel each in our own sites. The Concordia site, we think a lot about mapping and neighborhood mapping and how we come up with different indicators, what sort of data sources we have access to. It would not be complicated to say "we've developed this methodology to look at the quality of the built environment around the homes for older adults in Montreal using this this kind of data, these kinds of lenses. Could you apply that to your schools (Nova scotia site and maybe the University of Toronto team that's looking at Parks has a lot of commonalities with what we're trying to do in our diversity assessments? Could we sit down and look at what similar data sources we have in our respective cities. Could we use these methodologies. They will not be going to include all 14 sites because some sites just are very divergent, but if there are some of these clusters of 2-3. We could maybe have some kind of opportunity or forum or space to say, OK, I'm going to talk about how we have been approaching mapping or how we've been assessing the outdoor environment, or someone is going to talk about how they've been running their focus groups. That's not necessarily the partnership side, but that's still something that could push sites forward more quickly to use this network of knowledge rather than trying to all do parallel projects in silos. What is the point of having a big network if we're just 14 independent silos?
00:09:00 Bechara Helal	You were showing your maps yesterday and you're talking about the 15 minutes. Did you mention the state of the sidewalk? This is very grounded. You must go on site and figure it out. Also, you're working with older people. They don't walk as fast as younger people. Fifteen minutes can mean very different things to those different demographics. How can we evaluate this? This brings me back to ways of getting the lived experience. Is it with walks with older people to see how they react? Maybe they will see things that they like and don't like. It is more creative than just mapping.

00:09:58 Samantha Biglieri	I even think Athabasca, Anonymous and you folks are working with folks who are neurodiverse. We're thinking about access for people with all different kinds of disabilities for older adults, for people living with dementia and how they access space. There is a lot of potential for overlap there too. There is overlap in methodology but also overlap in the types of organizations different sites are working with.
00:10:31 Anonymous	It's been a real eye opener to see the 14 teams work all in one place together and I don't know if the schools of architecture in Canada have ever met together like this before. Have we ever all got together?
00:10:53 Bechara Helal	Schools meet in directors meeting, but nothing like this.
00:11:00 Anonymous	This just feels like one huge family gathering for me and incredible to see the work everybody's doing and meet different perspectives. I've never heard of 2424, for example, I didn't know there were night centers in cities. There's probably out of the 14 sites some commonality, some common themes. It makes me want to jump onto the Udem team, which is looking at these neurodiverse areas of accessibility. There may not be 14 projects. Maybe there are only seven or eight with more common themes. Then there are maybe like 5 or 6 new ones which we haven't thought about yet. It is an interesting intersection. To make space for new ones to grow, which we haven't thought of yet.
00:12:27 Carly Ziter	I guess one question is how do we efficiently and effectively do this? Without saying we'll have another set of weekly or monthly meeting. I think all of us are stretched pretty thin in terms of how much time to put into this that I'm putting. The next year of monthly forums, instead of being road map focused is focused on skills sharing and or you know is there some other mechanism that makes sense. Could it be through the students getting together and exchanging methods? What would make sense to implement that makes sense once we've all left this room and go back to our normal lives?
00:13:19 Bechara Helal	It could be something that's focused on tools. Maybe have one forum on mapping? Then interested groups attend instead of having all site always be present. Being present becomes very time consuming. It could be organized through visualization methods or tools around outputs. For example, hold a discussion about policy. How can we influence policy? What is needed? What are the tools that we need to you know to bring up, in our different sites, effective impact on policy makers?
00:14:24 Samantha Biglieri	Another output could be about folks interested in changing curriculum. If that's what different people are thinking about, then getting together in a room to discuss 'how do you deliver programming in architecture schools in our allied disciplines too? How can we affect change that way?
00:14:46 Will Straw	I was just going to say, before I was involved in partnerships there were the old major collaborative research before many of you were born probably. But one of the things we put a lot of emphasis on is assuming that many of the graduate students on the project were envisioning academic career.

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	Creating publication opportunities, issues of journals, maybe even books. I know that's old fashioned, but I do think that kind of credentialing, particularly for graduate students involved in the project, we could think maybe more about them than we do.
00:15:40 Meaghon Reid	I love the idea of coming together around policy recommendations. My organization, we focus on systems change and poverty reduction through community-based research and policy advocacy at each order of government. I think like that is where the stickiest things happen. If we're looking at change. For me, it really excites me because I think you can make policy very accessible to a lot of people and it's such a great way to have this research have lasting impact. For me that feels like a very natural evolution of a group that would form potentially.
00:16:22 Will Straw	We were talking yesterday about social media attention. Someone coming out with 20 great ideas for changing policy, 20 new policies that would change Canadian quality.
00:16:46 Darrell MacDonald	So policy recommendations see that last second last bullet there, and to Meaghon's comments there. Really you need to understand what makes policymakers tick and what strings they are attached to, what pressures they have, what keeps them up at night. In the case of Dalhousie, which is the only one I can speak to. They invited me on to this team. Not that I write policy, but I have a lot of influence, potentially over very specific things relative to my work. Having policymakers exposed throughout a project like this, rather than saying we're going to do a bunch of work, we're going to make recommendations to policy makers. Involve them would probably at least give them a better understanding of what, where it all is coming from, rather than just receiving a report.
00:17:41 Brendan Roworth	I think having you present throughout the process lets us eliminate things that are completely out to right field in this process. Things that we are not able to speak on adequately with things that we are not informed enough to speak on. Things that you see going on in your day-to-day work that we have no idea goes on. Then you can bring that back to us and let us know we should think about these things instead. This is something that you should leave for somebody else to consider and focus more on what is within your sphere of of knowledge. Or bring on somebody new who might have that information and have that knowledge that we can then use.
00:18:39 Samantha Biglieri	I think it's so important to have policymakers be part of teams, but they're not part of all teams. Because we're thinking about future actions, I wonder if community groups that are super involved in policy, actual policymakers, what if it's like a workshop about I want to engage policymakers, they're shutting me down at every turn, how do I get through to them Darrell? How to like, engage community and then like advocate and all that kind of stuff. Maybe my team doesn't have that. How can I? How can I build up that that piece. How do we help each other where we're like good at building certain kinds of partnerships.

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00:19:30 Darrell MacDonald	I'll only speak from my own experience, but a couple of years ago I was approached by Susan Fitzgerald. We went into the grand parade and sat and had a coffee and she told me about what was going on, and we've had a relationship for years. I would go to the relationship building angle here. If you just go to a to a policymaker and say ' Hey, we're doing a bunch of work, eventually we're going to throw it at you as recommendations'. They may not be terribly receptive, but if you've had a relationship with them, already they may be more receptive to at least listen. I was very interested when Susan asked me because I know what her intentions are. I've known her for so long. In this case, there was a relationship already there.
00:20:28 Bechara Helal	We also have policymakers, government bodies in in the partnership. I'm thinking of McGill. You're working with the City of Montreal. I understand that they're preparing a guide, a night guide. Are you like part of this? Do you have a say or do you influence it?
00:21:06 Will Straw	Yeah, I mean both on our own and live through. The city is in the process of preparing a major policy (Politique de la vie nocturne). Yeah, I mean, I've been invited by the city to all their consultations, both as a McGill researcher, part of the team, and because I'm also on the board of MTL 24/24. I would say I'm intimately involved in that process.
00:21:24 Bechara Helal	Feels like if a few links are part of the partnership, but sometimes we need outside links too.
00:21:33 Darrell MacDonald	At our meeting we had at lunch, they informed me or I answered a lot of questions about the process. How do decisions get made on this particular topic. I was able to give them that. I have a limited timeline of my input because I'm retiring in July, so I said look if if you want to actually have the ability to affect change, don't wait until you're done to give me a report because I'll be gone. Let's have progressive conversations and that's what we're going to do. At the same time, I was able to say, when I'm gone, there are others behind me who you may want to develop that relationship with. I'm going to bring them in to the meetings so that you can develop that relationship. One person may not be able to make all the decisions, but they can influence and bring other people to the table.
00:22:56 Meaghon Reid	I think what you said about relationships is entirely correct. Either that or a good GR firm. It also speaks to how people need to receive information.fter two years of advocacy, it was proposal of three recommendations to the province, one of which is a $90 million investment in their affordable housing strategy. That brief was a page with tons of white space and like infographics. It was incredibly easy to understand. The staffers had whatever they needed in terms of academic background, but in terms of people being able to see something clearly and the rationale, that is how that has to be laid out. I think that could force us in terms of being very clear because policymakers do not read reports like we are, they don't read Roadmaps. There's a staffer who's going to read that road map, but if you can do the job of distilling that for them so that people can truly understand it. It gives them talking points as to the problem they've solved. It could be like a very interesting way to force us to be more clear or accessible about our work.

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00:24:13 Darrell MacDonald	Meaghon, you're spot on. The more senior policymakers or members of any decision-making group, the less detail and minutiae they will even tolerate. I mean, I I know in my own experience, if I go to my deputy minister, who is 3 levels above me. If he had asked me to tell him about a project and I started saying, 'down the hall around the corner, we've got 3 rooms that do this ….' , he'll cut me off at the knees. But I need that detail. You're right. Somebody needs to be able to boil it down to a small batch, the absolutely required information that person will remember and then if they want more detail, their staff can help them with that.
00:25:10 Samantha Biglieri	Maybe we need policy briefs, not road maps.
00:25:17 Darrell MacDonald	Well, you know the term policy brief and we have briefing notes or info notes and I can tell you, I worked really hard to try and reduce those to as few words as possible. A bulleted list is much better for a minister or a deputy minister than a paragraph. You do need that brief.
00:25:49 Carly Ziter	You know, we have 14 sites. We're all doing different things. Is there something that we could do? Back to the idea of like tools based or skills based. You know, workshops, could we have you know a meeting or a webinar or something on, you know, examples of a good policy brief. Someone's going to come and tell us, here are the steps to go from this to this. And here are some examples of things that have worked and have influenced decision making. Also we need to understand the importance of identifying a policy window where you can actually make a change. Those skills are really useful.
00:26:32 Bechara Helal	I think the better we understand what we are supposed to produce at the end, the easier it is to get to it. Or else, we are going to start building this huge thing and then we'll have to simplify it to turning into something that everybody can understand, which doesn't make any sense.
00:27:05 Alexandre Néron	Yeah, I was just thinking because it's very interesting to talk about policy. And I do think that policy is a great way to influence change and I'm just thinking because a lot of our process is about like making these ties with community, could this policy making process be less about the result, but more about engagement tool? Something we learn to do with community actors. We're researchers less about like grabbing data from people and translating it to policy. So it can be more about building links than the actual content.
00:27:54 Samantha Biglieri	I was going to say even like in Toronto, there's an organization called Progress Toronto and they teach people how to give a deputation. They teach you what happens at a City Council meeting. How to navigate Roberts rules of order, how to get on a committee agenda like those are all like important skills that I think are taken for granted. When discussing how to build links with community, we can teach you about the system to be able to help craft your message in addition to translate your stories to policy?

00:28:27 Alexandre Néron	Well, and in this case, maybe since we are admitting already that we don't know that much about that system. It's like less about teaching them, but more like learning together. Less top down.
00:28:44 Catherine Riddell	In addition to a workshop about policy notes or policies, there could be one about community engagement. I think there are lots of people who have amazing expertise that would help every site get to their goal. How can we have more open sessions between the 14 sites to dig into what would be beneficial to everybody's project? It would also be a really great way to go beyond the project to kind of move these things forward and have people develop new skills and opportunities.
00:29:28 Anonymous	I think out of us all being together with there's there are definitely sort of from all the different schools, there are people who have more skills in certain areas that would benefit everybody else. If we could have maybe across the community groups and schools that we're together with organizations, we could almost have local centres of excellence within our quality cohort. You know there's a centre for extension policy making. There's one on community consultation engagement, one on neurodiversity, one on accessibility, et cetera, et cetera. One on food perhaps then you're not stuck within the boundary of your school or organization. We're actually one big circle. We've got the biodiversity group over there. That's the policy group here. Through being together, we also find out. Ohh. You're really good at kind of getting the houses done, getting the money going. I want to be in the housing one. Therefore we really play to our strengths. It's always good to be mixed and everything, but when if we can, if we were on accelerate, we get together with the people who have the strengths we think we need for the future. Then we start playing really strongly in our in our centres of excellence. And I think that would be something to try. What are the themes? What are the centres of excellence that we can start to identify and work with to accelerate forward?
00:31:31 Carly Ziter	Reflecting back on Will's point about training and opportunities for students. Obviously we have students in the room who can speak to this more than me from your own lived experiences. Can we have training on mapping, policy, etc. These are things that are either important skills that students could learn or are skills that they have that they could share. Develop that workshop and have that as you know align on your CV that you've run this mapping workshop for the National Partnership. Are there ways we can use this to improve training and communications within our partnership?
00:32:18 Alexandre Néron	There's no better way of learning something than trying to educate yourself and teach it. And that's actually something Ipek has long been encouraging on our team. A lot of the activities that we've been doing are student led workshops. For example, last year, they did a counter mapping workshop where we learnt (with) people coming to participate. We also did a 'Queering the night workshop'. Again, to do these things we have to bring ourselves on the same ground with the people with whom we're participating. Maybe some of you have insights and methodologies for doing that?

00:33:29 Meaghon Reid	Can I share like a quick community engagement project we did about this project quality in the book form. We brought together 200 members of the Community and our poverty reduction strategies called enough for all. What would an enough for all city look like to you? So I'll hand out these. There's three scenes. People said, they're connected to green space. People feel safe. We had, you know, they had access to the things they needed. What would you add to your city? The second one goes on to talk about 'how can we learn from the land our city is built upon6?'. What makes the community strong? The third one asks different questions. We put these in free libraries all over Calgary, and we've gotten back thousands of responses from community at our website. This was all driven out of this project that we did. This is cheap and easy to do. We had to hire a graphic designer and a space. Brian recorded a video. It was an interesting collaboration between the School of Architecture and our organization to try to engage the community in the conversation, but I don't think it's that difficult. You know, I mean, if you connect with the right community organizations. There're tons of them in this project, it could just be a very interesting way to keep that feedback loop going.
00:35:44 Mercedes Garcia Holguera	For me, like thinking about our research group, one of the next actions and one of the most beneficial aspects of meeting with you all here today is this potential collaboration with another team with another group and trying to identify these links, these ways of working together. Making our road map larger or better connected.
00:36:33 Bechara Helal	It's not easy to know what the connections are. I can see a few having listened to the other projects. I was thinking about another project I'm involved with, which is more about circular economy. It was a whole project in the north of Quebec, because we're talking about the independence of people. They rely on the food, housing and basically everything shipped from the South. The idea was to build some kind of circular economy, local economy, where people would be empowered. First, it was integrating them know how into building their housing and then see how we could teach them eventually. It was about putting an environment in place where at the end of the process they become independent (housing related). We can discuss this, even though it is not our project. How do we create those links.
00:38:18 Catherine Riddell	I don't want to take the map metaphor too far, but also maps have a destinations on them. They have lots of destinations on them. You choose where you're going to go. It doesn't have to be such a fixed destination either. if we're really going back to the sort of bigger question about quality.How do all these things work together to define quality through these sort of separate means? There is something holistic that we should be looking at.
00:39:24 Carly Ziter	Yeah, I love the idea of something like this (zines from Meaghon). This could be adapted for many different cities and every group. Yes the partnership is large and there's a lot of funding, but when you break that down by teams, we're pretty limited in the resources we actually have. Per group the support for students and partners and outputs, we are limited. If every group is building their own version of an outreach tool to collect similar feedback and paying a separate designer. I think we can do better about sharing resources and saying, 'we have this, can we make some

small tweaks to this template and distribute it through to other sites' like at vivre en ville at Ville in Montreal and get feedback for our teams instead of going through the whole process ourselves. These kinds of activities that have been working like, let's share them, let's use them instead. You could adapt this tool to any site. Translate it of course. Pair with some community group potentially that's attached to it, if they're interested. They maybe want to add something slightly different, but still use the template. In the same way that we can share research tools, we can share engagement tools. We ca act on that.

00:40:55 Bechara Helal	This tool (zine) looks easy. It doesn't imply a lot of follow up with people. When we are talking about ways of collecting lived experience, we went through all the possible ways. We did a literature review on it as good researchers. We started categorizing them into easy, less easy and quite hard. When we discussed this with the city, some of the ways of collecting information require multiple meetings: sitting down for hours or walking with people. The city is really interested in getting content, but those are difficult to put in place and take a lot of resources. This seems very easy. You just leave it there and then the information comes to you and it's very continuous. You don't need any particular training to do that. This zine method is exactly what we're looking for. We categorize them into easy and less easy and what type of information you get from them (quantitative and qualitative). This seems more qualitative you know.
00:42:30 Meaghon Reid	It's all qualitative. Most of what my work is that we do close to 300 media interviews a year at national, community and provincial level. It's doom and gloom. We talk about inflation, we talk about the economic situation getting worse and so part of this was also that we needed something positive. Everybody can answer these things about their own city. What would you add to your city? What do you love about your city? What makes a community strong? It's all qualitative. We were shocked that people went to site and responded. They just did. Some people did with their kids and people just did it. People wanted more. It was very surprising for us. We just kind of thought we'd give it a shot. I think anyone can answer that about their city.
00:43:37 Carly Ziter	When you said you were shocked that people answered. I think people want a forum to tell stories. We see that. I see that in situations where we are not actually asking for stories, and we get them right. We do a lot of community science, citizen science, participatory science, work in my lab around biodiversity where we'll have projects where we're trying to collect information about the trees in people's backyards. We look for ecological reasons to understand things like climate resilience and diversity in our cities. Tt's data that is behind a fence and we don't have access to it. We engage the community in helping us get this data. What we want is: 'what kind of tree and how big is it?'. Measure your tree and send us a picture. People do that, but we also get a lot of stories. People will e-mail me to say: 'I have a really great tree and I just want to tell you about it'. This is wonderful, please do. I'd love to hear about it, it makes my day. I don't have any forum to do anything with this information. Just anecdotally, there's a project that I loved in a city in Australia. They had put little QR codes on trees. In a study about disease, they wanted people to be able to measure and report if a tree looks unhealthy. They wanted

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people to send a message. Instead, people started sending them love letters about trees and how they had an impact in their lives. For example: 'This is the tree that I sit under when I read my book, this is the tree that my partner proposed to me, this tree reminds me of my grandfather'. They had all these incredibly emotive stories about the quality of these spaces and their environment. We just wanted to know if it looks like something ate the leaves or not. Even when you're not trying to collect stories, people want to give them. I think it's powerful to specifically give people a voice to say, what do you love? What do you need? What do you miss? And can we use that information?

00:45:56 Darrell MacDonald	I just wanted to go back in a slightly different direction. I looked at all the road maps that were up on the walls in the exhibition room. I do see commonalities. Everybody has the need for community engagement. Everybody want to affect change in some way, but each one would be in a different direction. It may be academic; it may be policy. There are two areas of commonality that we can talk.
00:47:00 Samantha Biglieri	I also think people just want a place to tell their stories too and to think of different ways we can do that. I have another project that's not related to this, but it's related to a book I wrote where we have a website where older adults can submit their stories of joy and struggle about aging in their neighborhood. You can submit a recipe, a photo or a video or something. We have no idea how we're going to analyze this, but we just want it somewhere and have adjusted in all these different ways. If you're over 65 or know anyone who is. Agingpeopleagingplaces.ca because it would be really great to have stories from across Canada. I think it could inform the Concordia project and a whole bunch of other ones as well. How do we platform those stories?
00:48:00 Alexandre Néron	Maybe sometimes we forget that just the act of engaging people impacts change in itself. You might have heard about it the Queering the Map project, which was started a couple years ago in Montreal and made its way all over the world. It's just an open-source map where people can drop a point to an area and tell a story about it. For all the stories we say of people loving to share stories, we need to ask ourselves for what reason they do. They do because it matters to them. It seems simple but it isn't always easy to connect the things that matter to people with quality. We could workshop this across sites because again, we have a lot of similarities, but these things that may seem so simple have a lot a lot of thought put into them. To channel what matters to people is like an art and it's not an easy thing to do. Maybe this could be a webinar or workshopped together.
00:49:46 Bechara Helal	There's one thing that's that I don't see here: data bases of oral history. How do we collect and keep this information of people telling their stories? That's something that came out of our research too. We realized that people want to tell the story. It's more the story that's important for them, not instead of just direct facts of their experience. For example 'I'm cold here, I'm warm there, and I don't like this space because the lights are too low'. Those are facts that are not really interesting for people. What they want to say is what they like about the space. They remember a story, but we have no space to keep them. We usually use them as data and then

eventually turn them into actions. But it's good that the data itself has a lot of value that we need to keep.

00:51:57 Alexandre Néron	Thank you so much for coming back and welcome back to our room. I think we have like 30 minutes left maybe to this workshop and to this these two days. Maybe in those last 30 minutes we could come up together on statements that we'd like to share to this afternoon's plenary. I personally I think we should really reflect on what was discussed this morning, because if we don't bring this to the larger group, it's just a missed opportunity. So maybe let's go back to that.
00:52:43 Paula Rodrigues Affonso Alves	We had some moments between this morning and now. I talked with some indigenous representatives from Athabasca and I've talked to Dimitri a bit because I was critiquing the conference a lot and thought I should not to it behind his back. We had some conversations between the morning and now. I also talked to a lot of people from here, but I reached my friends here and Jenna shared with me that they want to share something. I talked a lot. I'm here to understand like my place to step back and understand. Now let's discuss what are we going to say and who is going to deliver the message? We should listen to what they would like to say.
00:54:23 Jenna	Hello, my name is Jenna, the four of us had a discussion. People have solutions all the time, right? Even for the road maps, everybody has the solutions. But I feel like we should start with the issues first because people think that the issues have been dealt with, but they haven't because we still feel unsatisfied with things that happen here. For example, I don't feel comfortable with this part here: 'indigenous representative' on my name tag. Everybody else has indicated where they're from, their organization. Yes we are indigenous, but that is all that it says. What if it said on your name tags 'White representative', 'Italian representative'? It doesn't make sense to put it like that. Issues like that should be dealt with first before we can go along with the solutions. Walter, did you want to say anything?
00:55:55 Walter	Yeah, what she said this thing, I can understand that. I don't know. Like being indigenous representative. I did not know how to feel about it. I kind of felt shocked about it and especially being in this place for the very first time in Halifax. This is the first time I've ever been here, and you guys are so welcoming. I've seen the good and the bad like within just one night. There's definitely a lot of division here. A lot of people say that there's a lot of connection, but there's more division. I see that we're not actually bringing out a lot of stuff to light. I'm upset, but thing is like I'm cool with it. I'm not like one to hold anger, but the thing is, I would rather we would come up with solutions because I don't like to be one straight to anger. There's a lot to be fixed. There's a lot that we can resolve. Do any of you got any questions?
00:57:22 Mercedes Garcia Holguera	Thanks for sharing. Honestly it's great when people can tell you, 'hey, there's something that is not working'. I this see happening again and again. It can be we, but it I think it happens to me many different situations. We keep making mistakes and we don't realize and we don't know when we are making them. It's very frustrating because in some ways it's like, I'm sorry. It seems that we repeat and we keep saying I'm sorry I'm sorry. I

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don't think that it's going to help you in any way just to hear the 'I'm sorry'. We should take care of you of what you're doing. For example, when you were saying just now that you saw the good and the bad, and the division. I would love to hear more about that. The good is easy to understand, but what else did you think that we miss. I'm asking for help. I wish I could see things before it even happened. For example, I wish I had said before 'no way that you are giving them this nametag'. I find that I'm very ignorant. Every time that a situation like this happens, I feel like so embarrassed. It's quite frustrating.

00:59:12 Walter	Well, I do have a couple of questions for you guys. How's your water at home? Tap water. Good? Good showers? Everything. We have to boil ours. Some of us can't even take showers for days you know. Sometimes we run out of water, sometimes the water truck doesn't come. We have to go drive around. We don't even have the resources. We don't even have support from our leadership. I'm from one house, many nations and Making the shift. Each of us were supposed to be given our own homes. Guardian here he got his. But the thing, they're giving him a hell of a freaking time just to build a foundation where I'm supposed to go live. They'll even give us funding to help us out. Where the heck we even go? We had to beg for spending funds and all that just to try and survive out here.

It's intense out there and the living situation. You guys grew up in good homes? Loving family is everything. We're dealing with a lot of other stuff that's different out there such as chronic homelessness. There are 12 people just in one household. There's mold. House made with unsustainable materials go to crap within the very first year. I'm afraid what's going to be happening soon with this leadership. I'm supposed to be getting a little small house soon and my son is going to be able to live in it, but I do not know what the heck I'm going to do. I've never had a home.

I've been Homeless and I've been houseless like for many years. Since I can remember. I've been in foster care since I was 7 years old. I aged out like when I was 21 and they really didn't give me any opportunity or teach me any life skills on how to get my home or my own place. I just went straight to work. That's all I ever did. For an indigenous person, it's a struggle. Sometimes you just don't even feel like a human. When people look at you and they belittle you. I have seen first-hand out here just in one night. I didn't expect it to be this ranked out here. Racism. I felt the dehumanized. In the reserves, everybody hates on each other out there. There's no support, there's no community. A lot of people should come together as a collective and find out solutions to these problems. We just sit around this table and we're saying we're going to do something, but are we actually? The thing is that I got a son. He's three years old and I'm going to be moving into this place I have no help from my leadership, no support from my family. I don't even know my family. The way I see it, you guys got it good. Some Indigenous people are going doing well for themselves. I grew up hating on the colour of my skin. I hated myself just for being indigenous. I didn't feel like I want to live because of how my cards were dealt in life. I Finally accepted that I'm indigenous and I'm proud of it. I'm happy to be indigenous. I want others to like feel comfortable in their skin. But there is always going to be a lot of evil in the world, no matter what we do. You guys got it really, really good. Homes, love and family

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support systems, everything. We don't have that out where we're from. We're privileged enough just to come here. For the first time in my life, I've ever came to this beautiful city. It sucks having to know that I have go back to what I know. I want to try and do something for everybody. If I could to help people get better and help their mentality to have a home. That's why I've wanted to get into architecture so I can build sustainable materials homes and try to find out where to get the funding. I want to try and help other people.

I never even had anything like a home. It's unbelievable having to grow up and not know a place where you belong. I want a home. I'm grateful for it. I feel like I have to do a lot more because, like, I don't want to be the only one just getting one. I want it to happen in many cities and all that. I see a lot of homeless people everywhere and it reminds me of myself. I've been couch surfing since I aged out of foster care. It's embarrassing, but I own it. I just want to let you guys. You guys are freaking awesome. Just being here present listening. Bringing your ideas and how we can resolve all these issues that are like plaguing the world? Do you guys want to help others? (Yes!)

That's what I want to do. I want to help others and I want to try and do as best I can. We're not going to be able to save everybody. But we can do it together. Does anybody have any questions?

01:07:27 Paula Rodrigues Affonso Alves	Just more references for everyone's. The 'black' did not exist until the 'white' arrived. Race is a white creation. It's our privilege today. In Canada, in one year and a half, I purchased a car. I'm so privileged that I purchased a car and the resources I used come from an institution that took the resources from them. The world is 1 Organism, it's one bottle. If I drink too much of this water, there's not going to be enough for you. We are drinking too much of this water. There is not enough for everyone. Racism brought extractive culture. We are researchers. We should be studying. I can guide us on like the theorists, to find this. It's a long path, but it's an existing path and each one of us has been part of this path.
01:08:59 Paloma Castonguay-Rufino	Yes, I got a quick question. I was wondering if you guys have thought of another way to determine a title. Is there a process that you would feel more comfortable?
01:09:21 Walter	It's already done. It's already written and just a piece of paper with a name on it. It carries a lot a lot of meaning we found offence to. It's alright, it happens.
01:09:41 Jenna	If it were up to me, I would have put we work with One House Many Nations. The program we work with is calle Making the Shift. For future reference, that's who we work with. Anybody else have any questions?
01:10:10 Carly Ziter	Thank you for being here and for sharing. It's not your responsibility to educate us and you're doing it anyway, and we appreciate that. Something that I'm reflecting on that. I think comes back to to what Mercedes was mentioning too. It's important for us to listen, but it's also important that we

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change practices in this space as well. This is the halfway point through a long project and we're going to be having more of these meetings and more of these conventions and we don't want to be making the same mistakes year after year. There are obviously large systemic challenges that I think we all want to try and change in the long term, and we want to help people as you mentioned yourself. Bringing it down to the ground? Are there things that we could have done, you know, yesterday and today that would have been a better use of our time together and would have you feel either more welcome or have more agency in the project, or be able to create more change? We could bring this forth to the steering committee and say, 'next year instead of sitting in this circle and talking for two hours about this topic, we're going to do this totally different activity and we're going to do it in this way.' I don't want to put you on the spot to give us a list of ideas right now. If you have them. That something that's worth reflecting on before the next convention. How do we design this process in a better way so that we're all getting more out of it and not have to just keep having these conversations about how, you know, we did it wrong.

01:12:07 Walter	Probably just research. Like anybody's ethnic background or like, where they came from, like what we went through everything. We don't take offence to like anything in like the future. We can learn from our mistakes like because we make mistakes as well. We're not perfect. We're only human. It's always good to do research on peoples, from where are they from? You don't want to say the wrong thing to anybody. Anybody can make a mistake. Own up to it, take accountability for your actions and take responsibility. That's the way like I was brought up. Research like indigenous people. For example, residential schools, day schools, trauma, intergenerational traumas. People are pretty touchy about that. If you guys don't know about it, I recommend that you research that. Well, I'll give you an example. Have you ever heard about the Holocaust in Germany and Auschwitz for instance? That's 6 million people who died. In America, 100 million natives were killed by the government. Hitler took a book from the United States Government on how to eradicate the Jews. Especially how we were killed with sickness. A lot of us have been taken away in foster care. I had real freaking long hair, probably as long as you maybe longer. As soon as I was put in foster care, first thing they did is cut my hair. Felt like a part of my identity was gone. I wasn't even allowed to have long hair. I wasn't even allowed to speak my language. I didn't even understand any of that. I was in a lot of real bad homes. Do research on a lot of things and on a lot of people. We don't have to like repeat the mistakes.
01:14:48 Paula Rodrigues Affonso Alves	I'm sorry, Iz want to do the theory part. I just saw this (zines) and I saw you were looking for this. The name of this thing is enough for all. Enough building enough for all futures. This is completely the decontextualized because I just read this sentence now. I'm bringing math to say that this is wrong. It's wrong because there can never be enough for all. For instance, monoculture and the land it takes. If you do the math, count the area of the world and the amount of people we have, we do not have enough land to feed everyone meat. It will never be enough for all. You can say it's enough for all-in-one place. There will always be people taking more, like a bigger part. This mentality of one-size-fits-all like it's our idea of like Ford of like industrialization and if you read 'Stringent Labour' by Marx, he wrote it just

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after the industrial revolution. When you read it in South America, he talks about the past. When you read here, he talks about the future. Marx wrote in 1850 that for colonization to happen the first system they attack is education. This was written before the residential school system existed. This is the practice. History repeats itself. The institutions we are working they repeat this history. Go everywhere on references so I do believe 'Stringing Labour' is a good reference for us to understand that this is impossible. This is the strategy to think this is possible, so we're going to spend all this time trying to build this and we are going to benefit from it in the end.

01:17:36 Alexandre Néron	Thank you so much for sharing and for your kindness. You're coming from a place of honesty with us, and I think we needed that. And your kindness because you're not condemning us. You've been kind of recognizing and looking past our mistakes. I'm just trying to think about the future of this conference because it is going to happen again. We're year two or and they are going to be another 3, 4 or 5 more of them. The format of the discussion is very imbalanced. It feels like it's a bunch of researchers coming with their project and the conversation is aimed for researchers talking amongst researchers. If we're going to invite people, because that's what this project is about, it's about quality and about recognizing lived experience, we must be better at making these conferences to build connections rather than what we have done now. The format is excluding almost and sustains this imbalance between us.
01:19:17 Mercedes Garcia Holguera	Sorry and I'm not. I'm not sure if I'm like kind of be prepared to hear nonsense, but would it make any sense? For like if you were to organize a gathering like this one how would you imagine it would be like? How would you organize it? Who would you invite like to discuss these same ideas that we are doing? I think there is so much that we have to learn. This morning's presentation was saying that the indigenous view is a unique view. We need to really step outside from our like Western world view to be able to look at the world from the two eyed seeing angle. Hearing from you and in in this regard, how would you imagine a gathering, how what, what do you think that we need to get rid of tables or people? It has to be a smaller?
01:20:31 Jenna	We were in another room yesterday, I forgot his name, but he made a point of another conference for a different field. People didn't ask questions. At a business conference, when he spoke of built quality. Maybe instead of just focusing on architecture, you could get other fields to participate as well. Definitely more representation from different backgrounds like even have a few indigenous people with different backgrounds. Make sure that everything is like handled like this too (name tag) ? Reaching out beyond what we're doing right now, reaching out to other different and other companies and businesses. I think would make a big difference.
01:22:38 Mercedes Garcia Holguera	Thank you.

| 01:22:41 Paula Rodrigues Affonso Alves | My question is, Jenna, did you make rent last month? No. The guy who spoke last year, the anti land acknowledgement guy, he made rent last month and he probably was paid to attend the conference or got some reward or this presentation went on his CV. He got something out of it or getting paid to be here. How many times have you been put in the spotlight yesterday? Did you have cocktail with me? (yes) For how long? (5 minutes) Then you had to work, right? (Nothing) Yeah. Express your trauma during the cocktail? Yes.How much are you going to get for that? (Nothing). They pay your plane ticket. Did you get an extra day in Halifax? Did you have agency over that? No. We gave the stage to that guy, and she is not making rent. We are making rent. We have to pay their hours. They should be paid as workers, not as indigenous representative of some race. They are free. What is indigenous? Columbus came here and thought it was India. They're free. Like he charges an hour, she charges an hour. He charges an hour. All of them have a bunch of knowledge. Her mom is a rock star. What is she doing now? Working. Why didn't she come? She's working. She is keeping your kids so she can be here. This is work that they are doing for us for free and we are drinking the whole bottle of water you're not sharing. They are workers, they are labour in this place. They are not a token to be appreciated and worshipped, they should be worshipped because they're amazing. I do worship them. Yes. But yeah, they don't like it. We have to be very close for me to say that. They have to trust me. Otherwise it's tokenism.

I have best friends here. How many of you have best friends that you have invited into your home and you have it cooked dinner and they were like oh I have to find someone to keep my kid. I have to find a ride or I can't pay gas. How many of you had to go pick up someone because they couldn't pay gas? How many of you went through the trouble because someone had the trouble? I love them from the bottom of my heart and I'm going to work. By, with, and for them because they love them and I got this grant in the universities, a building relationship Grant. I was like Jenna, I just got 15 grand to build relationship with you. Let's do it. I'm gonna use your () to build this trust so she can trust me. They are there, they are knowledgeable. They're kind of amazing. Let's pay them money. They can give talks. Like 2 grand is fine for Sylvia. I think 2 Grand plus the trip paid for. I think she would work for an hour and teach 300 people. I'm setting a price here, but I should ask her first. Maybe should be 5 digits, it's a lot of work. Let's start looking at them as workers too, just like us. |
| 01:26:59 Carly Ziter | Thank you all of you for sharing and for and for advocating. I'm not on the steering committee. I'm not an architect. I can't make any promises to any of you, but can we put something in place within this partnership in terms of, you know, guidelines for how we engage what we pay for? I run a field Ecology Lab. I send students out in situations that means we have a safe and inclusive field work guide that we go through together where we say. 'Here's how we deal with hours. Here's how we deal with overtime. Here's how you're paid. Here's how you're reimbursed. Here's how gas mileage works. Here's the spaces you do and do not go into. Here's how we ensure you're safe.' We're constantly revising this collectively, and my students, they call me out on it because, they're amazing and they're a bunch of activists. They tell me when somethings are not right. It's my job to listen and I think. Can we have some guidelines as a partnership for you? What |

are not just for the folks in this room, but all the students that are part of this work? How are they being compensated? What are they being compensated for? What are the rates that really differs from team to team, and that's a problem within this partnership. But that's a solvable problem. There's a lot of problems here that we are not going to solve within our partnership team. But people being compensated for their time, that's a solvable problem. Having correct identifiers that people are comfortable with, that's a solvable problem. Can we come up with some of these things and bring those back and say: 'look next year these need to be fixed.'

01:28:49 Mercedes Garcia Holguera	Would you like that? One of the things that we discussed this morning at the very end, it was like, OK, we the rest of us should also be more open to share. Something that I want to share also and it's somehow related. I'm a single mom and I wasn't sure if I would be able to make it because I didn't know what to do with my kid. I don't have family around; I don't have grandparents to rely on. I don't. In the end it worked out. I don't know if I will be able to make it to the next meeting. When I was approaching Dimitri and and Jean-Pierre, there was no childcare here included. That was also something that was very borderline exclusive. Can I go? Can't I go? How far does my personal life define my research and my career and my possibilities. I do agree that it would be nice to have some sort of guidelines where of course it's inclusive of everybody. But I also think that we all should open to share more.
01:30:10 Anonymous	I just want to say thank you for sharing where you're at. I can't grasp for what to do next, but just thanks for your sharing your heart with us.
01:30:31 Walter	Much love and respect, guys. It was a pretty intense day. That's sure say that much. Let's hope our hope our day goes really well and everything and we shake off all the bad juju. Yeah, we'll feel a whole lot better, like throughout the day. Thank you guys for having us out here and listening to us like. Sometimes we really don't know how to use our voices. I still het nervous all the time before I talk. Speaking to people is nothing new for me. I spoke to thousands and thousands of people before as motivational speaker and all other stuff and go to schools facilitating doing workshops with kids. Definitely important for people to be compensated for their time like. Have you ever heard of being paid by exposure? Definitely people's like time is valuable. Everybody's time is special. Nobody's time is more important than another. We're taking the time out of our days to come up with solutions. Definitely all you guys are funded to be here. We weren't We had to save up our money and find solutions at home to attend. We had to get babysitters, we had to worry about that and so on. How are we going to pay for rent, how we're going to feed our kids, clothe our kids. I was given money to last 3 days on food. I got paid here for 200 bucks. I had to send that home. I don't really give a crap if I eat the next day. Starving is nothing new for me. I went weeks without eating months without eating. I'm not proud of it, but I'm going to tell you guys, I freaking handed garbage cans to survive. Just to feed myself or do anything or put the clothes on my back. I want to be an honest man. I want to meet honest people and surround myself with like-minded individuals. To be here, this is amazing. I am seeing the ocean for the first time. Seeing you guys, I'm freaking happy. I'm so excited. You guys like that are awesome.

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