

**York Region Natural Heritage System Workshop
November 1, 2006, Glenway Country Club
General Feedback Comments**

4. How could the workshop be improved to better understand the current issues with Infrastructure and the Natural Heritage System?

"I would like to see a larger view. The world beyond York Region should be more evident in York's policies - ex. migrations, climate impact on refugee patterns, etc."

"Need a longer more detailed discussion."

"Great to see all sides of the issue - i.e. developers, environmentalists, planners, scientists..."

"Need to orient this to planning authorities that understand issues, rather than advocates."

"More time & care needs to be spent on formulating the questions posed to the breakout groups."

"Just the start. True understanding is still a bit off in the future but this is a good start for it should continue."

5. Do you have any suggestions for how these workshops could be improved?

"Some smaller sessions might be more fruitful - a few passengers were aboard this time."

"More specific discussions at appropriate points in the process."

"Longer discussion sessions."

"Need wrap-up - next steps. Discussion on who does what in the future."

"Drill down the focus at breakouts - a little too broad to rail down key aspects."

"Information follow-up/summary and next steps for all participants/attendees."

"Have discussion questions posted at each break-out group for easier viewing & focusing of the discussion."

"Well done."

"One minor thing - add name of agency/town etc. to name tags to better identify participants."

"Workshop was great - need to know how they intend to use the information gained (actually ended up being covered - sorry!). So glad you included such a diverse group - including community groups."

"Results based session that will create a tangible results. Brainstorming is good, but lets push the envelope to create better standards."

"Include representatives from surrounding Regions."

"1/2 day is great but another 1/2 day follow-up later to see/discuss results and efforts to build funding in NH regional planning. (Better to have two timely sessions of 1/2 day than only one full day session)."

"Not sure which community groups were invited - and perhaps others did not take advantage of opportunity - but really helpful for us as a process. Great workshop."

"I would recommend a feedback process whereby staff summarize results and draft what policies and recommendations they are considering. Participants should be emailed this for response."

"No, but the dialogue must continue."

"Speakers from outside. (Non-Regional staff)"

"Breakout sessions could be a bit longer, too much pressure to wrap up."

"Keep agenda on time."

"More time was required."

"More time!"

"At some point we need to get down to details of the science of natural heritage systems. Good workshop."

"Very good. Leading edge. We need to find a way to get countryside and agricultural land into being an integral part of natural heritage system."

"Provide a follow-up workshop to work in more detail on issues identified today. Provide summary of points raised in the discussion groups."

"Follow up session to delve into ideas raised here in more detail? Excellent session, presentations, and facilitators."