

Best Practices for New Communities Workshop
December 5, 2008; Glenway Country Club
Evaluation Form Results and Feedback

Number of Attendees	80	+ 9 staff + 5 Facilitators + 4 Speakers
Number of Returned Evaluation Forms	34	
% Evaluation Forms Returned	43%	

1a. How would you rate the following aspects of the workshop?

No. of Responses	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Did not Respond	Total
York Region Best Practices for New Communities Publication (Karen Antonio-Hadcock)	13.5	14.5	4	0	2	34
Sustainable Urban Design (Dan Leeming)	20.5	12.5	1	0	0	34
Green Buildings, Livable Communities, Sustainable Solutions (Jamie James)	25	9	0	0	0	34
Local Best Practices and the Business Commitment to Green (Andrew Pride)	29	4	1	0	0	34
Breakout Discussion	20.5	11.5	2	0	0	34
Information Package	15	18	0	0	1	34
Facilities	12	19	3	0	0	34
Event Organization	26	8	0	0	0	34
Overall Satisfaction	22.5	11.5	0	0	0	34

% of Total Responses	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Did not Respond	Total
York Region Best Practices for New Communities Publication (Karen Antonio-Hadcock)	40%	43%	12%	0%	6%	100%
Sustainable Urban Design (Dan Leeming)	60%	37%	3%	0%	0%	100%
Green Buildings, Livable Communities, Sustainable Solutions (Jamie James)	74%	26%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Local Best Practices and the Business Commitment to Green (Andrew Pride)	85%	12%	3%	0%	0%	100%
Breakout Discussion	60%	34%	6%	0%	0%	100%
Information Package	44%	53%	0%	0%	3%	100%
Facilities	35%	56%	9%	0%	0%	100%
Event Organization	76%	24%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Overall Satisfaction	66%	34%	0%	0%	0%	100%

2. If you had any questions throughout the workshop, how did Regional staff respond?

No. of Responses	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Did not Respond	Total
Promptly	21	4	0	0	9	34
Courteously	20	5	0	0	9	34
Knowledgeably	19	6	0	0	9	34

% of Total Responses	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Did not Respond	Total
Promptly	62%	12%	0%	0%	26%	100%
Courteously	59%	15%	0%	0%	26%	100%
Knowledgeably	56%	18%	0%	0%	26%	100%

3. Was the workshop and discussion helpful in expanding your understanding of the challenges and opportunities of creating new communities in York Region?

	Yes	No	Not Sure	Did not Respond	Total
No. of Responses	32	1	0	1	34
% of Total Responses	94%	3%	0%	3%	100%

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1b. Please expand on your response to the various aspects of the workshop listed in question 1?

"Excellent choice of presentation material."

"Should bring these stakeholders together more often."

"Master of Ceremonies was very good - created a good vibe and kept things flowing."

"Well Done!"

"Presentations were informative with a wide range of issues discussed. More time required for breakout discussion or better organization of time. Overall, very good workshop."

"Breakout discussion was too short."

"Great opportunity to share ideas across disciplines - the approach that we need."

"Too little time - too little time."

"Implement a policy which requires event organizers to include a simple carpool services (i.e. enable participants to identify trip origins and try to work out carpool arrangements."

"Breakout discussion - too much emphasis from the development perspective, not enough discussion about importance of public health linkages in the planning process."

"Need to hear more from developers and their experiences."

4. Do you have any suggestions for how this/future workshops can be improved?

"1/2 day workshop works well as long as the material presented and discussion topic(s) are focused. This workshop achieved all of this and more!"

"Have a longer breakout session to explore a couple more questions. Ensure that everyone speaks and no one dominates the discussion/discourse."

"My breakout group was predominately Regional/Municipal staff. Pre-work-work to balance the groups better."

"Report back to [...] workshop participants"

"More time for breakout discussion. Pose more direct challenges."

"Full day. More people."

"No, it was very well organized."

"Should have more often and more specific sessions on some subjects."

4. Do you have any suggestions for how this/future workshops can be improved? (continued)

"Works Department should be here."

"More discussion of the overall picture - How will this workshop feed into York Region's Official Plan."

"Progress - longer sessions. Include operations staff - required."

"Identify task workgroups to work on specific recommendations/policies identified today - invite attendees to participate on these workgroups."

"Not so far north of Toronto!!"

"Provide opportunity for written comments in addition to the facilitated discussions and/or via email opportunities."

"Need to educate the others in the municipal sector - Engineers, Building Officials. Need more showcasing of the success stories."

5. What would you like to see done with the results of today's discussions - what next steps should be Region be taking?

"Summarize notes from each discussion group and provide to participants along with some Regional staff interpretation of the discussion items - a synthesis of ideas would be helpful and could frame the next step and perhaps future workshops."

"Integrated planning and urban design systems - implemented these through alternative design guidelines and incentives; more flexible zoning by-laws. Municipal leadership - program implementation guidelines, bench marks, indicators. Social marketing for compact, mixed use, sustainable communities and neighbourhoods. Take ecosystems approach to planning and design; landscape sustainability analysis and community sustainability plans. Think and plan and manage long term; use a continual improvement/adaptive management model. Really educate the developers on non-market benefits of sustainable urban development, green business retention and attraction and watershed management."

"Continue to involve the private sector in these forums. Address the issue of outdated local municipal standards by engaging Engineering Departments and Building Officials."

"Document, publish. Plan more meetings and specific groups (maybe)."

"Dissemination of summary on policy work to participants."

"Report summary of breakout groups. Bring us together again."

"Update. Constant correspondence."

"Seriously evaluate and consider all of the ideas, comments that were presented during the breakout discussion and provide responses accordingly on how they will be/are being addressed at the Regional level."

"Involve policy makers at all levels - Province?."

5. What would you like to see done with the results of today's discussions - what next steps should be Region be taking? (continued)

"Apply them into planning policies."

"Open minded. Re-evaluate engineering standards and have more regard for urban design."

"Post results of discussion on the York Region website and keep the individuals who attended this workshop informed and involved in the next steps of this process."

"The Region should look at incorporating the new ideas in the Official Plan and Regional policies."

"1) Lead - mandate highest level of green building in government facilities. 2) Bend the rules for pilots - support innovation - identify barriers. 3) Review codes and standards to harmonize."

"Develop partnerships between sectors: transportation, planning, health. Feedback to participants related to next steps and what information will go forward. Engage participants on next steps on specific themes/actions identified by group to promote sustainable complete communities. Develop cross sectoral workgroup to plan education campaign for stakeholders and community (co-ordinate and comprehensive campaign) related to complete communities."

"Incorporate into the Official Plan. Especially measures that reduce energy consumption for HVAC and transport dramatically, and rebalancing the housing mix."

"Ensure that new communities are planned in partnership with Public Health."

"Municipal engineers forum. Municipal Building Officials forum."