



Community Engagement

Big Thinking for Small Budgets

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Presenters:

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Aha! Graphic Facilitation



Who We Are



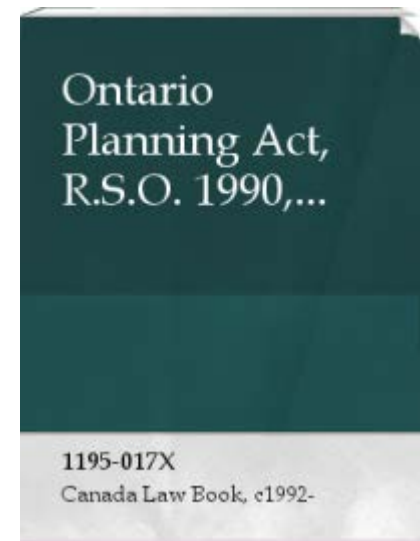
- Official Plans and Zoning By-laws
- Community Improvement Plans
- Community Design Plans
- Development approvals
- Environmental Assessments
- Master Plans



- Graphic recording for visioning and community engagement
- Strategic visioning and culture building facilitation
- Collective Impact facilitation for systemic issues
- Drawn videos and infographics

What Will Be Covered in Today's Workshop

- Foundations of Community Engagement
- Key Challenges for Municipalities
- Legislative Requirements
- Takeaways will be two-fold:
 - List of methods and tools based on your ideas and experiences
 - Graphic illustration of workshop results
- What's not being covered:
 - Indigenous Engagement, which requires different considerations and approaches



Workshop Agenda

- 1 Presentation
- 2 Facilitated Discussion
- 3 Reporting Back
- 4 Wrap Up

Foundations of Community Engagement

COMMUNICATION

- Clear language and messaging
- Accessible fonts
- Essential details of the event

AGE-FRIENDLY

- Designing engagement opportunities for all ages and abilities

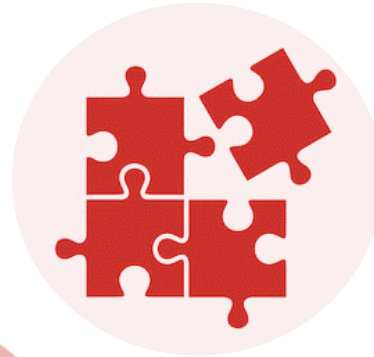
ACCESSIBILITY

- Requirements of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)
- Municipal accessibility standards
- Design / format to be generally accessible for most persons

FUN!

What We've Heard – Challenges

Limited human resources



Less time



Limited budgets



Competing priorities

Legislative Requirements

SMART GROWTH FOR OUR COMMUNITIES ACT, 2015 (BILL 73)

- Planning Act changes + new requirements for public input:
 - Planning Advisory Committees → include 1 citizen member
 - Ontario Municipal Board (now Local Appeal Planning Tribunal) and approval authorities must have regard to public input (both written and oral submissions)
 - Alternative notice procedures for public notification
 - Must explain the effect of public input, if any, on planning decisions → Notice of Decision
 - Official Plans policies to describe measures and procedures for informing and obtaining views of the public for both municipalities and proponents of planning applications
- For more information, see: [Ministry of Municipal Affairs – Bill 73 Job Aid](#)

Workshop: Facilitated Discussions

- Form small groups and go through a series of 10-minute discussions on 3 questions
- Each table will have a facilitator who will record your discussion
- At the end of the workshop, the facilitator from each group will share highlights of the discussion on each question
- Discussions will be graphic recorded!
- The results of the workshop will be shared with you – sign the registration list!



Workshop: Facilitated Discussions Cont'd

- 1 What methods have you used to engage hard-to-reach segments (e.g. geographically dispersed, seasonal residents, indifference) of your community?
- 2 What are some cost-effective engagement tools and methods you've used?
- 3 What has been your most successful engagement program, and why was it so successful?

Reporting Back

- Your challenges, your successes, your ideas!

Wrap Up – Questions? Comments?

- Go to them!
- Make it fun and visual / tactile
- Ask people how they want to be engaged
- Tailor it to your community (and don't forget youth and seniors)
- Support and empower your participants
- Always remember “why” and think big picture
- Leverage your community leaders, non-profits, committees / places of worship
- Recognize the contributions of community members
- Celebrate successes

Thank you!

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