

# Downsview Community and Social Infrastructure Meeting

## FEEDBACK SUMMARY

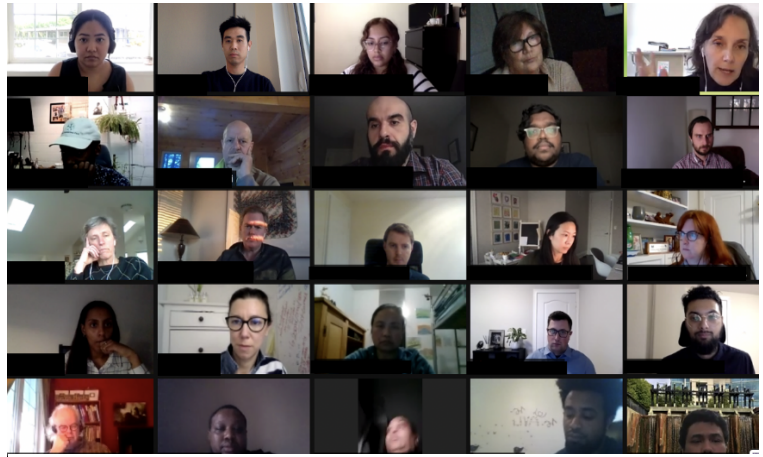
March 2, 2021



## MEETING OVERVIEW

On Tuesday, March 2, 2021 from 4 – 6 pm, as part of the id8 Downsview public engagement process, over 50 people from numerous organizations participated in a virtual meeting hosted by Northcrest Developments and Canada Lands Company to discuss community and social infrastructure. Participants represented a range of organizations and interests in the non-profit, public, and private sectors including community service providers, representatives of local and citywide community organizations, as well as representatives from City of Toronto, local school boards and five grassroots leaders partnering with the Centre for Connected Communities to conduct a local context study.

The purpose of the session was to describe the opportunity presented by these 520 acres to innovate, collaborate, and do something different – to align the delivery of community facilities with community identified priorities. This focused working session began with a presentation from Northcrest, Canada Lands, and their consultant team, followed by six concurrent small group discussions, and a plenary discussion.



*Screen shot from the meeting*

Due to COVID-19 physical distancing requirements, the meeting was held on Zoom. Swerhun Inc. facilitated and documented the feedback received during the meeting. As facilitators that are not advocating for any particular outcome of this project, Swerhun Inc's intent with this summary is to capture the perspectives shared during the discussion, not to assess the merit or accuracy of these perspectives. This summary does not indicate an endorsement of any of these perspectives on the part of Northcrest and Canada Lands.

This summary captures ideas and opportunities shared by participants during the meeting. Detailed summaries of each small group discussion are also attached, along with the participant list, the slides presented and additional comments. The summary was subject to participant review prior to being finalized. If you have questions about what's here, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us through the id8 Downsview phone at +1 647 245-3399 or by email at [info@id8downsview.ca](mailto:info@id8downsview.ca).

## OVERALL SENTIMENT

Participants were interested and keen to be part of a discussion focused on taking a different approach to community services and facilities planning for community and social infrastructure – one that considers community identified priorities alongside those considerations that typically influence community services and facilities planning. There is an appetite to actively build partnerships and connections. Participants also said that the engagement process is one important tool for identifying partnership opportunities and community priorities and for educating decision-makers on different approaches to community services and facilities planning.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The following questions were proposed by Northcrest and Canada Lands to focus discussion:

1. Are there different “lenses” or themes through which we can organize community priorities? What are they?
2. In an ideal world, how would you want to work with Northcrest and Canada Lands as they move forward with the planning process? Who else needs to be involved?
3. Do you have any other advice for Northcrest, Canada Lands, and the consultant team?

## THEMES & PRIORITIES

The following different themes and priorities were identified by participants in more than one small group discussion:

1. **Ensure access to green spaces (parks, urban farms, community gardens).** There was a lot of interest in building on existing community priorities around urban agriculture, park spaces and cycle networks to critically consider how green spaces will be managed, designed and programmed. These spaces need to be accessible to people of all abilities and celebrate multiple cultural traditions.
2. **Develop opportunities for co-location and integrated service delivery.** Adaptable and multipurpose spaces, that accommodate co-location and integrated service delivery models were identified as priorities. To achieve these priorities, there should be a focus on collaborative approaches to designing and planning for community assets with community engagement standards co-developed with

communities. Partners from local organizations, institutions, citywide and grassroots groups are interested in continuing to be engaged through the consultation processes and beyond.

3. **Acknowledge the interconnectedness of community priorities.** There is a rich diversity of community priorities that have emerged from this process such as affordable housing, poverty, food sovereignty, employment, education, community benefits, and community safety. These priorities are interconnected and require a multi-prong and multi-actor approach to address.
4. **Support youth and seniors' initiatives.** Seniors, youth and children need facilities/spaces that are accessible, offer recreational activities and access to services, and provide them opportunities to contribute to their communities. While the needs of each of these age groups should be looked at separately, social Infrastructure should be co-designed to promote intergenerational opportunities with the community.
5. **Center an equity-based approach.** An equity lens to the development is key to ensure that all aspects of the planning processes prioritize the aspirations and needs of people who have been traditionally marginalized from development processes. Planning for community services and facilities should address community identified priorities that support people from various cultures and especially Black, Indigenous and newcomer communities through an intersectional lens of gender and age. This approach will in turn support the broader community.
6. **Celebrate Indigenous place-keeping and the history of Downsview.** Downsview community is rich with local history (aviation and military) and culture. Indigenous place-keeping needs to be celebrated as part of the process.
7. **Enhance local employment opportunities.** The Idea of “15-Minute Neighbourhood” concept local employment opportunities for people of all ages, but especially for young people. People working locally should also be able to access childcare and elder care that are both easy to access from home and work.
8. **Embedded community vision through community benefits.** Local communities need to benefit from the development process through workforce development, affordable housing, local employment, community assets and addressing community-identified priorities. Community benefit frameworks should be designed and implemented in partnership with local communities, varying levels of government, the developer and community/citywide organizations.

## INSIGHT INTO THE PROCESS

The following suggestions were shared by participants in more than one small group discussion:

1. **Facilitate proactive community engagement.** Develop a robust and meaningful engagement process that frequently connects with local communities and disseminates information in non-traditional places. The engagement process should provide insight for decision-makers and connect diverse actors (local communities, grassroots groups, community service providers, developers and public institutions).
2. **Explore co-location opportunities.** Build off community priorities to develop processes for pursuing co-location opportunities with different actors to develop enhanced community assets.
3. **Leverage local knowledge and initiatives.** Working with local organizations and grassroots groups should be a priority, especially to leverage the experiences of local communities. There should be deliberate strategies for connecting with existing initiatives and city processes related to anti-Black and anti-Indigenous resources.
4. **Build inclusive facilities and spaces with different management approaches.** Research other models for stewardship (land trusts) and co-management of community assets to inform the development of inclusive strategies. The management of community assets should prioritize community input and control. One option is to embed community stewardship through amortizing costs in land development and long-term planning for animating spaces and alternative land management models.

## Themes from Small Room Discussions

	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3	Room 4	Room 5	Room 6
<b>Themes</b>						
1. Access to Green Spaces (parks, urban farms, community gardens and food sovereignty)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Co-location/ Integration	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
3. Interconnectedness of priorities (Poverty, Housing, Affordability, Food Sovereignty, Employment, Education, Health)	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
4. Supports for Seniors & Youth	✓	✓		✓		✓
5. Equity-based Approach			✓		✓	✓
6. Indigenous Place-keeping & Celebrate History	✓				✓	✓
7. Local Employment		✓		✓	✓	
8. Community Benefits					✓	✓
<b>Process Insights</b>						
1. Proactive Community Engagement (Implement CB Framework, Robust/Constructive Engagement)		✓	✓		✓	✓
2. Open to Co-location	✓	✓	✓		✓	
3. Leverage Local Knowledge and Initiatives		✓	✓	✓		✓
4. Build Inclusive Facilities, Spaces and Management Models		✓			✓	

## NEXT STEPS

Northcrest and Canada Lands thanked participants for the incredibly rich feedback and for the continued participation of some community members that have had a relationship with Canada Lands for over a decade.

Swerhun committed to distributing a draft summary of the meeting to participants for their review to confirm it reflects the discussions held and/or to suggest edits to strengthen it. A follow-up engagement meeting will be held in late Spring (in roughly a couple of months) to share the progress of the consultant team's work and engage in a collective "sense-making" session. This engagement work will inform Northcrest and Canada Land's submission will be making to the City of Toronto to update the Downsview Area Secondary Plan.

If you have any questions about this report or want to connect with the team, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

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**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Summary of small group discussions
2. Invitee and participant list
3. Presentation slides
4. Additional comments



## **ATTACHMENT 1: Summary of small room discussions**

Ideas generated by participants is in regular text, and responses (where provided) from Northcrest, Canada Lands, and their consultants are noted in *italics*.

### **Room 1 - Small Group Discussion Summary**

*Facilitated by Nicole*

#### **OVERALL SENTIMENT**

All participants showed interest in seeing what this process can achieve, and particularly in how it can respond to the feedback and advice they shared. Some participants have been working in the community for years and have a strong relationship to Downsview (including Downsview Park) and a history of working together and supporting each other at the grassroots. Many also live in the Downsview area. Others represented institutions interested in exploring new ways of planning for the future.

#### **KEY THEMES & PRIORITIES**

1. **Provide access to nature in a more socially just and kind way.** This includes:

- *A focus on making nature accessible for all, from the person with a disability to the adventurous family that has lived in the area for a long time but does not have a car or a cottage to explore that passion.* Green spaces support healthier communities, can also advance racial justice, and at the same time provides habitat for species at risk. Deliberately support healthy communities by planning in a way that recognizes the land, people's relationship to it, and the nature that inhabits it. It could also include land-based education in a model school that teaches outdoors, agriculture, camping, nature, and exploration.
- *Creating a place that is permanently affordable.* It's important to think about what will happen when wealthier people move into the area. Does it mean that all of this will be affordable only to people with higher incomes? The big challenge is to ensure that we don't extract all of this feedback and ideas from communities today and then allow them to be displaced by the market later.
- *Incorporating Indigenous elements.* The access to nature theme supports incorporation of Indigenous place-making and place-keeping. There is an opportunity to consider creation of a Spirit Garden that celebrates Indigenous history, and also thinking about the non-physical priorities related to governance, community, and relationships with people.
- *Supporting education, arts and culture in green spaces, including festivals.*

**2. Family is a key theme and priority for the future of these lands at Downsview.**

Downsview Park is a family park. Downsview can better support families by:

- *Making the entire area accessible* for elders and people less physically mobile.
- *Fostering excellence through a community centre or hub* that supports residents on their journeys to being entrepreneurs, provides opportunities for residents to strengthen their qualifications (with a focus on STEM – science, technology, engineering, and math), supports and reflects the multicultural dynamics of Canada, and with a special focus on African/Caribbean communities and Indigenous communities.
- *Recognizing agriculture as a priority.* Right now, there is limited space for agriculture and organizations are wrestling to share the space. There are opportunities to: provide access to local, sustainable, food; strengthen connections between rural and urban areas (for example, through a farmers' market); strengthen support for the communities' love of agriculture and interest in food security and food sovereignty; and create a process that determines how social enterprises get access to land and who gets access.

**3. Support the long-term sustainability of the community by providing flexibility in the way that the land is planned for and used.** Today, our approach to delivery of community facilities and services is very structured and fixed. For example, schools open when the population requires it, close when the school-aged population declines, and then when the land is fully developed it's difficult to insert any new community infrastructure. Think about:

- *designing buildings* that can adapt in response to community needs over time;
- *locating buildings to support shared use of community assets*, for example, having community buildings next to parkland to keep open the possibility of a school having access to the park during the school day and the community having access to the park outside of school hours; and
- *inviting the Ontario Ministry of Education* to future discussions.

### **INSIGHT INTO THE PROCESS**

1. City staff said that it was great to hear the priorities emerging from the discussion. The City is also thinking about how to best co-locate community facilities, including (for example) libraries and/or schools and community centres. These lands provide an opportunity that's unique in Toronto, and it's important to think about how to make space for many different interests.

## Room 2 - Small Group Discussion Summary

*Facilitated by Ian*

### OVERALL SENTIMENT

Participants had a distinct awareness of the importance of long-term collaboration and continued dialogue between institutions, developers, community service providers and grassroots leaders/initiatives. Community priorities were identified as being foundationally underpinning these partnerships in the community services and facilities planning process.

### KEY THEMES & PRIORITIES

- 1. Support affordable housing options.** There are people in the Downsview community experiencing homelessness. The parking lot at Wilson and Keele is one example of the challenge of chronic homelessness in the community. Affordable housing options can support those experiencing homelessness, newcomers, seniors and refugees. This project can build on the efforts of grassroots organizing to deliver necessities for life. *Affordable housing is a major priority (people need to be able to live here) in conjunction with jobs and opportunities. Northcrest and Canada Lands need help to build support for these initiatives and to embed different perspectives (grassroots efforts have a different understanding of what a location might need).*
- 2. Connect education, childcare and other services/community assets.** The community needs childcare, schools, grocery stores, healthcare, jobs and other community assets in close proximity (i.e. 15-minute Neighbourhood). Participants noted the benefits of 15-minute communities' can be achieved through co-location of services and community assets as well as pedestrian/bicycle friendly connectors between services and other community assets. There is an opportunity for co-location, integration, and partnerships between, school boards, daycare providers and long-term care facilities that will reduce the stress of commuting from one facility to another.
- 3. Prioritize health and accessibility for all, especially seniors.** Northwest Toronto's success can be rooted in mobility and accessible infrastructure. Investing in long-term care facilities that are surrounded by age-friendly cycling or walking routes will benefit the entire population, especially seniors.

4. **Support stewardship and co-management.** Parkdale Land Trust is an example of an organization created with the purpose of community management and stewardship of land. There are positives to stewardship model such as increasing community involvement and benefit. *The process of service delivery often occurs in silos but there are immense benefits in bringing the voices of different actors to work in collaboration. Northcrest and Canada Lands are exploring different examples of co-location and shared management of spaces. Canoe Landing is one example of a facility that is designed with co-located community benefits. We are also looking approaches for shared outdoor space with the City and bigger community organizations/groups.*

### **INSIGHT INTO THE PROCESS**

1. **Continue dialogue with different partners.** Continued engagement and conversation with different partners will build on the efforts of existing initiatives, approaches and processes to strengthen collaboration.
2. **Proactively engage local communities and grassroots leaders.** An engagement process that goes beyond the legally required engagement is a good approach for demonstrating a genuine interest in local communities. This needs to be balanced with an understanding that marginalized populations or often over-researched and have barriers to participating in meaningful engagements (i.e. language barriers). Understanding community priorities (i.e. parks, housing, etc.) will require a variety of options through larger meetings to smaller engagement opportunities and so forth.
3. **Prioritize community needs.** Community priorities like childcare should not be an afterthought in the process. Local priorities need to be prioritized and placed at the forefront of the process.
4. **Support land trusts model for community ownership and co-management.** It is worth exploring options for adapting the Parkdale Land Trust model to Downsview. Parkdale Land Trust is a charity with a non-profit board elected by the community to set overall direction. With expressed community interest, this is a viable option for increasing community control and developing systemic community partners to manage assets (bike parking, and other community assets).

## Room 3 - Small Group Discussion Summary

*Facilitated by Jacky*

### OVERALL SENTIMENT

Participants shared their support for continued engagement and involvement with the id8 process. There was also a shared sentiment that the development here should respect the local context and priorities through and planned through an equity-based approach.

### KEY THEMES & PRIORITIES

- 1. Embed an equity-based approach in the process.** The overall process and thinking to plan services and facilities should take on an equity-based approach, specifically with education about anti-black and anti-Indigenous racism education, land acknowledgement, and reconciliation that is explicitly written into public documents and/or objectives. There are communities in the area that experience poverty and/or systemic barriers compared to other communities in Toronto. It is important to consider addressing our local communities' needs and bringing up local equity. The City of Toronto's Confronting Anti-Black Racism and Indigenous Affairs Office has resources that may be helpful for the team.
- 2. Support for senior's programming, facilities, and land/spaces.** There are community need and interest for co-developed and co-programmed spaces and programming for the local area's seniors. There is an interest to learn more about how the team thinks about providing or saving space for seniors. *There will likely be a proposal for a mixed-use designation, which will allow for a diverse set of uses. The team has not identified what lands are for what yet.*
- 3. Accommodate need for educational space through co-location and flexible spaces.** It is important to consider and share the area's projected population increase to help with forecasting and planning for educational space. Spaces and facilities should be flexible to accommodate changes to future workforce needs and interests – it is hard to determine what the future job force will look like. Some examples of school co-location and shared uses are: CityPlace: a TDSB & TCDSB facility (Jean Lumb Public School and Bishop Macdonell Catholic Elementary School), and Adam Beck Jr PS: a shared facility with Toronto Public Library.
- 4. Support food sovereignty and urban agriculture initiatives.** A participant said that food sovereignty is in important to the local community.

5. **Community safety is an important consideration.** Community safety is a local priority for residents in the surrounding community.

## INSIGHT INTO THE PROCESS

1. **Be open to collaboration with partners.** School Boards are open to collaboration with Northcrest and Canada Lands and to discussion about shared-uses/spaces. The id8 team can also reach out to schools for research opportunities.
2. **Develop community engagement standards.** Northcrest and Canada Lands could consider setting standards for engaging with the community so that the community can know when and how to expect to be engaged (i.e. timing and frequency of events or announcements). It would also be important to consult the community on how they would like to be engaged throughout the process too. The team should think about different ways to connect and co-develop with the community based on the preferences of the local communities.
3. **Connect with local community research ethics process.** If Northcrest and Canada Lands is interested in doing community-based research, they could connect with the Jane Finch Community Research Partnership, an advisory group that established a community ethics process for research projects who are connected to York University.
4. **Develop a community standard for development.** Northcrest and Canada Lands should consider developing and/or documenting a minimum standard for how things are built and designed in the community. This process should be community-led and defined.

## OTHER FEEDBACK

Participants shared suggestions about who is missing from the current engagement process and who should be included in future engagement processes:

1. **Busy people who otherwise don't have time to opt into these kinds of conversations:** There are community members who work three jobs, have parental and/or childcare responsibilities, different healthcare needs and other circumstances that create barriers to their participation.
2. **Ministry of Education:** Representatives from the Ministry could provide insight into the Province's priorities and process for meeting growing needs.
3. **Indigenous communities:** *There is a separate/attached Indigenous engagement process for id8 that is Indigenous led.*

## Room 4 - Small Group Discussion Summary

*Facilitated by Matthew*

### OVERALL SENTIMENT

Participants showed an interest in staying involved in the process. There was general agreement that the local community has a wealth of knowledge and experience that should inform the planning process. Some said they are excited to see what can be done through this process.

### KEY THEMES & PRIORITIES

1. **Expand local urban agriculture infrastructure and initiatives.** The planning of food systems needs to be considered as essential infrastructure that is proactively planned and integrated into the development process at the Secondary Plan level. These processes can also look at integrated food systems that plan for green spaces for urban gardening (including green roofs). There is an opportunity to connect to and expand local initiatives already underway, especially the urban agriculture pilot project at Downsview Park.
2. **Access to natural areas integrated throughout the 520 acres.** The integration of natural spaces throughout the 520 acres can create opportunities for enjoyment (relaxing, socializing in greenspace/natural areas) and education (interpretive programs to teach people about the plants and animals in the area).
3. **Increase education and employment opportunities, especially for youth.** Invest in programs and physical spaces that provide training to help young people find employment and demonstrate the importance of education (get/keep a job).
4. **Plan for the liveability of seniors in the Downsview area.** Seniors make up a significant portion of the population. There needs to be more accessible spaces with programming geared for seniors.

### INSIGHT INTO THE PROCESS

1. **Leverage local knowledge and experience.** Strong advice to Northcrest and Canada Lands to learn from the local organizations and community members. Local communities understand community priorities and needs – these needs should guide the community and social infrastructure programs, places and spaces.

## Room 5 - Small Group Discussion Summary

*Facilitated by Ruth*

### OVERALL SENTIMENT

The diversity of participants in this breakout room exemplified the different priorities of organizations and community organizations. Participants noted that the introductions highlighted existing priorities around urban agriculture, workforce development, community programs, community benefits and exploration of different strategies for delivery services. Participants were building off each other's points to reiterate the importance of food lens, equity lens and silo-busting lens.

### KEY THEMES & PRIORITIES

- 1. Co-locate different community facilities and services:** Co-location is a tool for integration of different services and attracting interest in public spaces and community centers. Yonge and Davisville is one example of a recreation centre and schools being co-located together. Downsview is blank slate that should be developed to create opportunities for the community. *Integration is something this project has been looking into. School is not a school anymore. Silos of use can be transformed into multi-use facilities that are well programmed and efficiently used. One example is Canoe Land, downtown, integrated multiple facilities and spaces into a small piece. Larger questions are how to bring these different spaces into different spaces.*
- 2. Celebrate rich history of Downsview Area:** The Downsview area is a community rich with a connection to the environment and its military history. A participant noted that they participated in cultural events like the Jamaican Day celebrations on the Downsview lands. Education is an important aspect of celebrating the area, organizations like York University and Seneca College build on the land. Centennial College's, the Bombardier Centre for Aerospace and Aviation at Downsview Campus, is currently located on the Downsview lands.
- 3. Increase access to public/quasi-private spaces and green spaces:** Participants noted the importance of different public and quasi-private spaces being designed with the intention of public access. Urban agriculture has been challenging the notion of what is accessible to the community (community gardens located in private properties or city property). Access to green spaces has become even more important as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic. The local community appreciates being in close proximity to Black Creek Community Farm, Downsview Park and other green spaces. These spaces allow the community to grow culturally appropriate food, improve mental health, reduce poverty and empowers local



farmers. There is interest in having more green spaces available to the community, local urban farmers.

4. **Provide community benefits:** There should be a community benefits framework that outlines community vision and clear commitments to carrying out community interests. The Woodbine project is one example of a 19-year community benefits agreement that brings the developer, the City, looking residents and Toronto Community Benefits Network to ensures targets for local workforce development, local procurement and other community benefits (daycare and employment at the casino) are met. Woodbine is one example of the local community organizing and applying pressure to ensure the community vision is implemented.

## INSIGHT INTO THE PROCESS

1. **Embrace strategies and opportunities for co-location.** As organizations begin to evolve their approaches to service delivery of schools, housing and community services, there is an interest in collaboration with different institutions, developers and community service providers.
2. **Implement community vision through a community benefits agreement.** Developers and other actors can be proactive in conducting robust and transparent community engagement to develop a framework to implement the community vision. It can be frustrating for local communities when the process ignores community voices and interests. Northcrest and Canada can learn from the challenges of the Jane and Finch Community Hub.
3. **Build inclusive facilities and green spaces.** Local community service providers emphasized the importance of developing inclusive green spaces and facilities through building relationships with grassroots organizations and BIPOC communities. In addition, to not creating red tape and barriers for grassroots organizations to provide programming in city-run facilities and/or other green spaces.
4. **Acknowledge scale of different organizations in the process.** Scale is noted as being important for the process of large organizations connecting with different scale organizations (grassroots, non-profit). When scale is not acknowledged, it does not adequately represent different actors. There needs to be a focus on a multitude of scales, as well as the human scales.

## Room 6 - Small Group Discussion Summary

*Facilitated by Athavarn*

### OVERALL SENTIMENT

There was interest and support by participants for a different approach to community services, social infrastructure and facilities planning, where the development and engagement processes are driven by and implemented in partnership with community actors.

### KEY THEMES & PRIORITIES

1. **Food insecurity, housing, and poverty are interconnected issues.** Among clients of the foodbank and among Indigenous homeless men, one of the main reasons for food insecurity is affordable housing. Take a community-oriented approach, where everyone – especially the most vulnerable – can access deeply affordable housing, food, and other supports.
2. **Need for integration and connectedness.** There is a need for both physical (mobility and built-form) integration and cultural integration. People should have access to mobility to get through and around the place and be easily integrated with other neighbourhoods and modes of transportation. The neighbourhood should not become an island either but rather be integrated, bringing together different communities with shared experiences.
3. **Connect investment value with community priorities and benefits.** Investment value should not come at the cost of social value. Community needs and priorities should drive this process. Creating good communities should be thought of as good business. This should include both access to resources and disseminating information.
4. **Establish effective partnerships.** This project should think about how we make a ‘win-win’ situation for the service providers and other actors in the area. For example, the food bank works closely with the Toronto Public Library, so that two of the food bank sites operate out of the library. Foodbank users become aware of additional programming available through the library, such as ESL classes, simply by accessing food bank services. The food banks are also offering case management and referral services out of several of their locations. Prioritizing meaningful partnership, by engaging the service providers, local businesses, landlords, and other interested parties, to work together to find solutions that meet the needs of the communities.

## **INSIGHT INTO THE PROCESS**

1. **Move towards more constructive engagement.** The local community around Downsview has been impacted by an influx of condos and the disappearance of local businesses. Oftentimes, communities mobilize around things being ‘done to them,’ engage in processes, and then feel defeated afterwards. We need to shift towards more positive, constructive ways of working together to shape their community.
2. **Disseminate information through non-traditional spaces.** Downsview has a number of faith-based communities, community-run restaurants, and youth-serving organizations, through whom residents can get access to information about upcoming engagement activities. Consider working with landlords in the neighbourhoods to connect with community members. People will share more openly in places where there’s trust and where they feel most comfortable.
3. **Leverage consultation to educate decision-makers.** Use public consultation processes as an opportunity to educate political leaders about the value of this project for the community.

## ATTACHMENT 2: Participant List

The following organizations were invited to the meeting. Organizations that participated on March 2<sup>nd</sup> are written in **bold**. The list is organized by sector, and then organizations are alphabetical within each sector.

### Education & Childcare

ACEPO  
Air-O-Down Child Care Centre  
Arpi Nursery School  
Baycrest After School Program  
Beyond 3:30  
Blaydon Community Day Care Centre  
Blyth Academy Downsview Park - School for Elite Athletes  
Branson Pre-School Ltd.  
Carousel Child Care Development Centre  
**Centennial College**  
Children Are People Education  
Children's Playgarden /Toronto Military Family Resource Centre  
**Conseil Scolaire Viamonde**  
Delisle Youth Services  
Downsview Child Care Centre  
Downsview Derrydown YMCA  
**Friendly Times Child Care**  
Garderie Du Soleil Levant  
George Brown - Esther Exton Child Care Centre  
Graydon Hall - Finch Business Park Child Care  
Highview Wilson Child Care  
Montessori Jewish Day  
Network Child Care Services - Dane  
Avenue Child Care Centre  
Northview Heights Early Learning Centre  
People for Education  
Poslun Education Centre  
Sheppard Africentric Daycare  
The City Institute (York U)  
The Kinder Connection (Wilson)  
The Toronto Heschel School  
**Toronto Catholic District School Board**  
**Toronto District School Board**  
**Toronto Lands Corporation**  
Tot World Child Care Centre  
**York University - TD Community Engagement Centre**

### Elected Officials

Office of Councillor Pasternak (City of Toronto)  
Office of Member of Parliament Ya'ara Saks (Parliament of Canada)  
Office of Member of Provincial Parliament Roman Baber (Province of Ontario)

### Environment & Park

**Bird Studies Canada**  
Black Creek Conservation Project  
**Our Greenway Conservancy**  
Park People  
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority  
Toronto Beekeepers Collective

### Foundations

Atkinson Foundation  
Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons  
Goodwill Industries  
**Jewish Foundation of Greater Toronto**  
**Salvation Army**  
Toronto Wildlife Centre  
United Way Greater Toronto

### Health & Aging in Place

Across Boundaries - An Ethnoracial Mental Health Centre  
Alliance for Healthier Communities  
Association of Spanish Speaking Seniors of the Greater Toronto Area  
Bathurst Finch Unison Hub  
CAMH  
**Downsview Long Term Care Facility/GEM Health Care Group**  
Humber River Hospital  
Integracare Inc.  
Lumacare  
Meta  
North York General Hospital  
Revera  
**Sienna Senior Living**  
SPRINT  
Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre  
Toronto Central LHIN  
Toronto Central LHIN: North Toronto Sub-LHIN  
Toronto Central LHIN: North Toronto Sub-LHIN Home and Community Care  
Toronto Central LHIN: North Toronto Sub-LHIN, Forest Hill Family Health Centre  
Toronto Central LHIN: North Toronto Sub-LHIN, SPRINT Senior  
Toronto Central Palliative Care Network  
**York Centre Seniors Steering Committee**

### Government

Province of Ontario (Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry Long-term Care, Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development, Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services, Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility, Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Public Health Ontario)  
City of Toronto (**City Planning, Social Development Finance Administration, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, Economic Development and Culture, Seniors Services and Long-Term Care, Toronto Employment and Social Services, Toronto Public Health**)

### Indigenous Service Provider

2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations  
Anishnawbe Health Toronto  
ENAGB Indigenous Youth Agency  
Native Canadian Centre of Toronto  
Native Child and Family Services of Toronto; Kiiwednong Aboriginal Head Start  
Native Men's Residence (Na-Me-Res)  
Native Women's Resource Centre of Toronto  
Nishnawbe Homes  
Ontario Federation of Friendship Centre  
Thunder Woman Healing Lodge Society  
**Toronto & York Region Metis Council**  
**Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre**  
Toronto Inuit Association  
Wigwamen

### Religious Organizations

Adath Israel Congregation  
B'nai Brith Canada  
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue  
Beth Joseph Chabad  
Bnei Akiva Of Toronto  
**Borochoy Cultural Centre and Kol Yisroel Congregation**  
Church of St. Stephen Downsview  
Daru-Al-Ullum Education Community center  
Downsview Baptist Church

Downsview Church of God of Pro/Prophecy  
 Downsview Presbyterian Church  
 다운스뷰장로교회  
 Downsview Seventh-day Adventist  
 Downsview United Church  
 Faith Lutheran Day Care Centre of Downsview  
 Ghana Calvary Methodist United Church  
 Imdadul Islamic Centre  
 Jane and Finch Community Ministry  
 Lodzer Centre  
 Metropolitan Baptist Church  
 Mount Zion Filipino Seventh-day Adventist Church  
 North York Church of Christ  
 Pride of Israel  
 Revivaltime Tabernacle, Downsview  
 Rhema Christian Ministries  
 Sheep Gate Fellowship Church  
 Spanish Seventh-day Adventist Church  
 St Philip Neri Catholic Church  
 St. John's Anglican Church Willowdale  
 Temple Sinai Congregation of Toronto  
 The Toronto Cheder  
 Toronto Buddhist Church  
 Uptown Chabad  
 West Toronto Church Of God

Social, Recreation and Newcomer Services

Afghan Association of Ontario  
 Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Toronto  
 Canadian Hearing Society Toronto  
 Regional Office Connect Housing Project  
 Canadian Ukrainian Immigrant Aid Society - North York Office  
 Career Foundation - Lawrence Allen  
 Centre Employment Centre - Ontario  
 Employment Services  
 Central Toronto Youth Services  
 Centre for Immigrant and Community Services - North York Office  
 Centre for Independent Living  
 Centre for Spanish-Speaking Peoples  
 Centre francophone du Grand Toronto - Centerpoint Mall - Services to newcomers  
 Children Aid society  
 Children Services  
 COSTI - Orientation to Ontario  
 Delta Family Resource Centre  
 Downsview Community Legal Services  
 Economic Development and Culture  
 Economic Development and Culture  
 Elspeth Heyworth Centre for Women  
 Ephraim's Place Community Centre  
 Family Inter-Generation Link

Fred Victor - Bethlehem United Shelter  
**Friends In Toronto (F.I.T) Community Service**  
**Habitat for Humanity GTA**  
 Harriet Tubman Community Organization  
 Hispanic Development Centre  
 Homes First Society - Willowdale  
 Welcome Centre  
 Hoop and Dome  
 Jamaican Canadian Association  
 Jane Finch Action Against Poverty  
 Jane Finch Family Centre: Green Change Office  
 Jewish Family & Child  
 Jewish Family and Child Services - Lipa Green Centre  
 Jewish Immigrant Aid Services Toronto - Central Office  
 JVS Toronto - Head Office  
 Kababayan Multicultural Centre - Bathurst and Finch Community Hub  
 KCWA Family and Social Services  
 Lao Association of Ontario  
 Lawrence Heights Inter-Organizational Network (LHION)  
 LOFT Community Services - Crosslinks  
 Supportive Housing Services (Shoreham Hub)  
 Manantial Neighbourhood Services  
 March of Dimes Canada - North York - Recreation & Integration Services  
 Mennonite New Life Centre of Toronto - Keele Office  
 Midaynta Community Services - Jane Street Hub  
 Newcomer Women's Services Toronto  
 North York Arts  
 North York Community House  
**North York Harvest Food Bank**  
**North York Historical Society**  
 North York Women's Shelter  
 Northwood Community Centre  
 Northwood Community Services  
 Northwood Neighbourhood Services  
 Ontario Community Support Association  
 Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants - Welcome Ontario - Refugee Assistance Information  
 Ontario Jewish Archives, Blankenstein  
 Family Heritage Centre  
 Ontario Learning Development Foundation  
 Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA)  
 Ontario Wheelchair Sports Association (OWSA)  
 Prosserman Jewish Community Centre  
 Rainbow/Korean Information and Social Services

Salvation Army, Immigrant and Refugee Services - North York Satellite Office

**Second Harvest**

Silent Voice Canada  
 Society for the Living Food Bank  
 St Clare Inn  
 St Stephen's Community House - Newcomer Centre - Settlement services  
 Strategic Initiatives, Policy & Analysis  
 Success Beyond Limits  
 TNO - The Neighbourhood Organization - Flemingdon Park Office

**Toronto Community Housing Corporation**

Toronto Mental Health and Addiction Supportive Housing Network  
 Toronto North Local Immigration Partnership  
 Toronto Public Library - Downsview Branch  
 Unison Health and Community Services - Lawrence Heights - Community Health Centre  
 University Settlement - North York Office

**Urban Squash Toronto**

Vibrant Healthcare Alliance  
 Vietnamese Association Toronto  
 Windmill Microlending - Toronto Office  
 Working Women Community Centre - North York East Centre  
 YMCA Toronto  
 Youth Assisting Youth - Peer Mentoring Programs  
 Youth Association for Academics, Athletics & Character Education (YAAACE)

Urban Agriculture

Afri-Can FoodBasket  
 Black Creek Community Farm  
 Evergreen

**FoodShare Toronto**

Sundance Harvest

**Toronto Urban Growers**

Workforce Development & Unions

ATU Transit Union Local 113  
 Carpenters District Council of Ontario  
 Economic Development and Culture  
 LIUNA LOCAL 183  
 LiUNA Local 506  
 Neighbourhood Action Youth Employment Committee  
 Toronto & York Region Labour Council  
**Toronto Community Benefit Network**  
 Toronto Workforce Innovation Group  
 Unifor Local 673

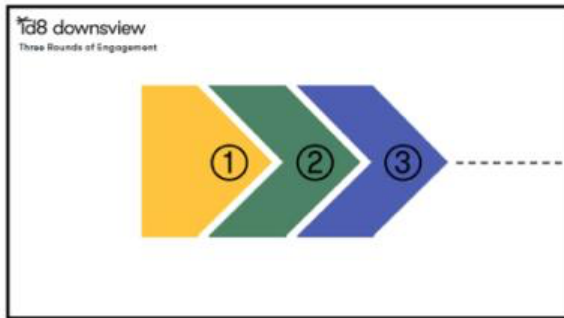
# ATTACHMENT 3: Presentation Slides



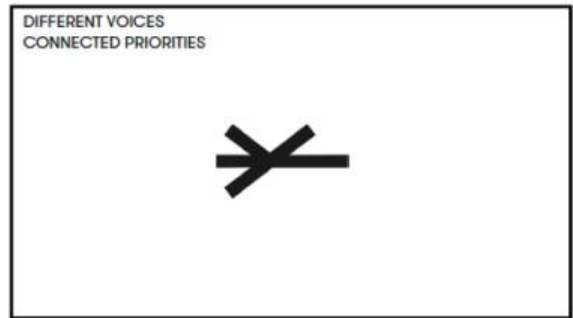
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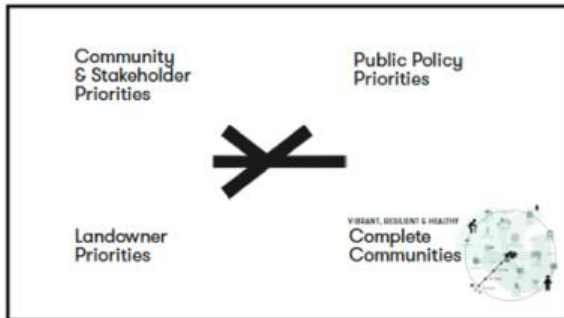
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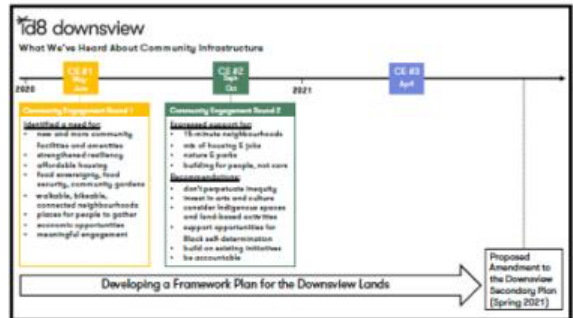
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**KEELE SHEPPARD COMMUNITY CENTRE**



An opportunity to address a community priority and deliver on a Downview Area Secondary Plan (2011) policy objective.

We recognize the importance of this future community asset and are actively working with the City to advance the thinking.



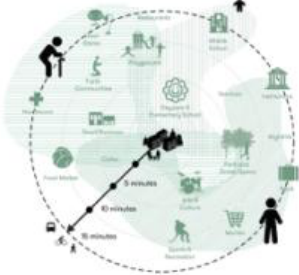
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**COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE TEAM**  
A Bottom-Up, Top-Down Approach



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**CREATING VIBRANT, RESILIENT, AND HEALTHY COMPLETE COMMUNITIES**



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**SUPPORTING EXISTING NEIGHBOURHOODS**  
Connecting Neighbourhoods with New Ones



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**HOW WE'RE STARTING TO THINK ABOUT IT**

- We want to move *beyond a facilities focused approach*, beginning first with community-identified priorities.
- We're considering how development can *deliver benefits to new and existing communities*.
- We need an *interconnected, interdisciplinary process*: one that aligns the priorities of diverse actors.
- To be successful in the long-term, this process and approach must *augment existing facility-focused approaches*.
- *Success begins with the community*: the diverse actors in the community will shape their futures.

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**C3: CENTRE FOR CONNECTED COMMUNITIES**

**OUR VISION**  
Every community is a connected community

**OUR MISSION**

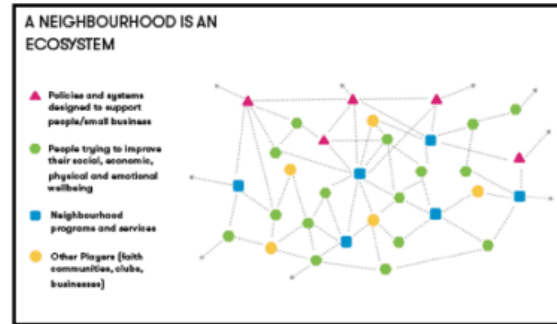
- CONNECT**  
people with ideas, knowledge, research, tools and each other
- TRANSLATE**  
knowledge across sectors
- CELEBRATE**  
and elevate the work of community builders

**OUR IMPACT**  
Systems become increasingly accessible and responsive to equity seeking groups

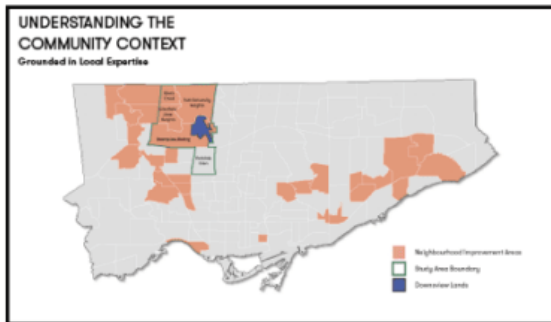
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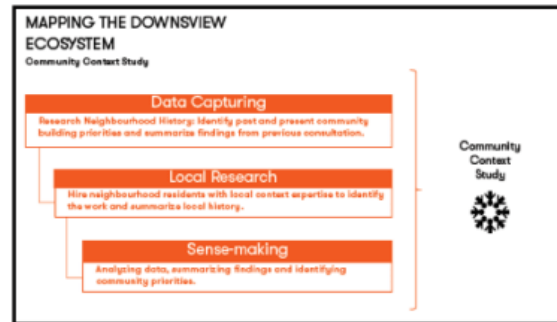
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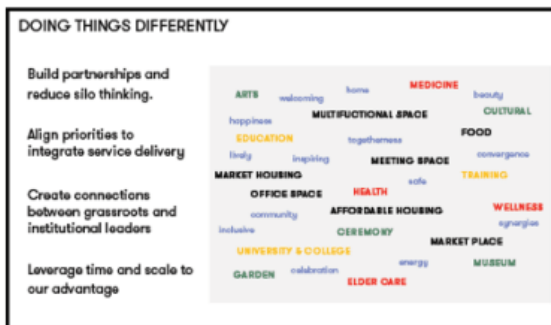
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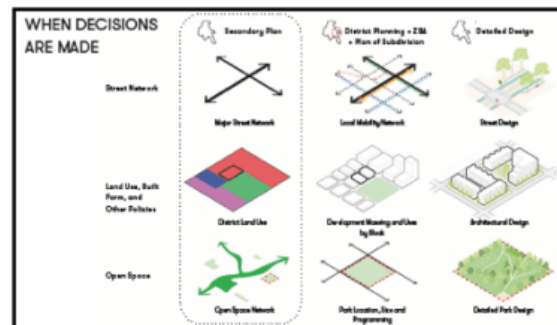
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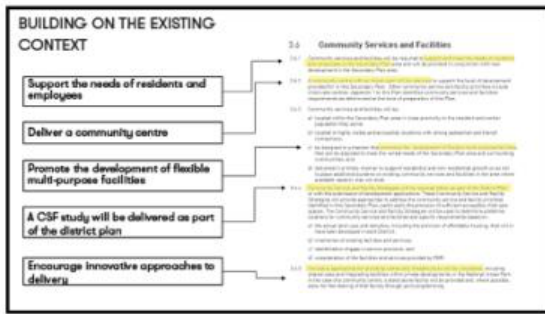


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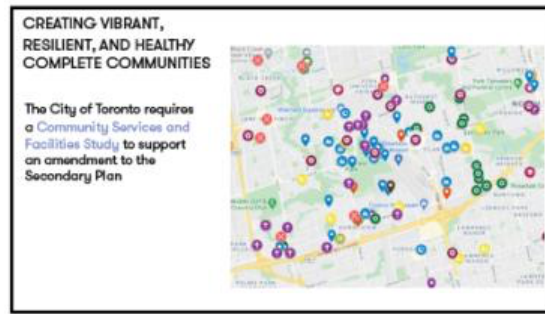


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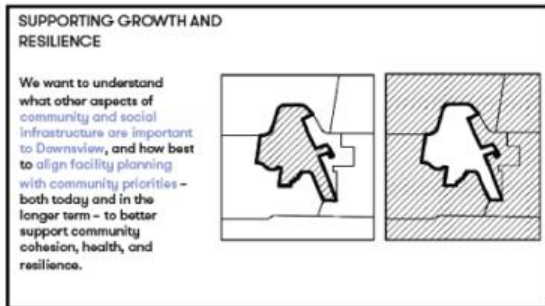




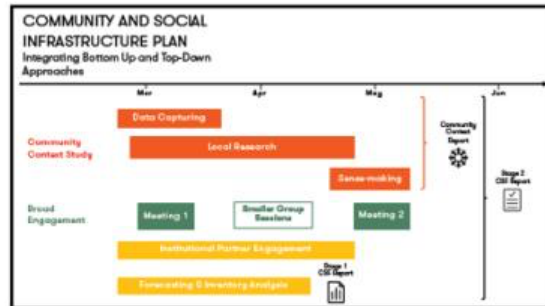
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### WE ARE HERE TO LEARN FROM YOU

- Are there different "lenses" or themes through which we can organize community priorities? What are they?
- In an ideal world, how would you want to work with Northeast and Canada Lands as they move forward with the planning process? Who else needs to be involved?
- Do you have any other advice for Northeast, Canada Lands, and the consultant team?

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## ATTACHMENT 4: Additional Comments from Our Greenway Conservancy and York Community Centre Senior Steering Committee

### Our Greenway Conservancy

Following the meeting, Our Greenway Conservancy shared additional comments on a land trust model for the Downsview site. The remarks were sent via email to the facilitation team on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021, which has been included below. This feedback is unedited, other than to adjust formatting.

*Thank you again for inviting us to the meeting last week; it was a pleasure to be able to have Our Greenway Conservancy's team there. Here in sum are my comments regarding the Land Trust:*

*In order to support the Community oriented vision that is intended before, during and after construction, a Land Trust governed by the community would be an indispensable systemic and symbiotic partner as this project is realized. While there will be ongoing community interest in the site, community members and organizations function on a much different time and capacity scale than institutions - by the time this project is built out in 2050, there are likely to be almost an entirely new set of voices around the table. While this isn't a problem for land development corporations, it's a major, disruptive problem for community participation - a Land Trust, modestly staffed, meets the need by providing a clear entry point for community members seeking to have an impact and acts as a trusted institutional memory bank.*

*First off, I would legally entrust the Land Trust immediately after Phase 3 with authority over all spaces open to the public / planned spaces of community benefit. This gives the Land Trust a centralized real property basis upon which to operate, and be baked into site contracts going forward. Acting just after Phase 3 of the current engagement process ensures there is no lapse in community involvement. The Land Trust would ensure public space standards and uphold public trust by not having to rely on the various management companies who will own various parts of the site in the future to ensure proper animation. Having been baked into contracts going back three decades by the time the site is built out, the Trust will be well funded with an endowment collected and managed as part of the development process. I would propose a two tier model - a 'Macro' 15-25 member elected board in charge of high level strategic policy over community spaces. This elected body would have dedicated slots to intentionally reflect the ages, organizations and geographies interested in this site, so it's reflective of the entire NW community. The election for this body would be an entirely open community process. The 'Micro' 5-9 member elected*

*board would be elected solely by the 'Macro' board, with no dedicated slots for anyone. The Micro board would be a technical board entirely focused on the more day to day matters and working with Trust staff to implement the strategic policy. No-one would be allowed to sit on both boards at once.*

*I will note that, Governance and management implementation are not the same thing. Two different governance structures can employ the same management team, if they wish and it makes strategic sense, after all. What matters is that the present and future community members feel that the Trust is a legitimate, trusted vessel they control the overall policy of. Supporting the creation of a single, trusted institutional community-controlled advocate capable of working with the Downsview partners on a permanent and technical basis will reduce frustration and improve site outcomes for all.*

*Our Greenway Conservancy's team would be glad to discuss further with the Downsview partners as work progresses.*

## York Community Centre Senior Steering Committee

Following the meeting a member of the York Community Centre Senior Steering Committee sent additional comments as part of the summary review process. The comments were sent to the facilitation team on March 24th, 2021, which has been included below. This feedback is unedited, other than to adjust formatting:

*As per YC SSC Letter of Support to Northcrest for the re-designation of lands as proposed in Amendment No. 231 Appeal 134 by Downsview Park and Canada Lands Company (for City Council consideration on February 2, 2021), YC SSC representatives' needs to be directly involved in co-creating and co-producing the programming/design and implementation of the community centre to ensure no duplication in function with their concept for YC SSC EVERYONE's Seniors Health Village (SHV™) at William Baker. This will include new social community infrastructure, in which we would like to see the new Councilor's Working Group, an entity proposed by YC SSC and the community. Such assembly would be part of the newly envisioned YC SSC Community Health Design Centre. It would be instrumental in the Downsview Lands New Deal Settlement, with new social innovation contract agreement between YC SSC, City of Toronto, Northcrest Developments and Canada Lands Company.*

For more information on York Centre Senior Steering Committee Letter of Support, please refer to the [City of Toronto's website](https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2021/cc/comm/communicationfile-127288.pdf):  
<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2021/cc/comm/communicationfile-127288.pdf>