



Newfoundland
Labrador



Open

Open Government Initiative

Public Engagement Session
Grand Falls-Windsor-Baie Verte-Hr. Breton Region
September 23, 2014
Grand Falls-Windsor, NL

EE2018-G

An open government...

- Is transparent, accountable and responsive to the public (both citizens and stakeholder groups)
- Increases access to information/data
- Provides meaningful opportunities for dialogue and collaboration between/with government and the public
- Uses innovative activities, strategies and approaches to better connect people to their government
- Leads to enhanced knowledge-sharing, innovation, dialogue, trust and collaboration which in turn leads to better policies, decisions, programs and services

What is the Open Government Initiative?

- A bold and ambitious Government-wide initiative launched by the Premier in March (with the OPE as 'lead-department')
- An initiative that will result in GNL's first ever Open Government Action Plan
- An effort that is underpinned by an extensive public engagement process
- An effort that will lead to enhanced data and information sharing, better engagement and collaboration

Open Government Initiative

- Based on international standards/best practices
- In keeping with many other jurisdictions
- 4 pillars:
 - Open Information
 - Open Data
 - Dialogue
 - Collaboration

Purpose of this session

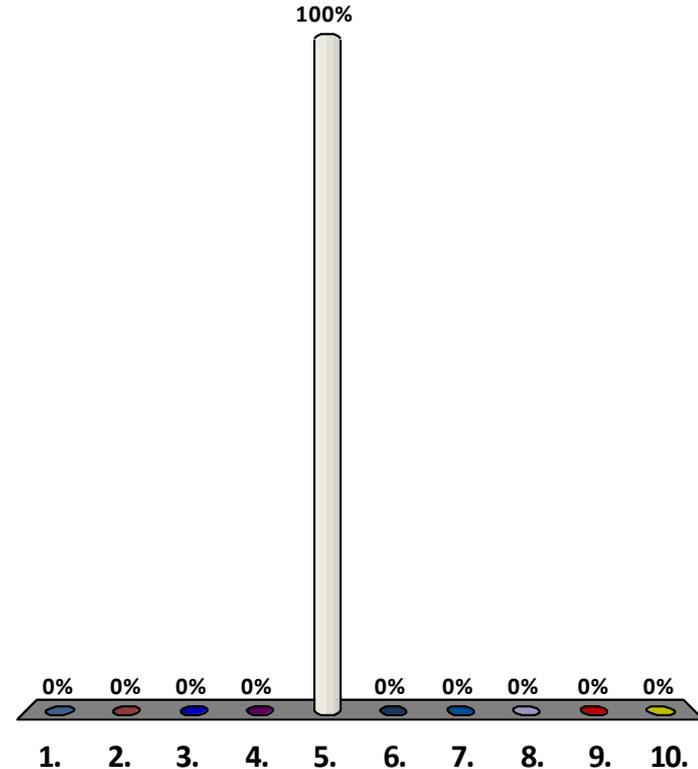
- Information sharing
- Idea generation (brainstorming possible actions)

Process

- Table Discussion
- Technology

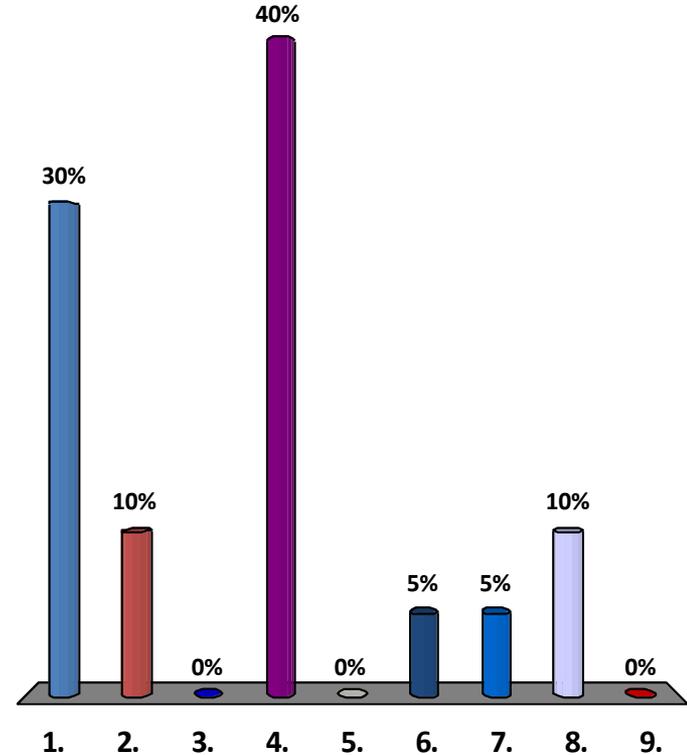
The region in which I live is...

1. Labrador
2. St. Anthony - Port au Choix
3. Corner Brook - Rocky Harbour
4. Stephenville - Port aux Basques
5. Grand Falls - Windsor - Baie Verte - Harbour Breton
6. Gander - New-Wes-Valley
7. Clarenville - Bonavista
8. Burin Peninsula
9. Northeast Avalon
10. Other Avalon



Today I am or am representing:

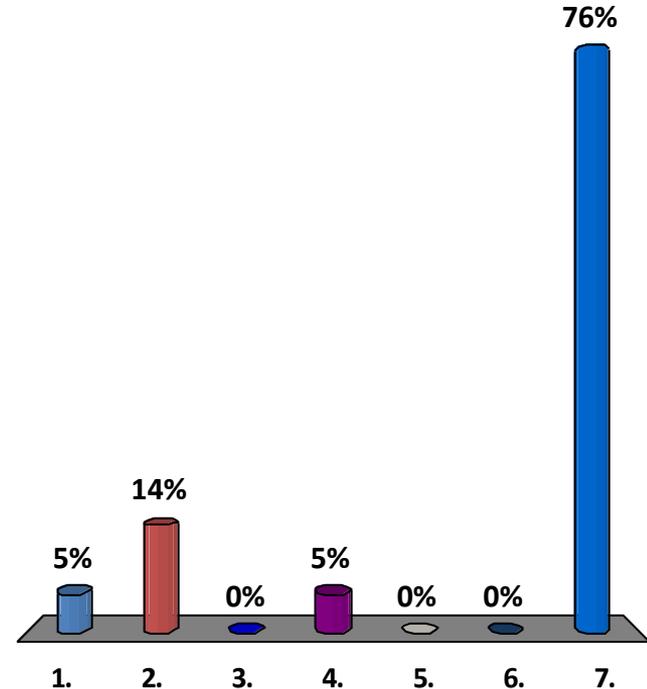
1. Academic Institution
2. Business
3. Labour
4. Not-for profit
5. Interest/Advocacy/Advisory group
6. Citizen
7. Municipality
8. Government
9. Other



I previously provided input into the Open Government Initiative by:

(Select all that apply)

1. Attending an in-person session
2. Completing an online survey
3. Email submission
4. Mail submission
5. Social media
6. Telephone conversation
7. I have not provided input prior to today



Public Engagement Process

- Overview -

What we heard

Engagement Efforts

- 30 information and engagement sessions
- 400+ participants
- 30 online feedback forms collected
- 260+ questionnaires completed
- 1500 unique ideas, comments and suggestions about how to make GNL more open

Emerging Themes

- Accessibility/User friendliness
- Participation/Technology
- Collaboration Challenges
- Government Responsiveness

Theme Discussion

Accessibility/User friendliness

Examples: What we heard

- “Sometimes we know the info/data is available, but we can’t access it or find it”
- “Right now, you have to open like 60 different documents and search them all individually”
- “No central place to collect and store data”
- “Not every report has it available to pull out the specific data that the public are looking for”
- “Public accounts, estimates, budget speeches, etc. they are in pictures not data formats. Need to pull out every piece of data. It is not in an excel or usable format.”

Key Ideas: Other Jurisdictions

- “One stop shop” for data/information
- Making data/information easier to use
- Getting public input re: what data/information is priority
- “Open by Default” approach



Transparency and Open Data:
Priorities for 2014



New UK Location Metadata Editor



The Linked Open British National
Bibliography



Strengthening the
National Information
Infrastructure (NII)



Public servants, open
data wants you!



Housing Land
Availability
Assessment – Data
Constraints



Less searching. More savings. ^{or}
You could save \$525 by combining
Auto & Home.
www.statefarm.com

Tampa Real Estate

5,566 results, 19 unmapped.

Featured Newest Cheapest [more -](#)



● House For Sale
\$134,900
Zestimate®: \$114K
1 day on Zillow

4006 W Land Ave, Tampa, FL
3 beds, 2 baths, 1,188 sqft
5,662 sqft lot
Built in 1964



● House For Sale
\$250,000
Zestimate®: \$196K
1 day on Zillow

813 W Woodlawn Ave, Tam...
3 beds, 2 baths, 1,542 sqft
7,840 sqft lot
Built in 1949



● House For Sale
\$575,000
Zestimate®: \$451K
1 day on Zillow

2807 Northpointe Ln, Tamp...
3 beds, 3 baths, 2,592 sqft
6,056 sqft lot
Built in 1998



● House For Rent
\$1,550/mo
Rent Zestimate®: \$1.2K
1 day on Zillow

6317 N 22nd St, Tampa, FL
4 beds, 2 baths, 1,516 sqft
0.46 ac lot
Built in 1958



● House For Rent
\$3,100/mo
Rent Zestimate®: \$2.6K
1 day on Zillow

10553 Martinique Isle Dr, T...
4 beds, 3 baths, 4,096 sqft
0.32 ac lot
Built in 2006



● Condo For Rent
\$800/mo
Rent Zestimate®: \$821
1 day on Zillow

4335 Aegean Dr APT 142A,...
1 bed, 1 bath, 760 sqft
Built in 1981



● Condo For Rent
\$1,995/mo
Rent Zestimate®: \$1.5K
1 day on Zillow

777 N Ashley Dr UNIT 1615...
2 beds, 2 baths, 888 sqft
Built in 2007



Home Values

Add seller comment

Zestimate ^(?)

\$195,523

+**\$54,179** Last 30 days

\$178K \$215K

Zestimate range

Rent Zestimate ^(?)

\$1,273/mo

-**\$12** Last 30 days

\$1.1K \$1.7K

Zestimate range

Zestimate forecast

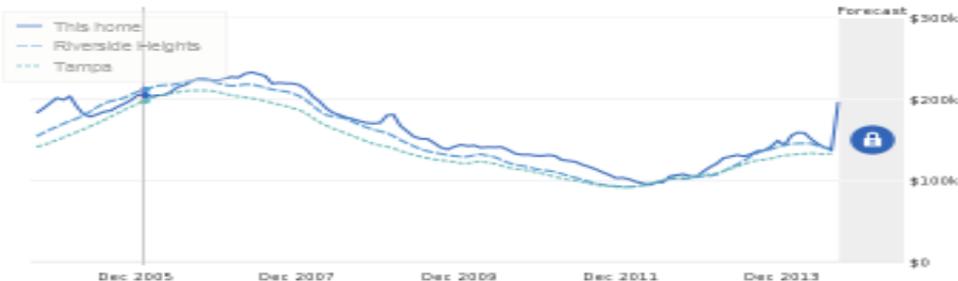


To see Zestimate forecast
Create a free account

One year

Zestimate ^(?)

1 year | 5 years | 10 years



Price History

Date	Event	Price	\$/sqft	Source
09/04/14	Listed for sale	\$250,000 +22.0%	\$162	Keller William...
06/11/04	Sold	\$204,900 +504%	\$132	Public Record
11/30/00	Sold	\$33,900	\$21	Public Record

[+ More](#)

Tax History

Find assessor information on the county website

Year	Property taxes	Change	Tax assessment	Change
2013	\$750	-0.1%	\$73,593	1.7%
2012	\$751	-17.2%	\$72,363	-10.9%
2011	\$907	-30.2%	\$81,181	-18.9%

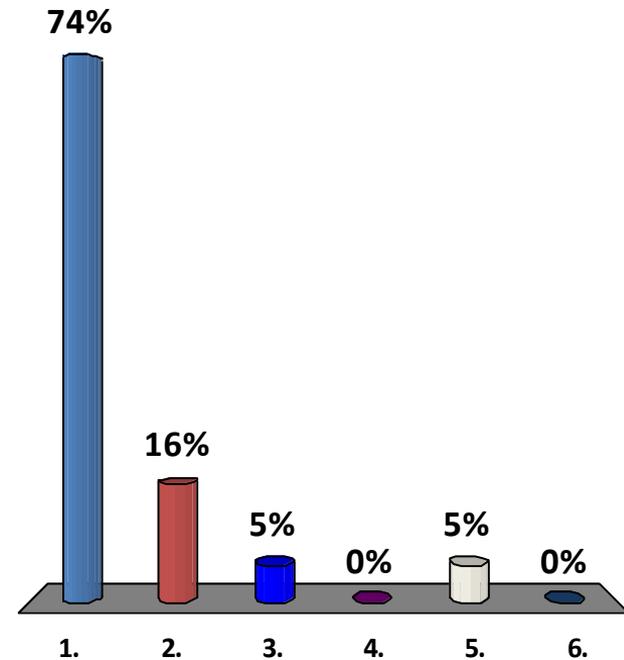
[+ More](#)

Accessibility/User friendliness

Polling

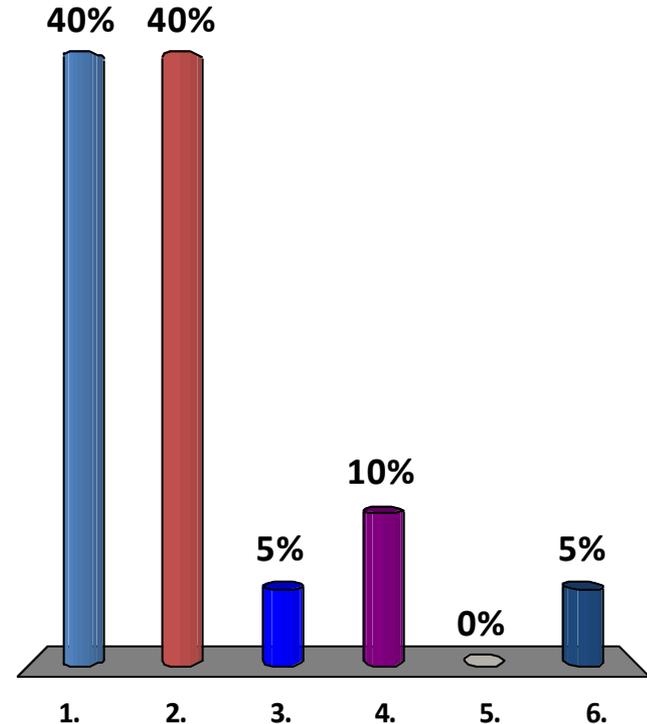
Government should create a “one stop shop” website and app that would make it easier to access government information and data.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Unsure
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree
6. I do not know



Government should develop an 'open by default' data and information policy that would improve access to government information and data.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Unsure
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree
6. I do not know



Do you have other ideas or suggestions about how government information and data could be more accessible and user friendly?

Discussion Question

Theme Discussion

Participation/Technology

Examples: What we heard

- “The current [GNL] website is not designed to reach out to people”
- “We are asked to attend sessions but there’s a feeling that the decision has already been made”
- “Most times I think that it is a done deal. It’s more optics. It’s disingenuous, not open enough and no follow up”
- “Public sessions are intimidating; will I be asked something?, how do I dress?, will I be smart enough?, etc...”

Examples: What we heard

- “Locations are not always accessible. Public Sessions are not geared or accommodating to persons with disabilities. Logistics need to be accessible to individuals with disabilities (physical, hearing, seeing)”
- “Something to remember with online things such as social media is to keep in mind an older population who don’t use such technologies”
- “Need something in place for seniors, those that are not tech savvy”

Key Ideas: Other Jurisdictions

- “Open Policy-Making”
- Online Platforms for Engagement (including apps)

Submit New Form



Council Speakers List

Got something to say? Sign up and have your say



Graffiti Reporter

Graffiti in your community? Tell us about it here...



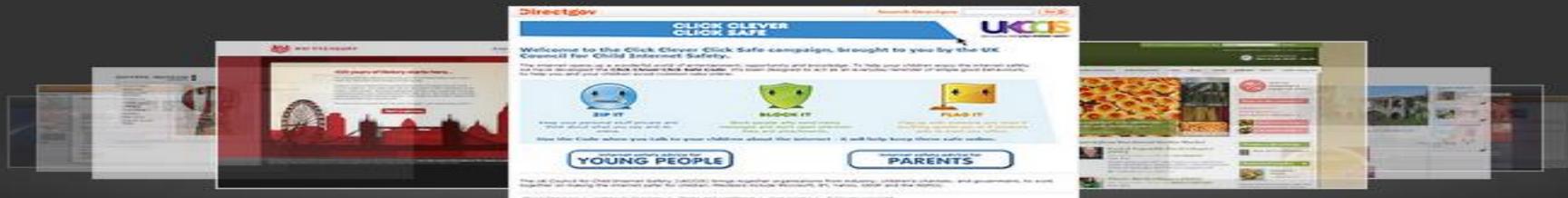
Request for Information

Submit a public records request while on the go



UK Government Web Archive

The National Archives is preserving UK government information published on the web



Click Clever, Click Safe

Search the UK Government Web Archive



Search by keyword, category, or narrow down to a specific website.

[Search](#)

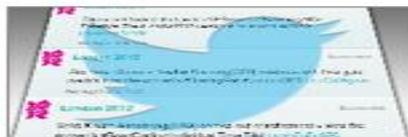
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Find a site in our collection by browsing our full A-Z list.

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Twitter archive



See tweets archived from UK Government Twitter accounts.

[View Twitter archive](#)

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Popular

News

[A to Z](#)

[Business, industry, economics and finance](#)

[Central and Regional Government](#)

[Culture and leisure](#)

[Environment](#)

[Health, well-being and care](#)

[Home affairs, public order, justice and rights](#)

[Honours, awards and appointments](#)

[International affairs and defence](#)

[People, community and housing](#)

[Public inquiries, inquests and royal commissions](#)

[Transport, communication, science and technology](#)

[Work, education and skills](#)

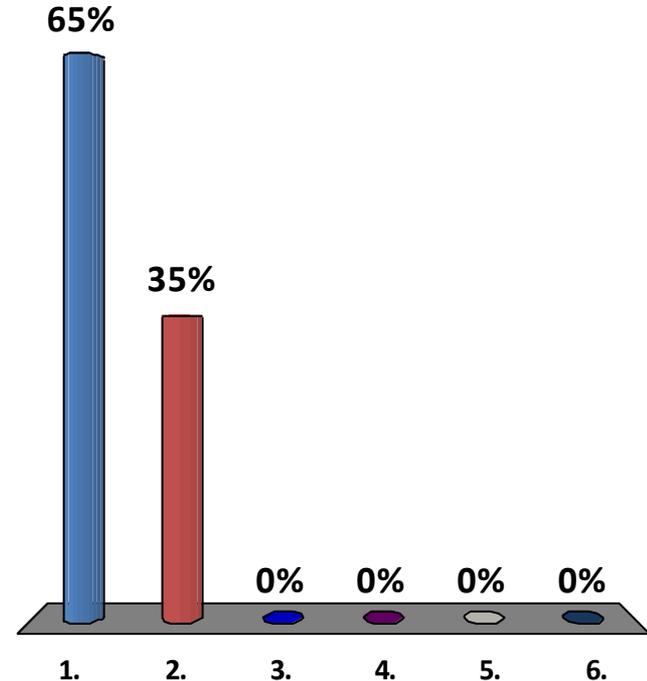
Quick links

Participation/Technology

Polling

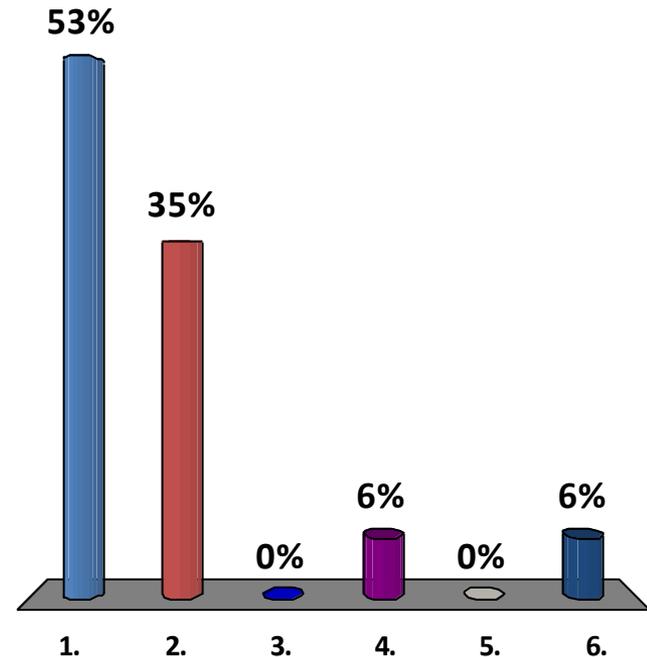
Government should use innovative engagement tools/approaches to increase opportunities for public input

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Unsure
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree
6. I do not know



Government should create a tool (app) that serves as a one-stop-shop for engagement (lists and reports on all opportunities; allows citizens to provide input, etc.).

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Unsure
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree
6. I do not know



Do you have other ideas or suggestions about how government can do a better job of engaging the public?

Discussion Question

Theme Discussion

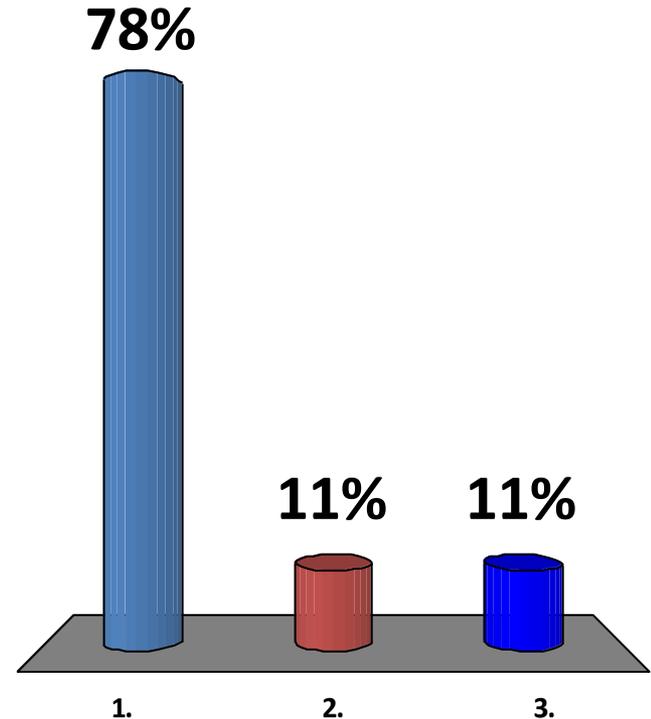
Collaboration Challenges

Examples: What we heard

- “Access to bureaucrats is very limited”
- “Clarification of roles in the collaboration is needed upfront”
- “Determining where like-minded entities with a lot in common exist and building bridges”
- “Providing money doesn’t equal a partnership”
- “Manage and clarify the expectations of such collaborations or partnerships”

Have you been part of a group that has had collaborative relationships with the GNL?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Unsure



Do you have any ideas or suggestions on how government can be a better partner when collaborating with external groups?

Discussion Question

Theme Discussion

Government Responsiveness

Examples: What we heard

- “There needs to be a balance struck. ‘Engaging just to engage’ or ‘engaging to look good’ is not a good way to engage”
- “Engagement should only take place if the process will influence the decision at hand, and ensure that participants feel respected and heard”

Examples: What we heard

- “Timely reporting and follow-up needs to be a priority, preferably within a matter of weeks”
- “No acknowledgement from government that your opinions were received or of any value. If you pay money to consult with the public then it would be nice to get some form of acknowledgement that what you had to say was heard”

Key Ideas: Other Jurisdictions

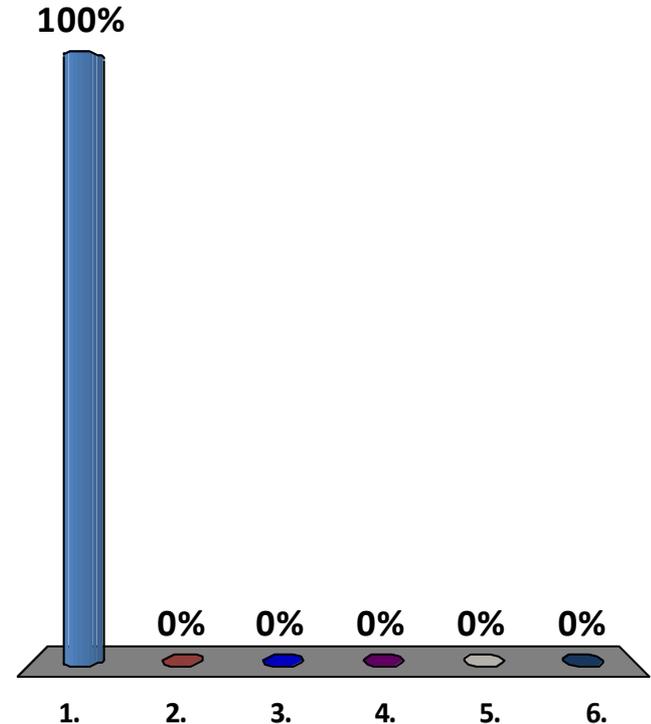
- Pilot projects to improve communication
- Obtain/use (with permission) contact information to keep people up to date re: how their input affected decisions)

Government Responsiveness

Polling

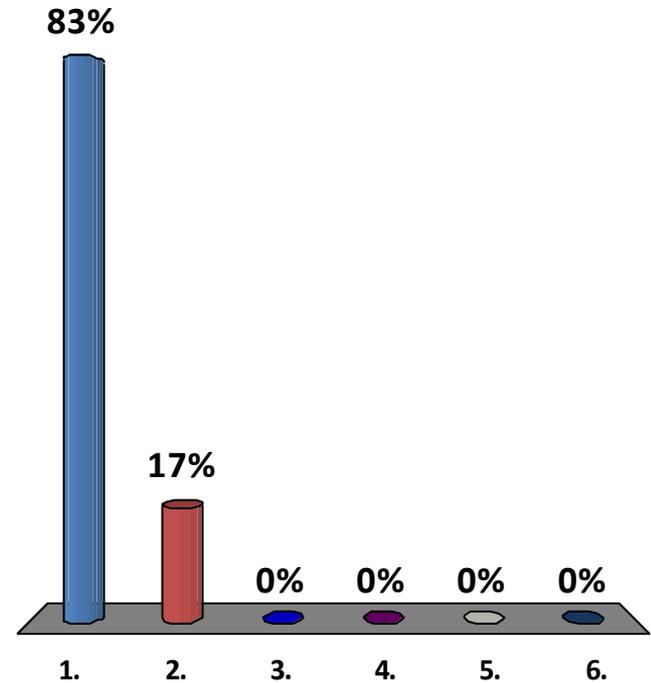
Government should consider new ways to improve its communications with citizens.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Unsure
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree
6. I do not know



Government should obtain/use contact information (with permission) to keep citizens up to date on engagement events and results.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Unsure
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree
6. I do not know



Do you have other ideas or suggestions about how government could be more responsive or proactive when it comes to informing citizens of the outcomes of a public engagement activity or process?

Discussion Question

Do you have any additional ideas re: possible actions that the GNL should consider when developing its first Open Government Action Plan?

Discussion Question

Theme Team

Report Back

Idea/Suggestions: Accessibility/User friendliness

- Access to hard copies by request and in different formats
- Have human contact (phone, in person, and live chat)
- 2 way info sharing through social media (request, respond, and pose questions)
- Improve search engine
- Publicize results of all consultations
- Simplify and update the application processes
- Phone apps
- Guide to best practices in searching info and data
- Have an office that assists people in using the website

Idea/Suggestions: Participation/Technology

- Better awareness using all forms of media (notices, email, mail, radio, newsprint, TV, etc.)
- Notices placed in public buildings (post office, doctors office, government buildings, etc.)
- Better efforts to engage youth
- Texting notifications (surveys, info, similar to phone companies)
- Options for people to participate - make it as convenient as possible
- Use plain language
- Provide background information
- Government needs to use present structures better

Idea/Suggestions: Collaboration Challenges

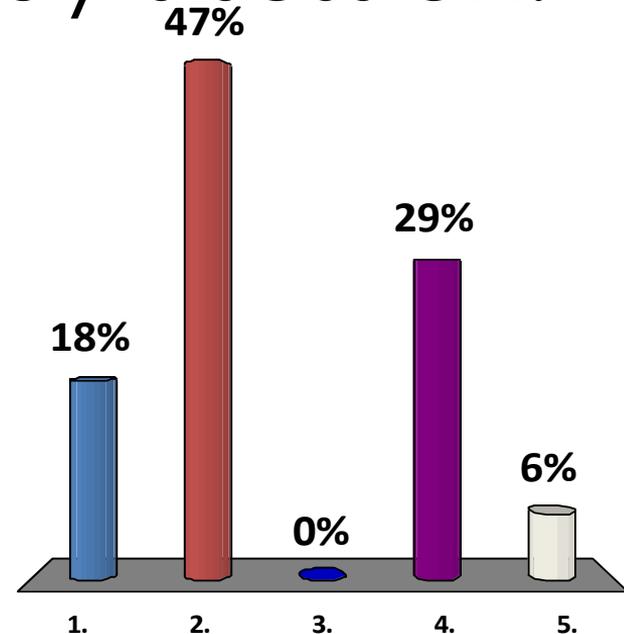
- Better communication between partners
- Provides feedback and follow-up
- Government to be receptive to feedback from partners with no repercussions
- Funding should be based on what works not only on statistics
- Collaborate more in rural areas
- Balanced partnerships - feeling equal - don't dismantle if it gets challenging

Idea/Suggestions: Government Responsiveness

- Sign up for emails (emailing lists)
- Put on gov't website - what we heard without altering
- Media - report summaries
- Use local or closed circuit television
- More live chats - on websites, social media
- If not at session, should be able to call somewhere to results
- Government newsfeed
- If policy developed as a result of consultations, publicly acknowledge the input
- What are we doing page/blog
- Training sessions for people to share information
- Staff accessible to help understand government information
- Sessions accessible to all

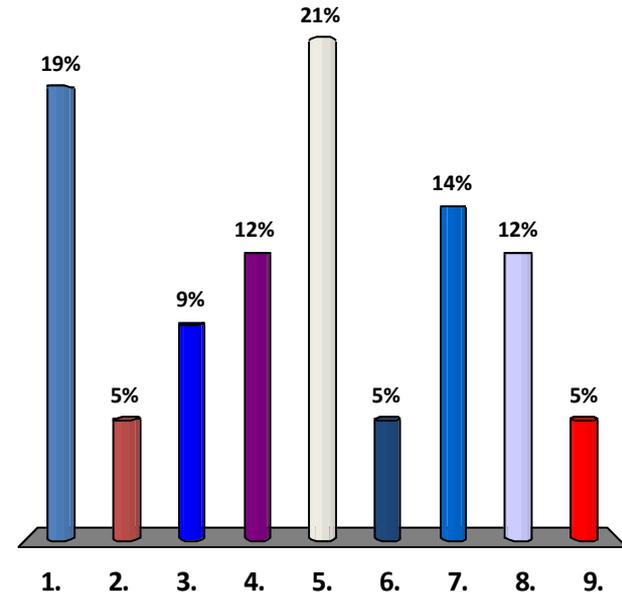
I was given enough notice to participate in today's session.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Neutral
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree



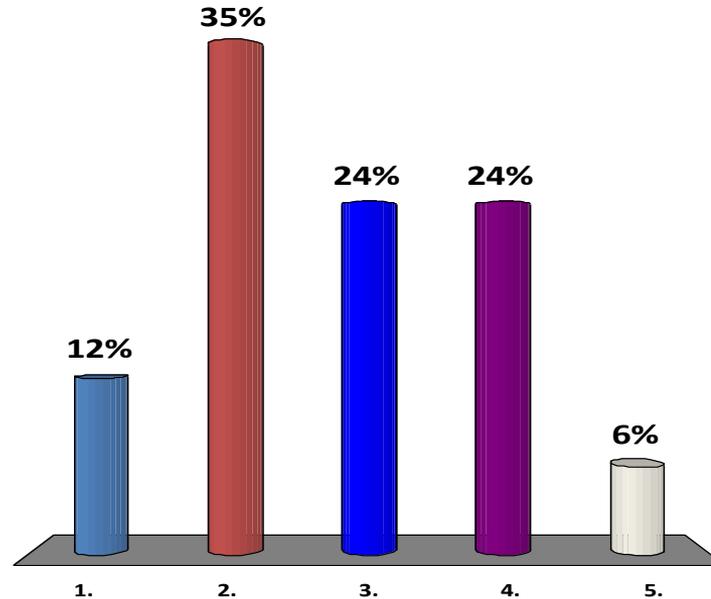
I found today's session (select all that apply)

1. Informative
2. Uninformative
3. A good use of my time
4. A waste of my time
5. Engaging
6. Unengaging
7. Relevant
8. Irrelevant
9. Other



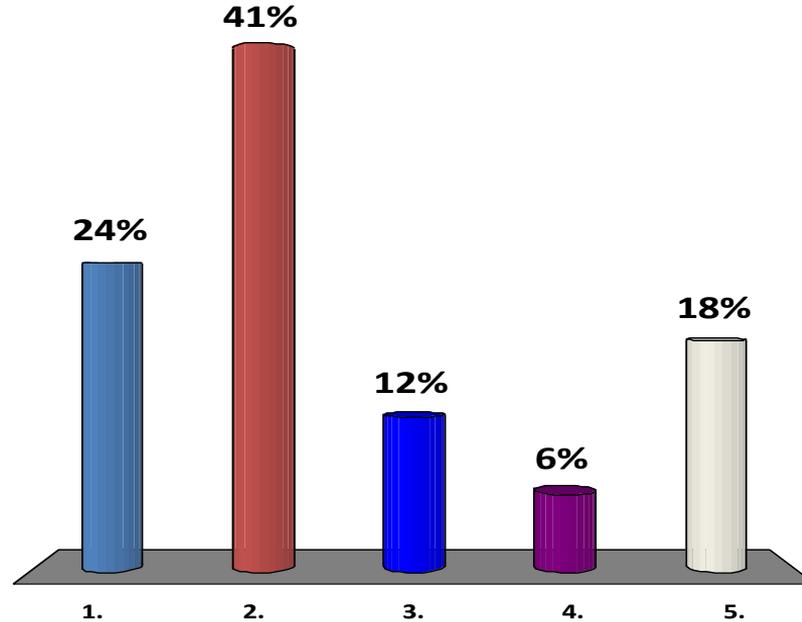
I liked the format of today's session.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Neutral
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree



I had an opportunity to have my say today.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Neutral
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree



Open Government Commitment

- Comprehensive Public Engagement (ongoing)
- Online tools; social media; feedback forms (ongoing)
- Face to face meetings and other interactive dialogue sessions (ongoing)
- Input received posted, in a timely manner (ongoing)
- Determine themes and prepare and release a “what we heard” document (fall)

Open Government Commitment

- Release a Draft Action Plan with a request for additional public input (fall)
- Release a final Action Plan (late fall/early winter)

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