

MEETING SUMMARY

Civic Lab 1: Digital Governance (Nov 23, 2018)

Overview

This is a summary of key points raised in Waterfront Toronto's Civic Lab 1. The Quayside Civic Labs are a forum for subject matter experts and advocates to share advice with Waterfront Toronto about issues related to potential digital elements in the planning of Quayside. Civic Lab 1 focused on Digital Governance (see Appendix A. Meeting Agenda and Appendix B. Participant List). The discussion focused on three questions:

1. What issues would you like to see Waterfront Toronto consider as it reviews the digital proposals related to Quayside?
2. How do you think Waterfront Toronto can best determine what's in the public interest when dealing with the opportunities and challenges that are associated with smart cities?
3. Do you have any other feedback or advice related to smart cities that you'd like to share?

Waterfront Toronto also asked participants to consider sending advice about three Draft Info Sheets intended to raise civic literacy about digital issues related to Quayside (by **Friday, Nov. 30**) and any additional responses to the questions above (by **Friday, Dec. 21**) to civiclabs@waterfronttoronto.ca.

This summary was written by Ian Malczewski and Nicole Swerhun, third party facilitators with Swerhun Inc. supporting Waterfront Toronto in delivering the Quayside Civic Labs. This summary captures key themes from the discussion; it is not intended to serve as a verbatim transcript. A draft of this summary was shared with participants for review before it was finalized.

Summary of Key Points Raised in Civic Lab 1

The points below reflect highlights of the discussion shared in plenary discussions — they are not intended to indicate consensus, and the order of the points is not intended to imply priority.

1. **Long-term, sustainable data governance.** Waterfront Toronto should explore strategies to ensure there is a long-term data governance model in place. This governance model, such as a Data Trust, would need to address issues like data abandonment, bankruptcies, changes in political or business interests, the data of people, and the data of things. There should be thought given to “the governance of governance;” a sharing agreement (similar to Milano) could help manage data governance in Canada. Participants shared a range of opinions about who should define or develop governance models: some said they should be defined by elected officials rather than un-elected parties such as Sidewalk Labs and/or Waterfront Toronto, while others said elected officials have not demonstrated an ability to have informed discussions about data and data governance models to date (see the US Senate Inquiry into Facebook). Some said the broader community should propose data models, policies, and regulations.
2. **Individual and collective privacy.** Waterfront Toronto should ensure that any smart city services adhere to the principle and law of deidentification-at-source (and asking for consent where personal information is necessary to provide services). When looking at privacy, Waterfront Toronto should consider both the privacy of individual data and the privacy of collective, behavioural data — the shift from individual privacy to collective privacy is significant. There was a suggestion to consider identifying gaps in the current public sector privacy framework (as they relate to smart cities) — consent may be

impractical in certain circumstances, so there needs to be an understanding of regulatory gaps to help create the appropriate governance structures.

3. **Leverage others' experiences and seek their advice.** Waterfront Toronto should look to others, like Barcelona, to make sure it is building on their experiences. It would be great to invite those working on humane smart cities to speak in Toronto so we can learn whether Toronto should adopt their practices and hear their concerns about what's going on here. Participants also suggested looking at the City of Toronto's recent work on the smart cities challenge to build off work that has already been done locally.
4. **Enhance democratic institutions and service delivery to all groups.** Some said they would like to see Waterfront Toronto think about ways that data, technology, and space could be used to enhance services for groups that are typically underserved. Data governance structures should strive to ensure that smart city services enhance democratic and municipal institutions (not replace them).
5. **Broader education.** Broader education is very important to this discussion, including education of both politicians and the broader public (so they are literate about data and data governance). As part of this education, consider hiving off data and digital governance and explaining how they connect to topics like energy, transportation, and others.
6. **Develop a Digital Strategy grounded in first principles.** Waterfront Toronto should develop and consult on a Digital Strategy that identifies what it considers acceptable and unacceptable in smart city proposals so that Sidewalk Labs (or other smart city proponents) have a reference. Barcelona, Amsterdam, Oakland, and others have Digital Strategies that could be good examples for Waterfront Toronto to review. The Strategy should include first principles and identify "red lines" that inform when Waterfront Toronto will say no.
7. **A more detailed, grounded, concrete discussion.** Concrete digital governance proposals would be helpful in informing a more engaged discussion. It would also be helpful to see a business plan and how it connects to the collection and use of data — even if tentative — to provide context and inform discussions about data and data governance.
8. **Connection between data and algorithms.** Discussions about data should connect to discussions about algorithms (and vice versa) since the issues between these two topics are close interrelated.
9. **Don't put the cart before the horse.** We should focus our discussions on how we want our cities to be inclusive. There are many tough topics to address in discussions about inclusive cities — digital should be a subset of those discussions.
10. **Feedback and advice about process.** This conversation is healthy and excellent — it's good to have a safe place to have a non-polarizing discussion that makes space for opposing views. Participants identified the private sector and civic tech communities as potential additional audiences to engage in these discussions.

Next Steps

Waterfront Toronto reminded participants to send any advice about its Draft Info Sheets by **Friday, November 30** and any additional advice related to the digital proposals at Quayside by **Friday, Dec 21** to civiclabs@waterfronttoronto.ca. Future Civic Labs will focus on topics such as intellectual property, data monetization, civic data trusts, and digital justice, and others based on the feedback shared in Civic Lab 1. The next Civic Lab, which will take place in January 2019, will include more detail about the updated Sidewalk Labs proposal.

APPENDIX A. Meeting Agenda

Quayside Civic Lab
November 23, 2018 - 12:30pm
Globe and Mail Centre - Nahanni Room

12:30pm	Welcome and Opening Remarks	Michael Geist , Chair, Digital Strategy Advisory Panel
12:35pm	Introductions & Agenda Review	Nicole Swerhun , Facilitator
12:50pm	Waterfront Toronto	Kristina Verner , Vice President, Innovation, Sustainability & Prosperity, Waterfront Toronto
12:55pm	City of Toronto	David Stonehouse , Waterfront Secretariat, City of Toronto
1:00pm	Overview	Chantal Bernier , National Practice Leader, Privacy and Cybersecurity, Dentons
1:10pm	Environmental Scan	Teresa Scassa , Canada Research Chair in Information Law and Policy, University of Ottawa
1:20pm	City of Toronto	Lawrence Eta , Deputy Chief Information Officer, City of Toronto
1:25pm	Environmental Scan	Pamela Robinson , Associate Dean, Ryerson University
1:35pm	Government of Canada	Glenn Campbell , Assistant Deputy Minister, Investments, Partnerships and Innovation, Infrastructure Canada
1:40pm	Question and Answers	All
1:55pm	Roundtable Discussion	All
2:40pm	Report Back	All
3:15pm	Closing Remarks	Kristina Verner, Vice President, Innovation, Sustainability & Prosperity, Waterfront Toronto

APPENDIX B. Participant List

Organizations that were invited to Civic Lab 1 are listed below; organizations that attended are **bolded**.

Organizations:

**Aqualina Condominium,
Board of Directors**
Autonomous Vehicle
Innovation Network (AVIN)
Cabinet Office

- **Ontario Ministry of
Government and
Consumers
Services**

Canadian Civil Liberties
Association
**Children's Discovery
Centre**
CIGI
CIPPIC
City of Toronto

- **Strategy and
Program
Management**
- **I&T Technology
Infrastructure
Services**

Code for Canada
Communitech
Creative Commons
CRM Dynamics
CSI
Dentons
Digital Justice Lab
Digital Public Square
Evergreen Canada
**Federal Economic
Development Agency for
Southern Ontario**

George Brown College
Government of Canada

- **ICT Branch**

IBI Group
IBM
Infrastructure Canada
**Innovation, Science and
Economic Development
Canada**
Internet Corporation of
Assigned Names and
Numbers (ICANN)
MaRS Solutions Lab
McCarthy's
McConnell Foundation
McInnes Cooper
**Ontario Ministry of
Economic Development**

- **Federal Economic
Development
Agency for
Southern Ontario**
- **Broadband and
Digital Strategy**
- **Strategy
Development**

Ministry of Government and
Consumer Services
Ministry of Infrastructure

- **Infrastructure
Policy Division**

Miovision Technologies
Incorporated
MIT Senseable City Lab

Mozilla Foundation
nNovation
ODAD University
**Office of the Information
and Privacy
Commissioner/Ontario
Ontario Centre of
Excellence**
Open Knowledge Canada
Osler
Privacy Analytics
PwC and IAPP Board
Royal Bank of Canada
Ryerson University
Scotiabank
Sidewalk Labs
Staples Canada
Statistics Canada
Symcor
Tech Reset
Telus Communications
The Citizen Lab
**TO Open Smart Cities
Forum**
**Toronto Region Board of
Trade**
**University of Ottawa —
Faculty of Law**
**University of Toronto —
Faculty of Law**
Waterfront Secretariat
Waterfront Toronto

Media:

Financial Post
Rabble
The Canadian Press
The Globe and Mail
The Logic
Toronto Star