



Summary of Public Engagement



Keating Channel Pedestrian Bridge Design Competition

May - October 2023

April 2024

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Waterfront Toronto acknowledges that the land upon which we are undertaking our revitalization efforts is part of the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN).

In addition, Waterfront Toronto acknowledges that Toronto has historically been a gathering place for many Indigenous people, including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnaabe, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples, and is home to many First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples today

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

The Keating Channel Pedestrian Bridge will link the [Quayside](#) neighbourhood and Toronto's downtown to an expanded regional park system along the Don River and [Villiers Island](#). It will contribute to the creation of a continuous and publicly accessible water's edge along the Toronto waterfront and play a critical role in providing safe, direct, and equitable access across the Keating Channel.

Beyond providing an elevated path of travel for active transportation across the water, the Keating Channel Pedestrian Bridge will also be a destination offering places to stop, rest, gather, interact and enjoy the view.

The Keating Channel Pedestrian Bridge project is a partnership between Waterfront Toronto and the City of Toronto, in collaboration with Host Nation and Treaty Holder, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN). The Keating Channel Pedestrian Bridge is funded, in part, by the Government of Canada.

The Keating Channel Precinct Plan (2010), the Villiers Island Precinct Plan (2017), and the Port Lands Planning Framework all imagined a pedestrian and cyclist bridge that crossed the Keating Channel, linking the Central Waterfront to Promontory Park and Villiers Island. These plans were all informed by extensive community consultation and engagement.

Waterfront Toronto received 13 responses to the RFQ from a variety of local, national and international teams. Following careful evaluation of the submissions, [five \(5\) Proponents were selected](#) (Shortlisted teams) to participate in the Design Competition stage.

An evaluation committee made up of staff representatives from Waterfront Toronto, City of Toronto and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation reviewed the submissions considering input from technical advisors, the Community Advisory Committee, Indigenous communities and the public. The selected design was announced in April 2024.

1.2 Overview of Public Engagement Activities

In keeping with Waterfront Toronto and the City of Toronto's commitment to public engagement, we initiated a public engagement strategy to support the Design Competition process. This strategy included:

- A Community Advisory Committee (CAC)
- A public meeting (online)
- An online survey

1.3 Indigenous Engagement Activities

Incorporating Indigenous design principles is one of the core goals of this project. Together with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, Host Nation and Treaty Holder, and the City of Toronto's Indigenous Affairs Office, we are working to achieve this goal and support local Indigenous arts, cultures, storytelling, histories, and traditions. The effort focuses on celebrating Indigenous Place-making and Place-keeping – the collective re-imagining of public spaces to strengthen the connection between place, community, values, culture, past, present and future.

The Indigenous design integration will be guided by the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and informed by engagement and collaboration with Indigenous consultants, team members, organizations, and communities, throughout the course of this project.

The Design Competition stage of engagement included:

- Sharing information and answering questions at “Caring Together Week” community event hosted by Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation in Hagersville ON.
- A specific stream of questions in the online survey dedicated to Indigenous peoples to gather feedback on how well the five (5) shortlisted designs addressed Indigenous inclusion.

2. Community Advisory Committee

2.1 Overview

In May 2023, Waterfront Toronto established a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) to support the Design Competition stage. The mandate of the CAC was to provide feedback, guidance and advice to the project team at key points during design competition. The CAC was a non-political advisory committee.

Specifically, the role of the CAC was to:

- Provide feedback on the goals articulated in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to further inform the design competition brief (Request for Proposal (RFP)).
- Articulate the committee’s aspirations for the bridge at the Design Competition Kick-off Meeting with Shortlisted teams.
- Share feedback and comments on the shortlisted designs with the Design Competition Evaluation Committee for its consideration.
- Provide a sense of the broader community’s reactions and concerns and explore how these might be addressed.

The CAC met 6 times, including an optional site tour:

- June 13, 2023: CAC #1
- July 05, 2023: CAC #2
- July 25, 2023: CAC #3
- August 15, 2023: Site tour
- September 21, 2023: CAC #4
- October 05, 2023: CAC #5

In addition, representatives from the CAC presented at two (2) meetings:

- August 1, 2023: Design Competition Kick-off Meeting with Shortlisted teams
- October 10, 2023: Evaluation Committee Meeting

2.2 Feedback

The CAC was asked to share feedback on two specific elements:

- The goals articulated in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to further inform the competition brief (RFP) and articulate the community's priorities
- Review the shortlisted designs and articulate how well they addressed the CAC's priority goals.

To support this work, they reviewed the RFQ once it was public and reviewed a select portion of the RFP submissions by the five (5) Shortlisted teams (excluding technical and financial information). They also met multiple times with the project team who shared information, answered questions, and addressed comments.

The CAC was not provided with access to commercially confidential information, such as cost estimates.

2.2.1 CAC Feedback Summary

Conversations with the CAC reflected a diverse set of interests and priorities, however, across the meetings, presentations, and material review, there was strong alignment on a few key elements.

Conflict-free space: Creating a space where users of all abilities and modes of transportation would feel comfortable.

Future-proofing: Ensuring that the design could be maintained for the long-term and accommodate future population growth.

Biodiversity: Accommodating various living organisms (e.g. birds, plants, fish).

Accessibility: Providing an accessible and safe path of travel for people of all abilities and ages.

2.2.2 CAC Feedback on Goals

The CAC considered the project goals articulated in the RFQ (see Appendix A) and identified the ones that were priority goals for the committee, including a new goal that drew from elements of the others. On August 1, 2023 two (2) representatives shared these goals with the five (5) Shortlisted teams at the Design Competition Kick-off Meeting.

The CAC indicated the following priority goals:

Create a Place for All People: A public and conflict-free space for people of all ages, abilities, incomes, and backgrounds.

- A comfortable and conflict-free space for all users no matter their method of movement
- A model for accessibility
- A destination, not just a transportation route
- A portal to the water's edge, Villiers Island and the eastern waterfront
- Inclusive access for people of all ages, abilities, incomes, and backgrounds
- Consideration for public art and temporary activation

Embody Sustainable Strategies and Innovation: Creating spiritual and physical connections to nature.

- A place that encourages and supports biodiversity
- A place that connects Torontonians to the Lake
- Encourage connections to nature, including parks and paths on Villiers Island
- A place for human and non-human connections
- Ensure bird-friendly design strategies, even encouraging roosting
- Support innovative solutions to common issues such as maintenance

Ensure a Functional & Attractive Piece of Civic Infrastructure for the Long-Term: A space that works year-round, today and into the future.

- Year-round functionality, considering shade, wind mitigation, ice and snow build-up
- Maintainable and maintained for the long-term
- Consider the future, including increased density in the area
- Ample and appropriate lighting
- Consider options/strategies/suitability for emerging mobility modes
- On time and on budget

Create with Indigenous Voice and Agency: Building bridges with and celebrating contributions of Indigenous communities. (Note: While this was identified as a priority goal by the committee, in consultation with MCFN, it was agreed that this goal was best evaluated by Indigenous community members and MCFN.)

- Embody spiritual and cultural connections to Indigenous communities
- Create an Indigenous corridor: Anishnawbe Health Toronto (Cherry St), Quayside Block 5, Keating Channel Bridge, Indigenous elements in Port Lands parks
- Embed meaningful engagement with Indigenous communities Honour Indigenous ways of knowing and being
- Commit to supporting Toronto's Reconciliation Action Plan
- Contribute to the visibility and overall well-being of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples in Toronto through place-making and place-keeping

2.2.3 CAC Feedback on Designs

The CAC then took these priority goals and assessed each of the five (5) shortlisted designs based on how well they addressed them.

Observations included:

- Each proposal would require more work through the design process in order to meet the goal of a conflict-free zone for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Each proposal would require more work through the design process to address accessibility issues.
- Maintenance and feasibility of plantings must be considered.
- Balancing the goals of being a destination and safe and conflict-free space should be considered.

- Connections to nature in the design, planting program, and water habitat were appreciated.
- The importance of balancing the creation of a distinctive gateway to the waterfront, along with something that is connected to nature and Toronto-specific.

2.3 Profile and Demographics

The CAC was composed of nine (9) interested and affected individuals representing a variety of interests in the area.

Neighborhood associations and resident groups:	Cross-sectoral Coalition	Active Transportation	Business, Economic Development, and Innovation	Accessibility	Environment
Gooderham and Worts Neighbourhood Association East Waterfront Community Association	West Don Lands Committee	Cycle Toronto "Bicycle Mayor of Toronto"	The Waterfront BIA Synthetikos Strategy Consulting	Community member with low-vision	FLAP Canada + Friends of the Spit

The committee is reflective of the diversity of Toronto, including:

- 2 people of colour
- 3 women
- 1 person with a disability
- 2 elders (65+)

3. Public Engagement

3.1 Overview

To further public participation in the Design Competition, Waterfront Toronto hosted a public meeting (online) on September 28, 2023, during which Waterfront Toronto provided an introduction and context overview, and the five (5) shortlisted teams presented their design proposals. The meeting was recorded and posted to the project page together with the design team presentations.

- 200+ people attended this virtual public meeting
- 662 views of the recorded presentation.

Following the virtual meeting, public feedback was sought through an online survey open for one week from September 28-October 5. The survey included two (2) streams: one (1) for those

who self-identified as Indigenous and one (1) for all members of the public. Survey questions focused on how well the proposals achieved the project goals (outlined in Appendix A).

- 2,387 responses to the public survey
- 62 responses (3%) by those who self-identified as Indigenous

The survey responses were shared with the Evaluation Committee for their consideration. The feedback from this public survey was meant to inform, not determine, the final decision.

3.2 Promotion

Waterfront Toronto and the project partners promoted the public meeting and survey to attract attendees and respondents. We shared a public survey link with all registrants through Eventbrite (490), on our website, and promoted it across our social channels. Local Resident Associations and the local Councillors were asked to share the survey as well.

The following tactics were used to help spread the word:

- Web: One (1) Waterfront Toronto blog post, garnering 4,744 views
- Newsletter: Stories in two (2) Waterfront Toronto newsletters, resulting in 258 clicks
- Eventbrite: Public meeting posted to Eventbrite, 490 registrants and survey link sent to all
- Social media (Instagram, X, LinkedIn, Facebook): 19,304 social media impressions and 880 social media engagements
- YouTube: Posted public meeting presentation recording, 662 views
- Targeted Outreach: Email outreach to local Councillors, Waterfront Toronto stakeholders, area Resident Associations and BIAs, and special interest groups
- Earned Media: Ten (10) media hits (including Toronto Star and BlogTO), 12,614,354 in total readership

3.3 Feedback

Survey respondents asked to share feedback on how well each of the designs addressed the six (6) project goals. For those unable to attend the presentation, materials and the recording were posted to the Waterfront Toronto website.

The survey included two (2) streams: one (1) for those who self-identified as Indigenous and one (1) for all other members of the public.

3.3.1 Feedback Summary

There was overall excitement about all the designs. People were pleased to see the diversity of approaches and excited to be asked for feedback.

There were some similarities across both the **public and Indigenous** survey streams:

- People thought that The Salmon Run best addressed “Create a Beautiful and Distinctive Gateway to the Waterfront”
- Maamwi’Bridge best addressed the goal to “Connect the City to Villiers Island.”

- When asked to rank their preferred design option, the order was: The Salmon Run, Equinox Bridge, Maamwi’Bridge, The Harbour Eye, Nda-Nwendaaganag

Specific feedback from **Indigenous** Stream:

- Respondents identified The Salmon Run as best addressing the goal to “Create with Indigenous Voice and Agency,” while The Harbour Eye addressed this goal the least well.
- Maamwi’Bridge best addressed the goal to “Incorporate a Living Landscape” while The Harbour Eye was identified as doing this least well.
- Equinox Bridge “Embodied Sustainable Strategies and Innovation” the best and The Harbour Eye did this least well.
- The Salmon Run was identified as best addressing the goal to “Create a Space for All People”, however it joined with Nda-Nwendaaganag and Equinox Bridge in getting the most negative responses to this question as well.
- When it came to the last question to rank the designs based on how well they addressed Indigenous ways of being and knowing the order was: Equinox Bridge, The Salmon Run, Maamwi’Bridge, NdaNwendaaganag, and The Harbour Eye.

Specific feedback from the **public** stream:

- Nda-Nwendaaganag best addressed “Incorporate a Living Landscape” and Equinox Bridge did this least well.
- There was not a clear favourite for “Embody Sustainable Strategies and Innovation”, however the Equinox Bridge had the most negative responses.
- The Harbour Eye best addressed “Create a Place for All People” and Nda-Nwendaaganag addressed this least well.

3.3.2 Detailed Feedback: Indigenous Stream

The questions for this stream were created in collaboration with staff from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Questions related the goal of “Creating with Indigenous Voice and Agency” as well as questions related to the other goals. In consultation with MCFN, some of the goals were further broken down into questions that best addressed the community.

There were 62 responses in this stream, representing 3% of survey responses.

Maamawi'Bridge

Goal	"very well" or "well"	"somewhat"	"not at all"	"I don't know"
Create with Indigenous Voice and Agency				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributing to the visibility and awareness of MCFN 	52%	30%	12%	6%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributing to the visibility and awareness of other Indigenous communities 	47%	28%	15%	10%
Create a Beautiful and Distinctive Gateway				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Becoming a landmark and a destination that creates opportunities to reflect MCFN and other Indigenous communities 	49%	25%	19%	7%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complements existing Port Lands Bridges 	51%	30%	12%	7%
Connect the City to Villiers Island	62%	25%	7%	6%
Incorporate a Living Landscape by integrating Indigenous knowledge in the design	57%	23%	13%	7%
Embody Sustainable Strategies and Innovation	55%	23%	10%	12%
Create a Place for All People	59%	22%	10%	9%

Nda-Nwendaaganag

Goal	"very well" or "well"	"somewhat"	"not at all"	"I don't know"
Create with Indigenous Voice and Agency				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributing to the visibility and awareness of MCFN 	46%	26%	21%	7%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributing to the visibility and awareness of other Indigenous communities 	46%	26%	21%	7%
Create a Beautiful and Distinctive Gateway				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Becoming a landmark and a destination that creates opportunities to reflect MCFN and other Indigenous communities 	45%	26%	26%	3%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complements existing Port Lands Bridges 	45%	19%	28%	8%
Connect the City to Villiers Island	54%	22%	19%	5%
Incorporate a Living Landscape by integrating Indigenous knowledge in the design	50%	23%	22%	5%
Embody Sustainable Strategies and Innovation	44%	24%	23%	9%
Create a Place for All People	40%	28%	24%	8%

The Salmon Run

Goal	"very well" or "well"	"somewhat"	"not at all"	"I don't know"
Create with Indigenous Voice and Agency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributing to the visibility and awareness of MCFN Contributing to the visibility and awareness of other Indigenous communities 	57%	21%	19%	3%
Create a Beautiful and Distinctive Gateway <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Becoming a landmark and a destination that creates opportunities to reflect MCFN and other Indigenous communities Complements existing Port Lands Bridges 	69%	12%	16%	3%
Connect the City to Villiers Island	60%	19%	17%	4%
Incorporate a Living Landscape by integrating Indigenous knowledge in the design	55%	17%	24%	4%
Embody Sustainable Strategies and Innovation	55%	19%	21%	5%
Create a Place for All People	60%	12%	24%	3%

The Harbour Eye

Goal	"very well" or "well"	"somewhat"	"not at all"	"I don't know"
Create with Indigenous Voice and Agency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributing to the visibility and awareness of MCFN Contributing to the visibility and awareness of other Indigenous communities 	35%	33%	22%	10%
Create a Beautiful and Distinctive Gateway <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Becoming a landmark and a destination that creates opportunities to reflect MCFN and other Indigenous communities Complements existing Port Lands Bridges 	35%	38%	19%	8.6%
Connect the City to Villiers Island	33%	40%	19%	8%
Incorporate a Living Landscape by integrating Indigenous knowledge in the design	28%	40%	24%	8%
Embody Sustainable Strategies and Innovation	28%	40%	24%	8%
Create a Place for All People	38%	29%	22%	11%

Equinox Bridge

Goal	"very well" or "well"	"somewhat"	"not at all"	"I don't know"
Create with Indigenous Voice and Agency				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributing to the visibility and awareness of MCFN 	54%	12%	25%	9%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributing to the visibility and awareness of other Indigenous communities 	54%	19%	20%	7%
Create a Beautiful and Distinctive Gateway				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Becoming a landmark and a destination that creates opportunities to reflect MCFN and other Indigenous communities 	61%	15%	19%	5%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complements existing Port Lands Bridges 	55%	22%	14%	9%
Connect the City to Villiers Island	58%	22%	14%	6%
Incorporate a Living Landscape by integrating Indigenous knowledge in the design	49%	19%	26%	6%
Embody Sustainable Strategies and Innovation	59%	14%	20%	7%
Create a Place for All People	52%	19%	24%	5%

On a scale of 1 to 5, please rank how well you think each design integrates Indigenous ways of being and knowing. (with 1 being most preferred and 5 being least preferred)

1. Equinox Bridge
2. The Salmon Run
3. Maamawi'Bridge
4. Nda-Nwendaaganag
5. The Harbour Eye

Bridge	1	2	3	4	5
Maamawi'Bridge	27%	17%	19%	12%	25%
Nda-Nwendaaganag	19%	20%	19%	19%	23%
The Salmon Run	24%	25%	17%	14%	20%
The Harbour Eye	12%	19%	22%	29%	18%
Equinox Bridge	37%	19%	15%	5%	24%

3.3.3 Detailed Feedback: Public Stream

Note: This stream was not asked any questions related to Indigenous Voice and Agency, Indigenous design integration or engagement.

There were 2,325 responses to this stream.

Maamawi'Bridge

Goal	"very well" or "well"	"somewhat"	"not at all"	"I don't know"
Create a Beautiful and Distinctive Gateway	52%	35%	12%	1%
Connect the City to Villiers Island	80%	16%	3%	1%
Incorporate a Living Landscape by integrating Indigenous knowledge in the design	51%	32%	14%	3%
Embody Sustainable Strategies and Innovation	54%	27%	8%	11%
Create a Place for All People	61%	28%	8%	3%

Nda-Nwendaaganag

Goal	"very well" or "well"	"somewhat"	"not at all"	"I don't know"
Create a Beautiful and Distinctive Gateway	53%	29%	17%	1%
Connect the City to Villiers Island	68%	25%	6%	1%
Incorporate a Living Landscape by integrating Indigenous knowledge in the design	55%	32%	11%	2%
Embody Sustainable Strategies and Innovation	52%	28%	10%	10%
Create a Place for All People	52%	32%	13%	3%

The Salmon Run

Goal	"very well" or "well"	"somewhat"	"not at all"	"I don't know"
Create a Beautiful and Distinctive Gateway	74%	16%	9%	1%
Connect the City to Villiers Island	79%	16%	4%	1%
Incorporate a Living Landscape by integrating Indigenous knowledge in the design	51%	29%	18%	2%
Embody Sustainable Strategies and Innovation	54%	25%	11%	10%
Create a Place for All People	63%	25%	10%	2%

The Harbour Eye

Goal	"very well" or "well"	"somewhat"	"not at all"	"I don't know"
Create a Beautiful and Distinctive Gateway	57%	28%	14%	1%
Connect the City to Villiers Island	75%	19%	5%	1%
Incorporate a Living Landscape by integrating Indigenous knowledge in the design	53%	29%	14%	4%
Embody Sustainable Strategies and Innovation	54%	26%	10%	10%
Create a Place for All People	64%	25%	8%	3%

Equinox Bridge

Goal	"very well" or "well"	"somewhat"	"not at all"	"I don't know"
Create a Beautiful and Distinctive Gateway	72%	17%	10%	1%
Connect the City to Villiers Island	76%	17%	6%	1%
Incorporate a Living Landscape by integrating Indigenous knowledge in the design	45%	29%	22%	4%
Embody Sustainable Strategies and Innovation	51%	25%	13%	11%
Create a Place for All People	58%	26%	11%	5%

On a scale of 1 to 5, please rank your preferred design. (with 1 being most preferred and 5 being least preferred)

- 1) The Salmon Run
- 2) Equinox Bridge
- 3) Maamawi'Bridge
- 4) Nda-Nwendaaganag
- 5) The Harbour Eye

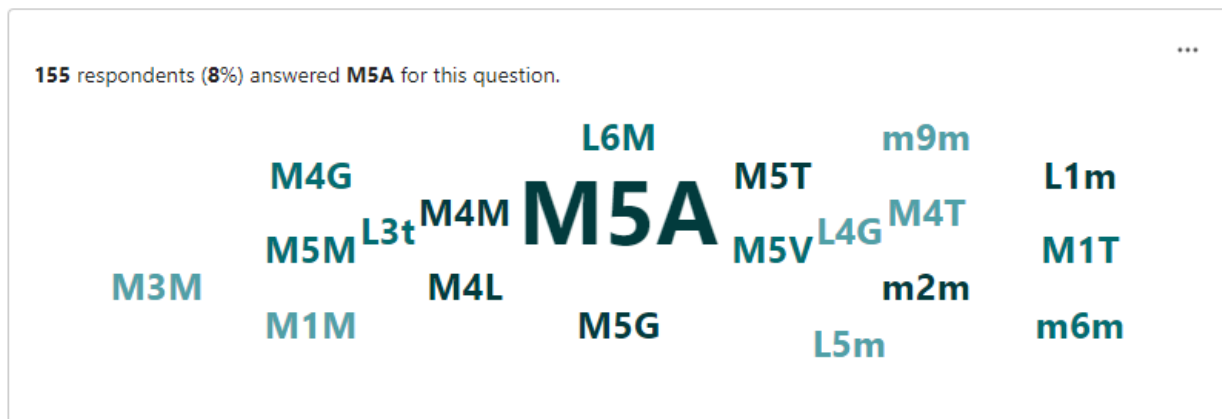
Bridge	1	2	3	4	5
Maamawi'Bridge	20%	19%	21%	19%	21%
Nda-Nwendaaganag	17%	18%	21%	22%	22%
The Salmon Run	28%	23%	20%	16%	13%
The Harbour Eye	17%	20%	25%	21%	17%
Equinox Bridge	25%	19%	15%	14%	27%

3.4 Demographics

Waterfront Toronto asked all respondents to complete an optional demographic survey in order to better understand how representative the survey sample was when compared with the population of the city of Toronto. We appreciate that Toronto is one of the most diverse cities in the world, with a broad spectrum of social and economic experiences, and we hoped to capture the input of as many Torontonians as possible.

Demographic questions were voluntary and “prefer not to respond” was an option for all the questions.

What are the first three characters of your postal code.



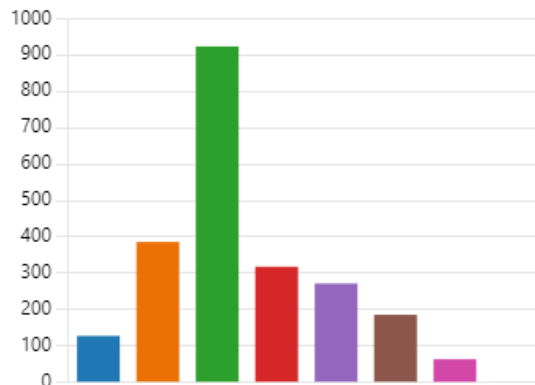
What is your age?

17. What is your age?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

● Prefer not to respond	128
● 18-29	386
● 30-44	923
● 45-54	318
● 55-64	272
● 65-74	186
● 75-84	64
● 85 and older	2



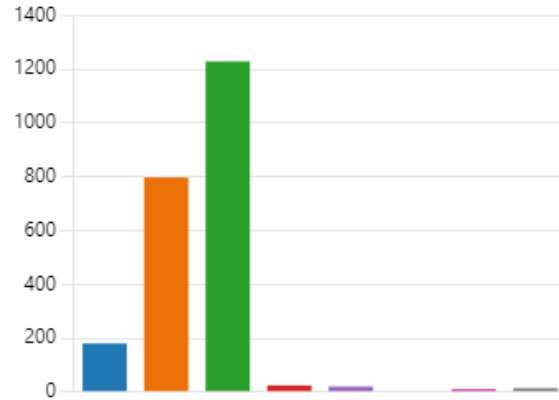
How would you describe yourself?

18. How would you describe yourself?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

● Prefer not to respond	180
● Woman	797
● Man	1228
● Genderqueer	24
● Gender non-conforming / non-...	20
● Transgender	3
● Two-spirit	11
● Other	14



Are you a homeowner or renter?

19. Are you a homeowner or renter?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

● Prefer not to respond	237
● Homeowner	1316
● Renter	670
● Other	26

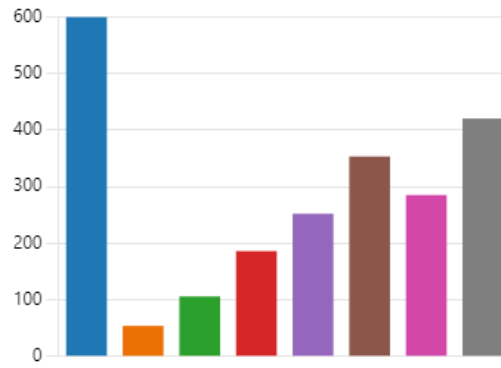


What is your household income?

20. What is your household income?

[More Details](#)

● Prefer not to respond	599
● Under \$25,000	54
● \$25,000 to \$49,999	106
● \$50,000 to \$74,999	186
● \$75,000 to \$99,999	252
● \$100,000 to \$149,999	353
● \$150,000 to \$199,999	285
● \$200,000 or more	420



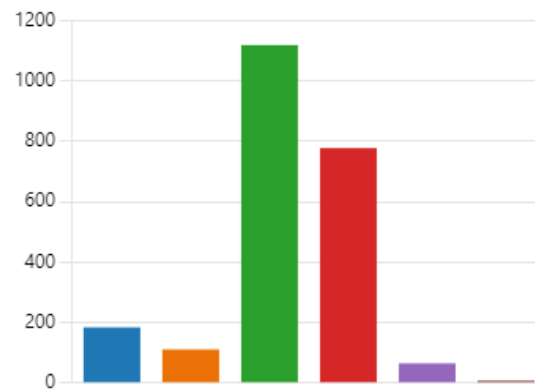
What is your highest level of education received?

21. What is your highest level of education completed?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

● Prefer not to respond	184
● High School	111
● College/University	1118
● Masters Degree/Professional De...	777
● PhD	65
● Other	8

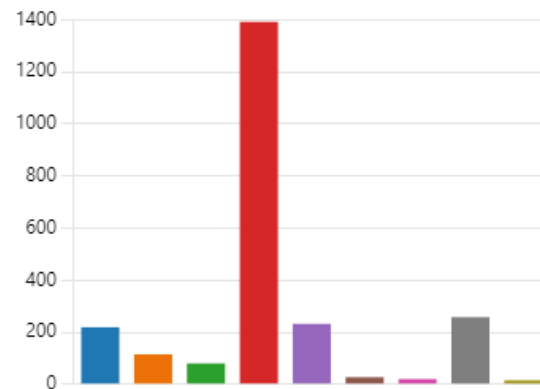


What is your occupational status?

22. What is your occupational status? (please check all that apply)

[More Details](#)

● Prefer not to respond	219
● Student	115
● Part-time employee	80
● Full-time employee	1391
● Self-employed	232
● Unemployed/Seeking employm...	27
● Family caregiver	20
● Retired	258
● Other	15



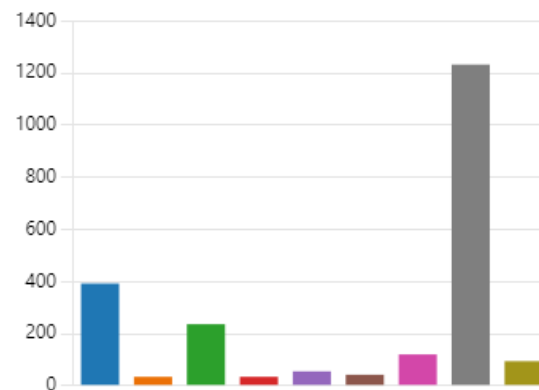
Which of the following do you identify as?

23. Which of the following do you identify as? Please select all that apply.

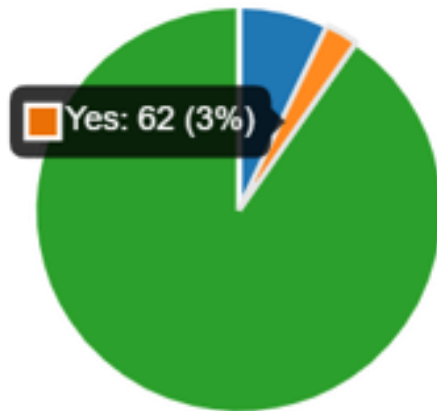
[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

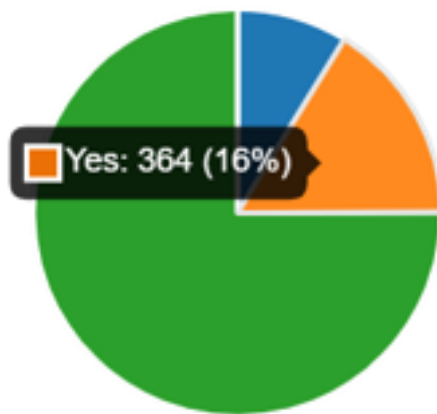
● Prefer not to respond	392
● Black	34
● Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Filipi...	236
● Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit, ...	34
● Latin American	55
● Arab, West Asian	42
● South Asian	120
● White	1232
● Other	94



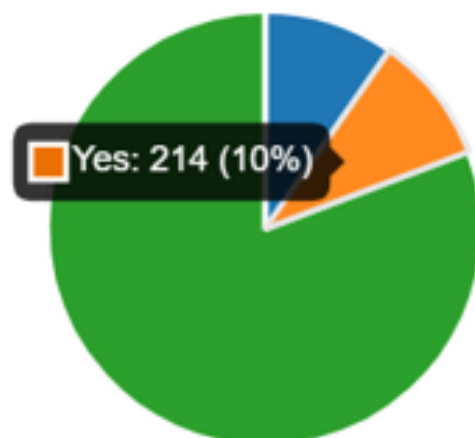
Do you self-identify as an Indigenous individual?



Do you sometimes experience mobility issues navigating the city?



Are you a person experiencing a disability?



Appendix A: Keating Channel Pedestrian Bridge Project Goals

To guide the bridge design and implementation, Waterfront Toronto, the City of Toronto, and MCFN identified six project goals, which were refined based on feedback from the CAC:

Create a Beautiful and Distinctive Gateway to The Waterfront: Becoming a landmark and a destination on the waterfront and complementing the existing Port Lands bridges.

Connect the City and Villiers Island: Connecting Quayside to an expanded regional park system along the Don River by providing safe, direct, and equitable access across the Keating Channel.

Incorporate a Living Landscape: Celebrating our connections with land and water by integrating nature in the design and offering opportunities for biodiversity.

Create With Indigenous Voice and Agency: Contributing to the visibility and overall wellbeing of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples in Toronto through Place-making and Place-keeping and honouring Indigenous ways of knowing and being.

Embody Sustainable Strategies and Innovation: Symbolizing, representing, and celebrating sustainability, climate resiliency and green infrastructure, extending to cost efficiency, life-cycle analysis, constructability, durability, and maintainability, to the extent possible.

Create a Place for All People: Offering unique, inclusive experiences of transition, interaction, observation, comfort, discovery, sensation, safety, and access to all users.