

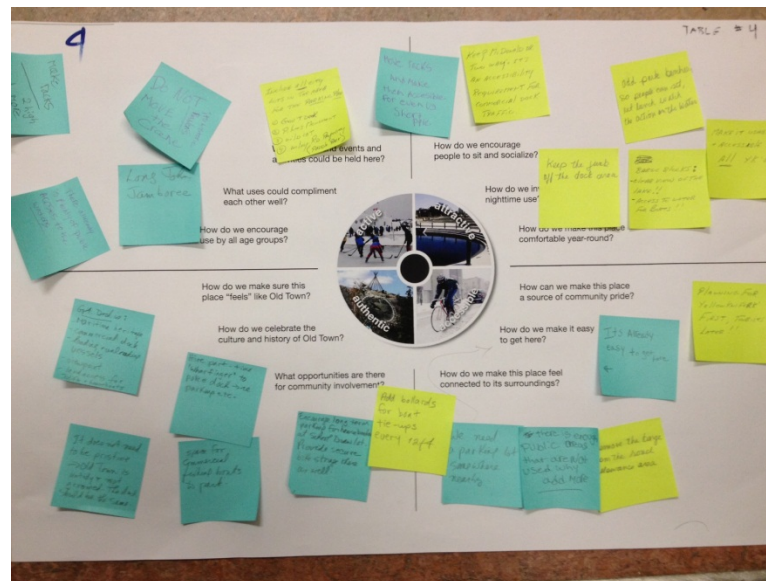


THE CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK FROM GOVERNMENT DOCK PLACEMAKING EXERCISE – FEBRUARY 19, 2013 (EXPLORER HOTEL)

On February 19, 2013, the City of Yellowknife's Planning and Lands Division hosted a public engagement session to discuss the design of the Government Dock. During the first half of the session, participants worked in ten groups to brainstorm ideas as to how to make the best public space possible.

Each group was given a Place Map with key questions on four themes: **Active, Attractive, Authentic and Accessible**. See below for a record of the ideas generated. The second half of the session was dedicated to the design of the site using base maps; all maps are available on the website. Thanks to all the community members who came out and contributed their ideas. We look forward to seeing you in March at the next event!



Questions or Comments? Email HarbourPlan@yellowknife.ca or call 920-5673



ONE 'BIG IDEA' FROM EACH GROUP

1. Find a better solution for the canoe racks
2. Educate public about the lifestyle and contribution of houseboaters
3. Keep it a working dock
4. Make McDonald Drive one-way
5. Don't do too much
6. Improved Signage (rules, information on site)
7. Make venues for events (café, toilets, markets, arts, etc.)
8. Benches to watch the action
9. Don't light it
10. Tie parking plan to larger areas

MOST POPULAR IDEAS OVERALL

1. Change canoe racks to more practical design
2. Include bike racks
3. Limit parking on-site to temporary uses (two hour parking, etc.) and enforce it
4. Post information about rules/uses – needs good management plan to accompany the design
5. Make benches/seating both functional and comfortable (not traditional picnic benches)
6. Limit plantings on site (don't try to make it a total green space), use natural vegetation
7. Incorporate opportunity for seasonal farmers' market, café, fresh fish market, possible parking for food trucks
8. Keep place flexible to allow for use by special events (Ramble & Ride, etc.) but limit permanent new structures
9. Ensure it remains a working dock (Northeast area of site primarily)
10. Limit light pollution to allow for Aurora Viewing
11. Include interpretive signage and maps of the area
12. Incorporate public art in a practical way; get local artists involved to the greatest extent possible
13. Dock needs to be kept clean (though not entirely 'cleaned up,' should stay true to neighbourhood character)
14. Keep community involved! More public engagement, citizen clean-up, work with community groups/gardens, etc.
15. Respect heritage of site and make sure design considers locals first and tourists second

INDIVIDUAL GROUP SUMMARIES

Table 1 Placemaking Ideas	Active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focus on summer uses (the most necessary and useful) - Keep it accessible - Heavily limit car and truck parking (not a parking lot) - Use as a dock, not a junkyard and enforce the rules - Use for loading and unloading boats, with a four hour boat parking limit - Have ground rules and enforce them (time limits on parking, user fees)
	Attractive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Move canoe racks - Management is the most important aspect: Don't redesign the space, re-design the management of the space - Seating area desirable, but not the primary use - Parking on Lot 77 - Leave unlit for Aurora Viewing and reduce light pollution in the area
	Authentic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Possibly rename it 'Public Wharf,' but stick to original intent - Interpretive signage about historical impact of water transportation - Keep it functioning as it was historically and originally used - Don't redesign it as a 'facility': keep it simple
	Accessible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clean it up: Signage, sidewalks, signage, public access, and cleanliness are central - Needs good management; a Wharfmaster/wharfinger and a good set of enforced rules - Good maintenance and safety are key - Trails for bikes and walking connected around the dock - There are unsafe pedestrian intersections at boat launch, Franklin Ave, Weaver Drive, McDonald Drive - There should be an in and out loop for motorized vehicles, with the exception of large commercial trucks
Table 2 Placemaking Ideas	Active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More bike racks - Rules and signage: Have summer rules(June 1 – Sept 10) and Winter rules (move parking) - Keep public in public dock - Install port-a-potties (with a video camera in summer) - Pave the dock
	Attractive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - User fees - Use dock for City events (Regatta in summer, Saturday Market in Fall, Snowmobile meeting place and parking in winter, Jamboree in Spring)

	Authentic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No big ugly lamp posts (subtle lighting) - Summer uses include commercial (those with no other options), metered parking for boats and cars - Include tow-away zone - There should be a fence around the two private properties to distinguish between public and private space - Dock can be used for parking
	Accessible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A busy dock feels safe - Try metres or parking passes, and if it doesn't work change it up - Allow user groups to help develop areas of the dock like the canoe area, or ask residents/merchants to help design parking

Table 3 Placemaking Ideas	Active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Don't put up permanent buildings; leave it a fluid/adaptable area - Possible events: Fall market, Ramble & Ride, Sailboat Regatta, fresh fish market - Provide benches for fishing, but not picnic tables (awkward)
	Attractive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Issue free windbreakers or jackets - Keep TJ's Nut Hut on dock - Heated benches - Make it family-oriented
	Authentic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Let it look old - Opportunity for marketplace - Day use parking (no overnight) - Washrooms; Put up concession stand/Nut Hut
	Accessible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Take down canoe racks and provide easier storage (i.e. on a couple of poles to one side); remove concrete barriers - It is already a source of pride - Include parking and bike racks

Table 4 Placemaking Ideas	Active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Look at parking issue in larger context of area (Pilot's Monument, etc.) - Don't move the crane (it's historic) - Support Long John Jamboree - There are already enough ways for the public to access waterways - Canoe racks are too high and unstable – replace them and make them work for short people
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		- Keep McDonald Drive two-way, works better for commercial traffic
	Attractive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keep junk off dock area - Add benches for public use - Barge blocks (clear view of lakes, access to water for boats) - Make it useable/accessible for ALL Yellowknifers
	Authentic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It does not need to be pristine (Old Town is untidy and not groomed; Dock should be the same) - Government dock has maritime heritage, commercial dock, loading/unloading vessels, viewpoints, land access for Joliffe and houseboats: these are key - Hire part-time wharfinger to police dock, control parking, etc. - Space for commercial boats to park - Encourage long-term parking for houseboaters at School Draw/Franklin. Provide secure bike storage there as well.
	Accessible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plan for Yellowknifers first, tourists second - It's already easy to get there - Add bollards for boat tie-ups every 12 feet - Need nearby parking lot - Remove the barge from road allowance area

Table 5 Placemaking Ideas	Active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Canoe racks: level storage without racks preferable. If licensing necessary, rental season should be June to May not year-round - Great Slave Cruising Club wants water pump in and sewage pump out facilities - Mixed use: Tourism/use of public space and food vendors; working dock space; public education/interpretative site; space for houseboater canoes etc. Encourage mixed-use but make sure there are separations/rules to help co-existence - Safety issues? Can ladders be placed close together on the sides, like fishing ladders, for the tides in Atlantic Canada – in case of accidents! (kids pushed, etc.) - 'Party Watch' instead on 'Neighbourhood Watch' - Mooring – Just like Giant Mine – No overnight mooring except for commercial vessels/fisherman/barges
	Attractive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parking: rent parking spaces to floating homeowners (current rent privately). City could recover property tax type revenue through paid parking passes - Designate parking for food trucks - 10 myths/truths about houseboaters (public education about houseboats and history of Joliffe Island)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Include public art/education in dock design - Recognize Joliffe Island clean-up (e.g. Gary's dog poop clean-up) and promote responsible tourism
	Authentic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commercial use protects public safety: protect working dock - YKFDN uses should be protected - Promote Old Town Sound Walk and make available permanently - Don't overdevelop: retain Old Town's colourful/historic character
	Accessible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Control noise - Accommodate day commuting by canoe - YKFDN objective: to recognize cultural importance of Joliffe Island and seeking ownership - Space for Community Farmers Market: Seasonal market like Hay River Fisherman's Wharf market - Accessibility of the Island

Table 6 Placemaking Ideas	Active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coastguard training sessions - Kayak/boat rentals - Vendor permits/power source - Provide easy access to water for all vehicles, boat types, skidoos - Licensed busking; Market with produce and arts/crafts - Change liquor laws for area - Bike racks - Patios/deck; bring in kids with food/lemonade/ice cream
	Attractive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alternative seating/pallet benches - Regular and diverse activities and events - Steps to water - Amphitheatre - Natural lighting/Aurora Viewing - Bathroom facility - Clearing snow - Keep dock functional - Bathroom facility
	Authentic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - City organized initiatives/activities (e.g. fitness classes) - Keep it simple, focus on small changes. Modify existing structures. - Don't charge for things



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keep what works, this is a functioning dock - Ask the local art community to contribute to the design
	Accessible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emphasize alternative transportation; seasonal bike lane and bike racks - Keep 'Old Town' look and feel - Synergy with other areas to find alternative spots for parking - Work with the houseboaters - Keep it functional: Not wasted green space

Table 7 Placemaking Ideas	Active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opportunities for events: Multisport events, Fish market, farmers market, Ramble & Ride, Sailboat Regatta, Long John Jamboree, Snowking Castle - Return canoe parking to how it was - Garbage drop-off - Café
	Attractive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New is not attractive - Bike racks - Aurora signage and reduce light pollution - Ladder for swimming - Brunches/café/public washroom - Include in planning John's Building Lot - Plan for a boathouse/chalet - Remember everything is temporary
	Authentic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It already feels authentic; keep and add historic relics (crane, mining equipment, historical/interesting boat) - Linkage to Pilot's Monument - More historical buildings on site, café (without cars there is a lot more space) - Don't dismiss what is there: Remember 'shabby' can be authentic and art in itself



	Accessible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parking on street, benches, temporary access for houseboater boats - Bus Stop - Paint in trail markers by water - Separate green space from working dock area - Keep vegetation and encourage more - Paving stones which are water permeable with grass in between - Parking must not look 'municipal' – irregular, casual, and <u>temporary</u> is best (not long-term storage) - Keep atmosphere of a working dock
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Table 8 Placemaking Ideas	Active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bike racks, canoe storage (not racks) - Keep it simple: don't rush the design stage and focus on sustainability. Take the long view. - A skating rink in front of dock - One designated picnic area - Don't try to do everything
	Attractive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fish and chips truck (or other food truck) - Use green wall instead of chain link fence to separate DFO land - Remember utility of space (loading and unloading of boats, etc.) - Multi-use spaces (rooftop) - Innovative design – don't just sprawl! - Use greener options than just dirt - Keep the barge in place as it offers shelter from the wind for canoes - Canoe storage with platform for benches
	Authentic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keep fish truck - Include food trucks - Keep crane with raven's nest - Maintain existing festivals - Revert back to previous canoe storage style- current racks are both hazardous and ugly
	Accessible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need loading/unloading zone on front of dock - In spring add temporary ramps for access during breakup - In winter a skating track, like a dog track, should be added - One-way McDonald Drive

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fix the road and make it pedestrian friendly - Nice bike racks - Day use parking - Don't over-develop - Keep U shape road flow - Rental parking during off-season - Ramp with winter access for skiers - Low light pollution - Fishing area/dock
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Table 9 Placemaking Ideas	Active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Playground - Benches - Wheelchair accessible - Stage/venue for performance with green space, available for rental
	Attractive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Buy properties on site if possible, and encourage local enterprise (Nut Hut, etc.) - Stage for music that is rentable for events - One-way McDonald Drive - Lots of Bicycle Parking - Moveable structures: keep it fluid (benches, picnic tables that move) - Washrooms/water fountain - Some lighting - Garbage/compost/recycling - No fences - Snow removal - Tobogganing in winter for kids, kids play area - Keep engaging end users
	Authentic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Music/art opportunities - Public Art (statues, plaque with history, old photos) - Fish Market/farmers market - Heritage tours - More public meeting - Citizen clean-up/planting trees



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	Accessible	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Art, sculpture, vegetation, trees- Map of dock, Old Town, and across the way- Sidewalks on both sides of McDonald Drive- Make a breakwater if the barge is removed- more dock space- Change canoe racks
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