

# WHAT WE HEARD



## Stakeholder Workshop for the proposed Institute for Sustainable Brampton

November 15, 2019

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

BACKGROUND.....	2
ABOUT THE WORKSHOP.....	3
THEMES.....	4
VISUAL SUMMARY OF THEMES.....	7
FOUNDATIONAL ELEMENTS.....	11
FEEDBACK.....	12
NEXT STEPS.....	13
ATTENDEES.....	14
RESOURCES.....	16

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# BACKGROUND

In 2018, the City of Brampton adopted its ambitious, long-term Vision 2040 called Living the Mosaic. One of the catalytic actions included in the Vision is the establishment of an **Institute for Sustainable Brampton**.

Take this idea and run with it – test it, transform it, make it happen...

## Action #1-1

### Institute for Sustainable Brampton

Found a public-private facilitator for local environmental progress to position Brampton in the vanguard of suburban sustainability.

With the recent Brampton Grow Green environmental master plan in place, along with its assessment tools, City Hall leadership has set the direction. But shifting the trajectory of the whole city must be a massive, community-wide effort. Civic activity will need other drivers to support it – drivers that will operate in situations not particularly accessible to the City, like corporate boardrooms and people's private homes. The Institute for Sustainable Brampton will be an arms-length over-arching facilitator for everyone – partnering, advocating and finding new resources. It will marshal the financial and social capital to secure the practical capacity for sustainability. It will teach, program, market and model sustainable practices. It will exemplify the truth that the future of the environment is in the hands of every single citizen – and will only be secure when every citizen acts at home and in business.

The prime mandate of the Institute for Sustainable Brampton over the next 25 years is to achieve 'one-planet' living. This is a comprehensive standard in which people enjoy happy, healthy, vibrant living within their fair share of the earth's resources, leaving space for wildlife and wilderness. It covers the technical, business, and lifestyle aspects of carbon neutrality, zero waste, circular economy solutions, clean air, water and transportation, localized food production, and responsible energy utilization. To make this real

green infrastructure and operations. This will show common cause and partnership between City Hall and the Institute for Sustainable Brampton, and motivate others to put their own time, energy and resources into the Brampton green movement.

To be catalytic, the following will be essential in realizing this new institution.

- Task Force of Brampton leaders to found the Institute: Influential environmental, corporate and civic leaders in Brampton must come together, assisted by the existing civic administration and the Brampton Environmental Advisory Committee, to found the Institute for Sustainable Brampton.



(An excerpt from Vision 2040)

Since that time, the community has supported the recommendation, and a number of community members gathered to write a **White Paper** supporting an Institute: <https://bikebrampton.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Institute-for-a-Sustainable-Brampton-White-paper-Public-Engagement-Edition-V1a.pdf>

Earlier this year, Brampton City Council passed a **resolution** for staff to report back to Council at a later date about the Institute in Brampton.

In addition, the City of Brampton and the Region of Peel have both **declared climate emergencies**.



In Brampton, it is meant to help with “aiming, framing and deepening the City of Brampton’s commitment to the protection of our ecosystems, and our community from climate change.” Council and the community recognize the urgent need for an energy transformation to achieve “a climate change target of 80 percent greenhouse gas reduction by 2050.”

To ensure the Institute becomes a reality, a Project Team was formed with representatives from the City of Brampton, the Region of Peel, and Sheridan College. On November 15, 2019, the Project Team hosted a **Stakeholder Workshop**, by invitation, for community partners to review some of the emerging, foundational ideas for the Institute.

This report contains a summary of what was heard at the workshop. *Questions and comments about the report, workshop and Institute are welcome:* [michael.hoy@brampton.ca](mailto:michael.hoy@brampton.ca)

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# ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

The workshop was held on Friday, November 15, 2019 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Alderlea in Brampton.

The **objectives** of the workshop were to:

- To share the need for an Institute in Brampton and the desired vision, mission, values, and mandate for the organization.
- To share ideas to ensure the Institute is a success, and to align its work with ongoing work and projects in our community.

40 **participants** attended, including a wide range of stakeholders from government, academia, not-for-profit, utility, and business sectors. A list of attendees is included on pages 13 & 14.

The **agenda** for the workshop included in on page 15.



*Presenter Divya Arora,  
ClimateChangeHERs*



*Ian Klesmer,  
The Atmospheric Fund*

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# THEMES

The following key themes emerged from the Stakeholder Workshop

## Support

There was a general sentiment of support for the concept of an entity to advance transformative energy and emissions reductions in Brampton.

There is strong political will with a committed Mayor and Council.

## Receptivity

Participants were receptive to the foundational elements (on page 11) – vision, mission and values – as presented by the Project Team.

## Independence

Participants were supportive of an independent, arm’s length (from the City of Brampton) entity.

## Urgency

There was a sense of urgency and a desire to “get moving” and continue the momentum.

## Action and Impact

Participants expressed a desire for the Institute to have a clear action- and implementation-orientation

““ We know the solutions. We know it’s possible. Let’s get on with it.

In addition, the concept of measurement was raised: *How will impact be measured? Will there be new KPIs such as “future harms reduction”?*

## Foundation of Ongoing Work

Participants expressed that Brampton is not starting from scratch. The process builds on two years of momentum and a very strong Vision 2040 project, as well as recently declared climate emergencies and ongoing, foundational work in the community by businesses and other organizations.

## Focused on Energy

There was consensus around a focus on energy, and general acceptance of the possibility for the entity to implement the actions from Brampton’s forthcoming Community Energy and Emissions Reductions Plan (CEERP).

There was a recognition that the incredibly rapid pace and scale of building retrofits (5000 per year) will be one of the most challenging parts of the CEERP to implement.

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*Could the ISB consider this as their singular focus? It would provide access to contractors, energy auditors, rebates and incentives. It would need to support building capacity in the skilled trades to achieve this scale of implementation.*

## Name Change

Participants expressed a desire to rethink the name:



*I think the “Institute” concept needs re-evaluation. It denotes academic-specific expertise. I think a broader definition like “Council” is better and less elitist.*

## Partnership

There are committed community-based partners to support the Institute and see it succeed (Sheridan and others).

## Openness to Governance Models

Future membership, leadership, staffing, funding, partners, and governance structures for the Institute are all still open questions. Participants were receptive to responsive governance models that aligned with the overall intent of the entity: “Form meets function.”

There were also suggestions to build on existing, local structures:



*Take a look at the thoughts and structures as part of the Energy Task Force meetings for the CEERP and include the idea of the Task Force migrating to ISB oversight.*

Other suggestions included replicating and/or scaling-up the successful elements of other community energy projects and entities across Canada (REEP, Our Energy Guelph, Burlington Green, TAF, Sustainable Waterloo, etc.).

In terms of governance and oversight, suggestions included having a Board with large and small business, NGOs, City, and Region at the table.

## Opportunities for Creative Funding Models

Participants were clear that the Institute will need long-term sustained funding.

Models that were raised included: shared industry and government funding, membership-based funding (with members having exclusive access to resources and expertise and/or tiered membership fees), municipal endowment/investment, fee for service models for energy retrofits and other services, Community Bonds as an investments stream (as in Scandinavia) and/or a model akin to a community interest company in the UK, which is owned by the community (a dividend cap is in place so if profits exceed a certain value, then they would be reinvested).

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“ City funds ought to be used for staff and expenses, etc. but the Executive Director should be paid by other contributions so that they are not seeking City funds in future years to sustain their employment.

## Leadership

The Institute is seen as opportunity for Brampton to show progressive leadership on energy challenges – to its own community, and as an example to others, especially suburban communities.

“ How can we make people care about their City, so they adopt the proposals from an energy transition program?

## Academia

There were varied feelings about the desired relationship with academic institutions (some felt stronger about a close connection to research), but participants felt that the ISB’s work would need to be evidence-based.

## Engagement

A pre-requisite for long-term success will be to engage the public and to contribute to creating a place-based identity for Brampton.

“ Work must be done on scoping the ISB’s work to engage the public community, placemaking. People need to see ISB is about their city and culture and it can create a sense of belonging.



Anand Balram,  
City of Brampton

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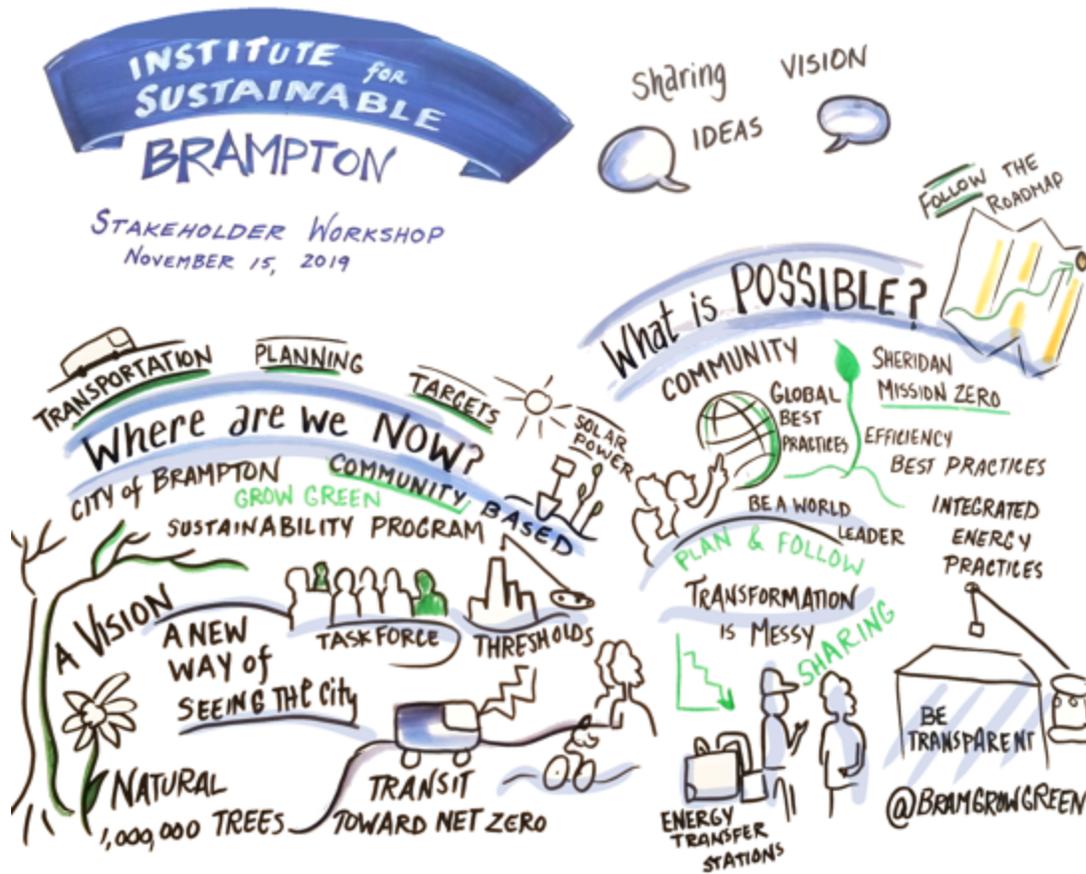
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# VISUAL SUMMARY OF THEMES

Patricia Kambitsch, a graphic facilitator, captured many of the outcomes and themes of the day in the following sketches.

*A summary of the opening, contextual presentations*



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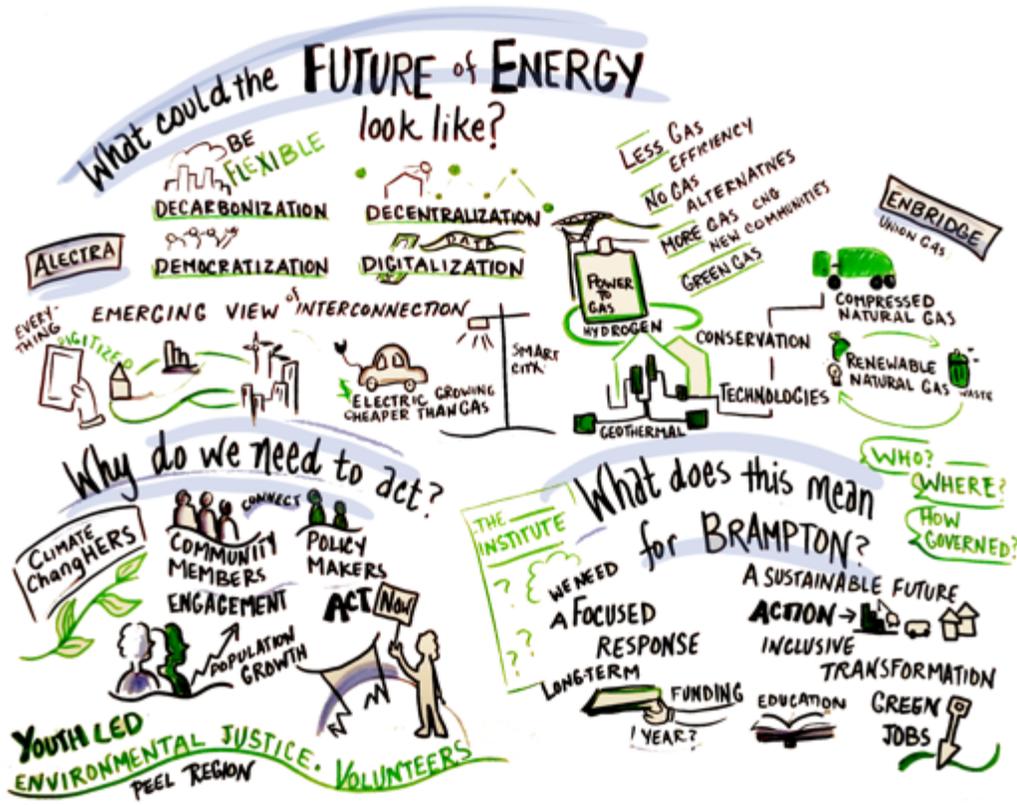


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A summary of the opening, contextual presentations



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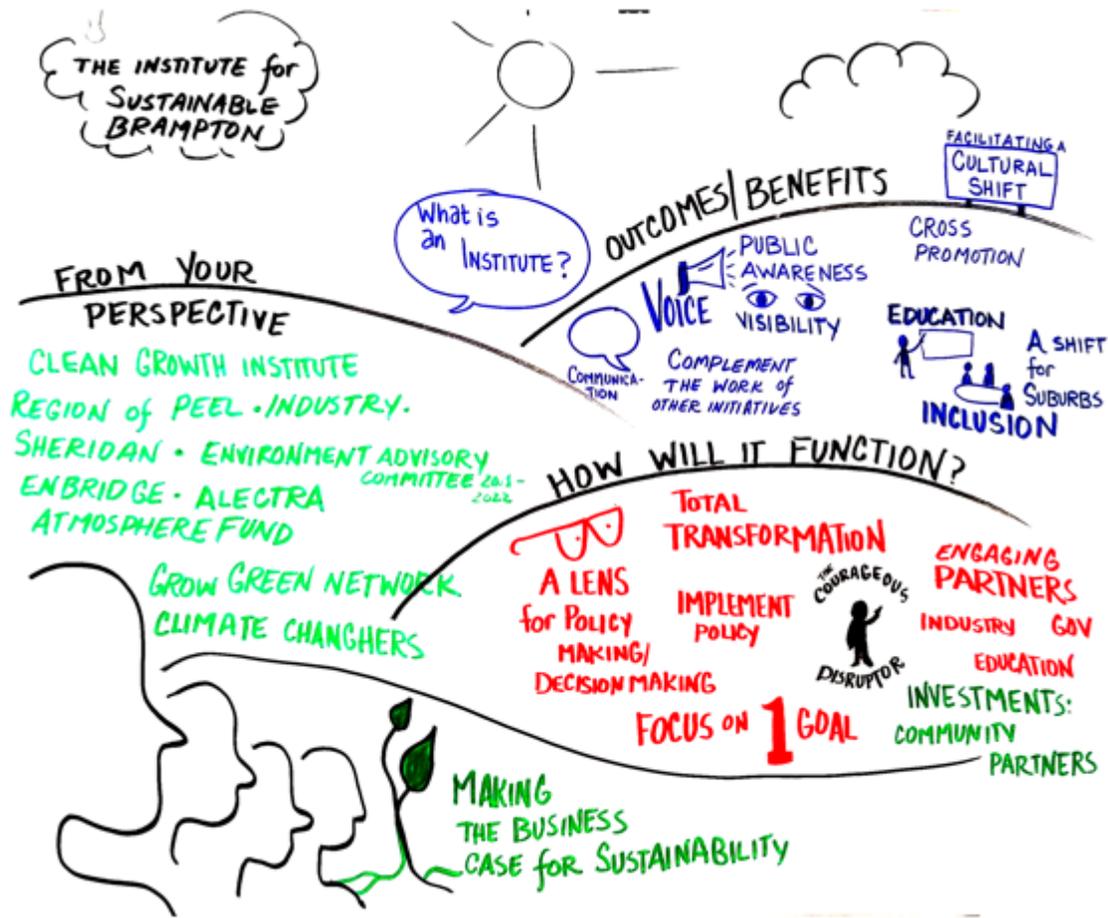


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A recap of an individual visioning exercise



Hosted by:



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Recap of small group discussions about strengths, opportunities, challenges, governance and partnerships.



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# FOUNDATIONAL ELEMENTS

The draft, foundational elements for the Institute for Sustainable Brampton are:

## VISION

A sustainable energy future

## MISSION

To lead an inclusive suburban energy transformation

## MANDATE

The ISB will be an action-oriented organization focused on convening partners to implement catalytic priorities from Brampton's Community Energy and Emissions Reductions Plan (CEERP)

## VALUES

The work we do will:

- Be informed by science
- Be replicable by other communities
- Have quantifiable, documented results
- Be collaborative with community partners to amplify our collective impact
- Ensure social justice and inclusivity
- Generate direct, local economic benefits
- Demonstrate the concepts of circular economy and one planet living
- Provide educational benefits to our community



*Panel discussion with presenters: Michael Hoy, Fiona Oliver-Glasford, Divya Arora, Herbert Sinnock, and Dan Pastoric.*

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# FEEDBACK

Participant feedback from evaluation forms was positive, with an overall rating of **4.6/5** (1 = strongly disagree and 5 = strongly agree)



Some **additional feedback** is provided below:



A massive challenge ahead! Keep the lines of communication open.

Very positive, very well organized, could provide the avenue for additional engagement.



More information on format and objective prior to event would have been helpful.



This was a strong discussion. Thanks!

Missing a few stakeholders such as road engineering staff.

Get a more diverse audience (Indigenous communities, visible minorities, etc. are important).

Good energy in the room. Overall, a great day!



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# NEXT STEPS

- Project Team to meet to consider input received at the Stakeholder Workshop and future input
- Development of governance models
- Online questionnaire to seek additional feedback
- Continue to seek opportunities for alignment, partnership and funding
  - Please feel free to connect directly with the Project Team about alignment opportunities with your ongoing or planned work, shared funding models, and/or other ideas to advance the Institute (and your ongoing work!) will be helpful.
- Present a preferred model to Brampton City Council in early 2020, alongside the Community Energy and Emissions Reduction Plan (CEERP)
- Establish the Institute for Sustainable Brampton in 2020

## WE ARE ON A JOURNEY, TOGETHER...

Please feel free to direct all questions and comments the Project Team Chair, Michael Hoy, at the City of Brampton: [michael.hoy@brampton.ca](mailto:michael.hoy@brampton.ca) or 905.874.2608



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# ATTENDEES

Attendees included the following individuals, listed in alphabetical order by first name.  
Please report any errors or omissions to [michael.hoy@brampton.ca](mailto:michael.hoy@brampton.ca)

## Participants

Akeem Gardner	Environment Advisory Committee 2018-2022
Anand Balram	City of Brampton
Aneta Brynkus	Climate ChangeHer
Anna Pautler	Sheridan College
Antonietta Minichillo*	City of Brampton
Benjamin Ratcliffe	Peel District School Board
Charmaine Whilliams	City Councillor, Wards 7 and 8, Brampton
Christine Tu*	Region of Peel
Clare Barnett	City of Brampton
Dan Pastoric	Alectra Utilities
Dave Clark	Sheridan
Dave Kapil	New Brampton
David Laing	Brampton Environmental Advisory Committee
Divya Arora	Climate ChangeHer
Doug Whillans	City Councillor, Wards 2 and 6, City of Brampton
Eddie Camilleri	William Osler Health Centre
Erika Lontoc	Enbridge Gas Distribution
Fiona Oliver-Glasford	Enbridge Gas Distribution
Gavin Bailey	BILD, Peel Chapter
Hassaan Khan	Johnson Controls Canada L.P.
Herbert Sinnock*	Sheridan College
Ian Klesmer	The Atmospheric Fund
Ishu Singh	Innstal
Jeff Bowman	City Councillor, Wards 3 & 4, City of Brampton
Jennifer Jacuczek	BILD
Kieran Alkerton	Environmental Defense
Laura Severinac	Grow Green Network, Environmental Defence
Lauren Mulkerns	Brampton Brick
Margaret Knowles	Morguard Investments Limited
Mark Wilson	Enbridge Gas Inc
Michael Hoy*	City of Brampton

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Nathaniel Magder	TRCA
Noel Cubacub	City of Brampton
Orjan Carlson	Urban Ecosystems
Pamela Cooper*	City of Brampton
Peter Garforth	Garforth International
Rosemary Keenan	Grow Green Network, Sierra Club of Canada - Peel
Shahinaz Eshesh	City of Brampton
Stavroula Kassaris*	City of Brampton
Trevor Boston	Brampton Environmental Advisory Committee
Zoe Milligan*	City of Brampton

\*Indicates a member of the Project Team

## Facilitators

Amanda Kennedy	Kennedy Consulting
Jeffrey Wilson	University of Waterloo
Patricia Kambitsch	Redesign Network
Peter Jones	Redesign Network
Sarah Burch	University of Waterloo

## Presenters

- Where are we now? (Michael Hoy, City of Brampton)
- What is possible? (Herbert Sinnock, Sheridan College)
- What could the future look like? (Dan Pastoric, Alectra)
- What could the future look like? (Fiona Oliver-Glasford, Enbridge)
- Why do we need to act? (Divya Arora, Climate ChangeHERs)



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# RESOURCES

## Copy of the Workshop Agenda

TIME	ITEM
9:00 a.m.	<b>1. Welcome and Introductions</b>
9:15 a.m.	<b>2. Overview Presentations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where are we now? (City of Brampton)</li> <li>• What is possible? (Sheridan College)</li> <li>• What could the future look like? (Alectra)</li> <li>• What could the future look like? (Enbridge)</li> <li>• Why do we need to act? (Climate ChangeHERs)</li> <li>• What does this mean for Brampton?</li> </ul>
10:30 a.m.	<b>3. Panel Discussion</b>
10:45 a.m.	<b>4. Health Break</b>
11:00 a.m.	<b>5. Piecing it Together: Your Perspective</b> (Plenary Session)
11:30 a.m.	<b>6. Setting up the Institute for Success</b>
11:45 a.m.	<b>7. Lunch</b>
12:15 p.m.	<b>8. Setting up the Institute for Success</b> (Focused Group Work) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring potential strengths and opportunities</li> <li>• Addressing potential challenges</li> <li>• Organizing the Institute for Sustainable Brampton</li> <li>• Charting community involvement</li> </ul>
1:45 p.m.	<b>9. Wrap-up</b>
2:00 p.m.	<b>10. Adjourn</b>

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## Presentations

All **presentations** from the workshop are available online at <https://www.brampton.ca/EN/residents/GrowGreen/Pages/Institute-for-Sustainable-Brampton.aspx>

- Where are we now? (Michael Hoy, City of Brampton)
- What is possible? (Herbert Sinnock, Sheridan College)
- What could the future look like? (Dan Pastoric, Alectra)
- What could the future look like? (Fiona Oliver-Glasford, Enbridge)
- Why do we need to act? (Divya Arora, Climate ChangeHERs)
- Overview (Amanda Kennedy, Facilitator)

## Additional Information and Resources

- City of Brampton Declares a Climate Emergency (starting on page 10 and including strong rationale on pages 10-12): <http://www.brampton.ca/EN/City-Hall/meetings-agens/City%20Council%202010/20190605ccmn.pdf>
- Region of Peel Declares a Climate Emergency: <https://www.peelregion.ca/news/archiveitem.asp?year=2019&month=9&day=25&file=2019925.xml>
- Brampton's Community Energy & Emissions Reduction Plan, including the emerging priorities for action: <http://www.brampton.ca/EN/residents/GrowGreen/Pages/Community-Energy-and-Emissions-Reduction-Plan.aspx>
- Region of Peel's Climate Change Master Plan: <https://www.peelregion.ca/climate-energy/>
- Conceptual information about the Institute for Sustainable Brampton is included in Brampton 2040 Vision on page 22: <https://www.brampton.ca/EN/City-Hall/Documents/Brampton2040Vision/brampton2040Vision.pdf>
- A community-based ISB Task Force consisting of select members of the Brampton Grow Green Network developed a White Paper to build the case for an Institute for Sustainable Brampton in January 2019: <http://bikebrampton.ca/2019/01/13/institute-for-sustainable-brampton/>

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