

VOICES



VOICES

Of Lived Experience
Dufferin

LIVED EXPERIENCE
DUFFERIN

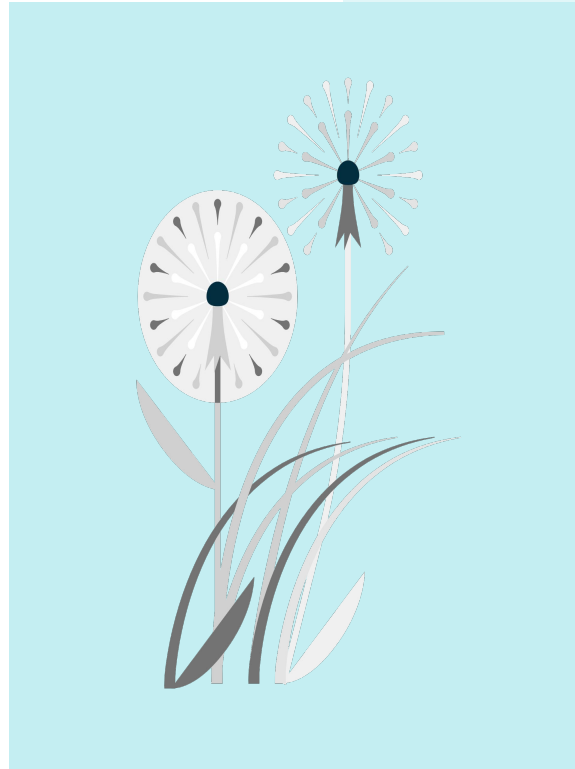


Engaging with VOICES

Of Lived Experience Dufferin

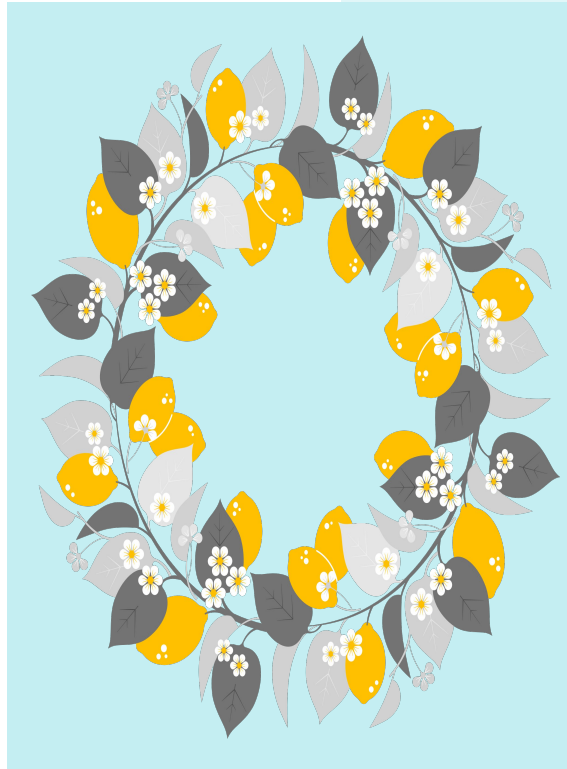


AGENDA



- Goals
- Contact/Requests
- Consultation Process
- Timeline
- Expectations
- Terms of Engagement
- Feedback
- Thank You

GOALS



Outline the VOICES recommended process and terms of engagement for DCEC Working Groups and potential organizations/community groups seeking to consult or interact with VOICES.

Our main goal as we begin to engage in more consultations/collaborations/community is to first support DCEC Priority Pillars and Working Groups, then move outwardly from there.



Contact/Requests

Initial Contact: DCEC Working Groups & Dufferin community groups/organizations interested in consulting with VOICES are welcome to initiate the process by emailing their inquiry or request to the VOICES group with the subject **[REQUEST for VOICES]**. Our email is:

livedexperience@dcmoves.org

Please make sure your email has a clear question or request for feedback. You can also start with an inquiry if you are not sure if we are a good fit. Your email should also include **a contact name and telephone number**, with any additional contact instructions such as preferred method of communication and time availability (for phone calls). **We look forward to hearing from you!**



Consultation Process

Consultation Process: Upon receiving the initial inquiry, the VOICES coordinator will present the request to our group during scheduled meetings (we only meet weekly for 2-3 hours) which impacts our speed. We apologize. Our group will collaboratively work on a response by leveraging our lived experiences. **A response is given in writing unless otherwise discussed or requested.** Our members are anonymous, so we are not likely to invite you to our meetings or attend yours, unless otherwise pre-approved by the group members.



Timeline

Timeline: The approximate date of the response will be communicated by the VOICES coordinator and will depend on the availability of the group and size of your request. Flexibility is encouraged to accommodate the diverse schedules of VOICES members and the limited amount of time that our group meets. **We only meet 3 hours per week, which can impact the turnaround time. Please note, we are not meeting in February 2024.** Please let us know if your request is time sensitive so that we can prioritize you as much as possible.



Expectations

Use & Expectations: It is important to note that while VOICES of Lived Experience Dufferin strives to offer valuable recommendations and share insightful experiences, **there is no expectation that the suggestions provided must be adhered to.** The purpose of sharing these perspectives is to offer a unique and authentic lens of lived experience on issues related to poverty, equity, and community, with the hope that the information proves useful and supportive. VOICES understands the diverse nature of decision-making processes and recognizes that each group, individual, or organization operates within its own framework, budgets, and constraints.

Terms of Engagement

Terms of Engagement: To ensure a smooth and respectful consultation process, community groups should be mindful of the following terms of engagement:

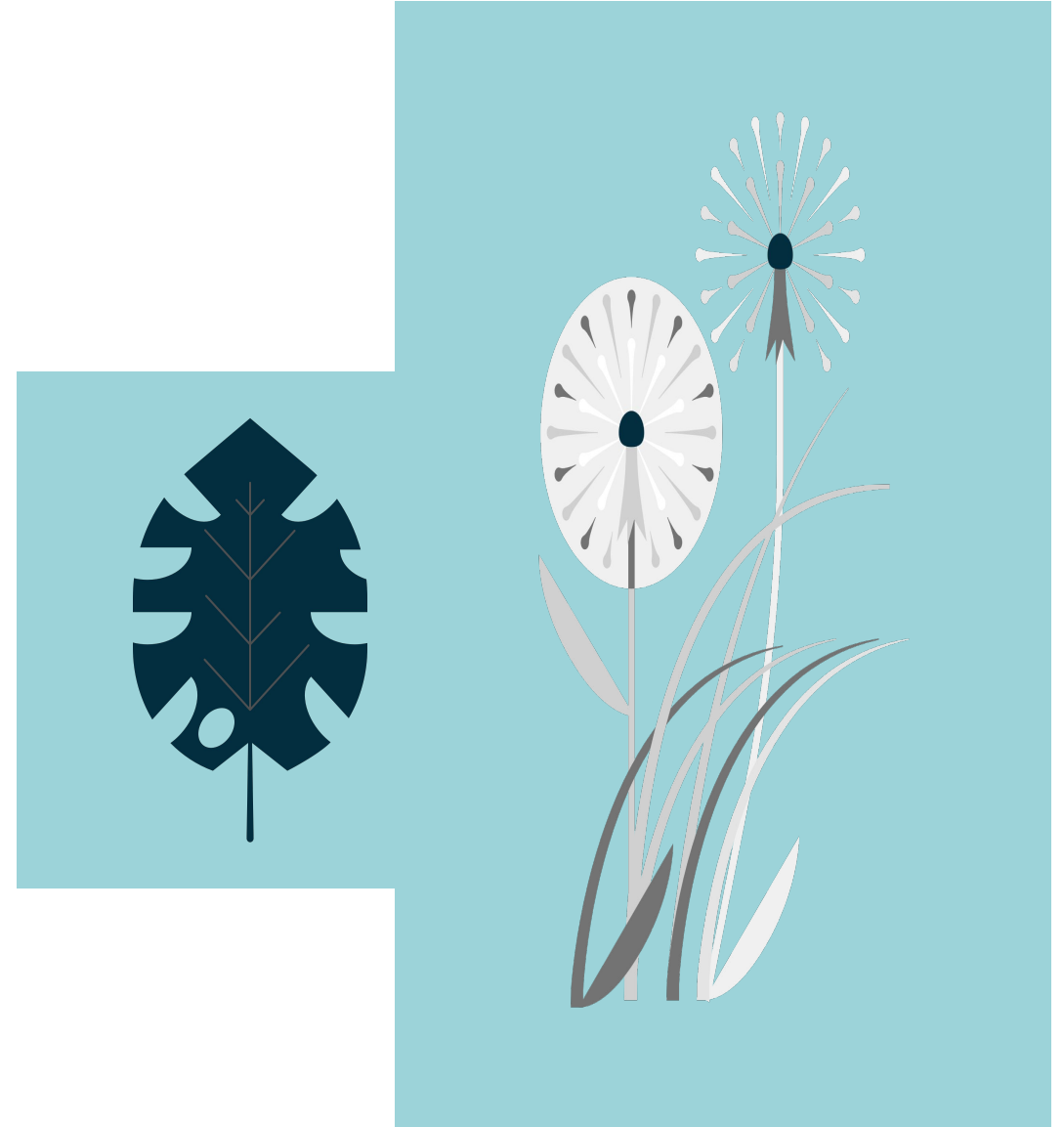
Inclusion: Recognize and embrace the diversity of voices within VOICES. Our group deeply reflects on what is asked of us and together responds in a way that includes a varied understanding of the issues at hand, while remaining united.

Kindness and Empathy: Approach discussions with kindness and empathy. Understand the lived experiences shared by VOICES members and appreciate the courage it takes to share personal narratives. We put our whole hearts into our work. There is no separating us as individuals from what we share.

Fulfillment of Roles and Responsibilities: Both the consulting community, DCEC Working Group, VOICES members, and the VOICES Coordinator should commit to fulfilling their roles and responsibilities to the best of their abilities. Prioritize the greater good of the work and keep the broader community in mind.

Feedback

Feedback: VOICES of Lived Experience Dufferin values your feedback on our consultation process as we continually refine our approach. Your input is crucial in shaping our evolving methodology, and each unique request helps us enhance our practices. Your feedback contributes to our ongoing commitment to refining our group and providing impactful support for those facing challenges related to poverty in our community. Currently feedback can be given over email (livedexperience@dcmoves.org), in future we may request that you engage in a survey with us.





THANK YOU

Discussion

In the spirit of fostering collaborative efforts and creating a more interconnected community, VOICES of Lived Experience Dufferin expresses a sincere desire to establish meaningful connections with the Dufferin County Equity Collaborative's (DCEC) Working Groups. Let's explore the consultation process with VOICES when engaging the DCEC Working Groups.

Discussion

1. Understanding and Comfort Level:

How would you describe your current understanding of the engagement process outlined in the presentation?

What aspects of the process do you feel most comfortable with, and are there any elements that are unclear or concerning?

2. Readiness for Engagement:

After this overview of the engagement process, how do you feel about the readiness of your Working Group to engage with VOICES?

Are there any specific challenges or concerns that your group foresees in the engagement process?

3. Feedback Mechanism:

How does your group feel about providing feedback on the consultation process to VOICES?

What suggestions or insights do you have for establishing a strong feedback process, and are you open to engaging in future surveys as suggested?

4. Alignment with DCEC Priority Pillars:

In what ways can the engagement with VOICES contribute to advancing the DCEC Priority Pillars?

Is there anything that VOICES can do in addition to this engagement process to be more supportive to you?

