



Surrey, British Columbia



#1 (of 3)



# COMMUNITY TALKS: SURREY SESSION #1

## A COMMUNITY-DRIVEN APPROACH...

This report summarizes Iron & Earth's first community conversation hosted in Surrey British Columbia. Community Talks is Iron & Earth's engagement initiative designed to spark conversations about how environmental, social, and economic changes impact people across Canada. It is committed to meeting communities where they are at, by supporting self-determined, community-driven solutions, and offering non-prescriptive support with programs that are designed by the community and for the community.

This session was hosted in partnership with the Sustainable Workforce Coalition (SWC).

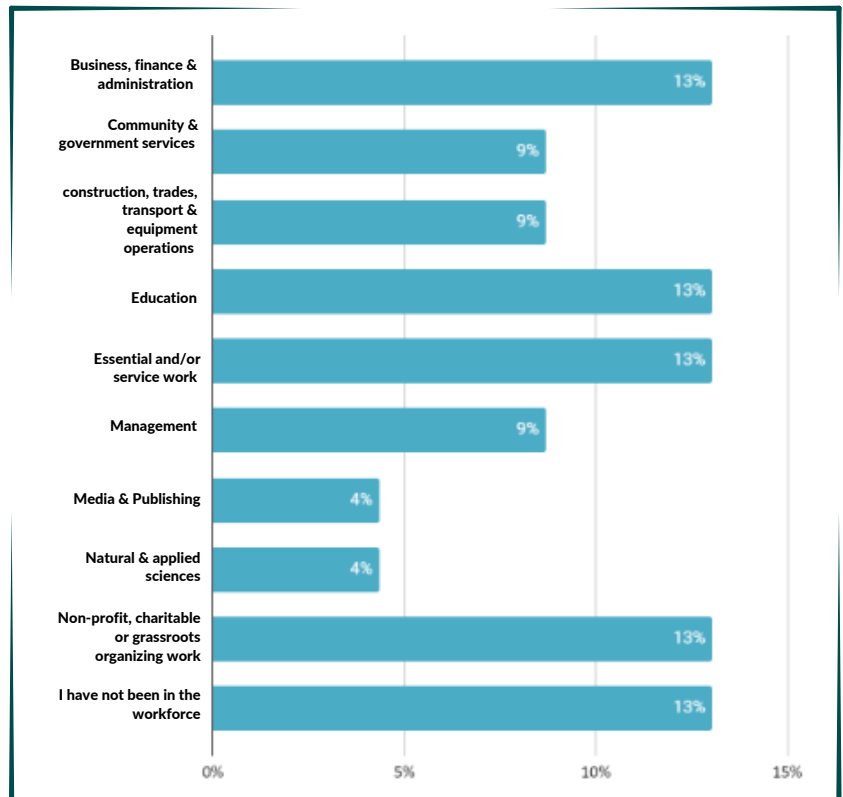
## KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Climate impacts:** Participants expressed strong awareness and concern regarding the mounting impacts of climate change in Surrey and around the world. Throughout the discussion, they highlighted extreme heat as the most concerning issue for Surrey residents.
- **Cost of living:** Surrey community members identified the cost of food and housing as stressors in their daily lives. The challenges of young people and newcomers to break into the local job market while managing rising costs were of particular importance to the Surrey residents we spoke to.
- **Demanding more of government:** Participants expressed a desire for the government to do more in addressing the dual crises of affordability and climate change, particularly in the aftermath of the 2021 heat dome.
- **Transportation:** The future of transportation was of utmost importance to the community members we engaged with. Participants conveyed a cautious attitude towards the cost of electric vehicles, while expressing enthusiasm about improving walkability and expanding public transportation in Surrey.

## WHY SURREY

As one of the fastest growing and most culturally diverse cities in Canada, Surrey B.C. is a prime location for fostering community discussions centered around the interconnected issues of climate change, income security, and sustainability.

## PARTICIPANT JOB SECTORS







## PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

75% of participants shared that they were either satisfied or very satisfied with their experience participating in this community conversation. **100% of participants expressed that they learned something new during the discussion** and all attendees shared that they would be interested in continuing the conversation and participating in future events relating to these topics.

**To read the full report please visit our website: [CommunityTalksCanada.ca](https://CommunityTalksCanada.ca)**

**Sign up to our newsletter & follow us online to stay up to date on future events and findings from the project.**

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