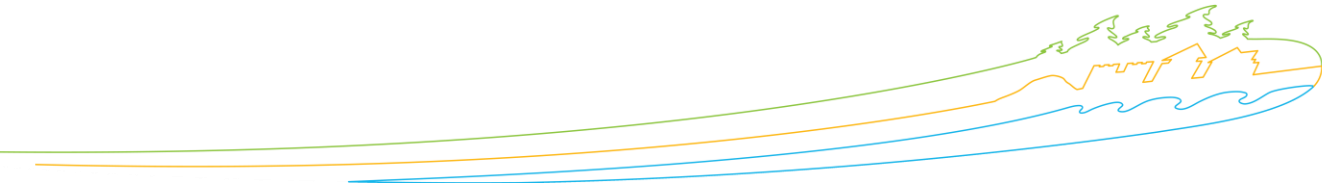




Parks
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ROUGE NATIONAL URBAN PARK

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT 2012 REPORT



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: WHAT WE HEARD
- 2.0 BACKGROUND
- 3.0 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PROCESS
- 4.0 PARK CONCEPT PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (SUMMER 2012)
- 5.0 WHAT WE HEARD
- 6.0 NEXT STEPS

APPENDIX A: Rouge National Urban Park: On-line Survey Questions

APPENDIX B: Public Engagement Events



1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: WHAT WE HEARD

The feedback received during the public engagement program demonstrates that the concept for Rouge National Urban Park is generally understood and supported. Participants are excited about the establishment of the national urban park and the recognition and profile which accompany the announcement by the Government of Canada. People appreciate the increase in the scope of opportunity for enhanced conservation, learning and visitor experience.

The park's natural resources and linkages between Lake Ontario and the Oak Ridges Moraine are recognized and valued. Accordingly, the expectations for the strategic management plan are that there be an appropriate focus on protection. There is a desire to maintain the strong tradition of community volunteering and to increase engagement with youth. Widespread support was expressed for a connected trail network inside and adjacent to the park, with a diversity of ideas regarding the scope and scale of visitor experiences. The farming heritage of the area is appreciated and the inclusion of farming within the national urban park is seen as one of its unique characteristics. The importance of a culturally inclusive park and the opportunity for the national urban park to celebrate and present cultural heritage, and specifically that of First Nations, was expressed by many. Finally, access to and within the park requires careful consideration and attention to detail to ensure that it meets visitor needs, links with adjacent communities, and is compatible with existing and future transit and infrastructure plans.

The public's passion, commitment and connection to the existing Rouge Park are evident in a large and inspiring level of participation in the engagement program for the Rouge National Urban Park Concept. Parks Canada sincerely thanks all those that took the time to comment and to share their

aspirations, concerns and information about the existing Rouge Park and the proposed national urban park.

2.0 BACKGROUND

Over the summer of 2012, Parks Canada Agency (hereinafter referred to as 'Parks Canada') conducted an extensive public engagement program on the proposed concept for Rouge National Urban Park. This report summarizes the results of the public engagement program in terms of "what we heard."

Parks Canada was the world's first national park organization and celebrated 100 years of service to Canadians in 2011. It is also the largest conservation organization and provider of heritage tourism products in Canada, responsible for managing a network of 44 national parks, four national marine conservation areas, and 167 national historic sites. Its mandate is one of protection, education, and visitor experience; where protection, education, and experience objectives are pursued in an integrated fashion, each contributing to the other two areas.

In the 2011 *Speech from the Throne*, the Government of Canada announced its intention to work towards the creation of Canada's first national urban park in the Rouge Valley. The opportunity for Parks Canada to establish Rouge National Urban Park is closely aligned with Parks Canada's priority to meaningfully reach Canada's increasingly diverse urban population. Rouge Park, as it exists today, is one of North America's largest urban parks, encompassing more than 40 km². With the addition of additional public lands, its size will increase by approximately 20%. On May 25, 2012, the Government of Canada announced funding from Canada's Economic Action Plan of \$143.7 million over 10 years, and \$7.6 million annually thereafter, to support the creation and operation of the national urban park.



3.0 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

Public engagement is integral to the process of moving from the June 2011 announcement regarding Rouge National Urban Park to the park's first strategic management plan. The process involves three phases of ongoing public engagement, of all communities of interest, that contribute to the development of two documents; first the Park Concept, then the Park Strategic Management Plan.

Phase 1: Park Concept Development (completed)

In this phase, Parks Canada, with stakeholders, identified the fundamental elements of a new entity (national urban park) in the family of Canadian protected areas. The development of the park concept brought together diverse communities in a dialogue where all perspectives could be shared to ensure all interests were reflected in the document.

This first phase of engagement occurred between June 2011 and May 2012, and involved more than 100 national, provincial and municipal organizations, Aboriginal partners, youth, and individuals and organizations with expertise related to conservation, farming, tourism, recreation, youth engagement and education. In autumn 2011, Parks Canada initiated a distinct engagement process with interested First Nations to share information and begin dialogue about their future engagement in the planning, establishment and presentation of the national urban park.

The concept presented a vision for the national urban park and provided a broad overview of how it would be established, protected, and managed. It identified the study area, which links Lake Ontario in the south to the Oak Ridges Moraine in the north. The concept outlined four key elements fundamental to the proposed national urban park: Conserve Natural Heritage, Connect People to Nature and

History, Support a Vibrant Farming Community, and Celebrate Cultural Heritage Character. It also identified governance provisions, prevention, visitor safety and law enforcement strategies, as well as transition measures and interim management direction to be developed while park establishment is underway.

Phase 2: Park Concept Engagement (completed)

The Honourable Peter Kent, Minister of the Environment, launched an extensive public engagement program on the concept for Rouge National Urban Park on May 25, 2012 at a stakeholder workshop. The summer-long engagement broadened Canadians' involvement to include the general public and a wider range of members of communities of interest. The results of this public engagement phase are described in this report.

Phase 3: The Strategic Management Plan (later 2013)

The input received during the summer 2012 engagement program will help shape the development of the strategic management plan; the next step in the planning process for Rouge National Urban Park. Once in draft form, the strategic management plan will be shared for public comment as a third phase of public engagement.

The strategic management plan will provide the overarching guidance for the management of Canada's first National Urban Park. Premised on accountability, inclusiveness and collaboration, the strategic management plan will outline for Rouge National Urban Park the integrated delivery of Parks Canada's mandate for protection, education, and visitor experience. It will also provide a framework for decision making and tactical implementation, thus ensuring the effective use of public funds.



The strategic management plan will describe the approach to area management, arrival and orientation, and the park trail system. It will contain strategies for natural and cultural resource conservation, visitor experience, external relations, education, sustainable agriculture, collaboration with partners, and other topics. The strategic management plan will also identify an inclusive governance structure that ensures a diversity of input into park management decisions, including continued First Nation involvement. It will identify desired ten-year outcomes for the park and how achievement of goals will be measured.

4.0 PARK CONCEPT PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (SUMMER 2012)

The public engagement program was guided by the following objectives:

- Strengthen existing and build new relationships with local communities, stakeholders and partners;
- Inform the public and increase awareness of Rouge National Urban Park;
- Provide the public with opportunities to provide input on the proposed Rouge National Urban Park Concept;
- Ensure the perspectives of all communities of interest are voiced; and
- Increase awareness of Parks Canada.

From June 25 to October 8, 2012, a variety of methods were employed to engage diverse audiences. The Parks Canada website featured information on the proposed Rouge National Urban Park and the concept, as well as an on-line survey that served as the primary means for people to submit their views (see Appendix A). The survey was promoted through periodic newsletters, Twitter, community events, meetings, email and print distribution. Postcards containing the website address and a QR code, enabling smart phone users

to complete the survey, were distributed to more than 8,500 people. Several organizations and local groups requested engagement kits containing postcards, newsletters and factsheets for distribution to their respective members. A Rouge Park email address was also established to solicit comments. A one page factsheet was mailed to more than 26,000 households, apartments and farms in and around the proposed park boundary in an effort to solicit input during the final month of the engagement period.

Other means of engagement included: three public information sessions, three stakeholder meetings, attendance at 15 community events, and a three week presence on Yonge Street during the Toronto Film Festival (see Appendix B). A Parks Canada engagement kiosk was set up at each event to provide an opportunity for people to interact with Parks Canada staff and to fill out the survey on site. Additional information in the kiosk consisted of factsheets, the Rouge National Urban Park Concept and postcards. Event participants included seniors, youth, new Canadians, urban residents, farmers, and communities of interest.

Who we heard from

This phase of public engagement was initially scheduled from June 25 to September 17, but continued public interest and response led to an extension until October 8, 2012.

The Scarborough, Markham and Pickering public information sessions attracted more than 300 people in total. Parks Canada staff interacted with more than 3,800 people during the community events and stakeholder meetings. The survey garnered 2,627 responses. The Rouge account received 30 emails, including 18 submissions from non-governmental organizations, representing a range of interests from agriculture to environmental groups to trail advocates. In addition to the direct feedback to Parks Canada outlined above, a writing campaign generated 221 letters.



During discussions with First Nations, perspectives on the national urban park Concept were shared with Parks Canada staff and will be considered along with the public feedback.

On-Line Survey Respondent Profile

Almost half of the survey respondents were between 30-60 years old, with the remainder split evenly between the 18-29 and 60 plus age categories. Only 23 people under the age of 18 completed the on-line survey. More than 70% of respondents lived within 2 hours of the existing park, with the remainder being from outside Ontario or Canada. Of the 4% of respondents living outside Canada, responses came from the United States, South Africa, Australia, Brazil and Germany.

When asked whether they had visited the existing park, 59% of respondents said yes. 99% of all respondents indicated that they would consider visiting Rouge National Urban Park. Almost half of the 41% of respondents that have not visited the existing park live within 2 hours of the park.

5.0 WHAT WE HEARD

The feedback received during the public engagement program is organized under the nine Guiding Principles developed by stakeholders during the development of the concept (and listed on page 5 of that document).

Guiding Principle: Maintain and improve ecological health and scientific integrity

The importance of a healthy park was a common thread across all forms of input—from public meetings, to the on-line survey, to letters from non-governmental organizations. It is clear that participants place an important value on the park's natural resources, and stressed the need to ensure their protection in the establishment and management of Rouge National Urban Park. Those

most interested in this principle asked to see protection and restoration given appropriate attention in the strategic management plan. Participants spoke of the vulnerability of the park's natural resources in the context of its surrounding urban environment and offered suggestions to maintain and enhance their protection. With regard to the national urban park's geographical location, some called for expansion of the study area to 100 km² in size and/or the implementation of existing Rouge Park plans and strategies, in order to strengthen the Lake Ontario-Oak Ridges Moraine connection. Park buffers were also suggested to shield the park from development; for example, the former Beare Road landfill was suggested as a "safety valve" for recreation.

Protection and restoration of the national urban park's terrestrial and aquatic habitat were often mentioned, as was the long tradition of community involvement in the existing park's conservation and restoration activities. Legislation was cited as one means to ensure the health of the park. Some suggested targets, such as those for forest and wetland health established by others in such documents as the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement and region- and Rouge-level watershed plans.

A need to protect rare ecological communities (e.g., Carolinian forest, mixed woodland plains), habitats (e.g., wetlands), and individual species such as the Bobolink, Blanding's Turtle and Milksnake, was frequently mentioned. The need to manage invasive species such as dog-strangling vine and garlic mustard was identified. Research and monitoring of the park's terrestrial and aquatic environments involving inventories, strong science capacity, citizen involvement, and academic and other research were viewed as important. Coordination with other governments in watershed and headwaters planning and protection was seen as essential and the park was viewed as an important contributor to the GTA/Greenbelt's "green infrastructure."



Guiding Principle: Encourage people (especially youth) to learn and connect with nature

The role of the national urban park in helping urban residents and youth connect to the natural world was a common theme. Participants often used the terms appreciate, value, explore, enjoy, respect, support, and connect when talking about the park. The park was generally viewed as a “treasure,” a “place of pride,” a “credit to Toronto,” and a “wonderful gem in the GTA,” and that it could change GTA residents’ perspectives on what a healthy city means and the relevance of the environment to their own lives.

Participants generally perceived a positive and mutually-reinforcing relationship between education and nature with opportunities for youth to learn about Canada’s rich natural and cultural heritage. The national urban park was viewed as place where youth could learn to appreciate and respect the environment, feel comfortable in nature, and involve themselves in park stewardship. Promoting park visits to complement curriculum school-based programs for both elementary and high school students was suggested.

Participants conveyed an appreciation for the natural world and viewed the national urban park as a place to enjoy nature and the outdoors. The park was noted as a sanctuary and a place to foster deeper connections to nature. A mix of experiences was suggested, ranging from the very active to more passive enjoyment of the tranquility of nature. The survey revealed a range of support across this spectrum including: learning about natural and cultural heritage receiving widespread support; recreation, school and citizen science programs, and discovery of Canada’s national parks and national historic sites receiving support; and, arts and culture, farmers’ markets, and community gardens supported, but at somewhat lower levels.

A broad variety of educational and learning opportunities associated with urban agriculture were identified by participants, ranging from how food is grown to low-water native gardening. The concept’s food hub was seen as a means to reconnect people to food and expose them to sustainable farming principles and park history. Hands-on, farm-related activities and educational and cultural events, such as art exhibits, were suggested in this regard.

Guiding Principle: Collaborate to ensure multi-modal connectivity and access

Participants interpreted park accessibility in a wide variety of ways, from how people get to the national urban park, to how they move within the park, to how to ensure the park is accessible to urban residents of varying means.

Improved public transit was broadly supported, as was cycling access on roads and via regional trail networks. Some participants advocated free parking, whereas others suggested green incentives that encourage more people to travel to and from the park in fewer vehicles or by other means. The reasons for improving non-auto access to the park included a reduced carbon and parking footprint, and easier park access for those without cars.

Between 22% and 24% of on-line survey respondents indicated they would get to the park either by walkways, personal vehicles or community bike paths. Although 14% indicated they would “always” take public transit to the park, 23% of respondents indicated they never would.

Many participants expressed a desire for limited motorized movement within the national urban park because of concerns over high traffic speeds and volumes. Likewise, many thought motorized off-road vehicles (i.e., ATVs and dirt bikes) should be prohibited. An extensive multi-use path system and pedestrian movement was commonly cited as a desirable way for visitors to move through the park. Mountain biking and cycling were commonly perceived to be compatible activities, although



differing opinions on this topic were expressed. Accessibility to trails and washrooms for people with disabilities and for seniors was also cited as desirable.

The degree of access to agricultural areas generated a diversity of viewpoints. There were questions on how increased visitor access would affect farm operations—either negatively or positively—and how it would be managed. Although open access was generally supported, a number of participants cited the need for caution with respect to the park's natural resources.

Guiding Principle: Foster a culture of community and youth volunteering, engagement, respect and partnership

The large, nearby urban audience and the long history of strong volunteer involvement in Rouge Park were seen as the foundation for future stewardship of the national urban park. As expressed by a participant during a public information session, “The spirit of the Rouge is the people.” For many, “People’s Park” meant that citizen involvement, volunteering opportunities and ambassadorship should be the norm and be accessible to all.

Of the seven types of volunteer opportunities provided in the on-line survey for people to express their preference, most respondents were ‘very interested’ in environmental restoration (62%), monitoring (45%), and maintenance of trails, etc. (44%).

Increased awareness of and support for the national urban park by local residents was regarded as a way to encourage them to become actively engaged as park ambassadors and stewards. Engaging youth in volunteer activities was mentioned frequently, with emphasis on the 40-hour student volunteering requirement as a way to contribute to and benefit the park. A range of opportunities related to natural heritage protection was suggested, from citizen

science programs to invasive species removal. Youth identified a number of themes of interest to them—Technology in Nature, Outdoor Classroom, Learning about Agriculture and Farming, Group Discovery, Unique Experiences and Aboriginal Storytelling.

Participants suggested many hands-on, experiential activities to introduce people to the national urban park and food. Demonstration and volunteer farms, farm tours, farmers’ markets, picnic areas and an annual food event were suggested. Urban and rural integration would be encouraged through growing food for surrounding communities, the park as a local food hub, and a community garden space.

Partnering opportunities with governments, environmental and agricultural organizations, and neighbouring attractions were welcomed in such areas as youth and school curricula, environmental projects, promotion, volunteering, and farming. Park-related groups such as a park cooperating association were mentioned often. A variety of opinions were expressed concerning increased roles for private businesses and the types that would be acceptable in the national urban park.

Guiding Principle: Inspire people to experience this park

Many participants viewed the national urban park as a “destination” for GTA residents, Canadians, and international visitors. Specific examples identified included recreation, nature and the outdoors, and as a “mecca” for teaching about nature, learning about agriculture or recreating in the outdoors. Others viewed the park as a refuge and a friendly, open place, where one could go and spend the day exploring and escaping the daily grind – a getaway where one can “feel 100 miles from Toronto.” Water-related activities, camping, winter activities, sporting events and a host of related infrastructure and facilities were suggested. Overall, participants cited natural heritage as the most common motivator inspiring a visit to Rouge National Urban Park, followed by recreation, and then cultural and agricultural heritage.



Some people viewed the park's urban setting and "People's Park" approach as what makes Rouge National Urban Park unique. People suggested this park should be different than the national parks model, having more activities and appealing to everyone. In contrast, others expressed concern that the term "urban" could be perceived negatively and expressed concern that the park could be "over used."

Cross-promotion of the park with the surrounding area, provincial parks and national parks was suggested, as was the need for a strong park identity. Suggested techniques to promote the national urban park included television films/spots, "worldwide exposure" of park conservation achievements, and listings in top travel guides. Proposed audiences that participants identified for park promotion included new Canadians, youth, and first-time visitors.

Guiding Principle: Respect and support sustainable agriculture and other compatible land uses

Participants generally felt farming could be a part of a healthy, functional protected area through the practice of sustainable agriculture. The national urban park was often cited as a potential model and showcase for sustainable agriculture in Ontario, nationally, and even internationally. Integration—with the natural, social, health, and economic milieux of surrounding communities—was a common theme.

Integration of conservation with agriculture was generally viewed as possible and in a positive light. Many viewed farming and farmers as contributors to the park's biodiversity, through the use of vegetated stream buffers, the weaving of natural areas and corridors into farmland and farm operations, and soil management. Participants also suggested that small-scale ecological/organic farms, non-traditional crops likely to appeal to new Canadians, non-GMO farming, and perma-culture would enhance the park's agricultural and biological

diversity. Demonstration farms, agro-ecological workshops, and university research were also suggested.

A financially attractive, viable, and productive climate for farmers was seen as fundamental to the future of park farming. Long-term leases were viewed as a means to provide farmers security and to encourage them to invest in their farms and institute best management practices. Many economic opportunities for farmers were identified, such as food production oriented to adjacent communities, a farmers' market and direct sales along roads and paths and in the "hubs" described in the concept. The viability of the farming community surrounding the national urban park was seen to be essential for the continuation of farming within the park.

Many mentioned a need to support farmers in the transition to the future described in the concept. Environmental farm plans, "incubator" farms for new farmers and longer leases were mentioned. The ability to engage farmers in defining their future in the national urban park was viewed as critical to success, and as a unique opportunity to define farm sustainability and encourage innovation.

Guiding Principle: Honour diversity, local heritage, cultural inclusiveness...past, present and future

The importance of a culturally inclusive park and the opportunity for Rouge National Urban Park to celebrate cultural heritage, and specifically First Nations, European, and built heritage, was expressed by many participants. The park was viewed as a place where people of all cultures can share in the park experience and learn about each other in a safe, welcoming environment.

Celebrating cultural heritage in the park by highlighting, showcasing and preserving Aboriginal and European cultures was noted as a way to build respect and a cultural legacy. Participants stated the importance of First Nations' connections to the



national urban park, the need for First Nations to be engaged as keepers of traditional ecological knowledge, and the potential for their involvement in public education and interpretive programming. A clear message was that culturally-related stories should not be exclusively focused on one site or area of the park; in this regard, First Nations noted their long-standing and extensive presence throughout the park study area beyond the more popularly-known Bead Hill National Historic Site and Carrying Place Trail National Historic Event. In this context, First Nations and those that identified volunteering as an important activity noted a desire to be part of the visitor's experience and the reason that inspire Canadians to visit the national urban park. First Nations also suggested the use of the term "landing" in place of "hub" for the interpretive nodes described in the concept.

The connection between cultural and natural heritage was conveyed by some as an important aspect to consider with respect to presentation (e.g., potential trail system linking sites of interest) and protection (e.g., environmental restoration near cultural sites). With respect to farming, one organization identified the opportunity to celebrate the old and the new in farm stewardship and cultural heritage.

Existing heritage buildings and structures in the national urban park were viewed as a significant component of European heritage. Comments focused on the desire to identify, protect, restore, and reuse these buildings, for example, through the use of long term tenancies. Some expressed a desire for stronger conservation and continued use of historic buildings in the national urban park.

Guiding Principle: Environmental Leadership in Park Operations

Many participants recognized both the challenge and the potential for the national urban park's management and operation to serve as a model of sustainability, and identified a variety of ways in

which it could do so. Many considered the national urban park as a catalyst for other urban parks across Canada, and that it could set a worldwide "gold standard" for integrating nature protection and human interaction in an urban environment. Community engagement was often stressed in this regard, and Parks Canada was urged to share its best practices with other multi-use urban parks.

The long-term was stressed (e.g. the First Nations Seven Generations approach) to support a strategic management plan that is the "epitome of planning." The importance of science-based decision making was often cited, supported by research capacity, databases on park resources, monitoring and reporting, surveys of park use, and the gathering of best practices from other parks. Conservation, visitor experience, and the accommodation of locally-oriented uses were often cited as areas requiring policy. Other policy related issues included cultural heritage, visitor support facilities, and light pollution reduction.

Participants expressed a range of views in terms of how conservation of natural heritage related to other national urban park goals, uses, and activities. Some suggested the park should be more about wilderness than recreation or farming; others indicated a wide range of recreation and agriculture could integrate successfully with conservation; others felt the park should cater to visitor needs.

Many suggestions were made on how activities should be distributed in the national urban park, ranging from less intensive in undisturbed areas to more intensive, such as outdoor gatherings in other spaces. Some indicated a need to address situations where uses on private lands surrounded by the park may negatively affect the health of the park. Restraint (or even reduction) in overall infrastructure "footprint" in the park over time was suggested, as were environmental assessments to ensure future infrastructure expansion is compatible with the national urban park's goals.

Day-to-day management issues were raised, such as garbage dumping, trail user conflicts, user



behaviour, maintenance of picnic areas, washrooms, and trails, and timely removal of graffiti. Rouge Beach was often cited as an area for improved management. Invasive species and habitat improvement suggestions were also made. The need for adequate patrol and enforcement by conservation/by-law enforcement officers was frequently mentioned. Many “greening” suggestions were made, such as: the use of wind and solar power, electric vehicles, and methane from the Beare Road landfill; recycling, and composting; shuttle buses for visitor transport; and, the use of recycled/reused materials for park infrastructure.

Guiding Principle: Inclusive, progressive governance led by Parks Canada

Participants expressed support for inclusive governance of the national urban park. Citizen involvement was viewed as the essence of the term “People’s Park,” and a means to help communities embrace and steward the park. Many stressed the long history of community involvement in the park’s creation and past management, and a desire for this to continue.

Participants stressed their belief in the need for a strong legislative framework for conservation and protection in the national urban park. Others noted a need for formalized, clearly demarcated boundaries to prevent encroachment. The need for intergovernmental cooperation on park establishment was also mentioned.

A variety of suggestions were made concerning park financing. Some thought it should be fully publicly funded, others advocated cost-recovery, and yet others suggested it should realize a profit through activities/events, farm revenues, and user fees. Those that commented on park organization believed strong leadership and expert staff to be important.

Input into park governance and decision-making was a common theme. Many felt park management should involve the public directly and regularly in park decisions—by integrating the ideas of residents, volunteers, park users, youth, minority groups, new Canadians, and researchers. Public input into park planning was frequently mentioned as a way to ensure community support from leaders in academia, in the arts, learning, recreation, youth, and farming. Increased cooperation with trail-user groups was also recommended. First Nations input into park decisions was also viewed as important.

The need for the national urban park to evolve with its surrounding urban, multi-cultural environment was noted. Participants felt engagement with adjacent communities would generate a sense of ownership, pride, and investment in the park, and that Parks Canada would find value in the opinions, knowledge, expertise, and experience of people living around and using the park.

Participants offered many ideas for how to facilitate continuing public input, including citizen participation on a park board or advisory committee, community discussion forums, and regular consultations on major issues, priorities, and activities (not just during planning). Working closely with resident farmers was also viewed as essential to sound park management through, for example, a park farmers’ liaison group. An up-to-date website and on-line surveys were mentioned as ways to stay in touch with communities near and far.

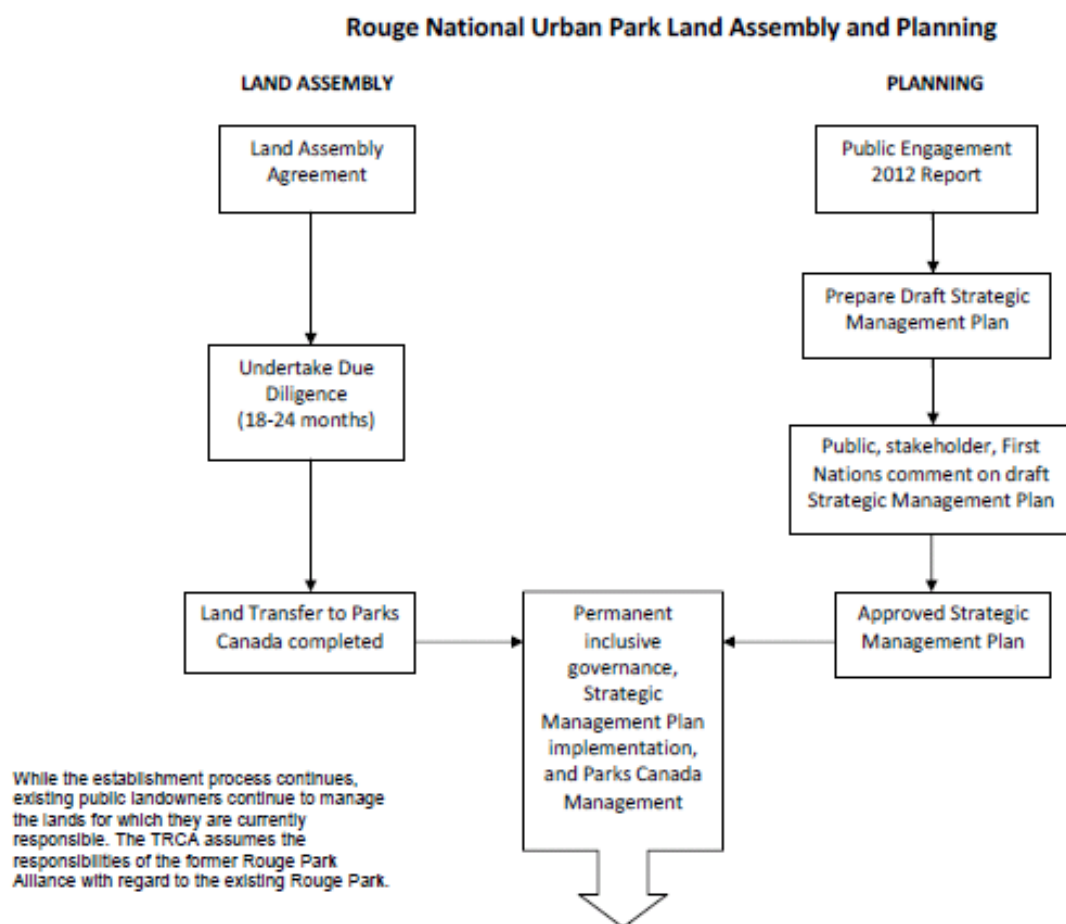
6.0 NEXT STEPS

The summer 2012 engagement program on the concept concluded the first phase of planning for Rouge National Urban Park. The many comments and suggestions furnished during these consultations will assist Parks Canada in identifying issues to address and opportunities on which to capitalize as Parks Canada commences the second phase of planning for the national urban park—the development of the park’s strategic management plan.



The strategic management plan's development will occur later in 2013, with opportunities for further stakeholder and public input, as illustrated in the right-hand column of the chart below. In addition, the work of the Landholders' Table will lead to the eventual transfer of lands to Parks Canada (left-hand column).

The public's passion, commitment, and involvement in Rouge Park have been manifested in a large and inspiring level of participation in the engagement program for the Rouge National Urban Park Concept. Parks Canada sincerely thanks all those that took the time to comment and to share their hopes, concerns, and information about the national urban park.





Appendix A

Rouge National Urban Park: On-line Survey Questions



Rouge National Urban Park

How important are the following in inspiring you to visit Rouge National Urban Park?

	Very important			Not at all important		
Natural heritage and wildlife	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Cultural Heritage	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Recreational facilities (e.g. trails, camping)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Agricultural areas	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

How interested would you be in the following types of volunteer opportunities in Rouge National Urban Park?

	Very interested			Not at all interested		
Environmental restoration (e.g., tree planting)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Environmental monitoring (e.g., bird tagging)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Maintenance (e.g., trail grooming)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Community outreach	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Special events	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Deliver your own programs and events	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Facilitating discovery of the park (e.g. guided hike)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Other:



3225

To what extent do you favour or oppose a national urban park being a place for:

	Strongly favour			Strongly oppose		
Learning about natural and cultural heritage	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Rejuvenation / health benefits	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Music / theatre / films / art exhibits	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Learning opportunities (e.g. camping)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Recreational activities	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Picnics and family/community gatherings	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Youth and school programs	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Citizen science programs (e.g., bird tagging)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Local farmers' market	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Community gardens	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Academic research	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Discovery of Canada's national parks and national historic sites	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Volunteering	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Other:

If you were to visit, how do you plan to access Rouge National Urban Park?

	Always	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Community bike paths	☐	☐	☐	☐
Public transit routes	☐	☐	☐	☐
Personal vehicle	☐	☐	☐	☐
Pedestrian walkways	☐	☐	☐	☐



Rouge National Urban Park is described as a 'people's park'. What does the term 'people's park' mean to you?

What would you like Rouge National Urban Park to achieve in the next ten (10) years?



34/638

Finally, a few questions about you. This information is for statistical purposes only.

What age group best represents you?

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| ☐ 18 years or less | ☐ 45 to 59 years |
| ☐ 18 to 29 years | ☐ 60 and older |
| ☐ 30 to 44 years | |

How far do you live from Rouge National Urban Park?

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Less than 15 minutes | ☐ Elsewhere in Ontario |
| ☐ 15 minutes to 1 hour | ☐ In Canada outside of Ontario |
| ☐ 1 to 2 hour drive | ☐ Outside of Canada |

Have you ever visited Rouge National Urban Park before?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Would you consider visiting Rouge National Urban Park?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

May we have your postal code?
(Canadian residents only)

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Thank you very much for providing us your thoughts on the future direction of Rouge National Urban Park.

Your information is protected under the *Access to Information Act* and *Privacy Act*. The information collected in this survey is used for the purposes of this consultation exercise only and will not be used for any other purpose. Feedback is used in aggregated form only. If you have any questions, please contact us at 1-888-773-8888 or rouge@pc.gc.ca

Mailing address: 25 Eddy Street, Gatineau, Quebec, K1A 0M5



Appendix B: Public Engagement Events Summer 2012

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Events attended by Parks Canada		
June 25	Parks Canada's Official Launch via Ministerial event	Scarborough
July 14	Cedarena Fundraising Event, Cedar Grove	Markham
July 14	Junior Jays Saturday Game at Rogers Stadium and overnight camp out	Toronto
July 16	Waterfront Regeneration Trust Event	Rouge Park
July 21	Farmers market at Evergreen Brickworks	Toronto
July 28-29	The Guild Alive with Culture and Arts, Guild Inn Gardens	Scarborough
August 16	Seniors Breakfast	Pickering
August 25	YMCA GTA New Comers Family Picnic	Rouge Park
September 13	50 + Expo	Pickering
September 15	Tour de Greenbelt	Rouge Park
September 15	Rouge Family Fun Day, West Rouge Community Centre	Scarborough
September 17	Caring Together Week, Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation	Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation
Mid August to mid September	Yonge St. Promenade	Toronto
September 27-30	Markham Fair	Markham
October 2-4	Ontario Tourism Human Resource Council – 11 th Annual Forum	Toronto



Public Information Sessions		
July 17	City of Toronto Information Session in Scarborough	University of Toronto, Scarborough
July 24	City of Markham Information Session	Markham Museum
August 14	City of Pickering Information Session	Pickering Civic Complex
Stakeholder Meetings		
June 28	Information session with Tenant Farmers at Cedar Grove Community Centre in Rouge Park	Rouge Park
August 28	4-H Ontario Information Sessions	Markham
Sept 13	Parks for People Urbanspace Gallery	Toronto