

We will start
at 2:00 p.m.

HIA practitioners take the microphone

Stakeholder participation in HIA by Ronald Macfarlane

Webinar | March 5, 2015

Teleconference:
1-866-827-6872
Code: 274 03 60 #

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phone (*6)**

Louise St-Pierre
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for Healthy Public Policy

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Webinar format

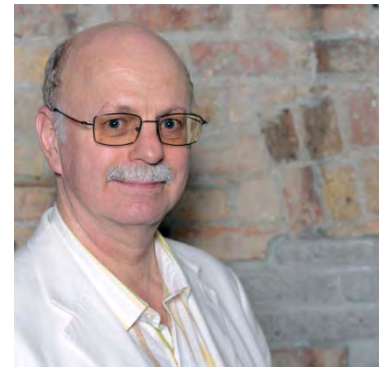
Introduction

- Short presentation on the participation issue (L. St-P.)- 10 min.



Toronto Public Health approach

- Short description of the Toronto Public Health approach (R. M.) – 10 min



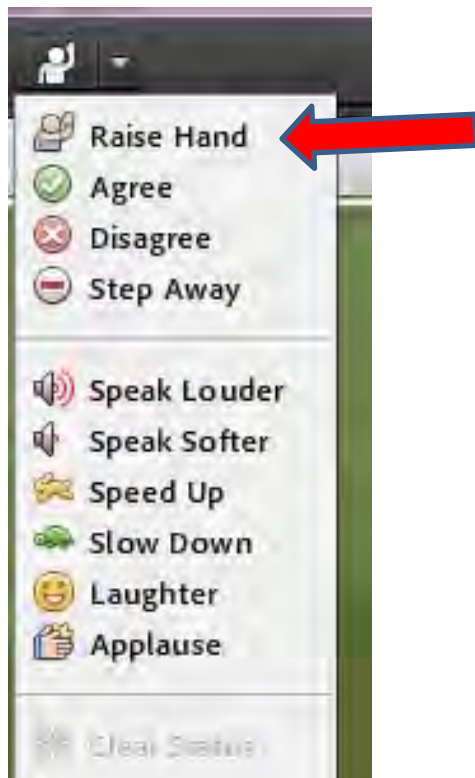
Four discussion periods

- 1) Stakeholder participation strategies
- 2) The representativeness of community groups
- 3) The integration of lay knowledge into the analysis
- 4) Open space



At each discussion period you can ask your question or share your thoughts

You can “raise your hand”



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or use the chatbox at any time

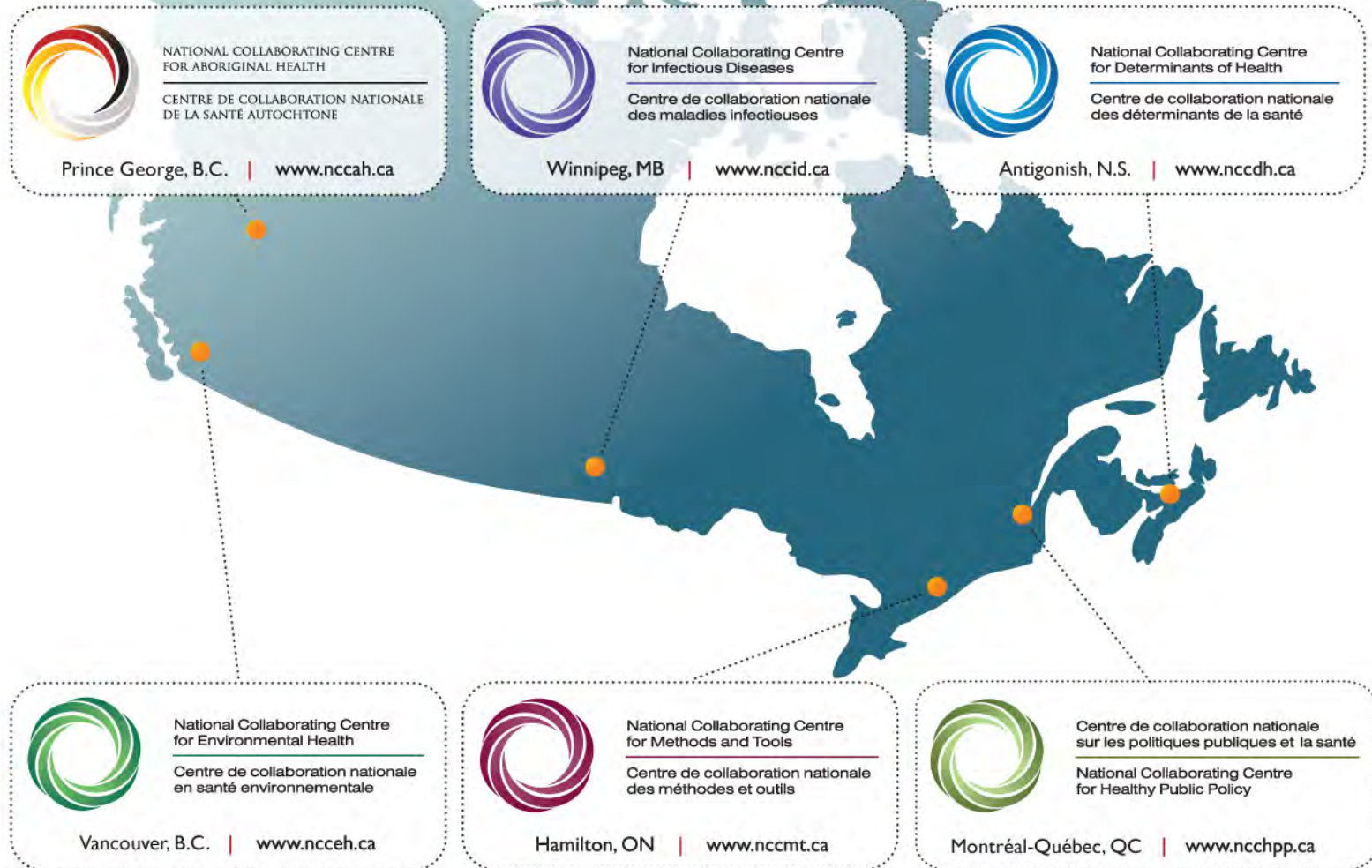


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The National Collaborating Centres for Public Health



National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy (NCCHPP)

Our mandate

- Support public health actors in their efforts to promote healthy public policies

Our areas of expertise

- The effects of public policies on health
- Generating and using knowledge about policies
- Intersectoral actors and mechanisms
- Strategies to influence policy making



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HIA



- ✓ Identifies and addresses the health risks and benefits of public policy decisions made **outside** the health sector **before** their implementation.
- ✓ Brings together public health expertise, scientific data, and **stakeholder input** to evaluate the potential health effects of proposed policy changes and to develop practical solutions that minimize risks and maximize health benefits.



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WHY

Stakeholder participation in HIA



Reflects the core values of HIA

- ✓ Democracy
- ✓ Equity

Enhances the efficacy of HIA

- ✓ Helps to prioritize areas of research
- ✓ Contextualizes scientific data
- ✓ Helps to identify realistic alternatives



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State of the practice with HIA participation

Recognized internationally as a key element of HIA

- Broadly used
 - E.g., 81% in USA (Rhodus et al., 2013); 70% in Australia and New Zealand (Harris et al., 2013).
- But the quality of the practice is not always optimal (Mahoney et al., 2007).

Tools used

- Steering committees
- Focus groups
- Workshops
- Surveys/ Web based discussion
- Open forums
- etc

Frames

Independently
or
With other participation
processes



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Participation according to the HIA steps

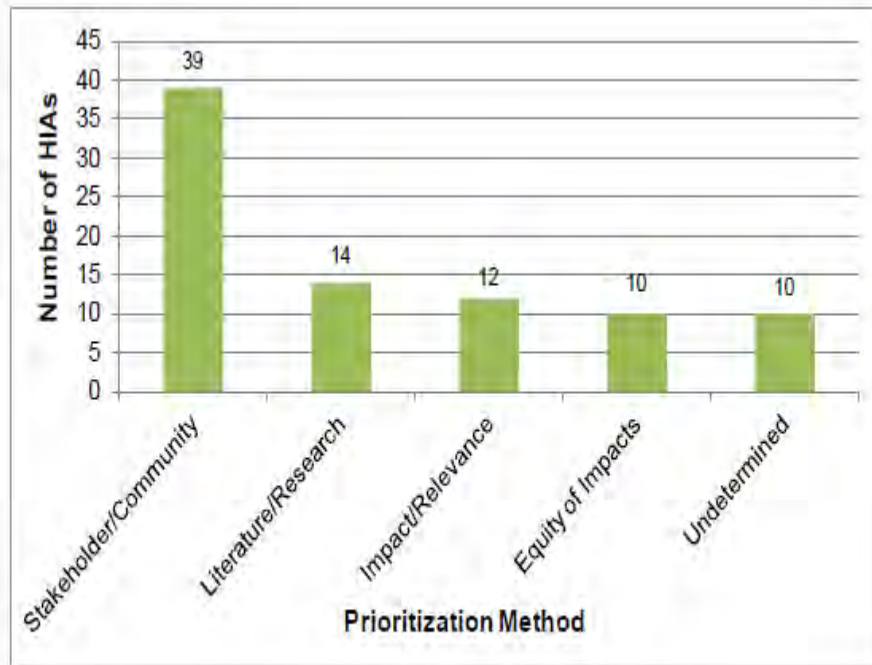


Figure 16. Methods used to prioritize impacts in reviewed HIAs.

Source : Rhodus et al., 2013, p. 24.

Scoping

Appraisal

Recommendations

At all stages (steering committee)



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Challenges regarding HIA

- **Time constraints**
 - Related to the policy making timeframe
- **Integrating lay and scientific knowledge**
 - Fair balance
- **Organizational capacities**
 - Resources
 - Skills
- **Community receptivity**
 - Interest - Hard to reach groups
 - Readiness - Representativeness
- **Political obstacles**
 - Reluctance of policy makers



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Toronto Public Health experience



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Stakeholder Consultations in Health Impact Assessment: Examples from Toronto

Ronald Macfarlane
Manager, Healthy Public Policy

5 March 2015

National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy Webinar
Practitioners take the microphone



Overview

- HIA Framework
- Three examples
 - Municipal solid waste
 - Island airport expansion
 - Wastewater treatment plant
- Reflection



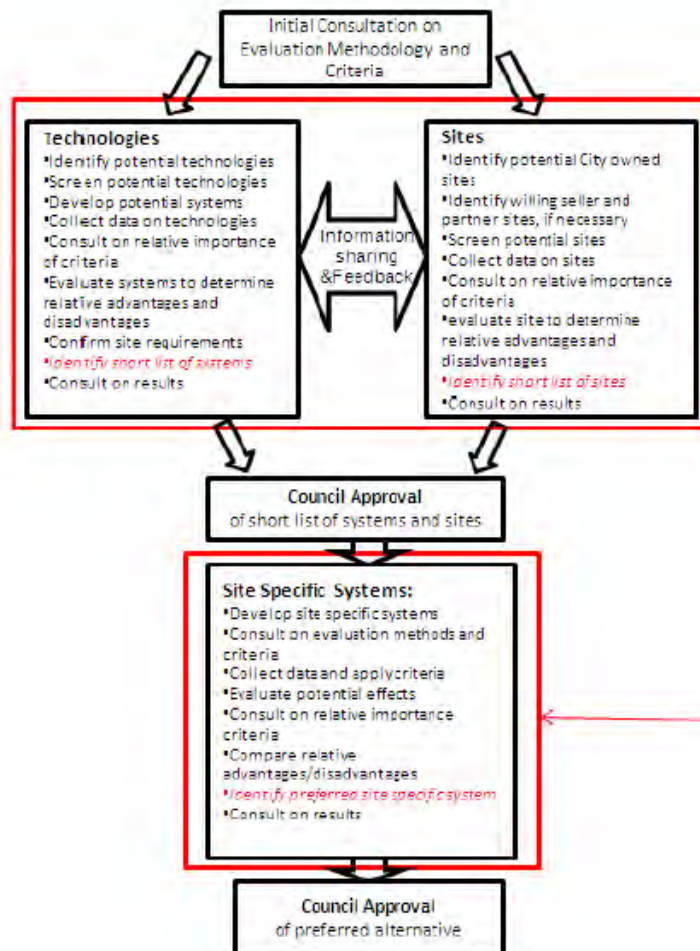
Origins of the TPH HIA Framework

- Developed (2008) for the Residual Waste Management Study
 - Community Environmental Assessment Team request for an HIA
 - Done as part of an environmental assessment process
 - Adapted New Zealand Guide to HIA
 - Adapted Strategic Level HIA Screening Tool for the Greater London Authority

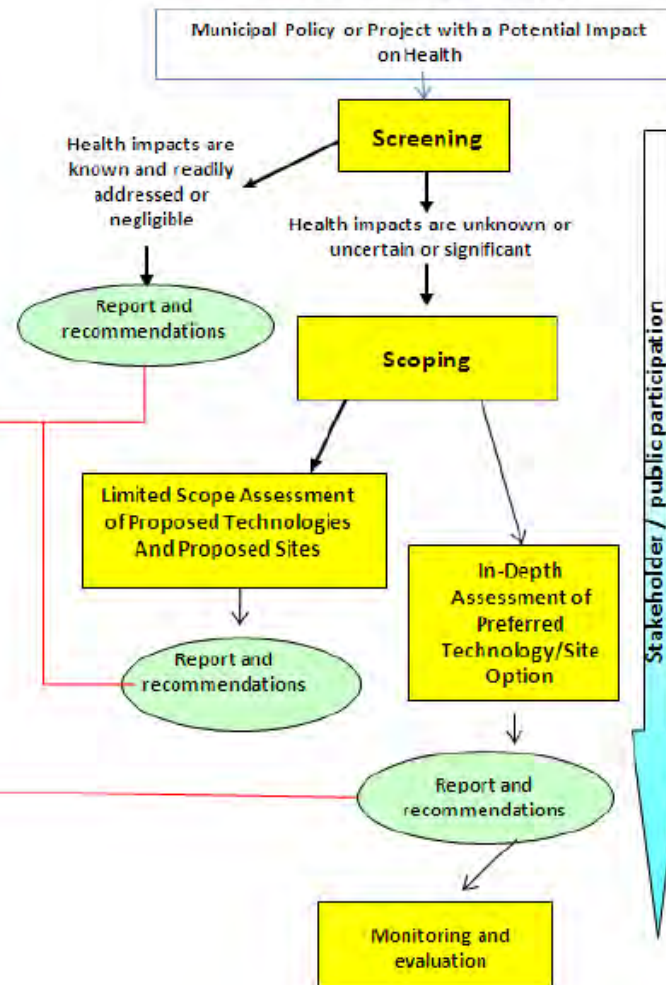


TPH HIA Framework

Process for City of Toronto Residual Waste Management Study



Proposed TPH HIA Framework interaction with City of Toronto Residual Waste Management Study



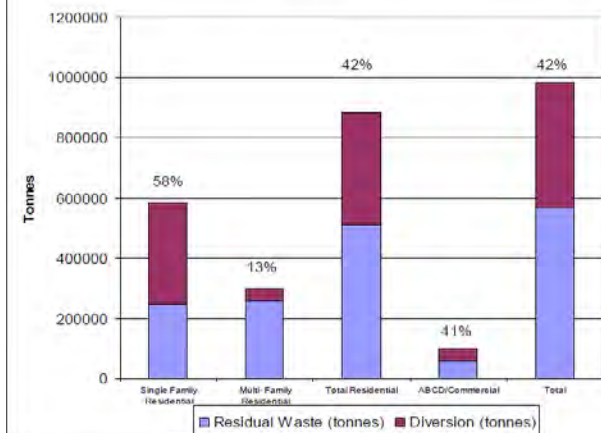
Residual Waste Management Study HIA

- Screening of technology options based on operational criteria
- Pre-screening using the Health Determinants Decision Tool
 - Incorporated all determinants of health from the HIA screening tool
- Input received from the Residual Waste Working Group
- Public Information Meeting
- HIA stakeholder workshop in receiving community
- Report to the Board of Health

Achieve 70% Diversion by 2010



Waste Diversion 2006



Residual Waste – HIA workshop

1 day workshop

- First Nations
- Council and business representatives
- Community representative
- Health professionals

— Programme

- Introduction to the proposal
- Table discussion using the HIA screening tool as guide
- Report back to plenary and building consensus on recommendations



Residual Waste – Observations

- Workshop participants identified both positive and negative impacts
- Community representatives provided a different perspective
- The process increased trust in the community
- Organising the small group discussions by stakeholder interest allowed every voice to be heard



Island Airport Expansion Studies

- City of Toronto retained a consultant to conduct studies on impacts of allowing jets at the island airport
- Board of Health requested:
 - A. the City Manager to ensure that the scope of work ... also include a requirement to conduct a Health Impact Assessment (HIA), in collaboration with the Medical Officer of Health; and
 - B. the Medical Officer of Health to report back to the Board...



Island Airport - HIA

- Golder Associates retained to conduct the HIA
- Screening tool used to identify topics for the HIA
- After stakeholder input the following topics were included:



Island Airport - Consultation

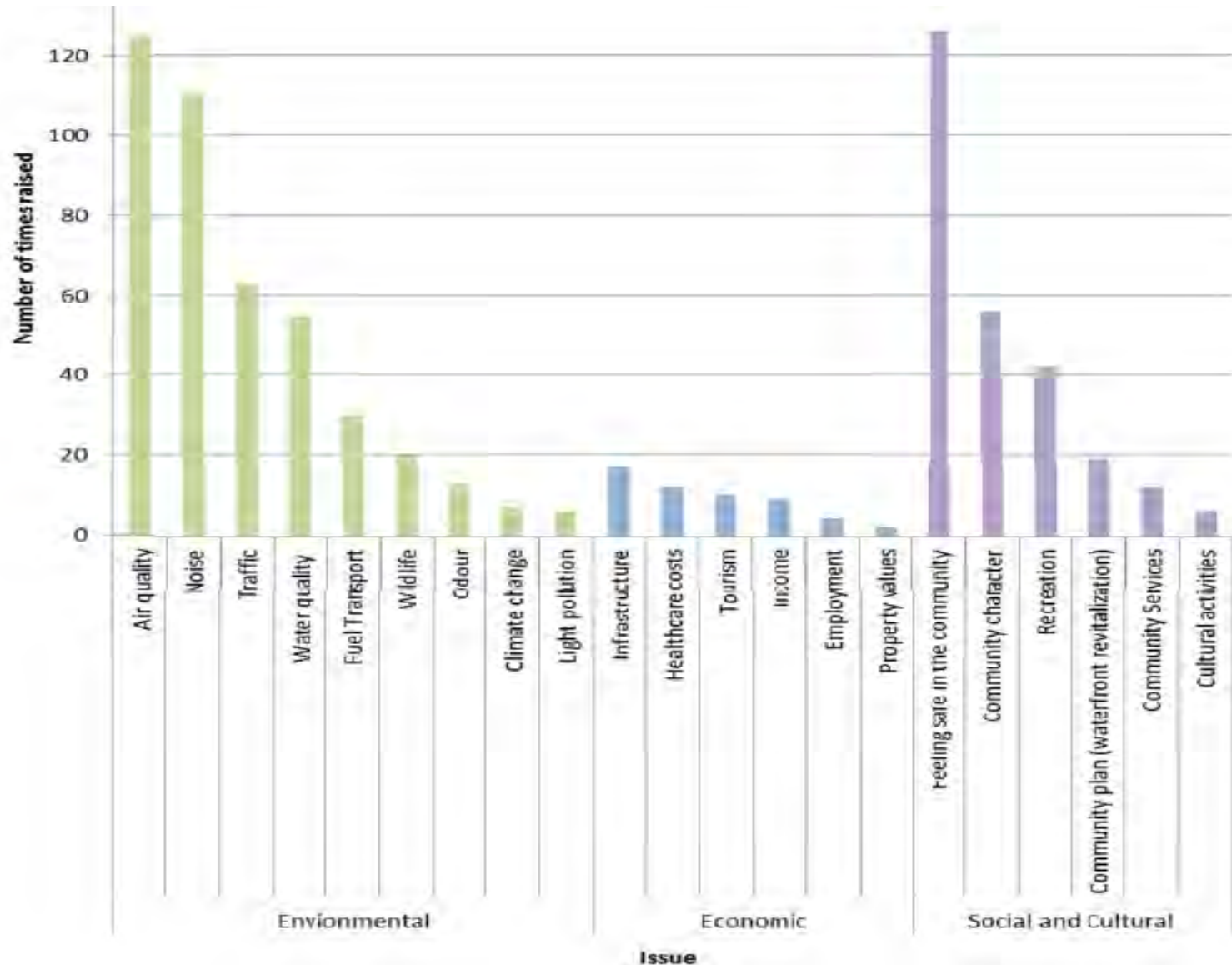
- **Stakeholder Workshop**

- 40 organizations and representatives were invited to participate (community, health, and environmental organisations)
- Representatives of 20 organizations attended
- Round table format: medical professionals, non-governmental organizations, community organizations
- Purpose: to identify priority issues for the HIA

Process:

- Proposed scope of work presented
- Table discussion and report back
- **Online Comments, Public Meetings, Deputations**

Island Airport - Consultation Results

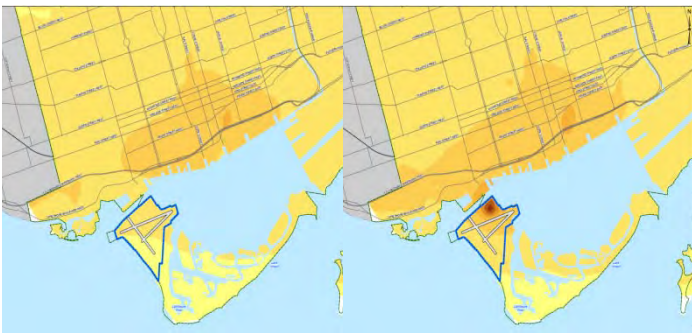


Island Airport - Board of Health Decision

- In light of the public health evidence outlined in the Health Impact Assessment, the Board of Health recommends to City Council that the proposed expansion of Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport and introduction of jet engines be rejected.
- City Council plan for the most health-supporting use of the Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport lands upon expiry of the current Tripartite Agreement, consistent with the vision for the Central Waterfront in the City's Official Plan.
- While the Tripartite Agreement remains in effect, any change to the Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport operations and associated transportation infrastructure should ensure that existing health impacts are reduced.

Island Airport - City Council Decision

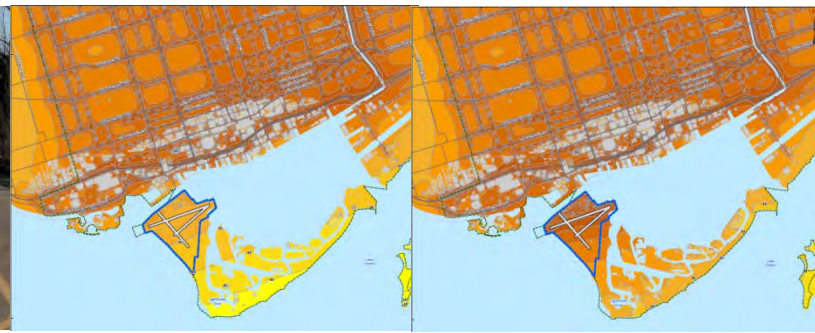
- City Council refer Item HL27.3 [Island airport HIA report and decision] to the Deputy City Manager, Cluster B for consideration during negotiations related to Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport and
- direct the Deputy City Manager, Cluster B to include in his report back, the consideration of the health impacts identified by the Medical Officer of Health.



Air Quality – without/with airport



Photo Credit: Citynews.ca



Noise – without/with airport

Island Airport - Observations

- Stakeholder workshop identified water quality and impacts on wildlife as being an important concern
- Impact of airport on the quality of life and the viability of the neighbourhood is a core concern
- Challenge to address community concerns where links to health impacts are unclear (ethylene glycol used for de-icing, increase number of bird strikes)
- The compressed timeframe of the HIA made it more difficult to address lack of trust



Highland Creek Treatment Plant - Background

- City of Toronto Biosolids Management Master Plan
- Identified incineration as the preferred option for the Highland Creek Treatment Plant
- City Council directed Toronto Water to pursue beneficial use option
- Ministry of the Environment indicated that a new environmental assessment (EA) is needed before City Council decision can be implemented
- Toronto Public Health agrees to do a health impact assessment as part of the EA

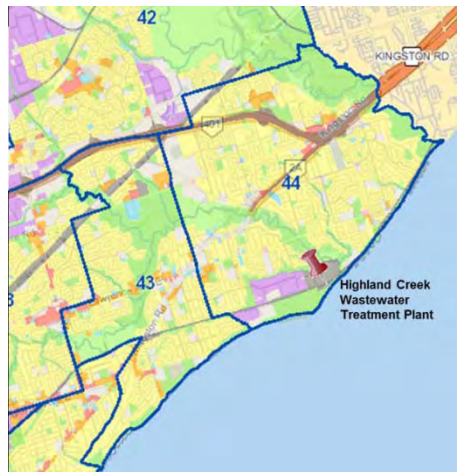
Highland Creek - Consultation

- Public consultation as part of the EA process:
 - Public Information Centres
 - On-line comments
 - Presentations to the Neighbourhood Liaison Committee
- Stakeholder workshops
 - 1st to provide input into the scope
 - 2nd (yet to be held) to obtain input on draft HIA and input into recommendations



Highland Creek - Stakeholder Workshop

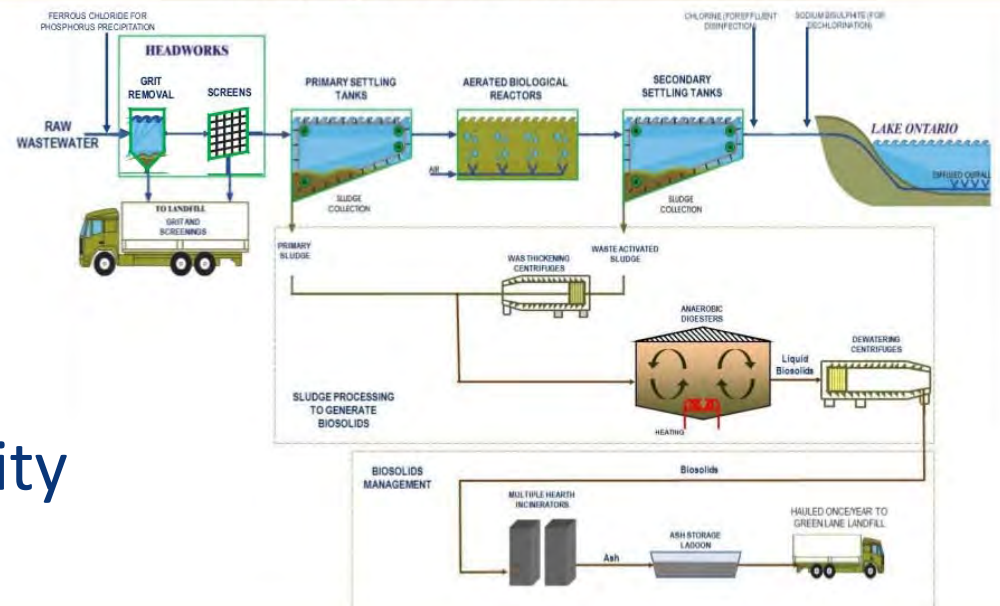
- **Stakeholders:**
- Members of the community
- Community groups
- Environmental and health organisations, and
- Representatives of vulnerable populations within the community



Highland Creek - Workshop programme

- Introduction to the project and options to be considered
- Small group discussions using screening tool as a guide (community members; school and health organisations; NGOs)

Existing Highland Creek Treatment Plant Process



- Plenary discussion
- Identification of priority
- Meeting report

Reflection

- These 3 examples all done within context of larger environmental study
- Sufficient resources available from the proponent to do a more extensive HIA
- HIA stakeholder workshops supplemented formal consultation processes
- Highly controversial projects
- Engagement provides an opportunity to build trust and to better understand community concern

- **Thank you!**

- For more information
- rmacfar3@toronto.ca



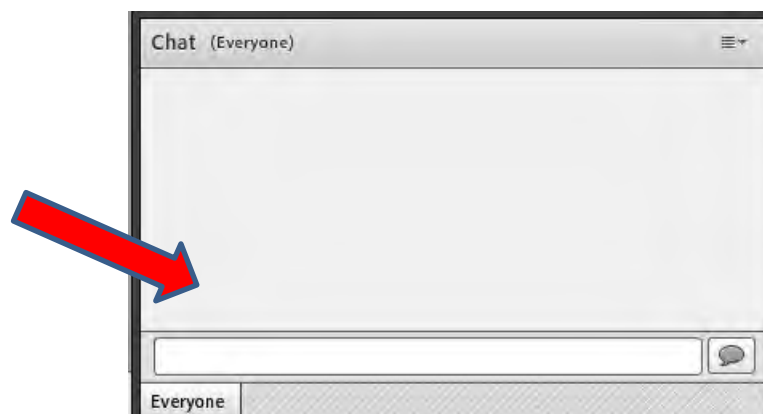
Questions and discussion

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Stakeholder participation strategies

Discussion 1

The representativeness of community groups

Discussion 2

The integration of lay knowledge into the analysis

Discussion 3

Other questions ?

You're interested in this topic?
Visit us at www.ncchpp.ca for more resources

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NCCHPP publications on participation in HIA

Visit our website:

[Citizen Participation in HIA: An Overview of the Principal Arguments Supporting It](#)
(NCCHPP, 2011)

[Citizen Participation in HIA: An Overview of the Risks and Obstacles](#) (NCCHPP, 2011)

[Citizen Participation in Health Impact Assessment: Overview of Issues](#) (NCCHPP, 2012)

[Developing a citizen-participation strategy for health impact assessment : Practical Guide](#) (NCCHPP, 2013)



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