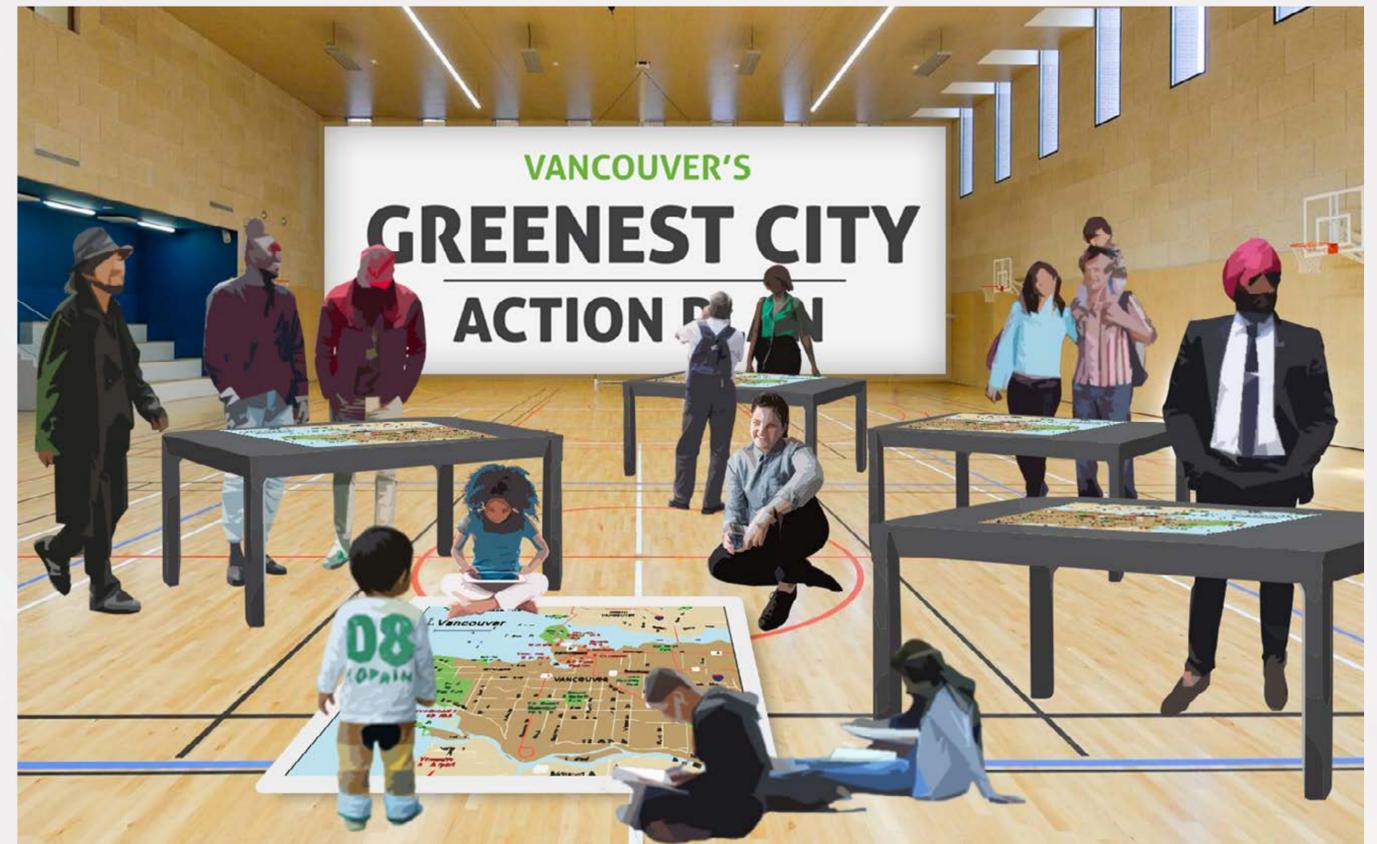


FAMILY TOWNHALL

BRING YOUR KIDS!



WHAT IS IT?

Family Townhall is a bottom-up approach to participatory planning that aims to be a cultural and intellectual probe, all while engaging families with civic issues, sustainability and more.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

The Greenest City Action Plan is ready to be revisited with a 2020 mandate approaching. An inclusive, diverse, and forward plan should see robust community-involvement.

For the previous plan, adults were consulted at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre to inform and also receive feedback from the city of Vancouver. A missing voice from this conversation, the future of the city, are children. Vancouver's youth are increasingly more important in the conversation around sustainability.

Thus, Family Townhall aims to partner with not only individuals but also entire families, in creative environments.

HOW

Recreation centres in central locations will be set-up with interactive tools, such as live mapping and charettes to approach different levels of thinking.

Citizens, welcomed excitingly into their local venues, will be guided to their respective rooms based on age. Childcare will be provided.

Based on research, these rooms will appeal to the strengths of each age group, accordingly. Throughout the events, collaboration between age groups will be encouraged.

Ages 6-10 Interaction and Memory
Ages 11-14 Construction and Solving
Ages 15-17 Innovation and Criticality
Adults Collaboration, Ideas and Expertise

NEXT STEPS

1 Book the Venues

Based on a GIS analysis that looked at density, transit, and buffer zones, three locations are recommended: Kerrisdale Community Centre, The Roundhouse Community Centre and Trout Lake Community Centre.

2 Promotion

It is recommended that the city use the following avenues of communication to promote the Family Townhalls:

a) Community Centres

Billboards and signs can be posted around each location to promote locally.

b) Newspapers

The sun, province, and daily hive can be looked at for this. Articles, not ads.

c) Non-Profits

Organizations can serve as communicators to those who are involved in civic discussion and green initiatives.

3 Volunteers

Keeping costs affordable is important for these events such that they can be used in the future as an effective planning tool without cost being a burden. Volunteers are also an excellent source of labour due to their willingness to engage with this type of material. Volunteers can be found by contacting recruiters from Universities, Non-profits, and city volunteer boards.

4 Set-Up

It is recommended that the recreation centres are set-up to reflect optimism, positivity, inclusivity, and collaboration. This can be done by using multilingual welcoming signage, for example. This initiative is about civic engagement and community as much as it about gathering ideas. Thus, the rooms should encourage both education, and inquiry, wherein the volunteers and city staff are equipped to educate the guests on sustainability using the most updated literature. This is a two-way exchange where the citizens get to learn about sustainability, the Greenest City action plan, and more. Meanwhile, the city can gather thoughts, ideas, and feedback towards the plan.