

Notes & Analysis

Monthly-meeting format: Bringing communities together

Everyone recognizes the heavy demands placed on our volunteer community leaders. There often isn't enough time in the week to meet all the commitments.

And then there's the Ottawa weather which isn't very conducive to enticing people to leave the comfort and safety of their homes — especially on those cold or stormy winter nights.

Yet, month after month, in all sorts of adverse weather conditions, community leaders drive to various halls all over this sprawling city to attend the monthly meetings of the FCA-FAC.

The FCA-FAC represents the only forum for communities across the city to talk with one another. While our new website www.fca-fac.ca is slowly developing into an effective cross-community communication channel, our monthly meetings remain our most effective and important means of bringing members together and helping them to pursue their goals.

Given the diversity of our membership — which reflects the diverse nature of our city — there may not be a best, one-size-fits-all format for our monthly gatherings. But we continue to solicit member views and experiment with different designs in order to meet your needs.

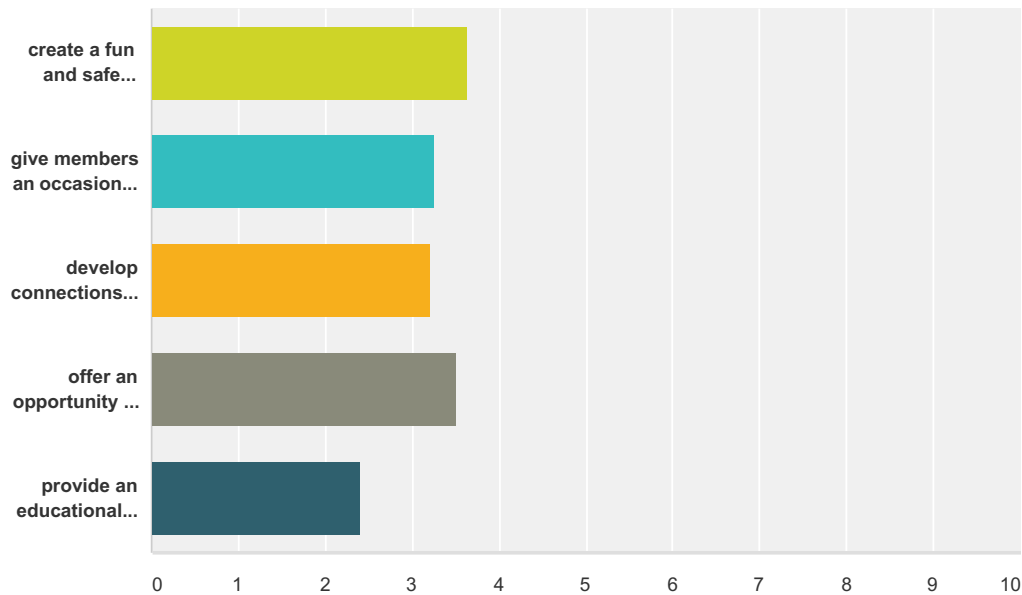
We are seeking your comments on our most recent endeavour which you attended on January 13th.

Your views are important to all of us. Thank you in advance for participating.

Survey Data

Q1 Did the format and conduct of the meeting on January 13th:

Answered: 17 Skipped: 0



	Met this goal fully	Was somewhat useful in meeting this goal	Did not meet stated goal	Was not one of my reasons for attending	Uncertain or no opinion	Total	Weighted Average
create a fun and safe opportunity to establish conversations leading to new relationships among members?	62.50% 5	37.50% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	8	3.63
give members an occasion to speak to issues of direct interest to them, their communities, and the city?	37.50% 3	50.00% 4	12.50% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	8	3.25
develop connections with other community activists working for a better Ottawa?	44.44% 4	33.33% 3	22.22% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	9	3.22
offer an opportunity to establish a connection with one or more of the resource persons	50.00% 1	50.00% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	2	3.50
provide an educational opportunity?	20.00% 1	40.00% 2	20.00% 1	0.00% 0	20.00% 1	5	2.40

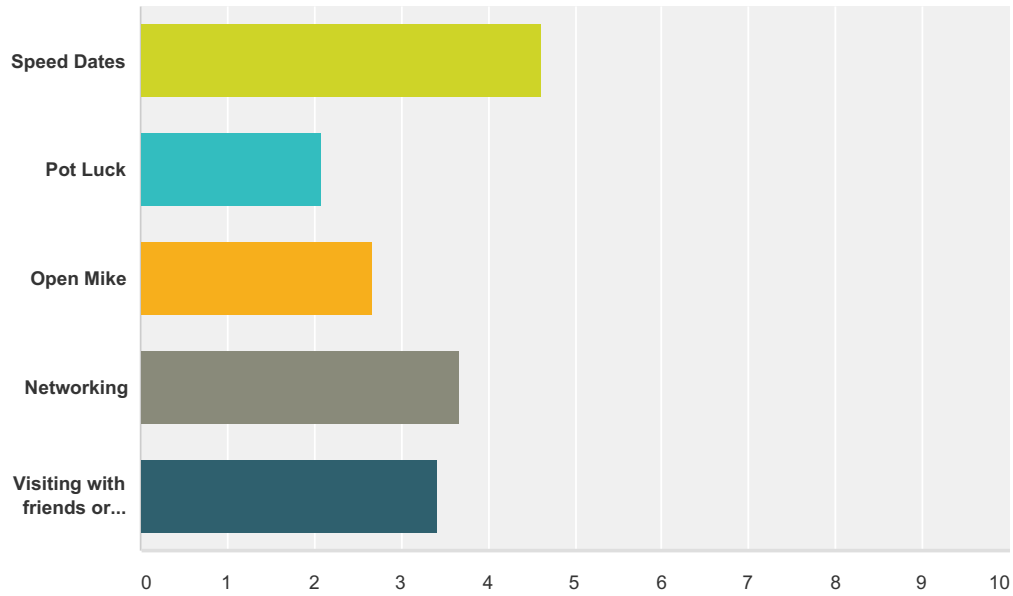
#	Comments for "create a fun and safe opportunity to establish conversations leading to new relationships among members?"	Date
1	It was a fun idea to have the "pot luck" which I felt gave the meeting more of a true community feel and a bit of that feeling of seasonal holiday fun.	1/19/2016 12:07 PM
2	THE Speed Dating concept worked in that it got us time with people	1/15/2016 3:06 PM

#	Comments for "give members an occasion to speak to issues of direct interest to them, their communities, and the city?"	Date
1	As above, some very specific questions asked and answered (or at least pointed in the right direction).	1/19/2016 12:07 PM
2	I was able to speak to a current issue and gather information and tactics from a number of perspectives.	1/15/2016 9:37 PM
3	-somewhat useful	1/15/2016 6:40 PM

4	Need more time. As it was, there were serious confrontations about who gets to speak and for how long.	1/15/2016 4:12 PM
5	10 minutes may not be enough time for the resource persons to communicate their organization's role, purpose, and possibilities for collaboration, with enough time left over for the 3 residents at the table to speak to their communities' issues	1/15/2016 4:11 PM
6	We shared views	1/15/2016 3:06 PM
7	This met my goal fully	1/15/2016 2:57 PM
#	Comments for "develop connections with other community activists working for a better Ottawa?"	Date
1	We connected with a nearby community association on an important joint issue and shared information afterwards that was very timely and useful.	1/19/2016 12:07 PM
2	Got to know a couple of interesting people	1/15/2016 3:06 PM
#	Comments for "offer an opportunity to establish a connection with one or more of the resource persons"	Date
1	Amazing group of invited experts! Well done.	1/19/2016 12:07 PM
2	Was somewhat useful in meeting this goal	1/17/2016 4:23 PM
3	Experts were all very personable, and I think the novelty of the session made it easier for them to speak outside of their normal conversation tracks.	1/15/2016 9:37 PM
4	Site is not working. - somewhat useful.	1/15/2016 6:40 PM
5	Yes	1/15/2016 3:06 PM
#	Comments for "provide an educational opportunity?"	Date
1	I saw new members bring their specific issue and learn about Infill1 and 2 and how that addressed/affected their issue. If this had been done as a stand and deliver, not sure they would have understood how it affected them directly.	1/19/2016 12:07 PM
2	Ten-minute sessions with an expert aren't long enough for an in-depth conversation, but they were long enough to point to many leads to pursue educational opportunities outside of the meeting.	1/15/2016 9:37 PM
3	Did meet goals.	1/15/2016 6:40 PM
4	This met my goal fully but i can only choose one	1/15/2016 2:57 PM

Q2 Please rank the following activities in terms of which ones you found were most useful in meeting your goals for attending with "1" being the most useful.

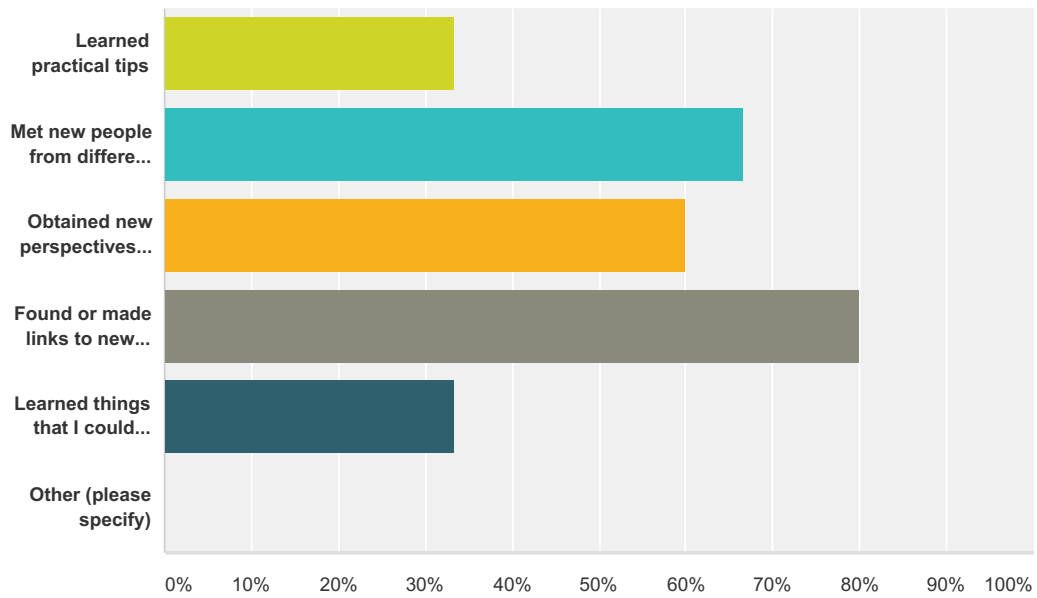
Answered: 16 Skipped: 1



	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	Total	Score
Speed Dates	76.92% 10	7.69% 1	15.38% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	13	4.62
Pot Luck	7.14% 1	0.00% 0	28.57% 4	7.14% 1	42.86% 6	14.29% 2	14	2.08
Open Mike	0.00% 0	16.67% 2	41.67% 5	33.33% 4	8.33% 1	0.00% 0	12	2.67
Networking	0.00% 0	77.78% 7	11.11% 1	11.11% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	9	3.67
Visiting with friends or resource persons	20.00% 3	33.33% 5	13.33% 2	20.00% 3	6.67% 1	6.67% 1	15	3.43

Q3 What do you feel you accomplished at this meeting?

Answered: 15 Skipped: 2

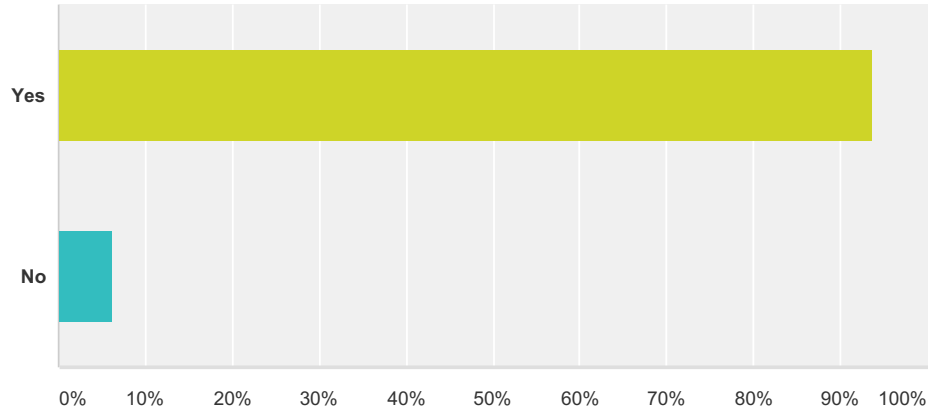


Answer Choices	Responses
Learned practical tips	33.33% 5
Met new people from different communities	66.67% 10
Obtained new perspectives on community or city problems	60.00% 9
Found or made links to new resources	80.00% 12
Learned things that I could apply to your own meetings	33.33% 5
Other (please specify)	0.00% 0
Total Respondents: 15	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
	There are no responses.	

Q4 Did you meet new potential friends and/or identify new resources for your community group?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 1

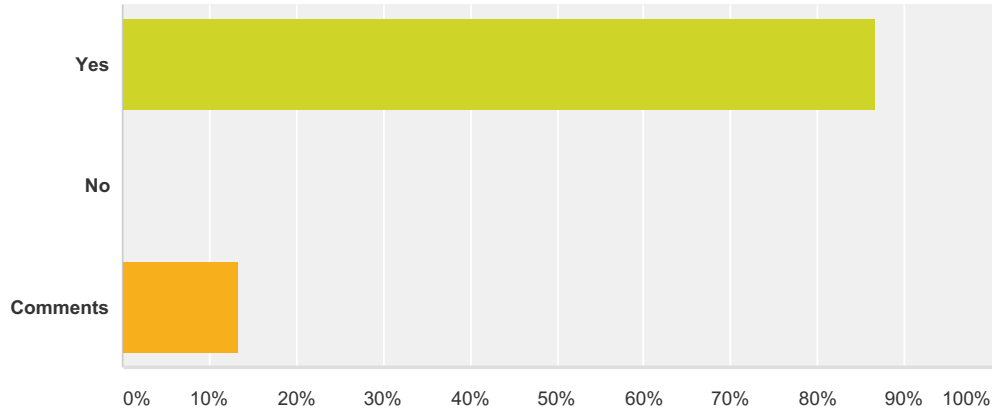


Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	93.75% 15
No	6.25% 1
Total	16

#	Comments	Date
1	Lots of names and contact info were exchanged. Great opportunity to learn about similar minded people I might not have otherwise run into in my daily routine.	1/15/2016 9:39 PM

Q5 If you said yes to meeting or locating new resources, do you plan to initiate more contact with this these?

Answered: 15 Skipped: 2

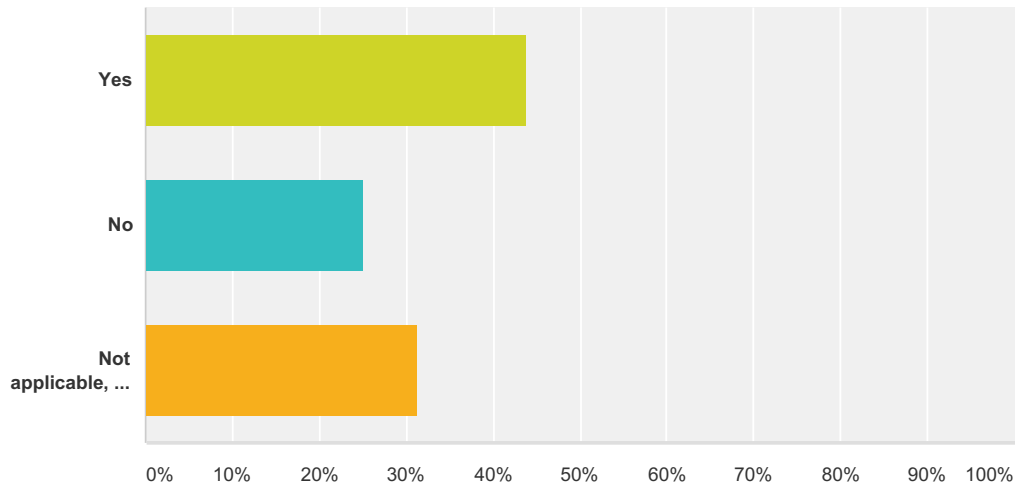


Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	86.67% 13
No	0.00% 0
Comments	13.33% 2
Total	15

#	Comments	Date
1	Perhaps at a future time.	1/15/2016 6:42 PM
2	I certainly shall maintain contact especially if my group is able to develop the solution that leads forward.	1/15/2016 3:14 PM

Q6 Do you feel that you had sufficient opportunity to raise your issues at this meeting?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 1

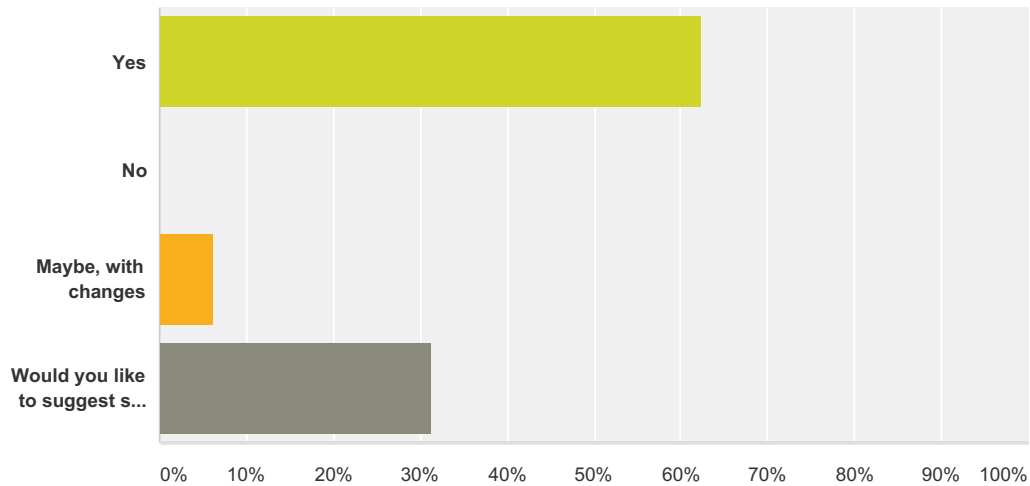


Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	43.75% 7
No	25.00% 4
Not applicable, I did not have issues I wished to raise	31.25% 5
Total	16

#	Comment	Date
1	Time went so fast	1/16/2016 9:18 AM
2	Open Mike need a bit more structure, maybe ask for items ahead of time or at the beginning of the meeting.	1/15/2016 2:59 PM

Q7 Would you like the FCA Board to provide a repeat of this or a similar format at a general meeting sometime in the future?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	62.50% 10
No	0.00% 0
Maybe, with changes	6.25% 1
Would you like to suggest some changes, additions or deletions to the format?	31.25% 5
Total	16

#	Would you like to suggest some changes, additions or deletions to the format?	Date
1	No more than once each year.	1/24/2016 2:51 PM
2	Have fewer experts, and have a full backgrounder on each sent out prior to meeting. Have sessions with 5 people each, and participant to have 2 prepared questions or short issues to raise. Increase length to 30 minutes per session . (There was overlap here with 2 city planners present.)Further, have each expert introduce self at open mike and give overview of their area of expertise, prior to sessions.	1/15/2016 6:54 PM
3	Instead of 5 time slots of 10 min it should be 13, four min slots and also if 2-3 participants can agree, they should be able to have additional time for the group. For example, if 3 participants have the same issue, time allotted should be 4X3 = 12 min. Moreover, some time should be able to book in advance.	1/15/2016 4:21 PM
4	A less confusing/complicated sign-up process; more time for more meaningful discussions, even at the expense of fewer connections made	1/15/2016 4:14 PM
5	1. Has two visitors for five minutes rather than three for ten been tried? 2. We had three professional planners and a councillor plus four FCA members - could we have also representatives of a couple of fund granting sections as well as perhaps a city lawyer?	1/15/2016 3:35 PM