

Glossary of Engagement Terms

Circle Conversations

An activity that gathers people in a circular shape to give deep attention to a topic or idea. Each person is given the opportunity to speak in an uninterrupted manner and everyone can see or hear one another.

Citizen Juries

A group of 12-20 randomly selected representatives of a community meets over several days to deliberate on a specific issue.

Community Satisfaction Survey

A comprehensive and demographically representative review of City-provided services.

Cultivate the Conversation

The City of St Albert's online platform where residents are invited to provide input on a variety of City projects and initiatives.

Design Charrette

An intensive planning session where members of the public, designers, and stakeholders collaborate on a vision for development.

Focus Groups

Group interviews to invite input on a topic from a small group of people (12-15).

Learning Labs

A safe space for people to interactively explore ideas and learn through practice and action.

Open Houses

An opportunity for people to drop in, review information, talk to a representative, share their ideas or feedback and possibly identify their preferred course of action.

Polls

A type of survey designed to measure the public's views regarding a particular topic or series of topics.

Pop-ups

Temporary locations to attract and gather people to participate in a conversation and provide input on a specific subject.

Public Hearing

The portion of a regular or special meeting of Council during which any person, group or representative affected by a proposed bylaw (as per Section 692 of the Municipal Government Act) are heard.

Public Meeting

A method of engaging the public through consultation that involves a formal presentation by the organizer on the issue(s). Members of the public are able to ask questions and provide input in a public forum, and a record of the proceedings is kept.

Stakeholder Interviews

A conversation where one party asks questions and the other provides answers.

Surveys

An activity to record information from a sample of people, traditionally with the intention of generalizing the results to a larger population.

Workshop

A meeting at which a group of people engage in intensive discussion and activity on a particular topic.

World Café

A structured conversation for knowledge sharing in which groups of people discuss the same topic with a few different small groups of people.

