

## Visioning Session Agenda and Guidelines

**\*\*times and responsible for each activity may be adjusted to context of each exercise\*\***

**9:00** Host's welcome message

**9:10** Ice breaker: presentations of participants' objects/photo

*Ahead of time, participants should be asked to come to the meeting with an object or a photo of a place, a species or an activity that (1) might be threatened by environmental changes and (2) they would like to ensure for the next generation to enjoy.*

**10:10** Presentation of SCD, initiative goals, Ouranos' projection maps, context (2015 election and Paris Conference)

**10:30-10:45** COFFEE BREAK

**10:45** Recording Personal Visions

*Individual time for participants to consider and express on paper their personal visions of what they wish for the next generation. Could be in bullet form, narrative, drawings, poetry etc.*

**(Distribute personal reflection guidelines)**

**Individually, articulate a vision of your IDEAL Canada in 50 years.**

*(Keep in mind: we are not looking for solutions or ways to get to a better future, we are looking for a description of the world you would like to see in 50 years, an ideal future for you, your family and your community. You may want to include broad characteristics as well as very details of this future)*

- a. In bullet form, list social, economic and environmental characteristics that are a part of your IDEAL vision of the future. Consider:
  - what would you like to be able to do in your own life? *(Hint, consider your social, economic and environmental dreams, including: job, recreation, housing, family, culture, political rights, science, education, pollution, aesthetics, transportation, infrastructure etc.)*
  - think more broadly about what your city or community would need to be like to allow you to live this way.
  - what does Canada need to be like to support your IDEAL life?
- b. Elaborate on your IDEAL vision using narrative, poetry, pictures etc.

**11:15** Small Group Discussion: finding common characteristics

*In small break-out groups (3-5) participants will each present their individual visions in turn within their groups. The groups will work to identify the commonalities of personal visions within their groups to begin preparing a common vision for the future of their town/region/country.*

**(Distribute small group guidelines)**

**In small groups, share your personal visions and consider the visions of others in your groups, and try to identify the characteristics common to all visions**

- a. Take turns expressing your visions to each other
- b. In a circle, simultaneously pass your personal visions around the group so that each group member has a moment with each vision. With a different colour each, take time to circle ideas or words in other visions that resonate very strongly with you.
- c. Designate one person to record, and discuss the commonalities and differences between the characteristics of your visions. The recorder will compile a list of all the circled words/ideas, noting whether some of the words appear in multiple visions
  - does the full list of circled words represent all the most important characteristics to include in your common vision?
  - is there something missing? (*Hint, consider your social, economic and environmental dreams*)
  - what is unexpected or predictable?
  - what criteria do you believe are important for assessing common desirability of your visions
  - might there be groups that disproportionately benefit or sustain losses with respect to your visions?
- d. From your discussion, extract and record a list of main characteristics that are common between your personal visions. Separately identify and record any ideas that you cannot agree on.

**12:30 – 13:30** LUNCH

**13:30** Plenary: group discussion to share, list and cluster characteristics

*Small groups will present the consensus characteristics of their small group vision to the larger group. These will be listed (repetition noted) and explained in detail. Participants may then cluster characteristics into common themes (ie. environment, cultural/social, political, economic).*

**14:30** Small Groups: Synthesizing a Shared Vision

*In new small groups and working towards a single synthesis of the commonalities emerging, participants will compose a narrative of their vision based upon one category of the characteristics listed and agreed upon in the previous step.*

**15:30** Plenary: Sharing Synthesis Visions

*Each small group will share their composed narrative to the larger group. Consensus, dissention, missing pieces etc. will be discussed and the narrative adjusted according to this discussion. The full group should be in consensus regarding each narrative; any points of dissention will be noted.*

**16:30 – 17:00** Concluding remarks, debriefing, questions and evaluation