

HOSTING CONVERSATIONS ABOUT ISSUES

Help shape federal priorities by creating space for participants to share their views on the issues that matter to them.

Here are three ways to start the conversation in your programs!

1) HOLD CONVERSATIONS ABOUT UNDERFUNDING

Ask your program participants questions to get them talking about the issues in this election. Share the “From the Roots Up: Invest in Our Communities” campaign materials as a starting point.

Start the conversation by asking:

- Which programs do you think people have trouble accessing?
- Have you or someone you know experienced that issue?



Give participants a moment to share their thoughts. Then ask:

We’re facing real challenges across the country. In Peel, 42% of workers are in sectors directly impacted by trade, meaning tariffs could hit hard on livelihoods. Waitlists for subsidized housing stretch beyond 20 years, and 4 out of 5 households that need housing support aren’t receiving it. At the same time, Peel is one of Canada’s top destinations for newcomers - 60% of whom are racialized, but cuts to settlement funding are putting a strain on community services, weakening the safety net that supports many families.

Ask them:

- How do you feel about these issues?
- What do you think are the most important issues in this federal election?

Write down the issues people raise on a board or flip chart. Then dig a little deeper to hear more about their priorities.

Ask them:

- Which issue out of the ones you shared feels most urgent or important?
- Then lead a discussion on each issue your group identifies as a priority.
- Why is that issue important to you?
- What would you want the federal government to do about it?



For more information or any help, email info@communitymetamorphosis.ca

2) SELF-GUIDED CONVERSATIONS ABOUT ISSUES

Break into small groups and ask each group their biggest issue with underfunded services and why it matters.

Ask each group to write their comments on a board or flip chart.

Poll the room by asking people to raise their hands on what they think is the most important issue.



For the top issues, ask the group:

- What is most important to you, your family, and your neighbours about this issue, and why?
- What would you want the Federal government to do about that issue – what solutions would you propose?
- If you could ask a federal candidate one question about this issue, what would it be?

3) A DEEPER DIVE

Let the group choose an area where they think lack of community services has the biggest impact.

Ask participants to share their thoughts and note it down on a board or flip chart. Ask them:

- What do you think is the impact of underfunding these services is in on people in the community?
- What should the Federal government be doing to address this issue?
- If you could ask a federal candidate one question about this issue, what would it be?

