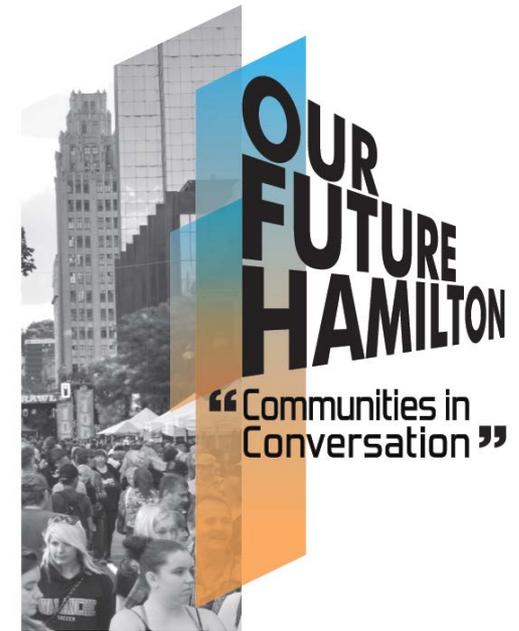


# Defining the future of Hamilton through community conversations

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Session C4: Community Perspectives:  
The Big Shift: From “Friendly” to “Welcoming”

Friday, October 30, 2015



 Hamilton



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## Quick Project Background

- City of Hamilton is updating Vision 2020, Hamilton's first Community Vision created in 1992
- City leadership mandated staff to ensure a very broad participation from residents and stakeholders
- The project engagement approach must be inclusive and reflective of the city's diverse populations
- Project will run from April 2015 to April 2016, targeting to engage 50,000 participants



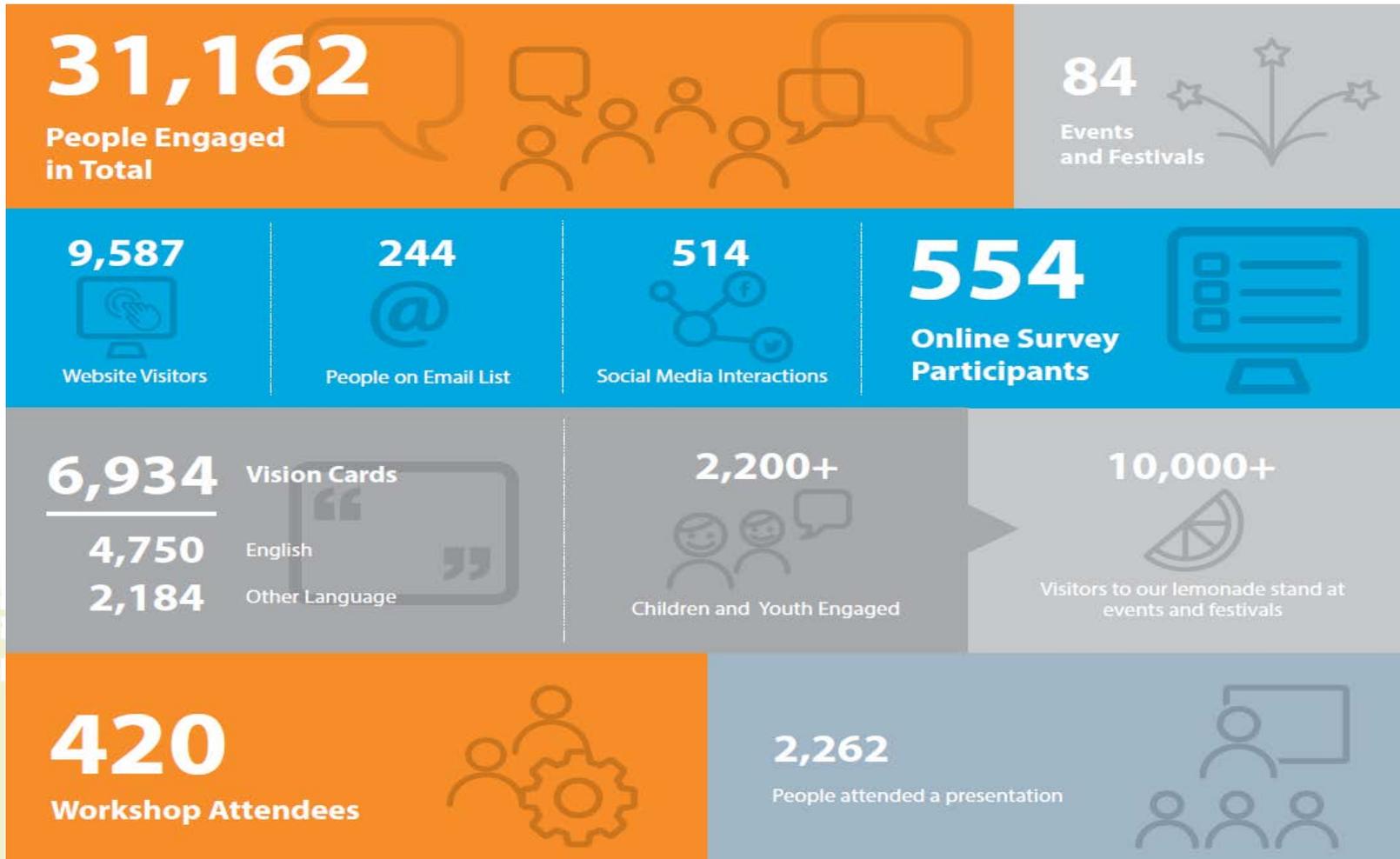
# Some of the “welcoming” ways we’ve engaged

(Guiding Principles: Geography, information, participation, partnership, sectors, human services, creativity, diversity...)

- Presence at citywide community events
- “Tell Us Your Vision Cards” in 11 major languages
- Online survey
- Public workshops
- Focus groups
- City experience bus tour
- Community-partner led engagement
- Formal presentations
- Keynote speaker event
- Community conversation workshop
- 15 Community Open Houses
- Social media
- Project website
- Community interviews
- Newspaper Op-Eds
- City parks
- Community information displays
- On the street /informal
- Laundromat



# Our Engagement Dashboard (April-October 2015)



## Some of what residents have told us on becoming a more “welcoming” community (summary)

1. Provide **public and media education** on the importance of immigration to the future of Hamilton
2. Encourage **reflective diversity** – at community institutions, governments, political leadership, businesses...
3. Take a holistic approach to addressing **poverty and joblessness** in Hamilton. This is a key factor to alleviate broader concerns for more newcomers
4. Attract and grow festivals and events in Hamilton that **celebrate the city’s diversity**, culture and heritage
5. Do a more **effective engagement with the immigrant population** – to remove disconnection among various ethnic groups, students and others
6. Ensure newcomers are more open to **learning and embracing Canadian values** as a way to integrate into a welcoming city of Hamilton

## Some of what we've heard...

7. Advocate and support **Hamilton's community organizations** and grassroots groups that provide immigration-related support
8. Conduct research and engagement to know **why "students and newcomers come and leave Hamilton"**. Use a coordinated approach to address key findings
9. Hamilton should be **more real and bold** to discussing and addressing all forms of discrimination based on colour, gender, sexual orientation, mother tongue, age, income level, abilities and religion
10. Create a more simple but integrated system where newcomers can **find information** on various community services and activities
11. All parts of Hamilton need to be **geographically connected and accessible** through ease of transportation and getting around
12. Parents and families have the biggest role to play. **Teaching our kids** respect, tolerance and acceptance right from home is key



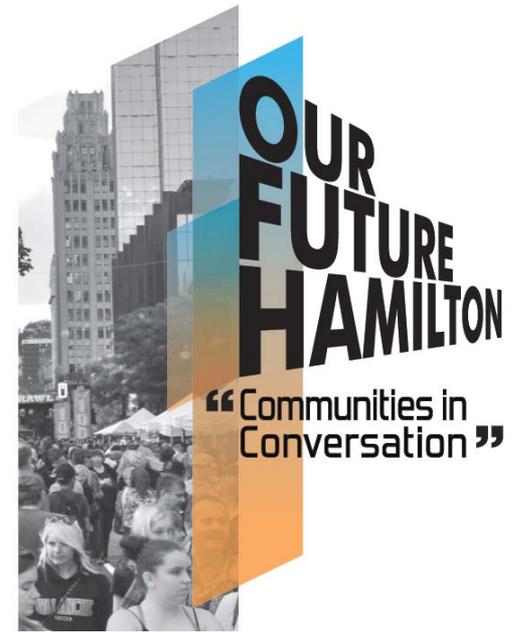
## My final thoughts...

- We all have a role to play in creating a “welcoming” rather than a “friendly” city of Hamilton
- Hamilton can collectively be a leader for other cities to follow
- The concept of “global” Hamilton should be embraced
- We should be telling more of our “success stories”
- Yes, let’s be “more real and bold” to discussing and addressing barriers and discriminations



# Thank you

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