

STEERING COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference aims to provide a robust foundation for the Imagine Lethbridge Steering Committee's leadership and work together, ensuring that the Doughnut Economy framework is implemented effectively and inclusively to create a thriving and healthy community.

Purpose

The Imagine Lethbridge Steering Committee (ILSC) is established to lead, support and provide the strategic direction for the transition of the community to a model that aligns with the Principles of the Doughnut Economy. This model ensures that all residents can live, thrive, and age well within the ecological limits of the planet while meeting the social foundations necessary for health and well-being. The Committee will serve as a strategic, consultative, and decision-making body to guide this transformation collaboratively and inclusively.

Goals

In alignment with the Principles of Doughnut Economics, the goals of the ILSC are as follows:

1. Vision Alignment

- Ensure all plans, programs, and initiatives align with the Doughnut Economy principles: balancing ecological ceilings (environmental sustainability) and social foundations (equity and well-being).
- Embed the long-term vision of Imagine Lethbridge for a thriving community that integrates environmental health, social inclusion, and economic fairness in all we do.

2. Community Engagement and Participation

- Actively involve community members in the decision-making process through consultations, workshops, and feedback mechanisms.
- Encourage ownership of initiatives by creating opportunities for residents, businesses, and organizations to contribute and participate meaningfully.

3. Strategic Oversight through Leadership and Influence

- Provide high-level guidance for implementing the Doughnut Economy framework.
- Prioritize and approve projects, initiatives, and policies to maximize impact.
- Ensure consistent alignment with the principles outlined locally in the Municipal Development Plan, regionally, and through the Oldman Watershed Council and global sustainability goals as expressed within the Doughnut Economic framework.

4. Innovation and Collaboration

- Foster cross-sector collaboration among residents, neighbourhoods, government, businesses, academia, non-profit organizations and the Community Advisory Group (CAG).
- Encourage innovative practices and solutions that address local challenges and enhance community resilience.

Decision-Making Process

- Decisions will be made through a consensus model to promote inclusivity and shared ownership.
- If consensus is not achievable, a two-thirds majority vote will be required.
- ILSC will authorize Subcommittees/Task Forces to make recommendations or decisions on specific issues related to our global effort.

Meeting Structure and Frequency

- Regular Meetings: Held monthly to discuss progress, challenges, and upcoming priorities.
- Special Meetings: Convened as needed for urgent or high-priority issues.
- Annual Retreat: A full-day session to review progress, strategize, and set goals for the upcoming year.
- Meetings will be chaired on a rotational basis by a member of the Steering Committee.

Reporting and Communication

Aligned with the Imagine Lethbridge Communication Plan, the ILSC shall

- Share quarterly reports with the Community Advisory Group (CAG), stakeholders and the community; highlighting progress, events, education and awareness opportunities, outcomes and monitoring results, and next steps.
- Sponsor and organize Public Forums and Events to engage and inform residents.

Evaluation and Review

- The ILSC will conduct an annual review of its Terms of Reference, goals, and progress.
- A comprehensive evaluation will occur every three years to ensure the initiative remains aligned with community needs and global sustainability standards.