

Community Engagement Summary

Phase 1: Dialogue Sessions

Completed Dialogue Sessions

Date	Session Type	Location	Number of Attendees
Thursday, January 12, 2023	General public, members, donors	RBCM	31
Tuesday, January 17, 2023	General public (day)	RBCM	63
Tuesday, January 17, 2023	General public (evening)	RBCM	28
Friday, January 20, 2023	Business community	RBCM	15
Wednesday, January 25, 2023	Business community	RBCM	14
Thursday, January 26, 2023	General public (day)	RBCM	74
Thursday, January 26, 2023	General public (evening)	RBCM	28
Tuesday, January 31, 2023	General public	Virtual	30
Friday, February 3, 2023	General public	Virtual	39
Monday, February 6, 2023	General public (day)	Surrey	19
Monday, February 6, 2023	General public (evening)	Vancouver	12
Tuesday, February 7, 2023	General public	Richmond	7
Wednesday, February 15, 2023	General public	Nanaimo	27
Friday, February 24, 2023	GLAM* community	RBCM	17
Tuesday, February 28, 2023	General public	Virtual	21
Sunday, March 5, 2023	Metis community	Richmond	60
Wednesday, March 8, 2023	General public	Kelowna	37
Friday, March 10, 2023	General public	Prince George	2**
Monday, March 13, 2023	First Nations Leadership Council	Virtual	12
Total attendees			536
Total sessions			19

*Galleries, libraries, art galleries and museums

**Despite a dozen RSVPs, only two people attended, one of which was the Mayor of Prince George. The team used the time to garner valuable feedback. As well

RBCM team members visited with the Prince George Museum's team and UNBC faculty earlier in the day.

Common themes raised by participants and discussed in-session

- The importance of the museum as a place to hold history, and to facilitate learning and storytelling.
- The importance of integrating a greater diversity of cultures into the stories that reflect BC's history.
- Clarity on the future of the third floor (including Old Town), with confirmation from the Royal BC Museum at each session that Old Town had not been demolished and the community would be invited to help reimagine the space in the future.
- The Royal BC Museum's model for admission fees, and how the museum could be more accessible.
- Repatriation and the relationship between the museum and Indigenous communities.
- The importance of including diverse opinions and multicultural voices, as well as the ongoing role of engagement.
- How the current climate crisis might be reflected through a reimagined Climate Change Gallery (in the Natural History Gallery), one that is more reflective of current research, knowledge and action.
- Funding models to support the Royal BC Museum's growth and infrastructure needs.
- The importance of ensuring the Royal BC Museum has strong and supportive relationships with other cultural organizations and groups across the province.
- The importance of Cultural and diverse communities as well as partnerships (i.e., Youth Advisory Council, UVIC, LGBTQ2S+)
- School access to the museum, while free, how to handle cost of transportation.
- How to become more involved, via volunteer programs and career opportunities.
- The importance of having more interactive exhibits for younger audiences.
- Concerns over how the RBCM is being portrayed in the media and how the museum is combatting negative sentiment.

- Challenges by regional museums in protecting artifacts and information via digitization and how the RBCM can support.
- Questions on how the RBCM can better reflect the history and culture of BC's regions like the Okanagan.

Upcoming Dialogue Sessions

March

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| • Public Session—Nelson | March 29, 2023 6:00–8:00 p.m. |
| • Public Session—Cranbrook | March 30, 2023 6:00–8:00 p.m. |
| • Post Secondary Students
(Camosun College) | March 27, 2023 1:00–3:00 p.m. |
| • Public Session—Prince George | April 2, 2023 6:00–8:00 p.m. |
| • Public Session—Smithers | April 3, 2023 6:00–8:00 p.m. |
| • Public Session—Fort St. John | April 5, 2023 6:00–8:00 p.m. |
| • Provincial First Nations—RBCM | April 13 & 14, 2023 |

Please check back at www.rbcm.ca/engage for updates in sessions.