

Public Engagement Intersectional Analysis

Background

In addition to the insights from the focused engagement presented in the Executive Summary in Attachment 3, Administration conducted further intersectional analysis using those insights in an effort to shed more light on the evolving needs of diverse Edmontonians. Due to the more targeted nature of this engagement process, the sample size is very small and does not fully represent all potential diverse perspectives.

Intersectionalities - Public Engagement GBA + Intercept Surveys (134)

Intersectionalities	Differences and Considerations
No backyard/green space and children under 18 (n = 5)	80 per cent were not aware of the pilot program.
	Twice as likely to disagree with the statement: drinking in parks makes picnics more enjoyable.
Recent immigrants and non-Christian religions (n = 4)	100 per cent were not aware of the pilot program.
	Being surrounded by intoxicated individuals and their behaviours was the primary reason that park use would be negatively affected.
Respondents with no backyard/green space with children under 18, and recent immigrants and non-Christian religions	<p>All disagreed with the statement: allowing drinking in parks allows the City to better regulate an activity that is already happening, compared to 46 per cent of overall respondents that either strongly agreed or agreed with this statement.</p> <p>All agreed that the pilot program encouraged underage drinking compared to 57 per cent of overall survey respondents that either strongly agreed or agreed with this statement.</p> <p>All tended to disagree more with positive statements about the program including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the program supports a healthier, more moderate drinking culture • That allowing drinking in parks makes the parks more welcoming to a wider variety of people • That allowing drinking in parks will lead to more positive benefits for residents and the city than negative issues

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That drinking in parks makes picnics more enjoyable • That allowing drinking makes parks more welcoming to a wider variety of people
LGBTQ2S+ and ethnic or racial minority (n = 4, all identified as Indigenous)	More strongly disagreed with the statement: allowing alcohol consumption in parks makes the parks more welcoming to a wider variety of people than the overall responses (50 per cent versus 17 per cent).
General (n = 134)	<p>12 per cent of respondents did not believe that risks can be mitigated and oppose alcohol consumption in parks. However, they offered these ideas for mitigating negative impacts (many of which have already been implemented).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of security and monitoring at picnic sites • Restricting use and ensuring adequate enforcement • Improved signage • Isolation of alcohol-designated sites within the park, • Garbage and recycling receptacles

In-depth Interviews - Indigenous Community

In addition to intercept surveys, a number of in-depth interviews were held. It was noted that alcohol can be seen as a weapon in Indigenous communities and that alcohol has been used against their community. Alcohol has been destructive to the Indigenous community, but also to Canadians at large, as it is a major factor in poverty and homelessness. Truth and Reconciliation means learning and understanding traditional ways of doing things. This includes being stewards of the land, which means taking care of it and making it inviting and welcoming for others. It was felt by some interviewees that the pilot project does not achieve or support these values. For Indigenous representatives and individuals who use public fire pits for traditional ceremonies, nearby alcohol consumption of others is disruptive. It disconnects from spirituality, particularly since alcohol is associated with so much loss of life in this community. Alcohol is also a trigger for many Indigenous Canadians.

In-depth Interviews - Muslim Community

Interviews within the Muslim community noted that public drinking causes undue pressure to partake in drinking alcohol. Worries included that alcohol consumption can become a norm, nudging some to drink despite the act going against religious values of avoiding self-harm. Islamophobia was also mentioned and many Muslim

women in the community are fearful of how they will be treated when they go out into public spaces and feel alcohol could exacerbate this.

In-depth Interviews - Mitigating Suggestions

While most interviewees disapproved of the program, they did offer some insight on how it could be improved to limit negative impacts. Suggestions included:

- Provide porta-potty access at or near designated sites
- Provide drinking water fountains at or near designated sites
- Display clear signage with simple direct language
- Connect this initiative to the Boyle Street Program
- Provide an after-hours monitoring program
- Delineate specific areas of the park for alcohol consumption, isolate those from other non-alcohol related park activities
- Ensure public transit serves all designated parks