

Running a civic lottery

Recruiting citizens

Open call

- Anyone can join
- Common to traditional participation processes
- Aims for breadth of participation
- Certain demographics tend to disproportionately participate, notably those who are older, male, well-educated, affluent, white, and urban

Closed call

- Inviting specific members of a community who have a particular expertise or experience needed to address a policy issue
- Common to traditional participation processes
- Applicable in specific situations where targeted knowledge is needed

Civic lottery

- Recruitment processes that involve random sampling from which a representative selection is made to ensure that the group broadly matches the demographic profile of the community
- Ensures that nearly every person has an equal chance of being invited to participate
- Common for representative deliberative processes

Why civic lottery?

- Delivers a more **mixed and diverse group** of people than any other recruitment process
- Brings **new voices** into the room that are often under-represented
- Garners **greater legitimacy** and ensures a diversity of participants that are not achievable to the same extent through other recruitment mechanisms
- **Diverse groups result in better outcomes.** Having greater cognitive diversity leads to better decisions than those made by more homogeneous groups (for e.g. groups of experts)
- Participants randomly selected to be broadly representative are also more likely to **win citizens' trust**, as people trust random draws in lotteries in other situations as it is very difficult to cheat
- People are more likely to **trust a process where they see ordinary people reflecting all parts of society** engaging in the complex trade-offs required for public decision making

Good Practice Principles for Deliberative Processes for Public Decision Making



READ THE FULL PRINCIPLES:



4. REPRESENTATIVENESS

The participants should be a microcosm of the general public. This is achieved through random sampling from which a representative selection is made, based on stratification by demographics (to ensure the group broadly matches the demographic profile of the community against census or other similar data), and sometimes by attitudinal criteria (depending on the context).

Everyone should have an equal opportunity to be selected as participants.

In some instances, it may be desirable to over-sample certain demographics during the random sampling stage of recruitment to help achieve representativeness.

5. INCLUSIVENESS

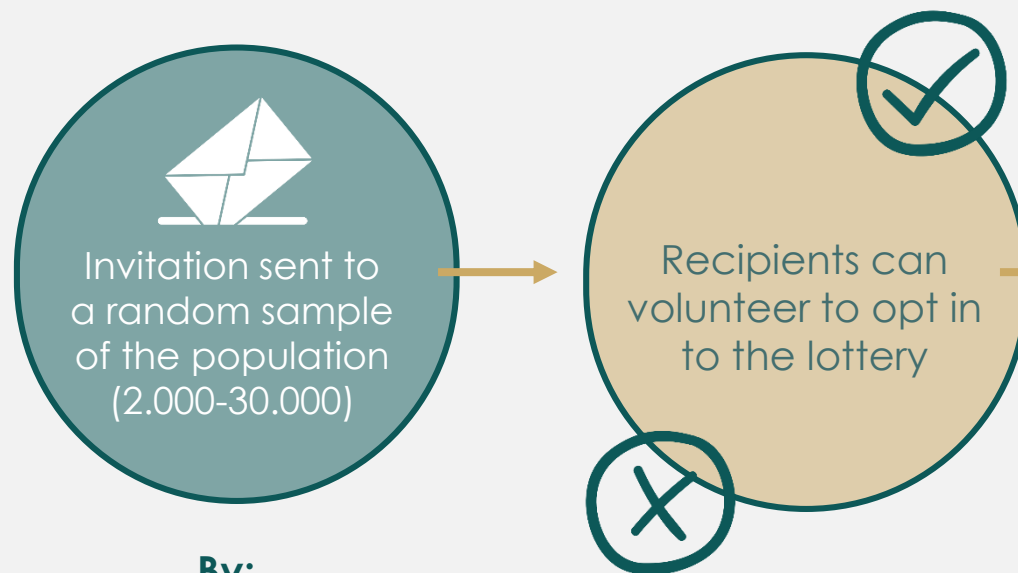
Inclusion should be achieved by considering how to involve under-represented groups.

Participation should also be encouraged and supported through remuneration, expenses, and/or providing or paying for childcare and eldercare.

Civic lottery

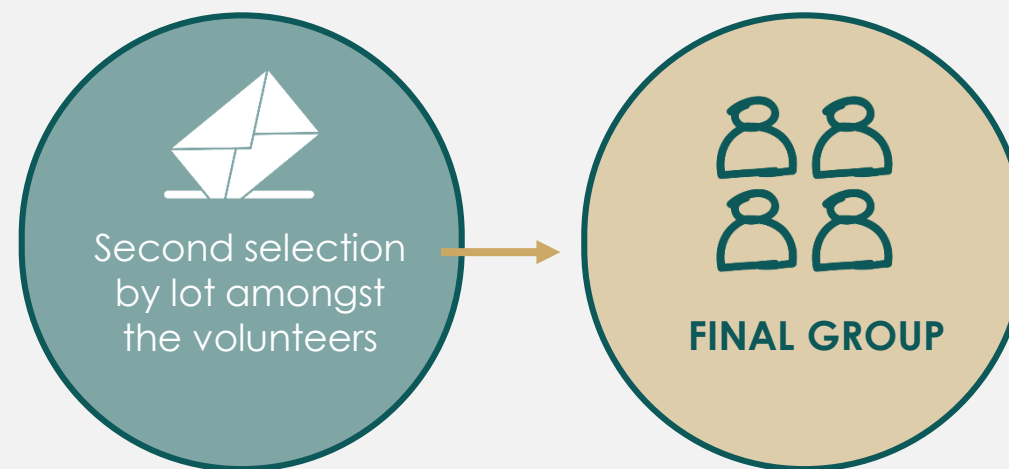
(Two-stage sortition process)

First stage



By:
Post
Phone
Email
...

Second stage



Stratified based on :
Gender
Age
Location
Socio-economic criteria
...

Broadly representative of the community concerned (city, state, country etc.)

Example: Poznan Citizens' Assembly Envelope and poster



Example: Toronto Planning Review Panel Envelope and letter



Only 12,000 households in Toronto have been randomly selected to receive this invitation

We need you to volunteer for the City of Toronto's new Planning Review Panel

Sanjay Smith
#2-143 York View Dr
Toronto, ON M5A 1D3

Deadline
October 6
Respond Today

Outer window envelope. (Size: No. 10)

September 4, 2015

Dear Toronto Resident,

The City's Planning Division needs your help to make sure we are creating a city that is prosperous, livable, equitable, and environmentally responsible.

This letter is a special invitation to apply to be part of the new Planning Review Panel, and to add your voice to Toronto's planning process. If you are 18 years of age or older and live in Toronto, you can apply — no experience is necessary.

Whether you're new to Toronto or a long-time resident, you know the city is changing fast.

New buildings and infrastructure are being constructed to meet the needs of the 20,000 net new residents who each year decide to make Toronto their home. This makes Toronto one of the fastest-growing and most dynamic cities in North America.

The City's Planning Division is responsible for ensuring that this growth enhances the city we share — from Steeles Avenue to the waterfront, and from Rouge River to Etobicoke Creek.

This means thinking about the long-term impacts of growth, while balancing the different interests, needs, and priorities of the city's 2.8 million residents. **We need your help to get this balance right.**

The Planning Review Panel is a new way for City Planning to hear the perspectives of Torontonians like you. As a member of the Panel, you will learn about your city and provide input and local expertise on important planning issues shaping Toronto. These issues could relate to transportation, zoning for new homes and businesses, neighbourhood density and character, historic buildings, and the locations of libraries, community centres, parks, and other neighbourhood amenities.

Membership on the panel is open to any Toronto resident who receives this letter and is 18 years of age or older. From among the pool of applicants, 28 members will be randomly selected to ensure broad representation from across the city. You do not need to be a Canadian citizen, and there is no cost to participate.

The Planning Review Panel will meet six times each year, following a special orientation program this fall. Each member will serve on the Panel for two years.

Joining the Panel is a great way to:

- Learn first-hand about your city and the planning process;
- Contribute your perspective and learn about the views of other Toronto residents; and
- Provide insight to the Planning Division concerning important issues shaping the city.

You do not need to be an expert to participate. It's your perspective as a Toronto resident that matters most.

Members of the Planning Review Panel will meet from 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on the following Saturdays this fall. You must be able to attend each of the sessions, as well as 10 of 12 additional meetings that will occur over the next two years (see the *Frequently Asked Questions* sheet for further details).

Saturday, October 17, 2015

Saturday, November 14, 2015

Saturday, October 31, 2015

Saturday, November 28, 2015

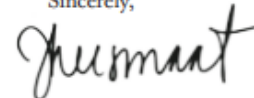
To volunteer for the Planning Review Panel, please phone 1-844-711-8186, mail in the enclosed form, or register online at www.toronto.ca/planning/tprp by Tuesday, October 6, 2015.

I believe our City's planning process will be strengthened by creating new ways for Torontonians to learn and contribute to the decisions that affect them.

Toronto is an exciting place to live, and it's important that we all have a hand in shaping it.

Whether you are new to Toronto or a long-time resident, I sincerely hope you will volunteer to serve on Toronto's first Planning Review Panel.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Keesmaat

Chief Planner and Executive Director
Planning Division
City of Toronto



A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR OF TORONTO, JOHN TORY:

"We are all passionate about the city we live in and want the best for Toronto. The City is looking at more and better ways of bringing you to the table when making decisions that affect you and your family. The Planning Review Panel is an excellent, thoughtful and direct way for you to give City Hall the advice we need to make good choices about the future of our city. Whether you just moved to the city or have lived here your entire life, I encourage you to volunteer. Let's work together to turn a good city into a truly great one."

How to register as a volunteer for the Toronto Planning Review Panel:

There are three quick and easy ways you can register:

1. Phone 1-844-711-8186 to register by phone (or ask questions about the selection process);
2. Complete the enclosed Candidate Response Card and mail it back using the enclosed envelope; or
3. Register securely online at www.toronto.ca/planning/tprp

Please ensure you register in one of the above ways by Tuesday, October 6, 2015. If you are selected for the Panel, you can expect a phone call on the evening of Wednesday, Oct 7, 2015.

The Planning Review Panel will meet on the following dates between 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.: October 17 and 31, and November 14 and 28. You must be able to attend all of the sessions above and 10 of the 12 additional meetings held from January 23, 2016 to November 18, 2017 (see the *Frequently Asked Questions* sheet for further details). Please check and hold all dates until the evening of Wednesday, October 7, 2015, when the members of the Panel will be notified.

If you are unable to participate, please encourage members of your household 18 years of age or older to volunteer.

Please turn over

References:

- Innovative Citizen Participation and New Democratic Institutions: Catching the Deliberative Wave; OECD, 2020
- Good Practice Principles for Deliberative Processes for Public Decision Making; OECD, 2020
- Evaluation Guidelines for Representative Deliberative Processes; OECD, 2021
- How to Run a Civic Lottery; MASS LBP, 2017



@oecdgov

#OECDORG #delibWave

oe.cd/innovative-citizen-participation | medium.com/participo