



# Plan for Canada's Capital: 17 Big Ideas

Public Engagement Report

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### *I. Project description*

#### Context

The National Capital Commission (NCC) is currently preparing the Plan for Canada's Capital, 2017–2067, the overarching planning framework that will shape the vision for the nation's capital until Canada's bicentennial in 2067. This document lays out the broad vision for the future of the Capital. In particular, the plan will achieve the following:

- outline the vision for the use of federal lands, buildings, parks, transportation facilities and symbolic spaces in the Capital;
- ensure that the Capital continues to be nationally significant and supportive of federal institutions;
- identify the strategic principles and key projects in the Capital that will reflect our growth as a nation, build a lasting legacy for future generations and serve as a platform for Canada's influence in the world.

At the time of this consultation, the NCC provided the following draft long-term vision for the future of the Capital, as well as three main themes that would guide its development.

<b>2067 Vision for Canada's Capital Region</b>		
Canada's Capital Region is a symbol of our country's history and diversity, a true reflection of our democratic values and our commitment to a flourishing and sustainable future.		
<b>Meaningful and Symbolic</b>	<b>Picturesque and Natural</b>	<b>Thriving and Connected</b>
Celebrate the values, achievements and inspiring symbols of our national identity.	Maintain the region's ecological value and natural beauty, while improving access to waterways and green spaces.	Foster a livable, resilient, connected and sustainable environment that preserves and enriches our cultural heritage.

#### Consultation objective

The objective of this public engagement campaign was to ask the public to help identify the 17 major milestone projects that will be included in the Plan for Canada's Capital.

## *II. Engagement process*

### Overview

**Dates:** December 8, 2015 to February 2, 2016

**Format:** The format was online engagement through social media and the NCC’s website. Every week or two, the NCC presented one of its potential ideas for the Plan for Canada’s Capital and solicited feedback through social media. Canadians were also asked to submit their comments and ideas through an online survey.

### Promotion

This public engagement campaign was promoted through a news release, as well as Facebook and Twitter messages across the NCC’s social media accounts.

## *III. Engagement feedback*

The NCC received 1,800 responses from Canadians across the country, including over 800 completed online surveys and more than 1,000 comments on social media.

These comments were then analyzed and 1,200 individual ideas were categorized according to the Plan for Canada’s Capital’s three main themes. The number of ideas for each theme was balanced, with the second theme—picturesque and natural—receiving the most ideas.

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Number of ideas submitted</b>
<b>Meaningful and Symbolic</b> Celebrate the values, achievements and inspiring symbols of our national identity.	265 ideas
<b>Picturesque and Natural</b> Maintain the region’s ecological value and natural beauty, while improving access to waterways and green spaces.	505 ideas
<b>Thriving and Connected</b> Foster a livable, resilient, connected and sustainable environment that preserves and enriches our cultural heritage.	317 ideas
<b>Other ideas: NCC-related</b>	23 ideas
<b>Other ideas: Not NCC-related</b>	90 ideas

## Highlights

The most popular categories of ideas received included the following:

- Renewing the urban forest by planting more trees (115 ideas)
- Increasing access to the Ottawa River and shorelines (81 ideas)
- Creating a national botanical garden (61 ideas)
- Improving pathways and cycling infrastructure (60 ideas)
- Providing more amenities, attractions and animation throughout the Capital (57 ideas)
- Establishing a national portrait gallery (54 ideas)
- Revitalizing LeBreton Flats (49 ideas)
- Increasing green space and wildlife preservation measures (44 ideas)
- Other sustainability initiatives (41 ideas)
- Creating monuments or commemorations (37 ideas)
- Building new bridges and connections (34 ideas)
- Establishing new museums or upgrading existing ones (31 ideas)

## Analysis

An analysis of the ideas received is provided below, under each theme identified in the Plan for Canada's Capital. Ideas were grouped into categories when there were similarities, and every effort was made to reflect all ideas submitted through this engagement process.

Additional details have been provided for the 12 most popular categories of ideas. Verbatim comments are also provided, as examples.

### Theme 1: Meaningful and Symbolic

Celebrate the values, achievements and inspiring symbols of our national identity.

- **Creating a national portrait gallery (53 ideas)**
  - Many respondents called for the creation of a national portrait gallery, either in the former U.S. Embassy on Wellington Street or at another prominent location in the Capital, to showcase our permanent collection of historical and contemporary portraits, be they paintings or photographs.
  - The gallery would provide an opportunity to showcase Canadian artists, celebrate our historical figures and everyday Canadians, highlight our achievements, contribute to our sense of identity and pride, and illustrate our growing cultural diversity.

- Respondents also emphasized that First Nations should have a prominent place in the gallery.
- Several respondents cited examples of other portrait galleries around the world, indicating that the national portrait gallery would be an important tourist attraction.
- Others mentioned the growing success of the Kingston Prize, which is contributing to contemporary Canadian portraiture.

## Examples

<p>Translation: The creation of a national portrait gallery in Ottawa. A museum of this type would provide the public with access to Library and Archives Canada’s portrait collection. It would be a testament to our country’s cultural vitality and a fine tribute to the women and men who helped to build our country.</p>
<p>“A national portrait gallery, which could showcase both historical and contemporary artists and figures.”</p>
<p>“I strongly believe that Canada needs, and should have, a national portrait gallery. Canada has a strong place in the world and is becoming more and more influential with each passing year. Consequently, there are many notable persons who reflect the vision and depth of the numerous cultural issues that make Canada the diverse and rich nation it has become.”</p>
<p>“My big idea is in support of the building of a national portrait gallery in Ottawa, which would act as a celebration of the achievements of all the people who have lived in Canada and contributed to the development of the country...As a new Canadian, I want to be as proud of my newly adopted nation as I used to be of the country of my birth. Please consider this a priority and place it first on your list!”</p>
<p>“We need to get the national portrait collection out of archival storage and into public view.”</p>

- **Revitalizing LeBreton Flats (49 ideas)**

- Many respondents indicated their support for an arena at LeBreton Flats, while a few expressed their opposition.
- There were several calls for the creation of a museum and cultural hub at LeBreton Flats, much like the National Mall in Washington, D.C.
- Recreational facilities available in all four seasons were suggested, as well as the development of parkland and green space to mirror Central Park. Some

also suggested that the space be used for temporary installations for the sesquicentennial celebrations.

- Others reiterated the importance of access to the river.
- Those who supported development called for unique and excellent design, preferably through international competitions, that would focus on sustainability, as well as affordable housing, transit and a new library.
- Respondents also indicated that Aboriginal peoples should be represented.

#### Examples

<p>“It would be great to have a new arena for the [Ottawa Senators] downtown on LeBreton Flats.”</p>
<p>Translation: A large, well-maintained, urban park on LeBreton Flats.</p>
<p>“By all means, develop LeBreton Flats, just don’t overdevelop it. Leave some space for trees (and plant them). Maybe some gardens and playing fields too.”</p>
<p>“Why not turn LeBreton Flats into the world’s largest pay-per-use outdoor park facility with concert venue (since we know it works well there), complete with outdoor wave pool, jungle gyms galore, sandboxes unlike anything anyone has ever seen, skate parks, soccer fields, volleyball nets, BMX track, a pathway with a bridge that traverses the parkway allowing pedestrians and cyclists to access the parkway from the park. In the winter you could have an outdoor curling space, a slew of hockey and broomball rinks, a bunch of ice slides, small man-made ski hill with a rope tow, because not everyone can afford to get to the ski hills. How about a small luge track? Make it a one-stop shop for all those into outdoor activities...”</p>
<p>“I would like to have an aquarium/biosphere in LeBreton Flats.”</p>
<p>Translation: Let’s keep LeBreton Flats as it is, but let’s green it and plant flowers! AND have beautiful sculptures. This location has amazing potential, with the river; it could be a wonderful area for walking. And think of the fun people could have, after a performance, strolling among the beautiful things, sculptures—the sights and smells!</p>

- **Creating monuments and commemorations (37 ideas)**

- Respondents suggested specific locations for future monuments, namely Sparks Street and Bronson Avenue, Parliament Hill, and Ruisseau de la Brasserie (Brewery Creek).
- Specific topics for commemorations were brought forward: First Nations, Canadian celebrities, governance and democracy, Canadian railways, children and youth, hockey, victims of violence, the judiciary, science and technology, Nobel prizewinners, Canadian history, flags (Canadian, provincial, international), peace, and the royal family.
- Different forms of commemorative representations were suggested: symbolic artwork, bold and unique architectural forms, towers, lighthouses, statues, large-scale maps, time capsules, glass arches and street renaming.
- There were several calls to cancel the Memorial to the Victims of Communism.
- Some respondents felt that there should be no new monuments in the Capital.

Examples

“This is a small idea, but I would suggest the NCC’s Bronson Park (at intersections Sparks and Bronson, Queen and Bronson, top of escarpment) would be a great location to host or display a monument or statue, and perhaps stairs to go down from Bronson Park to Commissioner Street and LeBreton Flats. It would complement the Garden of the Provinces nicely.”

Translation: A monument to the Trans-Canada railway, which allowed for Confederation to take place. This would help remind us of the importance of the Prairie provinces and the West. It might also be an opportunity to highlight historical truths about the treatment of First Nations peoples, immigrants (the Chinese, in particular) and, more generally, the history of the West, Louis Riel and so on.

“A huge, tall clock tower demarking Canada’s 200 years with areas within it to insert time capsules. Outside stone tiles portraying various Canadian milestones and their dates. A place where all Canadians could walk around and be educated and respect the passage of time, a place for wedding photographs, milestone happenings for new Canadians to record through photos to pass along through to their families. It should be in the downtown core to be part of every Canada Day festivities.”

- **Establishing new museums or upgrading existing ones (31 ideas)**
  - Many respondents asked that the Science and Technology Museum be moved to a central location.
  - Provincial pavilions or “Canada in miniature” were suggested, in order to increase provincial and territorial representation.
  - A prime ministers row, as an open air museum, was put forward.
  - Other suggestions included museums for peace, environment, history of the region, women’s history, Canadian achievements, refugees, hockey, architecture and political history, as well as an aquarium and a planetarium,

Examples

<p>“Prime ministers row—transform Laurier Avenue East into Canada’s first street museum in the heart of the nation’s capital. It will become a physical and virtual space for every Canadian to discuss, debate and shape Canada’s public policy. Our hope is that, by 2017, prime ministers row will be the literal and figurative meeting place between those who shaped Canada’s first 150 years and those who will shape the next 150 years.”</p>
<p>Translation: Our country has always had a reputation for being a leader, for being a very welcoming and open land that is sympathetic to the plight of those who have been and still are persecuted in their countries, and who will be in the future. I would really like for our nation’s capital, Ottawa, to take an interest in this, and for it dedicate a place or museum exclusively to those who have fled their countries to seek refuge in Canada.”</p>
<p>“A new science museum, architecturally striking, on a riverbank within walking distance of downtown that emphasizes ecology, as well as technology.”</p>

Other categories of ideas for Theme 1: Meaningful and Symbolic

- Recognizing the Chaudières Islands and Chaudières Falls as an indigenous sacred space (26 ideas)
- Implementing changes on Confederation Boulevard and creating Confederation Square (19 ideas)
- Building an indigenous centre (18 ideas)
- Revitalizing Nepean Point (18 ideas)
- Upgrading official residences (11 ideas)
- Focusing on Canada’s history and heritage conservation (6 ideas)
- Adding new amenities to Parliament Hill (5 ideas)



- Suggesting new public art installations or works (5 ideas)
- Suggesting new institutions or upgrading existing ones (4 ideas)
- Preserving the Rideau Canal, a UNESCO World Heritage Site (3 ideas)
- Other ideas (2 ideas).

## Theme 2: Picturesque and Natural

Maintain the region’s ecological value and natural beauty, while improving access to waterways and green spaces.

- **Renewing the urban forest by planting more trees (115 ideas)**
  - Overwhelmingly, respondents want the NCC to consider Ecology Ottawa’s idea to plant 150,000 trees and renew the urban tree canopy.
  - Many mentioned the devastation caused by the emerald ash borer and the need to replace dead ash trees.
  - Neighbourhood initiatives were suggested for additional tree planting.
  - A “green capital city” was promoted by several respondents, as well as green infrastructure and legislated protection for green space.
  - Many respondents celebrated the Capital’s green assets and suggested that we renew or increase green space, parks and so on.
  - Others called for the planting of a variety of trees and fruit trees.

### Examples

<p>“Please, let’s plant trees to replace all those lost to ice storms, the emerald ash borer, etc. With due attention to species suitable to this climate, and enough variety that a single insect pest can never again devastate the tree canopy as the ash borer did.”</p>
<p>“Lots of green space. How about planting 150,000 trees for Canada’s 150th birthday?”</p>
<p>“Plant 150,000 trees in the National Capital Region by 2017. Most of the trees should be resilient native species that are able to withstand the effects of climate change. Some of the trees should make a food forest, like the City of Seattle has. The trees would provide free local food to whoever harvests it. Trees help reduce the urban heat island effect, slow down runoff, capture carbon dioxide and provide oxygen. This would be a great project to improve the health of Canadians living in the area and an example for other cities to emulate.”</p>
<p>“One milestone project would be to have an edible forest project in every Ottawa ward possible, with an adoption process by schools and community centres to take care of them. This would be an example of permaculture practice that is organic, sustainable and uses a minimum of water. It would be a teaching facility to the youth and an example of how to produce our own health food sustainably. Some Vietnamese edible forests have</p>

been providing for over 20 generations.”

- **Increasing access to the Ottawa River and shorelines (81 ideas)**

- A great majority of respondents asked that more amenities be provided along the Ottawa River shorelines and Rideau Canal for residents and tourists alike. Suggestions included the following:
  - Canoe, paddle board and kayak launching and rental facilities
  - Cafés, restaurants, boutiques and shops
  - More public spaces, including plazas, boardwalks and trails
  - Spaces for active uses and play structures for all ages (oversized board games, carousels, mini-trains and so on)
  - Swimming areas, beaches, pools and a marina
  - Some called for more parking, and an equal number called for less parking.
- There were also many requests for fewer cars and more transit along the river.
- Others suggested that the waterfront be developed, with more public spaces, amenities and housing.
- On the other hand, several respondents requested increased access to the shorelines, more protected areas and preservation of natural features.
- Some suggested using new green technologies to safeguard the shorelines, while others called for the river to be cleaned up.
- Specific sectors were highlighted for potential improvements, including Kettle Island and Dows Lake.

Examples

“I would like to propose the creation of a heritage river trail along the mighty Ottawa, a proud Canadian Heritage River. I would propose an on-land and in-water route that brings the natural history of the river into the cultural history of the Capital. Many may claim, and rightfully so, that the genesis of the city owes its roots to the river. And I’ll personally confess that I never had a more Canadian moment than when I sailed down the Ottawa.”

“I still think a water slide at the Parliament going into the river would be AWESOME! ;)”

“Let’s see actual placemaking along the canal and rivers. Our waterfronts are all about movement. Walking, cycling, skating...”

<p>Translation: Dows Lake is a wonderful asset (well-located and very beautiful), but the pavilion is not very touristy. It needs better washrooms and a better restaurant/café. The terrace should be kept, as well as the canoe, kayak and pedal boat rental facility. A map of the area (canal, bike path, Little Italy, Glebe, Mooneys Bay and so on) should be placed at the entrance near the wharf. Activities should be organized for summer evenings (musicians, buskers).</p>
<p>“Multiple areas for canoes / kayaks / SUP to put in and tie up along canal, from NAC to Carleton, maybe further.”</p>
<p>“A boardwalk similar to the Santa Monica Pier full of buskers, small businesses, food trucks etc., on the Ottawa River Parkway. And let OC Transpo stop there to pick up and drop off passengers.”</p>

- **Creating a national botanical garden (61 ideas)**

- There was tremendous support for the creation of a national botanical garden, with many respondents mentioning “Canadensis, the Garden of Canada” project.
- Respondents felt that this could be a unique tourist destination to showcase native Canadian plants and educate the public.
- It would also provide a great opportunity to demonstrate Canadian research and knowledge, including best practices in environmental sustainability and climate change.
- The Experimental Farm was often suggested as an ideal location.
- Some respondents thought that the gardens could act as an open-air museum, and provide opportunities for leisure and family activities.
- Others mentioned that we are one of the only capitals lacking a national botanical garden, and that this idea was brought forward 100 years ago.

Examples

<p>“I would like to see a national botanical garden established at the Experimental Farm. This would serve as a focus on Canada’s environment, its diversity and fragility; as an educational centre for the protection of rare and endangered species; and as a place to enjoy the beauties of nature, representing different parts of Canada.”</p>
<p>“We need a national botanical garden. It can be used to teach and inspire about climate change adaptation, urban agriculture, natural history and much more. Cornelia Oberlander might lead the project with others to support her.”</p>
<p>“Begun over 125 years ago, the National Arboretum and Botanical Garden Complex has yet to be completed. With the celebration of our nation’s 150th anniversary in 2017, it is a fitting legacy to launch, during the sesquicentennial celebrations, the implementation of the long-awaited botanical garden presently known as ‘Canadensis, the Garden of</p>

Canada / le Jardin du Canada' in Canada's Capital and greater National Capital Region. As such, it will offer a unique national destination that is a 'window unto the world,' showcasing our nation's many accomplishments in horticulture, agriculture and arboriculture, and set within a framework of environmental sustainability that demonstrates, informs and educates our youth, our families and visitors regarding climate change adaptation in one's daily life."

Translation: I would suggest that world-class botanical gardens be created, with gardens representing as many Canadian climates as possible. Embassies could be invited to contribute to the project by donating plants or through other forms of support.

### **Increasing green space and wildlife preservation measures (44 ideas)**

- Many respondents called for more green spaces, parks, greenery and trees in the Capital.
- The importance of protecting or expanding current parks, the Greenbelt and Gatineau Park was highlighted, including the development of wildlife sanctuaries; ecological corridors; and bird-, butterfly- and bee-friendly environments.
- Several respondents asked for better connectivity between green spaces.
- Others mentioned specific locations where improvements to or the expansion of green spaces could be implemented, including Confederation Boulevard, the Parliamentary Precinct, Dows Lake, Canadian Museum of Nature and the Central Experimental Farm.

### **Examples**

"I'd really like to see Ottawa grow with its ecological purpose, growing the access to the waterways, green spaces and improving on green transport infrastructure. Let's make the Capital green, and lead the way nationally with additional trees along our cycle routes, waterways and paths. Let's more than replace the ash trees, let's double up with a host of indigenous trees. Let's look at the Arboretum and replenish it, let's make the Capital green in more ways than one."

"I would like to see the green spaces next to the pathways along the Rideau Canal, Colonel By Drive and the Queen Elizabeth Driveway be turned into a long butterfly-friendly way station, by planting wildflowers in spaces not explicitly dedicated to the Tulip Festival. This wouldn't take much of a monetary investment, besides the initial procurement costs, and could even be undertaken by community groups to save on labour costs. It would also help shore up the declining bee population."

"I would like Ottawa to be a world class greenscape! This would include planting more trees, having more public green spaces and increasing the biodiversity of the city."

<p>“More green space. Central parks are needed. More tree canopy. Less concrete. More pedestrian space.”</p>
<p>“I would love to see a huge emphasis on expanding, protecting and connecting greenspaces within the national capital area. We definitely don’t need huge infrastructure developments, but providing clean and accessible public washrooms at regular intervals throughout the green space would be extremely helpful.”</p>

- **Other sustainability initiatives (41 ideas)**
  - There were many suggestions to make the Capital the greenest and healthiest city in the country, to make it an example.
  - Many respondents called for greater investments in renewable energy, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, achieving carbon neutrality, reducing waste, creating community gardens, improving farm practices, restoring wetlands and implementing new green technologies.
  - There were also suggestions to remove dams, create eel ladders and ban chemicals.

Examples

<p>“Implement green roof policy for [the National Capital Region], i.e., greenery, solar panels or grey water collection for ALL!”</p>
<p>Translation: Make Ottawa a great green city (see Swedish models).</p>
<p>“Make the capital of Canada the greenest and healthiest city! An example for the other Canadian cities to try to match.”</p>

Other ideas for Theme 2: Picturesque and Natural

Other areas of interest (31 ideas):

- Creating a park, be it an amusement park, nature park or theme park (29 ideas)
- Implementing a variety of ideas for Gatineau Park (21 ideas)
- Establishing sound environmental management practices for maintenance activities (17 ideas)
- Improving the infrastructure surrounding the Rideau Canal (14 ideas)
- Increasing the size of the Greenbelt and other ideas (8 ideas)

- Adding new amenities to Jacques-Cartier Park (5 ideas)
- Creating more community gardens (5 ideas)
- Making additions to the floral program (4 ideas)
- Implementing development along the shorelines (3 ideas).

### Theme 3: Thriving and Connected

Foster a livable, resilient, connected and sustainable environment that preserves and enriches our cultural heritage.

- **Improving pathways and cycling infrastructure (60 ideas)**
  - A great number of respondents want better connections between existing pathways in the cities, as well as new pathways.
  - A majority of respondents suggested that vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians should be separated, for safety reasons.
  - Many called for all-season access to the pathways.
  - Suggestions were made to improve safety along specific paths, including the Portage and Chaudières bridges, the Rideau Canal, and the parkways;
  - Cycling bridges, better lighting, signage and safe level crossings were also brought forward.

#### Examples

<p>“Copenhagen-ize Ottawa: Bike highways, way more segregated bike lanes, and changing the transportation bylaws to allow partially and fully enclosed bicycles and tricycles to better enable winter biking, including enclosed electric-assist trike rentals (like BIXI bikes: rent at a trike station). Consider some roads being “bike priority.” On these roads, cars yield to bikes. These could be residential streets that link up to form cross-city bike access.”</p>
<p>“A four-season maintained Confederation Boulevard protected bike lane loop connecting Ottawa and Gatineau.”</p>
<p>Translation: A widened bike path, open year-round on the Portage and Chaudières bridges.</p>
<p>“Widen (separate?) the pathways to make space for conversational cycling AND walking side-by-side.”</p>
<p>“Make true commuter bike paths for commuting to work.”</p>

“By 2067, it would be great to see Ottawa as the cycling capital of Canada. This would include an even more extensive network of bike paths and dedicated cycling lanes for cycle commuting. It would also include all varieties of mountain biking, including cross-country single track, downhill, bike park, pump track and fat biking. With the untapped potential of Gatineau Park’s single track trails, Ottawa could become a dominant mountain bike riding area. The Ottawa Mountain Bike Association would be happy to continue helping.”

- **Providing more amenities, attractions and animation throughout the Capital (57 ideas)**
  - There were many suggestions to create fun attractions throughout the Capital, including an amusement or theme park, a roller rink, concert venues, golf courses, water parks, an outdoor amphitheatre, sports competitions, and a Ferris wheel.
  - Several respondents called for the Capital to become an artistic and cultural centre and for the creation of an entertainment district.
  - Other respondents asked for more market spaces that could have various themes.
  - Additional suggestions included better sports facilities (rinks, curling, cross-country skiing), expanded public spaces, public toilets, water taxis, graffiti space, public art, play structures, festivals, underground malls, pedestrian plazas, squares and grand avenues.

#### Examples

Translation: The Canadian History Museum has a great theatre space. I have seen a few shows there, but the room isn’t very well known. I suggest it be turned into THE venue for emerging Canadian performers. This would be perfect for the Canadian History Museum. I know that there are other commercial auditoriums, but they’re too expensive to help emerging performers break through. Host regular music showcases there, and music contests with young people from all over Canada, in all musical styles.

“Ottawa needs more opportunities for cultural and social innovation. One option would be to have weekend markets and local concerts around the canal by the Château Laurier and down the river. The Champlain statue is also a great location, and we could have a pop-up karaoke like other metropolitan cities (e.g. Berlin). Different ideas that could enable people to mingle, to connect and celebrate life.”

Translation: Create a space for performances in partnership with the NAC, as they do in Montréal. It’s a magical way of attracting more tourists, and local residents!

“The national capital [should host] an international event, such as a world exhibition, between 2020 and 2067.”

- **Building new bridges and connections (34 ideas)**

- The most popular suggestion was to turn the Prince of Wales Bridge into a cycling and pedestrian bridge, with a few respondents suggesting that the light rail transit (LRT) be connected to this bridge.
- There were many calls for new bridges: one to the west and one to the east.
- Respondents also suggested that pedestrian bridges be built at Fifth Avenue and Clegg Street, and at the Chaudières Falls.
- Others suggested that any new bridges should be reserved for the LRT or cycling, rather than car traffic.

#### Examples

“I think the Prince of Wales Bridge should be converted to a bike path. The structure is already there, but unused [for] a couple of years. It would also be safer if the bridge was redesigned for cyclists and pedestrians.”

“Complete the Prince of Wales Bridge to link with [the] O-Train and Rapibus!”

“A footbridge at Clegg [Street] and Fifth Avenue, joining the people, places and parks of the Glebe and Old Ottawa East into one [bikeable], walkable, super-neighbourhood for locals and tourists alike to enjoy, [where they could] take pictures, meet friends and [take] wedding photos....”

#### Other ideas for Theme 3: Thriving and Connected

- Establishing a commuter rail service within the Capital and connecting with other cities (30 ideas)
- Implementing other transit ideas (24 ideas)
- Improving connections and creating loops (22 ideas)
- Reducing car use, expanding cycling and pedestrian infrastructure (17 ideas)
- Improving or changing the parkways (15 ideas)
- Creating a federal capital district (12 ideas)
- Building a ring road or other solutions to divert truck traffic (12 ideas)
- Revitalizing Sparks Street (12 ideas)
- Illuminating the Capital (5 ideas)



- Either providing more parking or eliminating parking (4 ideas)
- Other comments (13 ideas).

### Other comments—NCC-related

Other comments that were related to the NCC include the following:

- Increase transparency at the NCC, including having the mayors of Ottawa and Gatineau on the NCC Board of Directors.
- Improve universal accessibility in the Capital.
- The Gréber Plan should be abandoned, according to some respondents, while others think it should be renewed.
- All levels of government must agree to the Plan for Canada's Capital.
- Federal government buildings should be renovated.
- There should be better signage for tourists.

### Other comments—Not NCC-related

There were several suggestions that were not related to the NCC's mandate. We will share these with the relevant cities and federal organizations. These ideas include suggestions for more affordable housing, support for social enterprise, improving architectural standards for condominium and building development, raising the height of buildings, providing more fenced dog parks, making the Capital a bilingual city, and many more.

### *V. Next steps*

Analyze the ideas received through the engagement process and incorporate those retained into the Plan for Canada's Capital 2017-2067 under the Milestone Projects for the next 50 Years. The draft of this Plan will be submitted for public consultation in the summer of 2016.

Obtain approval of the final version of the Plan for Canada's Capital 2017-2067 from the NCC Board of Directors in winter 2017.