



Making a difference...together

RE-VISIONING HOUSING
AFFORDABILITY IN THE
CAPITAL REGION

**The Hotel Grand Pacific, Victoria, BC
June 16, 2017**

Re-Visioning Housing Affordability in the Capital Region Overview

To launch the update to the Regional Housing Affordability Strategy, the Social Planning and Research Council of BC (SPARC BC) and the Community Social Planning Council convened the Re-visioning Housing Affordability session at the Hotel Grand Pacific in Victoria. The purpose of the event was to bring housing affordability leaders, private and non-profit sector industry experts, funders, local government, and housing providers together to discuss the current state of housing and groups most in need of help, and emerging opportunities for housing affordability in the Capital Region.

Event Consultants



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Welcome and Opening



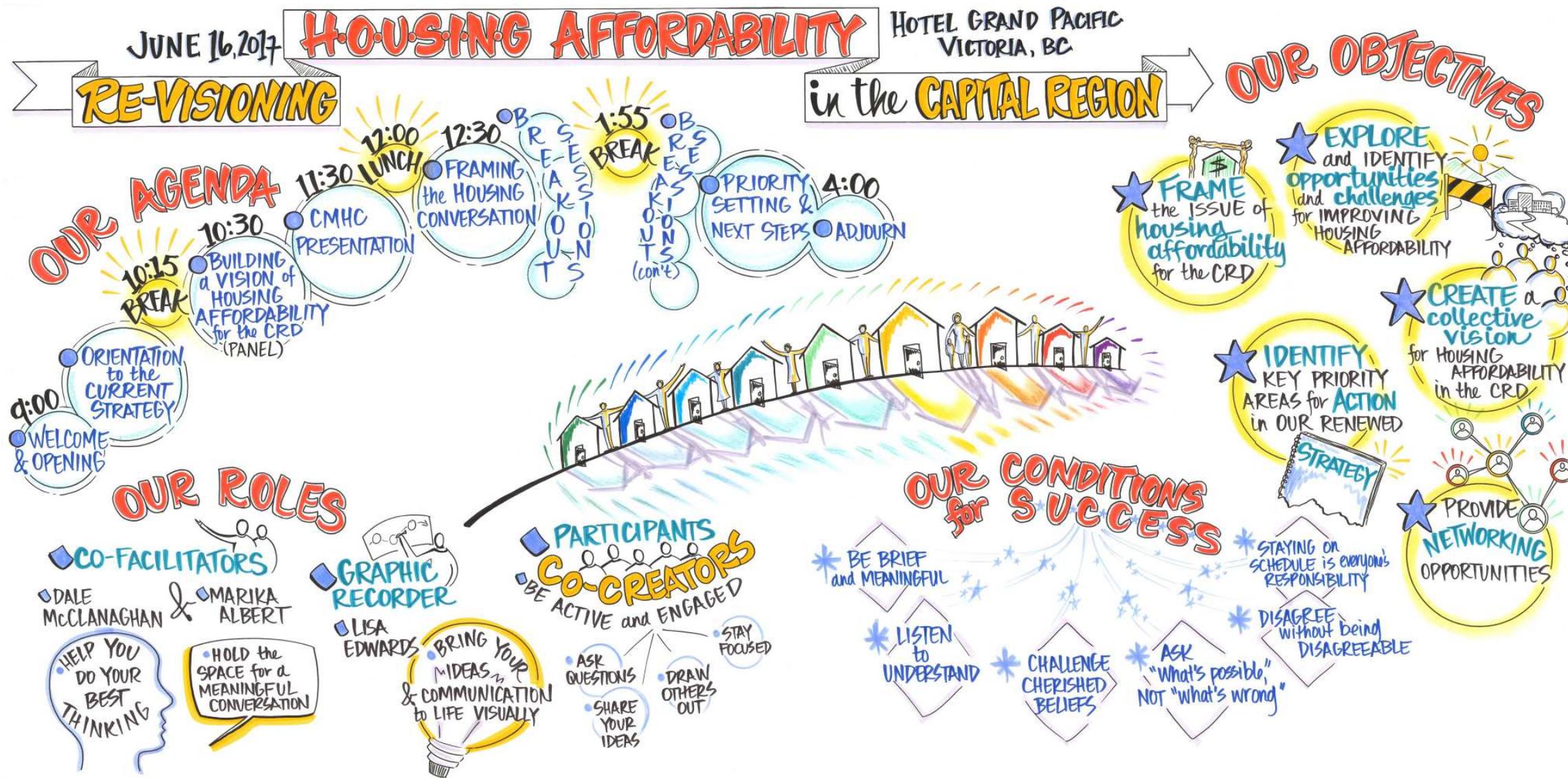
Chief Andy Thomas, Esquimalt Nation Chief (page 4, upper left), opened the Forum with a territorial welcome, emphasizing the need to work together to solve tough housing issues.

Barb Desjardins, Capital Regional District (CRD) Board Chair (page 4, upper right), Robert Lapham, CRD Chief Administrative Officer (page 4, lower left) and Kevin Lorette, CRD General Manager of Planning and Protective Services (page 4, lower right), welcomed participants and discussed CRD initiatives underway, which address housing affordability needs. They talked about the emerging housing partnerships in the Capital Region and how important these are to creating successful solutions.

Welcome and Opening (continued)



Welcome and Opening (continued)



Facilitator, Marika Albert, introduced participants to the objectives and agenda for the day.

Orientation to the Current Strategy



The group was given an opportunity to provide feedback on the 2007 Regional Housing Affordability Strategy (RHAS). The 2007 RHAS goals and strategies were placed around the room and participants rated the relevance of each and provided examples of successes, and feedback on what has helped and what has hindered.

Panel - Building a Vision of Housing Affordability for the CRD



Facilitator, Dale McClanaghan, then introduced the panel members, who each shared their perspective on the current housing affordability context, successes of the current strategy and challenges and opportunities (see page 8).

Don Elliot, Executive Director, Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness (above left), spoke about his organization's role in coordinating regional responses to homelessness and factors that contribute to the different types of homelessness.

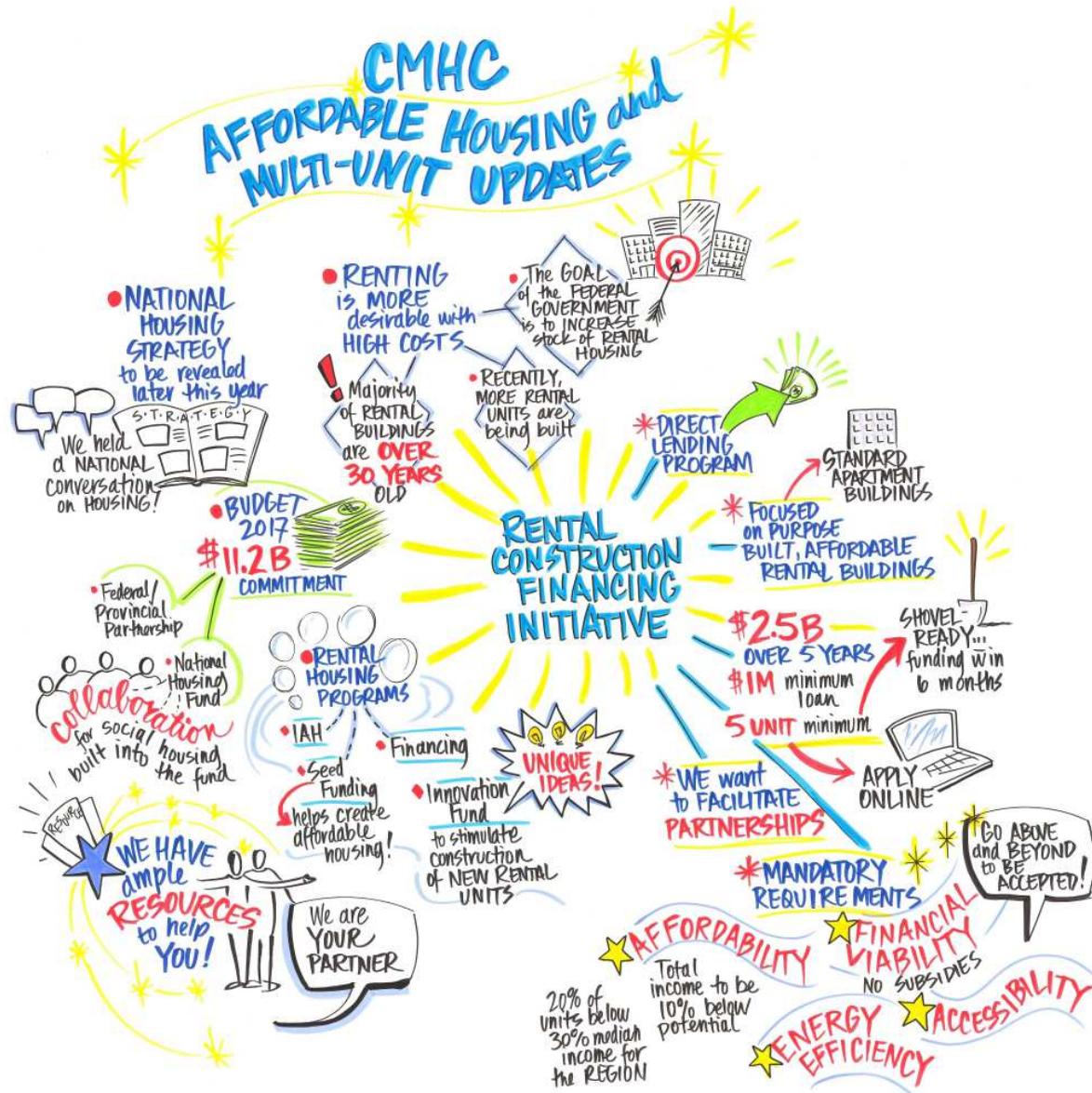
Kaye Melliship, Executive Director, Greater Victoria Housing Society (above centre), discussed how non-profit housing projects are funded, challenges and success factors in creating affordable housing and key priorities moving forward.

David Chard, President and CEO, Chard Development Ltd., (above right), talked about Chard development projects with affordable components and factors that reduce the ability to create affordable housing.

Panel - Building a Vision of Housing Affordability for the CRD (continued)



CMHC Presentation - Affordable Housing and Multi-Unit Updates



Debra Yip, Affordable Housing Consultant, Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), provided an overview of the state of rental housing in the region and throughout Canada and discussed CMHC rental housing products and programs.

Robyn Adamache, Multi-Unit Client Relations Manager, CMHC (above), described CMHC's new Rental Construction Financing Initiative and outlined eligibility requirements for the program.

Breakout Sessions



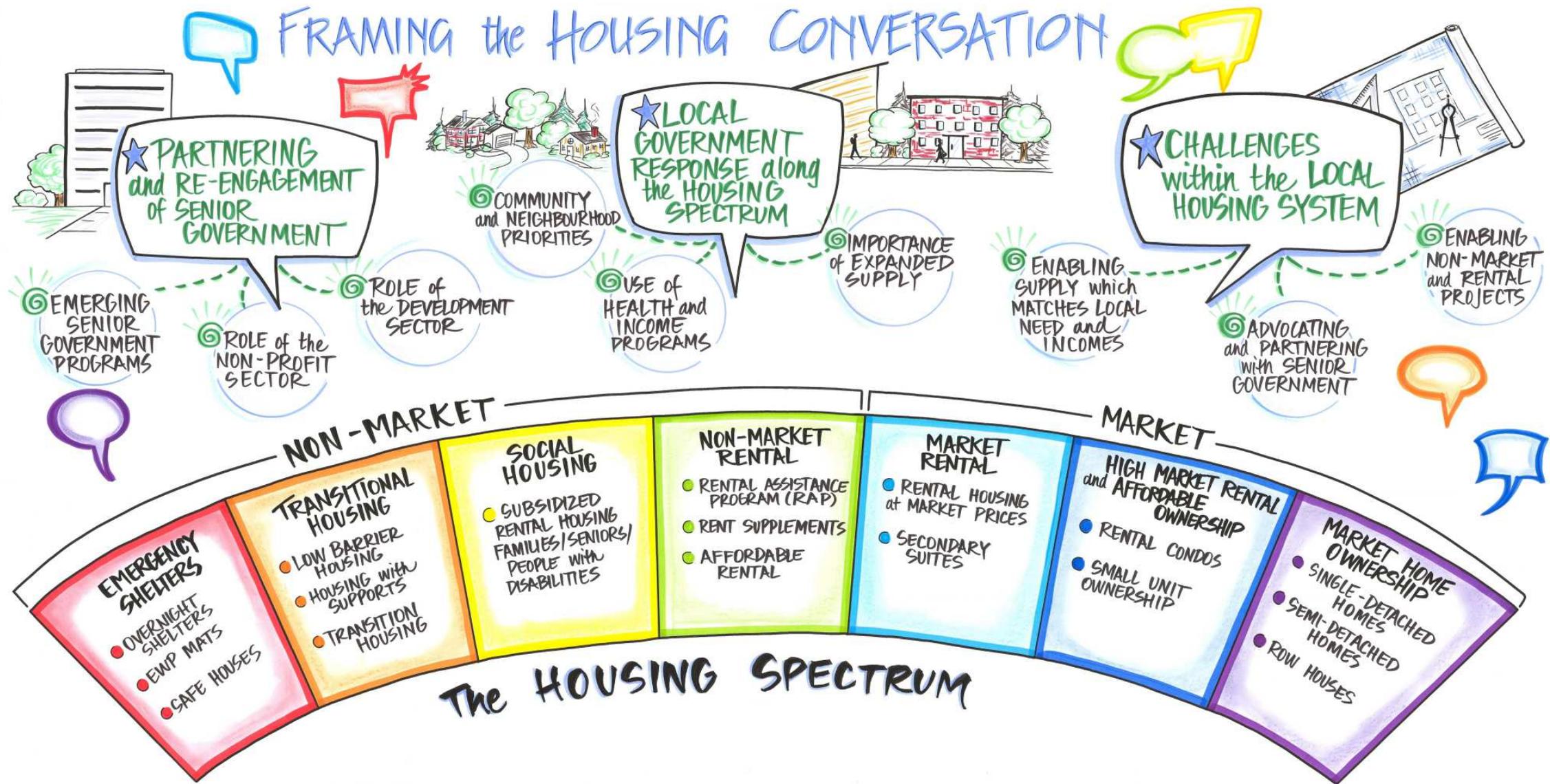
After lunch, Dale provided background information about various aspects of housing affordability in the Capital Region and discussed the housing spectrum (see page 11).

Participants then spent the remainder of the afternoon rotating through four table groups to reflect on the day's presentations and discuss the following topic areas (see page 12):

1. Shared Vision
2. Opportunities and Challenges
3. Roles and Partnerships
4. Target Populations

The top ideas from each topic area were captured visually (see page 13).

Breakout Sessions (continued)



Breakout Sessions (continued)

SHARED VISION

for HOUSING AFFORDABILITY



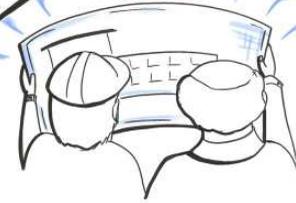
- WHAT IS YOUR VISION OF HOUSING AFFORDABILITY FOR THE REGION?
- WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?
- HOW WILL WE MEASURE SUCCESS?

OPPORTUNITIES and CHALLENGES



- WHERE IS THE GREATEST NEED IN THE CURRENT HOUSING SYSTEM?
- WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE SINGLE GREATEST OPPORTUNITY?
- WHAT ACTIONS ARE NEEDED TO CREATE HOUSING AFFORDABILITY?

ROLES & PARTNERSHIPS



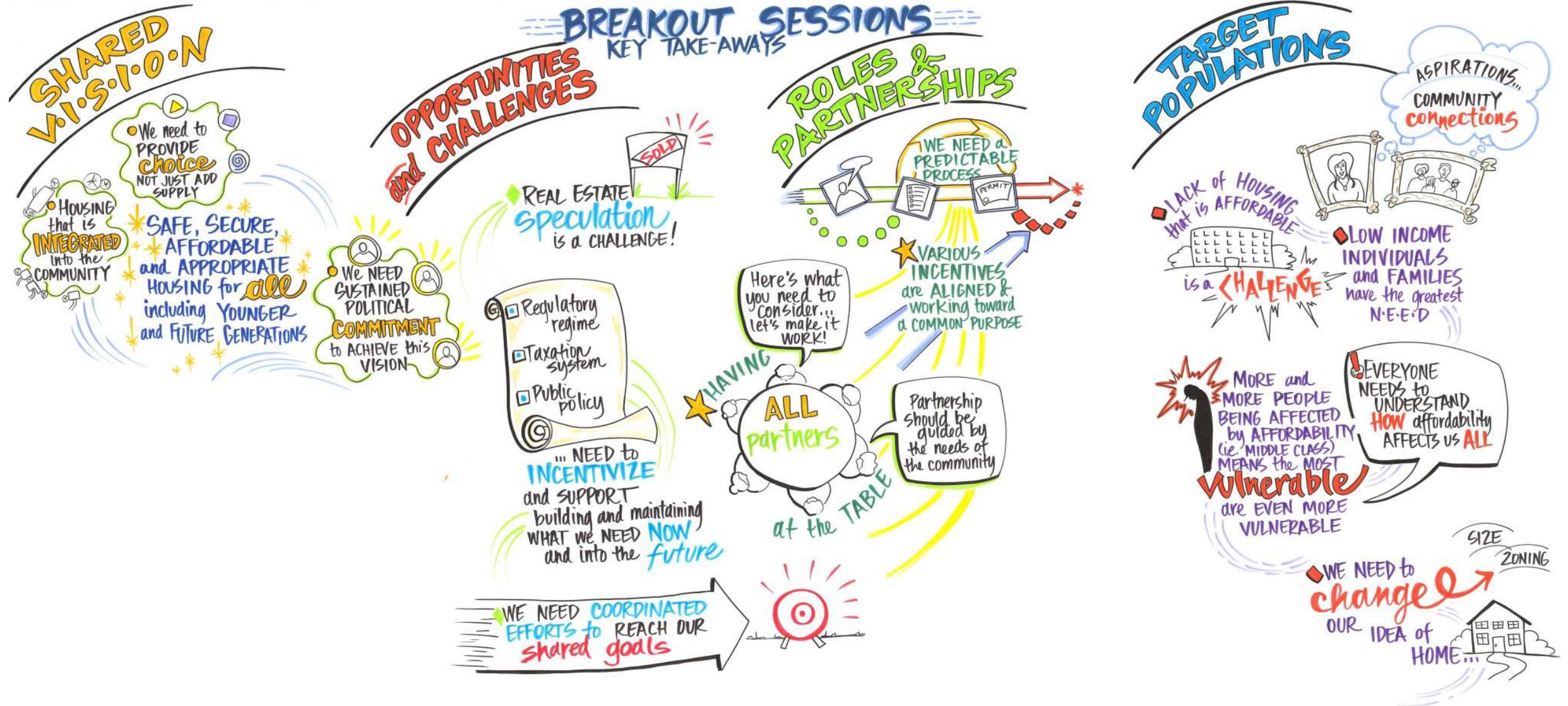
- WHAT TYPES OF PARTNERSHIPS HOLD THE MOST PROMISE?
- WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO HELP FACILITATE AND SUPPORT THESE PARTNERSHIPS?

TARGET POPULATIONS



- WHO IS KEPT AWAKE AT NIGHT BECAUSE THEY CAN'T AFFORD HOUSING?
- WHAT ARE THEIR OBSTACLES TO HAVING AN AFFORDABLE HOME?
- WHAT DO THEY ASPIRE TO?
- HOW DO WE HELP THEM REALIZE THEIR ASPIRATIONS?

Breakout Sessions (continued)



Closing



To close the day, Kevin thanked participants and organizers for their contributions to the event. He outlined the next steps for the Regional Housing Affordability Strategy update and congratulated the group on making it an epic day.

Shared Success Stories



A chart showcasing affordable housing success stories in the Capital Region was created prior to the session to inspire and inform participants.

A Few Meeting Moments

