



## Here's What We Heard Report

Summary of public engagement outcomes – *Assessing Climate Vulnerabilities, Identifying Natural Assets, and Building Awareness and Capacity for Adaptation Planning in Torbay, NL*

April 2026



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# 1. PROJECT BACKGROUND

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The Town of Torbay has been awarded funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to undertake a comprehensive Climate Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan. This initiative aims to better understand how climate change may affect the community and support informed decision-making for long-term resilience and sustainability.

One key component of this project is community engagement. A public survey was conducted between November 2025 and January 2026 which received 79 responses. The survey was designed to capture local perspectives on climate change impacts, levels of emergency preparedness, and priorities for future community planning. An in-person public session was held at Torbay Common on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026 to discuss the findings of the Climate Risk and Vulnerability Report and gather further input from residents about their concerns and aspirations for the future of Torbay. 10 residents attended.

The Town wishes to thank everyone who has participated. This initial report back to the community summarizes what we've heard and learned, shares the key themes, and provides a broad perspective of local views and ideas. The complete online survey results are available in the Appendix.

For further information or questions, please contact Astrid Arumae - [astrid@fundamentalinc.ca](mailto:astrid@fundamentalinc.ca)

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This report has been prepared by Fundamental Inc. as part of the [Local Leadership for Climate Adaptation \(LLCA\)](#) project. This is an initiative of the Green Municipal Fund, a program funded by the Government of Canada and delivered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). The Town of Torbay received 80% funding for this project, 20% being the Town's contribution.

The LLCA is intended to help municipalities plan, test, and implement tailored climate adaptation solutions that protect their residents and assets. The *Climate Ready Plans and Processes* LLCA funding stream helps communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change by developing climate risk assessments and climate adaptation plans which are critical for safeguarding infrastructure, protecting essential services, and ensuring the well-being of all residents.

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This project was carried out with assistance from the Green Municipal Fund, a Fund financed by the Government of Canada and administered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. Notwithstanding this support, the views expressed are the personal views of the authors, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Government of Canada accept no responsibility for them.

## 2. ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

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### What's Important to Us

- Safe & reliable water supply
- Electricity and fuel costs
- Public safety (including sidewalks) and effective emergency response
- Costs of maintaining, repairing and insuring homes
- Reliable road and transport network
- Supporting vulnerable populations
- Community health and well-being
- Nature, being close to the ocean, sense of community & small town feel
- Peaceful & rural environment, access to nature and the health of local ecosystems
- Access to locally grown food - home gardens & preserving and building on Torbay's farming heritage
- Local economies - tourism, farming, fishing



### Quotes from Residents

- *The water issues NEED to be fixed ASAP*
- *Keeping Torbay rural - leaving green space and rough trails for community use. New safety plans and maps for ATV use. Allowing residents who enjoy such activities to do so while helping others feel safe. Helping seniors stay in their homes, and have access to amenities. Create Volunteer organizations to help. Not everything has to have a huge price tag. For example, Pouch Cove and Bauline Free food pantries for seniors - low income. Give residents an opportunity to help others!*

- *Sidewalks will improve safety AND keep the community healthy and active. Walking the streets in Torbay is not safe or enjoyable. Not enough trail networks where I live up in Eagle Nest Ridge to safely get to Forest Landings trails. Kids are not safe on Indian Meal Line.*
- *Torbay historically has had abundant farm land. This has been dramatically lost. housing can not be further developed in the area responsibly. Need to prioritize farming on available land that is being occupied but not being used for its proper purpose. Lots of young people interested in starting a business like that. Perhaps the owners of farm land that is not being used could make a deal and allow people to come in and develop it the way it should be used. Community owned boats to help people without a boat participate in the food fishery to aid in food security. Torbay could leverage its rural farming heritage to assist people in developing small home gardens/green houses to grow some of the more expensive food items like turnips, cabbage, peppers, etc. (Develop this from the "Victory gardens" of the WWII era). Free farming workshops at the commons would be excellent.*

## Community Observations & Main Areas of Concern

### Water-Related Impacts

- Water conservation order due to drought/low water levels - very frightened by lack of water in the summer of 2025, worried about wells also being stressed in drought conditions
- Concerns about residents wasting water, education on conservation mindset needed
- Frazil ice impacting water intake at the North Pond
- Boil water advisory due to poor quality
- PFAS contamination in groundwater (note that this is not related to climate change but is still an environmental concern)
- Ocean waves or storm surge impacting properties
- Coastal erosion impacting properties
- Erosion along river/pond shorelines impacting properties and the East Coast Trail
- Roads being flooded or washed out
- Water pooling on properties (e.g. yard or driveway)
- Water in basements (mild/moderate flooding)
- Widespread/severe flooding in homes
- Concerns about wetlands conservation, water resources & housing development pressures

## Other Climate Change-Related Impacts

- Residents concerned about increasing storm frequency and temperatures
- Smoke from wildfires
- Worried about potentially needing to evacuate due to wildfire or flooding
- Some sense of residents feeling unprepared for extreme weather events, drought, wildfires
- Hot temperatures for prolonged period with no access to cooling
- Strong winds that damaged property, also shale coming off rocks and blowing up
- Extended power outages due to storms
- Heavy snow which impacted the ability to leave/get to their homes
- Other perspectives that climate change could help with gardening and hiking
- Poor garden or farm yields due to unfavourable temperatures or precipitation
- Changes in observed animal and plant species

## Environment

- The 'upside' of climate change is that the growing season is extending and ability to grow certain plants not possible before. Looking to areas in the world with a climate like we'll have in the future (to adapt).
- Eye-opening summer as a gardener, residents started using rain barrels.
- Lots of interest in local food growing, gardening and tree planting. Wind is an issue - need to plant more trees. Town is participating in FCM's tree planting program.
- More trees are needed for shade. Resident suggested shading areas near retirement homes with trees rather than bare parking lots.
- Provision drinking water stations for hikers on the East Coast Trail.
- Feet of the East Coast Trail eroded by Motion Point. Other parts of the trail that have moved, hikers feel uncomfortable walking there.

## Climate Change Preparedness

Feedback from the online survey results indicated that most respondents feel somewhat prepared, meaning they have taken some steps but do not feel fully ready for major emergencies. A smaller portion (20 people) reported feeling very prepared, while some indicated that they were not prepared at all or unsure of their readiness (9 people). These results suggest that residents need some level of additional support to become more or fully prepared.

### Resources Needed

- A reference guide providing information on what to do in different scenarios (a list of helpful items for each type of emergency to prepare for)
- Share a detailed plan of what would happen in case of an emergency or evacuation
- Fire Smart guide for homes
- Financial help
- Networking help
- Physical help
- Assistance (financial or otherwise) with tree removal and also for tree planting

### Perception of Climate Change

- Nearly 70% of survey respondents feel concerned about climate change followed by feelings of anxiety, fear, and sadness.
- Many residents are already experiencing climate-related impacts such as drought-related water restrictions, boil water advisories, and storm-related disruptions.
- The prevalence of negative emotions suggests that the community generally takes climate change seriously and views it as a real and present threat rather than an abstract issue.
- Many participants indicated they feel only somewhat prepared and expressed a strong desire for additional resources and support.

## 3. APPENDIX - DETAILED SURVEY RESULTS

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### 3.A. INTRODUCTION

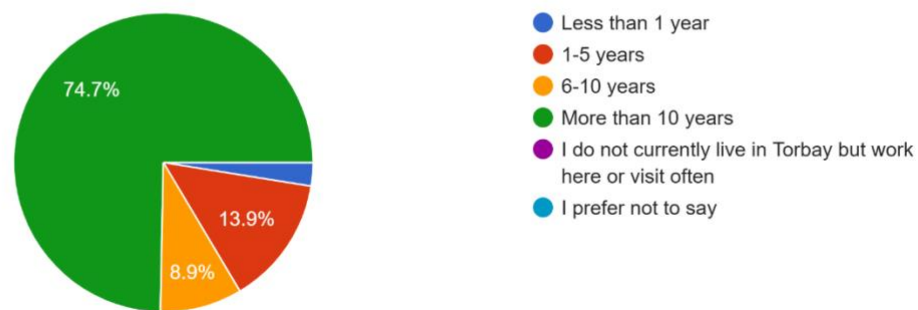
As part of this climate adaptation planning project, a community survey was conducted to gather input directly from Torbay residents and business owners. The survey was designed to capture local perspectives on climate change impacts, levels of emergency preparedness, and priorities for future community planning. Understanding the experiences and concerns of those who live and work in Torbay is essential to developing practical and effective adaptation strategies.

A total of 79 responses were received. The survey was published in November 2025 and closed on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026. The survey included questions on topics such as respondent’s demographics, observed water- and weather-related impacts, household preparedness, emotional responses to climate change, and priorities related to infrastructure, public safety, community well-being, and environmental protection.

### 3.B. RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

The first section of the survey gathered general demographic information from respondents, including length of residency and age groups in Torbay. These questions provided context for understanding how perspectives on climate impacts and future priorities may vary across different segments of the community

How long have you lived in Torbay?  
79 responses

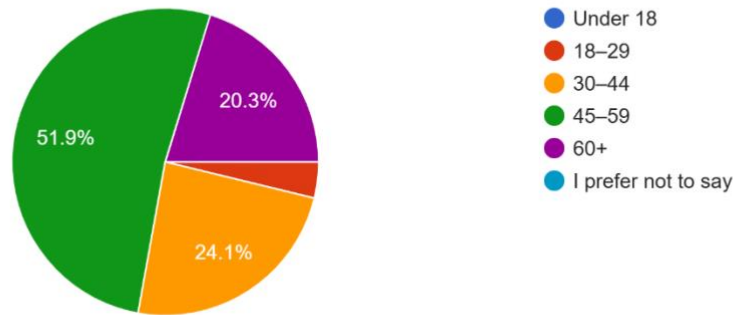


A total of 79 individuals responded to this question. 59 respondents indicated that they have been living in Torbay for more than 10 years. An additional 7 respondents reported living in the community for 6–10 years, 11 respondents for 1–5 years, and only 2 respondents indicated they had lived in Torbay

for less than one year. Overall, the responses demonstrate that most participants have deep and established connections to the community.

Which age group do you belong to?

79 responses



Total of 79 people have responded to this question. The number of people from each age group, can be found in the table below.

Age Group	Number of Participants	Approximate Length of Stay in The Community
18-29	3	2 Participants from this age group have lived in Torbay for more than 10 years and one participant indicated 1-5 years.
30-44	19	Most participants from this age group have been living in Torbay for more than 10 years. Some participants mentioned 1-5 and 6-10 years as well. And only one participant, mentioned they have been living there for less than a year.
45-59	41	Most participants from this age group have been living in Torbay for more than 10 years. Some participants mentioned 1-5 and 6-10 years as well. Only one participant mentioned they have been living there for less than a year.
60+	16	Most participants from this age group have been living in Torbay for more than 10 years. Some participants mentioned 1-5 and 6-10 years as well.

Participants were also invited to share, in their own words, what makes Torbay feel like home. Across responses, several common themes emerged. Most frequently, residents highlighted Torbay’s strong sense of community, describing it as friendly, welcoming, and close-knit. Many respondents emphasized the small-town and rural character of Torbay, noting that it offers a quiet, peaceful lifestyle

while still being close to St. John's and urban amenities. Another dominant theme was the natural environment, particularly proximity to the ocean, access to trails and green spaces, and the scenic beauty of the area.

### 3.C. CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS IN TORBAY

#### 3.C.I. WATER-RELATED IMPACTS

Respondents were asked whether they or their household had experienced a range of water-related climate impacts in Torbay in recent years including:

- ❖ Water conservation order due to drought/low water levels
- ❖ Boil water advisory due to poor quality
- ❖ Ocean waves or storm surge impacting owned/used properties
- ❖ Coastal erosion impacting owned/used properties
- ❖ Erosion along river/pond shorelines impacting owned/used properties
- ❖ Roads being flooded or washed out
- ❖ Water pooling on properties (e.g. yard or driveway)
- ❖ Water in basements (mild/moderate flooding)
- ❖ Widespread/severe flooding in homes

The figure below indicates that many Torbay residents have already experienced a range of water-related climate impacts, though the frequency and severity vary by issue. The most reported impacts were A) **water conservation orders due to drought or low water levels**; B) **boil water advisories due to poor water quality**, with 33 and 27 respondents respectively indicating they experience these events "often, multiple times a year." Issues related to localized flooding were also prominent, particularly water pooling on private property, where 18 respondents reported frequent occurrences and 22 reported experiencing it at least once or twice.

In contrast, more severe or location-specific impacts such as coastal erosion, storm surge damage, and widespread/severe home flooding were reported less frequently, with most respondents indicating they had never experienced these events. These results suggest that adaptation efforts in Torbay should prioritize water supply reliability, drinking water quality, stormwater management, and residential drainage improvements, as these represent the most frequent and broadly experienced climate-related challenges for residents.

Highlighted Quotes from Participants:

- ❖ ***Water conservation orders due to drought or low water levels***

*"Severe water shortage in 2025 due to abnormally dry weather conditions in winter & summer."*

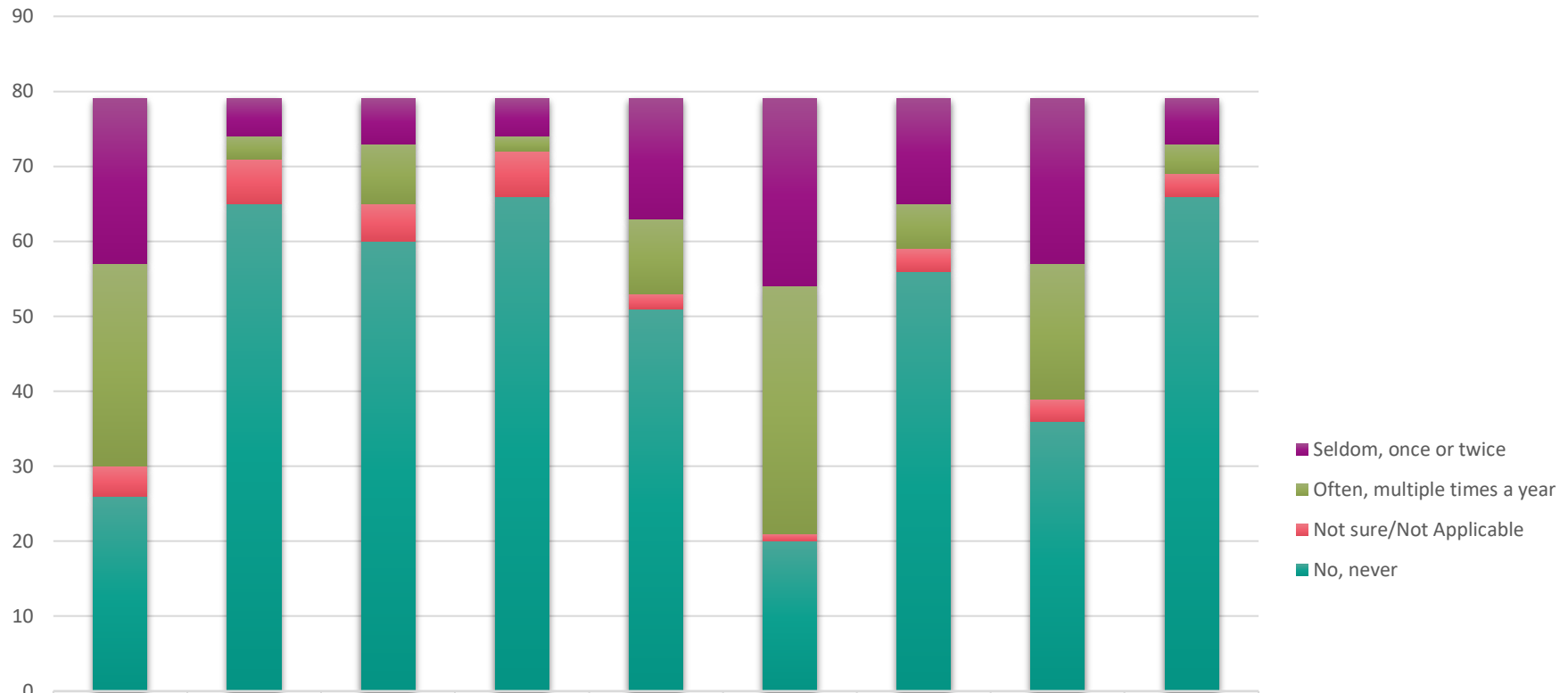
❖ **Boil water advisories due to poor water quality**

*"The EXTENDED water ban, discoloration and contamination are our main issue. Unable to drink our water and no access to safe clean water is extremely upsetting and frustrating."*

❖ **Water Pooling on private properties**

*"Culvert washed out on my lane and cut off my property from the main road at one point. Flooding in my basement seems to be related to river that adjoins my property and floods once the culverts reach over capacity."*

## Water Resource Impacts in The Town of Torbay



	Boil water advisory due to poor quality	Coastal erosion impacting property that you own or use	Erosion along river/pond shorelines impacting property that you own or use	Ocean waves or storm surge impacting property that you own or use	Roads you use flooded or washed out	Water conservation order due to drought/low water levels	Water in your basement (mild/moderate flooding)	Water pooling on your property (e.g. yard or driveway)	Widespread/s evere flooding in your home
■ Seldom, once or twice	22	5	6	5	16	25	14	22	6
■ Often, multiple times a year	27	3	8	2	10	33	6	18	4
■ Not sure/Not Applicable	4	6	5	6	2	1	3	3	3
■ No, never	26	65	60	66	51	20	56	36	66

### 3.C.II. OTHER CLIMATE-IMPACT CATEGORIES

Respondents were also asked to indicate whether they or their household had experienced other climate related impact categories in Torbay in recent years. These questions explored issues such as:

- ❖ Smoke from wildfires
- ❖ Worried about potentially needing to evacuate due to wildfire or flooding
- ❖ Hot temperatures for prolonged period with no access to cooling
- ❖ Strong winds that damaged property
- ❖ Extended power outages due to storms
- ❖ Heavy snow which impacted the ability to leave/get to their homes
- ❖ Poor garden or farm yields due to unfavourable temperatures or precipitation
- ❖ Changes in observed animal and plant species

The figure below shows the other climate impact categories reported by participants. The most frequently reported issue by a large margin was **strong winds** that damaged property, with 39 respondents indicating this occurs “often, multiple times a year.” This suggests that wind-related damage is a significant and recurring concern for many households. Heavy snow affecting the ability to leave or reach home was the second most reported impact, with 20 respondents experiencing this often, highlighting challenges related to winter storm events and mobility. Other impacts such as extended power outages due to storms and smoke from wildfires were experienced at least once or twice by many residents but were reported as frequent occurrences by relatively few respondents (8 and 10 respondents respectively).

Highlighted Quotes from Participants:

- ❖ **Strong winds that can damage the property**

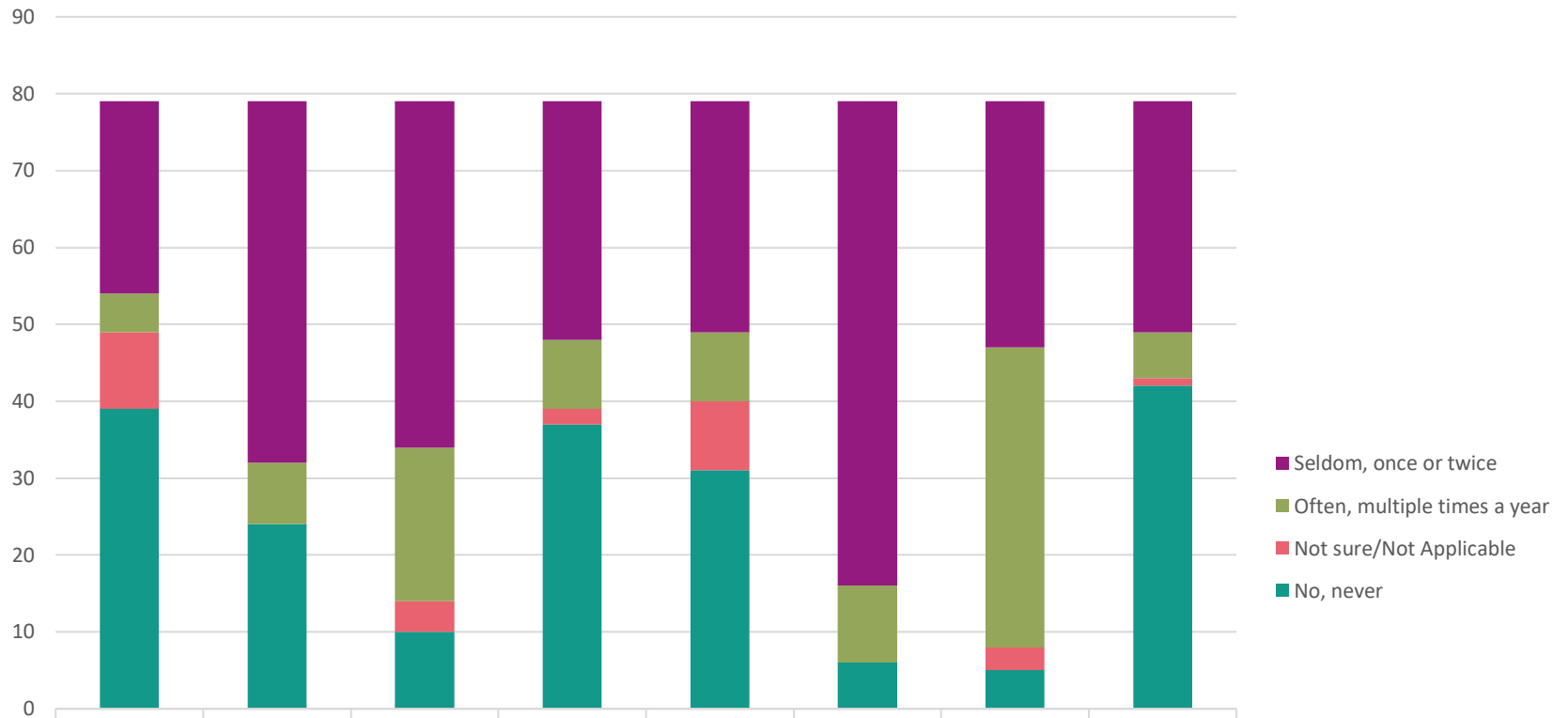
*“The wind damage is coming more often, and the severity has increased noticeably in the last 10 years.”*

- ❖ **Smoke from wildfires**

*“Smoke from wildfires and dry conditions in woods areas that made us nervous that a fire could start at anytime.”*

*“Drought this past summer, leading to drier vegetation surrounding the house. Wildfire risk.”*

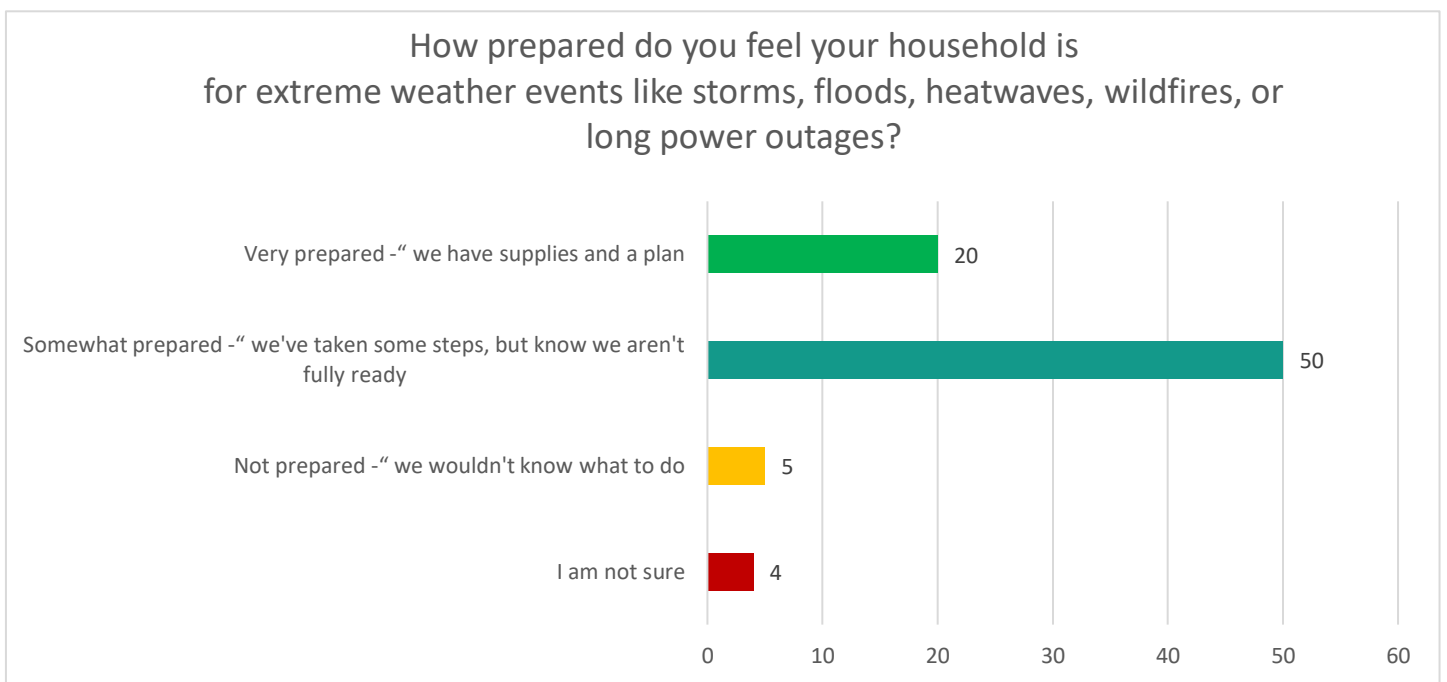
### Other Climate Impact Categories in the Town of Torbay



	Changes in observed animal and plant species	Extended power outages due to storms	Heavy snow which impacted your ability to leave/get to your home	Hot temperatures for prolonged period with no access to cooling	Poor garden or farm yields due to unfavourable temperatures or precipitation	Smoke from wildfires	Strong winds that damaged property	Worry about potentially needing to evacuate due to wildfire or flooding
■ Seldom, once or twice	25	47	45	31	30	63	32	30
■ Often, multiple times a year	5	8	20	9	9	10	39	6
■ Not sure/Not Applicable	10		4	2	9		3	1
■ No, never	39	24	10	37	31	6	5	42

### 3.D. CLIMATE CHANGE PREPAREDNESS

Respondents were asked how prepared they feel their household is for extreme weather events such as storms, floods, heatwaves, wildfires, and long power outages. The figure below shows the reported levels of preparedness among participants. Most respondents indicated that they feel somewhat prepared, meaning they have taken some steps but do not feel fully ready for major emergencies. A smaller portion (20 people) reported feeling very prepared, while some indicated that they were not prepared or unsure of their readiness (9 people). These results suggest that residents need some level of additional support to become more or fully prepared.



Next, participants were asked to select the types of support that would be most helpful to them. The table below provides an overview of the connection between how prepared respondents felt and which kinds of assistance would be best. The numbers in the table represent the number of participants who selected each resource type. Because the question was designed to allow multiple selections, individual respondents were able to choose more than one option at the same time.

Level of Preparedness	A Reference Guide	Financial help	Networking help	Physical help	I'm not sure	I already feel prepared	Other
Very Prepared	8	8	4	4	-	9	- I guess we don't know what we don't know, we feel prepared but without having proper information maybe we are not as prepared as we believe we are.
Somewhat prepared	28	30	17	9	8	2	-A list of helpful items for each type of emergency to prepare for. - Dangerous brush needs to cut, pre-emptive fire breaks in strategic areas at high risk, emergency water plan, emergency shelter, emergency food and sanitary items stockpiled, town evacuation plan (what if major routes are cut off?). - Water and sewer services in Torbay south.
Not Prepared/ Not Sure	5	6	5	1	2	-	-

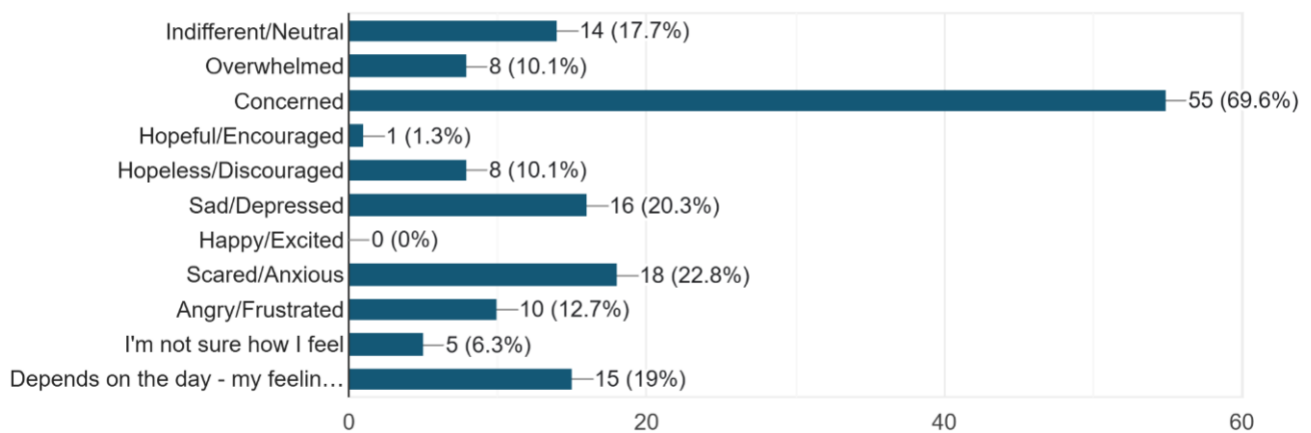
Among those who feel somewhat prepared, the strongest demand was for financial help (30 respondents) and reference guides providing information on what to do in different scenarios (28 respondents). Networking support and physical assistance were also selected by this group. Among respondents who described themselves as very prepared, many still expressed interest in additional resources and financial assistance, suggesting that they are open to learn and obtain more resources if provided. For respondents who were not prepared or unsure, interest was again highest in financial help, reference guides, and networking assistance.

### 3.E. CLIMATE CHANGE PERCEPTIONS

Participants were asked how they feel when thinking about climate change. As shown in the figure below, the most common response was “concerned,” selected by nearly 70% of respondents, followed by feelings of anxiety, fear, and sadness. These results align closely with earlier sections of the survey, which showed that many residents are already experiencing climate-related impacts such as drought restrictions, boil water advisories, and storm-related disruptions. The prevalence of negative emotions suggests that the community generally takes climate change seriously and views it as a real and present threat rather than an abstract issue. The emotional responses also help explain why many participants indicated they feel only somewhat prepared and expressed a strong desire for additional resources and support.

When I think about climate change I feel... (Select all that apply)

79 responses



Building on the previous finding that many participants feel only somewhat prepared and expressed a strong desire for additional resources and support, the survey results were further examined to explore the relationship between level of preparedness and emotional responses toward climate change. The figure and table below illustrate how feelings about climate change vary across different preparedness groups.

Feelings	Very Prepared (% of Total Respondents)	Somewhat Prepared (% of Total Respondents)	Not Prepared (% of Total Respondents)	Not Sure (% of Total Respondents)
Concerned	12 (60%)	37 (74%)	3 (60%)	3 (75%)
Indifferent/neutral	6 (30%)	7 (14%)	1 (20%)	-
Overwhelmed	1 (5%)	6 (12%)	-	1 (25%)
Hopeful/Encouraged	1 (5%)	-	-	-
Hopeless/Discouraged	1 (5%)	6 (12%)	-	1 (25%)
Sad/Depressed	5 (25%)	11 (22%)	-	-
Scared/Anxious	5 (25%)	13 (26%)	-	-
Angry	3 (15%)	6 (12%)	-	1 (25%)
Not Sure	2 (10%)	2 (4%)	1 (20%)	-
Depends on the day- My feelings might vary	3 (15%)	11 (22%)	-	1 (25%)

The table indicates a connection between perceived preparedness and feelings towards climate change. Respondents who reported feeling “Somewhat Prepared” were more concerned, overwhelmed, and hopeless/discouraged than those who believe they are “Very Prepared”. The two groups selected other negative emotions similarly (sad/depressed, scared/anxious angry).

The “Very Prepared” group selected “indifferent/neutral” more often than the “Somewhat Prepared” group. A closer look at some of these responses (about two or three participants) and comparing their earlier responses regarding experienced climate-related impacts, shows that many of these individuals reported that they had never been affected or had only been affected once or twice. This suggests that their neutral or indifferent emotional response may be linked to limited personal experience with climate impacts, or to a perception that the changes they have observed are not connected to climate change.

Participants who felt “Not Prepared” or “Not Sure” showed lower overall response counts, but their answers were concentrated in emotions such as concern and uncertainty.

It is important to note that some participants selected the option “Depends on the day – my feelings might vary.” Because respondents were allowed to choose multiple emotions, this option was most often selected alongside several negative emotions, suggesting that participants were indicating their feelings fluctuate over time. For example, shifting between sadness, anger, or anxiety depending on daily experiences or news related to climate change.

### 3.F. COMMUNITY PRIORITIES FOR CLIMATE ACTION PLANNING

In the final section of the survey, participants were asked to prioritize a range of issues related to climate resilience, community services, and long-term planning in Torbay. These questions asked participants to prioritize actions such as:

- ❖ Access to back-up power during outages
- ❖ Access to locally grown food
- ❖ Access to nature and the health of local ecosystems
- ❖ Community health and well-being
- ❖ Costs of maintaining, repairing, and insuring my home
- ❖ Electricity and fuel costs
- ❖ Maintaining cultural heritage
- ❖ Public safety and effective emergency response
- ❖ Reliable communication networks
- ❖ Reliable road and transportation network
- ❖ Reliable water supply
- ❖ Strong community connections
- ❖ Supporting local industries like tourism, farming, and fisheries
- ❖ Supporting vulnerable populations

The figure below summarizes how residents ranked each category as high, medium, or low priority. The results show a consistent emphasis on infrastructure and safety-related needs. The highest levels of “high priority” responses were given to:

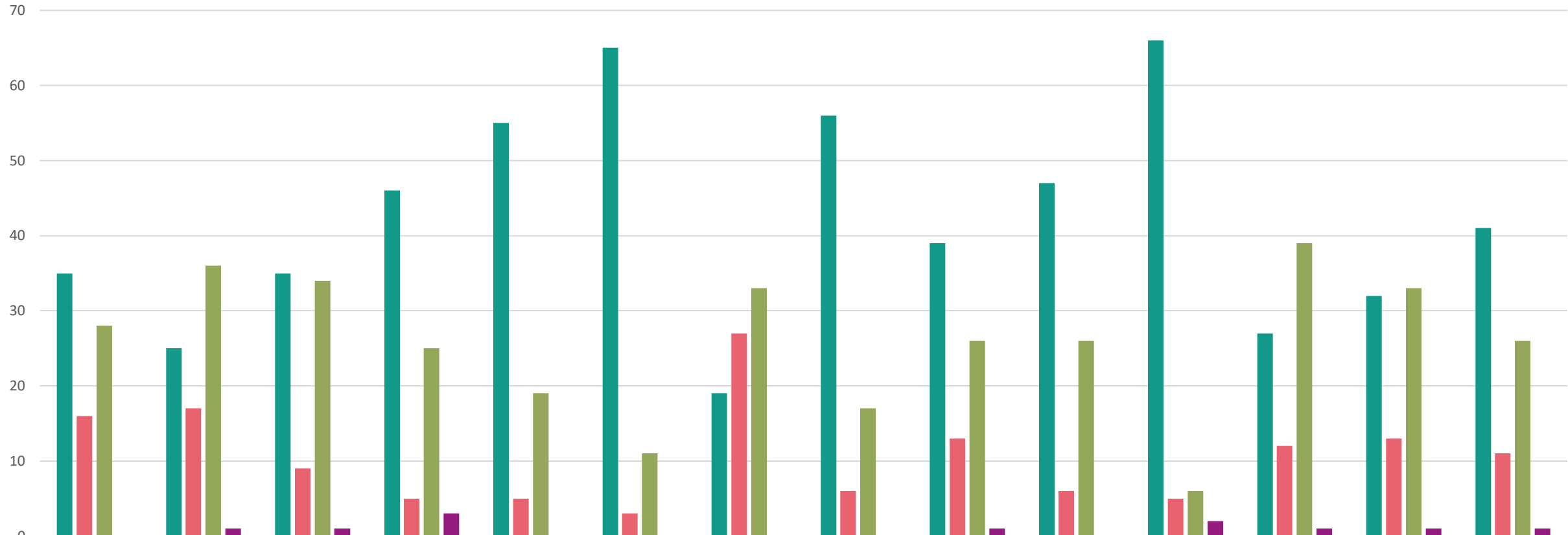
- ❖ Reliable water supply (66 respondents)
- ❖ Electricity and fuel costs (65 respondents)
- ❖ Public safety and effective emergency response (56 respondents)
- ❖ Costs of maintaining, repairing, and insuring homes (55 respondents)
- ❖ Reliable road and transportation networks (47 respondents)

These priorities align closely with earlier sections of the survey, where many residents reported experiencing water-related impacts, storm disruptions, and concerns about emergency preparedness.

Social and community-oriented priorities also received substantial support. Community health and well-being (46 high-priority responses) and supporting vulnerable populations (41 high-priority responses) were identified as important by many participants.

Environmental and local economic considerations were viewed as important, though somewhat less urgent compared to infrastructure needs. Categories such as access to nature and the health of local ecosystems, supporting local industries (tourism, farming, and fisheries), and strong community connections received a mix of high and medium priority rankings.

## Community Priorities



	Access to back-up power during outages	Access to locally grown food	Access to nature and the health of local ecosystems	Community health and well-being	Costs of maintaining, repairing, and insuring my home	Electricity and fuel costs	Maintaining cultural heritage	Public safety and effective emergency response	Reliable communication networks	Reliable road and transportation network	Reliable water supply	Strong community connections	Supporting local industries like tourism, farming, and fisheries	Supporting vulnerable populations
■ High priority	35	25	35	46	55	65	19	56	39	47	66	27	32	41
■ Low priority	16	17	9	5	5	3	27	6	13	6	5	12	13	11
■ Medium priority	28	36	34	25	19	11	33	17	26	26	6	39	33	26
■ Not sure/Not Applicable		1	1	3					1		2	1	1	1

### 3.G. COMMENTS RECEIVED

#### Infrastructure, Overall Community Safety and Environment

1. Would like to see our town play a more proactive role in promoting awareness of climate change and some guidelines on simple, everyday things individuals can do you protect themselves and their property.
2. Sidewalks will improve safety AND keep the community healthy and active. Walking the streets in Torbay is not safe or enjoyable. Not enough trail networks where I live up in Eagle Nest Ridge to safely get to Forest Landings trails. Kids are not safe on Indian Meal Line.
3. Tight control on spending so as to help homeowners fireproof their properties, i.e. removal of trees too close to homes. Same spending controls to help pay for more secure and safe water supplies.
4. My main priority is sufficient water.
5. Well advertised community emergency shelter, even when a crisis hits only specific neighbourhoods, not the entire town.
6. Priority should be infrastructure, and water supplies.
7. The water issues NEED to be fixed ASAP
8. Good, clean drinking water for all town residents as well as a good sewer system, not different systems and water for certain areas of town!
9. Public transportation to/from St John's, and within Torbay. Trail network should be better connected.
10. I feel that Torbay lacks a lot for its residents in terms of outdoor spaces - walking trails, simple sidewalks lack in a lot of places it is not safe to walk, run or use a stroller on many streets in Torbay. It would be nice to have a large public park similar to something like Bowring Park, Bannerman Park, or Mount Pearl Park - somewhere were families and adults could come together and use outdoor spaces. Not just a playground for kids but walking trails and larger green spaces for picnics or general use. Of course, before any other development in Torbay is done, I feel the water issues need to be dealt with. I have huge concerns surround Torbay's plans to build hundreds of low income and small residential homes in 2026; we barely have enough water to support the current residents. Really water should be the top priority and until then we don't expand. In order to get greater tax dollars to support development Torbay really needs a business centre similar to Mount Pearls Donovan's where larger taxes can come from businesses to support community efforts.
11. I am concerned about property values given the lawsuit and water situation in Torbay.

12. Invest in sidewalks. Residents cannot keep active on our busy roadways in fear of being hit by a car. Invest in more walking trails that connect subdivisions.

13. Access to affordable tree removal is important, especially where there is dead vegetation or vegetation close to property.

14. Reduce development till proven water is in place, and conservation areas are there to help with the overall health of the town, stop development that further damages the water tables and reserve water areas.

15. There needs to be more thought out into supplying all town residents with a good water system and new homes or complex should be built until the water system has been developed for all. People on well water lost their water this past summer and there isn't anything available for them in this situation!

16. Stop developing houses when they impact flooding of other areas.

17. The Town should certainly have an emergency preparedness plan that covers inferential scenarios that is accessible to residents. Emergencies take place from catastrophic events and do most damage when we are not prepared.

18. Share a detailed plan of what would happen in case of an emergency or evacuation. Ex potential building that could house people, fire department's role etc. Give upfront guidelines of what would happen at each level of government warnings in order to avoid backlash and improve compliance. Ex. If high fire potential no.open fires, ATV use in wooded areas etc.

19. Protection of our water supply has to be a priority given what happened in 2025. Perhaps there needs to be a fresh look at the real and current capacity of North Pond given how low it went down last summer/fall and how little recharge there was.

20. We need to limit development, so we don't max out our water supply again. We need to maintain green spaces near the centre of Torbay, and not only around the ed

21. I can not express how concerned I am about water levels in the town with all of the new building the town is encouraging and promoting. You need to take care of the people already here before bringing more in.

## Social and Community-Oriented

1. I am not overly concerned about newcomers. I'd like to take care of the seniors and children. The vulnerable ones left behind the newcomers.
2. More local childcare, especially regulated childcare.
3. Torbay historically has had abundant farmland. this has been dramatically lost. housing can not be further developed in the area responsibly. need to prioritize farming on available land that is being occupied but not being used for its proper purpose. lots of young people interested in starting a business like that. perhaps the owners of farmland that is not being used could make a deal and allow people to come in and develop it the way it should be used. community owned boats to help people without a boat participate in the food fishery to aid in food security. Torbay could leverage its rural farming heritage to assist people in developing small home gardens/green houses to grow some of the more expensive food items like turnips, cabbage, peppers, etc. (Develop this from the "Victory gardens" of the WWII era). free farming work shops at the commons would be excellent.
4. More sidewalks around Torbay
5. modular affordable housing
6. Happy that the town is finally hiring a full-time fire chief, but I sincerely hope that the town hires outside the current members as it would be much better for the department and would get the firehouse in order!!
7. Affordability - taxes
8. Keeping Torbay rural - leaving green space and rough trails for community use. New safety plans and maps for ATV use. Allowing residents who enjoy such activities to do so while helping others feel safe. Helping seniors stay in their homes and have access to amenities. Create Volunteer organizations to help. Not everything has to have a huge price tag. For example, Pouch Cove and Bauline Free food pantries for seniors - low income. Give residents an opportunity to help others!
9. Loving the work on the hiking trails, access to nature and dog stations etc.
10. Mandatory house numbering - notices issued if not visible from street at night; ensuring properties are insured
11. Endless growth is not sustainable, whether it's an economy or a town population. I hear the town talk about needing growth and it simply isn't true. Chasing growth in spite of certain realities is a recipe for disaster. Do other things to mitigate taxes, let the town grow organically from there. We simply can't sustain growth.

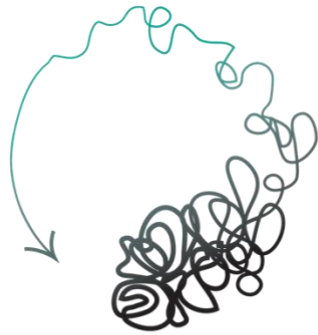
## Climate Change

### Positive

1. Some people are still confused about climate change and will go to their hot watery grave swearing it hasn't happened. Preparedness has nothing to do with environmental activism. From a scientific standpoint, the question is no longer whether anthropogenic climate change is happening, or whether it is already impactful. It's, "how bad is this going to be for our community and what can we do to prepare?"

### Negative

1. The climate is always changing. 2030 agenda is over taking common sense. We have been through multi-ice ages and the people that should be accountable are not. The colour printed brochures might look nice, but I think the town wastes too much money on marketing material.



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