

Reimagining Vital Signs May 12, 2026 Community Consultation Report



Thank you for attending the Reimagining Victoria's Vital Signs event on Tuesday, May 12, 2026! Your engagement and feedback is a critical component of determining the next steps for Victoria's Vital Signs

It's Time to Reimagine Victoria's Vital Signs for the Future

For 20 years, the Victoria Foundation has produced Victoria's Vital Signs. This annual community checkup measures wellbeing across our region, highlights emerging concerns and supports action on issues that matter most to quality of life. Drawing on results from an online citizen survey and local community data, Vital Signs has helped connect philanthropy with community needs and opportunities.

After two decades, it's time to reflect and look ahead. The reimagining process will assess the impact of Vital Signs, explore its untapped potential and redesign it for the future, together with the community.

The History of Victoria's Vital Signs

The Vital Signs program started in 2001 in Toronto, Ontario. In 2006, Community Foundations of Canada offered a pilot project to expand the program across the country.

Vital Signs was started in Greater Victoria in 2006, as part of the Victoria Foundation's 70th Anniversary Celebration. The program began with community consultation to better understand how to connect community information with philanthropy. Over 20 years, Vital Signs has been impactful both internally at the Victoria Foundation and within the community. An example of impact is the Foundation working in collaboration on the issue of food security following the 2013 Vital Signs report "Do you know where your next meal is coming from?" The collaborative led to the development of the Capital Region Food Distribution Centre in Esquimalt.



The role of Community Foundations of Canada

Vital Signs is Canada's most extensive community-driven data program. It is spearheaded by Community Foundations of Canada and led by community foundations in Canada and around the world. Community Foundations of Canada provides Canadian community foundations access to national data sets, which foundations complement with local surveys, public programming and events that mobilize community knowledge and help identify local priorities. From housing, to transit, to safety, the environment, the arts and gender equality, the reports offer invaluable insights across more than 70 indicators of quality of life at the community level.

Vital Signs uses local knowledge to measure the vitality of a community and support action towards improving collective quality of life. Local data gathered through the program is used to support evidence-based, locally relevant solutions to improve the quality of life at the community level. Vital Signs aims to inspire civic engagement, to provide focus for public debate, and to help a range of actors take action and direct resources where they will have the greatest impact.

The Reimagining Vital Signs Process

The Victoria Foundation is partnering with the Roy Group to undertake the Reimagining Victoria's Vital Signs process.

The process includes two key elements:

- Engagement with a core group of community leaders.
- Victoria Foundation staff and broad community engagement.

The event on May 12, 2026 was a chance for community members to provide their input into the reimagining process through a facilitated exercise called the Future Backwards. The Future Backwards had participants working a group to create a story board for Victoria's Vital Signs. The results of those boards are at the end of this email.



What's next in the process?

Over the next few months, a reimagined format, content and storytelling approach will be finalized for a 2027 release. The results of today will be shared this fall. Make sure to subscribe to our eNews and social media channels to stay up to date!

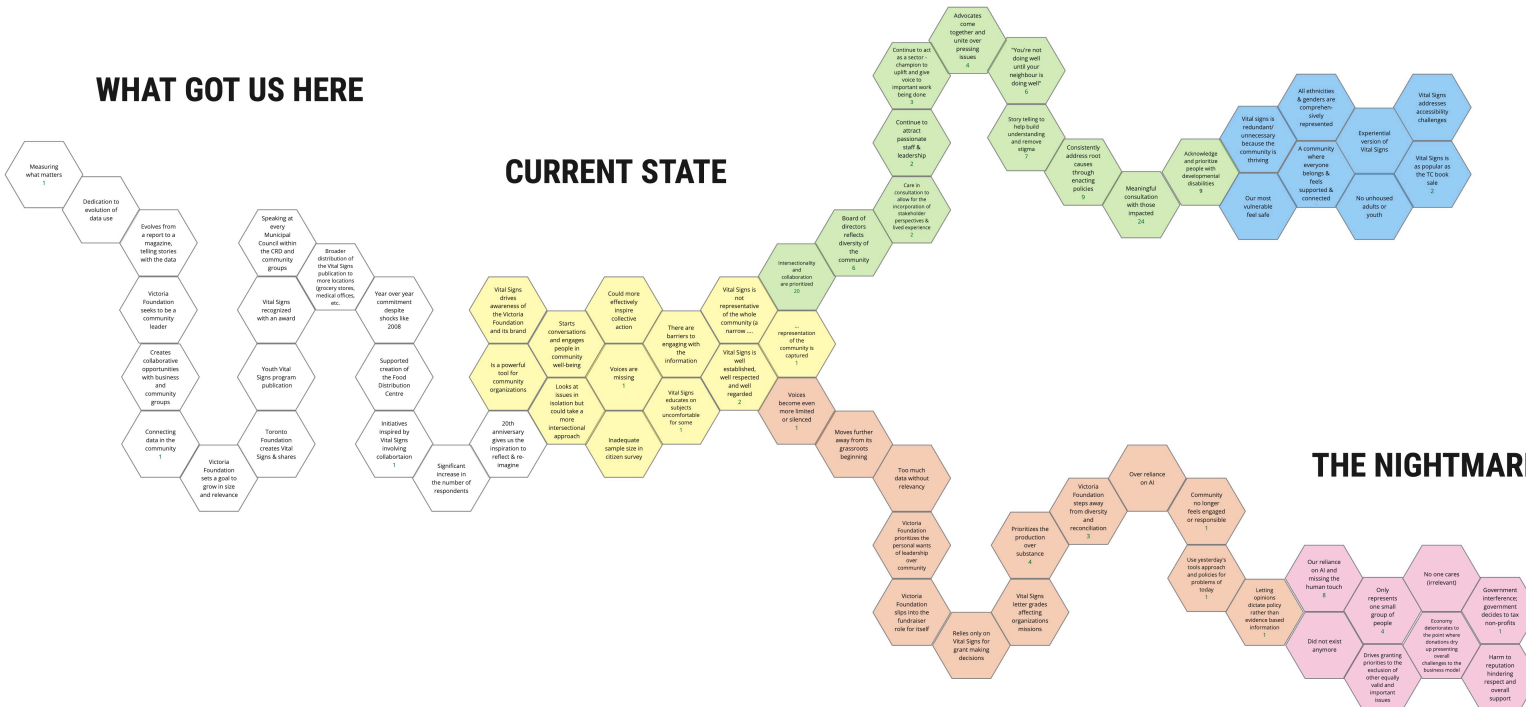
THE FUTURE BACKWARDS
May 2026

THE DREAM

THE NIGHTMARE

WHAT GOT US HERE

CURRENT STATE





Canvas #2

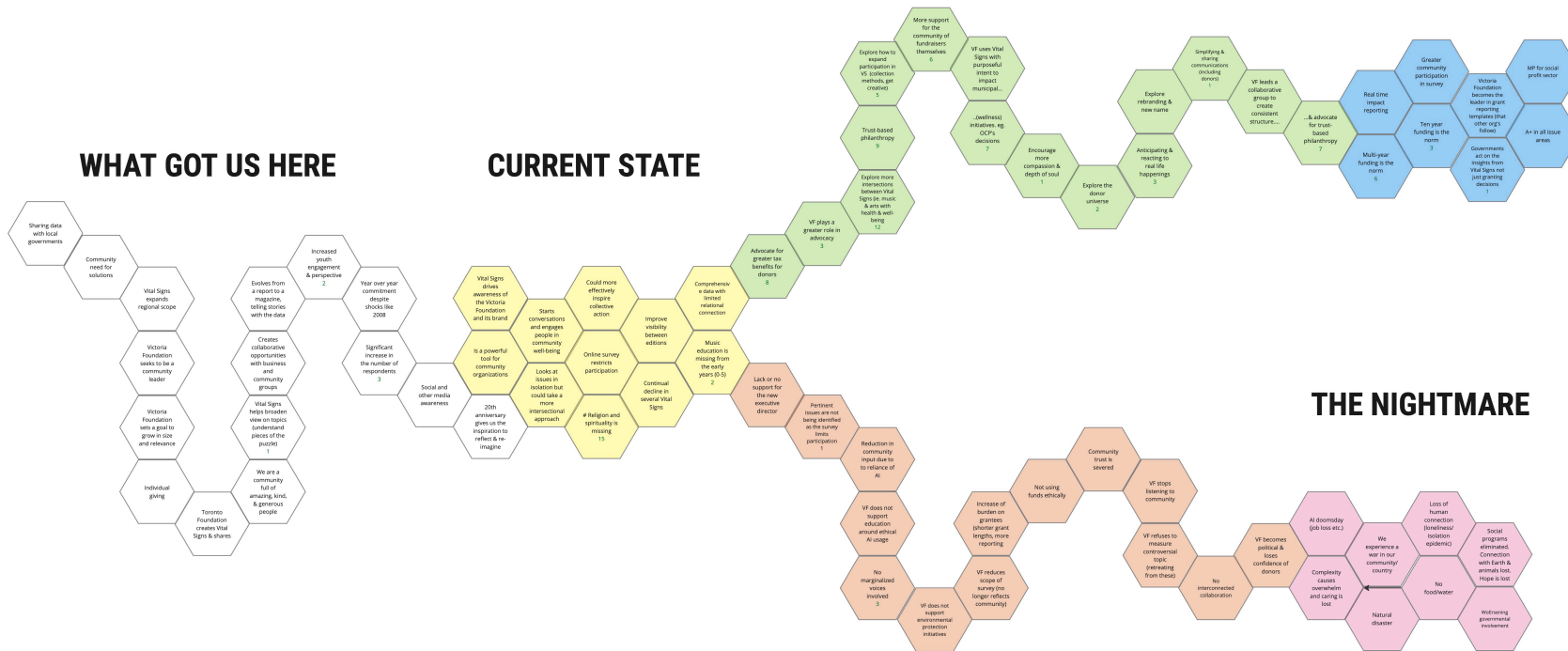
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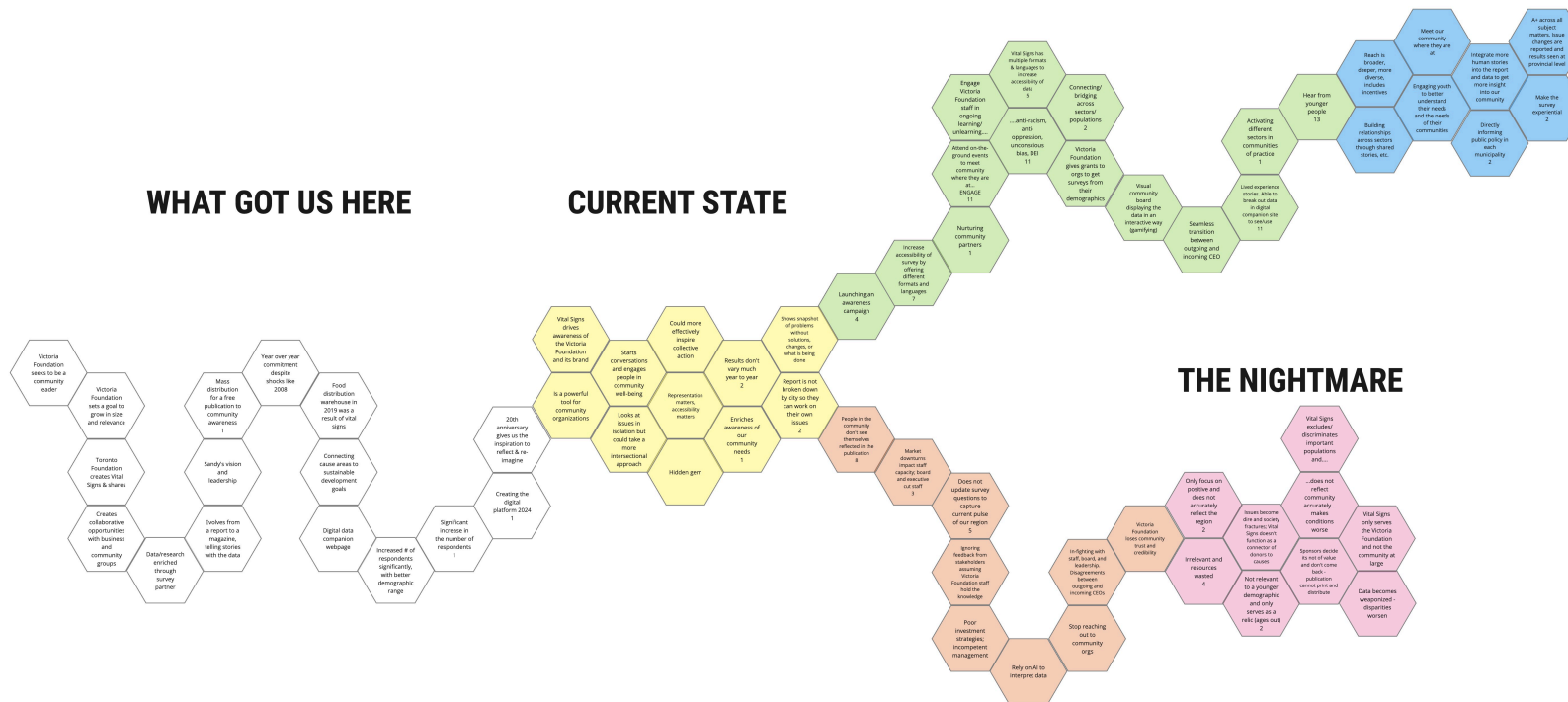




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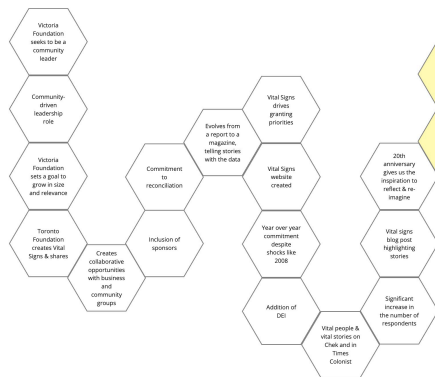
THE FUTURE BACKWARDS
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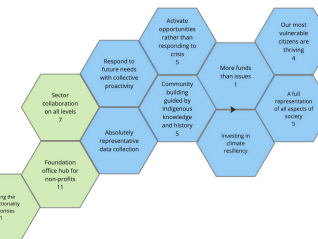
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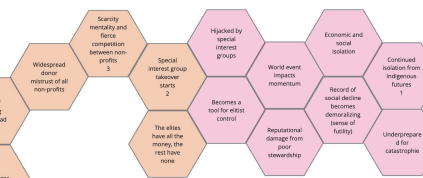
CURRENT STATE



THE DREAM



THE NIGHTMARE





THE FUTURE BACKWARDS
May 2026

Canvas #5

THE DREAM

WHAT GOT US HERE

CURRENT STATE

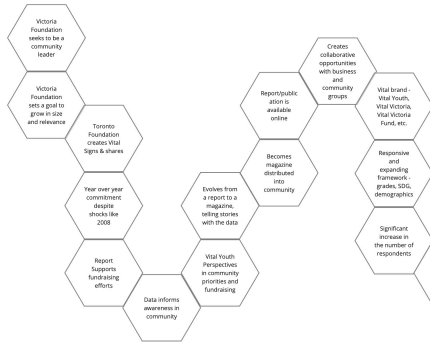
THE NIGHTMARE



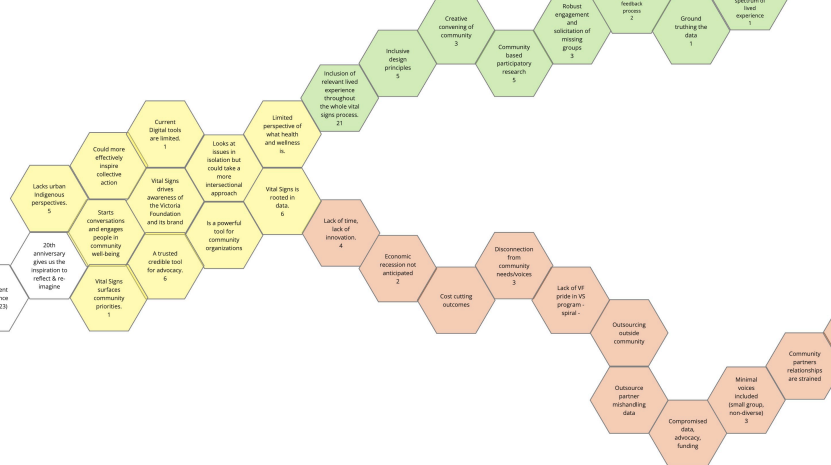
Canvas #6

THE FUTURE BACKWARDS
May 2026

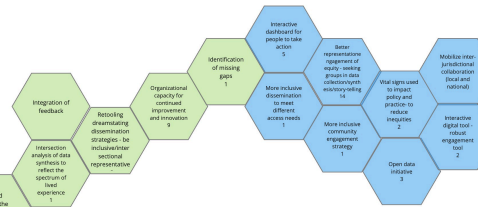
WHAT GOT US HERE



CURRENT STATE



THE DREAM



THE NIGHTMARE





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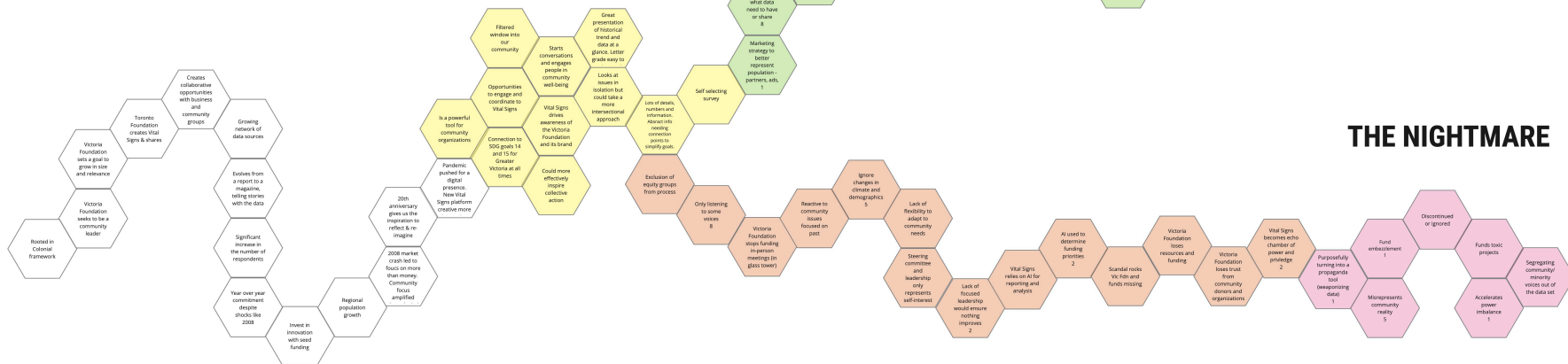
THE FUTURE BACKWARDS
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CURRENT STATE

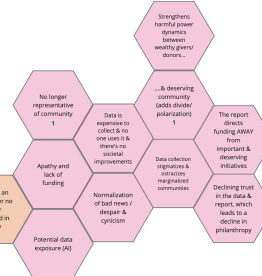
THE NIGHTMARE



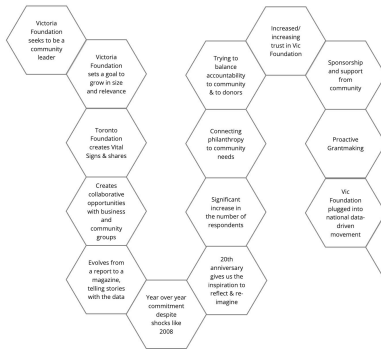
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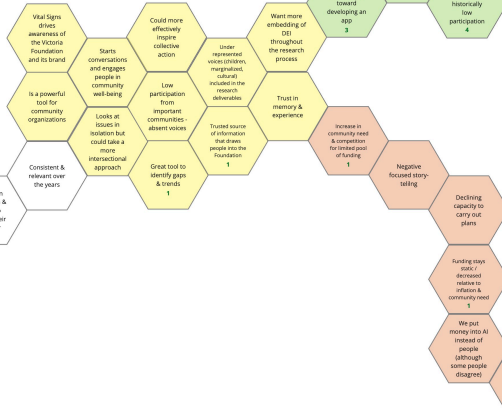
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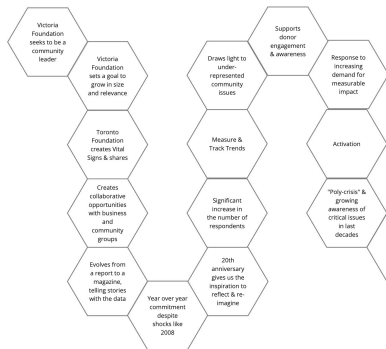


CURRENT STATE

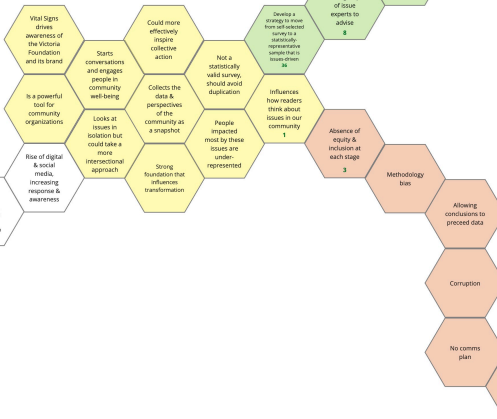




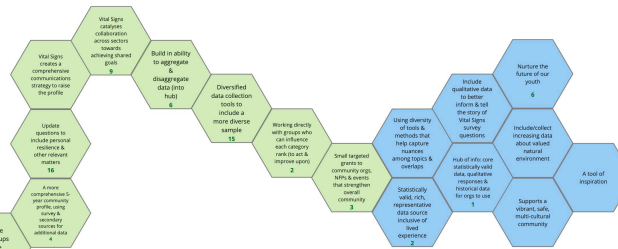
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