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The City of Canning is seeking Expressions of Interest from researchers, local governments and government agencies, individuals, groups, social enterprises and businesses who are applying creative, innovative and courageous responses to the policy and practical challenges of our time, and looking for incredible ways to inspire our broader community to collaborate closely on co-creating shared solutions to sustainability issues.

We have a limited number of spaces available for inspiring speakers / presenters, panellists, workshop facilitators, activity producers, hypothetical MCs, and other creative approaches to the theme of **Owning Our Impact**.

We’re looking for ‘out-of-the-box’ impact managers at all levels – whether you manage impact in your home, your street, your small business, your workplace, or even as the head of a major company, CEO of a local government, or Executive in a government agency. We believe that leadership for sustainability transcends titles and hierarchies – and exists at all levels of civil society, business and government.

So, if you’ve got something important to share, and you believe that in sharing your work or ideas you can inspire others to **own their impact** in their homes, work and world – then we want to hear from you!

**We’re particularly interested in creative ideas that focus on:**

* inspiring approaches or models for moving towards corporate sustainability through impact management (behavioural / educational / social impact / outcomes measurement)
* novel / emerging impact management ideas from the technology, circular economy, renewable energy, energy optimisation and efficiency space (resources)
* novel / emerging innovation impact management ideas from the doughnut economy, alternative economy, social impact, culture and creativity, social justice and ethics space (human capital)
* community led interventions, personal impact journeys, social entrepreneurship, not-for-profit social, environmental or economic work (community)

If you can see yourself presenting a creative idea at the Conference apply here by **CoB Friday February 4, 2022**.

For further information please contact Sustainability on [sustainability@canning.wa.gov.au](mailto:sustainability@canning.wa.gov.au).

**Inspiration Questions – Owning our Impact**

The Conference themes reflect the City of Canning’s 10 City Impact Domains which draw on the Sustainable Development Goals. The Domains are attached for your reference.

The following inspiration questions are simply ideas of some of the ‘big picture conversations’ that we, in government, local government, business and industry, need to be having in order to move towards corporate and community sustainability. However, these are simply a guide to offer some prompts; all creative responses to the theme of **Owning our Impact** will be considered for acceptance into the Conference.

**1. Climate Change and Energy Transformation**

* The transition to a net zero carbon economy will have different social, economic and environmental impacts for different communities. How do we ensure a just and equitable transition away from a fossil-fuel-centric society that acknowledges and manages these impacts?
* Adaptation to climate change risks and impacts is still poorly understood by our communities. How can we better engage with our communities to prepare them for future changes to our environments and equip them with the social, economic and environmental resilience needed for the coming critical decade?
* Can a democracy in crisis really deal with the climate crisis? Or will it be up to local government and communities to do what other levels of government and corporations can’t?
* Net zero. Possibility or pipedream?

**2. Circular Economy**

* How might we remove the barriers that separate government, industry and communities to inspire collective action for a circular economy in Western Australia and beyond?
* If consumer choices drive product and service design, how do we effect a society-wide shift to conscious consumption?
* Is recycling really the answer? When ‘waste’ fossil-fuel based plastics become a commodity and governments can sell them to the highest bidder, are we not simply creating a new market for an unsustainable product, rather than investing in alternatives to the product itself?
* Extended producer responsibility. Should this be a legislative requirement of all product (and packaging) manufacturers?

**3. Sustainable and Accessible Transport**

* As international vehicle manufacturers look to hard targets that will accelerate the demise of combustion engines… can our WA EV infrastructure keep up with the pace of change?
* How do we influence the uptake of public and active transport and why is the shift so slow to happen? Do we have a culture, or a connectivity issue?
* Cycling and walking daily can save us a costly gym memberships and addresses a range of health, fitness and wellbeing issues, so shouldn’t it be the easiest mode of transport to sell? Why won’t West Aussies get on their bikes?
* Can we shift our reputational local government tagline from ‘roads, rates and rubbish’, to something more sustainable? And if so… what could our new tagline be?

**4. Community, Culture and Creativity**

* Social impact, outcomes-based measurement and real community accountability. What we measure, matters.
* The voices of our youth are often overlooked where they have little political influence. How might we better incorporate the intergenerational equity conversations that governments and industry should be having into our policy and practice?
* Arts and culture have a valuable place in influencing society and inspiring change, especially around social inequity, environmental crises and truth telling in a ‘post truth’ era. How can we support our arts and culture community so that they can better tell the stories of our time?
* Sustainability is not an infrastructure, energy, or technology issue, it’s a human behaviour, accountability and leadership issue.
* The language of community sustainability (shared responsibility) has disempowered sustainability professionals trying to work towards organisational sustainability (impact ownership).
* Community Based Social Marketing. Can we use the information highway to sell something meaningful?

1. **Water Sensitivity and Literacy**

* Is there really a water shortage or just a shortage of optimal water management systems?
* If water is a life sustaining resource, why is it so hard to change community behaviours around conserving it?
* Healing Waters. Understanding water as part of a critical cultural narrative. Learning land and water stewardship from our Traditional Owners.
* When data and water collide. How fast evolving data collection and analysis practices are driving change in the water and resource management space.

1. **Biodiversity and City Greening**

* In an age of mass extinction, how can we protect our constrained urban ecosystems and use them to exemplify sustainable land management practices?
* Backyard biodiversity – how can we engage our community to help us achieve our urban canopy and biodiversity targets?
* Infrastructure and biodiversity – where corridors and roadways collide. How do we create green spaces when our transport budget is bigger than our urban forestry budget? Finding a balance and creating incentives for designing the urban landscape differently.

1. **Innovation, Leadership and Governance**

* Reimagining decision making – can community participatory decision-making increase trust in (local) government?
* Sustainability should not be a ‘nice to have’ delivered by a sole operator or small team, but the outcome of best practice impact management, actioned as a clear expectation and KPI of every worker in every workplace.
* Sustainability and ESG are not entirely interchangeable ideas. Does either truly work to inspire accountability for impact at a corporate, community or individual level? Or do both have their flaws?
* Leadership is not a title, an ambition or a place within a corporate hierarchy – it’s a mindset.
* How ‘sustainability’ is supported within an organisation matters. The evolution of the sustainability professional – from overlooked conscience of an organisation, to overworked accountability manager. Giving weight to the debate around burnout in the sustainability sector.

1. **Local Economy and Prosperity**

* Capitalism isn’t all bad… it just needs to grow up and realise that money isn’t our only form of capital. Discuss.
* The new, blue economy – circular economics, doughnut economics, platform cooperativism. Basic consumer capitalism isn’t the only game in town anymore, but how do we build an active community around an alternative economic model?
* The rise and rise of the social enterprise. How ethical businesses have turned doing good into doing well and capitalised on great marketing into the bargain.
* Are we on the precipice of a youth led consumer revolution? And if we are, how will 21st Century business need to respond to keep its reputation intact?

1. **Health, Wellbeing and Resilience**

* Can the way we design our urban environments impact on human health and wellbeing?
* Dealing with disasters. In the era of climate change, understanding how to build preparedness for emergencies into our lives is key. How do we plan for the unexpected and unprecedented?
* In a social media society, with an impossible volume of information invading our every waking moment, how do we build strategies into our lives for personal wellbeing?

1. **Sustainable Development, Planning and Infrastructure**

* Reconnecting with our stories – can we create a new urban narrative that values cultural connection, traditional knowledge, creative capital and human-centric urban design?
* Designers and Architects – are they our new sustainability leaders?
* Embodied energy and carbon. How do we measure, monitor and manage it for better built form outcomes?
* Beyond compliance. What constitutes sustainable design and how do we communicate and capitalise on it in the 21st Century?
* The ethics of sustainable design. Why is ‘green design’ only achievable for those with a lot of ‘green’ in their bank balance?
* Smart Cities. Just because it’s ‘smart’ doesn’t make it sustainable… so how do we best use technology connectivity to enable best practice impact management for sustainability?