



We labelled the introduction to this hui “**Communicate, Collaborate, and co-create?**”.

We wanted to provide an opportunity for diverse groups and ages to find common ground and explore possible opportunities for collaborative actions, coalescing around such issues as climate change, biodiversity restoration, or influencing change via social media.

Representatives from different environmental organisations shared the story of their group, their success and challenges:

- From the youth sector: Environment Canterbury Youth Rōpū, School Strike 4 Climate Change, Forest & Bird Youth
- From N4E: Ōpāwaho Heathcote River Network, Sustainable Ōtautahi Christchurch, Enviro Hub, Avon-Ōtākaro Forest Park

Key ideas/points were harvested from the talks and offered as topics for discussion in small groups. Green points are the ones selected for discussion. Red points are constraints:

- Two-way relationships and communication
- Young people in decision making process- Youth Voice
- Sustainable City
- Funding and drivers for injustice- social, economic, environment, cultural
- Waste minimization, land use change
- Local sustainable business and agriculture
- Community conversations about the climate for deep systematic change
- Feeding the soul
- Interconnecting on social media/events
- New forms of action beyond strike- amplify events/actions
- Platform for all enviro groups to connect diverse audience
- Voice for tamariki
- Health and welfare of the rivers- advocacy
- Engage youth by getting them out in nature
- Building technical skills
- Restoration ecology
- Time
- Scaling up
- Too slow
- Funding/support
- Long-term participation
- Burnout
- Getting new people-diversity



- **Entrenched business as usual**
- **Felling uncertain- Where do I fit in?**

Notes from Table discussions:

New forms of action beyond strike- amplify events/actions:

- Generation-less Pledge on climate. Draw the line on carbon emissions, give yourself a line NOT TO CROSS.
- Green action from anyone who's in power- not just one party.
- How to get 16 yr. olds interested in politics- education on choosing a political party
- Practical information for youth (e.g. how to vote with your money by investing in ethical kiwi saver funds like Simplicity).

Young people in decision making process- Youth voice

- Understanding issues- people need to care before they will engage
- Everyone participating
- Can be intimidating
- New way of thinking- don't have to be an expert- we are all winging it
- Honorarium for youth participation
- Re-framing of leadership- empowered and real opportunities
- Safe welcoming spaces
- Acronyms and terms
- Age can fade away when part of structure
- Let young people know there are opportunities to engage with Councillors

How can we diversify climate movements?

- Engaging with Te Mana Whenua
- Multiculturalism and biculturalism
- Breaking down barriers
- Make sure everyone's ideas are included
- It's not for our benefit only
- Values environment
- Tokenism to be combated
- Tackle white fragility and supremacy within the group
- It's not Māori and Pasifika people's job to reach out
- It needs to go back to the place we started

Communications between groups

- Central point for groups to link into and connect (Envirohub?)
- Sharing stories of people and environment through shared newsletter.
- Eco calendar (needs to be more user friendly)



- Find place where govt-private-volunteer organisations intersect.
- Option to link social media platforms (excel spreadsheet)
- Establish an intergenerational Facebook page

Burn-out, Self-Care and Funding/support

- Youth have a lot of commitments school-work-family-sport-social life
- Workload is so much
- \$10/hr babysitting but volunteer, is that just?
- Problem with not everyone stepping up
- Leadership is tough- you must step up, fill gaps, etc.
- Volunteering has a cost
- Celebrate victories
- Need to take time out and feel connected to each other and why you're doing this
- Access to someone aware of funding opportunities, sponsorship, in-kind
- Funding coordination/admin time
- Alternative ways of funding
- Dream is to build a fund together and then have groups use it according to need

Summary:

A lot of interesting ideas were discussed, and connections made between groups. An online contact list was started with the idea that others add their information, and this is a live document. The challenge is finding a platform that allows interaction. There is an opportunity for the Enviro hub or other umbrella network organisation to hold this space for groups to connect and share information about their events, etc.

[Next Step is to investigate options for a technology tool/platform that allows interaction such as creating and/or adding to a list, etc.](#)

No other next step/actions were confirmed, however, an opportunity to offer suggestions via email to alison.bower@ecan.govt.nz is available.

The hui ended at 6:00pm.