



# Our Move Forward



[www.ReThinkLondon.ca](http://www.ReThinkLondon.ca)



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[ReThink London](https://www.facebook.com/ReThinkLondon)



[ReThink@London.ca](mailto:ReThink@London.ca)



(519) 661-4980



## A Prosperous City

At every session, in every discussion, and through the thousands of comments we received through our engagement process, the idea of prosperity was consistently raised. Your over-riding voice has become our main purpose – to create a Plan that will propel London towards prosperity.

It is as simple as that. ReThink London, and the Plan that will arise from this process, is all about creating a city that builds on our existing strengths, addresses our weaknesses, and leads to a city that is tremendously prosperous. We believe that this is beyond debate – we all want a prosperous London.

*The following is feedback we have received from Londoners.  
Please rate how important you think these ideas are to the future of London.*

Not Important      Somewhat Important      Very Important

### 01. Building a city that people and companies want to invest in

Key Features: A successful city image; cost efficient growth; quality infrastructure & municipal services; support for existing & emerging sectors; and a quality of life that businesses know will be able to attract and retain a strong workforce.

### 02. Building a city that people want to live in

Key Features: Plentiful job opportunities; a positive city image; a strong Downtown; great neighbourhoods; outstanding public spaces including streets, gathering places, parks, etc.; quality development; culture and arts opportunities; and high quality recreational opportunities.

### 03. Building a city for everyone

Key Features: Is age-friendly & culturally diverse; provides immigrant support and integration; promotes equity and inclusivity, including the provision of quality affordable housing; and seamless and integrated support networks and services.

### 04. Building a city that is connected and accessible

Key Features: Integrating land use and transit; becoming a “smart city” and creating a competitive advantage in doing so; and integrating universal accessibility into all of our projects and initiatives.

Not Important    Somewhat Important    Very Important

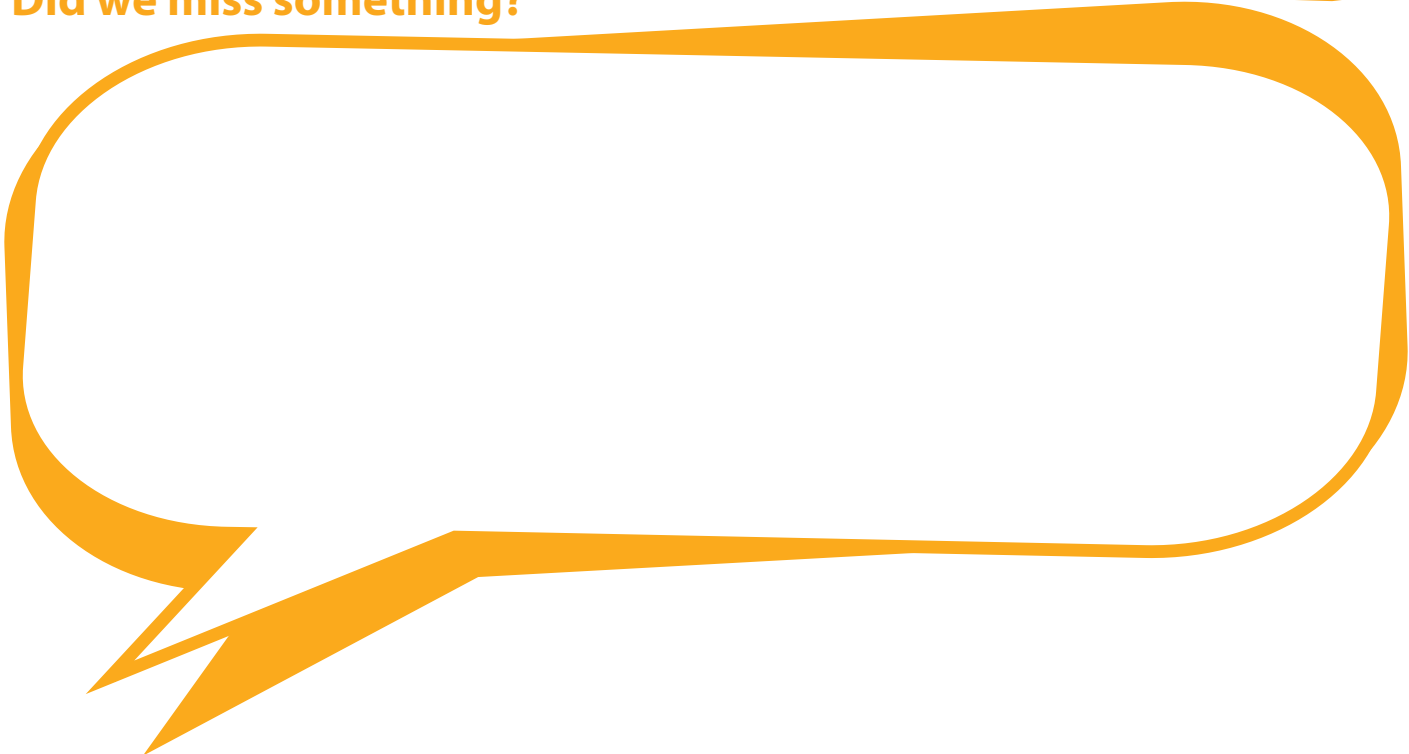


## 05. Building a city that is socially, economically and environmentally sustainable

Key Features: Growing in a compact way; creating attractive alternatives to using the car; preserving our natural heritage areas; planting and protecting more trees; encouraging new sustainable building technologies; adapting to climate change; and integrating cultures and socially diverse groups.



### Did we miss something?



## Connecting the Region

London can be thought of as an “Island City”, a stand-alone city in the context of its geography. During our conversations regarding ReThink London, we heard your ideas and concerns about how you would like to see us better connect to the region that surrounds us.

In this paper, we will look at why we need to connect with the region surrounding London and identify the benefits these connections will bring. We may be an island city, but it does not limit us from working with our partners in the County and surrounding Towns in order to become collectively stronger and smarter.

The following is feedback we have received from Londoners.  
Please rate how important you think these ideas are to the future of London.

Not Important  Somewhat Important  Very Important 

**01. Collaborate with regional partners to develop a growth plan**

Key Features: Being nationally and internationally competitive; securing senior government funding; and promoting cost-effective growth and quality and sustainable infrastructure.

**02. Promote agri-business industry**

Key Features: Establishing London as the hub between the producers and manufacturing; offering a variety of opportunities for distribution and people – jobs, innovation and investment.

**03. Promote regional tourism and economic development**

Key Features: Attracting new business investments, while retaining what we have; attracting people to visit and ultimately stay in London; and attracting talent and innovation.

**04. Conserve and enhance the regional natural heritage system**

Key Features: Growing in a compact way to effectively conserve London's natural heritage system; strengthening natural connections and linkages with our regional partners to the benefit of the overall health of ecosystems, watersheds and citizens.

**05. Enhance connections and invest in the Quebec-Windsor corridor to benefit London**

Key Features: Increasing connections and accessibility to other economic regions; being identified as a place of knowledge, learning and innovation; and attracting investment and talent.

**06. Establish strong transportation and communication linkages with regional municipalities**

Key Features: Connecting London to surrounding municipalities to create synergies and mutual opportunities; and creating a regional offering that allows people, goods, innovation and ideas to flow easily.

Not Important  Somewhat Important  Very Important

## 07. Build on our strong connections to the globe

Key Features: Continuing to grow our international airport and the surrounding lands; and maximizing the benefits stemming from our proximity to the NAFTA superhighway and the border crossings to the east and west.



## Did we miss something?

## Compact City

Over the past 40 years, we've been growing in a very spread-out pattern and we're consuming much more land than we ever dreamed we would need. We estimate that in the next 50 years our population will grow by more than 50%, with an additional 200,000 people calling London home. The decisions that we make and actions that we take now will have an impact on future generations of our families.

We have heard much from Londoners about how you would like to see growth in the future. We've also heard from our development community and they want to work with us to develop the London of the future.

The following is feedback we have received from Londoners.  
Please rate how important you think these ideas are to the future of London.

Not Important  Somewhat Important  Very Important 

**01. Strong and consistent growth**

Key Features: Smart and affordable growth that contributes to our quality of life and prosperity as a City

**02. Compact growth**

Key Features: Providing for a reasonable amount of outward expansion and greenfield development while building inward and upward as we grow in the future.

**03. Quality infill and intensification**

Key Features: Developing on vacant lots and redeveloping at greater intensities in the right locations; and taking advantage of existing services, utilities and facilities to reduce the cost of growth.

**04. Mix of housing types within neighbourhoods**

Key Features: Mixing different forms of housing types, lot sizes and building scales to provide greater housing choice in our neighbourhoods .

**05. Mix stores, restaurants and services in an appropriate way within neighbourhoods**

Key Features: Planning commercial uses within neighbourhoods for everyday shopping and service needs; providing a mix of office, retail and service uses in appropriate locations; and creating opportunities for live-work uses within neighbourhoods.

**06. Build high density, mixed use centres and corridors**

Key Features: Linking land use and rapid transit so that we encourage a concentration of residents and businesses around convenient transit services; raising transit ridership; and making rapid transit viable and affordable in London.

**07. Build great public spaces and pedestrian environments**

Key Features: Spaces that are better suited to walking, cycling and using transit, and are designed for complete streets, parks, social gathering places; and quality pedestrian environments.

**08. Continue to support and invest in a strong Downtown**

Key Features: Ensuring that the Downtown continues to develop as the centre of commerce, recreation, entertainment, arts, culture and as a high intensity residential neighbourhood.

Not Important    Somewhat Important    Very Important  
        

**09. Promote low cost and affordable housing in new and innovative ways**

Key Features: Providing opportunities for a better mix of housing types and the integration of low cost and affordable housing into all neighbourhoods.

**10. Protect valuable agricultural land**

Key Features: Protecting valuable farmland; and recognizing that climate change and the escalating cost of energy could make food grown close to our homes even more important in the future.

**11. Conserve natural heritage**

Key Features: Protecting intact functioning ecosystems; incorporating low impact design development techniques; protecting London's trees and woodlands; embracing view corridors for everyone to enjoy.

**Did we miss something?**



# Transportation

Transportation is a major component of our everyday lives and our economy. Ever increasing environmental concerns and increased gas prices are making choices in transportation, like walking, biking and transit more desirable. We know that the car remains the most common choice for many Londoners to travel. However, we've heard from Londoners that they want alternatives to become more viable, convenient and affordable. Responding to trends in transportation choices is important in keeping London competitive – both to businesses and to attracting new residents.

In this paper, we discuss the link between land use planning and transportation and the affect it has on the health and well-being of residents as well as the economic benefits of a well-connected city.

*The following is feedback we have received from Londoners. Please rate how important you think these ideas are to the future of London.*

Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important

## 01. Link land use and transportation

Key Features: Focus density where transit is located; promoting health and well-being of Londoners; and foster economic benefits of a well-connected city.

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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## 02. Not always car-first

Key Features: Making transportation alternatives like walking, biking and transit more attractive and desirable; continuing to provide suitable road corridors for the car as transportation choice; and designing complete streets for viable, convenient and affordable transportation choices.

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## 03. Connect different centres

Key Features: Develop a transportation system based on "centres" and "corridors" and focusing mixed-use development at these locations; directing intensification to centres that can ultimately support rapid transit services; and locating major destinations along routes and near major transit stops.

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## 04. Efficient movement of goods and services through the city

Key Features: Providing transportation choices to keep London competitive – both to businesses and attracting new residents; minimizing traffic conflicts; and establishing strong and identifiable north/south and east/west connections through the city.

Not Important    Somewhat Important    Very Important



Did we miss something?




## Greener City

As London is known as the “Forest City”, it is logical that we strive to be “green”.

This paper sets the stage for London to build on its strengths to be a regional and provincial leader in environmental initiatives, stewardship and sustainable development. Doing our best to reduce and mitigate our impact on the environment and to develop local strategies for climate change adaptation sets the context and “lens” for this discussion paper. Strengthening our valued urban forest by growing and protecting more trees while improving our level of forest monitoring and maintenance is also addressed. The broad goal is to build a resilient and greener City for our citizens, neighbourhoods, and community, now and for future generations.



The following is feedback we have received from Londoners.  
Please rate how important you think these ideas are to the future of London.

Not Important  Somewhat Important  Very Important 

### 01. Promote green development practices

Key Features: Considering the ecological footprint that development creates and take action to reduce it; implementing mixed use and mixed density development to support transit; providing services within walking distances; and ensuring preservation of tree cover and natural heritage features.

### 02. Climate change mitigation and adaptation

Key Features: Calculating and tracking our progress towards reducing our greenhouse gas emissions; designing projects differently today to respond better to frequent and intense extreme weather events; make our urban environments more resilient to climate change.

### 03. Implement green infrastructure strategies

Key Features: Promoting innovation in the way we construct infrastructure – such as stormwater management facilities and how we plant street trees; and promoting “Natural Capital” (woodlands, Environmentally significant Areas –ESAs) as components of the natural heritage system for London and area.

### 04. Conserve energy

Key Features: Planning for energy conservation at all levels of city-building – from a city level (eg. linking transit and land use plans) to a community level (eg. street network, mix of land use, walkable streets, district energy) to a site level (xeriscaping, geothermal and solar and sustainable construction technologies).

### 05. Strengthen our forest city

Key Features: Planting more, protecting more, maintaining better and engaging all citizens in strengthening and promoting our urban forest.

### 06. Build upon our successes

Key Features: Conserving our natural resources; protecting and enhancing our natural heritage; and environmental management (reduce waste, promote recycling, pesticides, education).

### 07. Strengthen our efforts to encourage Brown field remediation

Key Features: Identifying creative opportunities for brownfield redevelopment; addressing necessary clean-up requirements; providing incentives for properties to be viably cleaned and re-developed for productive purposes.

## 08. Linking the pieces of the “green puzzle”

Key Features: Planning and coordinating all our efforts such as ESA preservation, natural heritage corridor protection, flood plain management, waste management, energy conservation, active transportation, and human wellness.

Not Important    Somewhat Important    Very Important



## Did we miss something?

## Culture and Diversity

Recently there has been a significant focus on culture and diversity as an important driver of economic prosperity. This paper builds on the recent Cultural Prosperity Plan to describe how we can support cultural programming, leverage London’s cultural assets and better celebrate and promote culture. The majority of growth in Canada now comes from immigration – not natural increase. Many immigrants come to Canada with a wealth of knowledge, experience and skill. We explore the ways in which we can attract and welcome newcomers to London in the way we plan our cities and services.

This paper also explores the important role of our Downtown and our surrounding heritage neighbourhoods in promoting cultural activities in our City. Live/work opportunities, public art, and formal and informal performance venues are all described as part of our cultural infrastructure.

The following is feedback we have received from Londoners.  
Please rate how important you think these ideas are to the future of London.

Not  
Important  Somewhat  
Important  Very  
Important 

**01. Culture as a prosperity tool**

Key Features: Attracting and retaining talent, including youth, new immigrants and creative professionals; and recognizing, celebrating, and integrating diversity of all Londoners.

**02. Leverage London's cultural assets**

Key Features: Identifying these assets, fostering and supporting them, and promoting them to the world.

**03. Protect our built and cultural heritage**

Key Features: Preserving and celebrating our unique and inspiring heritage; use our built and cultural heritage to promote our unique identity; coordinate and promote culture and heritage and develop links to arts and eco-tourism in the London region.

**04. Do more to establish public art**

Key Features: To strengthen London's strong and unique identity; revitalize Downtown, our urban neighbourhoods and the community; and promote London's image at important locations along corridors and at gateways to the city.

**05. Promote downtown prosperity**

Key Features: Reinforcing Downtown's role as the cultural hub of the city, together with its surrounding residential neighbourhoods.

**06. Develop affordable housing**

Key Features: Providing a support network that attracts diversity to the city; quality affordable housing regardless of age, ability, ethnicity, or socio-economic status; and a variety of housing choice, including live/work opportunities.

**07. Promote, protect and provide for cultural facilities**

Key Features: Increasing access to arts, recreation and other cultural facilities; and collaborate with higher education organizations to foster a culture of innovation.

## 08. Develop eco-tourism

Key Features: Supporting community groups and neighbourhoods in their efforts to educate and assist in watershed protection and enhancements; building the necessary infrastructure to promote active transportation and recreational opportunities through parks, open space, and the natural heritage system; and collaborating with our regional partners to benefit from inter-connected regional trail systems.

Not Important    Somewhat Important    Very Important




**Did we miss something?**

# Neighbourhoods

Our neighbourhoods are the centre of our day-to-day activities, where people live, work, shop, play, and enjoy a high quality of life. They are an important part of London’s “prosperity offering”, helping us to attract newcomers and retain our valuable workforce. We’ve heard Londoners tell us that they want their neighbourhoods to be safe, clean, well connected, walkable, beautiful, healthy, engaging, supportive of community gathering and interaction, interesting, diverse, and integrated with recreation and the natural environment. We’ve also heard that some Londoner’s needs are shifting, and they want viable neighbourhood options that offer more urban experiences that are less reliant on the automobile.

This discussion paper is about developing complete and livable communities with a better mix of housing, jobs, gathering places, parks, shops and services in close proximity to one another. It also looks at complete communities as offering housing and service options to meet the needs of people in all stages of a person’s life and income level.

*The following is feedback we have received from Londoners.  
Please rate how important you think these ideas are to the future of London.*

	Not Important 	Somewhat Important 	Very Important 
<b>01. Implement “Placemaking”</b> Key Features: Promote exceptional neighbourhood design that creates diverse, walkable, healthy and connected communities; create a sense of place; and promote “beauty” as value in neighbourhoods.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>02. Create social gathering places where neighbours come together</b> Key Features: Community gardens, urban parks and small parkettes, cafés, restaurants and small service commercial uses fronting park spaces, active neighbourhood trails, recreational facilities and playing fields.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>03. Protect what we cherish</b> Key Features: Recognizing and protecting cultural identity, built heritage, neighbourhood character, and the environment; establishing ecological connections between woodlands, environmentally significant areas, and corridors; and incorporating views and vistas to and from the Thames River valley; and parks trail systems.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>04. Promote healthy neighbourhoods</b> Key Features: Designing walkable, safe and connected areas; making non-auto transportation alternatives desirable and preferable; integrating recreational opportunities into neighbourhoods; addressing crime prevention through environmental design (CEPTED); giving neighbourhoods the ability to improve their neighbourhoods in creative and positive ways.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## 05. Design “complete” neighbourhoods

Key Features: Meet the needs of people of all ages and abilities; promotes aging in place; has mixed uses that provides convenient access to goods and services for daily life; has affordable housing choice; and provides for a more equitable distribution of social infrastructure.

Not  
Important  Somewhat  
Important  Very  
Important 



## Did we miss something?

### Wise Planning

Through ReThink London, Londoners have been working hard to create a vision for our future and developing a new London Plan that will propel our city towards that vision. It’s important that there is a strong level of accountability to this plan in all of our decisions, the investments we make and our approach to planning applications. Wise planning decisions and the careful management of the outcomes of those decisions require consistency and flexibility as we drive toward our collective vision. In order to this, it is important that we all understand the principles and processes that we will use to make these decisions.

In this paper, we focus on the process in which decisions are made and clearly state the planning principles that will be used as we undertake “city building” - one project at a time. This is critical to ensure buy-in, consistency and understanding as the London Plan is implemented over the next 20 years.

The following is feedback we have received from Londoners.  
Please rate how important you think these ideas are to the future of London.

**01. Our decisions should reflect Planning principles**

Key Features: Avoiding land use conflicts; preserving and conserving what we can't replace, such as Natural Heritage, Cultural Heritage, agricultural lands, aggregate lands, tree canopy and coverage; protecting the environment, including air quality, ground water, and water resources; adapting to climate change and avoid contributing to climate change; supporting prosperity and growing in fiscally prudent ways; and plan for beauty.

**02. Planning for changes**




Key Features: Engaging citizens early in the process for their input on planning applications that may affect communities and neighbourhoods; and creating expectations through form use and intensity.

**03. Ensure the London Plan is current**

Key Features: On-going monitoring through 5-year updates; thinking long term by building on short term opportunities; planning for a competitive city; and identifying and promoting opportunities for alternative implementation tools.

**04. Ensure efficient and collaborative processing of applications**

Key Features: Collaborating with regional partners and the Province; implementing the London Plan in an integrated way that involves all City departments; providing for flexibility, but in an integrated manner; and linking land use and transportation planning.

Not Important  Somewhat Important  Very Important 

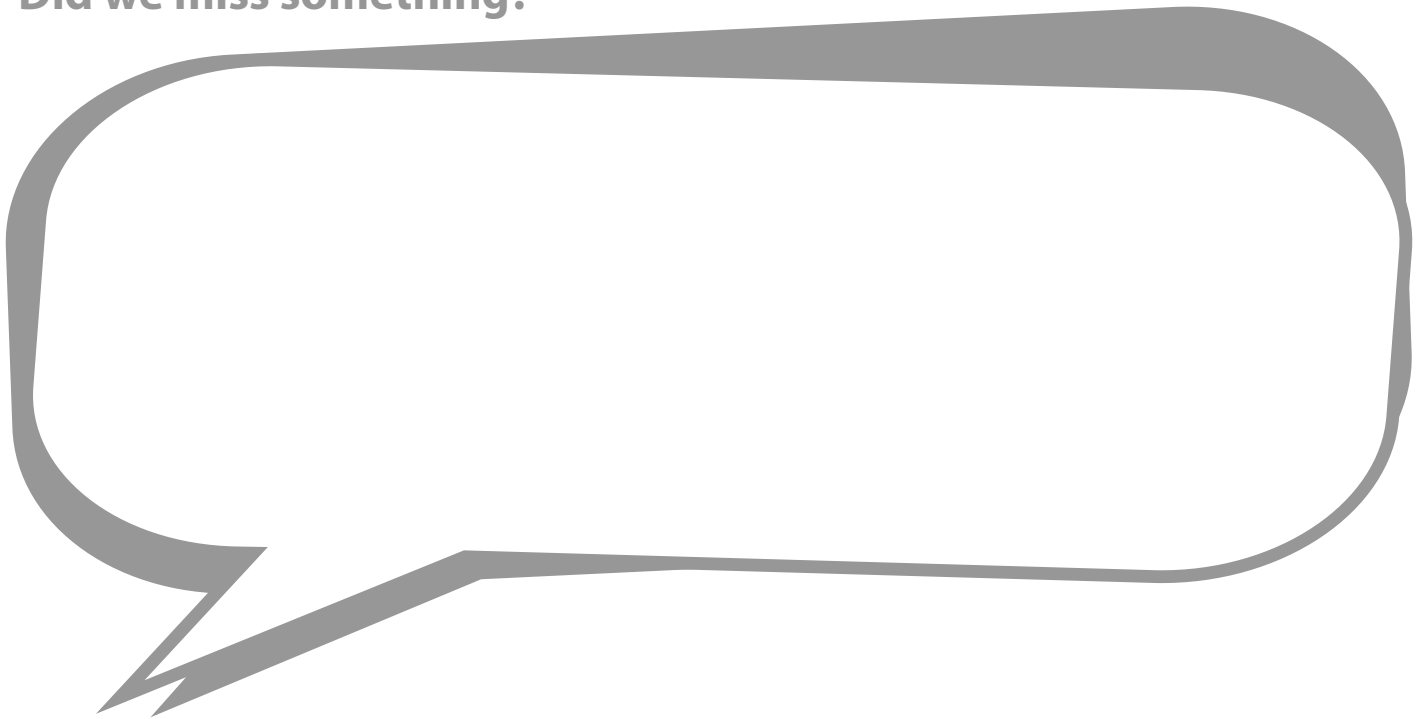
## 05. Opportunities to foster public-private relationships

Key Features: Collaborating with local partners to examine how education, business and community linkages can be leveraged for economic opportunity; making more efficient use of public resources by targeting and meeting the needs of specific populations; fostering an exchange of ideas, talent, and innovation; and using public funds more effectively.

Not Important    Somewhat Important    Very Important



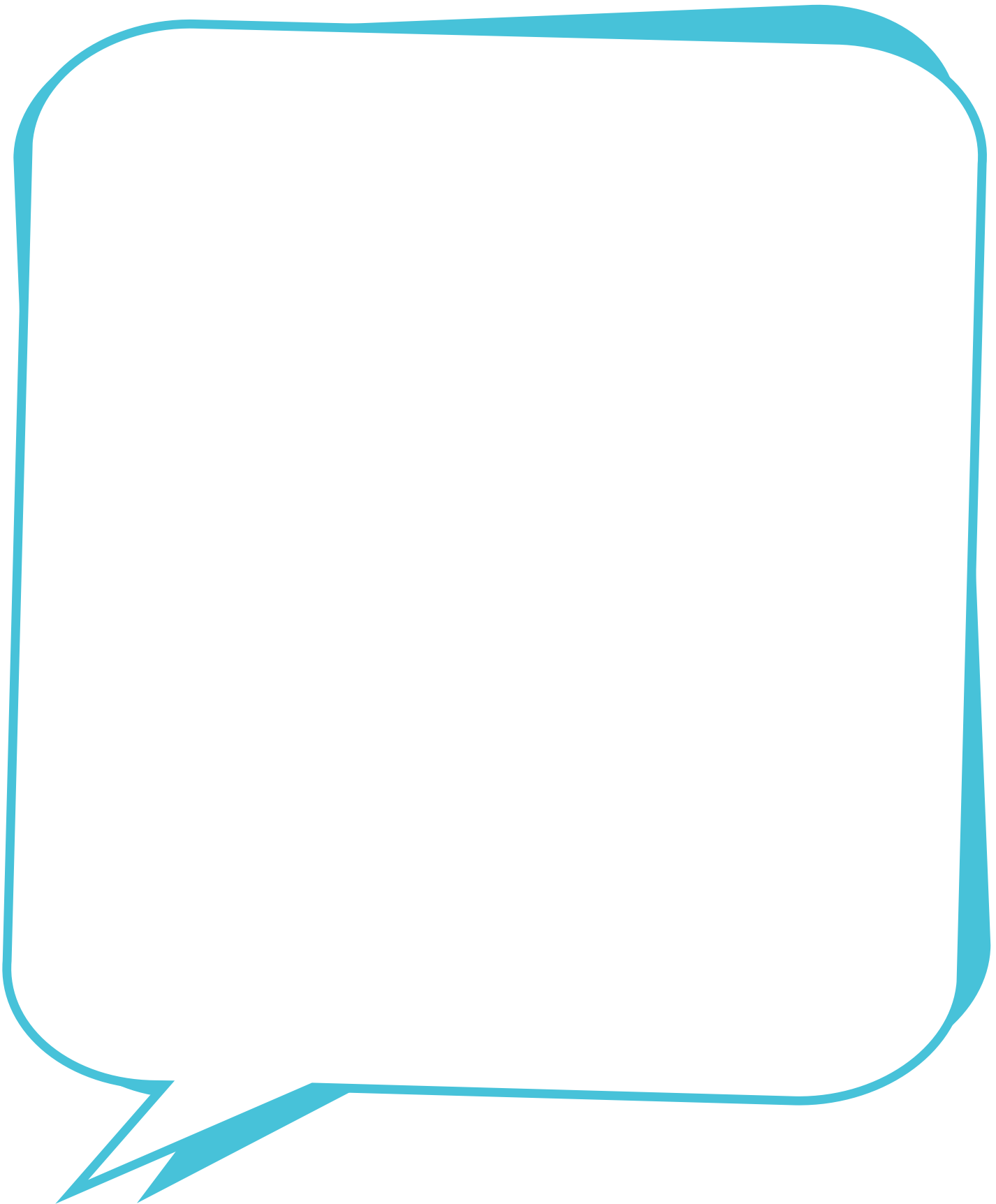
Did we miss something?



Thank you for your participation!



Any additional comments?



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