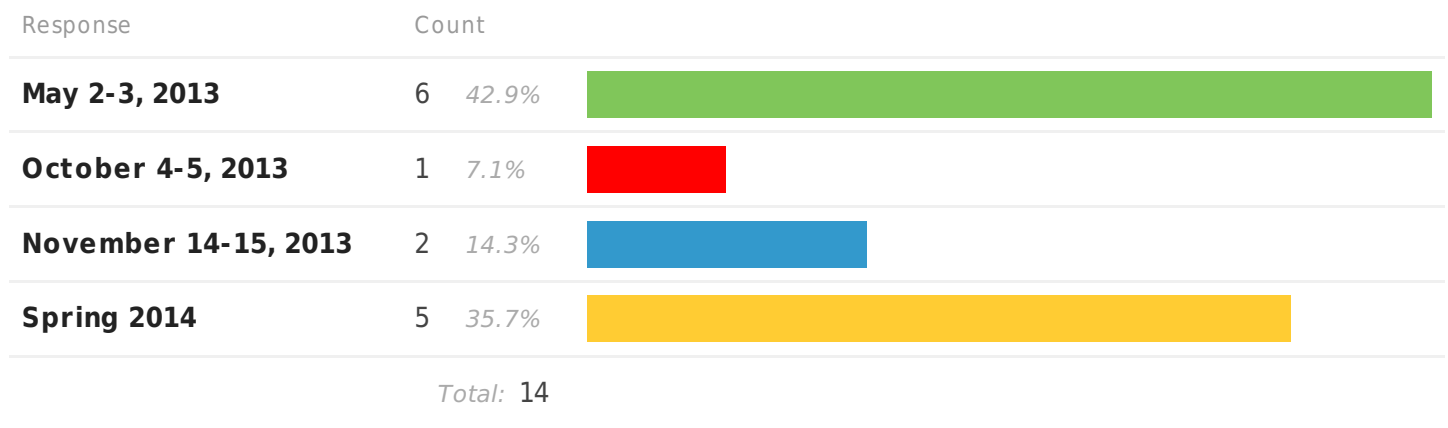


# Summary Report

You participated in the course Defining Diversity, Creating Community. Please identify the date of the course you attended.



What was your greatest learning or take away from this experience?

Response	Count
	14 responses

It was brought to my attention that there are far more groups of individuals fighting for equality than what most people think of on a daily basis.

A list of like minded individuals within the community.

Lasting impact of the residential school experience for First Nations participants

the insights of young people who were there were very interesting, the depth of experience they brought suprising.

I took away many things for the course - it confirmed my belief that every person has similar universal needs regardless of culture - I really appreciated the information from Else Paul and John Louie on the journey of aboriginal people.

The Native teachings. The variety in the group from young people to old and the various ideas that came up at the workshop. The living library I found to be an interesting concept that I would like to learn more about.

Diversity makes for a stronger community

Community diversity and compassion

Others feedback helped me out considerably

how intimate people can become over a short period of time

Just knowing that there are a large pool of people who are incredibly active, contributing community members. Also getting some valuable info. on the resources available around town was a huge benefit.

The bond created, however tenuous, from introducing a group of strangers to safety, openness, and integrity.

how easy it is to keep involved in the community with little things. seeing and meeting others and what they do

What rich stories we all have and at some point those stories overlap with each other and we find a connection and a friend

What messages from the course have had lasting value for you?

Response

Count

13 responses

That judgmental attitudes and thoughtless wording can and does hurt. That people should be seen as people first. That "being the change" is a lifestyle not simply a message.

A need to create relationships with influential community members, so your input becomes their idea(s). Betterment of the wider community at the expense of personal acknowledgement.

The ability to bring together quite disparate groups of people and engage in meaningful dialogue

to think about making contributions to enriching the experience of diversity in our community more systematically, to build that into the work we do, and to see the big gaps that can be addressed gradually by doing this.

To appreciate the gifts that everyone has - when in situations that appear diverse look for the common ground and built from there so bring togetherness rather than indifference.

The living library I found to be an interesting concept that I would like to learn more about.

that there is a need to continue create opportunities to learn, share and understand the diversity of the community that we live in

All of the ongoing Cullser value ex.

acceptance of one another is a stepping stone to future actions

That the conversations we have with each other, as contributing community members, have a 'ripple effect' throughout the community.

Everyone has a story and acceptance of diversity is our key to tolerance, understanding, and compassion.

little things are just as important as being on committees or Boards

To be open and objective to who people are without any expectations or judgement.

Can you give an example of how this experience has impacted you personally?

Response

Count

14 responses

I thought I was good at my job, I thought I was very inclusive in general, I thought I was aware of prejudice in the world. I came to learn that I truly don't know the half of it and that I can do a lot better to educate myself and others.

C.I.L.L.I.

I am less reticent to approach people of different ethnic backgrounds or different ages. I personally feel more confident and more trusting that what I have to say will be appreciated and I will be accepted

by setting a goal that i didn't previously have

I have increased my knowledge and understanding of the journey aboriginal people have taken historically so I can understand more the issues they face. I have an open mind that accepts knowledge from a person with a different culture or life view - I view these experiences/interactions as a human library where I can learn from the experiences.

I feel that these meetings give a different view of looking at situations. The more you know and understand the better you are at being tolerant with different groups of people with their gifts and culture.

I met people who think as I do

i have become more fully aware and appreciative of the efforts made by our community to create these opportunities to learn about the stories, culture, supports and inclusivity of our diverse community

All of the different culsurers

i now take initiative to be part of other people's lives without fear




Well, I'm really amazed at how these conversations are happening in a larger-sized community such as Powell River. That alone has given me some reassurance that there are plenty of people in PR who want to keep it a safe, active, and proactive community.

It has increased my patience and, thus, my compassion for others. I'm speaking of an incremental shift - I've always enjoyed the differences in people but this group session is an opportunity to truly experience and be reminded of the power of diversity.

I sort clothes for the 7th day adventist church and by being better dressed and answering people where i get my clothes

Well to know that (name) can stand on his head and does it every day on a mountain. I have known him for a number of years and talked to him on one particular subject but did not know the many other sides of (name)! To see what an amazing accomplishment that he does for his age was an ahh moment to delve into people at a deeper level and always be curious.

The course introduces an asset-based community development model, which means that we each have essential gifts to contribute to our community. How would you rate the value of this information?

Response	Count	
<b>Very Important</b>	9 64.3%	
<b>Important</b>	4 28.6%	
<b>Neutral</b>	1 7.1%	
<i>Total: 14</i>		

Please comment:

Response	Count
	9 responses

I think that unless the world starts to actually see people as having diverse attributes then prejudice will never change. Unfortunately I also feel that narrow mindedness is never going to disappear. I'm certain that if enough people were to fully embrace asset based community development then change would become inevitable. Being the realist that I am I don't think the world will ever be a truly inclusive place but I do think that with a lot of hard work it can change significantly and thereby increase the quality of life of a vast number of people. I think it can have a ripple effect at the local, regional and even global level.

Complexities of small communities not addressed.

The asset-based model of community development is aligned with my personal values. I hope this work (DDCC) results in the model being more widely understood and used

I think the grand total of the outcomes of this project can make a big difference, and look forward to that!

I thoroughly enjoyed the course - I thought the diversity in the workshop itself ( different ages / different cultures / different religious belief / different journeys in life ) make the whole experience a wonderful learning opportunity.




It would give our communities a rich, varied cultural base that would be an asset to all.

i think this was good but it would be great to push the group to action-based with all of our assets combined into a community project

Yes, I agree with this. There does need to be a recognition though that there are those in the community who may not want to contribute and the decision not to contribute needs to be respected. Why? People from all walks of life find themselves in different situations with different priorities.

you see people around town but have no idea how important that person could be to me

This course ends by challenging you to commit to a plan of action. Have you taken specific actions or pursued specific projects as a result of your experience?

Response	Count	
<b>Yes</b>	9 64.3%	
<b>No</b>	4 28.6%	
<a href="#"><u>Not sure, please elaborate...</u></a>	1 7.1%	

Total: 14

No Items to Display

If you answered yes - please describe.

Response

Count

9 responses

I committed to three different things that day. I did the first one immediately which led me to realize that the second and third were not necessarily going to work the way I hoped so this prompted me to change gears. I have now used my workplace on two occasions to spread the use of the word "diversability" throughout the community. I have a third opportunity coming up this week and in this case I will use the opportunity to spread the word "diversability" and also touch base on the difference between this word and the word "diversity" because I've come to learn the two words are used interchangeably but don't mean the same thing. This upcoming opportunity will also allow me the chance to talk about asset based community development particularly as it pertains to the word "diversability".

Offers of assistance have been declined.\nI need to find a wider community to access.

I committed to experiment with a specific asset-based tool, and am doing that

Adding the preservation of Tla'amin language as a goal in our Aboriginal Education Plan at VIU Powell River.

I do more volunteering than before

offering help for a group to exercise; helping with a community dance; joining a pain group

I'm TRYING to take VIU ECEC 110 online course in Sept/14 (childhood development) to be better able to serve in my caregiver role BUT I AM WAITLISTED!

I am more vocal about what I am doing and telling people about how to get involved

Yes I have written petitions for subjects that I am passionate for and have also approached Council on a subject that is about Community Building.

If you answered no .... what would you say is holding you back?

Response

Count

5 responses

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Not applicable.

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The connections made at the course were difficult to connect with - perhaps the summer arriving right after the course may have added to this - BUT I have taken the opportunities that have come my way since the course to utilize the human library aspect by having new connections made with older community members eg being present in conversation as they shared their thoughts and experiences of life in Powell River having lived here all their life - we talked about the joys / the losses / the changes / the struggles - I feel privileged to be in the presence of a community member who shared their life path since they came here as a war bride.

---

The pressures of work and the need to stay focused with one activity at a time.

---

I have not followed through with my 'plan of action' as my life/work plans changed and I am 'regrouping' hopefully to adapt the plan

---

Again, going back to the last question, I don't feel as though I'm in a position in my life to be a huge community star right now. That may indeed be the course's weakness in that there may well be a failure to recognize that people may not be in a great situation to contribute.

---

In your opinion, how have your actions impacted our community?

Response

Count

---

12 responses

---



By making people think and raising awareness.

It is uncertain at this time. The program will be implemented, hiring has occurred, the launch is slated for Fall 2013.\nMy attempts to supply information to another group has been rebuffed.\nI am exploring the wider community. \n

I'm assuming this question relates directly to the other questions on this page. If that is correct, then it is too early for me to respond

No real impact yet - too soon.

My actions daily embrace differences so they do not go to a place of indifference - each day I do my best to achieve success with this I will think about what a person says / believes when having conversation then after a conversation is over I will reflect on what they said, doing my best to see and understand their perspective.

Does not impact my community other that it helps to keep one small part of the community organized such as work.

I am involved in the community but not of this source.

positive so far....the leader of the group wants to work with me and whoever I can bring with me....very exciting to know

Zero. And that's ok. I've attended festivals, events, etc. which is in of itself contributing to the community.

I've helped families by providing no cost childminding when required.

giving people more options to feel better about themselves and i am volunteering more

It is a starting point with a positive outcome.

In your opinion, have your relationships with other community members been impacted by your experience?

Response	Count	
<b>Yes</b>	8 66.7%	
<b>Not sure</b>	4 33.3%	
<i>Total: 12</i>		

Comment:

Response	Count
	8 responses

I have not come across any negativity directed towards myself but when I speak about diversability or asset based community development I recognize many individuals that still think tis s a futile effort - that some people simply have nothing to offer, that they are a drain on society that we all pay for and such is life.

There is now a point of reference.

As per my earlier response about disparate populations...

I have an very open mind - I have had conversation with people I didn't know / meet before the course and found myself paying attention to what they were saying /asking open questions to help me gain knowledge of their perspective - I have found there is common ground where previously I could have missed it but the course heightened my awareness of embracing diversity.

I think that by having relationships we have a great impact in the community.

Have met a few employees and parents at Jean Pike Centre Preschool this spring.

People don't believe they can get clothes for free and that they are good clothes

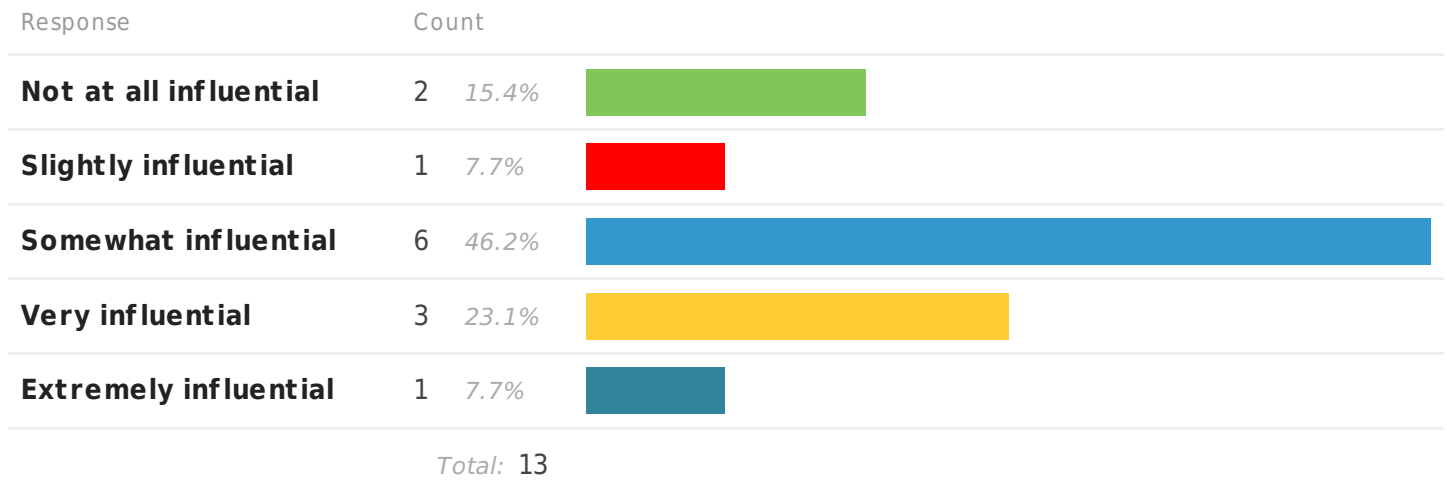
I am connected more with people in our group and will continue to pursue connecting people in the community.

Before taking the course Defining Diversity, Creating Community, how would you describe your ability to influence positive social and economic change in Powell River?

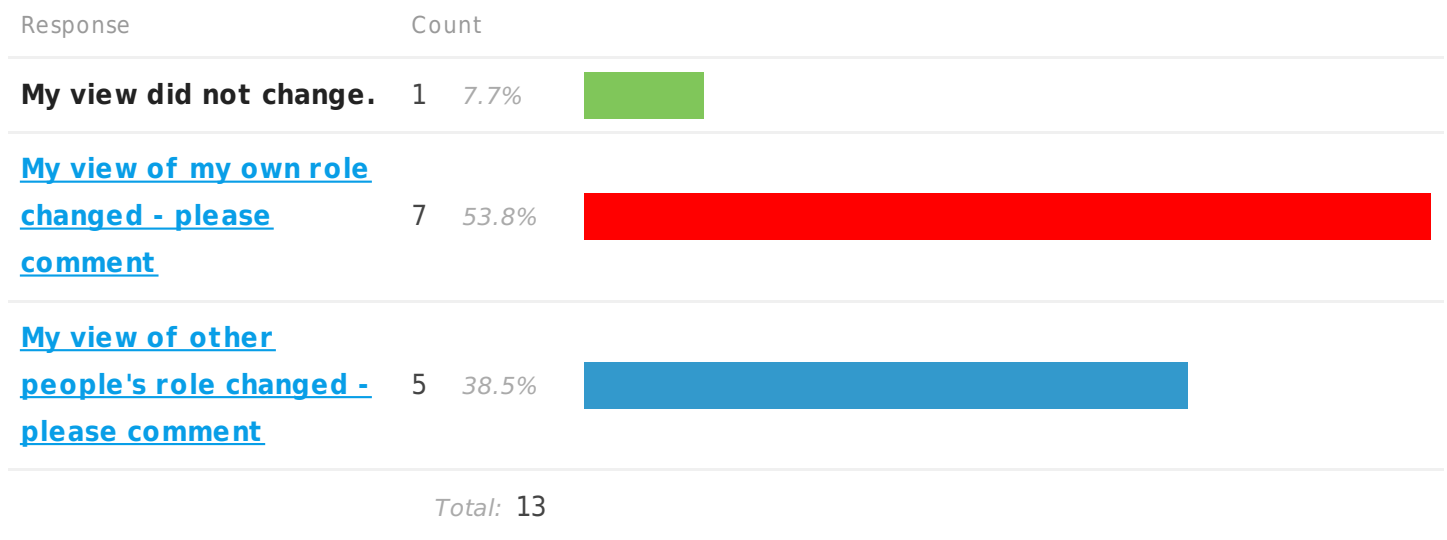
Response	Count	Percentage	Bar
<b>Not at all influential</b>	2	15.4%	
<b>Slightly influential</b>	5	38.5%	
<b>Somewhat influential</b>	4	30.8%	
<b>Very influential</b>	1	7.7%	
<b>Extremely influential</b>	1	7.7%	

Total: 13

After taking the course Defining Diversity, Creating Community, how would you describe your ability to influence positive social and economic change in Powell River?



How did participation in the course shift your view of your role in community and the role of others?



Inspired by others' visions and engagement

My role was / is still community minded so in that sense it didn't change as a result of the course BUT I did feel that fellow community members need to take this course to embrace diversity more.

I admire what other are able to do in the community. I feel the Powell River Resource center is a great resource for all people in the community.

I felt good afterwards

I just feel more aware of my own words and social responsibility.

my perspective was enriched

I can bring about change





how we can be part of a project without hindering the nature of it....acceptance and open-mindedness of all involved

Now I feel guilty about not being a leader in the community.

little things are important

I am more focused on ideas that I feel can be transformed into reality

Given your experience before and after taking the course Defining Diversity, Creating Community, what more could the following groups do to bring about positive social and economic change in Powell River?

Response	Count	
<a href="#">Citizens:</a>	1 11.1%	
<a href="#">Business Leaders:</a>	1 11.1%	
<a href="#">Municipal Political Leaders:</a>	1 11.1%	
<a href="#">Vancouver Island University</a>	6 66.7%	
<i>Total: 9</i>		

Look into ways to be more inclusive

to support all of the above, and this project!

Need more courses

the ... [other] take courses that interest me

Encourage participation of Powell River citizens in all activities.

No Items to Display

Be nmore self aware - open up their world to just how diverse our community is and participate in events both organizing and in participation to encourage diversity as a valuable community asset. Starting to bring change at the grass roots then moving forward to all levels of society to bring the relevant changes in eg laws that treat everyone equally and fairly.

If you need more room to respond to this question, you can use this space:

Response

Count

6 responses

In a smaller community, where there is a closed shop mentality, if the power brokers are not invested, little will be accomplished.

I have a very resistant reaction to this question. I don't want to try to answer it, I think because (from my perspective) it is such a huge question, it seems like it could take hours to try to puzzle out and answer.

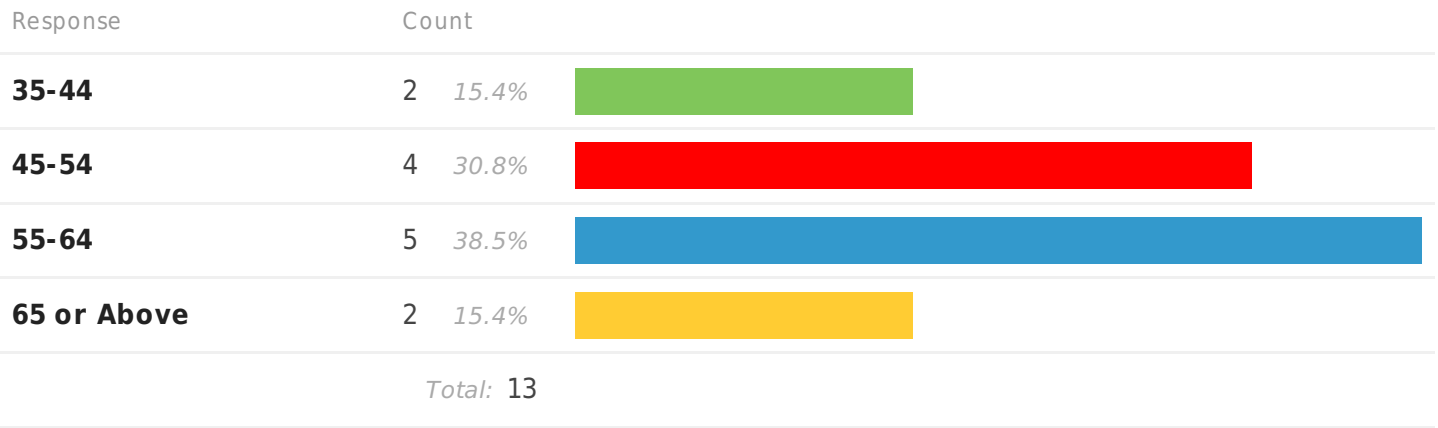
Introduce programs unique to Powell River Campus. Make it a magnet community for people wanting to study some key specialized programs

course availability

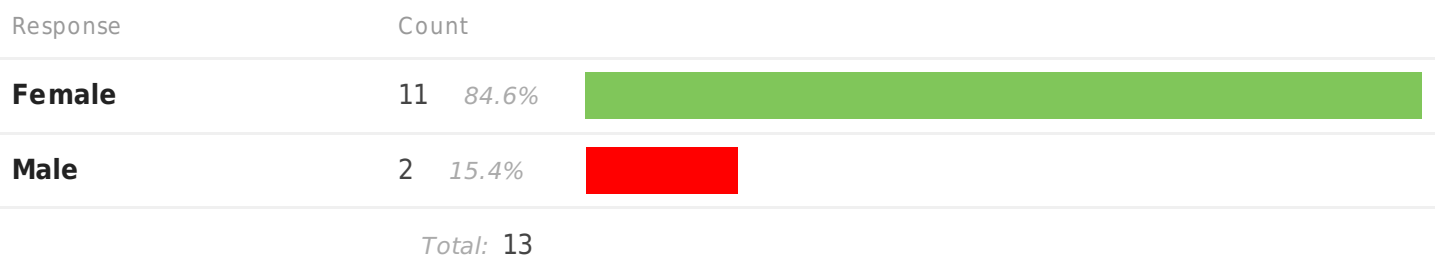
i think for all it is stay informed if not able to be involved many people aren't up on what is new and upcoming

We can all always do more the key is connecting all these groups together which is what your plan was for our community. It was a very enjoyable and thought provoking experience and I hope more business leaders and municipal leaders take advantage of this course and this model.

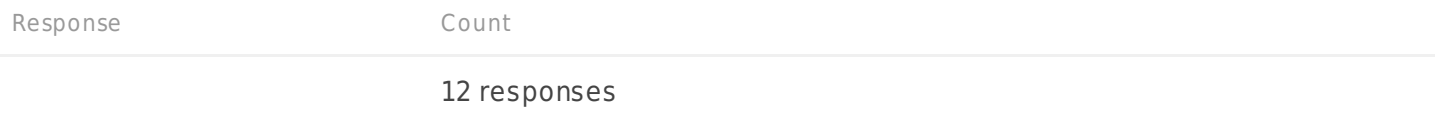
Please help us identify the diversity within our participant group by responding to the following: My age is:



My gender is:



My cultural identity is best described as:



I'm mostly French Canadian & British but I also have Scottish, Irish, Italian and Cree roots. I grew up a so called 'have not'.

WASP

causian

2nd generation Canadian, grandparents from Norway and Ireland.

Absolutely great. ( We all need humor ) - my culture very proud of traditions / has had a long history of war with foreign occupation before a peace agreement was reached / has suffered also in famine which makes the country proud of its stamina and determination when faced with such travesties /as time has progressed my culture has experienced the influx of many different nationalities with very different cultures as a result of being a member of the European Union.

French Canadian

Agree to get along with all so pleasant.

wasp

Caucasian

Caucasian 2nd generation Vancouverite - 3/4 English and 1/4 German heritage

caucasian

British / Canadian

How long have you lived in Canada?

Response

Count

12 responses

---

Since birth

---

Native born

---

45 years

---

all my life

---

21 years

---

all my life

---

Since I was born

---

52 years

---

over 65 years

---

6 month

---

born in Vancouver

---

47

---

How long have you lived in Powell River?

Response

Count

---

12 responses

---



Since 2010 but I also lived here 14 years ago for three years, the only other place I've lived is Sechelt which is where I was born.

2 + years

45 years

35 years

21 years

10 months

20 years

over 6 years

6 months

4.5 years

born here

46

#### Comment:

Response

Count

3 responses

I'm a true Sunshine Coaster but my ancestors are from Quebec, England and various other parts of the world.

Most of my life. Born in Powell River. Left Powell River at 16 and moved back at 42

I really enjoyed my time at the course.

#### My religious affiliation and/or spiritual beliefs are best described as:

Response

Count

9 responses

I was raised Roman Catholic but I do not go to church anymore. I have no clue what I believe in at the moment. I feel like I believe in a higher power of some sort that will some day judge me so that's what keeps me honest but I don't really have faith in any particular "God". I just think we should all do the best we can and hopefully we will be allowed to live in the spirit world in whatever way suits us at the time of our death. Although I don't necessarily identify with a church anymore I still pray occasionally and during hard times have been known to go to church and have a chat with "God". Mostly I feel I can talk to the people I know whom have passed away anytime I want. I feel peace this way. I feel like they are around me. I identify with nature, particularly bodies of water - this is where I feel the most peace, the most spiritual.

woo woo

purely spiritual and somewhat eclectic

catholic

I am spirit having a human condition.




open to a variety of spiritual experiences

independent/private

no affiliation

baptist

My sexual orientation is best identified as:

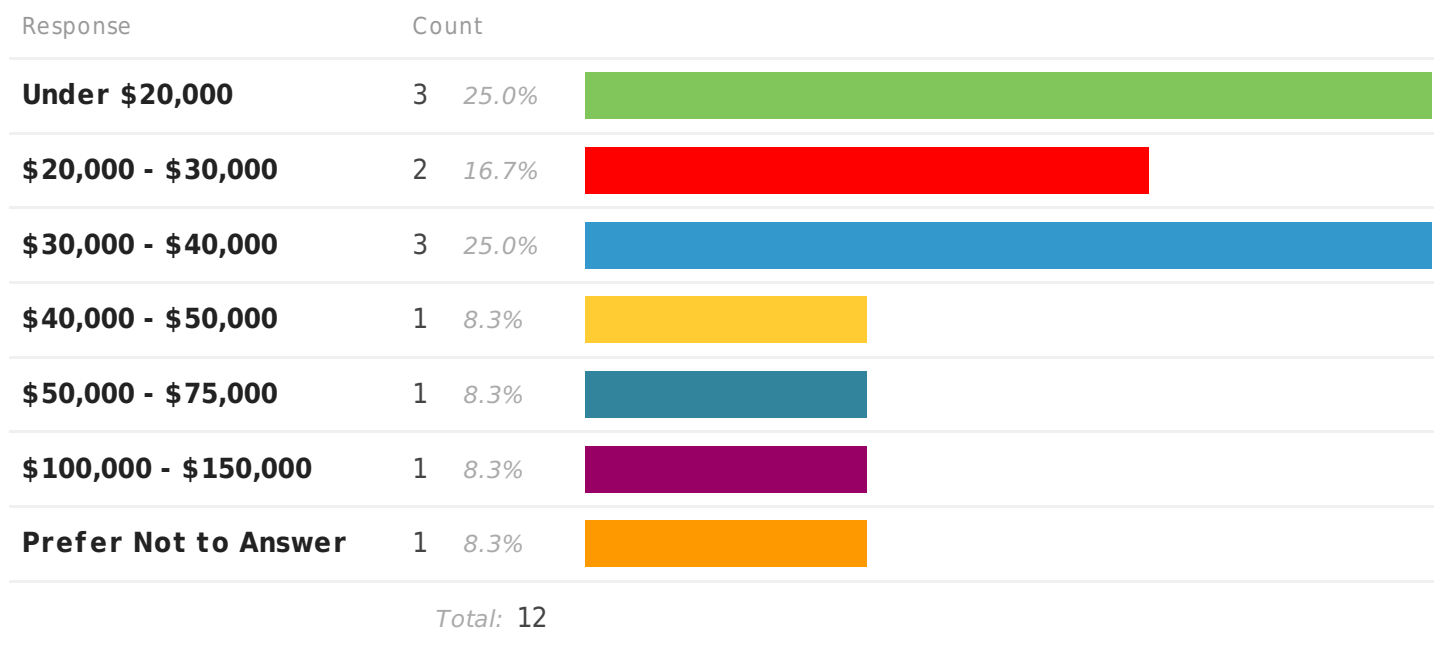
Response	Count	
<b>GLBT (Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender)</b>	1 8.3%	
<b>Heterosexual</b>	8 66.7%	
<b><u>Other, please comment</u></b> <b>...</b>	3 25.0%	
<i>Total:</i> 12		

Not to say I don't find the same sex attractive - I can see beauty wherever it exists.








does it matter!

I am just a regular guy.

My current individual annual income level is:



My employment status at the time of taking Defining Diversity, Creating Community is best described as:

Response	Count	
<b>Employed Full-Time</b>	5 38.5%	
<b>Employed Part-Time</b>	1 7.7%	
<b>Self-employed</b>	1 7.7%	
<b>Not employed, but looking for work</b>	1 7.7%	
<b>Not employed and not looking for work</b>	1 7.7%	
<b>Retired</b>	2 15.4%	
<b>Prefer Not to Answer</b>	2 15.4%	
<i>Total: 13</i>		