

Module 2:

Discussion questions

1. Think about the principles for authentic engagement:

- **Understand the story of place** – Do we understand our relationship to the community, why we are engaging and how deep we should go?
- **Recognize all expertise** – How can we ensure context expertise (those who have lived experience of a situation) is amplified and integrated into the work? How can we truly listen, learn and reduce barriers to participation?
- **Understand power** – How can we be a power broker so that those closest to issues can shape outcomes? How can we understand system barriers to participation and access to power?
- **Ensure contribution** – How can all people, including those that have barriers, contribute in meaningful ways?
- **Show accountability** – How can we demonstrate that we listened, and that the communities' contributions shaped the outcome? Do we understand the history and culture of the community.

Which of these principles are you/your group actively using? Which principles do you want to focus on with more intention?

2. Based on your reflections in the *Taking stock of your relationship with a community* worksheet, what hopes do you have for establishing deeper trust and relationships with various people and groups you connect with?