

Learning through creative thinking

In end of March, the UBC Inclusive and Healthy Commission, get together in Trelleborg, Sweden, for a three day meeting.

Day one started with introductions and start-up of the workshop sessions with a presentation by the moderator of the concept of service design.

Design thinking, a process that starts with what people need, and is about understanding culture and context before starting to design solutions.

Learning by making, through prototyping, and a movement from consumption to participation. A group exercise that introduced the participants in a leisurely manner was also conducted.

Day two was packed with different workshop sessions. Different tools were used to get the participants to work through objectives for inclusive and healthy cities and potential projects within the theme of the Commission – open social spaces. Active participation, lots of coffee and great support and encouragement from the moderator ensured the workshops resulted in two concrete ideas to bring home to our cities for further development in the coming Commission meetings.

The day ended with a sneak peek of the uncut version of the film produced by the city of Trelleborg regarding the refugee influx in Trelleborg in the autumn of 2015, followed by a dinner with the Mayor of the municipality of Trelleborg, Mr Torbjörn Karlsson.

Day three summed up the ideas that had developed throughout the workshops and an action plan for the coming Commission meetings.

Four countries and seven cities were represented: Sweden (Trelleborg, Karlskrona, Karlstad), Finland (Esbo), Poland (Gdynia, Gdansk) and Latvia (Jurmala).

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