# **Municipal Workshop**

Steven Feindel
Director, e-Service
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## **Key Topics**

- Survey Methods & Internet Survey Software
- e-Government Joint Venture Committee
  - Municipal Web Template
  - Transaction Services Assessment
  - Electronic Council
  - -e-Voting



#### **Survey Methods**

- Best Practices
- Planning and Approach
- Structuring Surveys
- Case Study Examples
- Overview of Municipal Survey Service
- Survey & Research Resources

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## **Surveys – The Why Nots**

- A survey is a survey right?
- How tough can it be to ask a few questions?
- Why should I bother to ask when I can't do anything about fixing it?
- Everybody's bombarded with surveys no one wants to be bothered by another one
- What does all this data mean?



## **Surveys – The Whys (Wise)**

- If you don't measure it it doesn't get done
- ..and if it does it may not get done right
- Even if you don't fix it right away it helps to understand what needs fixing
- Make it part of your business planning
  - Data to support resource allocation
- Customers do like to be asked!

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# Planning & Approach\*

- Plan
- Construct
- Conduct
- Analyze
- Act

\* - Institutte for Citizen-Centred Service



#### **Planning and Approach**

- Plan
  - Consider organization's readiness to receive feedback
  - Establish clear objectives
    - How feedback will be used & who will use it
  - Is this 1-time or series of surveys
    - Need for comparative data over time
  - Define and know your audience
  - Decide on core questions (align with objectives)
  - Consider need for confidentiality

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## **Planning and Approach**

- Construct
  - Determine data collection mechanisms
    - Focus groups, telephone, mail surveys, online
  - Determine sample size
  - Question design critical
  - Develop questions
    - Major groupings
    - Gap Process (positive negative)
    - Use benchmark questions where possible
    - Consider analysis phase in the beginning
  - Sample test group for questions



#### **Planning and Approach**

- Conduct
  - Consider logistics
    - sample size, data entry, mode of collection
    - tracking processes, training
  - Impacts on response rate
    - Incentives
    - Follow-up is often required
    - e.g. placement on web site
  - Appropriate sample time

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## **Planning and Approach**

- Analyze
  - Use tools to speed process
  - Provide analysis training if required
  - Look at sub-group analysis
  - Look for the expected and unexpected
  - Consider adequacy of results
    - Sample size, response rate, consistency of results
    - Objectivity can affect quality of data
  - Comparative analysis may be critical



#### **Planning and Approach**

- Act
  - Use the results to act on your objectives
    - Reward for good results
    - Short term and long term improvements
      - Service, communications, policy development
  - Share Results!
    - Packaging information is important
    - Even "bad" results are powerful results in change
  - Post survey review
    - What changes do you need to make next time

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## **Structuring Surveys**

- Design Considerations
  - Clearly stated opening and instructions
    - Need an attention grabber
    - Why should I spend my time?
  - Order of importance
    - Don't waste space/time with "interesting" questions
    - Driven by objectives
  - Pre-test your questions
    - Allows for fine-tuning, improves ease of use
  - Avoid leading/biased questions
    - Or consider that aspect during analysis



#### **Structuring Surveys**

- Design Considerations (cont'd)
  - Avoid ambiguous or "double-barreled" questions
    - e.g. "Would you say that our service is accurate and efficient?"
  - Be aware of "halo" effect
    - e.g. "Do you agree with Mayor I. W. Z. Elected that citizens should have access to municipal services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week?"

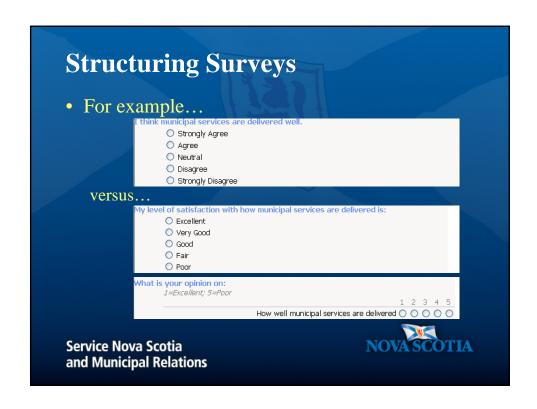
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#### **Structuring Surveys**

- Design Considerations (cont'd)
  - Responses Neutral Bias
    - Scales of "Strongly Agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree, Strongly Disagree" tend to be biased towards the middle
    - More specific terms such as "Excellent, Very Good, Fair, Poor" are better
    - Numeric scales (5-6 point) are best
      - 5 point common
      - 6 point forces a decision (no middle point)







#### **Structuring Surveys**

- Simple words plain language
- Consistent scales and response measures
   Use groupings
- No "tricky" scales, terms, jargon
- Small/organized groupings of questions
   Stick to your objectives
- Thank your participants!

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## **Uses of Surveys**

- Customer/Citizen Satisfaction
- Quality Assurance
- Employee Satisfaction
- Employee Development
- Policy & Planning
- Business Planning
- Business Development
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- Service Promotion
- Training Evaluation
- Website Feedback
- Website Usability
- Information Sharing
- Entertainment



## **Website Survey – Case Study**

- Valuable to manage time invested resources
- Make sure citizens like what they use
- Provides the basis for continuous improvement

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#### Overview of SelfSurveys.com

- Internet-based survey site
- Allows flexible surveys styles
- Provides comprehensive reporting and data management

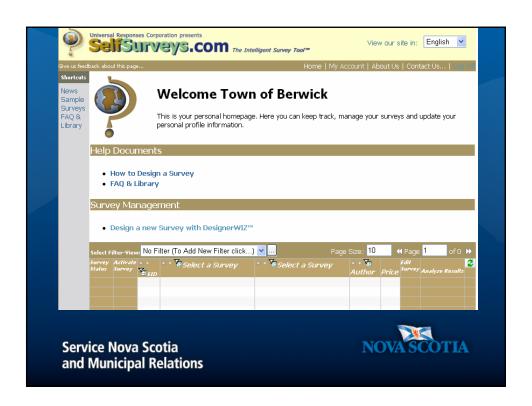


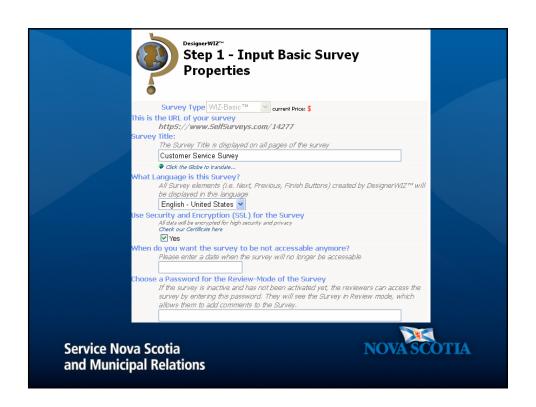
## **SelfSurveys.com Internet Tool**

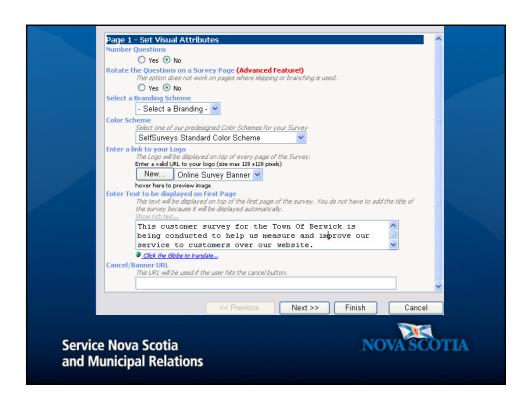
- Comprehensive Internet Survey Software
- Easy to Use Flexible Survey Styles
- Subscription Service (2 Years)
- Use Available Free to ALL Municipalities
- Released to e-Government Joint Venture Committee (June)
- Released to Other Municipalities (August)
- Information Coming via AMANS Listserve

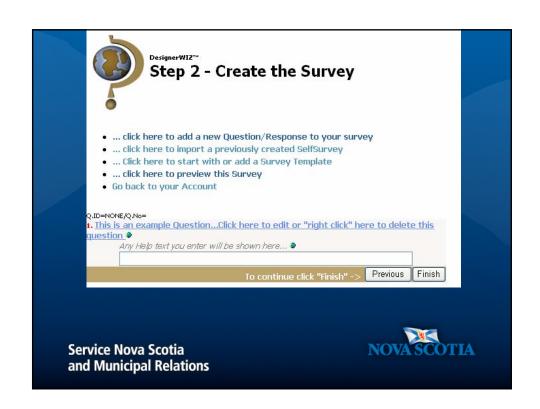












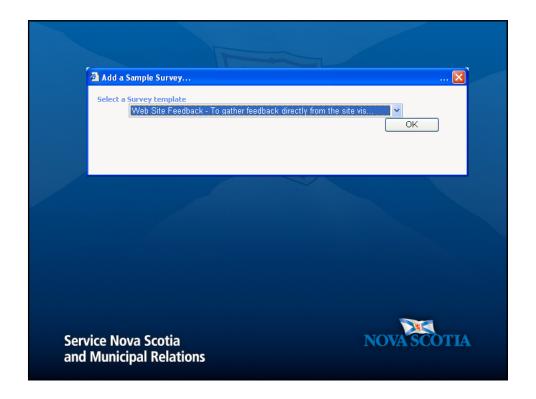
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Web site Feedback - To gather feedback directly from the site vis... Webinar Evaluation - (Business Surveys) Course Evaluation-To gather timely feedback directly from the stu... Web Site Feedback - To gather feedback directly from the site vis... ISO-9001 Medical Device Survey - (ISO-Quality Related Surveys)
ISO-9001 Product Survey - (ISO-Quality Related Surveys)
ISO-9001 Service Survey - (ISO-Quality Related Surveys) ISO-9001 Training Survey - (ISO-Quality Related Surveys) ISO-9001Telecom Survey - (ISO-Quality Related Surveys) Godern Surveys)

General Business) - (General Surveys)

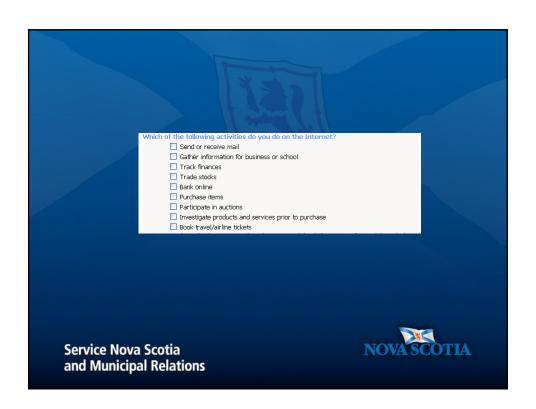
Continual Training - (General Surveys)

Course Evaluation (Education) - (General Surveys)

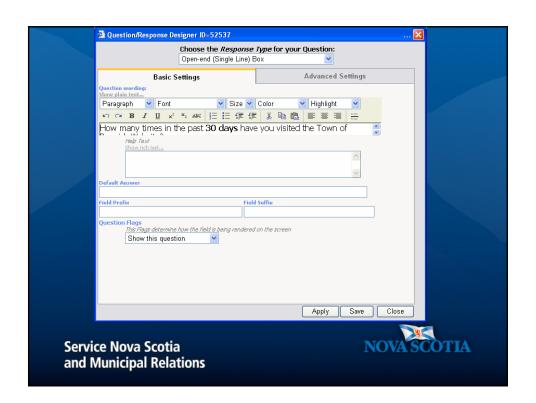
Customer Satisfaction (General Business) - (General Surveys) Customer Service - (General Surveys) Customer Service (General Business) - (General Surveys) Delivery - (General Surveys) Development Tools for Mobile and Embedded Application Whitepaper ... Employee Satisfaction (General Business) - (General Surveys) **Service Nova Scotia** and Municipal Relations

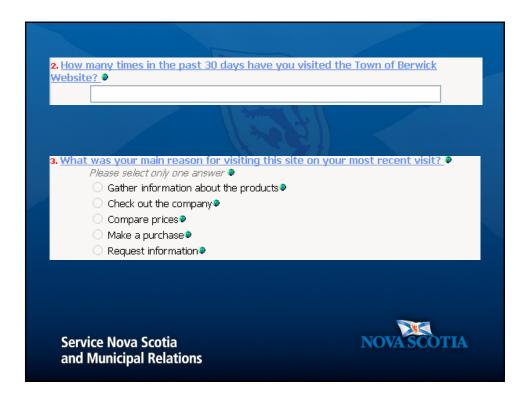


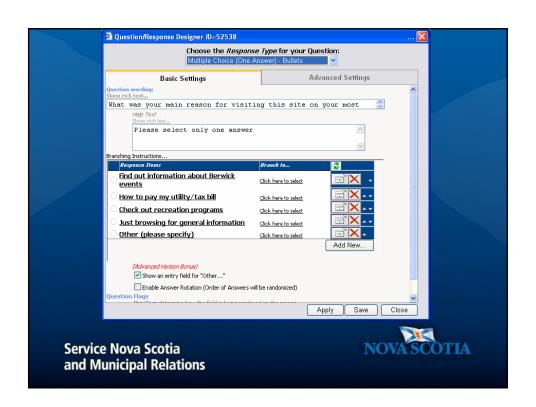
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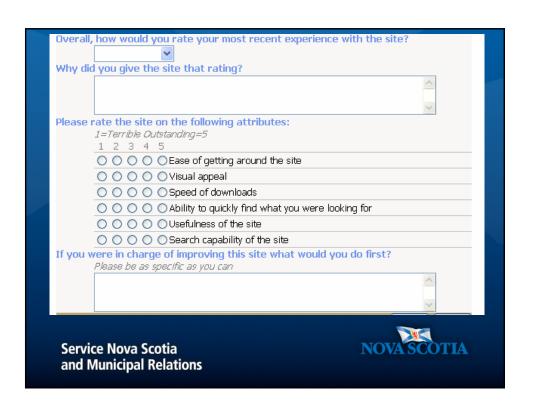
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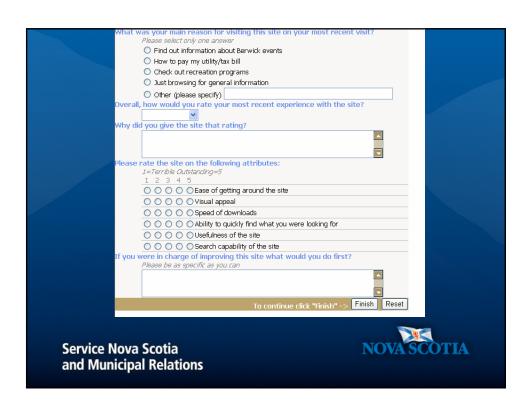


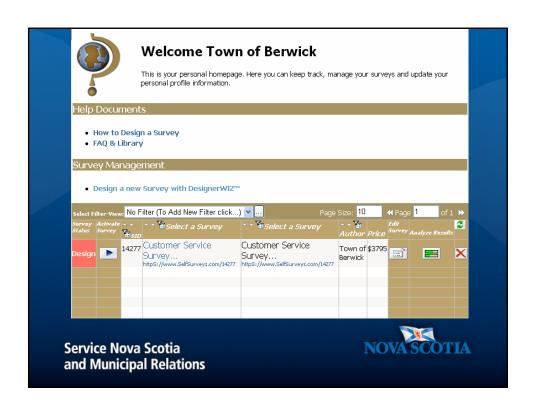


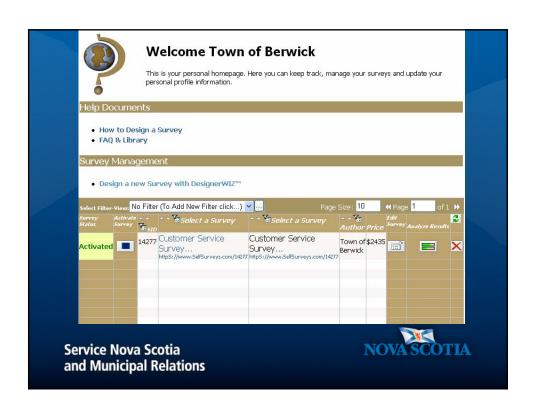
2. How many times in the past 30 days have you visited the Town of Berwick Website?   3. What was your main reason for visiting this site on your most recent visit?   Please select only one answer   Find out information about Berwick events   How to pay my utility/tax bill   Check out recreation programs   Just browsing for general information				
Other (please specify)				
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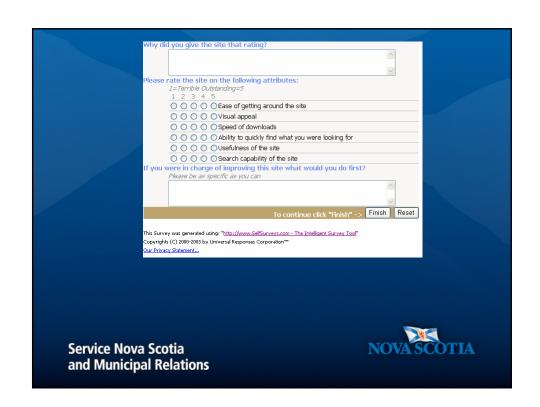
Customer Service Survey  This survey is in PRETEST/RIJOT Mode. In Pretest/Pilot Mode you can add comments to a Question by cicking on the question with the right mouse button. The Survey-Administrator can then look at your comments and act accordingly.  The purpose of the Pretest/Pilot Mode is to double check  • the Lagout of the survey  • the Questions themselves (Spelling, grammar, content)  • and the general Apposal of the survey  Select a language for the Preview Mode: English   This customer survey for the Town of Berwick is being conducted to help up measure and improve our service to customers over our websits.  QUID-HORE/Cree  Which is of the following activities do you do on the Intermet?  Send or receive mail  Gastier information for business or school  Trads frances  Trade stocks  Bark online  Participate in automs  Pretigate in the post 30 days have you visited the Town of Berwick Website?	Online Survey
This survey is in PRETEST/PLOT-Mode. In Pretest/Pilot Mode you can add comments to a Question by clicking on the question with the right mouse button. The Survey-Administrator can then look at your comments and act accordingly.  The purpose of the Pretest/Pilot Mode is to double check  • the Layout of the survey  • the Questions themselves (Spelling, grammar, content)  • and the general Appual of the survey  Select a language for the Preview Mode: English   This customer survey for the Town Of Berwick is being conducted to help us measure and improve our service to customers over our website.  QUENTIFICATION  Which of the following activities do you do on the Internet?  Send or receive mail  Gather information for business or school  Track finances  Trade stocks  Bank online  Participate in auctions  Investigate products and services prior to purchase  Book travel/ar line tickets  How many times in the post 30 days have you visited the Town of Berwick Website?	Customer Service Survey
the Layout of the curvey     the Questions themselves (Spelling, grammar, content)     and the general Appeal of the survey  Select a language for the Preview Mode: English   This customer survey for the Town Of Borwick is being conducted to help us measure and improve our service to customers over our website.  QUENTIONE/QUENTIAL Service Which of the following activities do you do on the Internet?  Send or receive mail Gather information for business or school Track frances Track stocks Bunk online Participate in auctions Investigate products and services prior to purchase Book travel/ar line tickets  How many times in the past 30 days have you visited the Town of Bervick Website?	This survey is in PRETEST,PILOT-Mode. In Pretest-Prilot Mode you can add comments to a Question by clicking on the question with the right mouse button. The Survey-Administrator can then look at your
the Questions themselves (Spelling, grammar, content) and the genoral Appeal of the survey  Select a language for the Preview Mode: English  This customer survey for the Town Of Berwick is being conducted to help us measure and improve our service to customers over our website.   QUENTOTE, (276) Which of the following activities do you do on the Internet? Send or receive mail Gather information for business or school Track finances Trade stooks Bark online Participate in auctions Participate in auctions Investigate products and services prior to purchase Book travel(arine todes) Book travel(arine todes)	The purpose of the Pretest/Pilot Mode is to double check
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service to customers over our website.  2.30***rore/2/se** Which of the following activities do you do on the Internet?  Send or receive mail Gather information for business or school Track finances Track finances Bark contine Purchase items Participate in auctions Investigate products and services prior to purchase Book travel/air ine tickets  Book travel/air line tickets  Book many times in the past 30 days have you visited the Town of Bervick Website?	Select a language for the Preview Mode: English 💌
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Service Nova Scotia  NOVA SCOTIA	Which of the following activities do you do on the Internet?  Send or receive mail Gather information for business or school Track finances Track stocks Bark online Purchase terms Participate in auctions Investigate products and services prior to purchase Oct travellarite tricks
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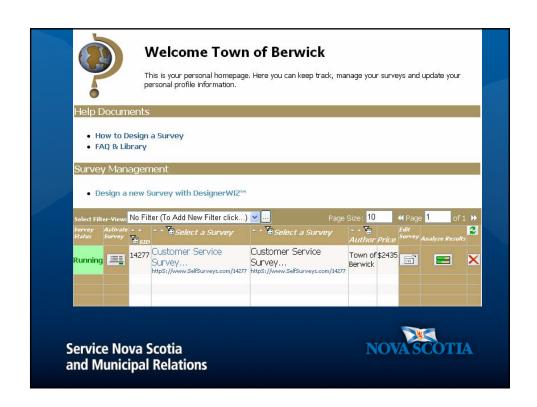




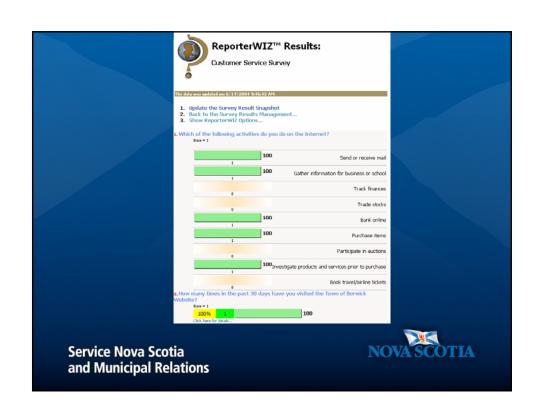
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	Customer Service Survey	
	This customer survey for the Town Of Berwick is being conducted to help us measure and improve our service to customers over our website.	
	Which of the following activities do you do on the Internet?  ☐ Send or receive mail	
	Gather information for business or school Track finances	
	☐ Trade stocks ☐ Bank online	
	Purchase Items Participate in auctions Investigate products and services prior to purchase	
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	What was your main reason for visiting this site on your most recent visit?  Please select only one answer	
	Find out information about Berwick events  How to pay my utility/tax bill	
	Check out recreation programs     Just browsing for general information	
	Other (please specify)  Overall, how would you rate your most recent experience with the site?	
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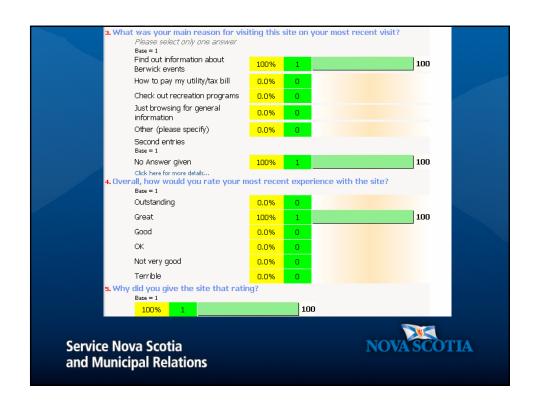


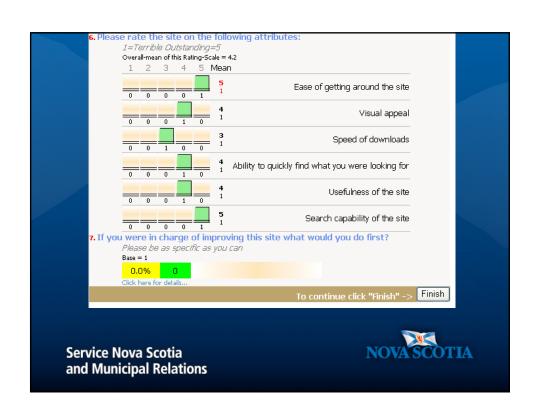












#### **Other Reporting Features**

- Cross-Tabulation Report
- Extract to database/spreadsheet format

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#### **Survey Resources**

- Institute for Citizen-Centred Service (ICCS)
  - www.iccs-isac.org
  - Common Measurement Tool
  - Publications
    - How to Conduct Customer Surveys, etc...
- SelfSurveys.com
  - <u>www.selfsurveys.com</u>
  - Tips, Do's Don'ts
  - Research & Reference Book Listings

