



Indigenous Advisory Committee

The County of Wellington

Lunch and Learn – Thursday, Sept 30th, 2021
National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

On Thursday, September 30th, 2021, The County of Wellington's Indigenous Advisory Committee hosted a Lunch and Learn to support County staff on the path to Reconciliation through education. The IAC began the session with a moment of silence, followed by a brief teaching on the purpose of smudging.

With the main focus on the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and National Orange Shirt Day, the agenda covered the following subjects:

- A brief overview of Canada's Indigenous Peoples: First Nations, Métis and Inuit
- A historical timeline of Residential Schools in Canada
- The Orange Shirt story by Phyllis Webstad
- An introduction to former Senator Murray Sinclair: Chair to the Truth & Reconciliation Commission & 94 Calls to Action and his perspective as to why Indigenous Peoples "...cannot get over it."
- A first-hand account of survival in a Residential School by Chief Robert Joseph and how "we are all one" with a duty towards Reconciliation
- How Canadians can contribute to Reconciliation and work for change
- And finally, the session concluded with Gord Downie's story of Chanie Wenjack in The Stranger. 10 copies of this book were purchased and raffled to participants.

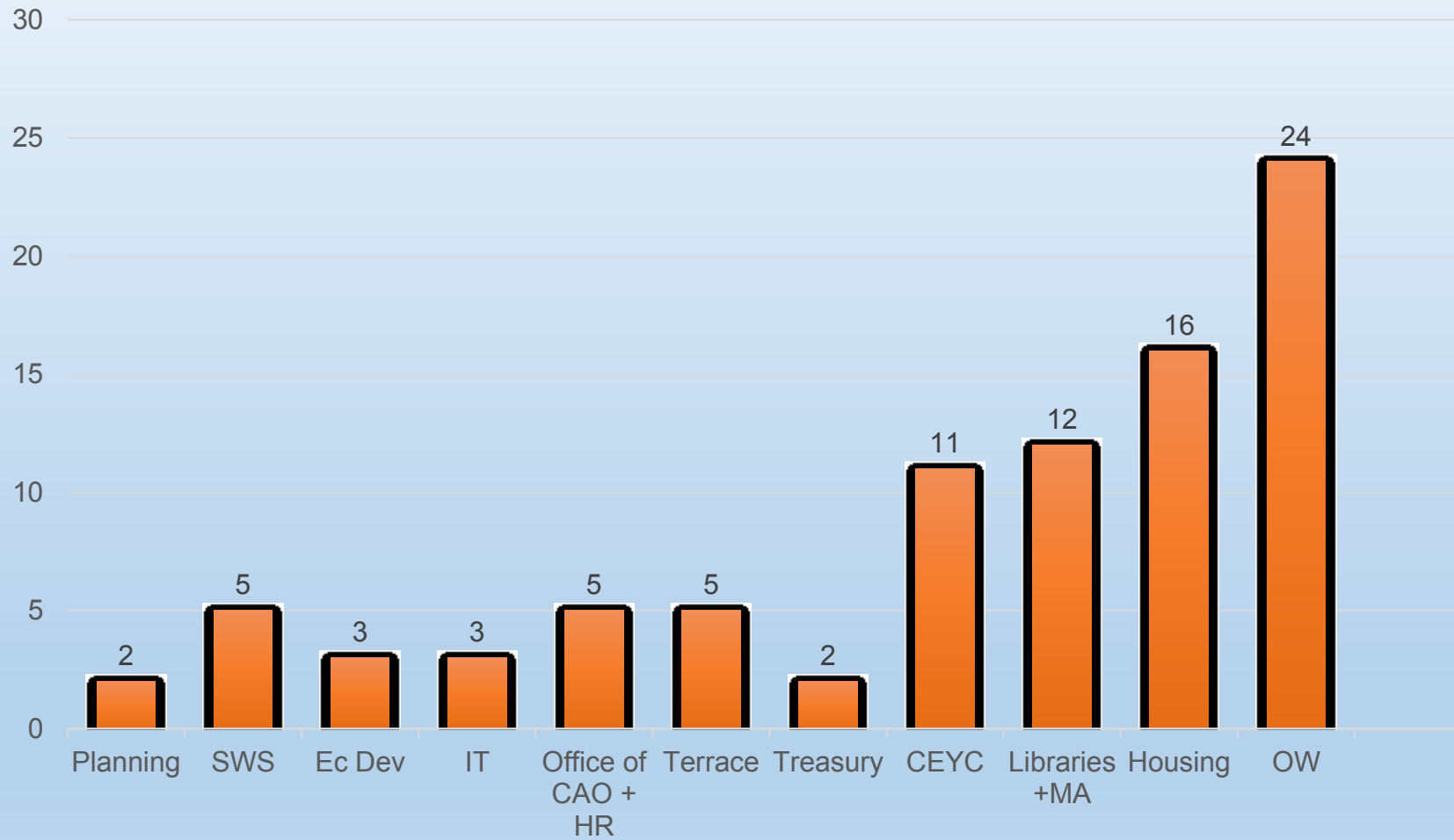


The following statistics were captured through polls conducted prior and subsequently after the Lunch and Learn to gauge the level of interest and knowledge gained by participants.

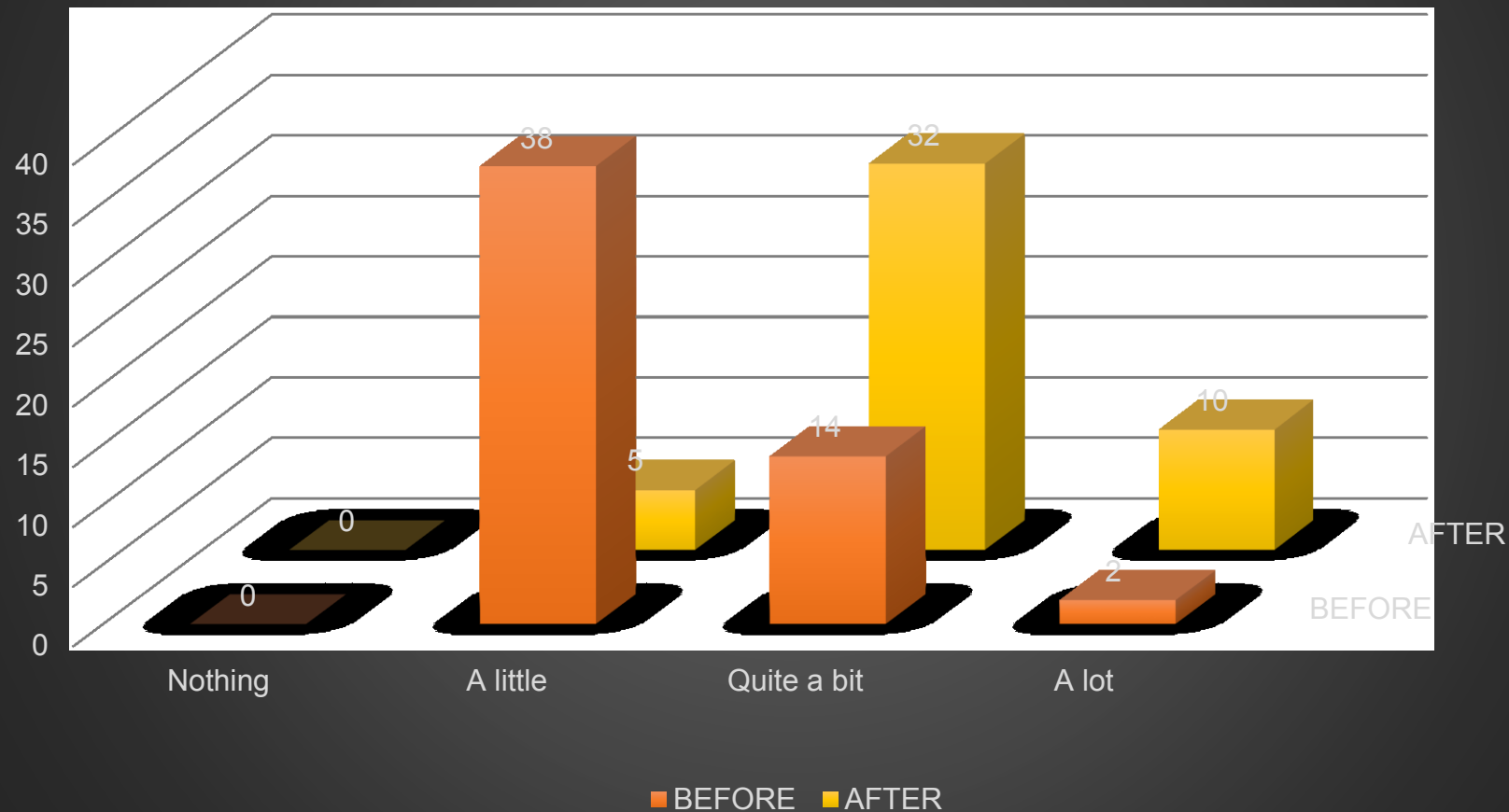


Attendance by Department

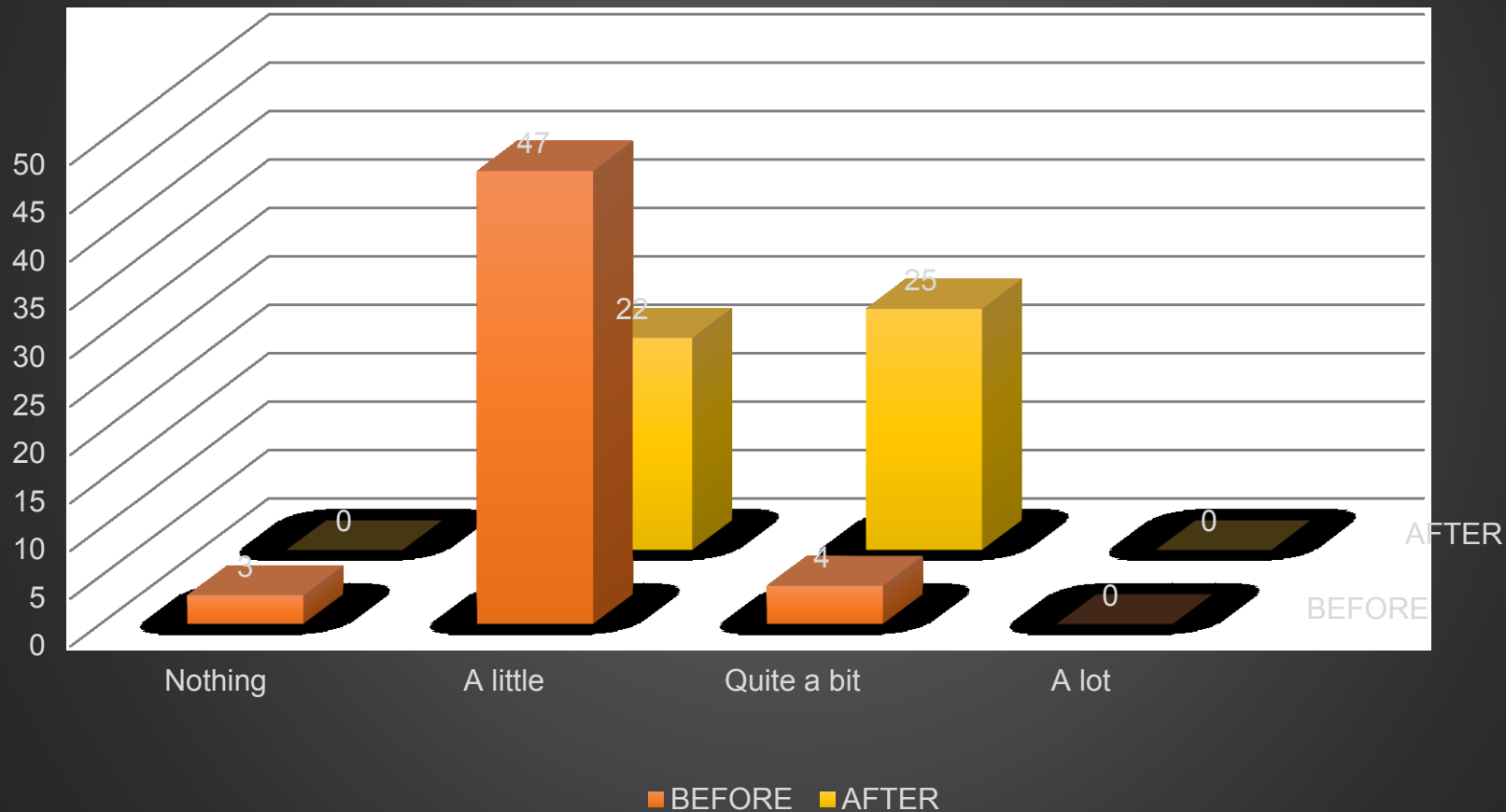
Total: 93



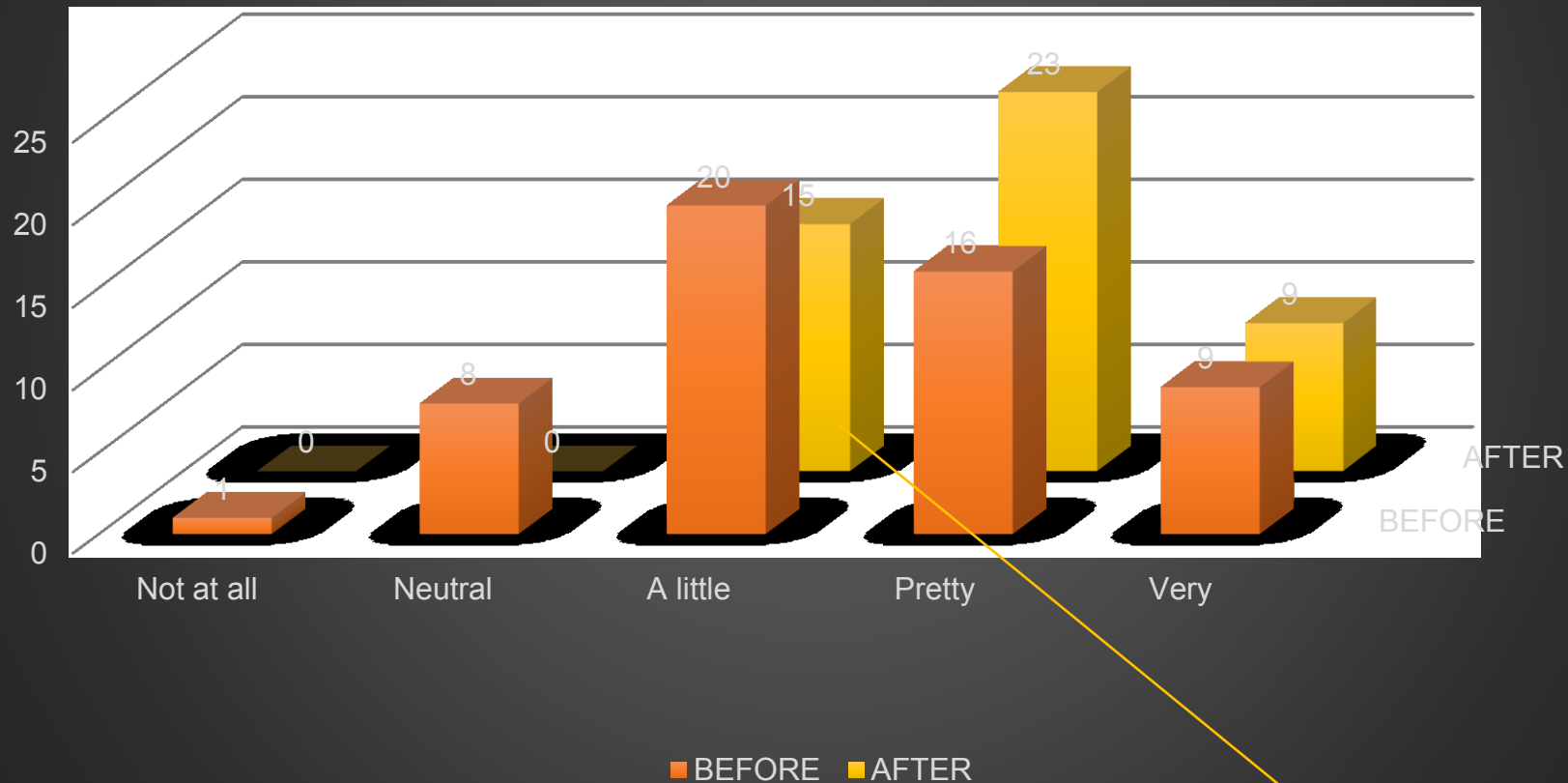
Question #1: How much do you know about Orange Shirt Day?



Question #2 – How much do you know about Reconciliation?

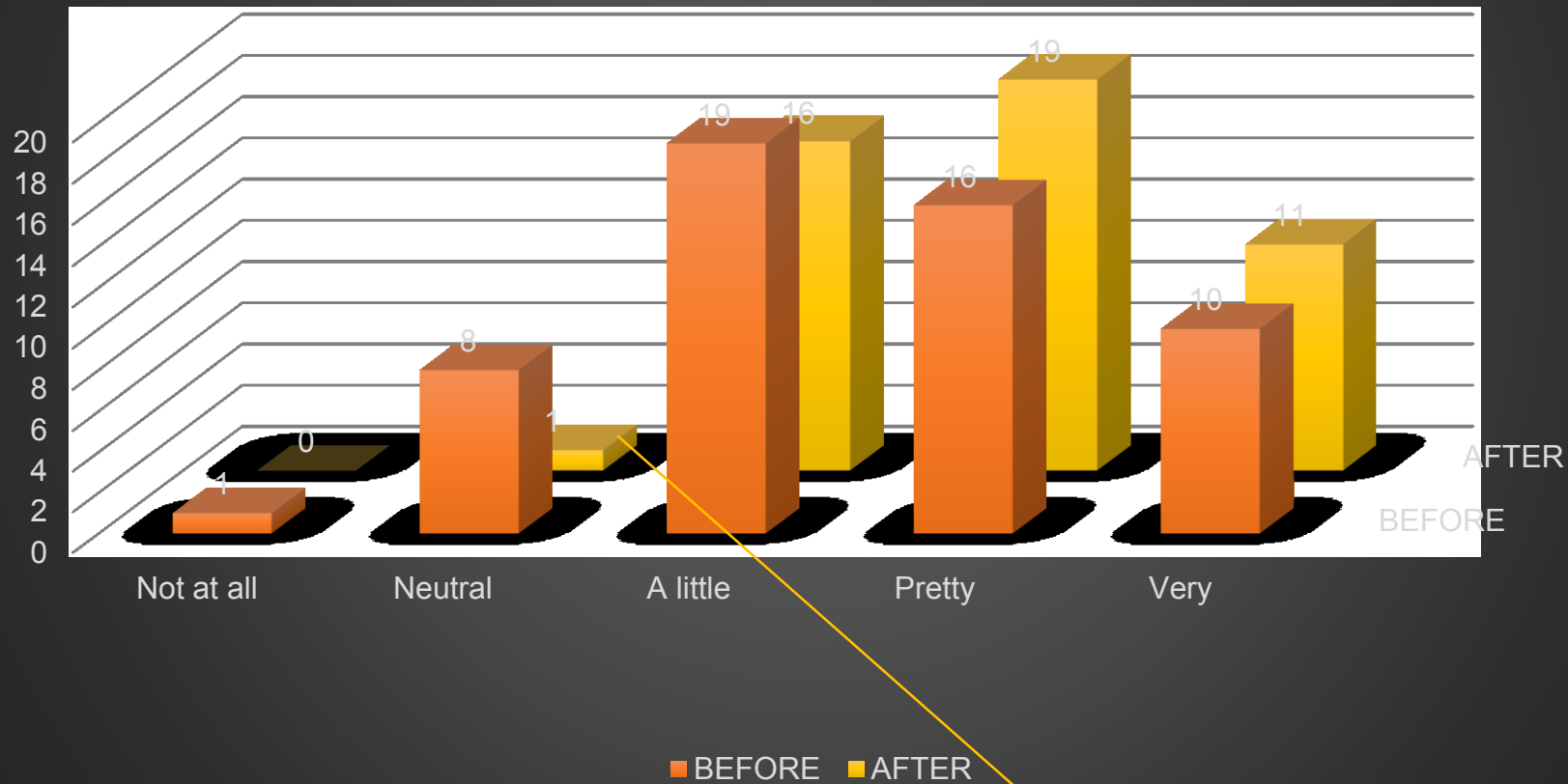


Q #3 – How comfortable are you in discussing Residential Schools?



Note: 2 respondents indicated a 20% decrease in comfort level after presentation.

Q #4 – What is your comfort level in discussing Reconciliation?



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