

# What We Heard Report

Okotoks Parks and Recreation Master Plan Refresh

February 2023





# Contents

<b>1.0 Introduction . . . . .</b>	<b>.01</b>
<b>2.0 Community Survey . . . . .</b>	<b>03</b>
2.1 Survey Findings . . . . .	04
2.1.1 Participation . . . . .	05
2.1.2 Usage . . . . .	09
2.1.3 Values and Satisfaction . . . . .	11
2.1.5 Accessibility Considerations . . . . .	20
2.1.6 Communication . . . . .	23
2.1.7 General Comments . . . . .	25
2.1.8 Household Profile . . . . .	25
<b>3.0 Group Survey . . . . .</b>	<b>26</b>
3.1 Survey Findings . . . . .	27
3.1.1 About Your Organization. . . . .	27
3.1.2 Facility Usage . . . . .	31
3.1.3 Prioritization Criteria . . . . .	34
3.1.4 Fees and Charges . . . . .	35
3.1.5 Challenges and Opportunities . . . . .	36
<b>4.0 Intercept Findings . . . . .</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>5.0 Conclusions . . . . .</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>6.0 Appendices . . . . .</b>	<b>42</b>
Appendix A: Postcard . . . . .	43
Appendix B: Resident Questionnaire . . . . .	44
Appendix C: Resident Survey Findings . . . . .	54
Appendix D: Group Questionnaire . . . . .	66
Appendix E: Group Survey Participants . . . . .	73
Appendix F: Location of Intercepts . . . . .	74



# 1.0 Introduction



# 1.0 Introduction

The Town of Okotoks recreation, parks and leisure programs, events and amenities are valued and important municipal services. Residents that have access to quality services are proven to be healthier, happier, and more connected to their community. Due to changes in the community and to proactively manage these services the Town is updating its 2017 Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan.

A comprehensive program of public participation was implemented to gather thoughts from many perspectives in Okotoks. The tactics utilized included a community survey (coded access household); a survey of community groups, and pop up events at various locations in the community during which people were “intercepted” and asked to provide their thoughts. Locations included the Centennial Arena Walking Track, Okotoks Junior High School, Okotoks Recreation Centre, and at an Okotoks Oilers hockey game. Combined, these findings present a comprehensive perspective on the provision of recreation, parks and leisure in Okotoks.

Tactic	Participation	Margin of Error
Community Survey (Coded Access Household)	898*	+/- 3.3% 19/20
Group Survey	12	N/A
Community Pop-Ups	4 locations	N/A

\*if the survey was fielded using random selection, this level of participation would equate to a margin of error of +/- 3.3% 19 times out of 20.





# 2.0 Community Survey



## 2.0 Community Survey

A survey was fielded with households in Okotoks to gather the perspectives of household members on recreation, parks and leisure provision in Okotoks. The survey required respondents to answer the questions considering the perspectives of all people in the household. Participation in this survey required an access code that was unique to each household.

The access codes were distributed to households using a postcard. In addition to the access code, the postcard provided a brief explanation of the project and directions on how to access the survey on the Towns website. Postcards were mailed to 13,548 households. Refer to Appendix A to see the postcard.

The Town had some additional access codes which could be provided to households who misplaced or did not receive a code. The survey was fielded online, however residents were able to request hard copies of the survey. The survey gathered responses from October 7, 2022 to October 29, 2022. In total 898 responses were received. If the survey was fielded through random sampling, the findings would have a margin of error of +/- 3.3% nineteen times out of twenty. The findings from the coded survey are considered representative of all households in the Town of Okotoks. Refer to Appendix B for a copy of the questionnaire.

A variety of tactics were utilized to promote the survey. Aside from the distributed postcards other tactics included the following:

- Social Media
- Newspaper
- Town of Okotoks Website
- Media Release

## 2.1 Survey Findings

The findings are presented in the order they were posed in the survey. The findings reflect the proportion of respondents who answered the question as not all respondents answered each question. The findings were also examined according to some subsegments<sup>1</sup>. Where appropriate and sizeable differences exist, mention is made. In some instances, findings do not total 100% due to rounding. Refer to Appendix C for the complete resident survey findings.



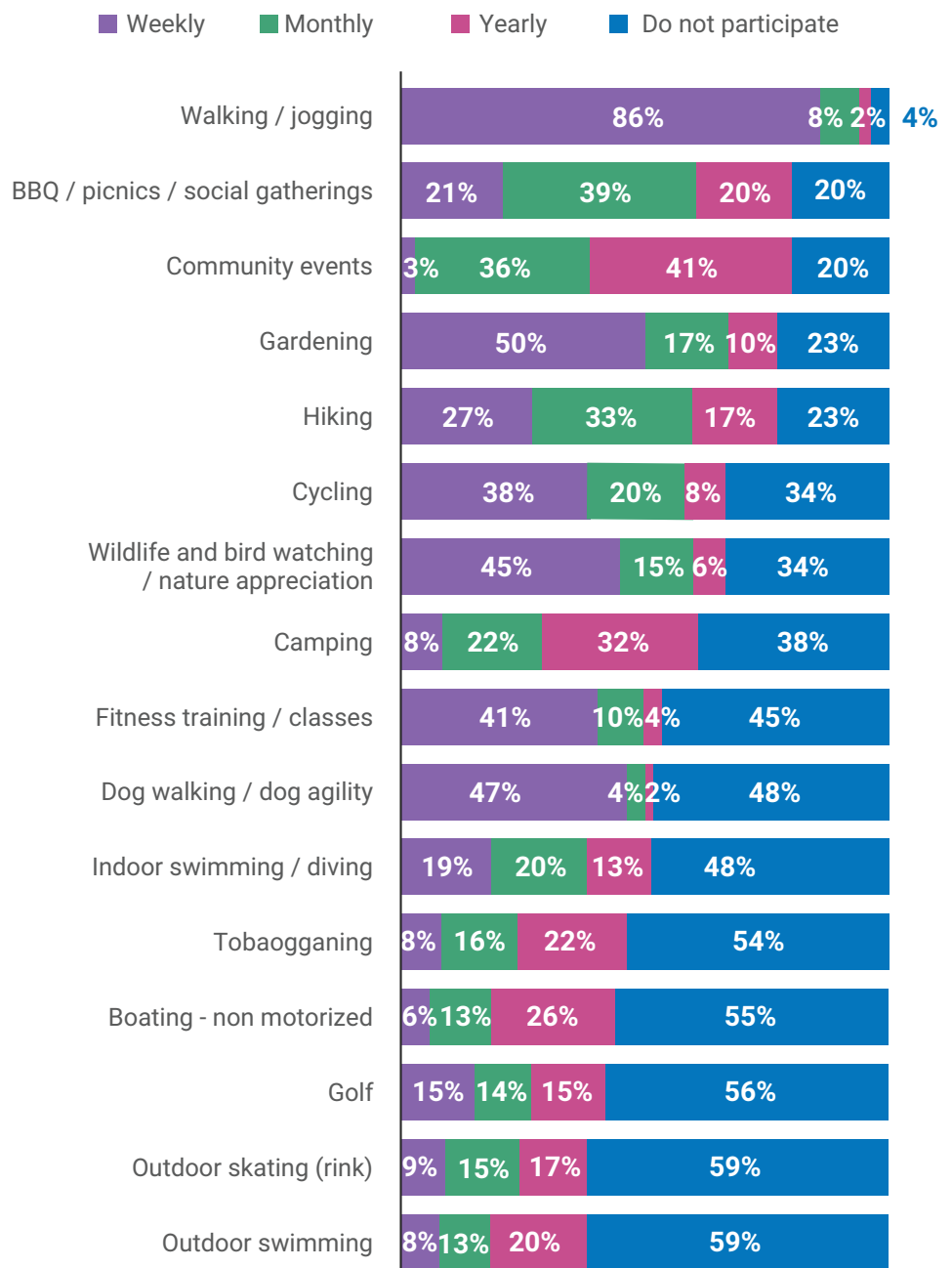
<sup>1</sup> The subsegments included: household composition 0-4, 5-9, 10-19, 20-39, 40-59, and 60+, households with children households without children, tenure in Okotoks, seniors in the household vs no seniors in the household, programming analysis by household composition.

## 2.1.1 Participation

To begin the survey, respondents were asked to identify how often they participated in recreation activities in or outside of Okotoks. The activities were presented by activity types in the survey, but to better present the findings they have been combined into one graph. Not all activities have been included on the below graph, for a complete data set please refer to Appendix C.

As illustrated in the accompanying graph, almost all respondents participate in walking and or jogging with 86% of respondents participating on a weekly basis. Over three quarters of respondents participate in gardening with half (50%) participating on a weekly basis. Additionally, of the 66% of respondents that participate in cycling, approximately one third do so on a weekly basis. Activities with participation percentages below 40% were not included on the graph. Refer to Appendix C for additional findings.

### Households Participation in Recreation Activities





## Subsegment Analysis

- Those who have lived in Okotoks for 6 to 10 years (51%) are more likely to participate in aqua fitness on a weekly basis than those who have lived in Okotoks for up to 5 years (25%).
- Those aged 60 and older (57%) are more likely to participate in indoor pickleball on a weekly basis than those aged 10-19 years (19%), 40-59 years (22%) and 20-39 years (25%).
- Households with seniors are more likely to participate in outdoor court sports on a weekly basis (56%) than households with no seniors aged 60 and over (25%).

Respondents were able to share some **other activities** they participate in on a regular basis. Below are the most frequent responses.

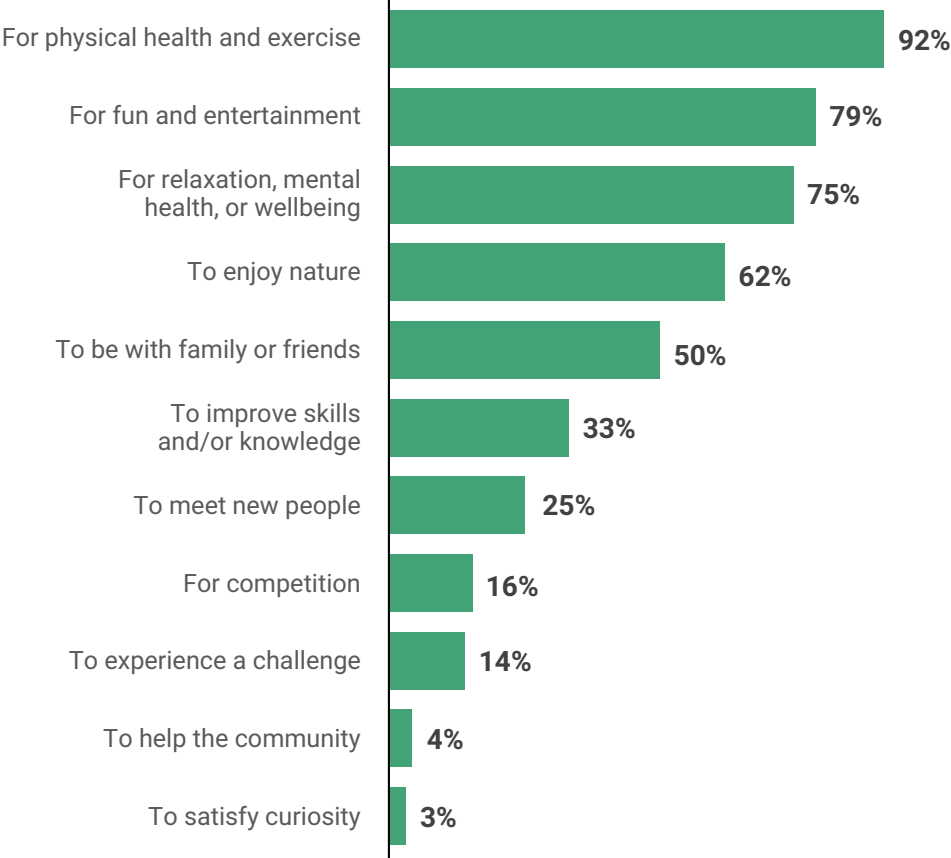
- » Musical theatre and art programming (16 comments)
- » Fishing (13 comments)
- » Target shooting (11 comments)
- » Weight training at home (11 comments)
- » Hunting (7 comments)
- » Dirt biking (5 comments)

## 2017 Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan Comparison

- The 2017 Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan posed a similar question, however respondents were not able to share how frequently they participated in parks and recreation activities. In 2017, hiking activities was identified as a top 10 activity with 45% of households participating. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, hiking has climbed into the top five activities households participate in, with a 32% increase from 2017. Additionally, wildlife watching and nature appreciation activity participation has increased 28% since 2017.

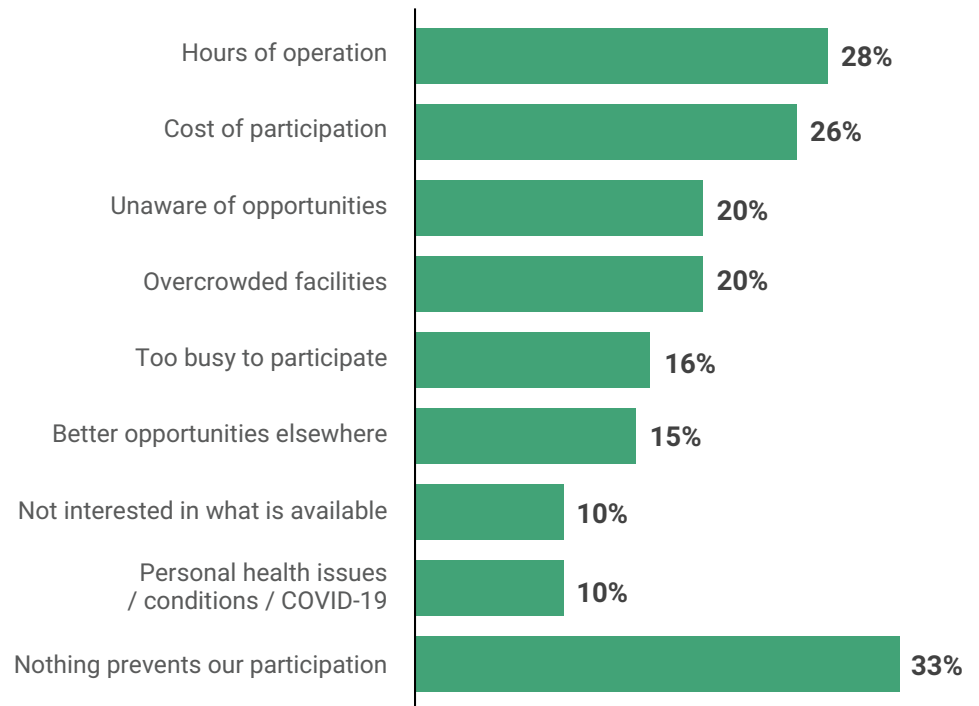
Respondents were then asked to identify the top five reasons they participate in recreation, parks and leisure activities. Almost all respondents said they participate for physical health and exercise (92%). Participating for fun and entertainment (79%), for relaxation, mental health or well being (75%) were the next most common reasons cited. Refer to the graph for additional findings. Findings from the 2017 survey were not materially different from the current findings.

### Reasons Household Members Participate





## Barriers to Participation



Respondents were asked if anything prevents a household member from participating in recreation, parks and leisure opportunities in Okotoks. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, one third of respondents said that nothing prevents their participation (33%) in accessing recreation activities. Just over one quarter of respondents identified hours of operation (28%) and cost of participation (26%) as barriers they face when trying to access recreation, parks and leisure activities and programs in Okotoks. Barriers with percentages less than 10% were not included in the graph. Refer to Appendix C for additional findings.

Respondents were able to share some other barriers they face when accessing recreation, parks and leisure facilities and amenities in Okotoks. The most frequent are represented below:

- There is lack of scheduled programs outside of work and school hours (12 comments)
- Classes and programs fill up too quickly (12 comments)

## 2017 Recreation, Leisure and Parks Master Plan Findings

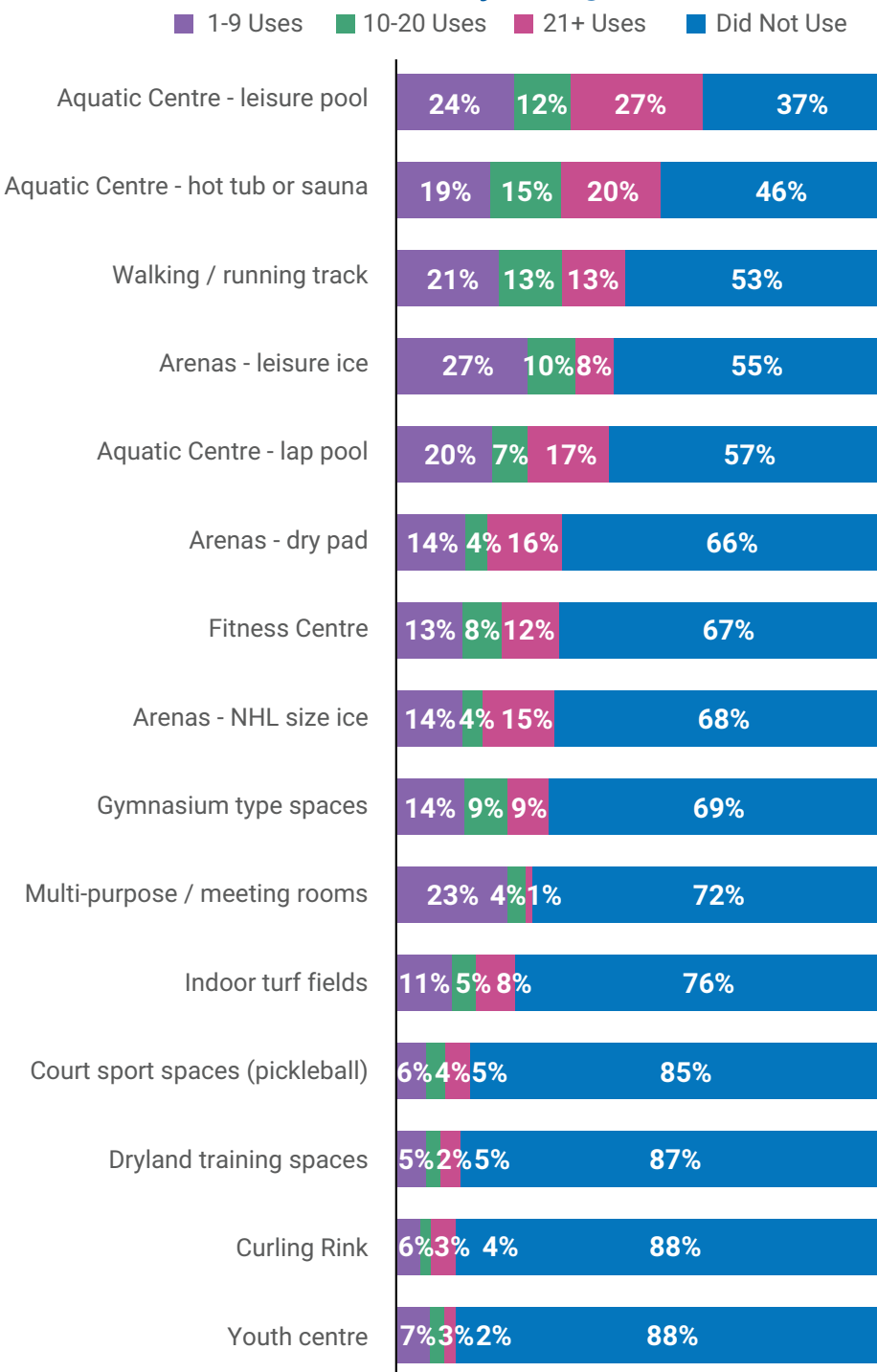
What, if anything, prevents you or someone in your household from participating in recreation, parks and leisure opportunities?

- Admission fees into facilities 38%
- Fees to join programs 35%
- Hours of operation 35%
- Unaware of some opportunities 32%
- Overcrowded facilities 30%

## 2.1.2 Usage

Given a list of indoor and outdoor recreation facilities and spaces respondents were asked to identify the frequency in which a household member used each. Regarding indoor facilities and spaces, almost two thirds of respondents (63%) identified the leisure pool at the aquatic centre as an indoor facility they use. Of the 63% that use the leisure pool, approximately one quarter of households have used it 21 or more times over the last two years. This makes it the most frequently visited indoor facility. The only other indoor facility that was used by more than half of respondent households is the hot tub or sauna at the Aquatic Centre (54% used it). Of the 54% that did use the hot tub or sauna, one fifth did so 21 or more times over the last two years. Notably, almost all respondents (88%) did not use the youth centre or the curling rink. Refer to the graph.

### Indoor Facility Usage



### 2017 Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan Findings

For each of the following indoor and outdoor recreation facilities in the area, please indicate how frequently in the previous 12 months someone in your household used/visited it.

#### INDOOR USED

- Aquatic Centre 48%
- Indoor fields 40%
- Arenas 40%
- Walking/running track 39%
- Fitness areas 31%

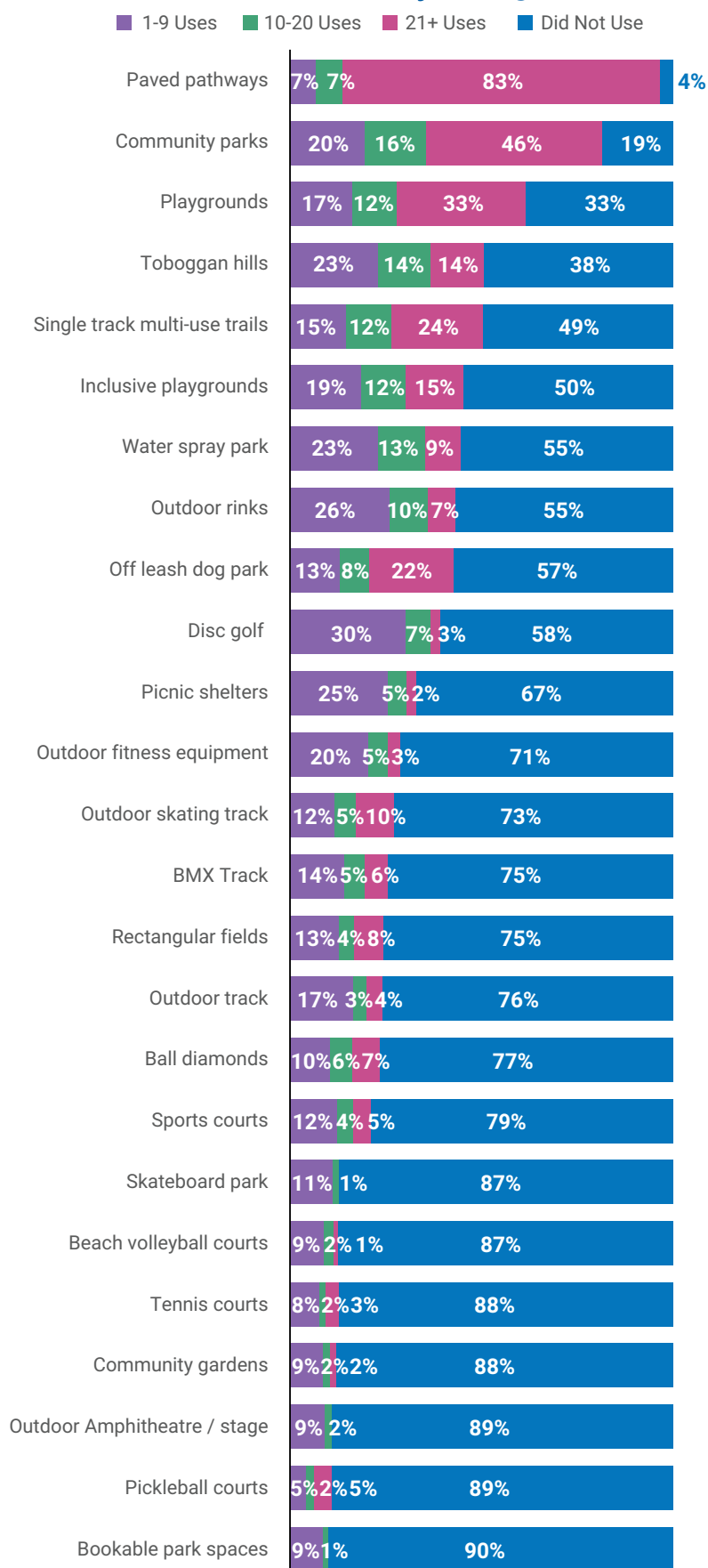


Regarding outdoor facilities and spaces in Okotoks, almost all respondents (97%) use the paved pathways over the past two years. Of the 97% that have used paved pathways, 83% have used them 21 or more times over the last two years. Community parks were the next most used outdoor facility with over three-quarters (82%) of respondent households saying they use them. Of the 82% of households that use community parks, approximately half have used them 21 or more times over the last two years. Aside from the paved pathways and community parks, at least half of respondents used playgrounds (62%), toboggan hills (51%), and single-track multi-use trails (50%). Refer to the graph.

## 2017 Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan Comparison

- The 2017 resident survey findings had the same top three outdoor facilities that residents utilized over those two years. The facility and or amenities were paved pathways (71%), parks and open spaces (51%) and playgrounds (33%). As illustrated in the accompanying graph, while the top three facilities are the same there has been a 12% increase in the utilization of paved pathways since 2017.

## Outdoor Facility Usage



## 2.1.3 Values and Satisfaction

Respondents were presented with several statements regarding the provision of recreation, parks and leisure in Okotoks. For each statement they were asked to identify the extent to which they agreed. Almost three quarters of respondents strongly agree that their local community as a whole benefits from recreation, parks, and leisure programs and facilities (74%). Approximately two-thirds strongly agree that recreation, parks and leisure programs and facilities can help attract and retain residents (62%) and that recreation, parks and leisure programs and facilities are important to their quality of life (62%). As illustrated in the graph, almost all respondents agreed with each statement.

### Values and Considerations

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree



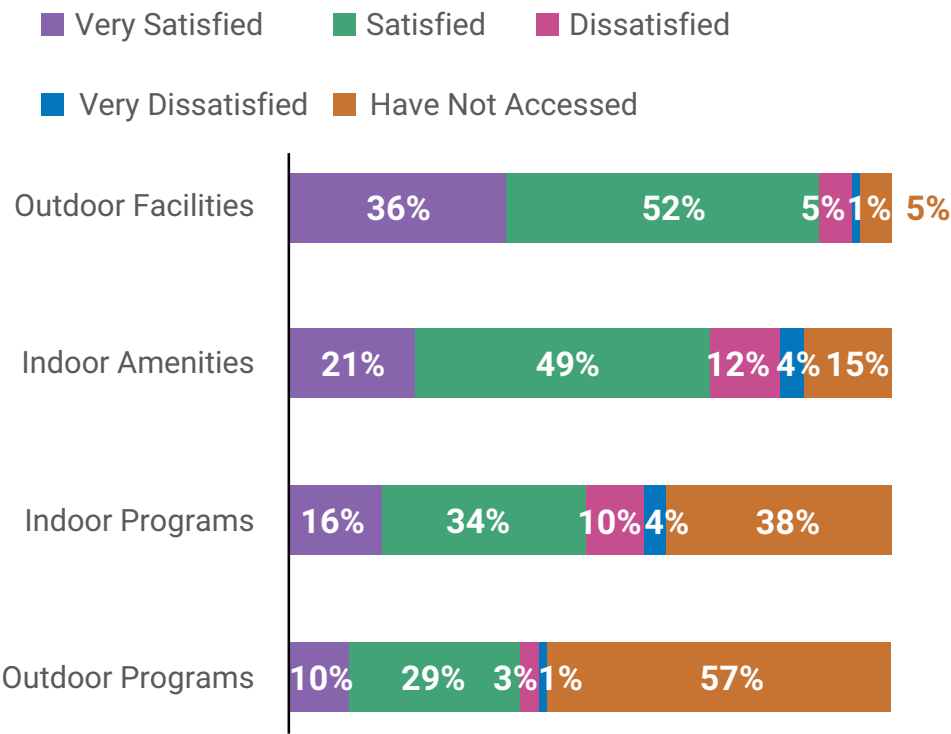
### 2017 Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan Findings

Statement	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Unsure	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Recreation, parks, and leisure are important to my quality of life.	70%	25%	2%	1%	1%
My local community as a whole benefits from recreation, parks, and leisure programs and services.	74%	20%	4%	1%	1%
Residents can benefit even if they do not use recreation, parks, and leisure services directly.	44%	37%	13%	4%	4%
Recreation, parks, and leisure services brings the community together.	59%	33%	5%	2%	1%



Respondents were then asked to identify how satisfied they were with the availability of indoor and outdoor facilities and amenities in Okotoks. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, almost all respondents (88%) were satisfied (very satisfied and satisfied) with outdoor facilities in Okotoks. Considering indoor amenities, approximately three quarters of respondents (70%) were satisfied (very satisfied and satisfied) with their availability. Fifteen percent of respondents have not accessed indoor recreation amenities in Okotoks. Refer to the graph. Notably, sizeable proportions have not accessed indoor programs (38%) or outdoor programs (57%). When examining the satisfaction levels after removing those who have not accessed the programs, over three-quarters (80%) are satisfied with the availability of indoor programs and 90% are satisfied with the availability of outdoor programs.

### Satisfaction With Availability of Facilities and Amenities



Respondents were then asked to explain why they are satisfied or dissatisfied with the indoor and outdoor facilities, amenities and programs. The most frequent responses are seen below:

**Those who are satisfied said:**

- The trail system is great to use (32 comments)
- There are a wide variety of activities for all residents in Okotoks (24 comments)
- Residents are overall satisfied with the amenities available to them (10 comments)
- The facilities and amenities in Okotoks are well maintained (5 comments)

**Those who are dissatisfied said:**

- There is only one pool, and it is not big enough to serve the population growth (33 comments)
- The dog park needs shade and water access (24 comments)
- The recreation centre is too small (15 comments)
- The parks and trail system need upgrades (12 comments)
- More paved pathways, benches and bathrooms were mentioned
- Mention of trail education for users
- Operating hours are not great (7 comments)
- Information about programs is difficult to find (7 comments)

## 2017 Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan

*How satisfied are you with the availability of indoor and outdoor recreation, parks and leisure opportunities and services currently offered in Okotoks?*

Satisfaction with Recreation, Parks, and Leisure Opportunities and Services	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Unsure	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Indoor (facilities, programs, and opportunities)	33%	45%	12%	8%	3%
Outdoor (parks, trails, open spaces, programs, and opportunities)	44%	45%	5%	5%	2%

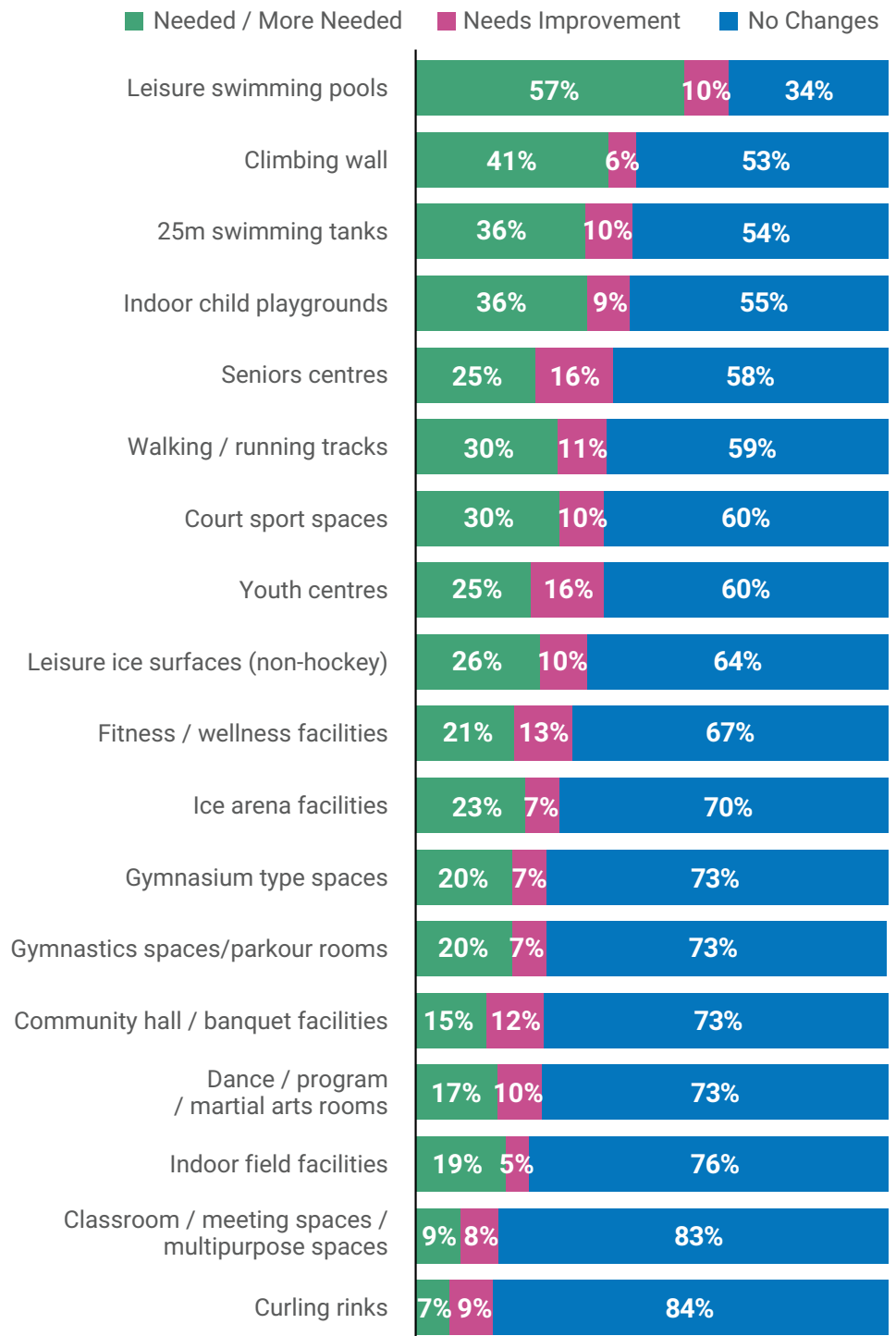
## 2.1.4 Planning Priorities

Respondents were provided with a list of indoor and outdoor recreation amenities and spaces in Okotoks. For each amenity and or space they were asked to identify if:

- more of the amenity was needed,
- the amenity needed improvement, or
- no changes are necessary.

Regarding **indoor amenities**, over half of respondents (57%) said more leisure swimming pools are needed in Okotoks. One-tenth (10%) said the existing leisure pool needs improvement while approximately one-third (34%) said no changes are needed. Over one-third of respondents identified climbing walls (41%), indoor child playgrounds (36%) and 25m swimming tanks (36%) as amenities for which more are needed. Refer to the graph for additional information.

### INDOOR Amenities in Okotoks





Respondents were able to provide more detail regarding **indoor amenities** they said are needed or more are needed. The most frequent responses are below.

- Another aquatic facility with leisure amenities, water slide, spray features, lazy river is needed in Okotoks. There was also mention of a 50m pool to increase lane swimming capacity. (47 comments)
- A second recreation centre in Okotoks is needed to keep up with population growth and demand (9 comments)



Respondents were able to explain why some indoor amenities may need improvement. The most frequent are listed below:

- The need for aquatic centre upgrades to help with overcrowding was mentioned.
- There was mention of additions to the pool to help attract the teen age group.
- There was mention of expanding the fitness centre due to over crowding and potentially modernizing the facility.
- There was mention of improving and or adding multi purpose rooms and meeting room spaces to increase capacity for booking.

## 2017 Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan Comparison

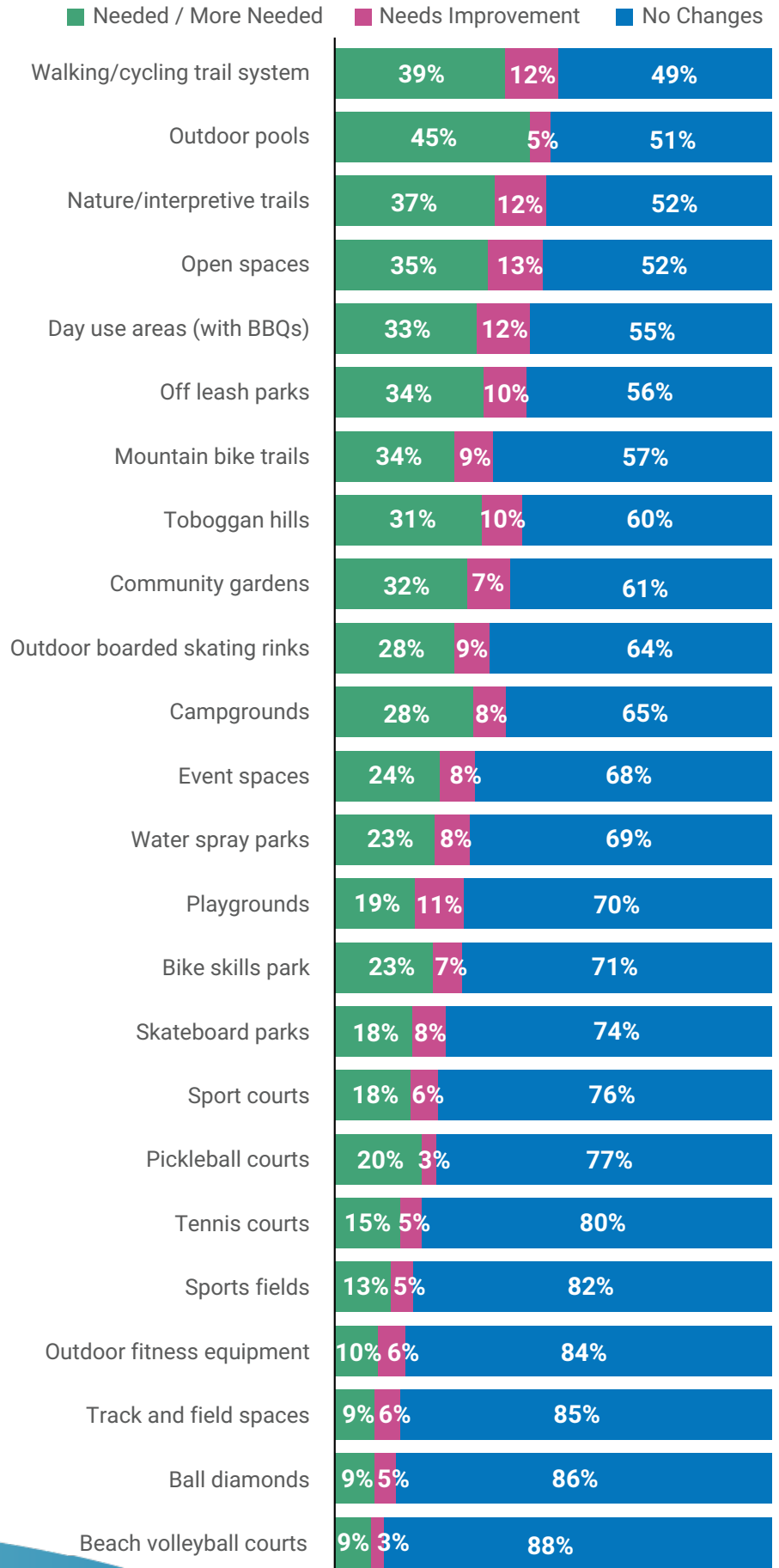
- In 2017, 10% of respondents said that youth centres needed to be more readily available or enhanced in Okotoks. As illustrated in the graph one quarter (25%) of respondents identified youth centres as being more needed in Okotoks, which is an 15% increase from 2017.

## OUTDOOR Amenities in Okotoks

Regarding **outdoor amenities**, approximately half of respondents (45%) said that outdoor pools are needed in Okotoks. Over one third of respondents said that the walking/cycling trail system (39%) and nature and interpretive trails (37%) are more needed, while approximately one-eighth said that these amenities need improvement. Notably, over half of respondents (52%) said that the walking / cycling trail system and nature / interpretive trails do not need changes. Refer to the graph.

Respondents were able to provide more detail regarding outdoor amenities they chose as needed and or more needed in Okotoks. The most frequent responses are below.

- There is the need for an additional off leash dog park with water access and shade (35 comments)
- Improved trail amenities such as signage and increased lighting. There was also mention of increased trail connectivity throughout the Town. (25 comments)
- An outdoor pool to help with the demand of swimming in the summer months (22 comments)



Respondents were able to explain why some outdoor amenities may need improvement. Below are the most frequent responses.

- Continued efforts to improve the trail system.
- Potential for dedicated walking paths, dedicated biking paths and dedicated e-bike paths to increase safety while utilizing the pathway system.
- The addition of an outdoor pool to alleviate pressure on the aquatic centre in the summer months and increase capacity for swimming lessons.

## Subsegment Analysis

- Households without children are more likely to say that pickleball courts (21%) need improvement than households with children (9%).
- Households with those aged 10-19 years are more likely to say that sport fields are more needed (21%) than households with those aged 0-9 years (11%).

### 2017 Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan Comparison

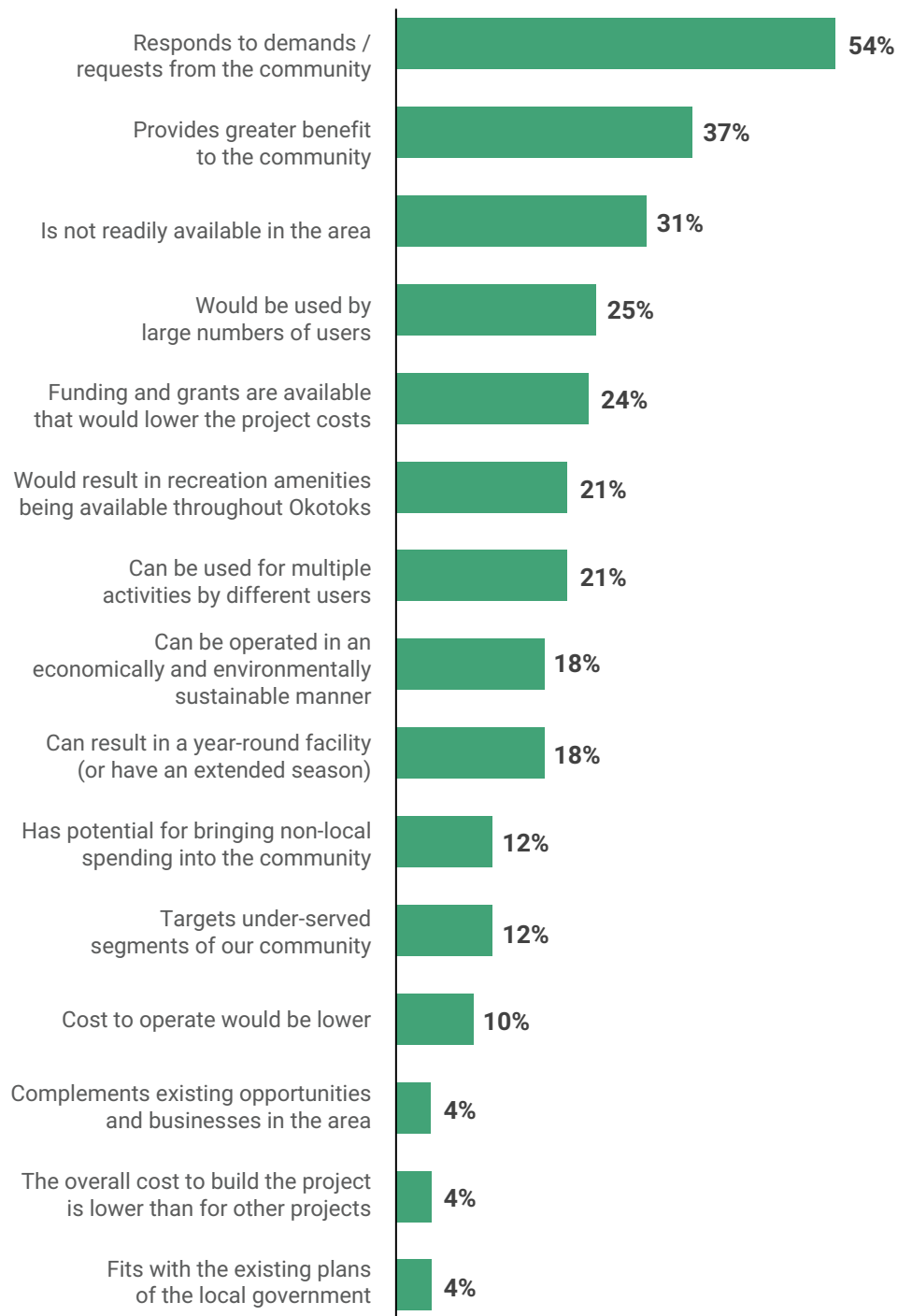
- In 2017, 16% of respondents identified toboggan hills as an amenity that should be more readily available or enhanced. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, approximately on third identified toboggan hills as an amenity that is more needed in Okotoks which is an 15% increase since 2017. Additionally, the need for a bike skills parks has increased 14% since 2017.





When considering public investment in recreation, leisure and parks amenities and facilities there are limited resources available. Due to this, priorities must be determined based on criteria. Respondents were provided with a list of factors the Town could use to prioritize investment in parks and recreation amenities and facilities in Okotoks. For each factor they were asked to identify how important it should be when the Town sets priorities for the provision of parks and recreation. Respondents were able to select their top three factors from the list. The three factors identified by the greatest proportion of respondents are that the Town should respond to demands and requests from the community (54%), that the amenity and or facility should provide greater benefit to the community (37%) and that the amenity or facility is not readily available in Okotoks (31%). Refer to the graph for additional answers. Findings from the 2017 survey were not materially different from current findings.

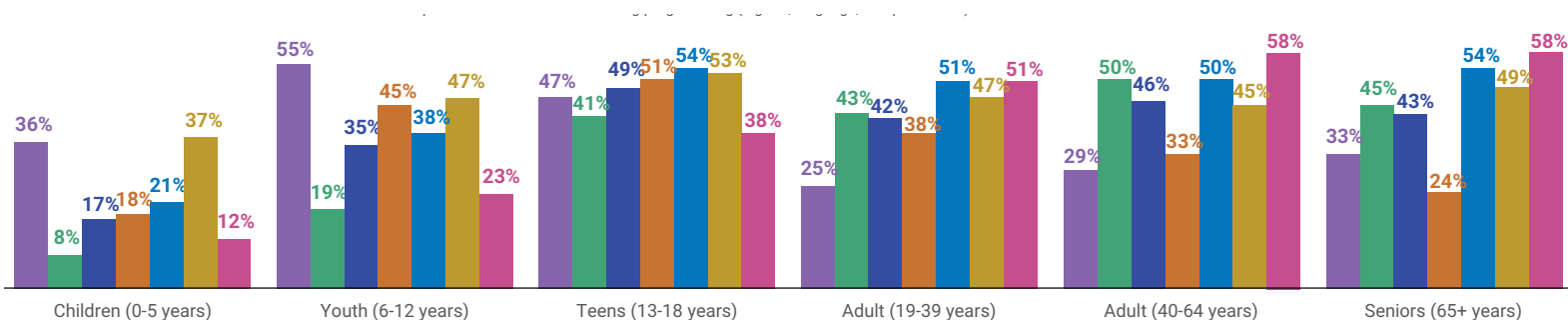
## Prioritization Criteria



Respondents were provided with a list of programs and asked to identify which age group the program should be more readily available for in Okotoks. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, self improvement and continuous learning programming for adults aged 40-64 years and seniors 65 and older (58%) were identified as top programs that are more needed. Over half of respondents identified nature and education programming for youth aged 6-12 years, wellness programming for teens aged 13-18 and programs for individuals facing social, physical or cognitive barriers for teens aged 13-18 years old as additional programs that need to be more available in Okotoks.

## Programming Types by Age

- Nature / outdoor education programming
- Fitness and wellness programming (e.g. yoga, weightlifting)
- Casual recreation / leisure programming (e.g. "drop-in" and unstructured types of programs like basketball, pickleball, gardenin
- Organized sports teams, leagues, and clubs
- Wellness (e.g. healthy eating, mental health)
- Programs for individuals facing social, physical, or cognitive barriers to participation
- Self improvement / Continuous learning programming (e.g. art, language, computer skills)



## Subsegment Analysis

- Households with youth aged 5-9 years identified organized sports as the greatest need (67%) for youth aged 6-12 years.
- Households with youth aged 10-19 identified fitness and wellness programming as the greatest need (56%) for teens (13-18 years).

## 2017 Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan

Using the chart below, please identify the types of programming that you think need to be more readily available in Okotoks for each age group.

Program Type	Children (0 - 5 years)	Youth (6 - 12 years)	Teens (13 - 18 years)	Adult (19 - 39 years)	Adult (40 - 64 years)	Seniors (65+ years)
Nature Interaction (e.g. birdwatching, educational)	30%	52%	31%	29%	52%	55%
Fitness (e.g. yoga, weightlifting)	10%	25%	46%	60%	61%	45%
Outdoor Skills (e.g. camping, fishing)	25%	63%	70%	54%	44%	29%
Recreation/Leisure (e.g. bicycling, floor curling)	20%	51%	56%	55%	60%	46%
Sports (e.g. volleyball, soccer)	28%	65%	69%	58%	36%	18%
Wellness (e.g. healthy eating)	35%	52%	61%	60%	63%	60%

## 2.1.5 Accessibility Considerations

Respondents were asked to identify things that the Town could do to make recreation facilities easier and more comfortable to use. The most frequent responses were broken down into two main themes.

### Facility Accessibility and Safety

- Lower facility admissions (16 comments)
- Increased parking availability (16 comments)
- Ensuring washrooms, elevators and change rooms are accessible for all abilities (13 comments)
- Free public transportation for seniors and youth to access recreation facilities (8 comments)
- Security in the recreation centre to encourage positive behaviour (6 comments)

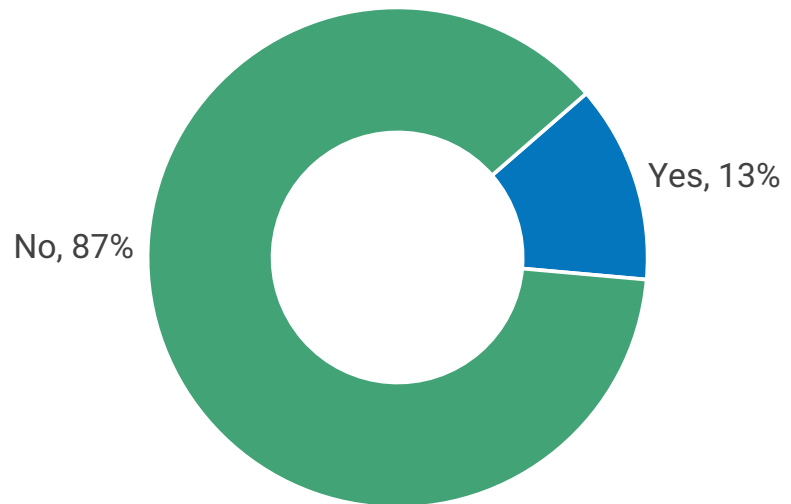
### Facility/Program Availability and Advertising

- Increased availability of programming for adults and teens (18 comments)
- Additional facilities across the town to ensure geographic balance (10 comments)
- Increased advertising of programs, events and facility hours (9 comments)



Respondents were then asked if anyone in their household has ever felt unsafe using indoor and outdoor recreation amenities. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, the majority of respondents (87%) said they have never felt unsafe attending and or using facilities and amenities in Okotoks. The minority of respondents (13%) said they have felt unsafe.

## Have You Ever Felt Unsafe Using Recreation Amenities in Okotoks?



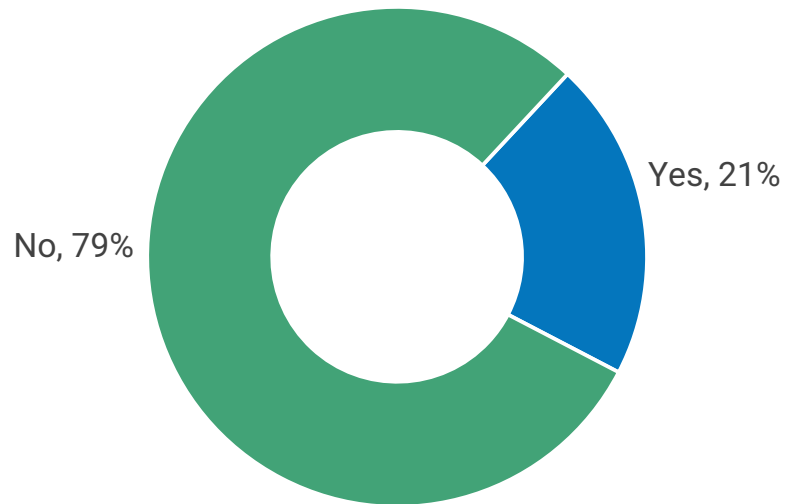
Respondents were then able to share what the Town could do to enhance the feeling of safety while using recreation, leisure and parks facilities. The most frequent responses are below:

- Better lighting around the recreation centre and on pathways, sidewalks and trails (9 comments)
- A security presence on site to help deal with issues that arise and make patrons feel a sense of comfort (9 comments)
- Supervision and or security at the skate park due to drug use, vaping and inappropriate language (9 comments)



Respondents were then asked if they were aware of services in Okotoks that provide financial assistance for recreation fees. As illustrated in the graph, the majority of respondents (79%) are not aware of financial assistance related to recreation fees in Okotoks.

### Awareness of Financial Assistance for Recreation Fees



### 2017 Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan Findings

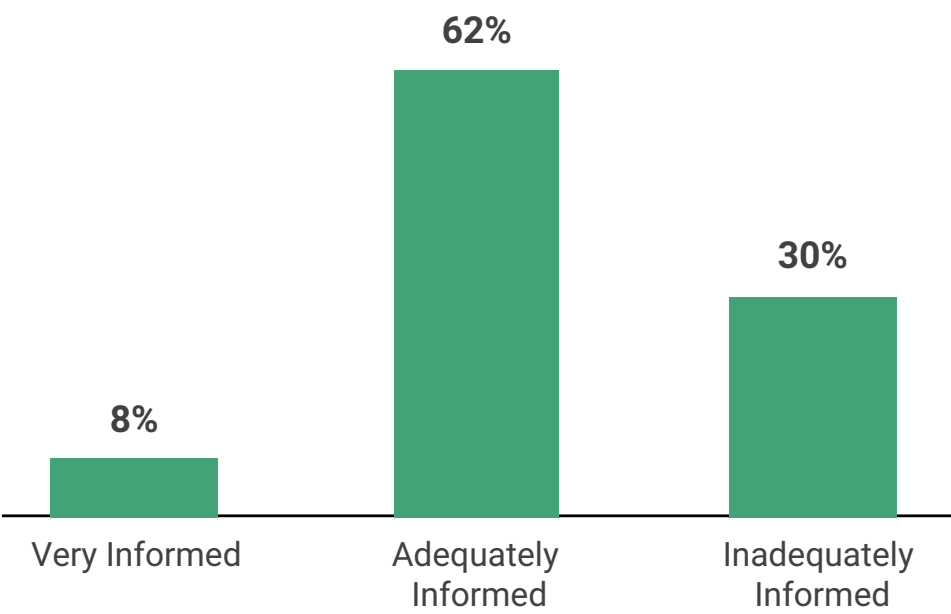
- In 2017, over half of respondents (56%) said they were not aware of financial assistance for recreation fees. As illustrated in the accompanying graph approximately four fifths are unaware, which is an 23% increase from 2017.



# 2.1.6 Communication

Respondents were then asked to identify how informed they are about recreation, parks and leisure in Okotoks. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, approximately two thirds of respondents (62%) said that they are adequately informed about recreation, parks and leisure in Okotoks.

How Informed Are You About Recreation, Parks and Leisure in Okotoks?



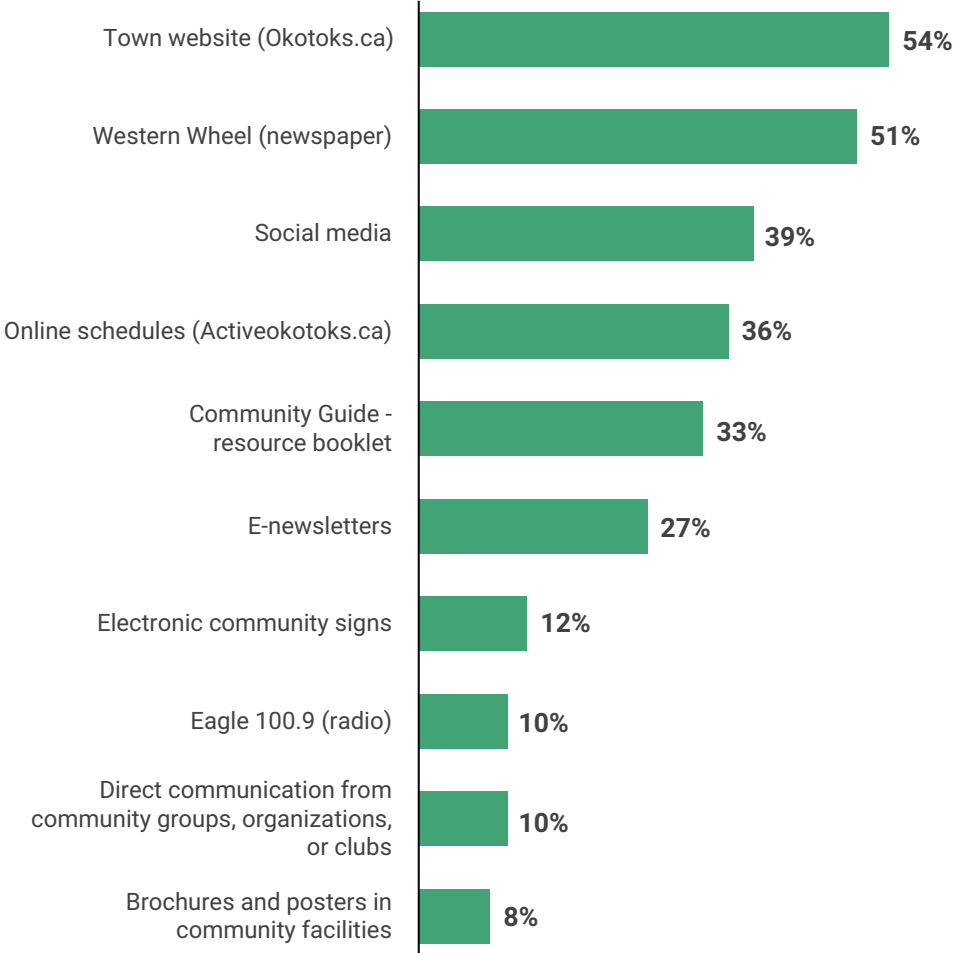


Next, respondents were asked what their top three communication preferences would be for recreation, parks and leisure programs and events. As illustrated in the graph, the most commonly identified communication vehicles are the Town website (54%), the Western Wheel (51%) and social media (39%).

### 2017 Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan Comparison

- The top three communication preferences in 2017 were the western wheel (61%), town website / online schedules (49%) and the community guide (37%). As illustrated in the accompanying graph, 10% less are using the western wheel to get their information, while theres an 8% increase in social media usage and a 6% increase in utilizing the town website.

### Communication Preferences



## 2.1.7 General Comments

Finally, respondents were able to share any other comments related to the provision of recreation, parks and leisure in Okotoks. A variety of comments were shared including a reiteration of responses already provided. The most frequently mentioned comments are presented below:

- There is general satisfaction with the availability of recreation, parks and leisure programs and opportunities in Okotoks. (23 comments).
- There is demand for the trail system to be more connected along with an increase in way finding signage. (16 comments)
- Another recreation facility should be considered due to population growth (11 comments)
- An additional pool should also be considered due to population growth (11 comments).
- There is a demand for increased youth and teen programs (8 comments)
- Facilities and parks should be better maintained before building new facilities (8 comments)
- There is a demand for seniors support programming (8 comments)
- There is a demand for increased availability of outdoor recreation options, specifically in the winter months (6 comments)
- Updates to the website were mentioned to make it more user friendly (6 comments)

## 2.1.8 Household Profile

Respondents were asked several questions about their household. Percentages in parenthesis are representative of the 2021 census. The responses are presented in the following table.

Area of Residence Do you live in Okotoks?	
Okotoks	95%
Foothills County	5%
Tenure in Okotoks	
Less than 1 year	7%
1-5 years	20%
6-10 years	16%
More than 10 years	57%
Household Composition (by age) (Numbers in parenthesis are from the 2021 census)	
0 – 4 years	6% (5%)
5 - 9 years	8% (7%)
10 – 19 years	17% (17%)
20 – 29 years	6% (9%)
30 – 39 years	12% (12%)
40 – 49 years	16% (16%)
50 – 59 years	13% (13%)
60 – 69 years	15% (11%)
70 – 79 years	7% (7%)
80+ years	1% (1%)

# 3.0 Group Survey





## 3.0 Group Survey

A survey was fielded with a variety of organizations in Okotoks. These organizations included indoor and outdoor recreation, parks and leisure groups and others who may use recreation facilities and spaces in Okotoks.

An email introducing the project and inviting participation in the survey was sent to a representative from each organization. Attached to the email was a hard copy of the questionnaire along with a hyperlink to an online version of the same questionnaire. Each group was asked to provide one response. Refer to Appendix D for a copy of the questionnaire.

Responses were gathered from October 18, 2022 to November 6, 2022. In total 12 responses were received. These findings are not representative of all groups in Okotoks however they do provide insight into the perspectives of the organizations responding. Not all groups answered all of the questions.

## 3.1 Survey Findings

The findings below are presented in the order they were asked in the questionnaire. The results are presented in raw numbers to better reflect the findings. It should be noted that not all questions were answered by all respondents.

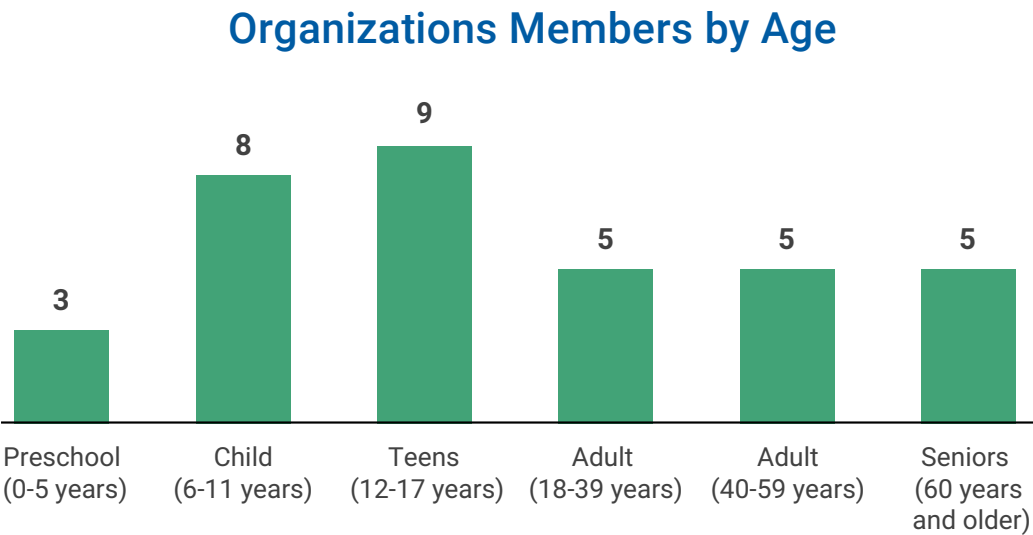
### 3.1.1 About Your Organization

The survey began by gathering information about the organizations. There was an array of responses from indoor groups, outdoor recreation groups, social agencies and schools in Okotoks indicating a diversity of activities, participants and sizes. Refer to Appendix E for a list of groups who participated in the survey.



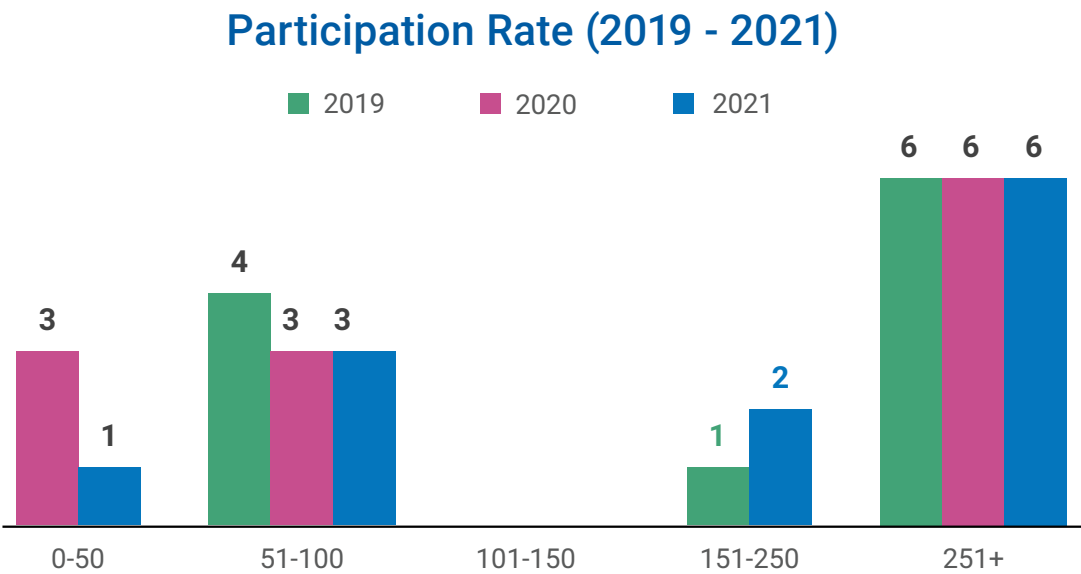


As illustrated in the accompanying graph, respondents provide programs and services to a multitude of ages, with the majority being teens aged 12-17 years (9 of 12 groups) and children aged 6-11 years (8 of 12 groups).



Considering the participation and membership numbers, the respondent organizations represent different group sizes. Groups were asked to identify their participation numbers in 2019, 2020 and 2021.

As illustrated in the accompanying graph, half of respondents (6 of 12 groups) had over 251 participants in the previous three years. Half of the respondent groups (6 of 12) saw an increase in participation from 2019 – 2021.

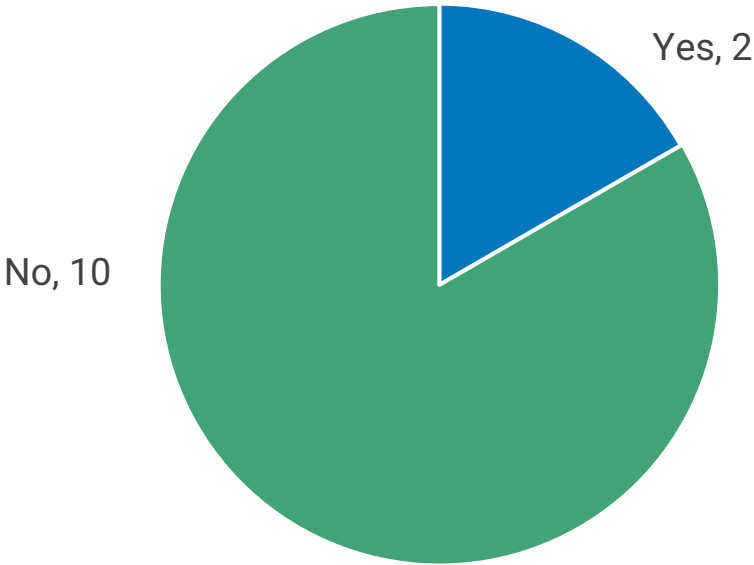


Next respondents were asked if they have had to put a capacity on their enrolment due to the availability of the Town of Okotoks facilities and amenities. Less than one fifth (2 of 12 groups) said they had to put a capacity on their enrolment due to availability of facilities. Refer to the graph.

Respondents who answered yes to the previous question were asked to explain their answers. Their responses can be seen below:

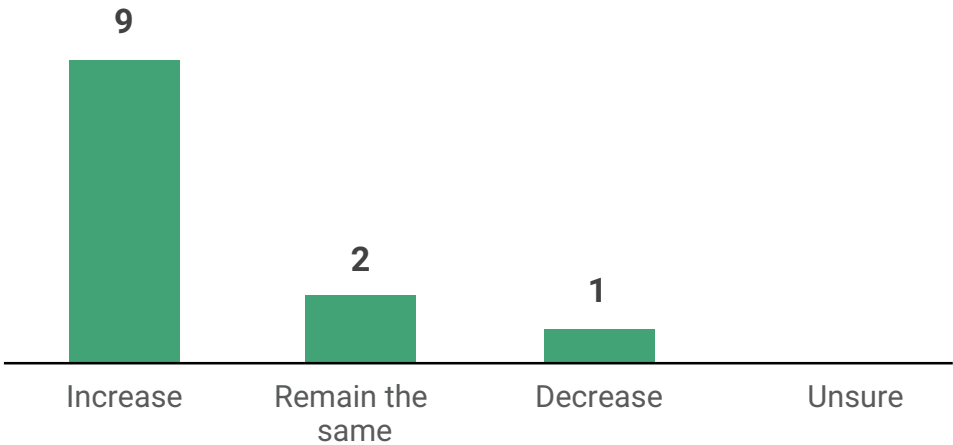
- Both responses identified the need to put a capacity on their registration due to lack of indoor bookable space.

### Have You Had To Put a Capacity on Enrolment Due to Facility Availability?



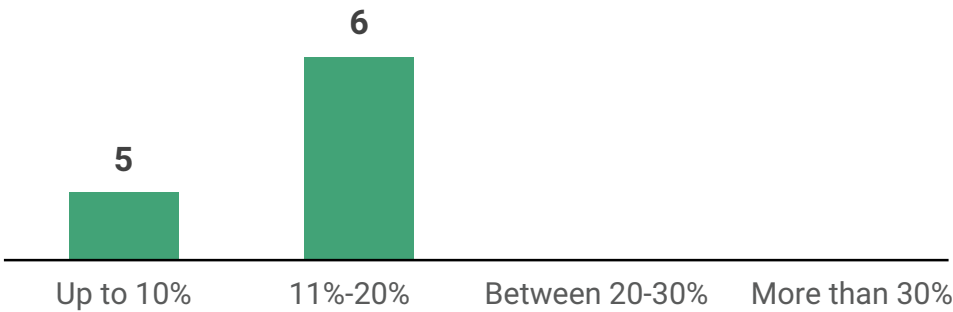
Respondents were then asked to identify their expectation for participation over the next few years. Three quarters of respondents (9 of 12) groups said they expect an increase in participation over the next few years. Notably, only 1 of the 12 groups said they are expecting a decrease. Refer to the graph.

### Participation Expectations



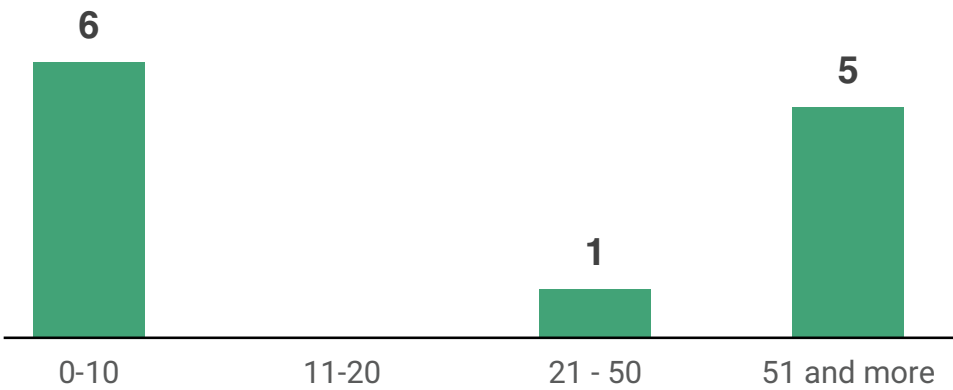
Continuing with participation expectations, respondents were asked to provide an estimate of how much they expect their member, participant, and client numbers to change over the next few years. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, half of the groups (6 of 12) believe they will see between a 11%-20% change in participation. Similarly, 5 of 12 groups believe they will only see a up to a 10% change in participation.

### Participation Expectations Rates

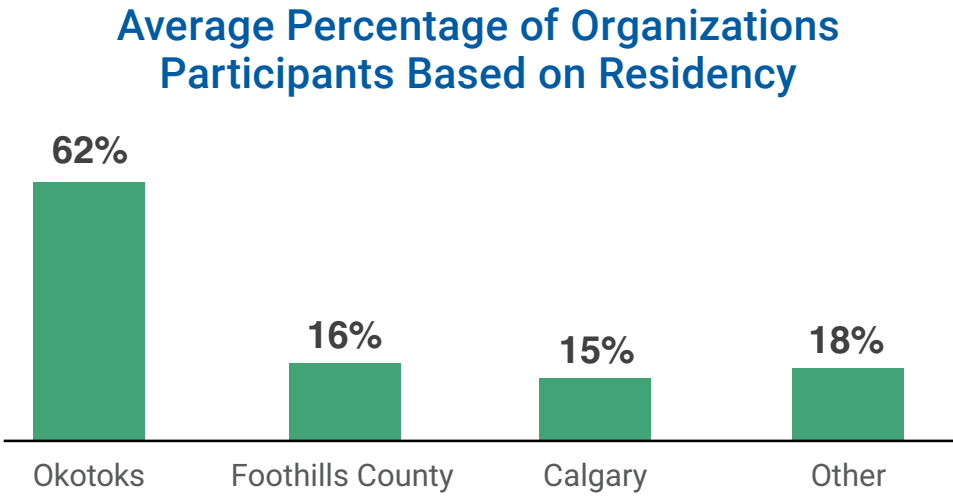


Considering volunteers, half of respondent groups (6 of 12) have up to ten volunteers regularly supporting their organization. Notably, approximately half of respondents (5 of 12) said they have over fifty-one volunteers regularly supporting their organization. Refer to the graph.

### Volunteers Involved in Organizations in Okotoks

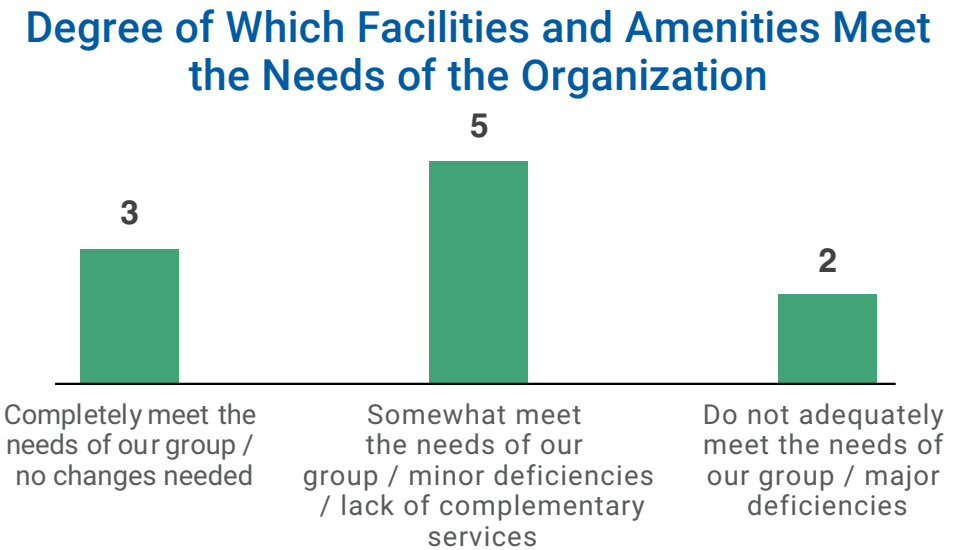


Regarding participants residency, respondents were asked to identify what proportion of their group lived in Okotoks and or outside of the Town. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, approximately two thirds of all respondent group participants live in Okotoks, while the minority of respondent’s participants live in Calgary, Foothills County or elsewhere.



### 3.1.2 Facility Usage

When asked if the current facilities and spaces meet the needs of their organization, approximately half of respondents (5 of 12) said that facilities in Okotoks somewhat meet the needs of their group, however the facilities may have minor deficiencies and or lack complementary services. The minority of groups (2 of 12) said that the facilities do not





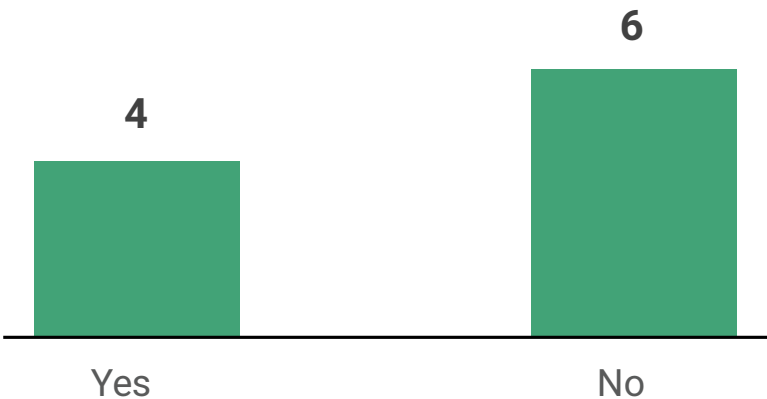
adequately meet their needs and that there are major deficiencies. Refer to the graph.

Respondents who said that the current facilities somewhat meet their needs or do not adequately meet their needs were then asked to explain their answer. Below are the responses:

- Additional outdoor sport fields should be considered, along with amenities such as field lighting.
- Better and more efficient scheduling of indoor recreation amenities, some participants can feel overwhelmed when participating in large programs.
- Better communication between the town and groups regarding the facility booking process.
- The town should provide space for groups to have meetings.

When asked if groups utilize facilities and amenities outside of Okotoks, approximately one third of respondents (4 of 10 groups) said that they do utilize facilities outside of Okotoks for their programming. Refer to the graph

Does Your Organization Utilize Facilities Outside of Okotoks?



Those who answered yes to the previous questions were asked to identify which facilities outside of Okotoks they utilize for their programming. Below is a list of the facilities mentioned:

- Calgary Soccer Centre
- FSD/CRD Schools Outside of Town
- Nustadia Recreation Centre (Cavalry Fieldhouse)
- Rally Pointe
- Scott Seaman Sport Rink
- Trico Centre

Respondents were also asked if they used these facilities outside Okotoks for their regular season programming. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, two-thirds (8 of 12) of respondents said they do not use it for their regular programming.

### Does Your Organization Use Facilities of Okotoks for Regular Season Programming

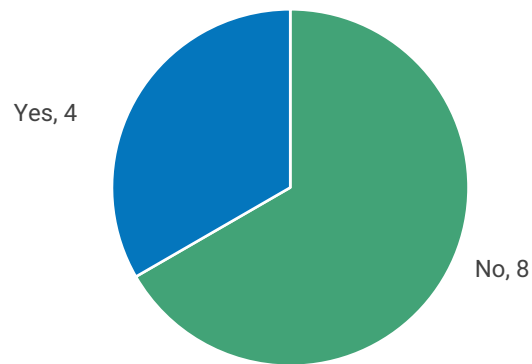
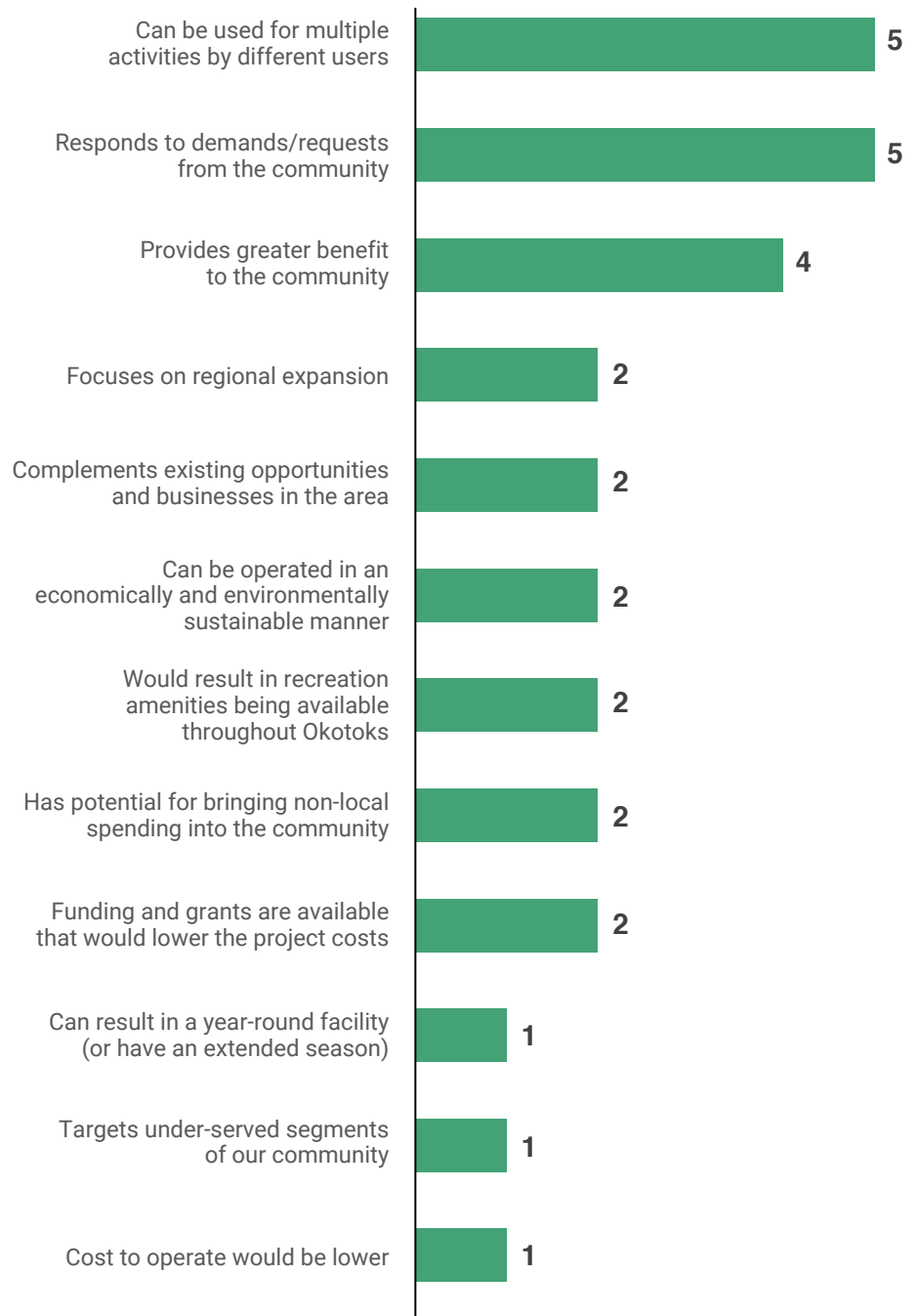


Photo from <http://www.facebook.com/townofokotoks/>

### 3.1.3 Prioritization Criteria

Respondents were provided with a list of factors that the Town could use to prioritize investment in facilities and amenities in Okotoks. They were asked to identify the top three priorities that the Town should consider when making decisions. Approximately half of respondents (5 of 12) said that the ability of the facility to be used for multiple activities by different users should be a factor when the Town prioritizes facility or amenity projects. The same number of respondents (5 of 12) also said that demands and requests from the community should be a criteria used to prioritize projects. Refer to the graph.

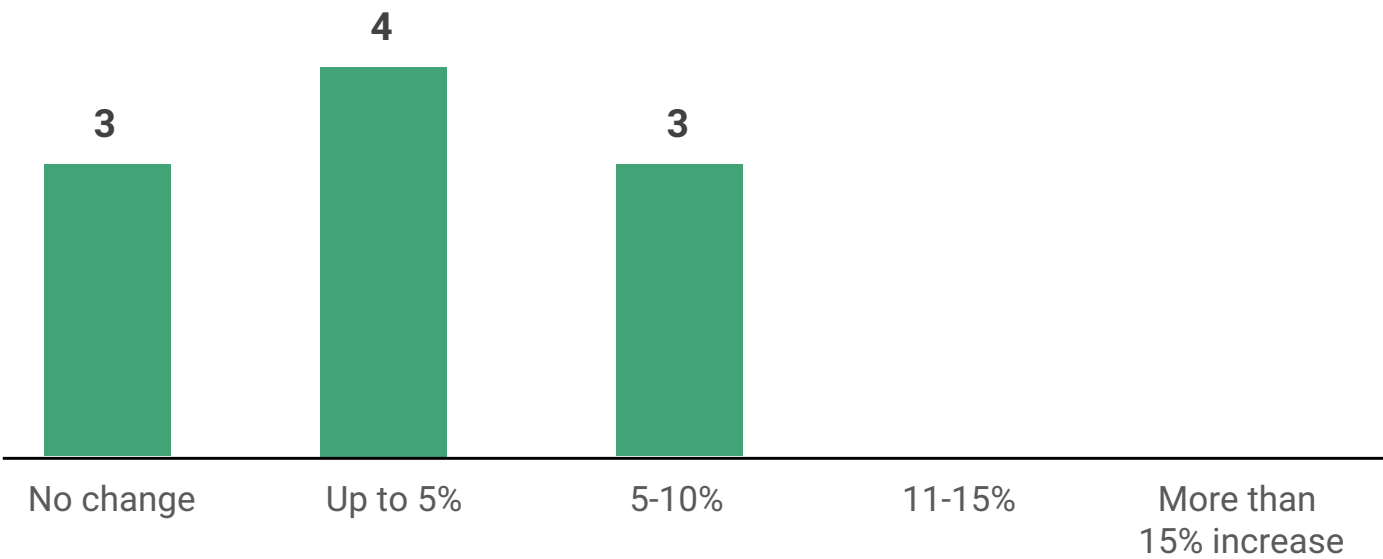
#### Priotitization Criteria



### 3.1.4 Fees and Charges

The Town of Okotoks facilities are paid for by a combination of taxes and user fees. Respondents were asked to identify their thoughts on changes in user fees to ensure community needs for recreation, parks and leisure are met. One third of groups (4 of 12) said they would support an increase up to 5%, while one quarter of respondents (3 of 12) said they do not want to see a change. Refer to the graph.

User Rental Fee Increase Support to Ensure Community Needs for Recreation, Parks and Leisure are Met



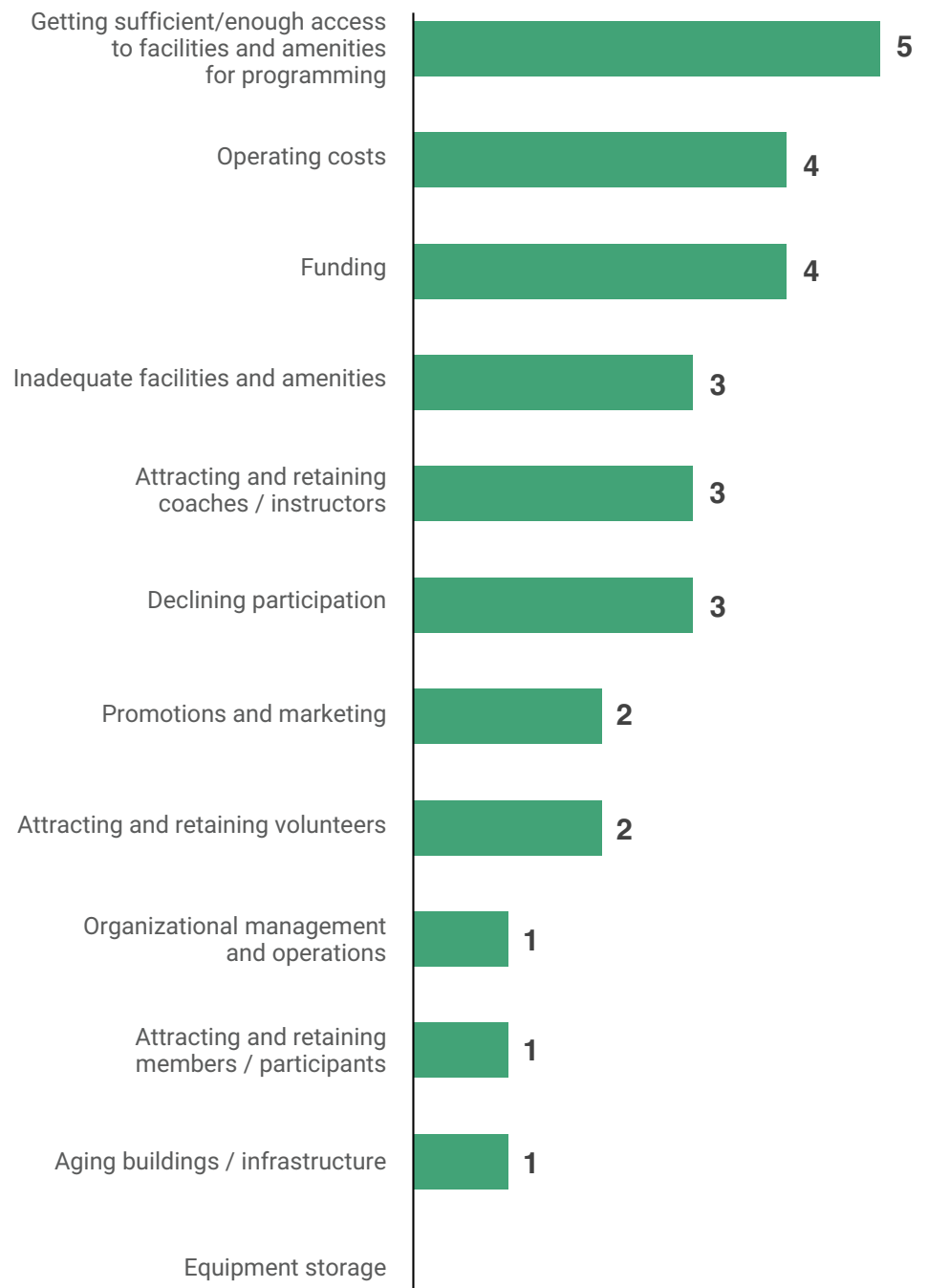


## 3.1.5 Challenges and Opportunities

Approximately half of respondents (5 of 12) identified not getting sufficient and or enough access to facilities and amenities for programming is a challenge they are facing that impacts their ability to delivery their programs. One third of respondents (4 of 12) identified operating costs and inadequate facilities and amenities as challenges their group is facing. Refer to the graph.

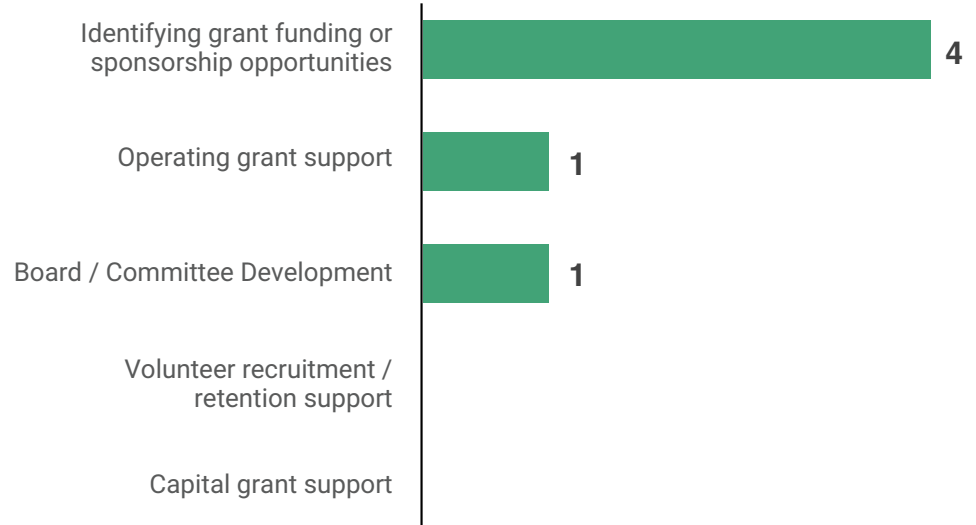
Groups were able to explain any challenges they may be facing in more detail. Groups identified cost to rent indoor and outdoor facilities is a challenge and is a concern moving forward with rising costs. There was also mention of the difficulty of finding quality coaches for programming and the ability to find adequate space to host meetings.

### Organizational Challenges



## Town Supports

Next, respondents were asked what the Town could do to make the recreation facilities and amenities more comfortable and barrier free. There was mention of increased outdoor field facilities to increase participation numbers for both youth and adult sport. There was also mention of building a new multi use facility and assistance with the promotion of groups programs and events.



Lastly, when asked to identify supports that the Town could provide to help them address their greatest challenges, four organizations identified grant funding and or sponsorship opportunities as the most common response. Refer to the graph.

### 3.1.6 Final Thoughts

The survey ended with the opportunity for respondents to share any additional comments regarding the provision of recreation, parks and leisure in Okotoks. The most frequently mentioned comments include the following.

- Upgrades to existing facilities to ensure groups can continue to provide recreation activities to the residents of Okotoks.
- Develop a multi purpose facility to address multiple community needs.



Photo from <https://www.facebook.com/townofokotoks/>

# 4.0 Intercept Findings





## 4.0 Intercept Findings

A variety of intercept pop-up sessions were convened at a variety of locations in Okotoks. The location of the pop ups include the Recreation Centre, Junior High School, and Okotoks Centennial Arena. The intent of these pop-ups was to gather top of mind thoughts from individuals who use indoor and outdoor recreation and parks services and amenities.

Individuals were asked to provide feedback based on four questions. The questions presented on the panels can be seen below, along with the most frequent responses.

1. What are the strengths (or best parts) of recreation, parks and leisure services in Okotoks?
  - » Aqua size classes are at good times and the instructors are great.
  - » The trail system and outdoor spaces are great to utilize.
  - » Teen nights are fun to attend.
  - » Information about recreation and parks is good and staff are friendly.
  - » Accessing the library is good.
  - » River activities are fun.
  - » Lane swim times are good.
  - » The rope and diving board are great amenities to have at the Aquatic Centre
2. Is there something that isn't available in Okotoks that you think should be? (This could be particular programs or events. It could be different types of indoor or outdoor spaces and building)
  - » The addition of an outdoor pool would be great for the community.
  - » More opportunities for teens to participate in recreation and parks opportunities.
  - » A graffiti wall and or public art installations to increase art and culture participation.
3. What things could be changed or improved with existing programs, events and spaces that would allow you to enjoy them more?
  - » The addition of a climbing wall
  - » Cooking classes
  - » Arcades and indoor amusement parks
  - » Aqua size should have a mix of drop in participants and registered participants. Increased programming during the day and in the warm water pool would be great.
  - » Increased public swim hours.
  - » More shade on the pathways and at the dog park.
  - » More teen nights, during the week and on weekends.
  - » The availability of more toys in the Aquatic Centre.
  - » Change rooms for fitness classes.
4. What do you think is the number one action the Town should take to improve recreation, parks and leisure in Okotoks?
  - » Invest in the art and culture sector.
  - » Build a new facility due to growing population.
  - » Increase security at the Recreation Centre.
  - » Drug and vape education for students.



# 5.0 Conclusions



## 5.0 Conclusion

A number of conclusions have been drawn considering the different public participation tactics utilized. The conclusions presented below represent key takeaways from all engagement even though some may be rooted in findings from one of the specific mechanisms. For detail related to these concluding statements, refer back to the detailed findings.

- There is a good level of satisfaction with the availability of indoor and outdoor recreation, leisure and parks facilities, amenities, and programs in Okotoks.
- Barriers impacting respondents' participation in recreation, leisure and parks activities include the hours of operation and cost of participation. Notably, there is some belief that nothing prevents participation in recreation activities. For groups, a main barrier is gaining sufficient access to facilities.
- The aquatic centre and paved pathways & community parks are the most utilized facilities and amenities in Okotoks.
- There is a belief that the local community, as a whole, benefits from recreation, parks and leisure programs and facilities.
- There is belief that there is a need for more leisure swimming pools and walking / cycling trails.
- Community demand and the multi-use nature of facilities should be key criteria when the Town makes decisions about facilities.
- Residents are generally informed about recreation, leisure and parks opportunities and programs but not about financial assistance programs.
- There is an expectation among groups that participation levels will see an increase.

# 6.0 Appendices





# Appendix A: Postcard



Let's talk about  
Recreation, Parks  
and Leisure in  
Okotoks

We want to hear from you!

Recreation, Parks & Leisure  
**Master Plan Update**

See other side for survey details.



## Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan Household Survey

We are updating our Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan to ensure these quality of life services meet the changing needs of residents.

**We Want To Hear From You!**

Your input is important to us to ensure the Town better understands needs, trends, and future priorities.

To **take the survey** scan the QR code below or visit [okotoks.ca/lets-talk-rec](https://okotoks.ca/lets-talk-rec). enter your access code when prompted.

If you'd prefer to complete a paper copy of the survey, please call 403-995-6331 or email [recplan@okotoks.ca](mailto:recplan@okotoks.ca)



Your Household's Unique Access Code Is

XXXXXXXX

**The deadline to complete the survey is October 23, 2022.**

*Please note, the access code is unique to your household and can only be used once.*





# Appendix B: Resident Questionnaire



## Okotoks Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan - Refresh

# Household Survey

Dear fellow Okotokian,

**We want to hear from you!** This is your opportunity to be part of planning for recreation, parks and leisure growth, in Okotoks. Please complete the survey by October 23, 2022. The input gathered will be used to update the 2017 Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan and help prioritize programs and facilities in the community.

As a thank you for providing feedback, we will be giving away a \$250 Visa gift card. To be included in the draw, please provide your name and phone number when prompted.

The Town has retained RC Strategies to assist in updating the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan. For additional information about the process, please contact Robert Parks at [parks@rcstrategies.ca](mailto:parks@rcstrategies.ca).

### Glossary

**Recreation activity** is for exercise, competition, relaxation, or pleasure. Examples are pickleball, swimming, and walking.

**Recreation programs** are courses, lessons, and training opportunities provided by the Town of Okotoks recreation and parks departments. Examples include swim lessons, computer courses, first aid training.

**Recreation facilities** are venues managed and operated by the Town of Okotoks recreation and parks departments. Examples are parks, pathways, fields, diamonds, open spaces, the Okotoks Recreation Centre, Centennial Arenas, and the Foothills Centennial Centre.

**Recreation amenities** are spaces within facilities. An example of an amenity is the aquatics centre at the Okotoks Recreation Centre.

### Draw Entry Form

Name (first name only please): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number or email address: \_\_\_\_\_

*The personal information requested on this form will be used for the sole purpose of contacting the draw winner. Your personal information will not be shared with anyone for any other purpose.*



## Section 1: Participation

1. How often do you or a member of your household participate in the following activities in or outside of Okotoks? **Please leave the activity blank if you do NOT participate.**

Activity	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
<b>Outdoor Activities</b>			
Agriculture (e.g. equestrian riding, rodeo)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BBQ / picnics / social gatherings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Boating – motorized	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Boating – non motorized (e.g. kayak, canoe, paddleboard)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Camping	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community events (e.g. Canada Day)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gardening	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hiking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mountain / rock climbing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tobogganing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walking / jogging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wildlife and bird watching / nature appreciation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Winter Activities</b>			
Alpine (downhill) skiing / snowboarding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nordic (cross country) skiing / snow shoeing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Water Activities</b>			
Aquafitness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor swimming / diving	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor swimming	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor spray park activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Summer Outdoor Activities</b>			
Beach volleyball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disc golf	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Riding Activities</b>			
BMX	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Electric transportation (e.g. scooters, ebikes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mountain biking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pump track or bike skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rollerblading / inline skating	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skateboarding / scootering	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Field Activities</b>			
Diamond sports (e.g. softball, baseball, slo pitch)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Field sports (e.g. soccer, football, lacrosse)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lawn bowling, bocce, cricket	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Canine Activities</b>			
Dog walking / dog agility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Off leash dog park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Activity	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
<b>Ice Activities</b>			
Figure skating	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hockey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor skating	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor skating (rink)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor skating (track)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Fitness Activities</b>			
Fitness training / classes (e.g. cardio, weights, spin, yoga)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Group exercise (e.g. boot camp, aerobics)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Gymnasium Activities</b>			
Gymnasium sports (e.g. basketball, volleyball, badminton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor court sports (e.g. racquetball, squash)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor court sports (e.g. racquetball, squash)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor pickleball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor pickleball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tennis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Other Activities</b>			
Curling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Golf	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gymnastics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martial arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Track and field	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yoga / pilates	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

a. List any additional activities that you or a household member participate in that are not included in the list above.

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2. What are the top five (5) reasons you or members of your household participate in recreation activities?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> For competition                    | <input type="checkbox"/> For physical health and exercise            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To experience a challenges         | <input type="checkbox"/> For relaxation, mental health, or wellbeing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> For fun and entertainment          | <input type="checkbox"/> To satisfy curiosity                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To help the community              | <input type="checkbox"/> To be with family or friends                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To improve skills and/or knowledge | <input type="checkbox"/> To enjoy nature                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To meet new people                 |  |

a. Please list additional reasons not mentioned above.

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3. What prevents you or members of your household from participating in recreation activities in Okotoks? Please select all that apply.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nothing prevents our participation                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Overcrowded facilities                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Better opportunities elsewhere                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal health issues / conditions / COVID-19 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cost of participation (e.g. equipment costs, registration fees) | <input type="checkbox"/> Poor condition of or inadequate facilities     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hours of operation (e.g. schedules of programs or facility)     | <input type="checkbox"/> The spaces are not physically accessible       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I do not feel safe  | <input type="checkbox"/> Too busy to participate                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I do not feel welcome   | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation limitations                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of childcare   | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel time                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not comfortable or confident enough to participate              | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaware of opportunities                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not interested in what is available                             |   |

- a. Please add additional comments that could help us better understand or list reasons not mentioned above.

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## Section 2: Usage

4. How often have you or a household member used the following amenities in the past two years? If more than one household member used the facility at the same time, please count that as one visit.

Indoor Amenities (Okotoks Recreation Centre, Centennial Areas, Foothills Centennial Centre, Foothills and Okotoks Regional Fieldhouse, Schools)	1-9 Uses	10-20 Uses	21+ Uses	Did Not Use
Arenas – dry pad	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arenas – NHL size ice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arenas – leisure ice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquatic Centre – leisure pool	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquatic Centre – lap pool	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquatic Centre – hot tub or sauna	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Court sport spaces (pickleball)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Curling Rink	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fitness Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gymnasium type spaces (for activities like basketball, volleyball, badminton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor turf fields	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Multi-purpose / meeting rooms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dryland training spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walking / running track	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outdoor Amenities (Please consider only those in Okotoks)	1-9 Uses	10-20 Uses	21+ Uses	Did Not Use
Ball diamonds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Beach volleyball courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BMX Track	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bookable park spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community gardens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Outdoor Amenities (Please consider only those in Okotoks)	1-9 Uses	10-20 Uses	21+ Uses	Did Not Use
Community parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disc golf	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inclusive playgrounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Off leash dog park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor Amphitheatre / stage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor fitness equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor rinks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor skating track	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor track (asphalt)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paved pathways	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pickleball courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Picnic shelters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Playgrounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rectangular fields	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Single track multi-use trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skateboard park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sports courts (e.g. basketball, ball hockey)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tennis courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Toboggan hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water spray park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Section 3: Values and Satisfaction

5. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Recreation, parks and leisure programs and facilities are important to my quality of life	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My local community as a whole benefits from recreation, parks, and leisure programs and facilities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Residents can benefit even if they do not use recreation, parks, and leisure programs and facilities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreation, parks, and leisure programs and facilities bring the community together.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreation, parks, and leisure programs and facilities can help attract and retain residents.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The municipalities in the area should work together (focus on a regional approach) to provide recreation, parks, and leisure opportunities for residents.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. How satisfied are you with the availability of the following in Okotoks?

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Have Not Accessed
<b>Indoor Amenities</b> (e.g. arenas, pool, gymnasiums)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Indoor Programs</b> (e.g. swim lessons, preschool classes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Outdoor Facilities</b> (e.g. parks, trails, spray park)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Outdoor Programs</b> (e.g. conservation education)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

a. If you are satisfied or dissatisfied, please explain.

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## Section 4: Planning Priorities

7. For each of the following **indoor** recreation amenities, please identify:

- If the amenity is needed or if there needs to be more of the amenity in Okotoks,
- If the existing amenities need to be improved, or
- If no changes are needed.

Recreation Amenity	Needed / More Needed	Needs Improvement	No Changes
25m swimming tanks (e.g. fitness class, lane swimming)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leisure swimming pools (e.g. water slides, lazy river)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Classroom/meeting spaces / multipurpose spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climbing wall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community hall/banquet facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Court sport spaces (e.g. pickleball, squash, tennis)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Curling rinks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dance/program/martial arts rooms (multi-purpose rooms with sport or hard surface)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fitness/wellness facilities (e.g. exercise/weight room)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gymnasium type spaces (e.g. basketball, volleyball, badminton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gymnastics spaces/parkour rooms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ice arena facilities (e.g. hockey, figure skating)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor child playgrounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor field facilities (e.g. soccer, football)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leisure ice surfaces (non-hockey)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seniors centres	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walking/running tracks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth centres	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- a. Please provide further details in regards to amenities that you chose as needed / more needed.

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- b. For amenities that need improvement, please explain.

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8. For each of the following **outdoor** recreation amenities, please identify:

- If the amenity is needed or if there needs to be more of the amenity in Okotoks,
- If the existing amenities need to be improved, or
- If no changes are needed.

Recreation Amenity	Needed / More Needed	Needs Improvement	No Changes
Ball diamonds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Beach volleyball courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bike skills park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Campgrounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community gardens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day use areas (with BBQs)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Event spaces (e.g. amphitheatres, band shelters)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mountain bike trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nature/interpretive trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Off leash parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Open spaces (e.g. parks, greenspace)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor boarded skating rinks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor fitness equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor pools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pickleball courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Playgrounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skateboard parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Toboggan hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sport courts (e.g. basketball, ball hockey)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sports fields (e.g. soccer, football)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tennis courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Track and field spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walking/cycling trail system	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water spray parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- a. Please provide further details in regards to amenities that you chose as needed / more needed.

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- b. For amenities that need improvement, please explain.

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9. What three (3) factors should be used in prioritizing new or expanding facility or amenity projects?

The Facility or amenity:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Is not readily available in the area.                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Would result in recreation amenities being available throughout Okotoks.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cost to operate would be lower.   | <input type="checkbox"/> Targets under-served segments of our community.                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Funding and grants are available that would lower the project costs.    | <input type="checkbox"/> Can be operated in an economically and environmentally sustainable manner. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fits with the existing plans of the local government.                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Complements existing opportunities and businesses in the area.             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Responds to demands/requests from the community.                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Can be used for multiple activities by different users.                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The overall cost to build the project is lower than for other projects. | <input type="checkbox"/> Can result in a year-round facility (or have an extended season).          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Has potential for bringing non-local spending into the community.       | <input type="checkbox"/> Would be used by large numbers of users.                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provides greater benefit to the community.                              |   |

10. Please identify the types of recreation programs that should be provided or more readily available in Okotoks for each age group. Please select the appropriate boxes that indicate program type and age group.

Program Type	Children (0-5 years)	Youth (6-12 years)	Teens (13-18 years)	Adult (19-39 years)	Adult (40-64 years)	Seniors (65+ years)
Nature / outdoor education programming	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fitness and wellness programming (e.g. yoga, weightlifting)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Casual recreation / leisure programming(e.g. "drop-in" and unstructured types of programs like basketball, pickleball, gardening)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organized sports teams, leagues, and clubs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wellness (e.g. healthy eating, mental health)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Programs for individuals facing social, physical, or cognitive barriers to participation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Self improvement / Continuous learning programming (e.g. art, language, computer skills)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



- a. What other programs should be offered in Okotoks? Please be specific.

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## Section 5: Accessibility Considerations

11. What could the Town do to make the recreation facilities easier and more comfortable to use?

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12. Have you or anyone in your household ever felt unsafe using indoor or outdoor recreation amenities?

- ☐ Yes  
☒ No

- a. If yes, what could be done to eliminate the feeling of being unsafe?

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13. Are you aware of services in Okotoks that provide financial assistance for recreation fees?

- ☐ Yes  
☒ No

## Section 6: Communication

14. Do you feel informed about recreation, parks and leisure in Okotoks?

- ☐ Very informed  
☒ Adequately informed  
☐ Inadequately informed

15. What are the top three (3) ways that you prefer to get information about recreation, parks, and leisure programs and events?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Western Wheel (newspaper)                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Guide – resource booklet   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eagle 100.9 (radio)                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct communication from community groups, organizations, or clubs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Town website (Okotoks.ca)                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Brochures and posters in community facilities                                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Online schedules (Activeokotoks.ca) | <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic community signs   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social media                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-newsletters                       |   |

## Section 7: General Comments

16. Please use the space below to provide any other comments you may have about recreation, parks, and leisure needs in Okotoks.

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## Section 8: Household Profile

17. Where is your primary residence?

- ☐ Okotoks
- ☒ Foothills County
- ☐ Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_ (proceed to question 19)

18. How long have you lived in Okotoks or Foothills County?

- ☐ Less than 1 year
- ☒ 1-5 years
- ☐ 6-10 years
- ☐ More than 10 years

19. Please describe your household by recording the number of members in each of the following age groups. (Please do not forget yourself!)

_____ 0 - 4 yrs	_____ 5 - 9 yrs	_____ 10 - 14 yrs	_____ 15 - 19 yrs
_____ 20 - 29 yrs	_____ 30 - 39 yrs	_____ 40 - 49 yrs	_____ 50 - 59 yrs
_____ 60 - 69 yrs	_____ 70 - 79 yrs	_____ 80+ yrs	

**Thank you very much for taking the time to participate in the survey!**

# Appendix C: Resident Survey Findings

How often do you or a member of your household participate in the following activities in or outside of Okotoks? Please leave the activity blank if you do NOT participate. Outdoor Activities

	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
Agriculture	31%	11%	59%
BBQ / picnics / social gatherings	26%	49%	25%
Boating – motorized	9%	22%	69%
Boating – non motorized	14%	29%	58%
Camping	14%	35%	51%
Community events	4%	45%	52%
Gardening	65%	22%	13%
Hiking	35%	42%	22%
Mountain / rock climbing	14%	29%	57%
Tobogganing	18%	34%	48%
Walking / jogging	89%	8%	3%
Wildlife and bird watching / nature appreciation	68%	23%	10%

## Winter Activities

	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
Alpine (downhill) skiing / snowboarding	15%	36%	49%
Nordic (cross country) skiing / snow shoeing	24%	29%	47%

## Water Activities

	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
Aquafitness	34%	31%	35%
Indoor swimming / diving	37%	38%	25%
Outdoor swimming	19%	32%	49%
Outdoor spray park activities	20%	38%	42%

## Summer Outdoor Activities

	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
Beach volleyball	10%	28%	62%
Disc golf	19%	24%	57%

## Riding Activities

	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
BMX	24%	27%	49%
Cycling	58%	31%	12%
Electric transportation (e.g. scooters, ebikes)	29%	34%	37%
Mountain biking	41%	38%	21%
Pump track or bike skills	36%	32%	32%
Rollerblading / inline skating	21%	36%	42%
Skateboarding / scootering	43%	33%	24%

## Field Activities

	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
Diamond sports	34%	33%	33%
Field sports	47%	30%	24%
Lawn bowling, bocce, cricket	5%	31%	64%
Outdoor spray park activities	20%	38%	42%

## Canine Activities

	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
Dog walking / dog agility	90%	7%	3%
Off leash dog park	65%	23%	12%



## Ice Activities

	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
Figure skating	22%	27%	52%
Hockey	55%	16%	29%
Indoor skating	28%	34%	38%
Outdoor skating (rink)	22%	37%	41%
Outdoor skating (track)	21%	37%	42%

## Fitness Activities

	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
Fitness training / classes	75%	18%	7%
Group exercise	56%	29%	16%

## Gymnasium Activities

	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
Gymnasium sports	49%	28%	23%
Indoor court sports	39%	25%	35%
Outdoor court sports	26%	32%	42%
Indoor pickleball	40%	23%	37%
Outdoor pickleball	34%	22%	43%
Tennis	21%	29%	50%

## Other Activities

	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
Curling	40%	15%	45%
Dance	51%	23%	26%
Golf	35%	32%	33%
Gymnastics	45%	28%	28%
Martial arts	50%	16%	34%
Track and field	24%	32%	44%
Yoga / pilates	59%	27%	15%

## What are the top five (5) reasons members of your household participate in recreation activities?

For competition	16%
To experience a challenge	14%
For fun and entertainment	79%
To help the community	4%
To improve skills and/or knowledge	33%
To meet new people	25%
For physical health and exercise	92%
For relaxation, mental health, or wellbeing	75%
To satisfy curiosity	3%
To be with family or friends	50%
To enjoy nature	62%

## What prevents you or members of your household from participating in recreation activities in Okotoks? Please select all that apply.

Nothing prevents our participation	33%
Better opportunities elsewhere	15%
Cost of participation (e.g. equipment costs, registration fees)	26%
Hours of operation (schedules of programs or facility)	28%
I do not feel safe	1%
I do not feel welcome	4%
Lack of childcare	6%
Not comfortable or confident enough to participate	9%
Not interested in what is available	10%
Overcrowded facilities	20%
Personal health issues / conditions / COVID-19	10%
Poor condition of or inadequate facilities	9%
The spaces are not physically accessible	1%
Too busy to participate	16%
Transportation limitations (cost or availability)	2%
Travel time	1%
Unaware of opportunities	20%

**How often have you or a household member used the following amenities in the past two years? If more than one household member used the facility at the same time, please count that as one visit. Indoor Amenities** (Okotoks Recreation Centre, Centennial Areas, Foothills Centennial Centre, Foothills and Okotoks Regional Fieldhouse, Schools)

	1-9 Uses	10-20 Uses	21+ Uses	Did Not Use
Arenas – dry pad	14%	4%	16%	66%
Arenas – NHL size ice	14%	4%	15%	68%
Arenas – leisure ice	27%	10%	8%	55%
Aquatic Centre – leisure pool	24%	12%	27%	37%
Aquatic Centre – lap pool	20%	7%	17%	57%
Aquatic Centre – hot tub or sauna	19%	15%	20%	46%
Court sport spaces (pickleball)	6%	4%	5%	85%
Curling Rink	5%	2%	5%	88%
Fitness Centre	13%	8%	12%	67%
Gymnasium type spaces (for activities like basketball, volleyball, badminton)	14%	9%	9%	69%
Indoor turf fields	11%	5%	8%	76%
Multi-purpose / meeting rooms	23%	4%	1%	72%
Dryland training spaces	6%	3%	4%	87%
Walking / running track	21%	13%	13%	53%
Youth centre	7%	3%	2%	88%

## Outdoor Amenities (Please consider only those in Okotoks)

	1-9 Uses	10-20 Uses	21+ Uses	Did Not Use
Ball diamonds	13%	4%	8%	75%
Beach volleyball courts	11%	1%	0%	87%
BMX Track	9%	2%	2%	88%
Bookable park spaces	9%	1%	0%	90%
Community gardens	8%	2%	3%	88%
Community parks	20%	16%	46%	19%
Disc golf	17%	3%	4%	76%
Inclusive playgrounds	19%	12%	15%	55%
Off leash dog park	13%	8%	22%	58%
Outdoor Amphitheatre / stage	9%	2%	0%	89%
Outdoor fitness equipment	25%	5%	2%	67%
Outdoor rinks	26%	10%	7%	57%
Outdoor skating track	20%	5%	3%	71%
Outdoor track (asphalt)	14%	5%	6%	75%
Paved pathways	7%	7%	83%	4%
Pickleball courts	5%	2%	5%	89%
Picnic shelters	30%	7%	3%	61%
Playgrounds	17%	12%	33%	38%
Rectangular fields	12%	5%	10%	73%
Single track multi-use trails	15%	12%	24%	50%
Skateboard park	12%	4%	5%	79%
Sports courts (e.g. basketball, ball hockey)	10%	6%	7%	77%
Tennis courts	9%	2%	1%	87%
Toboggan hills	23%	14%	14%	49%
Water spray park	23%	13%	9%	55%



## To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Recreation, parks and leisure programs and facilities are important to my quality of life	62%	33%	4%	1%
My local community as a whole benefits from recreation, parks, and leisure programs and facilities.	74%	24%	1%	1%
Residents can benefit even if they do not use recreation, parks, and leisure programs and facilities.	46%	43%	8%	3%
Recreation, parks, and leisure programs and facilities bring the community together.	57%	38%	4%	1%
Recreation, parks, and leisure programs and facilities can help attract and retain residents.	62%	34%	3%	1%
The municipalities in the area should work together (focus on a regional approach) to provide recreation, parks, and leisure opportunities for residents.	55%	39%	4%	1%

## How satisfied are you with the availability of the following in Okotoks?

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Have Not Accessed
Indoor Amenities (e.g. arenas, pool, gymnasiums)	21%	49%	12%	4%	15%
Indoor Programs (e.g. swim lessons, preschool classes)	16%	34%	10%	4%	38%
Outdoor Facilities (e.g. parks, trails, spray park)	36%	52%	5%	1%	5%
Outdoor Programs (e.g. conservation education)	10%	29%	3%	1%	57%

For each of the following indoor recreation amenities, please identify: If the amenity is needed or if there needs to be more of the amenity in Okotoks, If the existing amenities need to be improved, or If no changes are needed.

	Needed / More Needed	Needs Improvement	No Changes
25m swimming tanks	36%	10%	54%
Leisure swimming pools	57%	10%	34%
Classroom / meeting spaces / multipurpose spaces	9%	8%	83%
Climbing wall	41%	6%	53%
Community hall / banquet facilities	15%	12%	73%
Court sport spaces	30%	10%	60%
Curling rinks	7%	9%	84%
Dance / program / martial arts rooms (multi-purpose rooms with sport or hard surface)	17%	10%	73%
Fitness / wellness facilities	21%	13%	67%
Gymnasium type spaces	20%	7%	73%
Gymnastics spaces/parkour rooms	20%	7%	73%
Ice arena facilities	23%	7%	70%
Indoor child playgrounds	36%	9%	55%
Indoor field facilities	19%	5%	76%
Leisure ice surfaces (non-hockey)	26%	10%	64%
Seniors centres	25%	16%	58%
Walking / running tracks	30%	11%	59%
Youth centres	25%	16%	60%

For each of the following outdoor recreation amenities, please identify: If the amenity is needed or if there needs to be more of the amenity in Okotoks, if the existing amenities need to be improved, or if no changes are needed.

	Needed / More Needed	Needs Improvement	No Changes
Ball diamonds	9%	5%	86%
Beach volleyball courts	9%	3%	88%
Bike skills park	23%	7%	71%
Campgrounds	28%	8%	65%
Community gardens	32%	7%	61%
Day use areas (with BBQs)	33%	12%	55%
Event spaces (e.g. amphitheatres, band shelters)	24%	8%	68%
Mountain bike trails	34%	9%	57%
Nature/interpretive trails	37%	12%	52%
Off leash parks	34%	10%	56%
Open spaces (e.g. parks, greenspace)	35%	13%	52%
Outdoor boarded skating rinks	28%	9%	64%
Outdoor fitness equipment	10%	6%	84%
Outdoor pools	45%	5%	51%
Pickleball courts	20%	3%	77%
Playgrounds	19%	11%	70%
Skateboard parks	18%	8%	74%
Toboggan hills	31%	10%	60%
Sport courts (e.g. basketball, ball hockey)	18%	6%	76%
Sports fields (e.g. soccer, football)	13%	5%	82%
Tennis courts	15%	5%	80%
Track and field spaces	9%	6%	85%
Walking/cycling trail system	39%	12%	49%
Water spray parks	23%	8%	69%

## What three (3) factors should be used in prioritizing new or expanding facility or amenity projects? The facility or amenity:

Is not readily available in the area.	31%
Cost to operate would be lower.	10%
Funding and grants are available that would lower the project costs.	24%
Fits with the existing plans of the local government.	4%
Responds to demands/requests from the community.	54%
The overall cost to build the project is lower than for other projects.	4%
Has potential for bringing non-local spending into the community.	12%
Provides greater benefit to the community.	37%
Would result in recreation amenities being available throughout Okotoks.	21%
Targets under-served segments of our community.	12%
Can be operated in an economically and environmentally sustainable manner.	18%
Complements existing opportunities and businesses in the area.	4%
Can be used for multiple activities by different users.	21%
Can result in a year-round facility (or have an extended season).	18%
Would be used by large numbers of users.	25%

## Please identify types of recreation programs that should be provided or more readily available in Okotoks for each age group. Please select the appropriate boxes that indicate program type and age group.

	Children (0-5 years)	Youth (6-12 years)	Teens (13-18 years)	Adult (19-39 years)	Adult (40-64 years)	Seniors (65+ years)
Nature / outdoor education programming	36%	55%	47%	25%	29%	33%
Fitness and wellness programming	8%	19%	41%	43%	50%	45%
Casual recreation / leisure programming	17%	35%	49%	42%	46%	43%
Organized sports teams, leagues, and clubs	18%	45%	51%	38%	33%	24%
Wellness	21%	38%	54%	51%	50%	54%
Programs for individuals facing social, physical, or cognitive barriers to participation	37%	47%	53%	47%	45%	49%
Self improvement / Continuous learning programming	12%	23%	38%	51%	58%	58%

## Have you or anyone in your household ever felt unsafe using indoor or outdoor recreation amenities?

Yes	13%
No	87%

## Are you aware of services in Okotoks that provide financial assistance for recreation fees?

Yes	21%
No	79%

## Do you feel informed about recreation, parks and leisure in Okotoks?

Very Informed	8%
Adequately Informed	62%
Inadequately Informed	30%

## What are the top three (3) ways you prefer to get information about recreation, parks and leisure programs and events?

Western Wheel (newspaper)	51%
Eagle 100.9 (radio)	10%
Town website (Okotoks.ca)	54%
Online schedules (Activeokotoks.ca)	36%
Social media	39%
E-newsletters	27%
Community Guide – resource booklet	33%
Direct communication from community groups, organizations, or clubs	10%
Brochures and posters in community facilities	8%
Electronic community signs	12%



# Appendix D: Group Questionnaire



Okotoks Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan - Refresh

## Group Survey

The Town of Okotoks is updating their 2017 Master Plan to help prioritize programs and facilities and to guide the future of recreation, parks, and leisure in the Town.

To inform the strategy, we are implementing a program of engagement in the community. As part of this engagement, we are gathering input from groups that provide recreation, parks and leisure services to the residents of Okotoks.

The Town has retained RC Strategies to assist in updating the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan. For additional information about the process, please contact Robert Parks at [parks@rcstrategies.ca](mailto:parks@rcstrategies.ca).

### We Want to Hear From You!

Please answer the following questions considering the perspective of your organization. Only one response per group / organization is requested. Please submit your response by October 31, 2022.

Thank you!



## Section 1: About Your Organization

1. What is the name of your group / organization? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Briefly explain your organization and their mission. What are the primary activities or programs that you offer?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. What age group(s) best describe your organization's members/participants/clients. (Select all that apply.)

☐ Preschool (0-5 years)

☒ Child (6-11 years)

☐ Teens (12-17 years)

☒ Adult (18-39 years)

☐ Adult (40-59 years)

☒ Seniors (60 years and older)

4. How many members/participants/clients do you have in your organization? If available, please provide historical data.

2019 \_\_\_\_\_

2020 \_\_\_\_\_

2021 \_\_\_\_\_

5. Since 2017, have you had to put a capacity limit on your enrollment due to the availability of Town of Okotoks facilities or amenities?

☐ Yes

☒ No

If yes, please explain \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. What is your expectation for member/participant/client numbers over the next few years?

☐ Increase

☒ Remain the same

☐ Decrease

☐ Unsure

a. Please provide an estimate percentage your organization member/participant/client numbers will change.

☐ Up to 10%

☒ 11-20%

☐ Between 20-30%

☐ More than 30%

7. How many volunteers regularly support or are required to operate your organization?

☐ 0-10

☒ 11-20

☐ 21-50

☐ 51 and more

8. Please provide an estimate percentage of your organization's members/participants/clients based on their residency.  
Your response should add up to 100%.

Okotoks	%
Foothills County	%
Calgary	%
Other	%
Total	100%

## Section 2: Facility Usage

9. To what degree do the current Okotoks recreation, park and leisure facilities and amenities meet the needs of your organization?

- ☐ Completely meet the needs of our group / no changes needed  
(go to question 11)
- ☒ Somewhat meet the needs of our group / minor deficiencies /  
lack of complementary services
- ☐ Do not adequately meet the needs of our group / major  
deficiencies

Please explain your answer, be as specific as possible identifying deficiencies and / or lack of complementary services.

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10. Does your organization rent / utilize facilities and amenities for your regular programming outside of Okotoks?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No (go to question 11)

If yes, what facilities are you utilizing?

Facility Name	Regular Season?	Proportion of your programming (%)	Prime Time? (After 4pm weekdays and all day weekends)	Months / Season
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

### Section 3: Prioritization Criteria

11. What three (3) factors should be used in prioritizing new or expanding facility or amenity projects?

The facility or amenity:

- ☐ Is not readily available in the area.
- ☒ Cost to operate would be lower.
- ☐ Funding and grants are available that would lower the project costs.
- ☒ Fits with the existing plans of the local government.
- ☐ Responds to demands/requests from the community.
- ☒ The overall cost to build the project is lower than for other projects.
- ☐ Has potential for bringing non-local spending into the community.
- ☒ Provides greater benefit to the community.
- ☐ Would result in recreation amenities being available throughout Okotoks.
- ☒ Targets under-served segments of our community.
- ☐ Can be operated in an economically and environmentally sustainable manner.
- ☒ Complements existing opportunities and businesses in the area.
- ☐ Can be used for multiple activities by different users.
- ☒ Can result in a year-round facility (or have an extended season).
- ☐ Would be used by large numbers of users.
- ☒ Focuses on regional expansion.

### Section 4: Fees and Charges

12. How much of an increase in user / rental fees would your organization support to ensure community needs for recreation, parks and leisure are met?

- ☐ No change
- ☒ Up to 5%
- ☐ 5 – 10%
- ☒ 11 – 15%
- ☐ More than 15% increase



## Section 5: Challenges and Opportunities

13. What challenges, if any, is your organization facing that impacts your ability to deliver your programs? Check all that apply.

- ☐ Getting sufficient/enough access to facilities and amenities for programming.
- ☐ Inadequate facilities and amenities  
(e.g. amenity and/or support spaces are lacking insufficient or are poor quality)
- ☐ Aging buildings / infrastructure
- ☐ Attracting and retaining coaches / instructors
- ☐ Attracting and retaining volunteers
- ☐ Attracting and retaining members / participants
- ☐ Equipment Storage
- ☐ Funding (e.g. grants, sponsorships)
- ☐ Operating costs (e.g. facility costs, association costs, insurance)
- ☐ Organizational management and operations (e.g. board training, grant writing, accounting)
- ☐ Promotions and marketing
- ☐ Declining participation
- ☐ Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

b. Please explain your answers to the last question, be as specific as possible. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

14. What could the Town do to make the recreation facilities more comfortable or barrier free for your group to use?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

15. If the town were to offer training opportunities, which of the following would your organization be interested in? Select all that apply.

☐ Board / Committee Development

☐ Volunteer recruitment / retention support

☐ Identifying grant funding or sponsorship opportunities

☐ Operating grant support

☐ Capital grant support

☐ Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

## Section 6: Final Thoughts

16. Please use the space to provide any other comments you have about the update of the recreation, parks, and leisure Master Plan.

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**Thank you very much for taking the time to participate in the survey on behalf of your group / organization!**

**Your input is very important to the update of the Master Plan!**

# Appendix E: Group Survey Participants

1. Okotoks Mixed Slo-Pitch League
2. Okotoks United Soccer Club
3. Okotoks Female Hockey Development
4. Okotoks Dawgs Baseball Club
5. Foothills Advocacy in Motion
6. The Centre for Learning at Home
7. Big Rock Basketball Club
8. Westmount School
9. Inclusion Foothills Association
10. Okotoks Oilers Junior A Hockey Club
11. Okotoks Newcomers
12. Ace Volleyball Club

# Appendix F: Location of Intercepts

1. Centennial Walking Track
2. Okotoks Junior High School
3. Okotoks Recreation Centre





