

Play. Grow. Create.

May 2021

# “Current State”

## Research Report

M a s t e r P L A n

Pitt Meadows Parks, Recreation and Culture

The City of Pitt Meadows acknowledges that we are located on the traditional territory of the Katzie First Nation





# Project Documents

The City of Pitt Meadows Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan consists of three project documents.



**“Current State”  
Research Report**

**“What We Heard”  
Engagement Summary  
Report**

**Parks, Recreation and  
Culture Master Plan**

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## Section 1

# Introduction and Context

## Master Plan Purpose and Process

The City of Pitt Meadows first ever Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan was initiated in the fall of 2020 and will guide the delivery of parks, recreation and culture services over the next 15 years. The Master Plan will additionally provide Council and administration with a point of reference that can help guide decision making, ongoing priority setting and resource allocation. As Pitt Meadows has only had its own parks, recreation and culture service since 2016, the development of a Master Plan also presents an opportunity to set foundations, objectives and focus areas for service delivery and the City's Parks, Recreation and Culture department.

The following graphic illustrates the process used to develop the Master Plan. As reflected by the graphic, research and engagement is used to inform strategic direction setting and the Master Plan document.

### Included in this section:

- Overview of the Master Plan objectives, rationale and process.
- The purpose of this report document.
- The current service delivery context in Pitt Meadows.

#### Phase 1



Project Start-Up

#### Phase 2



Research & Analysis

#### Phase 3



Engagement

#### Phase 4



Strategic Direction Setting

#### Phase 5



Master Plan Development

# The Current State Report

This Current State Research Report contains the non-engagement research and analysis undertaken by the project team (Phase 2 as illustrated in the graphic on the previous page). The intent of this report is to provide a background reference document for the Master Plan that captures the current state of parks, recreation and culture in Pitt Meadows as well as broader insights into trends and leading practices within the sector. In total, the project has three documents:

- **Current State Research Report (this document)**
- “What We Heard” Engagement Summary Report
- Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan

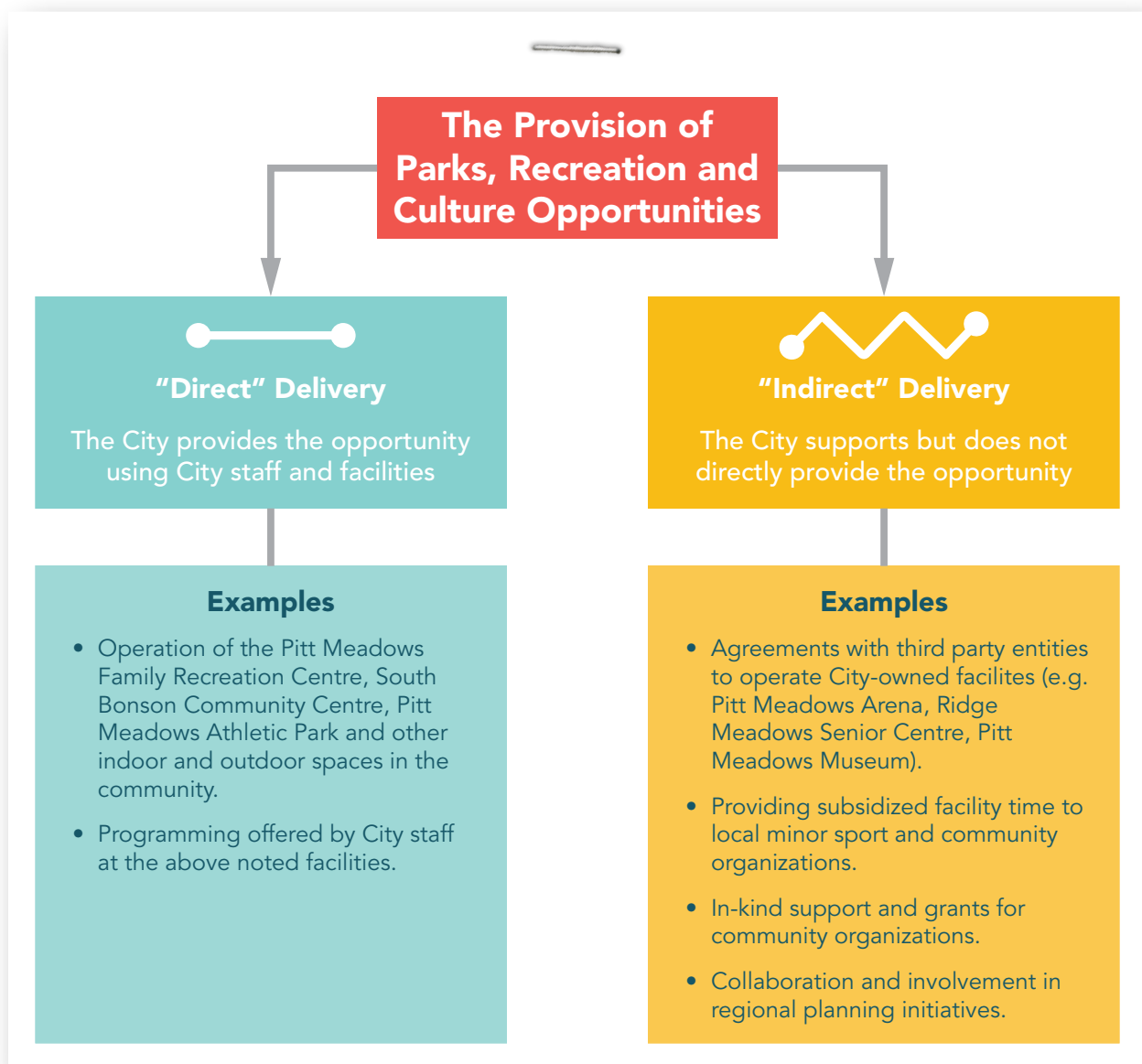




# The Current Service Delivery Context

The City of Pitt Meadows delivers parks, recreation and culture using a combination of direct and indirect delivery methods. This approach to service delivery is commonplace within the region and across Western Canada, providing local governments with the ability to effectively meet gaps and respond to opportunity demands while also supporting organizations in the community. The Master Plan document will provide further guidance on those opportunities that should be provided directly vs indirectly.

It's also important to note that the broader provision and availability of active living opportunities for residents of Pitt Meadows includes a number of external organizations. The City has relationships with some of these entities (e.g. Metro Vancouver Regional Parks and neighbouring municipalities) while others operate independently of the public parks, recreation and culture system (e.g. private sector providers of fitness).



## Section 2

# The Planning Context

## Municipal Planning and Policy Context

The City of Pitt Meadows, like most municipalities, has a hierarchy of planning that guides overall strategic direction, the delivery of service areas, and helps support or direct specific projects, initiatives, policies and procedures. Ideally, a Master Plan aligns with (and reflects the values of) broader community-wide planning while also providing a reference point that guides operational, sub-service area and project specific planning (e.g. planning for a new facility). The graphic on the following page illustrates a planning hierarchy and shows the relationships between various types of municipal planning.

### Included in this section:

- Relationship between the new Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan and other municipal planning, policies, and other relevant documentation.
- Summary of key provincial and national planning and frameworks.





## The Planning Hierarchy



Listed as follows are documents that were reviewed by the project team in order to understand the planning context in Pitt Meadows.

## Community-Wide Planning

- City of Pitt Meadows Official Community Plan (2010) *\*Standing OCP pending finalization of the new OCP*
- Publicly available documents pertaining to the *I See Pitt Meadows 2040: Official Community Plan update* (Council updates, summary presentations on the new OCP, and Draft Plan Vision)
- City of Pitt Meadows Strategic Plan, 2019 – 2022

## Service Area Planning (other service area planning with relevance to parks, recreation and culture)

- City of Pitt Meadows Child Care Needs Assessment 2019 - 2029
- City of Pitt Meadows Transportation Master Plan (2014)
- City of Pitt Meadows Pedestrian and Cycling Master Plan (2012)

**Community Spirit and Wellbeing** is one of five key focus areas identified in the City's 2019 – 2022 Strategic Plan. Specific to this focus area, the Strategic Plan identifies that the City will...

- Create opportunities through arts, culture, recreation and signature events for residents to gather, connect and experience the vibrancy and diversity of our city (Pride and Spirit).
- Provide and encourage a community conducive to healthy, inclusive and accessible living (Wellness).
- Promote the conservation and enhancement of our natural environment for the benefit of current and future generations (Natural Environment).





## Parks, Recreation and Cultural Management and Operational Documents

- Arena Complex Operating and Maintenance Agreement
- Staff reports to Council (2021 business plans for the parks, recreation, and culture divisions)
- 2020 Business Plan – Community Services Division
- Facility and departments budgets (various)
- Volunteer Policy (2016)
- Public Art Policy (2012)
- Artists in our Parks Policy (2017)
- Seasonal Sport Field Allocation Policy Manual (2014)
- Arena Ice & Dry Floor Allocation Policy Manual (2013)
- Facility Allocation – Regular Use Policy (2016)
- Draft Community Partnership and Investment Program Policy (2019)
- Parks Maintenance Policy (2019)
- Community Engagement Policy (2017)
- Living Wage Policy (2017)
- Program and Admission Fee Subsidization Policy (2016)
- Facility Rental Fee Waivers and Registration Subsidy Rebate Policies (2016)
- Recreation Access Policy (2016)
- Fees and Charges Policy (2016)
- Community Service and Civic Recognition Policy (2019)
- Child Protection Policy (2019)

## Parks, Recreation and Culture Sub-Service Area Planning

- Accessibility Review of Parks and Open Space (2017)

## Project Focused Planning

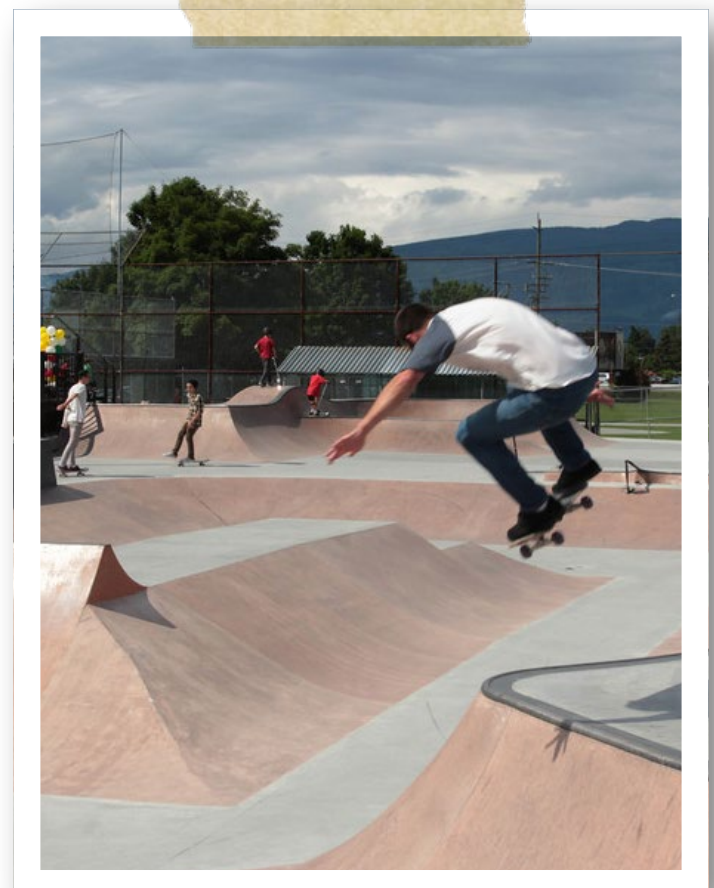
- None

## Strategic Planning Undertaken by Community Partners

- Ridge Meadows Seniors Society Strategic Plan 2019 – 2024
- Pitt Meadows Heritage and Museum Society Business Plan (2019)

## Pertinent Strategic Planning Undertaken by Regional Partners

- Metro 2040 Shaping Our Future (Metro Vancouver Regional Growth Strategy) (updated in 2020)
- Opening Minds, Enabling Dreams - A Strategic Plan for Fraser Valley Regional Library 2018-2023
- Lougheed Transit Corridor Study
- Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows – Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan (2010)
- Pitt River Regional Greenway Concept Plan



## **Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping Our Future (Metro Vancouver's Regional Growth Strategy)**

Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping Our Future (Metro 2040) is a guiding document accepted by 23 municipalities in the region (including the City of Pitt Meadows) that provides a coordinated roadmap to managing and optimizing the opportunities associated with future growth in the lower mainland. Metro 2040 is built around five overarching goals that have significant pertinence to parks, recreation and culture:

Goal 1: Create a Compact Urban Area

Goal 2: Support a Sustainable Economy

Goal 3: Protect the Environment and Respond to Climate Change Impacts

Goal 4: Develop Complete Communities

Goal 5: Support Sustainable Transportation Choices

Metro 2040 also identifies a number of important land use designation to guide planning and development. As an example of how these designations may impact planning, Pitt Meadows core is identified as a "Municipal Town Centre" which has targeted land use and transportation characteristics such as:

- Institutional, community, cultural and entertainment uses;
- Parks, greenspace and ecological areas;
- Services and activities oriented to the local needs of the surrounding communities;
- Municipal focus for community and cultural activities; and
- High quality, accessible walking and cycling environment.

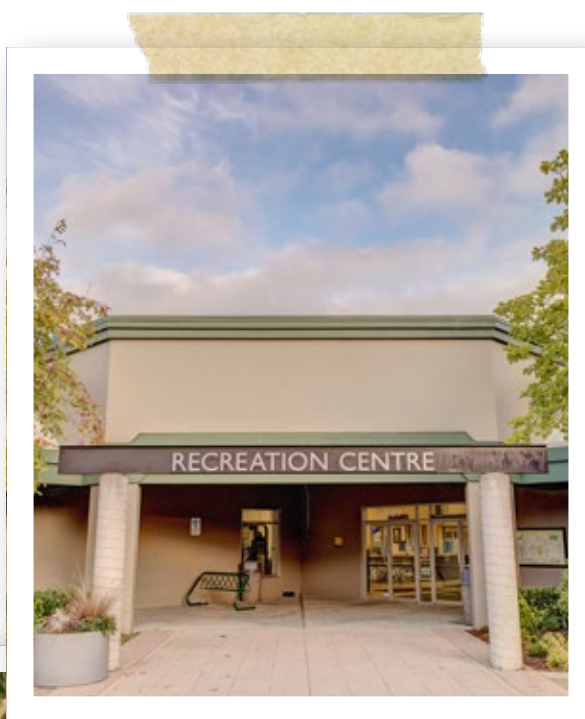
Metro 2040 projects a population of 23,500 in Pitt Meadows by 2041. Based on data from the 2016 Statistics Canada Census (18,573), available Environics Analytics data (see Section 5 of this report document), and medium term growth projects in Metro 2040 it appears that Pitt Meadows is tracking towards slightly exceeding these growth projections.





# Provincial and National Planning and Policy Review

There is increasingly a priority among public sector providers of parks, recreation and culture opportunities to align values, service delivery philosophy and articulate a common rationale for investment. Profiled as follows are a number of significant documents that guide the “quality of life” sector.



## Framework for Recreation in Canada (2015)

A **Framework for Recreation in Canada** is a guiding document developed by the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association and the Interprovincial Sport and Recreation Council.<sup>1</sup> Informed by input from various stakeholders across Canada, the Framework was developed to support recreation providers in Canada and was endorsed by Provincial and Territorial governments in 2015. The Framework provides a philosophic foundation for the recreation sector and affirms recreation as an essential public service.

The Framework establishes a vision for the delivery of recreation in Canada and five goals to help guide recreation providers. While recreation is a broad term and local interests, priorities and needs differ in each community, the Framework provides an excellent starting point for recreation planning, as well as provides a foundation for national-level alignment within the recreation sector. Such alignment can bolster community cases for provincial and federal investments in recreation.

The Framework also articulates a **Renewed Definition of Recreation:** recreation is the experience that results from freely chosen participation in physical, social, intellectual, creative and spiritual pursuits that enhance individual and community well-being.

**Framework Vision:** we envision a Canada in which everyone is engaged in meaningful, accessible recreation experiences that foster individual wellbeing, community wellbeing and the wellbeing of our natural and built environments.

### Five Framework Goals:



#### Goal 1: Active Living

Foster active living through physical recreation.



#### Goal 2: Inclusion and Access

Increase inclusion and access to recreation for populations that face constraints to participation.



#### Goal 3: Connecting People with Nature

Help people connect to nature through recreation.



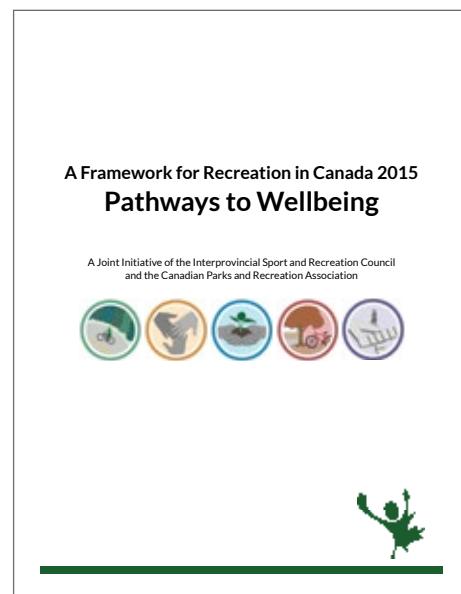
#### Goal 4: Supportive Environments

Ensure the provision of supportive physical and social environments that encourage participation in recreation and help to build strong, caring communities.



#### Goal 5: Building Recreation Capacity

Ensure the continued growth and sustainability of the recreation field.



<https://www.cpra.ca/about-the-framework?locale=en>

<sup>1</sup> Canadian Parks and Recreation Association. (2015). *Framework for Recreation in Canada*. Retrieved from: <https://www.cpra.ca/about-the-framework>



## Let's Get Moving: A Common Vision for Increasing Physical Activity and Reducing Sedentary Living in Canada (2018)

The "Common Vision" is an initiative developed and endorsed by Provincial and Territorial Governments as well as the Government of Canada. The principal purpose of the Common Vision is to guide and stimulate coordinated and collaborative policies and actions to increase physical activity and to reduce sedentary behaviours among all Canadians across their lifetime. The Common Vision uses six Areas of Focus for collaborative action that were identified through a comprehensive national consultation and engagement process:

**Cultural Norms**—establishing social values and beliefs that contribute to making physical activity the default choice.

**Spaces and Places**—ensure physical environments are more supportive and accessible for habitual physical activity to become a bigger part of our daily lives.

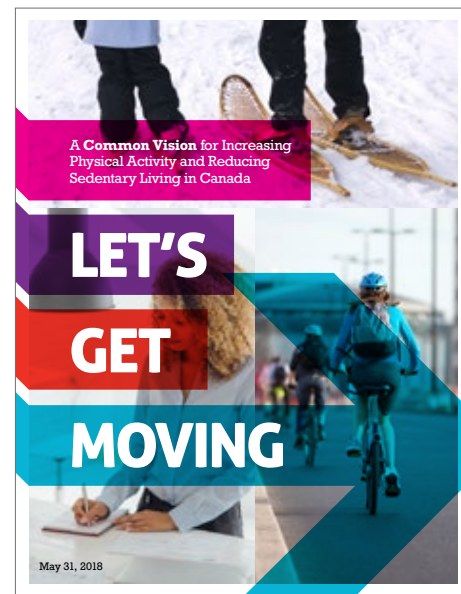
**Public Engagement**—enabling Canadians to know how and where to be active in ways that are more systematic and sustainable.

**Partnerships**—focusing on multi-sectorial approaches involving all segments of society to achieve shared outcomes.

**Leadership**—building capacity, credentials, competencies and cultural sensitivities within the physical activity sector and expanding knowledge to leaders across sectors and those on the front lines.

**Learning and Progress**—sharing and using existing tools as well as building on and improving reporting, monitoring and evaluation.

Each of these Areas of Focus have several Strategic Imperatives to help guide future planning and implementation.



<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/healthy-living/lets-get-moving.html>

There are several ideas presented in Let's Get Moving that call upon municipal governments; some ideas are presented as follows:

- Work with community planners to create accessible and inclusive spaces and places.
- Work in partnership with Indigenous leaders to realize the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Final Report (2015).
- Use Geographic Information System (GIS) tools to reveal trends and detect weaknesses in walkability and access to recreation facilities and the use of green spaces in communities.
- Monitor parks, fields and playgrounds to determine how best to activate these places and spaces.
- Use evidence-based checklists and self-assessment tools (e.g., Photovoice) to help assess physical activity opportunities and barriers in neighbourhoods.
- Audit accessibility and improve access to recreation facilities where appropriate.
- Help organizations that have volunteer capacity issues (or face high turnover of volunteers/coaches/programmers) find meaningful solutions support them so that quality programming is consistent and reliable.



## Nature for All – Connecting with Nature (2018)

Nature for All is a global movement to inspire love of nature, the importance of integrating nature into our lives, and addressing barriers that exist that prevent many from accessing nature. Spending time in nature is good for us – for child development, health and wellbeing, community vitality and economic vibrance. Nature for All's Connecting with Nature to Care for Ourselves and the Earth presents recommendations for decision makers and highlights just some of the demonstrable benefits of being in nature for any period of time.

Recommendations for increasing time spent in and accessibility to nature include:

- Getting children outdoors on a regular basis through educational programs and unstructured play opportunities.
- Promote simple, accessible outdoor experiences such as spending time in parks, gardening and even just walking outdoors.
- Integrate safe and accessible green and blue spaces into urban environments through design.
- Promote the integration of culture and nature to develop a sense of oneness with nature.
- Develop policies that encourage investment by the private sector, including environmentally sustainable programming, infrastructure and innovative solutions.
- Develop elder care programs that deliver health benefits associated with frequent contact with nature.



[https://static1.squarespace.com/static/597b547aebbd1a681f3883f2/t/5a1735cf652dea2e1af1c7cc/1511470561052/NFAprospectus\\_en.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/597b547aebbd1a681f3883f2/t/5a1735cf652dea2e1af1c7cc/1511470561052/NFAprospectus_en.pdf)



## Parks for All (2017)

Developed in 2017 by the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA) and the Canadian Parks Council (CPC), Parks for All presents a vision for parks in Canada and four strategic directions.

### Vision

*Connected Canadian park lands and waters that support healthy Nature and healthy people in harmony for generations to come, backed by an active, diverse parks community that cultivates shared goals, mutual respect and collective action.*

### Strategic Directions

#### Collaborate

- Nurturing partnerships between Indigenous organizations and the broader parks community.
- Collaborating with new and diverse sectors.
- Strategizing beyond park boundaries.

#### Connect

- Raising public awareness of our parks.
- Facilitating experiences which connect visitors with nature.
- Sharing stories and successes to inspire more engagement.

#### Conserve

- Expanding Canada's park system.
- Enhancing parks planning and management.
- Enhancing ecosystem service benefits from parks.

#### Lead

- Setting ambitious examples that can pave the way for others, in Canada and internationally.
- Building the capability of current and future leaders.
- Developing and maintain systems, tools, and resources to support leaders.



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## Sport for Life

Sport for Life (S4L) is a movement that promotes quality sport and physical activity. It is led by Sport for Life Society, a federal not-for-profit society that was incorporated in September 2014 and comprises experts from sport, health, recreation and academia who are employed as independent contractors, yet work cooperatively to promote the movement's goals. The movement introduces two important concepts that influence recreation/sport activity planning, promotion, organization and delivery: Long-Term Athlete Development and Physical Literacy. These two concepts define a broader social good linked to the provision of recreation.

### Long-Term Athlete Development

- This model is a seven-stage training, competition and recovery pathway guiding an individual's experience in sport and physical activity from infancy through all phases of adulthood.

### Physical Literacy

- This is defined as the motivation, confidence, physical competence, knowledge and understanding to value and take responsibility for engagement in physical activities for life.

### Suggested Future Actions

The movement also calls upon municipalities to help the cause through:

- Physical literacy program development;
- Aligning municipal planning and sport strategy development with S4L principles;
- Supporting and working with Sport Councils;
- Planning and providing facilities in alignment with S4L principles; and
- Aligning access and allocation processes and protocols with S4L principles.



<https://sportforlife.ca/>

Sport for Life, with Long-Term Athlete Development and physical literacy, represents a paradigm shift in the way Canadians lead and deliver sport and physical activity. The movement calls on municipalities to help further these two important concepts in a variety of ways as outlined below. As it relates to the provision of indoor recreation services and facilities, it is important to consider these roles and the fundamentals of the two concepts as they define a broader social good that is delivered through recreation, ensuring that these concepts are catalyzed through all publicly supported recreation services, will optimize the benefits and value for public investment in facilities and infrastructure.

Sport for Life (S4L) has also developed a series of best practices and principles that it recommends to be followed in the allocation of facility time to user groups:

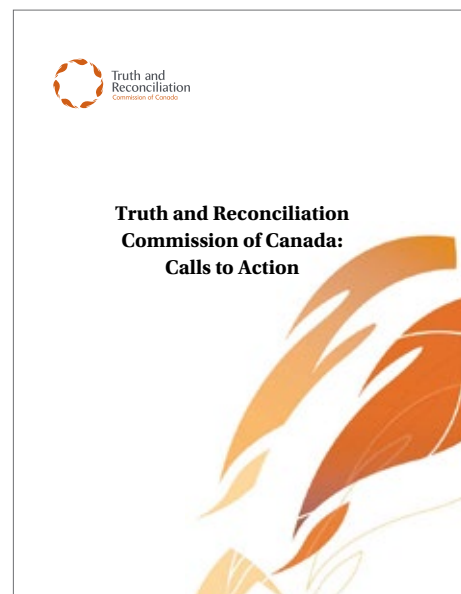
- Allocation practices are based on "standards of play" principles in terms of the time and space required by each group.
- Allocation policies are transparent and reviewed with the groups.
- Allocation is not done by tradition, but rather on actual requirements of all groups, including the needs of emerging sports.
- Seasonal allocation meetings are held with common users groups to review their requests and try to achieve consensus on sharing available spaces and times.
- As seasons progress, groups are encouraged to be flexible in the reallocation of spaces with other groups when no longer needed, either temporarily or for longer periods.
- User fees and subsidies need to reflect community taxpayer support, and the rationale should be shared with sport organizations.



## Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action (2015)

In order to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission included 94 Calls to Action in their final report.<sup>2</sup> The following provides a high-level overview of those Calls to Action that are relevant for the Master Plan in terms of health, sport, language and culture (including museums and other places of historical learning).

Category	Relevant Calls to Action (#'s)
<b>Health, Sports and Reconciliation</b>  Calls to Action include: a focus on health goals and measurable outcomes, education of sport history, long-term athlete development and the amendment of specific acts and policies to ensure inclusivity of Aboriginal people.	19, 87, 88, 89, 90
<b>Language and Culture</b>  Calls to Action include: acknowledgment of Aboriginal language rights, ensuring key principles are included in the Aboriginal Language Act, appointment of an Aboriginal Languages Commissioner and calling upon post-secondary institutions to create degree and diploma programs in Aboriginal languages.	13, 14, 15, 16, 17
<b>Museums and Archives</b>  Calls to Action include: a national review of museum policies and best practices, committing more resources to public education materials and programming on residential schools, perform a review of archival policies and best practices to determine the level of compliance with United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the United Nations Joint-Ortlicher Principles, as related to Aboriginal peoples' inalienable right to know the truth about what happened and why, with regard to human rights violations committed against them in the residential schools.	67, 68, 69, 70



<http://www.trc.ca/index.html>

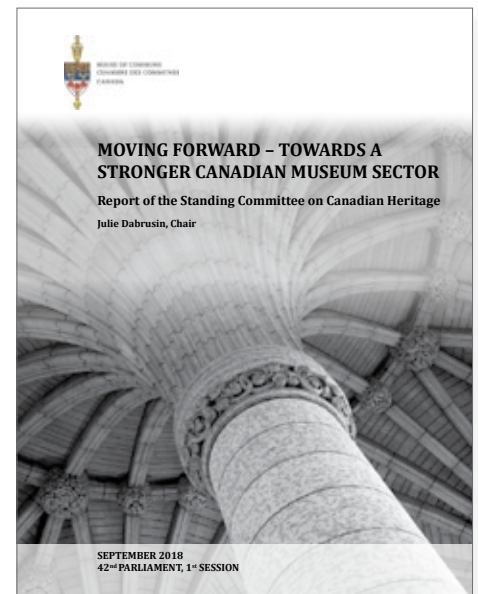
2 [http://trc.ca/assets/pdf/Calls\\_to\\_Action\\_English2.pdf](http://trc.ca/assets/pdf/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf)

## Moving Forward: Towards a Stronger Canadian Museum Sector (2018)

The report, *Moving Forward – Towards A Stronger Canadian Museum Sector*, was presented by the Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage.<sup>3</sup> Included are fifteen recommendations for consideration by the Government of Canada that fall within a number of broad categories:

- Simplify and create more sustainable funding systems.
- Improve and modernize policies.
- Examination of admission fees and impact on museum attendance.
- Collaboration of museums with post-secondary institutions and the private sector.
- Improved staff training and storage/cataloguing of collections.
- Cultural diversity.
- Pooling of resources between museums.
- Review of museum policies and best practices to determine the compliance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and to make recommendations.

These recommendations have potential implications for museums across the country and can be examined more closely to make changes or improvements at the local level.



<https://www.ourcommons.ca/Content/Committee/421/CHPC/Reports/RP10011476/chpcrp12/chpcrp12-e.pdf>



<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ourcommons.ca/Committees/en/CHPC/StudyActivity?studyActivityId=8974297>

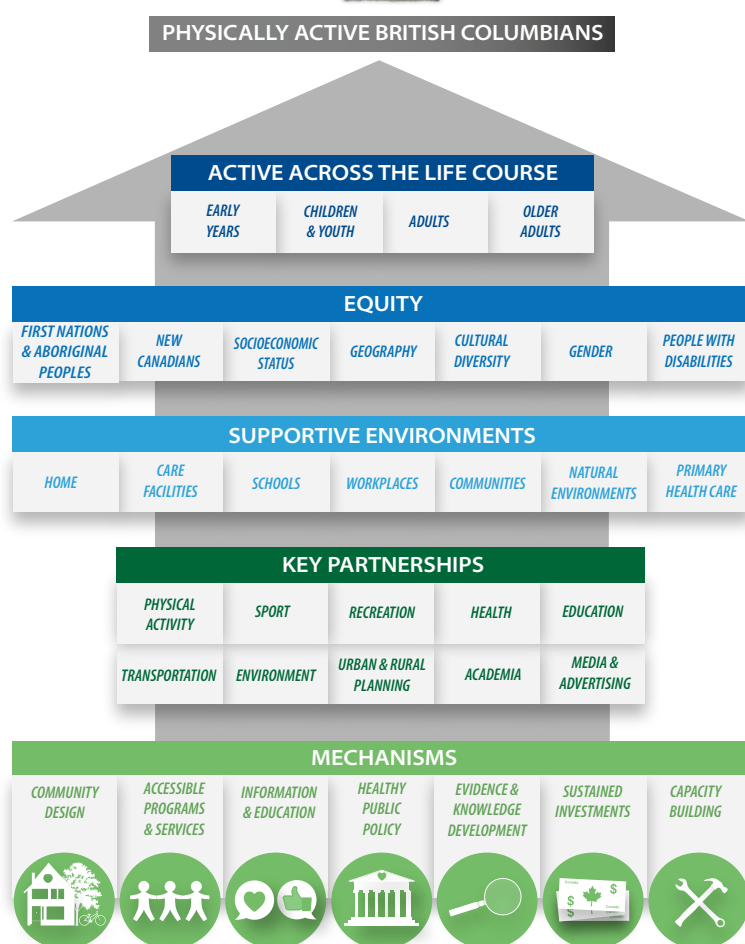
## Provincial Planning Influences

Recreation is important to British Columbians and represents a key aspect of provincial resident's quality of life and identity. The importance of recreation is underpinned by a couple key strategic planning documents that guide the public recreation sector in the province. Summarized as follows are a number of these key provincial planning influences.

### Active People, Active Places—BC Physical Activity Strategy (2015)

Overview: Designed to guide and stimulate coordinated policies, practices and programs in physical activity that will improve the health and well-being of British Columbians, and the communities in which they live, learn, work and play. The Strategy ultimately aims to foster active people and active places and increase levels of physical activity and wellness.

**Identified below is the Framework for Action that was developed to reflect the overall strategic intent and objectives of the Strategy.**



Source: Province of British Columbia, Ministry of Health Website



## The Way Forward— A Strategic Plan for the Parks, Recreation, and Culture Sector of BC (2008)

Overview: Developed by the British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association as a guiding strategic planning document, the Plan helps further clarify the role of the sector in supporting quality of life, achieving key goals and its overall vision, and provided a basis for collaboration with the Province. The following image reflects the hierarchy of strategic guidance provided by the Strategic Plan.

### THE WAY FORWARD STRATEGIC PLAN

#### Our Vision

A high quality of life for all British Columbians – healthy individuals and communities and sustainable environments and economies.

#### Our Mission

The mission of the parks, recreation and culture sector in British Columbia is to promote a high quality of life for all through: advocacy and partnerships; programs and services; parks and facilities.

#### Our Framework

Healthy Individuals; Healthy Communities; Sustainable; Environments; Sustainable Economies

#### Guiding Principles

A Sustainable Quality of Life; Beyond Leisure; Sustainable Communities; Multiple Goals; Collaboration; Accessibility and Inclusion; Whole Person Benefits; Citizen Participation and Involvement; Strategic Volunteerism; Economic Prosperity; Social Sustainability.

#### 12 Strategic Results Areas

Vision Building and Inspiration; Leadership Renewal; Accessibility and Inclusion; Infrastructure Renewal; Advocacy and Communication; Community Development; Environmental Sustainability; Individual Wellbeing; Partnership Development and Collaboration; Economic Sustainability; Research and Performance Measures; Policy and Governance.

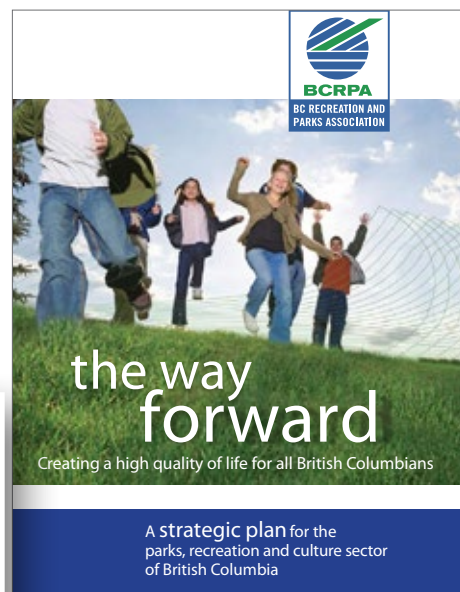
#### 38 Action Items

*Immediate:* Within two years  
*Short Term:* Within two to five years  
*Long Term:* Within five to ten years

#### Roles and Responsibilities for Implementing the Action Items

Local government  
 Senior government  
 Non-profit and community organizations  
 Industry associations  
 Private sector  
 Volunteers  
 Academia  
 Others

Source: BCRPA Website

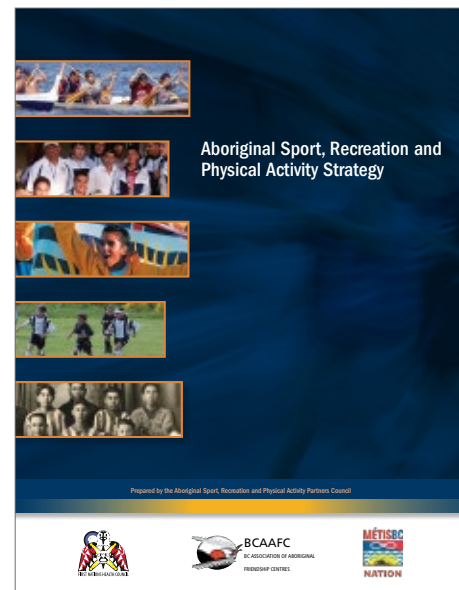


# Aboriginal Sport, Recreation and Physical Activity Strategy

Overview: The overall direction of the ASRPA Strategy was to contribute to a healthier future for Aboriginal communities, families and individuals by making sport, recreation and physical activity a priority. In response to demographic needs and opportunities, the Strategy took a youth-focuses approach. The Strategy was developed in partnership by the First Nations Health Council, BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres, and Metis Nation BC. **Identified below are the Guiding Principles and Pillars that underpin the Strategy.**

## Guiding Principles:

- Aboriginal peoples are an integral part of British Columbia's history and heritage
- Aboriginal peoples possess significant traditional knowledge and cultural teachings, which recognize the positive influence of physical activity and sports/games have on holistic personal development
- Aboriginal people in British Columbia live in complex geographical environments and, as such, experience unique living conditions and social realities
- Aboriginal peoples hold personal dignity and well-being as the foundation of their cultures and maintain the inherent right to live healthy and active lives
- Aboriginal protocol must be respected in all instances
- Aboriginal people with disabilities have unique challenges that must be considered within program planning and delivery
- Barriers to Aboriginal peoples' participation in sport, recreation and physical activity opportunities are compounded by a lack of financial resources and transportation options
- The BC Aboriginal Youth Sport and Recreation Declaration calls on leaders to respond collectively to the needs of Aboriginal youth and to establish youth sport, recreation and physical activity as a provincial priority



- First Nations and Métis leaders have expressed their support for creating a provincial Strategy for Aboriginal sport, recreation and physical activity
- Increasing Aboriginal peoples' participation in sport, recreation and physical activity is enhanced through partnerships with various stakeholders, both Aboriginal and mainstream

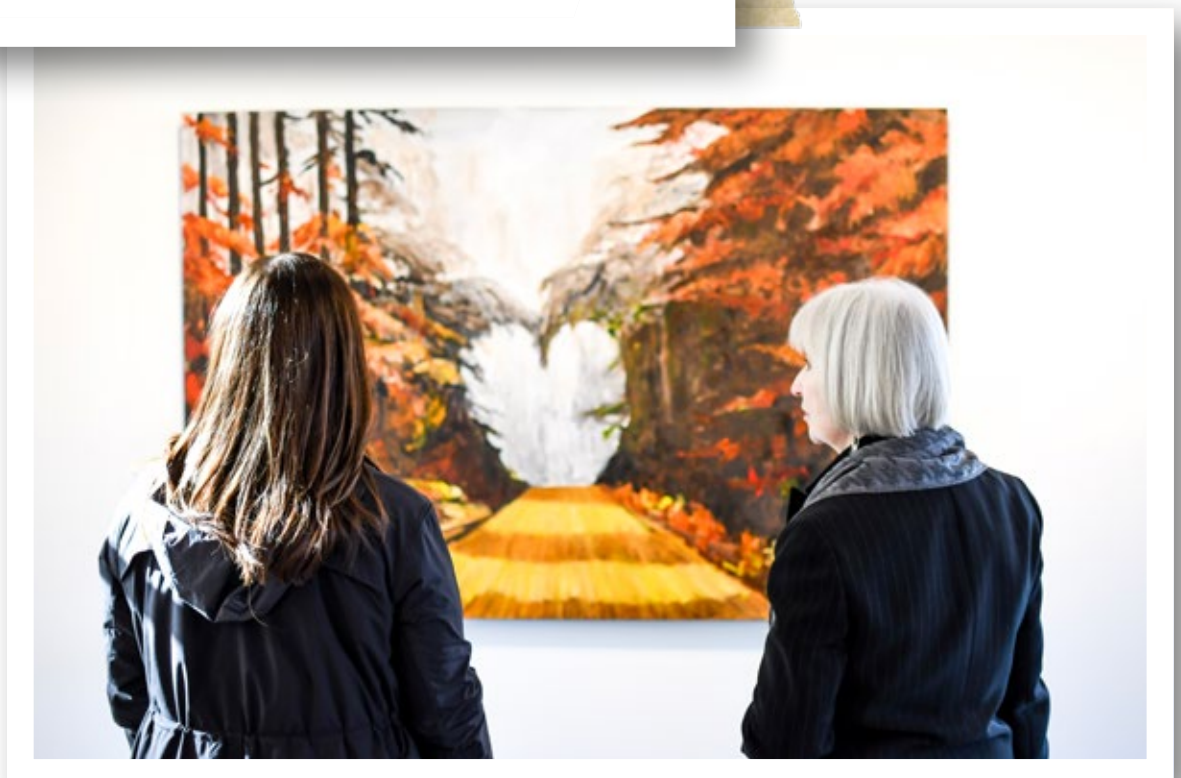
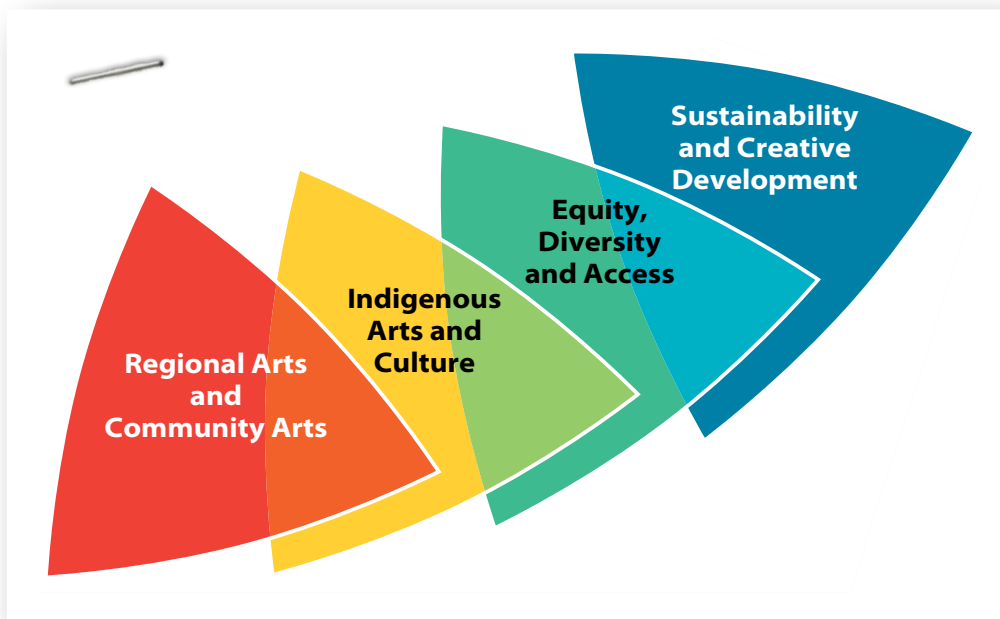
## Pillars:

- Pillar 1: Active Communities
- Pillar 2: Leadership and Capacity
- Pillar 3: Excellence
- Pillar 4: System Development
- Pillar 5: Sustainability

Source: ISPARC Website

# British Columbia Arts Council Strategic Plan 2018 - 2022

Overview: The new Strategic Plan provides a foundational document for the arts and culture sector in the province, with a focus on advocacy and ensuring that the sector is adequately supported and fostered. **The following graphic illustrates the four overarching Strategic Directions that provide a foundation for the Strategic Plan.**





## Section 3

# Current Parks, Recreation and Culture Opportunities in Pitt Meadows

## Parks, Recreation and Culture Infrastructure

Pitt Meadows has a significant parks, recreation and culture asset base with an estimated replacement value exceeding \$160 million dollars.<sup>1</sup> Like most communities, this asset base has been accrued and developed organically over a number of decades through the efforts and investment of both the City and community organizations.

### Included in this section:

- Overview of current parks, recreation and culture infrastructure in Pitt Meadows and the surrounding region.
- Summary findings and observations from the functional assessments.
- Overview of community events.
- Utilization and participation indicators.



<sup>1</sup> Based on high level unit costs for the facility and amenity typologies and does not include land values. See Appendix A for the unit costs used to make this determination. This estimated value not include the dike system, trails, open space, or Metro Vancouver Regional Parks.

## Overview of Parks, Recreation and Culture Infrastructure

<b>Legend</b> = Number of Facilities = Provision Ratio (residents per unit of amenity type) <sup>2</sup>	 <b>Ice Arenas</b> <b>#</b> 1 arena (3 sheets of ice) 6,191 (sheets of arena ice per resident)	 <b>Community Gymnasiums</b> (not including schools) <b>#</b> 1 18,573	 <b>Community Centre Spaces</b> (multi-purpose indoor spaces for programs and social activities) <b>#</b> 3 6,191	 <b>Libraries</b> <b>#</b> 1 18,573	 <b>Major Outdoor Sports Park</b> <b>#</b> 1 18,573	 <b>Artificial Turf Fields</b> <b>#</b> 1 18,573
 <b>Community Gardens</b> <b>#</b> 1 18,573	 <b>Sports Fields</b> <b>#</b> 15 1,238	 <b>Ball Diamonds</b> <b>#</b> 17 1,093	 <b>Skateboard Parks</b> <b>#</b> 1 18,573	 <b>Public Art Galleries</b> <b>#</b> 1 18,573	 <b>Seniors Activity Centres</b> <b>#</b> 1 18,573	 <b>Youth Activity Centres</b> <b>#</b> 1 18,573
 <b>Community Park Spaces</b> <b>#</b> 13 (park spaces with play structures) 60.5 Ha. 1,429 (307 residents per Ha.)	 <b>Trails*</b> 69.5 km of trails (including Greenway, dike trails, and community park trails managed by the City) <b>#</b> 265 residents per km of trail	 <b>Heritage Sites</b> <b>#</b> 1 18,573	 <b>Outdoor Aquatics Facility</b> <b>#</b> 1 18,573	 <b>Off Leash Dog Parks</b> <b>#</b> 2 9,287	 <b>Outdoor Sports Courts</b> <b>#</b> 10 1,857	 <b>Tennis Courts</b> <b>#</b> 8 2,322
 <b>Waterways</b> Pitt Lake (53 square kilometers) <b>#</b> Pitt River (eastern bank of the river entirely within Pitt Meadows; running from the Fraser River to Pitt Lake) Alouette River (approximately 10 km within the boundaries of Pitt Meadows) <i>*These water bodies and their adjacent trails are used for a variety of activities including paddling, walking / hiking, and nature enjoyment</i>						

\*Does not include trails Pitt-Addington Marsh Wildlife Management Area.

# Spatial Overview of Parks, Recreation and Culture Infrastructure in Pitt Meadows

The maps on this page illustrate the distribution of parks, recreation and culture infrastructure in Pitt Meadows. As reflected by the inset map, most major recreation, sport and cultural amenities in the city are located on a handful of “hub” sites, namely the Pitt Meadows Athletic Park, Harris Road Park, and the Civic Centre site (which includes the Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre). It is also important to reiterate the recreational significance of the numerous waterways and adjacent trails in the community. As reflected on the previous page, Pitt Lake and the Alouette and Pitt Rivers provide a wealth of opportunities for paddling, hiking and nature enjoyment.







## Overview of Key Parks, Recreation and Culture Sites in Pitt Meadows

### Pitt Meadows Art Gallery

- Located next to Harris Road Park
- Includes multidisciplinary arts works from local and regional artists

### Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre

- Full sized community gymnasium (dividable into 2 gymnasiums)
- Fitness centre
- Youth centre ("The Lounge")
- Fitness studio

### Harris Road Park

- Outdoor pool and splash pad
- Skateboard Park (Youth Action Park)
- Sports fields (3 ball diamonds, 2 soccer fields)
- Community playground

*\*Heritage Hall and the Pitt Meadows Art Gallery are located immediately adjacent to the park site*

### Pitt Meadows Athletic Park / Pitt Meadows Arena

- 5 full sized sports fields, 2 mini-fields, 8 ball diamonds *\*Cross-use configuration does not permit simultaneous play*
- Tennis courts (4)
- Pitt Meadows Arena (3 sheets of ice)

*\*The Pitt Meadows Community Field (artificial turf) and Community Gardens are located immediately adjacent to the site*

### South Bonson Community Centre

- Main hall with kitchen facilities
- Arts and crafts rooms
- Boardroom

*\*Adjacent to the Waterfront Commons Parks and Shoreline Park*

To provide another perspective on the distribution of (and access to) parks, recreation and culture spaces in Pitt Meadows, the project team undertook analysis of resident proximity to key types of infrastructure.

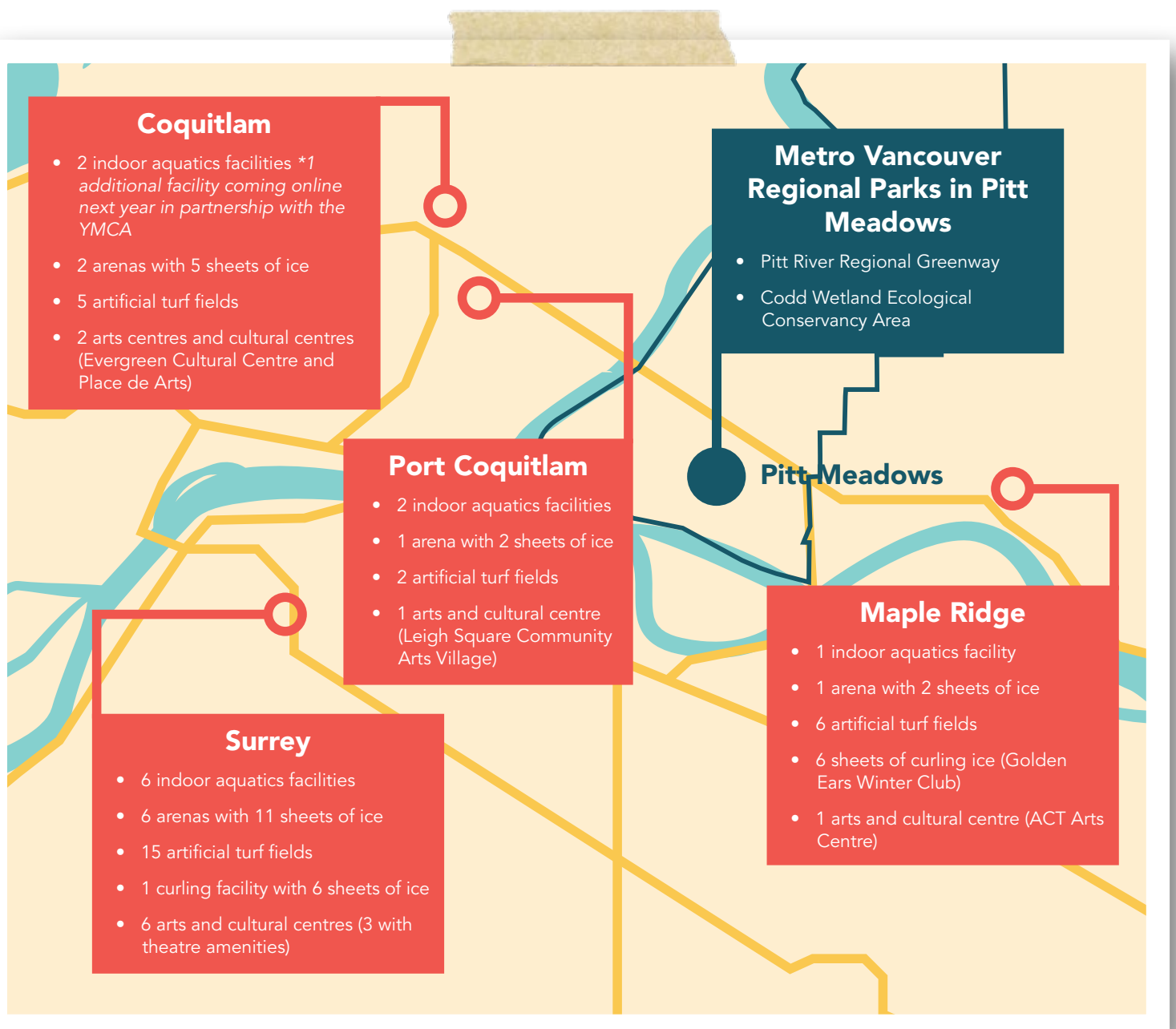
Approximately three-quarters of Pitt Meadows residents live within walking distance (800 M) of parks and playgrounds. Nearly all residents (96%) live within a 10-minute drive (7 KM) of parks and playgrounds. In regards to outdoor sport courts, over half (54%) of residents live within 800 metres to a court.

Space	800 M	2 KM	7 KM
Parks	74%	86%	96%
Playgrounds	76%	84%	96%
Sport Courts	54%	71%	85%



# Overview of Regional Facilities and Spaces

Participation in active living pursuits occurs across municipal boundaries and, as such, it is important to understand the broader context of parks, recreation and culture infrastructure in a region. The following map summarizes the provision of key parks, recreation and culture infrastructure by entities external to the City of Pitt Meadows, including neighbouring municipalities (either directly or through partnerships and contracted arrangements) and Metro Vancouver Regional Parks.





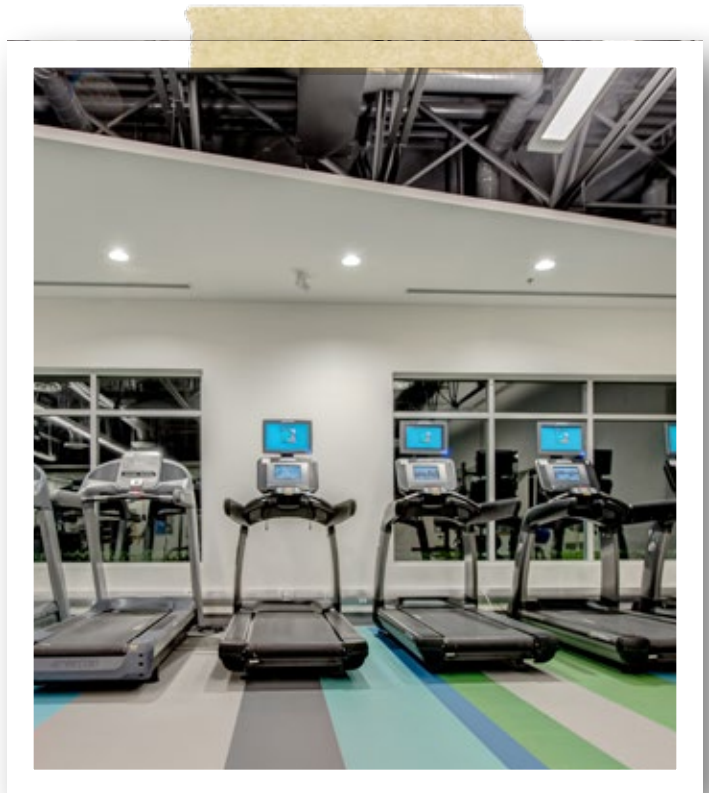
# Functional Assessments – Key Findings and Observations

Technical experts (architects and landscape architects) from the consulting team conducted functional assessments of selected indoor facilities and park spaces. These functional assessments were intended to help the project team better understand the nature of these spaces (attributes and challenges), alignment with trends and leading practices, and potential future opportunities. While the technical experts on the project team did review available facility condition reports and assessments provided by the City, these assessments were not structural in nature and did not identify facility lifespan, compliance issues, or assess building and mechanical systems.

Summarized as follows are the key findings and observations from the functional assessments.

## Indoor Facilities<sup>3</sup>

**Facilities Visited:** Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre, Pitt Meadows Arena, South Bonson Community Centre, Heritage Hall



3 Indoor facilities reviewed by HCMA Architecture + Design

## Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre

This facility is the most heavily used of the four, with the broadest range in programming and serves a wide range of active living pursuits. The facility is generally in good condition, with numerous alterations having been completed over the years. However, as with any facility of its generation there are a handful of issues and potential improvement opportunities. Following are some of the key issues and opportunities identified through observation and conversation with staff:

- **Main Entry Location & Visibility** – this building is located among a series of other buildings occupying the same site. The front door of the facility is difficult to find upon approaching and initial entry to the site. Ideally the front door should be highly visible, intuitive to find and a natural welcoming point. Site signage could be considered as a small step towards alleviating this issue. Parking capacity does not appear to be an issue, and the building does benefit from proximity to exterior spaces like Spirit Square that facilitate community gathering.
- **Building Entry** – under normal operations patrons can enter the building from three different locations. To date, best practice would suggest that a single entry point for the facility is better for control and oversight. Specifically, the current entry from the parkade is a security challenge.
- **Office Space** – as office space demands have grown over the years, these have been backfilled into various areas of the facility with little connection to each other. A longer term strategy should provide for a centralized administrative zone that enables staff to work more effectively together.
- **Group Fitness Room** – group fitness is rising significantly in popularity and this program space is well used. The COVID-19 has reduced usable capacity of this space, but it generally meets the needs of most program types. Some issues with temperature were noted.

- **Youth Space** – the nature of youth programming has evolved over the years and the current space doesn't acknowledge these changes in trends. Spaces for creative pursuits and computer based activities appear to be lacking relative to newer youth centre spaces.
- **Storage Space** – storage needs also tend to fill up any leftover nooks and crannies – in this case several larger lockers have been installed in the parkade level. The distance (and stairs/elevator) from the main spaces in the building present a functional challenge.
- **Inclusivity** – it is noted that the building currently contains the code minimum for universal washroom stalls. Generally the trend in community facilities is towards the majority of washrooms and change rooms being provided in a universal configuration. It is noted that the current change rooms were built in anticipation of a future pool and are configured exclusively in a gendered configuration (they provide excess capacity for daily operations of facility).
- **Fitness Area** - this area has recently been renovated and is highly used and well configured. The space is open, flexible and with good sightlines.

Generally speaking the facility supports community needs well. The biggest challenge appears to be finding space to appropriately accommodate shifting needs in youth programming and supporting the growing demand for group fitness activities.



## Pitt Meadows Arena

This facility consists of three ice sheets and is owned by the City of Pitt Meadows and operated by a contractor. The facility also rents a large portion of second floor space to a child-care operator. The facility supports a broad range of ice programming, as well as dry-floor use in the summer months. The facility has been maintained in reasonable condition. Following are the key issues identified through observation and conversation with staff:

- **Refrigeration System** – the operator is currently planning on replacing the system with a low-charge, plate and frame ammonia system, which would align with best practices from an operational safety and environmental standpoint.
- **Ice Melt** – ice is dumped behind the building as no ice melt pit exists. This presents challenges from a safety and environmental standpoint (particularly when ice is taken out seasonally). There does not appear to be dedicated drains or filters to handle the melt water. Any upgrade strategy should consider prioritizing the addition of an indoor melt pit connecting directly to the arenas to mitigate the resurfacers from going outside.
- **Leisure Skate** – there is a general national trend towards leisure focused ice activities. This facility currently operates a public skate (sometimes themed), which is staged out of the open space in the corner of one of the ice sheets, with a small skate rental shop. Future upgrades should consider whether these activities could be supported in a more dedicated manner.
- **Change Rooms** – two of the arenas contain change rooms that only have urinals – this poses an unrealistic challenge to women's teams, who currently have to use external washrooms not located near the change rooms. This issue should be prioritized in a future upgrade.
- **Accessibility** – it is noted that the facility currently does not support sledge hockey as the ice surface is located too far below the surrounding players benches.





## South Bonson Community Centre

This facility is located in a recently developed area of Pitt Meadows and is the newest of the four primary indoor facilities. The building is generally in very good condition, with the exception of some of the mechanical systems noted below. While the building is designated as a community centre, it functions primarily as a rental space for community meetings and social gatherings. Following are the key issues identified through observation and conversation with staff:

- **Mechanical Systems** - staff commented that many spaces in the building suffer from insufficient heating or cooling. While the FCA report identifies HRV's that will need to be replaced in the next 5 years, they do not point to any serious deficiencies with the existing units. It is recommended that a mechanical engineer be engaged to review this issue and potentially re-commission the building's systems.

- **General Programming** – in its current capacity as a rental facility, this building is undervalued in terms of its benefit to the community. It was noted that one of the challenges to increasing community programming here was the operational budget impact of locating staff here full time. Should there be a desire to increase community programming here in the future, certain upgrades to the multi-purpose rooms should be considered – primarily flooring and wall treatments to support broader activity ranges that have various intensities of use.



## Heritage Hall

One of the original community buildings in Pitt Meadows, this building maintains much of its original heritage character and supports various community organizations through space rental. It also has a large gathering space on the second floor. The FCA report provides further detail on its general condition, including some of the ongoing envelope challenges. Following are the key issues identified through observation and conversation with staff:

- **Accessibility** – this building is severely challenged from an accessibility standpoint. There are no universal washrooms and the existing washrooms do not comply with modern code requirements. The feature second floor space does have a stair mounted, single use track lift, but these are not considered best practice for a larger, community gathering space.

- **Second Floor Gathering Space** – it is noted that there is a desire to use this space for more performing arts functions. These uses could be supported by enhancing the AV and acoustic capabilities of the space, but larger changes to the space such as raked seating (sloped floors) will be challenging given the age of the facility.

As with many heritage buildings, any larger upgrades (deemed major renovations) will trigger the need to review current building code issues (seismic, accessibility, envelope etc.) The capital cost of these larger improvements and meeting newer codes should be carefully considered.





## Outdoor Spaces<sup>4</sup>

**Outdoor Spaces Visited:** Harris Road Park, McLean Park, Mitchell Park, Pitt Meadows Athletic Park, Pitt Meadows Secondary School (Joint Use Site), Bonson Park, various trails (including sections of the Pitt River Regional Greenway and Dike trails, Wildwood Trail, Airport Trail, and other connector trails and pathways in the community)

### Pitt Meadows Athletic Park

Summarized below are issues, observations and opportunities as identified during the site visit as well as dialogue with staff that have familiarity with operations and management.

- On-site parking is limited and is a challenge during peak use times, especially when there are simultaneous activities at the arena and sports fields. An additional 50-100 more parking stalls would be optimal.
- Opportunities may exist to create some loop trails or pathways that can better connect site amenities and enhance safety. As an example, a pathway along the south and west edges of the site could enhance pedestrian safety. There are also limited pathways between fields and diamonds which limit overall connectivity of the site.
- City staff have observed dog off-leash use of the park (members of the project team also observed signs of this during the on-site visit). Formalizing this use in a certain area of the park and/or providing amenities such as doggy bags may help mitigate some existing challenges; although these challenges do not appear to be significant.
- The site has limited furniture to support gathering, tournaments, and general recreational use.
- Use of the current tennis courts (4) on the site is unknown but believed to be fairly minimal. Court resurfacing will be required in upcoming years and the increasing popularity of pickleball may suggest that further analysis is required (as part of the Master Plan or other study) to determine the highest value use.

- None of the sports fields or diamonds have lights in contrast to most major sports parks in the lower mainland.
- The fields closest to the amenity lands have drainage issues as a result of improperly installed pipes. This repair has been completed and continues to be monitored by staff.

It is also important to note that the Pitt Meadows Athletic Park is immediately adjacent to 8 acres of amenity lands. The assessment noted that potential uses for this land may be most beneficial if they complement and are synergistic with the current amenities at the Pitt Meadows Athletic Park. The Master Plan will provide more direction on potential uses.

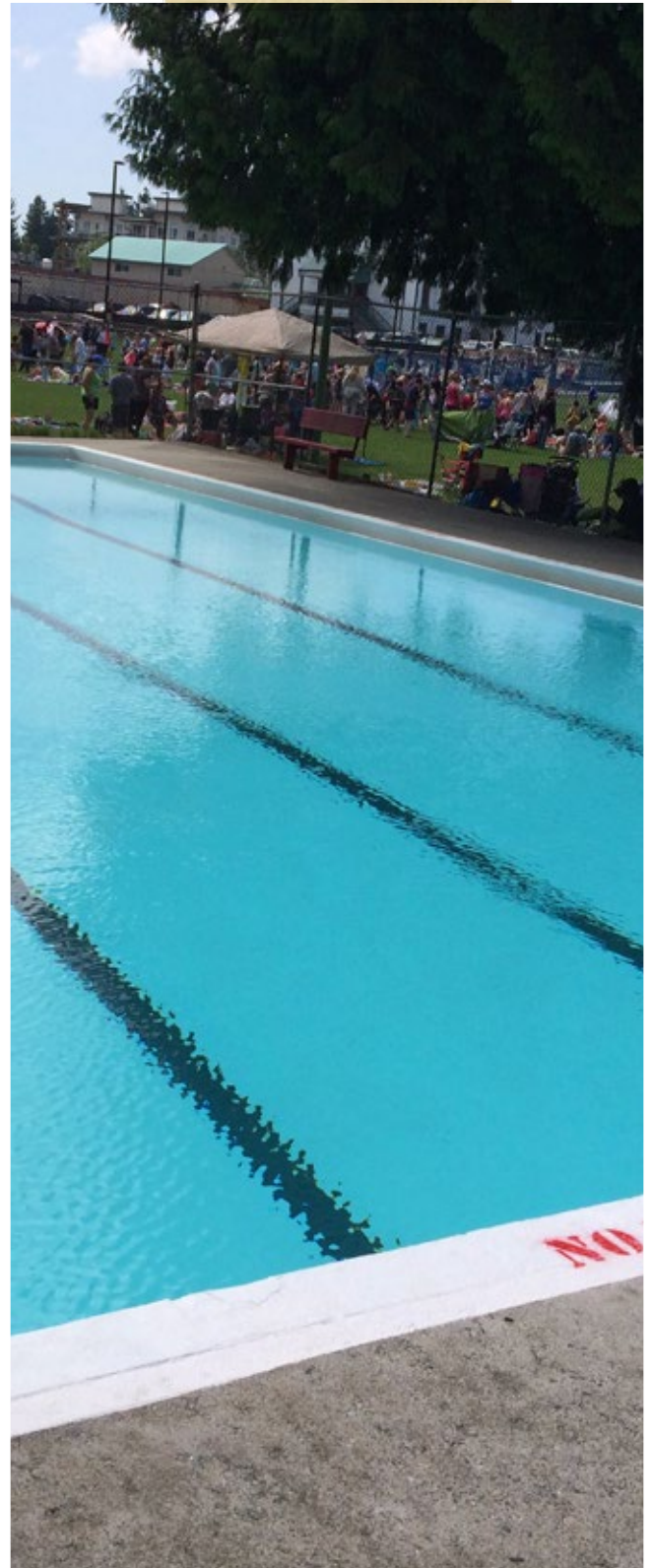


<sup>4</sup> Outdoor spaces reviewed by Binnie



## Harris Road Park

- The site is well maintained despite the aging condition of some amenities and structures.
- The site has a diverse mix of amenities and components, some with strong practical and functional relationships to each other (e.g. pool and splash park, community playground, and skatepark) while others are less synergistic from a best practice perspective (typically ball diamonds and sports field would not be located in a central community park used for events and spontaneous uses).
- Enhanced directional signage is needed (the City is currently undertaking a park signage renewal campaign).
- The skatepark is well used and multi-dimensional, however line of sight to the roadway is poor which creates the opportunity for vandalism. Surveillance equipment has been recently installed, however there remains vandalism and deviant behaviour issues at the site. As such, a re-imagining of the site may present an opportunity to create more visibility on the skatepark and reduce site vandalism.
- The ball diamonds are lit which enables later evening use. However a number of issues were noted with the diamonds, including the poor condition of the batting cage, chafer beetle (with risk of spread to adjacent sport field), and potential for foul balls to strike individuals using adjacent spaces.
- The aging outdoor pool is not ideally situated in the park. Noise from the adjacent Loughheed Highway impacts ambiance of the outdoor pool and play spaces and the pool is somewhat hidden on the site.
- Further to a number of the previous comments, opportunity exists to create a more prominent and visible park frontage. Doing so would promote park use, create opportunities for animation of space and reduce instances of vandalism.



## Community Trails, Parks and Waterways – General Observations

- Community park spaces are generally well maintained.
- An overall lack of design and service consistency exists within the community parks inventory. Observed inconsistencies included park furniture, support amenities, construction standards for surfacing and finishing's, signage (interpretive and wayfinding), and theming. The development of a park design and development standards manual may be warranted.
- Similar to the previous comments on park spaces, the trail network managed by the City would benefit from consistent design and amenity standards. Spot visits to a handful of trails in the city noted the following specific issues:
  - » Airport Trail / Mitchell Trail: stabilization mesh exposed in a few areas, trail width is a challenge for maintenance (vehicle access is not possible in some spots), slope erosion in a few locations, overgrowth obstructs views.
  - » Parkside Trail: some litter and vandalism issues
  - » Wildwood Trail / Joyner Place: parking is unclear at trailhead, a number of informal boardwalks exist in the meadow area
- A number of neighbourhood parks lack parking which limits use opportunity (e.g. Mitchell Park).
- Signage additions / enhancements and a focus on a handful of key trail connections would significantly enhance the existing trail network.
- The Pitt River Regional Greenway (operated by Metro Vancouver Regional Parks) provides some learnings and strongly aligns with a number of best practices (signage standards, the provision of bear proof garbage cans, width and surfacing, etc.).
- Waterways are an important recreation assets in Pitt Meadows. A significant proportion of the trails network in the community runs alongside the Pitt River and Alouette River and these rivers along with Pitt Lake are also well utilized for paddling and nature enjoyment. As waterways are sensitive ecological assets, the City needs to continue working with its partners to ensure appropriate and sustainable use. These efforts should include adequate signage, ensuring water access occurs in formalized / designate places, and ongoing monitoring.



# Utilization and Participation Indicators

Available registrations and bookings data was reviewed to identify potential local trends in Pitt Meadows and identify utilization of capacity for key facility and amenity types in the community.

*\*Note: data prior to 2020 was used based on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on facility availability and normal levels of use.*

## Sports Fields

The following chart summarizes total registration numbers as reported by outdoor sport field groups, including those that use rectangular sports fields and ball diamonds (natural grass surfaces and the artificial turf surface at Pitt Meadows Secondary School). As with most organized sports organizations that use facilities in Pitt Meadows, the majority of sports field user groups draw participants from multiple municipalities. These figures represent the total number of registrations reported by these user groups, including those from residents of Pitt Meadows and elsewhere.

Year	Total Participants
2015-16	7,569
2016-17	7,472
2017-18	6,498
2018-19	6,486

Sport field utilization of capacity was assessed using the following capacity assumptions:

- An artificial turf field has 2,177 available annual hours of prime time capacity. This assumption is based on an artificial turf field being able to accommodate activity throughout the year without jeopardizing surface quality or participant safety. The 2,177 available hours are calculated based on

12 hours of weekend use per day (e.g. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday) and 4 hours of weekday use (e.g. 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Friday).

- In the lower mainland, natural surface fields can reasonably accommodate between 400 and 600 hours per year depending on the type and intensity of use. Cross-use field capacity is typically closer to 400 hours given demands and use by multiple types of user groups.

Using the above assumption, the utilization of capacity at sports fields in Pitt Meadows was calculated and is summarized in the chart below. This analysis suggests that while capacity issues may exist during a few peak weeks each year there is ample overall capacity.

Site	Site Capacity Assumption (Hours)	Hours Booked (2018)	% Utilization of Capacity
Pitt Meadows Athletic Park	3,200 (8 fields x 400 annual hours)	546	17%
Harris Road Fields	3,200 (8 fields x 400 annual hours)	968	30%
North Bonson	600 (1 field x 600 hours)	90	15%
PMSS Artificial Turf*	2,177 (1 field x 2,177 hours)	637	29%

*\*Hours identified reflect community use only as daytime hours from Monday to Friday are reserved for school use (community groups do not have access to the field during these times). During the 2020-2021 school year this translated to 1,704 hours allocated for school use.*



## Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre

The following chart identifies membership and pass sales. As reflected by the chart, there was very minimal fluctuation from 2018 to 2019.

Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre	2018	2019
Annual Memberships	135	150
1 Month	970	1,065
3 Month	294	305
6 Month	89	137
10/20 Pass Sales	1,217	1,232

Similar to pass sales, overall facility admission remained relatively similar in 2018 and 2019. However of note, child, student and adult admission dropped while senior admissions increased. Of the 22,514 total admissions in 2019, 71% were by individuals holding a membership pass.

Age Group	2018	2019
Child (0-12 year)	5,909	7,885
Student (13-18 years)	9,323	8,026
Adult (19-54 years)	44,169	41,964
Senior (55+ years)	12,508	15,242
<b>Total</b>	<b>71,909</b>	<b>73,117</b>

## Program Registrations

The following chart provides an overview of participation in City offered programming. Similar to the other data, program participation has remained similar with some modest fluctuations among the different types of programs and classes.

Type	2018 (Number of Participants)	2019 (Number of Participants)
After School Kids Gym	5,548	4,801
Arts	55	95
Birthday Parties	150*	1,005
Dance	314	377
Day Camps / No-School Day Programs	1,720	1,332
Fitness	565	493
Personal Training and Orientations	117	176
Safety Programming	23	58
Skating	489	592
Sports Programming	212	182
Swimming Programs	166	212
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,455</b> <b>(683 total programs)</b>	<b>9,405</b> <b>(840 total programs)</b>

\*New in Q4 of 2018



# Pitt Meadows Arena

The Pitt Meadows Arena (operated through a contracted agreement with Nustadia) has 3 arena surfaces that are used primarily for ice activities but also provide some dry floor space during summer months. Provided as follows is an analysis of arena utilization based on available data.

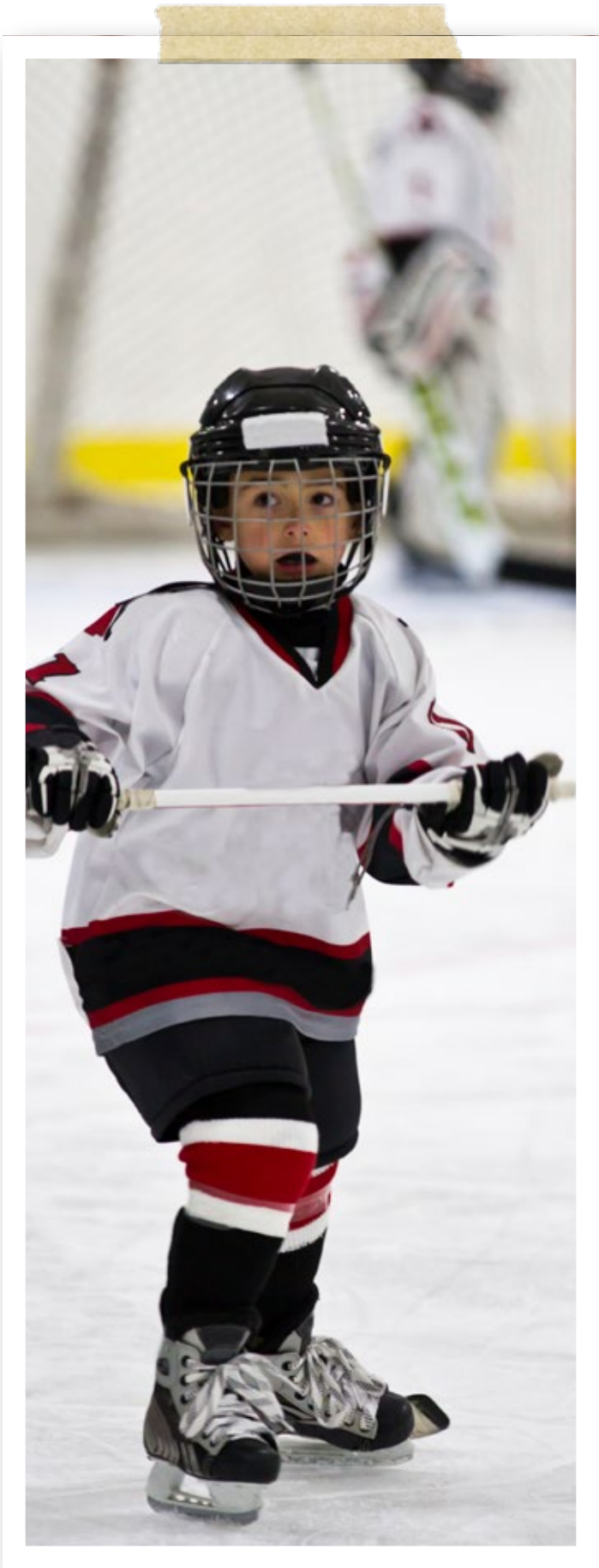
## Ice Capacity Assumptions

The following parameters were used to define prime and non -prime ice for the purposes of the analysis. These parameters may differ slightly from those used for ice rates and bookings.

Category of Ice	Definition
"Prime" Ice	5 hours per weekday (Monday to Friday)
	12 hours per weekend day (Saturday and Sunday)
"Non-Prime" Ice	8 hours per weekday (Monday to Friday)
	4 hours per weekend day (Saturday and Sunday)

The following additional capacity assumptions were then applied to help determine the total annual capacity (hours) of prime and non-prime ice.

- 3 ice sheets operate for 28 weeks per season, with one ice sheet operating for an additional 16 weeks (4 weeks are considered non-operational to account for holidays, scheduled maintenance, and shoulder season transitions).
- A 10% downtime adjustment is also applied to account for unscheduled maintenance and re-surfacing not included in booked hours.



## Ice Utilization Summary

The following charts reflects estimated arena utilization of capacity when ice is available. It is important to note that these calculations do not include public skating time which likely consumes an additional 5-10% of available capacity (in 2019 there were 3,395 public skating visits to the facility). This ice utilization analysis supports that the Arena is well used.

Year	Prime Time Hours Available Capacity (as per assumptions)	Prime Time Hours Utilized	% Prime Time Ice Utilized
2020	4,586	3,836	84%
2019	4,586	3,855	84%
2018	4,586	3,573	78%

Year	Non-Prime Time Hours Available Capacity (as per assumptions)	Non-Prime Time Hours Utilized	% Non-Prime Time Ice Utilized
2020	4,320	1,948	45%
2019	4,320	2,025	47%
2018	4,320	1,905	44%

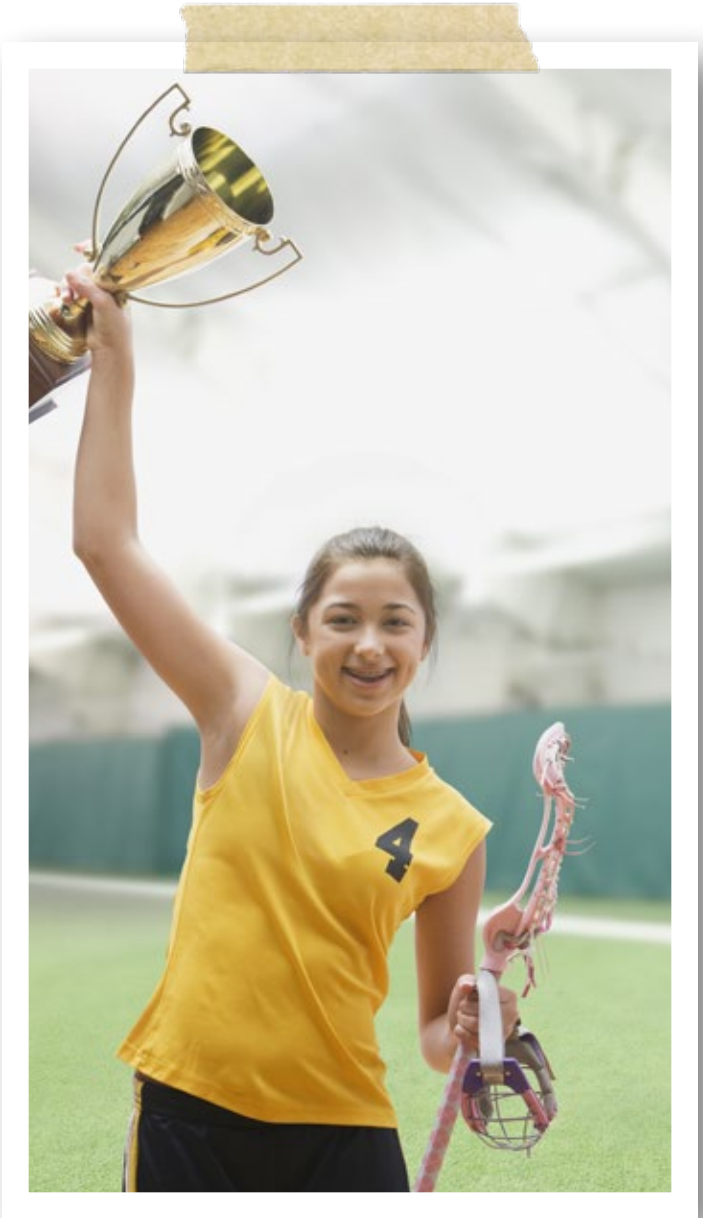
The chart below identifies the overall distribution of booked ice between youth and adult user groups. As reflected by the chart, over three-quarters of booked ice is consumed by youth user groups.

	2019	2018	2017
Youth	80%	79%	79%
Adult	20%	21%	21%

## Dry-Floor Utilization

The following chart summarizes dry floor utilization (2019 data) of the arena surfaces when ice is not in the arena As reflected by the chart, the majority of dry floor utilization is consumed by youth lacrosse. This level of utilization has remained relatively consistent from 2017 to 2019.

Activity	Youth	Adult	Total
Lacrosse	866	176	1,042
Ball Hockey	374	0	374
Total	1,240	176	1,416



# Community Events

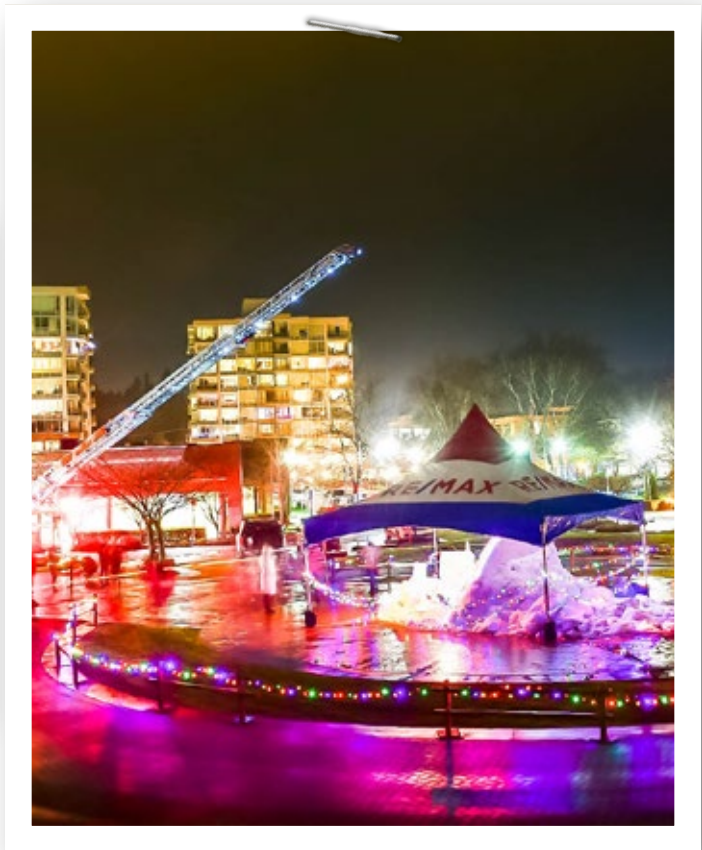
Events in Pitt Meadows draw people from the across the region and beyond to the community, helping foster quality of life for residents and supporting local businesses. The following chart provides an overview of annual signature events in the community and the spaces they utilize.

Signature Event	Facilities Utilized
Easter FUNday	Harris Road Park
Pitt Meadows Day	Harris Road Park
Canada Day	Variety of spaces across the community, including the Civic Hall/ Spirt Square, Harris Road Park, and Pitt Meadows Athletic Park
Remembrance Day	Legion and Spirit Square
Christmas in Pitt Meadows	Pitt Meadows Art Gallery, Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre, Civic Hall/ Spirt Square
Family Day	Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre



## Arts and Culture Supported Events

- Summer Serenade
- Bard in the Bandstand
- Suburban Swing
- Community Events requiring special event permits such as the Terry Fox Run, Race the Ridge bike race, and library share-a-thon
- Filming permits in Pitt Meadows





In addition to community-wide signature events there are numerous other social, recreation, sport, and cultural events put on by organizations across the city. The following chart provides an overview of the spaces that support many of these events.

Facility / Space	Types of Events Hosted
South Bonson Community Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family and social gatherings (e.g. weddings, reunions, anniversaries, birthday parties)</li> <li>Meetings and workshops</li> </ul>
Pitt Meadows Athletic Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outdoor sports games and tournaments (ball, soccer and other field sports)</li> </ul>
Pitt Meadows Secondary School Artificial Turf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sport field games and tournaments (football, soccer and other field sports)</li> </ul>
Heritage Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family and social gatherings (e.g. weddings, reunions, anniversaries, birthday parties)</li> <li>Performing arts (dance and theatre)</li> </ul>
Art Gallery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports public art walks and displays that happen in adjacent areas</li> </ul>
Harris Road Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Major signature events</li> <li>Outdoor family and social gatherings</li> <li>Outdoor sports games and tournaments (ball, soccer and other field sports)</li> </ul>
Pitt Meadows Spirit Square / Civic Hall Plaza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General community gathering</li> <li>Space for signature events in the community</li> </ul>
Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gymnasium provides multi-purpose space that can support a variety of community and sporting events</li> </ul>





## Section 4

# The City's Investment in Parks, Recreation and Culture

### Overview

Over the past three years the City has invested approximately \$3 million dollars annually in parks, recreation and culture services, accounting for approximately 10-11% of the City's overall budget. The majority of this funding goes towards sustaining ongoing operational functions such as programming, facility operations, and events. The following chart provides an overview of the City's anticipated 2021 investment in parks, recreation and culture services.

#### Included in this section:

- Summary and overview of the City's ongoing financial commitment to providing parks, recreation and culture opportunities.

Function	Budget (2021)	% of City Total Budget
Parks Division	\$1,412,200 Operating: \$1,057,900 Capital: \$354,300	4.3%
Recreation Division	\$1,329,200 Operating: \$1,232,900 Capital: \$96,300	5.1%
Culture Division	\$312,000 Operating: \$305,000 Capital: \$7,000	1.3%
Total Parks, Recreation and Culture	\$3,053,400 Operating: \$2,595,800 Capital: \$457,600	10.7% Operating: 85% of total PRC budget Capital: 15% of total PRC budget

\*Based on 2021 budget figures from the department's business case.

Parks, recreation and culture services in most municipalities (including Pitt Meadows) offsets the difference in revenues collected and expenditures accrued through an annual subsidy allocation. The percentage of expenditures for providing parks, recreation and culture services recouped through revenues is often referred to as "cost recovery". The following chart provides an overview of the City's cost recovery for parks, recreation and culture from 2017 – 2019 (three years prior to the COVID-19 pandemic). As reflected in the chart, the City's overall level of cost recovery remained relatively similar from 2017 to 2019.

	2019	2018	2017
Revenues	\$2,513,612	\$2,408,635	\$2,250,663
Expenses	\$5,061,790	\$4,780,384	\$4,283,696
Net (Subsidy)	(\$2,548,178)	(\$2,371,748)	(\$2,033,032)
Cost Recovery (% of expenditures recovered through revenues)	50%	50%	53%

*\*Capital expenditures are excluded from the above chart.*



# Additional Findings and Considerations

Noted below are additional findings and points of interest from a review of the City's parks, recreation and culture budget and actual revenues and expenditures from 2017-2019.

- Accurately determining net revenue and cost recovery for many specific facilities and sites is challenging as a number of department revenue and expenditure categories are not broken out by specific facilities (it is important to note that this challenge is not unique to Pitt Meadows and occurs in most municipalities that the project team has worked in). Attributing a portion of department staffing and other overhead costs to specific facilities would be beneficial and help support future analysis and performance measurement, especially for facilities such as the Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre, South Bonson Community Centre, and the Harris Road Outdoor Pool.
- The contracted arrangement for the Pitt Meadows Arena has enabled the facility to generate net positive revenue for the City.
- In 2019, revenues generated from the Pitt Meadows Athletic Park and the Pitt Meadows Secondary School Artificial Turf field totalled \$13,056 while expenses totalled \$133,500.
- The Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre increased revenues from \$305,461 in 2017 to \$383,070 in 2019. As previously noted, attributing a portion of overall department staffing and overhead to the Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre would provide further clarity on the cost structures associated with operating this significant facility.



## Section 5

# Community Analysis

## Methodology

This section looks at the characteristics of the City and its residents. Brief descriptions of the methodologies used in this section are provided as follows.

### Data Sources

The demographic statistics and wellness indicators presented herein are sourced from Environics Analytics (EA), one of North America's leading data, analytics and marketing services companies.

The demographics data is based on the latest Statistics Canada census (2016) which has been projected to best estimate current figures (December 2020). While the projected figures may not be 100% accurate, they do provide a more accurate account of the present than does data from five years ago. Since the 2016 census, the City's population has increased and the proportion of residents by age cohort has shifted up by five years.

### Included in this section:

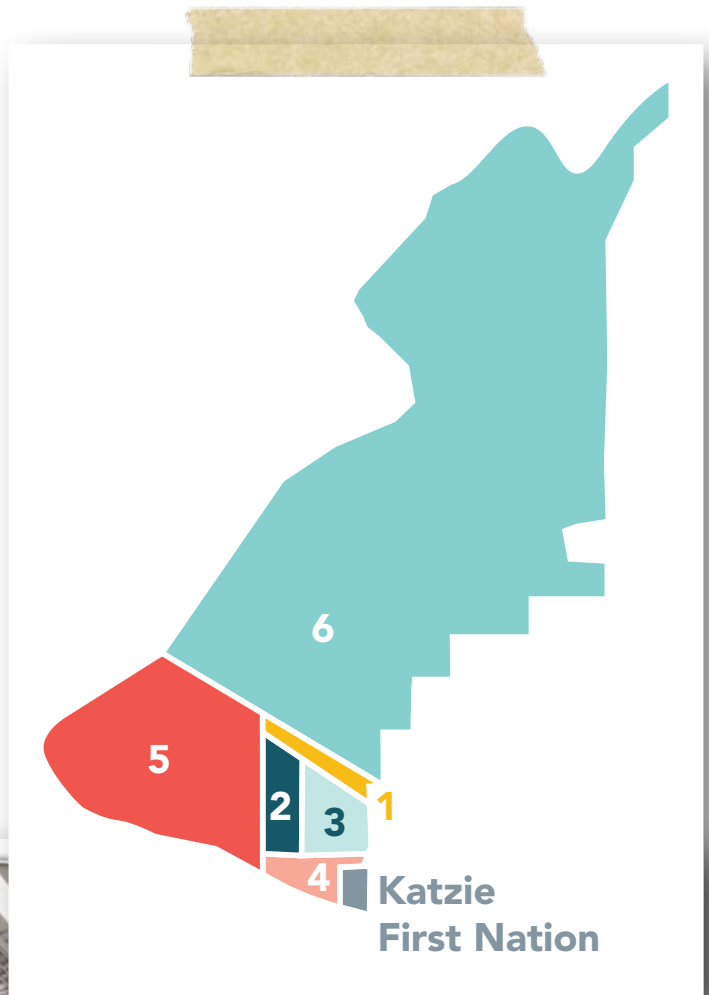
- Analysis of Pitt Meadows on a city-wide and sector basis, looking at:
  - » Population and demographics characteristics.
  - » Health and wellness indicators.
  - » Parks, recreation and culture service levels comparison.

The health and wellness indicators are from an EA dataset titled *CommunityHealth*. This data is based on the results of a survey administered by Statistics Canada, called the Canadian Community Health Survey, which collects detailed information on the health status of Canadians. EA uses the 130,000 nation-wide survey responses to predict the health statistics of any area in Canada. Predictive modeling and machine-learning algorithms were deployed to produce these findings for Pitt Meadows. While different perspectives exist on the accuracy of predictive data, it does provide another source of information that is worthwhile of considerations.



## Geographic Sectors

Data from EA can be projected to any area within Canada; therefore, statistics from the whole City can be compared to sub-areas within the City. For the sake of this analysis, the City has been parceled into sub-areas labeled sectors 1 through 6. Katzie First Nation is also shown on the adjacent map and included in the analysis. Conducting the analysis on a sector basis helps determine whether there are unique characteristics within different areas of the City which could lead to different strategies for delivering services. Furthermore, the City can be compared to the entire Vancouver Census Metropolitan Area to provide context on how Pitt Meadows might differ from the rest of the lower mainland.

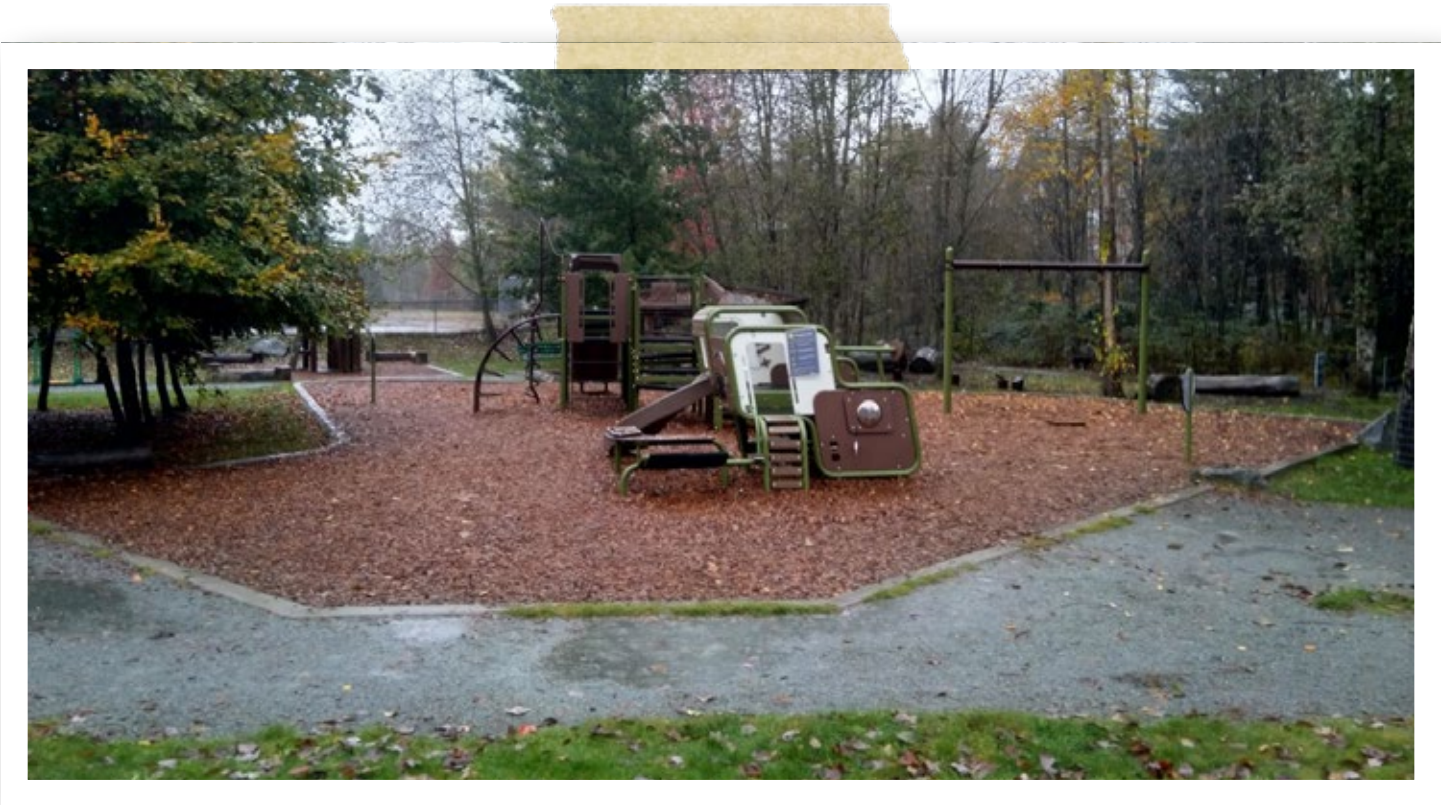


# Population and Demographics

## Population

Pitt Meadows is home to over 21,000 residents.<sup>1</sup> While three-quarters (77%) of the City’s land area is located north of Lougheed Highway, most residents (92%) live south of the highway.

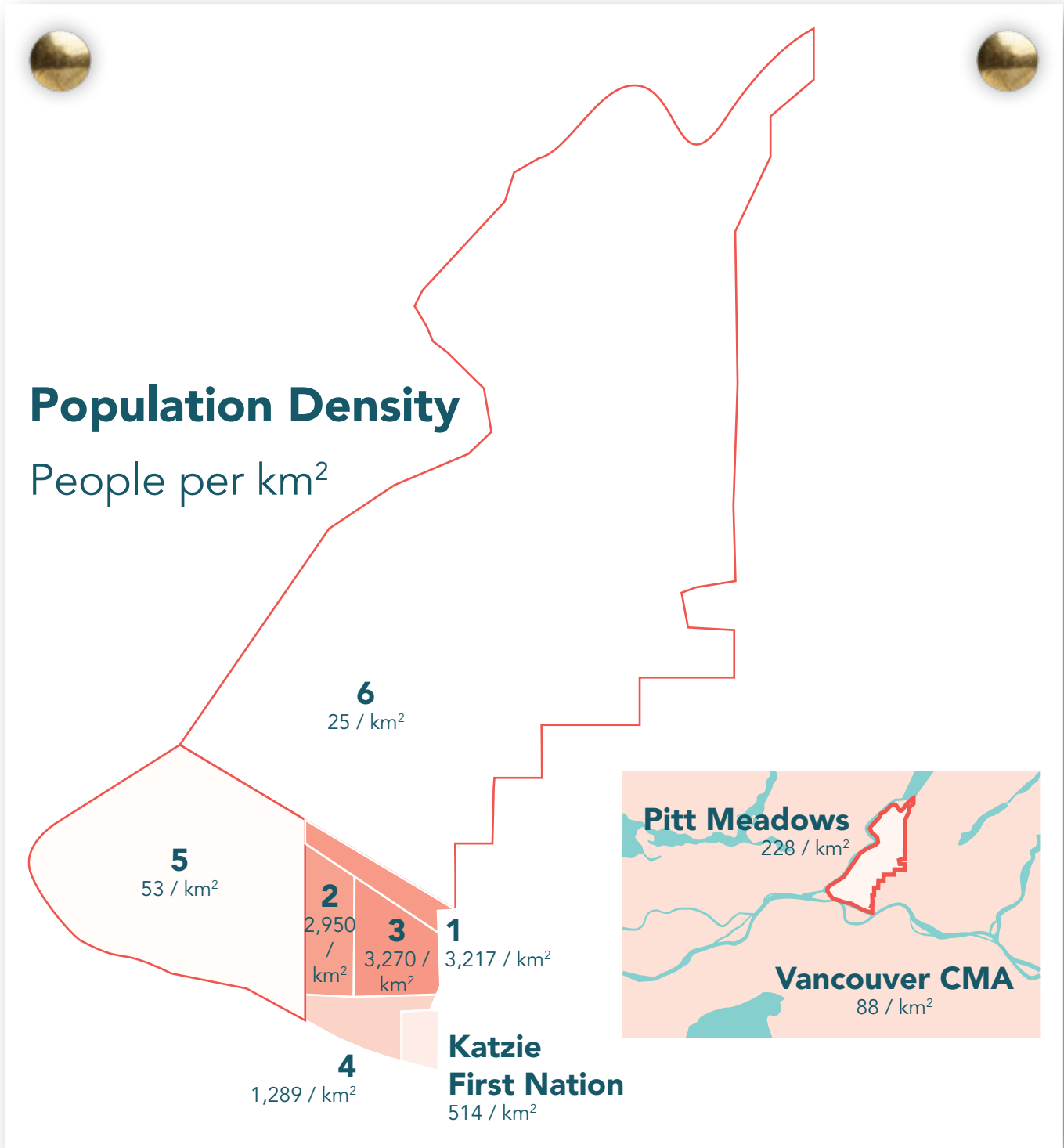
Sub-Area	Population (2020 Estimate)	Percentage of Population	Area (KM <sup>2</sup> )	Population Density (People per KM <sup>2</sup> )
Sector 1	3,761	17%	1.2	3,217
Sector 2	5,495	25%	1.9	2,950
Sector 3	7,605	35%	2.3	3,270
Sector 4	1,911	9%	1.5	1,289
Sector 5	749	3%	14.2	53
Sector 6	1,827	8%	73.5	25
Katzie First Nation	316	1%	0.6	514
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,664</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>95.2</b>	<b>228</b>



<sup>1</sup> Source: DemoStats 2020 (Dec 22, 2020) - Environics Analytics | Statistics Canada | Oxford Economics | CMHC.

# Population Density

The population density for Vancouver Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) is 888 people per square kilometre which is about four times denser than Pitt Meadows.





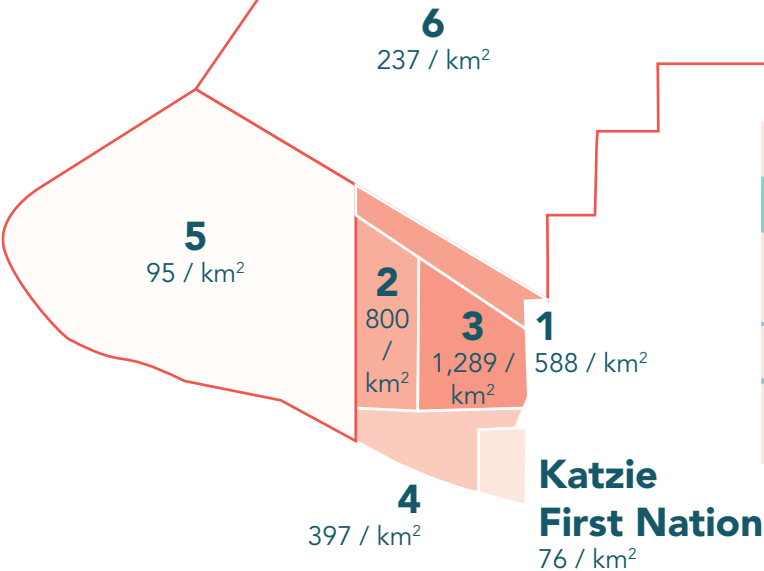
## Population by Age: Children

Pitt Meadows has a slightly higher proportion of children than compared to the lower mainland. Katzie First Nation (24%) and Sector 4 (21%) have the highest proportions of children.

Sub-Area	Proportion 0 to 14 Years	Residents 0 to 14 Years
Sector 1	16%	588
Sector 2	15%	800
Sector 3	17%	1,289
Sector 4	21%	397
Sector 5	13%	95
Sector 6	13%	237
Katzie First Nation	24%	76
<b>Total</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>3,416</b>
Vancouver CMA	14%	-

### Children

Residents  
0 to 14 years  
per km<sup>2</sup>



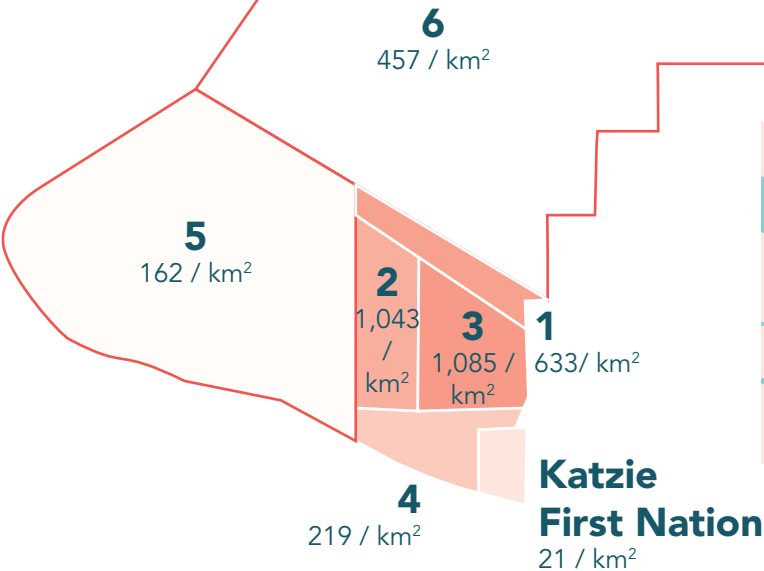
## Population by Age: Seniors

Sector 6 (25%) and Sector 5 (22%) have the highest proportion of seniors.

Sub-Area	Proportion 65+ Years	Residents 65+ Years
Sector 1	17%	633
Sector 2	19%	1,043
Sector 3	14%	1,085
Sector 4	11%	219
Sector 5	22%	162
Sector 6	25%	457
Katzie First Nation	7%	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>3,621</b>
Vancouver CMA	17%	-

### Seniors

Residents  
65+ years  
per km<sup>2</sup>



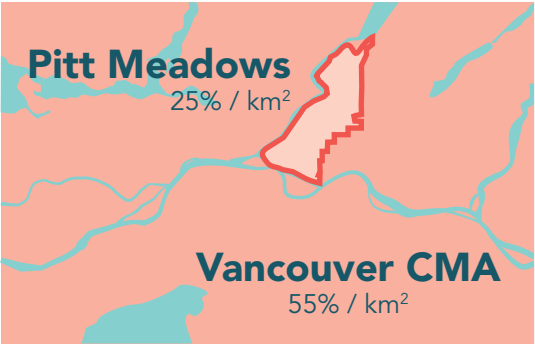
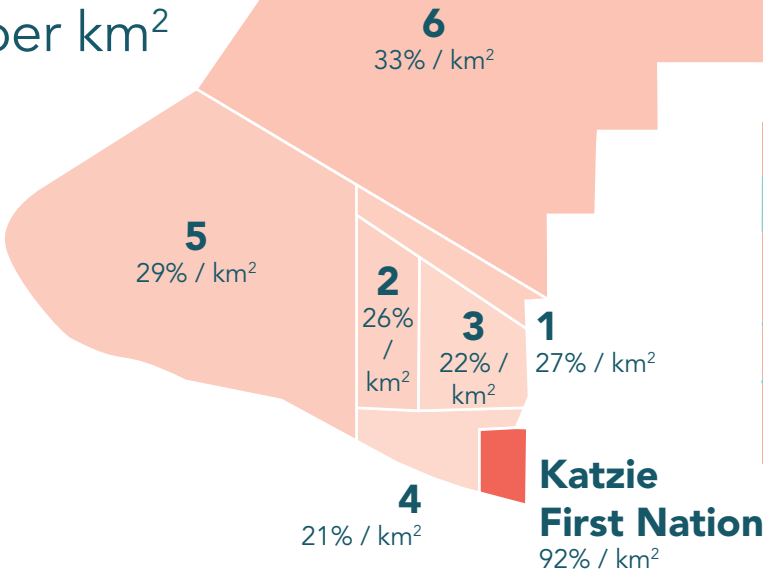
# Aboriginal Identity and Visible Minority

A quarter of Pitt Meadows’ residents are a visible minority (23%) or First Nation (2%). Sectors 5 and 6 have the highest proportions of residents who are visible minorities; most of which are South Asian.

Sub-Area	Aboriginal Identity	Visible Minority
Sector 1	3%	24%
Sector 2	2%	23%
Sector 3	3%	19%
Sector 4	2%	19%
Sector 5	2%	27%
Sector 6	1%	32%
Katzie First Nation	92%	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>23%</b>
Vancouver CMA	3%	53%

## Aboriginal Identity and Visible Minority

Proportion of Residents per km<sup>2</sup>



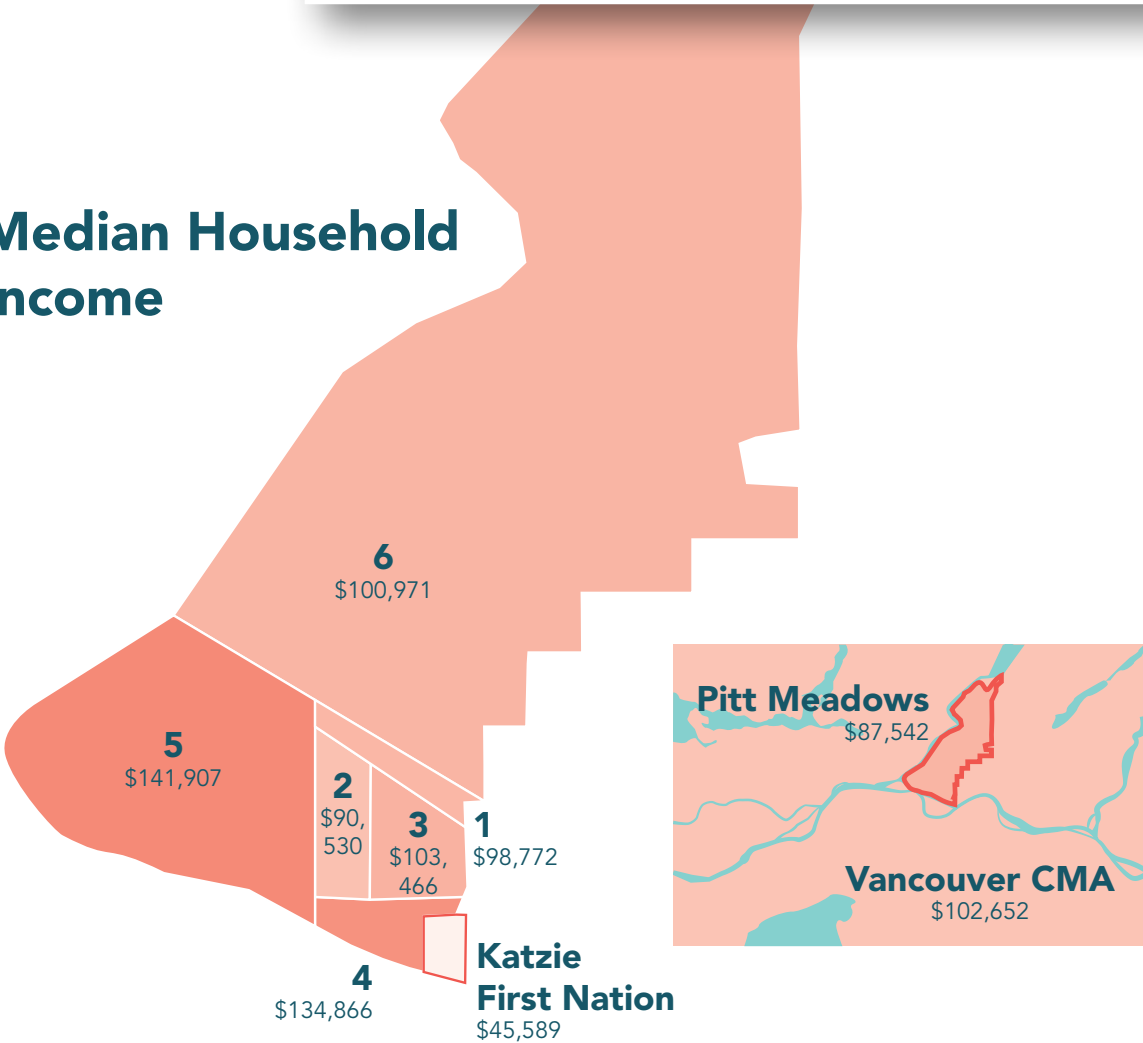


## Household Income and Unemployment

Pitt Meadows’ median household income is \$15,000 greater than the Vancouver CMA; however, income levels are notably lower in Sector 2. Sector 5 has the highest median household income (\$141,907) and Sector 4 has the lowest proportion of households (12%) with annual households incomes of less than \$60,000.

Sub-Area	Median Household Income	Percentage of Households with Annual Incomes less than \$60,000	Unemployment Rate
Sector 1	\$98,772	27%	4%
Sector 2	\$90,530	32%	5%
Sector 3	\$103,466	26%	5%
Sector 4	\$134,866	12%	6%
Sector 5	\$141,907	21%	1%
Sector 6	\$100,971	27%	2%
Katzie First Nation	\$45,589	61%	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$102,652</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>4%</b>
Vancouver CMA	\$87,542	34%	5%

## Median Household Income



# Health and Wellness Indicators

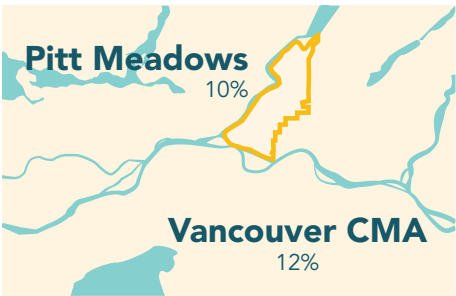
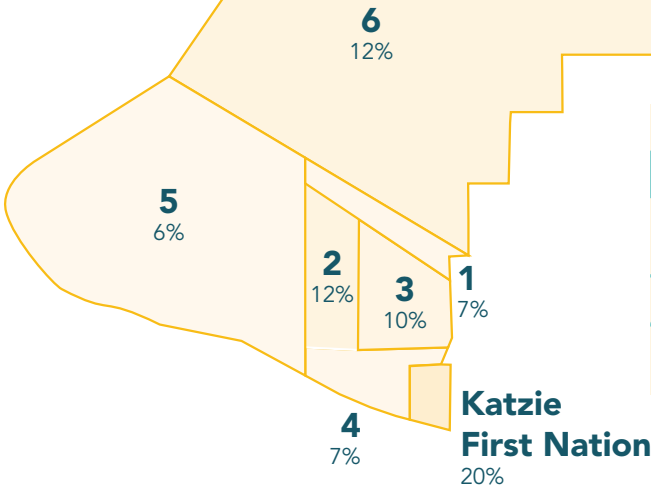
## Perceived Health and Stress

Ten percent (10%) of Pitt Meadows residents perceive their health as being fair or poor , slightly less than overall data for the overall Vancouver CMA. Thirteen to sixteen percent (13-16%) of Sector residents perceive their life as being quite or extremely stressful which is 5% lower than the overall Vancouver CMA.

Sub-Area	Perceived Health: Fair or Poor	Perceived Stress: Quite or Extremely Stressful
Sector 1	7%	16%
Sector 2	12%	15%
Sector 3	10%	16%
Sector 4	7%	14%
Sector 5	6%	13%
Sector 6	12%	13%
Katzie First Nation	20%	31%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>15%</b>
Vancouver CMA	12%	20%

### Perceived Health

Proportion of residents that percieve their health as fair or poor



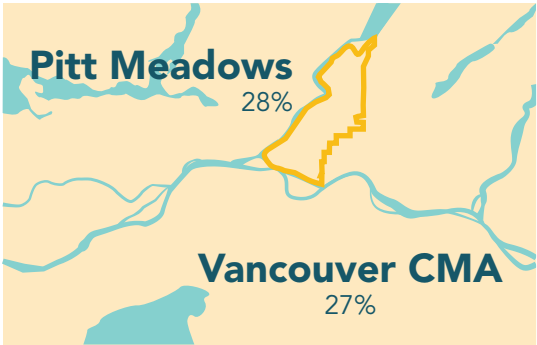
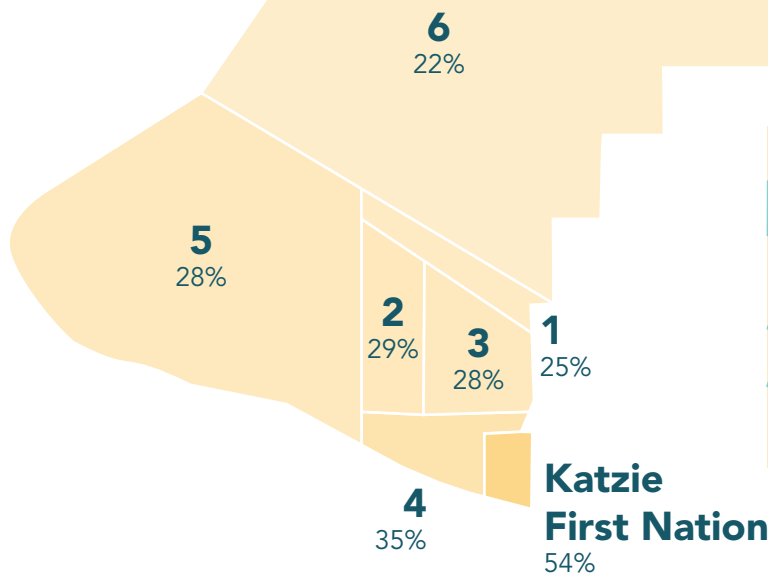
## Sense of Belonging and Satisfaction

Over a quarter (28%) of Pitt Meadows residents have a somewhat or very weak sense of belonging to their local community. Sector 4 (35%) feels less connected to the community compared to the City's other areas. In regard to general life satisfaction, only one percent (1%) are dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

Sub-Area	Sense of Belonging to Local Community: Somewhat or Very Weak	Satisfaction with Life in General: Dissatisfied or Very Dissatisfied
Sector 1	25%	1%
Sector 2	29%	2%
Sector 3	28%	2%
Sector 4	35%	0%
Sector 5	28%	1%
Sector 6	22%	1%
Katzie First Nation	54%	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>1%</b>
Vancouver CMA	27%	3%

## Sense of Belonging

Proportion of residents that feel a somewhat or very weak sense of belonging to their local community





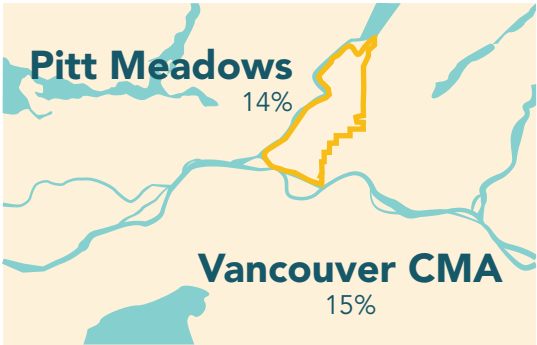
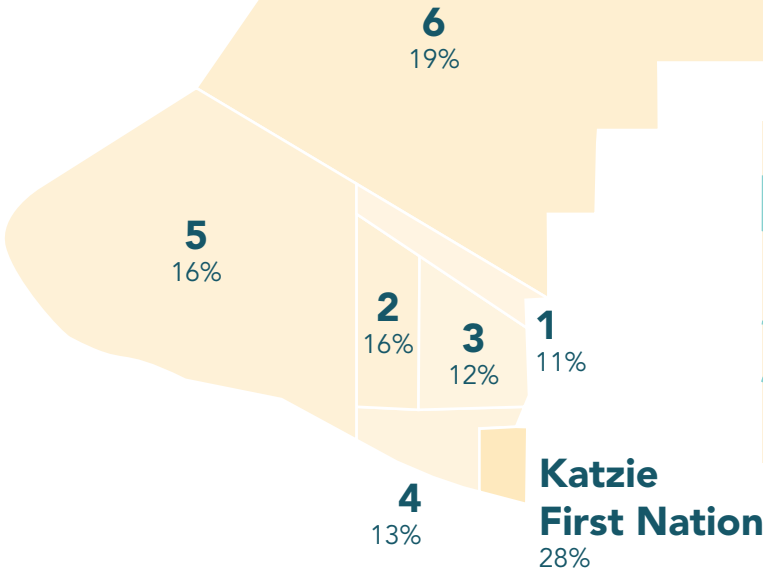
## Physical Activity Indicator

Two-thirds (66%) of Pitt Meadows residents are considered active according to Environics Analytics while 14% are sedentary. These figures are consistent with those in the Vancouver CMA.

Sub-Area	Active	Sedentary
Sector 1	67%	11%
Sector 2	62%	16%
Sector 3	67%	12%
Sector 4	72%	13%
Sector 5	66%	16%
Sector 6	62%	19%
Katzie First Nation	63%	28%
<b>Total</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>14%</b>
Vancouver CMA	63%	15%

## Physical Activity Indicator

Proportion of residents who live a sedentary lifestyle



## Section 6

# Youth Insights

The Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) is a self-reported questionnaire that asks children in Grades 4 and 7 about their thoughts, feelings and experiences in school and in the community. The ongoing project is operated through the University of British Columbia's School of Population and Public Health in partnership with participating school districts across the province. The questionnaire findings, analysis and subsequent reports are published on an annual basis. The MDI project focuses on middle years (ages 10-13) based on supporting research that indicates experiences during this critical age period has long lasting impacts on development and are predictors of adolescent adjustment, future success, and social interactions.

Summarized as follows in this section are pertinent findings and points of interest from the 2019-2020 MDI reports for School District 42 which includes Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge.<sup>1</sup> 1,025 students participated in the Grade 4 questionnaire (90% completion rate) and 1,032 students participated in the Grade 7 questionnaire (91% completion rate).

### Included in this section:

- Key findings from the Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) reports.



<sup>1</sup> Human Early Learning Partnership. Middle Years Development Instrument [MDI] Grade 4 report. School District & Community Results, 2019-2020. Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows (SD42). Vancouver, BC: University of British Columbia, School of Population and Public Health; May 2020.

## Overall Well-Being Index Score (data summarized to assess physical, social and emotional wellbeing)

Pitt Meadows – Maple Ridge	Comparison to All Participating Districts in BC
<b>Grade 4 Cohort</b> Thriving – 42% Medium – 25% Low – 33%	Data similar to provincial averages.
<b>Grade 7 Cohort</b> Thriving – 32% Medium – 29% Low – 39%	

## General Health

Pitt Meadows – Maple Ridge	Comparison to All Participants Districts in BC
<b>Grade 4 Cohort</b> High – 46% Medium – 45% Low – 9%	Data similar to provincial averages.
<b>Grade 7 Cohort</b> High – 35% Medium – 51% Low – 14%	

## Transportation

Pitt Meadows – Maple Ridge	Comparison to All Participating Districts in BC
<b>Grade 4 Cohort</b> 67% of students arrive by car to school and 57% depart school by car.  Notably, while currently only 2% cycle, skateboard or rollerblade to and from school, 21% indicated that they would like to.	A higher proportion of students in Pitt Meadows arrive to and depart from school by car.
<b>Grade 7 Cohort</b> 57% of students arrive by car to school and 43% depart school by car.  Similar to the Grade 4 findings, there is a desire for my opportunities to use active transportation modes to get to and from school.	

## After School Activities

Pitt Meadows – Maple Ridge	Comparison to All Participating Districts in BC
<b>Grade 4 Cohort</b> Participate in an organized activity... Two or more a week - 77% Once a week – 9% Never – 14%  Participate in music lessons or art lessons... Two or more a week - 21% Once a week – 22% Never – 58%  Participate in youth organizations... Two or more a week - 13% Once a week – 10% Never – 77%  Participate in individual sports (with a coach or instructor)... Two or more a week - 31% Once a week – 20% Never – 50%  Participate in team sports (with a coach or instructor)... Two or more a week - 34% Once a week – 16% Never – 50%	Data similar to provincial averages.

Pitt Meadows – Maple Ridge	Comparison to All Participating Districts in BC
<b>Grade 7 Cohort</b> Participate in an organized activity... Two or more a week - 72% Once a week – 11% Never – 18%  Participate in music lessons or art lessons... Two or more a week - 11% Once a week – 15% Never – 74%  Participate in youth organizations... Two or more a week - 4% Once a week – 8% Never – 88%  Participate in individual sports (with a coach or instructor)... Two or more a week - 26% Once a week – 11% Never – 62%  Participate in team sports (with a coach or instructor)... Two or more a week - 47% Once a week – 9% Never – 45%	Data similar to provincial averages.



Activities Children Wish to be Doing

Pitt Meadows – Maple Ridge	Comparison to All Participating Districts in BC
<p>26% of the Grade 4 respondents and 27% of the Grade 7 respondents have a wish to be doing additional activities during the 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. hours</p> <p>When asked to identify the types of activities they wished to do more of, the highest proportion identified “physical and/or outdoor activities”.</p> <p>However, one contrast between the age groups was with regards to where they wished to do after school activities. A higher proportion of Grade 4 youth wish to do after school activities at home whereas a higher proportion of Grade 7 youth wish to do after school activities at a community centre.</p>	<p>Data similar to provincial averages.</p>

Other Notable Findings of Interest

The MDI data is also broken out for specific sub-areas within the District. Noted below are points of interest for the Pitt Meadows sub-segment of the data.

- A lower proportion of youth (both Grade 4 and Grade 7 cohorts) in Pitt Meadows have an overall well-being classification of “thriving” compared to Maple Ridge.
- There are lower levels of participation in after school activities among youth in Pitt Meadows (both Grade 4 and Grade 7 cohorts) compared to Maple Ridge.
- 60% of Grade 4 Youth and 63% of Grade 7 Youth in Pitt Meadows believe that there are safe places in their neighbourhood or community that provide programs for kids their age. These measure were higher than the overall Pitt Meadows – Maple Ridge data.



## Section 7

# Benchmarking

### Overview and Limitations

Benchmarking was undertaken to compare the provision of key parks, recreation and culture infrastructure in Pitt Meadows with other selected municipalities. The comparator communities identified for this exercise were Port Moody, Maple Ridge, Courtenay, White Rock, Langford, Port Coquitlam, the Oceanside area of the Regional District of Nanaimo (Parksville / Qualicum Beach), and the City of Langley. While infrastructure benchmarking provides an interesting perspective on service levels it's important to keep in mind a number of limitations of this research input, including:

- Infrastructure benchmarking does not capture the quality and characteristics of the facility / amenity types (e.g. age, functionality, quality of support amenities, experience provided, etc.). It is simply a count of the facility / amenity existing in the comparator community.
- No two municipalities are alike – even those with population and geographic similarities have a different historical service delivery context, local dynamics, and adjacency differences (e.g. City of Langley is encompassed by the Township of Langley, spatial relationship between White Rock and South Surrey, etc.).
- Communities count their infrastructure inventory in different ways. The data used for the benchmarking comparison was collected from a variety of secondary sources, including municipal and regional district websites, available planning documents, and the consulting team's file database. Based on these factors some margin of error likely exists within the data.

#### Included in this section:

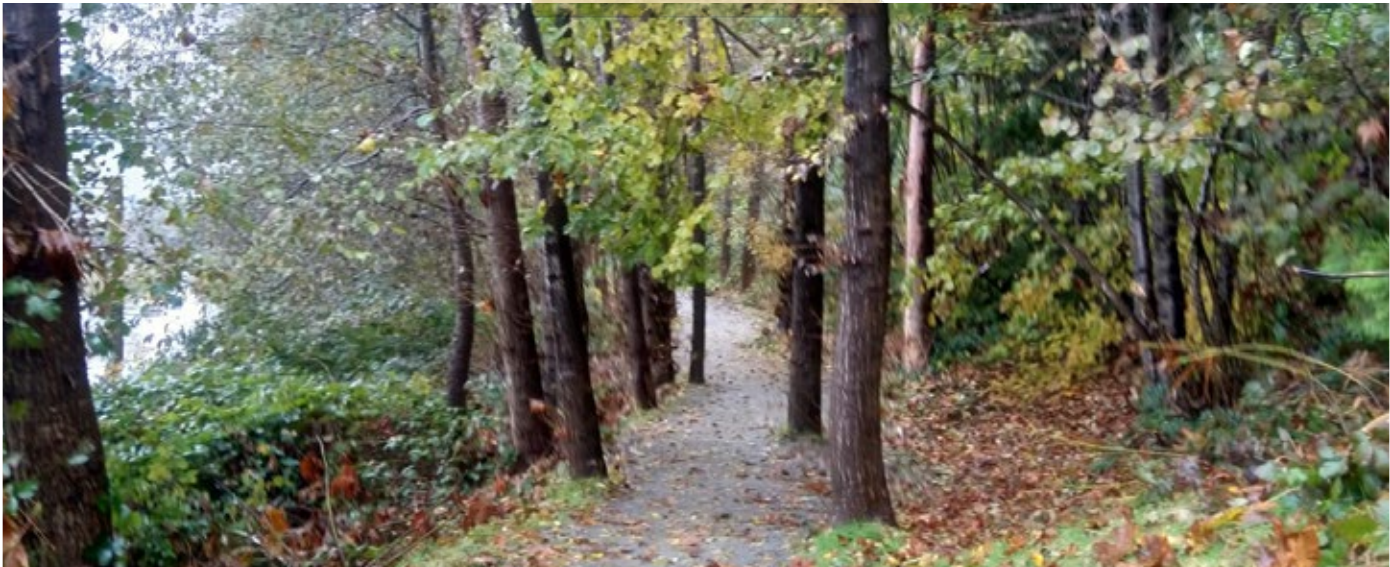
- Summary of findings from the infrastructure benchmarking comparison.



# Summary of Findings

The following chart summarizes the findings from the benchmarking comparison. As reflected in the chart, Pitt Meadows provides the majority of parks, recreation and culture infrastructure at similar levels to the comparator communities. **Please refer to the appendices for the detailed benchmarking information and the methodology used to categorize the facility and amenity types.**

Categorization	Indoor Facility / Amenity Type	Outdoor Facility / Amenity Type
<b>"Better"</b> provision in Pitt Meadows relative to the comparator communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ice arenas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Artificial turf fields</li> </ul>
<b>"Similar"</b> provision in Pitt Meadows relative to the comparator communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community gymnasiums</li> <li>• Community art galleries</li> <li>• Seniors centres</li> <li>• Youth centres</li> <li>• Libraries</li> <li>• Social gathering / hall type spaces</li> <li>• Public fitness centres</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outdoor pools</li> <li>• Community parks with playgrounds</li> <li>• Major "hub" sports parks</li> <li>• Outdoor festival venues</li> <li>• Skateboard parks</li> <li>• Tennis / pickleball (sites)</li> <li>• Sports courts</li> <li>• Dog off leash parks</li> <li>• Bike skills parks</li> </ul>
<b>"Lesser"</b> provision in Pitt Meadows relative to the comparator communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curling ice</li> <li>• Indoor aquatics facilities</li> <li>• Public performing arts theatres</li> <li>• Community arts hubs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Splash pads</li> <li>• Community garden (# of total sites)</li> </ul>





## Section 8

# Trends and Leading Practices

## The Value of Tracking Trends and Leading Practices

Public sector recreation and parks needs and preferences are impacted by numerous factors, including social trends, available resources, and market dynamics (e.g. supply of private sector providers, population characteristics, etc.). While local needs are the primary driver of program and facility decisions, an understanding of broader regional, provincial, and national trends and leading practices is important in helping identify potential future demands and opportunities to enhance the provision of current services. Identified in this section are a number of key trends and leading practices that are supported by industry research and/or the consulting teams observed experience.

### Included in this section:

- Service delivery trends.
- Participation and activity trends.
- Infrastructure trends and leading practices.
- Cultural sector trends.





# Service Delivery Trends

## Partnerships

Partnerships in the provision of recreation and culture infrastructure continue to be important and in many cases are becoming more prevalent. These partnerships can take a number of forms, and include government, not for profit organizations, schools and the private sector. While the provision of recreation and culture services has historically relied on municipal levels of government, many municipalities are increasingly looking to form partnerships that can enhance service levels and more efficiently lever public funds.

Examples of partnerships include facility naming and sponsorship arrangements, lease/contract agreements, the contracted operation of spaces, entire facilities, or delivery of programs. According to one study<sup>1</sup> over three-quarters (76%) of Canadian municipalities work with schools in their communities to encourage the participation of municipal residents in physical activities. Just under half of Canadian municipalities work with local non-profits (46%), health settings (40%), or workplaces (25%) to encourage participation in physical activities amongst their residents. Seventy-six percent (76%) of municipalities with a population of 1,000 to 9,999 to 80% of municipalities over 100,000 in population have formed agreements with school boards for shared use of facilities. In fact since 2000, the proportion of municipalities that have reported working with schools, health settings, and local non-profit organizations has increased by 10% to 20%.



<sup>1</sup> "Municipal Opportunities for Physical Activity" Bulletin 6: Strategic partnerships. 2010, Canadian Fitness & Lifestyle Research Institute.

## Social Inclusion

The concept of social inclusion is becoming an issue communities are addressing. While always an important issue, its significance has risen as communities have become more diversified through immigration.

Social inclusion is about making sure that all children and adults are able to participate as valued, respected, and contributing members of society. It involves the basic notions of belonging, acceptance, and recognition. For immigrants, social inclusion would be manifested in full and equal participation in all facets of a community including economic, social, cultural, and political realms. It goes beyond including “outsiders” or “newcomers.” In fact social inclusion is about the elimination of the boundaries or barriers between “us” and “them.”<sup>2</sup> There is a recognition that diversity has worth unto itself and is not something that must be overcome.<sup>3</sup> Recreation and leisure continue to be utilized as important social inclusion “vehicles” and provide a mechanism to bring together residents of different backgrounds.



2 Omidvar, Ratna, Ted Richmand (2003). *Immigrant Settlement and Social Inclusion in Canada*. The Laidlaw Foundation.

3 Harvey, Louise (2002). *Social Inclusion Research in Canada: Children and Youth*. The Canadian Council on Social Development's "Progress of Canada's Children".



# The Evolving Nature of Volunteerism

Given the importance of volunteers in the delivery of recreation and leisure opportunities it is important to recognize trends that are driving volunteer participation and motivations. Available data from Statistics Canada reflects that overall levels of volunteerism among Canadians experience fluctuation but have generally remained relatively stable.

	2013	2010	2007	2004
Total Population (15 and over)	29,188,000	28,206,000	27,000,000	26,021,000
Number of Volunteers	12,716,000	13,249,000	12,444,000	11,773,000
Volunteer Rate	44%	47%	46%	45%

However a deeper analysis of volunteer data reveals a number of significant changes in how Canadians are volunteering. Identified as follows are key indicators form the Statistics Canada data.

- **Volunteers are committing less hours.** From 2004 to 2013 the average number of volunteer hours decreased by 14 hours per year.

	2013	2010	2007	2004
Average Annual Volunteer Hours	154	156	166	168



- **Younger people continue to have the highest overall rates of volunteerism.** Overall rates of volunteerism are highest among 15 to 19 years olds, while overall rates of volunteers are lowest among older adults (55 and older). It is likely that the higher rates of volunteerism among older teens and young adults are due to “mandatory” volunteering as part of their secondary school curriculum.
- **Older adults contribute the most hours on average.** While older adults (ages 55 and older) have a lower overall rate of volunteerism, those who volunteer contribute more hours on average (231) than other age cohorts.
- **There has been a significant decline in volunteer hours among younger adult cohorts.** From 2004 to 2013, volunteer hours contributed by 20–24 year old and 35 to 44 age cohorts has continually decreased while other age cohorts have remained relatively similar.
- **Volunteers are more educated.** Consistent with trends in the general population, volunteers are becoming more and more educated. Among volunteers aged 25 to 64, 39% held undergraduate degrees in 2013.<sup>4</sup>
- **Much comes from the few.** Over one-third of all volunteer hours were contributed by ~5% of total volunteers.

**Volunteer Canada** additionally identifies a number of broader trends which are impacting the recruitment and retention of volunteers.

- **The “new volunteer”.** Young people volunteer to gain work related skills. New Canadians also volunteer to develop work experience and to practice language skills. Persons with disabilities may volunteer as a way to more fully participate in community life.
- **Volunteer job design.** Volunteer job design can be the best defense for changing demographics and fluctuations in funding.
- **Mandatory volunteering.** There are mandatory volunteer programs through Workfare, Community Service Order and school mandated community work.
- **Volunteering by contract.** The changing volunteer environment is redefining volunteer commitment as a negotiated and mutually beneficial arrangement rather than a one-way sacrifice of time by the volunteer.
- **Risk management.** Considered part of the process of job design for volunteers, risk management ensures the organization can place the right volunteer in the appropriate activity.
- **Borrowing best practices.** The voluntary sector has responded to the changing environment by adopting corporate and public sector management practices including standards, codes of conduct, accountability and transparency measures around program administration, demand for evaluation, and outcome measurement.
- **Professional volunteer management.** Managers of volunteer resources are working toward establishing an equal footing with other professionals in the voluntary sector.
- **Board governance.** Volunteer boards must respond to the challenge of acting as both supervisors and strategic planners.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-652-x/89-652-x2015001-eng.htm>



## An Increased Focus on Physical Literacy

Service providers are increasingly aware of physical literacy thinking and best practices and integrating these into recreation and wellness programming. Doing so ensures that appropriate opportunities exist for participants of all ages and abilities. An increased focus on skill development, particularly among children and youth, has positive long term impacts by providing fundamental movement skills that can be used throughout life.

**Sport for Life (S4L)** is regarded as the national leader in physical literacy advocacy and resource support. S4L is led by Sport for Life Society, a federal not for profit society that was incorporated in September 2014 and comprises experts from sport, health, recreation, and academia who are employed as independent contractors, yet work cooperatively to promote the movement's goals. The movement introduces two important concepts that influence how recreation and sport activity should be planned, promoted, organized, and delivered.

**The Long-Term Athlete Development (LTAD)** is a seven-stage training, competition, and recovery pathway guiding an individual's experience in sport and physical activity from infancy through all phases of adulthood. Physical literacy is the motivation, confidence, physical competence, knowledge, and understanding to value and take responsibility for engagement in physical activities for life.

Sport for Life, along with Long-Term Athlete Development and physical literacy, represents a paradigm shift in the way Canadians lead and deliver sport and physical activity. The movement calls on municipalities to help further these two important concepts in a variety of ways as outlined below. As it relates to the provision of indoor recreation services and facilities, it is important to consider these roles and the fundamentals of the two concepts as they define a broader social good that is delivered through recreation. Ensuring that these concepts are catalyzed through all municipal recreation services will optimize the benefits of and value for public investment in facilities and infrastructure.

Identified areas where municipalities can help further the S4L movement:

1. Physical Literacy Program Development
2. Municipal Planning and Sport Strategy Development
3. Sport Councils
4. Facility Planning
5. Access and Allocation



## Best Practices in Facility Allocations

Many municipalities struggle with facility allocations, specifically balancing “historical rights” to facility time with the needs of new or emerging groups. In recent years a number of Alberta municipalities have reviewed and adapted policies and practices to ensure that the provision of facility time aligns with desired outcomes, community values and ultimately provides the greatest benefit to residents.

Sport for Life (S4L) has developed a series of best practices and principles that it recommends to be followed in the allocation of facility time to user groups:

Allocation practices are based on “standards of play” principles in terms of the time and space required by each group.

- Allocation policies are transparent and reviewed with the groups.
- Allocation is not done by tradition, but rather on actual requirements of all groups, including the needs of emerging sports.
- Seasonal allocation meetings are held with common users groups to review their requests and try to achieve consensus on sharing available spaces and times.
- As seasons progress, groups are encouraged to be flexible in the reallocation of spaces with other groups when no longer needed, either temporarily or for longer periods.

User fees and subsidies need to reflect community taxpayer support, and the rationale should be shared with sport organizations.

## Sport Tourism as a Focus Area

Increasingly, sport tourism has become a priority for many municipalities. To a large degree, sport tourism has been used to leverage capital funding for new facility investment and to expand the benefits of recreation (e.g. demonstrate economic impact and community appeal). This trend has become especially evident in many northern communities that have used event hosting as a mechanism to increase their profile and procure funding from senior levels of government that can provide a facility legacy.

Available 2016 Statistics Canada data indicates that that the sports tourism industry in Canada is worth \$6.5 billion dollars. In contrast to other segments of the tourism industry, sport tourism in Canada continues to grow and is largely driven by the domestic, overnight market. The sport tourism sector in Canada is also becoming more organized, structured and competitive. Since its inception in 2000, the Canadian Sport Tourism Alliance has grown to include over 200 municipalities.<sup>5</sup>



<sup>5</sup> <http://canadiansporttourism.com/about-csta/about-csta.html>

# Activity Levels and Preferences

## Overall Wellness Levels

**The Report Card on Physical Activity for Children and Youth** measures physical activity for children and youth and assigns grades across a number of different metrics and consideration. The most recent report card (2018) gave a national fitness grade of D+. Identified below are selected key findings and analysis from the Report Card.

- Only 35% of 5 to 17 year-olds are reaching their recommended physical activity levels as outlined in the Canadian 24-Hour Movement Guidelines for Children and Youth.
- 51% of 5 to 17 year-olds and 76% of 3- to 4-year-olds are engaging in more screen time than is recommended by the Canadian 24-Hour Movement Guidelines for recreational screen-based sedentary behaviours.
- 41% of 5 to 19 year-olds take at least 12,000 daily steps on average, which approximates the physical activity recommendation within the Canadian 24-Hour Movement Guidelines for Children and Youth (2014-16 Canada's Physical Activity Levels Among Youth study [CANPLAY], Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute [CFLRI]).
- 36% of 8 to 12 year-olds in Canada assessed by the Canadian Assessment of Physical Literacy (CAPL) meet or exceed the minimum level recommended for physical literacy (2014-17 CAPL, HALO)





The **2016-2018 Physical Activity Monitor** asked Canadians about their participation in sport, defining sport as physical activities that usually involve competition and rules and develop specific skills. Based on this definition, 25% of Canadians 18 years and older indicate that they participate in sport.

Participation in sport is higher in men than women, and decreases substantially with increasing age. A greater proportion of adults with a university education participate in sport compared to adults with a college or trade school education or who have not graduated from high school. Generally speaking, sport participation increases with increasing household income. Sport participants were then asked how many months out of the year that they participate in sport in order to determine the regularity of their participation. 36% indicated that they participate in sport for less than 6 months, 36% reported participation between 6 and 11 months, and 28% indicated that they participate all year long (12 months). There were no significant differences by province or territory.

In addition, the study asked sport participants how frequently they participate in sport. In response, 3% participate every day, 15% report that they participate four to six times a week, 46% say that they participate two to three times per week, 23% indicate that they participate once a week, and 12% say that their participation is variable or less frequent than once a week.

The **BC Physical Activity Strategy** (2015) identifies several participation indicators that reveal both encouraging and troubling physical activity trends within the province. Some key findings outlined in the Study included:

- Almost 64% of British Columbians (age 12 and over) are active in their leisure time. This percentage is highest of all the provinces in Canada and has risen in the last few years. However, about 1.5 million British Columbians are classified as inactive, and many of those who report being active do participate in a sufficient amount of activity to achieve significant health benefits.
- Physical activity levels among children and youth are concerning. While 88% of students in Grades 3 and 4 report they get some physical activity at school, only 44% report doing at least 30 minutes of moderate or vigorous physical activity per day.
- Some people face barriers to participating in physical activity due to the unequal distribution of social and economic resources in different geographic locations.
- Barriers to participation were noted as being more prevalent for Indigenous individuals, people living in rural settings, low income earners, and individuals with disabilities.
- The Strategy re-affirmed the numerous benefits that can result from physical activity. These benefit include those which are social, physical, economic and environmental.



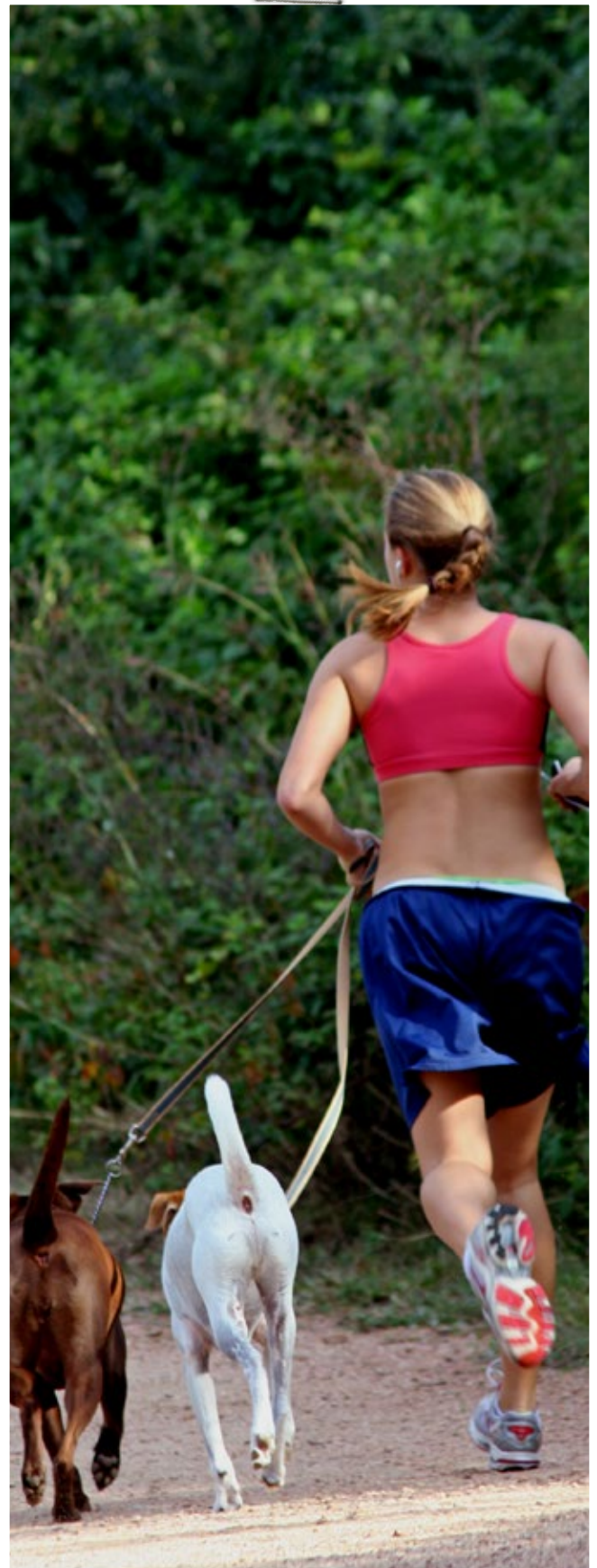


## Overall Participation Indicators

Participation levels and preferences for sports continue to garner much attention given the impact on infrastructure development and overall service delivery in most municipalities. The **Canadian Fitness & Lifestyle Research Institute's 2011 – 2012 Sport Monitor Report** identified a number of updated statistics and trends pertaining to sport participation in Canada.

- The highest proportion of Canadians prefer non-competitive sports or activities. Nearly half (44%) of Canadians preferred non-competitive sports while 40% like both non-competitive and competitive sports. Only 8% of Canadians prefer competitive sports or activities and 8% prefer neither competitive nor non-competitive sports.
- Sport participation is directly related to age. Nearly three-quarters (70%) of Canadians aged 15 – 17 participate in sports, with participation rates decreasing in each subsequent age group. The largest fall-off in sport participation occurs between the age categories of 15 – 17 and 18 – 24 (~20%).
- In contrast to children and youth populations (in which gender participation rates are relatively equal), substantially more adult men (45%) than adult women (24%) participate in organized sport.
- Participation in sport is directly related to household income levels. Household's with an annual income of greater than \$100,000 have the highest participation levels, nearly twice as high as households earning between \$20,000 and \$39,999 annually and over three times as high as households earning less than \$20,000 annually.

Community sport programs and venues remain important. The vast majority (82%) of Canadians that participate in sport do so within the community. Approximately one-fifth (21%) participate at school while 17% participate in sports at work. A significant proportion (43%) also indicated that they participate in sporting activities at home.



## Evolving Older Adult Activity Preferences

Although many “traditional” activities remain popular among older adult populations, demands and preferences are evolving. Specifically, younger cohorts of older adults (notably the “baby boom” generation) have differing preferences than previous generations and are participating in more light to moderately vigorous forms of physical activity. Examples of emerging activities among older adult cohorts include:

- Pickleball
- Trekking
- Hiking
- Water aerobics
- Dancing
- Yoga

Participants and providers alike are also focusing on providing more opportunities for multi-generational activities and programming. This trend is driven both by participant demand (e.g. opportunities to engage in programming with younger family members and friends) as well as an increasing recognition of the social and community benefits that multigenerational interaction can provide.

The **World Health Organization’s (WHO) Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health** also identifies a wide range of benefits that can result due to the provision of quality and appropriate physical activity opportunities for older adults, including:

- Lower rates of all-cause mortality, coronary heart disease, high blood pressure, stroke, type 2 diabetes, colon cancer and breast cancer, a higher level of cardiorespiratory and muscular fitness, healthier body mass and composition;
- Biomarker profile that is more favorable for the prevention of cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes and the enhancement of bone health; and
- Exhibit higher levels of functional health, a lower risk of falling, and better cognitive function; have reduced risk of moderate and severe functional limitations and role limitations.

The WHO further outlines six specific guideline recommendations for older adult physical activity levels.

1. Older adults should do at least 150 minutes of moderate intensity aerobic physical activity throughout the week or do at least 75 minutes of vigorous-intensity aerobic physical activity throughout the week or an equivalent combination of moderate—and vigorous—intensity activity.
2. Aerobic activity should be performed in bouts of at least 10 minutes duration.
3. For additional health benefits, older adults should increase their moderate-intensity aerobic physical activity to 300 minutes per week, or engage in 150 minutes of vigorous intensity aerobic physical activity per week, or an equivalent combination of moderate—and vigorous—intensity activity.
4. Older adults, with poor mobility, should perform physical activity to enhance balance and prevent falls on 3 or more days per week.
5. Muscle-strengthening activities, involving major muscle groups, should be done on 2 or more days a week.
6. When older adults cannot do the recommended amounts of physical activity due to health conditions, they should be as physically active as their abilities and conditions allow.



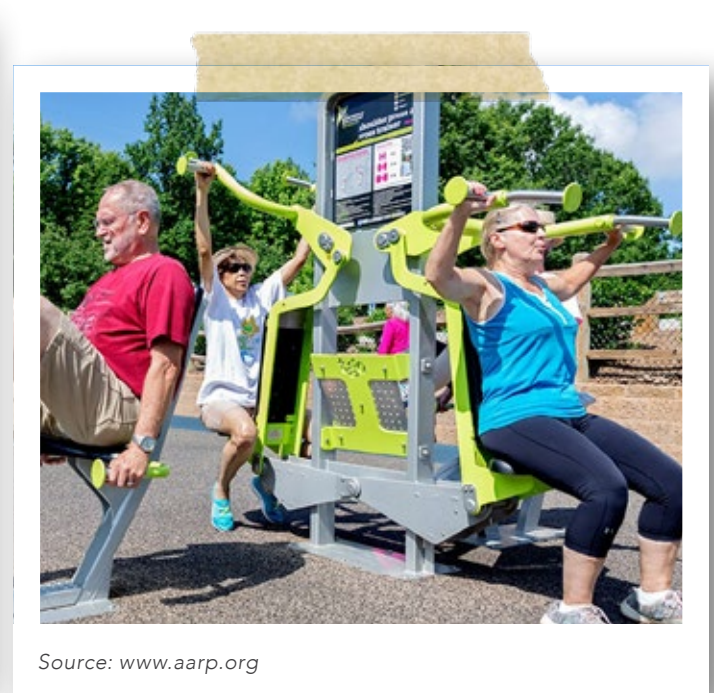
## New and Emerging Activities

Recreation interests and demands are continually evolving and “fluid”. One example of a rapidly emerging activity in many communities is the sport of **pickleball**. From 2012 to 2018 the number of pickleball players in Canada has increased tenfold from 6,000 to 60,000 (~10,000 of which are registered with Pickleball Canada). The majority of registered pickleball players in Canada reside in Alberta and British Columbia.

While often thought of as an activity for middle and older aged adults, pickleball is now being integrated into schools and the sport is starting to see growth in younger age groups. The adaptability, safety and ease of learning pickleball also position the sport well for continued future growth and integration into physical activity curriculums and community programming. An official pickleball net is 20 feet wide (6.10 m) and 44 feet long (13.41 m) as illustrated by the following graphic.



Another emerging activity trend in many communities is a **desire for more active outdoor park space opportunities and programming**. This trend has often challenged public sector providers of recreation to identify which programs and activities are appropriate to provide at public facilities and spaces, and which should be left to the private sector to provide. However, one clear role that exists for public sector providers is the provision of community park space that is multi-dimensional and able to support both passive and active outdoor pursuits. This trend has driven an increase in the installation of amenities such as outdoor fitness equipment, adult play and fitness structures, disc golf courses, and amenities that can support programming (e.g. change facilities to support fitness classes, yoga, etc.). A related recent trend is the development of adult play spaces, or spaces that integrate children’s play areas with those that are appealing for adult play or fitness. These park spaces can help encourage multi-generational play and create new recreational opportunities.





Children, youth and teen activity preferences also continue to evolve. While organized sport remains important, a growing number of **youth are looking for more spontaneous and unstructured opportunities that include element of adventure, diversity, and socialization**. Fueling this trend is an increasing recognition by the recreation, education, and public health sectors as to the importance of physical literacy as well as the need to combat “nature deficit disorder” and an overabundance of screen time.

Public sector providers of recreation are addressing the need for more diversity in children, youth, and teen recreation in a number of ways. These include:

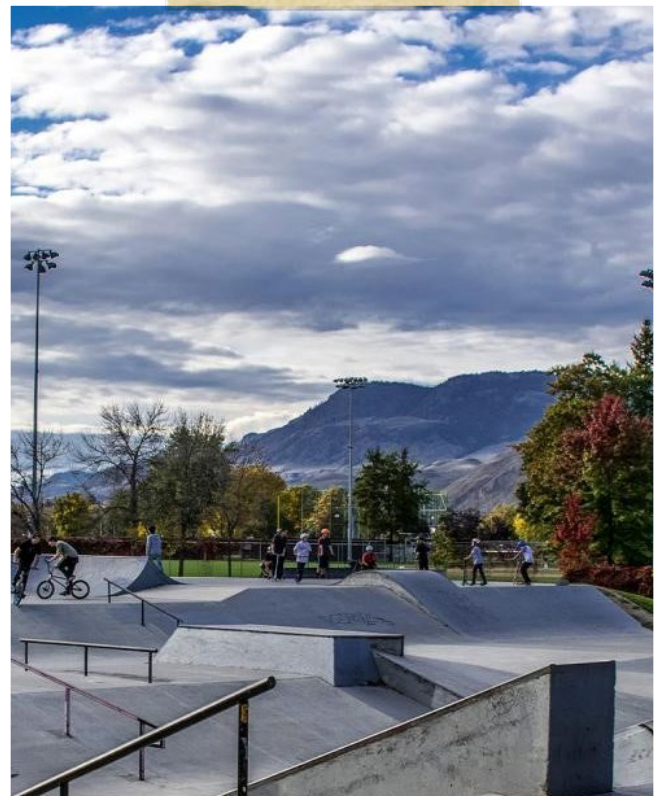
- An increased investment in non-traditional recreation infrastructure geared towards children and youth (e.g. adventure play areas, skateparks, bike parks, etc.);
- A shift in how facilities and are programmed (e.g. more spontaneous use time, expanding diversity of program offerings); and
- Creating a more welcoming environments in facility common space that can encourage children and youth to integrate recreation facilities into their daily lives (e.g. animating lobby areas with features that encourage youth to use these spaces for casual / drop-in use).



Source: City of Coquitlam Website

## Nature Deficit Disorder

Used by award winning author Richard Louv in his book “Last Child in the Woods”, the term Nature Deficit Disorder has become commonplace to describe the concerning phenomenon that children are spending less time outdoors. Louv describes a number of potential long-term impact, including a wide range of behavioral problems, disconnect from nature, and decreased social value for parks and outdoor space.



Source: Tourism Kamloops Website



# Children and Youth Sports Preferences

The Canadian Youth Sport Report (2014) provides further insight into sport participation trends among children and youth in Canada. As reflected in the graphic below, soccer participation is second only to swimming (largely driven by lessons) and remains the top team sport for the study cohorts of kids 3–6, tweens 7–12 and teens 13–17. Other key findings of note from the Youth Sport Report include:

- 84% of Canadian youth in the 3–17 age range participate in sports of some kind and 60% do it on an organized basis.
- Youth sports represent a \$5.7 billion market with families spending nearly \$1,000 annually per child on sports.
- Fifty-five percent of new Canadian youth aged 3–17 participate in organized sports but they are slightly less likely to be in organized team sports (24% vs. 30% average).
- Top team sports for New Canadian youth were soccer, basketball, hockey and volleyball.

## Top 10 Sports and Activities in Canada Among Youth 3–17

By Current Organized Participation

Activity	Participants
Swimming	1,120,000
Soccer	767,000
Dance	625,500
Hockey	531,000
Skating	436,000
Basketball	354,000
Gymnastics	336,000
Track and Field: Running	330,000
Ballet	277,300
Karate	230,000

From the Canadian Youth Sport Report, 2014



# Parks and Recreation Infrastructure Trends and Leading Practices

## Aging Infrastructure

The 2016 Canadian Infrastructure Report Card<sup>6</sup> included an assessment and analysis of the state of sport and recreation facilities in Canada. The report revealed a number of concerns and issues that will impact the delivery of sport and recreation infrastructure over the coming years. Key findings from the report included the following.

- The Report Card demonstrates that Canada's infrastructure, including sport and recreation facilities, is at risk of rapid deterioration unless there is immediate investment.
- The average annual reinvestment rate in sport and recreation facilities is currently 1.3% (of capital value) while the recommended target rate of reinvestment is 1.7%–2.5%.
- Almost 1 in 2 sport and recreation facilities are in 'very poor', 'poor' or 'fair' condition and need repair or replacement.
- In comparison to other municipal infrastructure assessed in the Report Card, sport and recreation facilities were in the worst state and require immediate attention.
- The Report Card indicated that the extrapolated replacement value of sport and recreation facilities in 'poor' or 'very poor' condition is \$9 billion while those in 'fair' condition require \$14 billion.

## Multi-Use Spaces

Recreation facilities are being designed to accommodate multiple activities and to encompass a variety of different components. The benefits of designing multi-use spaces include the opportunity to create operational efficiencies, attract a wide spectrum of users, and procure multiple sources of revenue. Providing the opportunity for all family members to take part in different opportunities simultaneously at the same location additionally increases convenience and satisfaction for residences.

Creating spaces within a facility that are easily adaptable and re-configurable is another growing trend observed in many newer and retrofitted facilities. Many performing arts venues are being designed in such a manner that staging, seating, and wall configurations can be easily changed as required. Similarly, visual arts spaces such as studios and galleries are being designed in a manner that allows them to be used for a multitude of different art creation and display purposes. Gymnasium spaces and field house facilities are being designed with adjustable barriers, walls, bleachers, and other amenities that can be easily set-up or removed depending on the type of activity or event.

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6 [http://www.canadainfrastructure.ca/downloads/Canadian\\_Infrastructure\\_Report\\_2016.pdf](http://www.canadainfrastructure.ca/downloads/Canadian_Infrastructure_Report_2016.pdf)

## Integrating Indoor and Outdoor Environments

A relatively new concept in recreation and leisure infrastructure planning is to ensure that the indoor environment interacts seamlessly with the adjacent outdoor environment. This can include such ideas as public event spaces, indoor/outdoor walking trails, indoor/outdoor child play areas, and indoor/outdoor public art. Although there are a number of operational issues that need to be considered when planning indoor/outdoor environments (e.g. cleaning, controlled access, etc.) the concept of planning an indoor facility to complement the site it is located on (and associated outdoor amenities included) as well as the broader community parks and trail system is prudent and will ensure the optimization of public spending on both indoor and outdoor recreation and culture infrastructure. Integrating indoor and outdoor environments can be as “simple” as ensuring interiors have good opportunities to view the outdoors.

## Revenue Generating Spaces

Facility operators of community facilities are being required to find creative and innovative ways to generate the revenues needed to both sustain current operations and fund future expansion or renovation projects. By generating sustainable revenues outside of regular government contributions, many facilities are able to demonstrate increased financial sustainability and expand service levels.

Lease spaces provide one such opportunity. Many facilities are creating new spaces or redeveloping existing areas of their facility that can be leased to food and beverage providers and other retail businesses. Short term rental spaces are another major source of revenue for many facilities. Lobby areas, programs rooms, and event hosting spaces have the potential to be rented to the corporate sector for meetings, team building activities, holiday parties, and a host of other functions.

## Social Amenities

The inclusion of social amenities provides the opportunity for multi-purpose community recreation facilities to maximize the overall experience for users as well as to potentially attract non-traditional patrons to the facility. Examples of social amenities include attractive lobby areas, common spaces, restaurants and cafeterias, spectator viewing areas, meeting facilities, and adjacent outdoor parks or green space. It is also becoming increasingly uncommon for new public facilities, especially in urban areas, to not be equipped with public wireless Internet.

Another significant benefit of equipping facilities with social amenities is the opportunity to increase usage and visitation to the facility during non-peak hours. Including spaces such as public cafeterias and open lobby spaces can result in local residents visiting the facility during non-event or non-program hours to meet friends or is simply a part of their daily routine. Many municipalities and non-profit organizations have encouraged this non-peak hour use in order to ensure that the broader populace perceives that the facility is accessible and available to all members of the community.



## Providing Quality Parks and Outdoor Spaces

Research supports that individuals continue to place a high value on the availability and quality of parks, trails, and outdoor spaces. A 2013 Canadian study commissioned by the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation found that nearly two-thirds of respondents (64%) indicated that local parks were “very important” to them and their family. Additionally, 68% of Canadians are concerned about the loss of green space in their community.<sup>7</sup>

Another 2011 study of over 1,100 parents of 2 to 12 year olds in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom found that the more time a family spends together at a playground, the greater their overall sense of family wellbeing. Three-quarters also wished that their family had time to visit a playground more often.<sup>8</sup>

Parks and outdoor spaces also play a key role in helping to combat “nature deficit disorder” amongst children and youth. This phrase, first coined by Richard Louv in his bestselling book “Last Child in the Woods,” suggests that children are becoming estranged from nature and natural play, which results in a number of cognitive, physical, and developmental issues.

While all residents benefit from the availability of quality park spaces, a significant amount of research and attention has been given to the myriad of benefits that result from children and youth being able to play and interact in outdoor settings. Findings include:

- Children who play regularly in natural environments show more advanced motor fitness, including coordination, balance and agility, and they are sick less often.<sup>9</sup>
- Exposure to natural environments improves children’s cognitive development by improving their awareness, reasoning, and observational skills.<sup>10</sup>
- Children who play in nature have more positive feelings about each other.<sup>11</sup>
- Outdoor environments are important to children’s development of independence and autonomy.<sup>12</sup>
- Children with views of and contact with nature score higher on tests of concentration and self-discipline. The greener the setting, the better the scores.<sup>13</sup>

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9 Grahm, P., Martensson, F., Llinblad, B., Nilsson, P., & Ekman, A., (1997). UTE pa DAGIS, Stad & Land nr. 93/1991 Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet, Alnarp.

10 Pyle, Robert (1993). *The thunder trees: Lessons from an urban wildland*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

11 Moore, Robin (1996). *Compact Nature: The Role of Playing and Learning Gardens on Children’s Lives*, *Journal of Therapeutic Horticulture*, 8, 72–82

12 Bartlett, Sheridan (1996). *Access to Outdoor Play and Its Implications for Healthy Attachments*. Unpublished article, Putney, VT

13 Taylor, A.F., Kuo, F.E. & Sullivan, W.C. (2002). *Views of Nature and Self-Discipline: Evidence from Inner City Children*, *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 22, 49–63

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7 TD Friends of the Environment Foundation survey. Conducted by Ipsos Reid (2013).

8 Harris Interactive (2011). *Playgrounds Increase Sense Of Family Well-Being*. Washington, District of Columbia. Foresters.



## Active Transportation

Active transportation refers to any form of human-powered transportation, such as walking, cycling, using a wheelchair, in-line skating, or skateboarding.<sup>14</sup> In 2011 in Canada, 5.7% of commuters walked to work regularly while 1.3% cycled, accounting for over one million Canadians.<sup>15</sup>

A generational trend is that younger professionals are using active modes of transportation more now than ever. A number of factors are contributing to this such as people are becoming more environmentally conscious, financial limitations (active transportation is generally a cheaper mode of transportation), and a trend is occurring in which people are moving back from the suburbs into urban communities in which places of work are closer in proximity to place of residence.

Urban parks encourage active traffic through their boundaries if they are adjacent to a roadway or can provide a shortcut through the community. Pathway systems that connect neighbourhoods across the municipality are becoming increasingly important to accommodate alternative methods of transportation. Multi-use pathway systems are often seen as being a given with park design as they facilitate a wide range of recreational uses and serve a transportation function.

Relationships should be constantly analyzed to enhance pathway systems such as the amenities on pathways and user numbers, lighting and its effects on night usage, and the surface material and the types of usage (e.g. bicycling, walking). An analysis of why certain pathways receive high usage can be applied to other corridors that do not attract as much active traffic volume. Gathering utilization data with trail trackers is a practice that municipalities are beginning to undertake on a regular basis.



<sup>14</sup> Public Health Agency of Canada. <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/hp-ps/hl-mvs/pa-ap/at-ta-eng.php>

<sup>15</sup> Statistics Canada. 2011. *Commuting to Work*. [https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/as-sa/99-012-x/99-012-x2011003\\_1-eng.cfm](https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/as-sa/99-012-x/99-012-x2011003_1-eng.cfm)

# Cultural Sector Trends

## Leading Practice for Fostering a Community's Cultural Sector

Leading practice in fostering the arts and cultural sector, though holistic in nature, can also be contextualized for settings like Pitt Meadows, which face unique opportunities and challenges typically not experienced by large municipalities. 'Edge cities' like Pitt Meadows have the added complexity of balancing rural heritage with urban development. It is thus very important to nurture and maintain rural cultural resilience.<sup>16</sup> Cultural resilience highlights the notion of human agency, supported most successfully by encouraging volunteer activity in the community. Often occurring organically outside of municipal support frameworks, culturally engaged communities enable this dynamic of cultural resilience, while developing both personal and collective capacity to change, sustain and renew. The catalyst for culturally resilient municipalities is therefore an empowered, supported and engaged local community. Tied closely to this concept of more grassroots-level engagement with culture is the emergence of Culture 3.0,<sup>17</sup> a conceptual model gaining traction in strategic planning, leveraging new channels of social and economic value creation through cultural participation. This connectedness and cohesion between grassroots organizations and cultural policymakers is what makes this model successful.

Cities are seeing the importance of contextually relevant planning, including reflecting leading practice of comparative jurisdictions. Regionally, edge cities and tight-knit communities across the Lower Mainland face many of the same challenges (e.g. growing population, higher cost of living). Cities understand that successful cultural plans are consultative. This means that communities must be fully engaged to ensure buy-in upon publication and implementation of strategic priorities. Informed by this community input, a set of measurable objectives is developed, which are responsible for creating a fair balance of aspirations and achievability. While objectives are typically ambitious and bold, there is also a certain degree of confidence that they are likely to be enacted.

For action to be taken, adequate support, infrastructure, and resources are required. This kind of support is manifested most prominently through built infrastructure, whether purpose-built or multipurpose venues. Space for culture, where people can gather for cultural events, helps support participation in cultural activity and cultural production at the grassroots level. Support is also provided by dedicated municipal staff, who prioritize culture despite organizational changes and have clear accountability mechanisms to ensure implementation. To support this mandate, some municipalities have shifted to incorporating third-party support – a model that supplements municipal staff capacity (e.g. marketing or branding support for cultural services).

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<sup>16</sup> David E. Beel et. al., *Cultural resilience: The production of rural community heritage, digital archives and the role of volunteers*, *Journal of Rural Studies*, Volume 54, 2017, Pages 459-468, ISSN 0743-0167, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jrurstud.2015.05.002>.

<sup>17</sup> [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328569655\\_From\\_Culture\\_10\\_to\\_Culture\\_30\\_Three\\_Socio-Technical\\_Regimes\\_of\\_Social\\_and\\_Economic\\_Value\\_Creation\\_through\\_Culture\\_and\\_Their\\_Impact\\_on\\_European\\_Cohesion\\_Policies](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328569655_From_Culture_10_to_Culture_30_Three_Socio-Technical_Regimes_of_Social_and_Economic_Value_Creation_through_Culture_and_Their_Impact_on_European_Cohesion_Policies)



Cities also work towards providing adequate supporting through accessing additional funding and investment, whereby private actors help to finance strategic priorities while also enabling increased access to funding for local cultural organizations and practitioners (e.g. public-private partnerships such as Artsvest). Accessing new sources of support helps communities by building a workforce to drive the commercial opportunities of cultural development, such as the creative economy. Considering strategic approaches to creative economy ventures also leverage the economic impacts of the local creative sector. As cities look to pivot towards more sustainable industry, the benefit of investment in the creative industries not only elevates community residents' quality of life, but also attracts and retains creative professionals locally.

These combined ingredients for successful cultural planning are the bedrock of an empowered cultural sector. Adequate and context-specific support, through leadership and infrastructure investment (both built and non-built) are key to ensuring cultural development. Nurturing a partnerships approach is more likely to ensure the achievement of sustainable arts and culture program delivery.



## Emerging Cultural Participation and Activity Trends

While the cross-sectoral nature of cultural planning is a relatively recent area of focus in British Columbia, local governments understand the economic and livability benefits that cultural planning provides, particularly in growing communities like Pitt Meadows. Cultural services are an expected piece of 'livability' resources, whereby the concept of placemaking is an integral aspect of community life.

The following themes reflect several trends and relevant practices observed within cultural planning across relevant contexts. These trends are reflective of changing demographics, economic considerations, emerging urban and historically rural populations, all which municipalities like Pitt Meadows are experiencing to varying degrees:

- **Desire for Connectivity:** As just one side-effect of growing urban centres, the reality of the 'bedroom community' has become more apparent, with longer commutes and a lesser sense of local connectivity in areas where commuters live. Lack of connection to one's own community has also resulted in a lack of awareness to local culture, which often acts as a viable antidote to isolation. Particularly amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the desire for connectivity to local communities has become an increasingly pressing priority.
- **Shifting Demographics:** Across various contexts, communities are seeing an influx of young families and newcomers, simultaneously joining communities that are ageing and made up primarily of retirees. Young people drawn to downtown urban cores face the increasingly unaffordable cost of living, encouraging them to settle further into suburbs. Population growth occurring concurrently with increased housing costs has indeed shifted the landscape of now fast-changing communities. Related specifically to cultural development, these changes also mean that participation in community life requires constant adjustments, as older populations compete with younger generations and influence culture and institutions. Given younger artists and creatives are being priced out of urban cores, this also means that they seek space near home that allows them to engage in cultural and creative work (e.g. studio space).
- **Diversified Engagement with Culture:** Increased digital transformation has encouraged diverse forms of engagement with culture to emerge, resulting in consumers' shortened attention spans and heightened competition for local cultural organizations. People now desire a diverse array of options for how they engage with culture, from livestreamed music festivals happening anywhere to the expectation that high-quality offerings will be available their local community, both in person and virtually. The definition of culture has also broadened to include intersectoral experiences like farmers markets and breweries, where local artists and musicians find exhibition/performance space (e.g. the Fraser Valley's combined agritourism and cultural experiences). Cultural and creative organizations who were previously operating 'underground' are now more visible. Relatedly, improved access to culture is now made possible through a wide range of experiences, from simple wayfinding or heritage signs, to large scale music and art festivals. This new, *open participation*<sup>18</sup> thanks to increased access also alters artists' capacity to create new works, and increases fans' opportunities to critique, mimic, and learn art. This eases the transition from audience to amateur to professional and boosts diverse perspectives in creative and cultural environments.
- **Recognition and Celebration of Diverse Communities:** Linked to shifting demographics is the recognition and celebration of how diverse communities contribute to cultural vibrancy. How a City promotes, facilitates, and includes diverse communities, their heritage, customs, and experiences is what distinguishes themselves from others. For example, the growing number of newcomers has highlighted the need for culture as a community's 'connective tissue.' Recognizing Indigenous heritage and culture is also paramount, particularly in relation to how reconciliation can begin through the sharing of arts and culture, coupled with increased support for Indigenous artists and cultural practitioners.

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<sup>18</sup> <https://horizons.gc.ca/en/2018/10/19/the-next-generation-of-emerging-global-challenges/#arts-and-culture>



- **Value Placement on Health and Wellness:**

Increased value placed on health and wellness in communities has occurred partly as a result of increased concern for the environment and the recognition of the importance of social connectedness. There is growing recognition of the important role that the arts and culture have to play in advancing wellness<sup>19</sup> of both urban and rural residents. Access to natural heritage and green, outdoor spaces as part of wider cultural experiences is of growing importance to many, particularly as the preservation of green spaces competes with urban development projects.

- **Unprecedented Economic and Social Challenges:**

Linked to health and wellness, economic and social challenges are global challenges felt locally. From increased homelessness to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, these issues have indirectly and directly caused a shift in how culture is both produced and consumed in communities. Simultaneously, systemic inequality faced by the IBPOC community has become apparent amid recent racial and social justice movements, bringing long overdue light to the need to address persistent social inequities. In response to these challenges, arts and cultural sectors have potential to be sources of healing and reconciliation, with cultural sub-sectors finding non-traditional ways to innovate and reach audiences while engaging with and uplifting underserved communities. These challenges and subsequent movements are likely to alter the trajectory of arts and cultural sectors in years to come, bringing the contribution of the arts and culture to social and economic initiatives. These challenges are also encouraging planners to ensure culture is more accessible to those who seek it and more receptive to community desires, challenges, and changes – even amid immense global challenges felt locally.



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<sup>19</sup> <https://hillstrategies.com/2015/06/18/arts-culture-health-well-being-and-social-connectedness/>

# Arts and Cultural Infrastructure Trends

Trends show that many municipalities are incorporating arts and cultural strategies into core development projects to solve problems and leverage economic and social development. In order to fully identify priorities for local cultural planning efforts, it is first important to have mapped out the cultural resources currently available. Cultural resource mapping is a systematic approach to identifying, recording, and classifying a community's cultural resources in order to describe and visualize them.<sup>20</sup> Cultural resource mapping also helps to identify gaps and needs in cultural infrastructure. For example, a municipality might identify, through engagement with stakeholders, that a growing population requires a larger theatre, or that the high demand for farmers markets and live music events presents opportunity for more frequent and larger events.

The following paragraphs outline three key trends that relate to arts and cultural infrastructure: namely, less reliance on new physical infrastructure for culture to supplement existing infrastructure; a continued need for dedicated space for culture that serves multiple functions, and; the emergence of alternative sources of funding and support for culture infrastructure.

As space becomes rarer in urbanized settings, cities around the world are looking at innovative ways to rethink what cultural space means, with a recognition that culture happens both inside and outside theatres, concert halls, museums, and galleries. This lessened reliance on physical infrastructure has opened culture to the public in ways not previously explored. There is a keen desire for the use of found spaces, or non-traditional spaces, that add vibrancy to downtown cores in particular. Public art displays through murals in alleyways, pop-up music performances in downtown plazas, or the use of parks for cultural gatherings are all examples of this trend. Relatedly, digital placemaking is a simultaneously growing trend that brings culture right into people's homes, whereby the internet is now indeed perceived as a "space" and meeting place.

Even with lessened reliance on traditional venues, many communities still show strong support for culture-specific spaces – ideally, those that have benefits for a range of users, are sustainable, economic and infrastructure drivers, community-focused, accessible, and provide opportunities for collaboration. Thus, the emergence of less reliance on physical infrastructure for culture is seen more as a complement than as a replacement for purpose-built cultural spaces. Culture specific facilities are an effective way to support the arts and cultural community, and allow for artists to show their work, perform, and practice. It has been shown that "investment in cultural infrastructure is necessary to maintain the health of our arts organizations...as they impact not only those in the facility, but visitors and the communities in which they reside."<sup>21</sup> Where budget for such infrastructure is limited, cities also look to develop multipurpose spaces, creating a physical confluence of offerings, such as combined recreation and cultural centres. These two elements of community life can be combined as a single offer, going hand in hand if designed together.

To address both the opportunity for creative placemaking as well as the continued need for physical space, cities are increasingly looking to alternative sources of funding and support for culture. Looking to more incentive-based planning to support growth in the cultural community, alternative sources of funding can come from a range of public-private partnership opportunities, such as developer-targeted community amenity contributions (CACs) or private sponsorships (e.g. sponsorship for Music Cities). Intersection and collaboration between cultural planning, urban planning and residential and commercial development has potential to create vibrant, sustainable, and liveable cities that attract investment. While this kind of cross-sectoral investment does not replace municipal dedication to cultural development, it can create a multiplier effect of growing attraction to culturally vibrant and people-centred development.

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20 [https://www.creativecity.ca/database/files/library/cultural\\_mapping\\_toolkit.pdf](https://www.creativecity.ca/database/files/library/cultural_mapping_toolkit.pdf)

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21 *Why is investing in Cultural Infrastructure Important?* <https://www.artsbuildontario.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Infrastructure-Matter-Infraconsults-ArtsBuild-Ontario-1.pdf>

## Section 9

# Summary of Key Findings

The information contained in this report provides important context and insight into the current state of park, recreation and culture in the Pitt Meadows and, along with the engagement findings presented in the “What We Heard” Engagement Summary Report, provides a basis for the strategic direction contained in the Master Plan. Summarized as follows are a number of key findings from the current state research.

### **Partnerships and collaborations are critical aspects of the City’s parks, recreation and culture delivery model**

The City uses a combination of direct and indirect delivery methods to provide active living opportunities. Organizations external to the City such as Metro Vancouver Regional Parks, Katzie First Nation, School District 42, and surrounding municipalities are part of a broader network of partners that deliver active living opportunities to Pitt Meadows residents while correspondingly the City of Pitt Meadows supports facilities, programming and events that serve individuals living beyond its municipal borders.

### **The City oversee an asset base of parks, recreation and culture amenities with a replacement value in the hundreds of millions of dollars**

Sustaining existing (and aging) assets while balancing demands for new type of facilities will require a delicate balance. Functional assessments conducted on key indoor and outdoor facilities indicate that the City generally does a good job maintaining assets although opportunities exist to refresh / re-vision a number of spaces in coming years and improve amenity consistency (especially pertaining to community parks).

### **Available utilization data suggests that bookable spaces in the city are relatively well used but no significant capacity challenges were identified**

The Pitt Meadows Arena appears to have the highest level of utilized capacity (84% of prime in 2019), but this figure does not suggest any significant overall capacity challenges. Utilization of other spaces such as the Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre and sports fields in Pitt Meadows have remained relatively consistent on a year to year basis.

### **The City continues to make a significant investment in parks, recreation and culture**

The City's investment in these services totals approximately \$3 million dollars per year and accounts for 10-11% of the overall budget. On average, approximately 80% of this investment goes towards operations with approximately 20% allocated to capital expenditures (mostly major repair or enhancements to existing facilities).

### **Opportunities exist to improve data collection and management, and analysis**

Utilization data is not available and/or complete for some types of parks, recreation and culture infrastructure, especially those types of spaces that accommodate multiple types of use and spontaneous activity. The City's budgeting and tracking of actual revenues and expenditures is comprehensive from an overall departmental standpoint, but does enable analysis to be undertaken for many specific facilities or service functions. Enhancing overall utilization and operations data collection and management would enable the City to better understand participation trends, use data to influence decision making and establish performance measurement metrics.



**Pitt Meadows has experienced steady levels of growth and appears on pace to slightly exceed its projected population of 23,500 residents by 2041 (as identified in the Metro Vancouver Regional Growth Strategy)**

Statistics Canada recorded a population of 18,572 residents in 2016 and available Environics Analytics DemoStats estimates a current population of 21,664.

**Available data suggests that perceived levels of health and wellness, sense of belonging and levels of physical activity are inconsistent across the community**

Available Environics Analytics (EA) data reflects a number of these differences and the relationship between the wellness indicators and demographic characteristics such as income and age. See *Section 5 for additional detail.*

**Benchmarking suggests that Pitt Meadows provides the majority of parks, recreation and culture facility and amenity types at “similar” levels to comparators**

The benchmarking analysis indicates that Pitt Meadows is generally aligned with comparators in the provision (service levels) of most amenity types. Those facility and amenity types that may be provided at a lesser level of service were: curling ice, indoor aquatics facilities, public performing arts theatres, community arts hubs, splash pads, and community garden sites. However, it is important to note that infrastructure benchmarking is limited in its ability to capture regional supply factors (e.g. the availability of facilities in nearby municipalities), demand, or quality of the spaces provided.

### **Opportunities exist to improve health and wellness levels among youth in the community**

Data from the Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) assessed an overall wellness classification of “thriving” to 42% of Grade 4 students and 32% of Grade 7 students in School District 42 (Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows). These figures are similar to provincial averages but suggest that ample room for improvement exists. It is also notable that the sub-segment findings reflect lower wellness levels and participation in after school activities among students in Pitt Meadows compared to Maple Ridge, however a higher proportion of the students in Pitt Meadows indicated that there are safe places in their neighbourhood or community that provide programs for kids their age.

### **Parks, recreation and culture trends are continually evolving**

Notable trends in the public sector delivery of these services include a shift in demand from structured to unstructured activities, preference for multi-purpose facilities, partnerships, alignment with provincial and national policy and strategic direction, increasing expectations for programming and facility quality and experiences, the emergence of the cultural sector, and the shifting volunteer landscape.

# Appendices



# A. Estimated Replacement Value of Parks, Recreation and Culture Assets

\*Replacement values based on unit costs for facility and amenity types. This figures are intended to reflect the overall value of the City's asset base and should be considered high level (+/- 30%).

Facility / Amenity	Unit Costs Used to Determine Replacement Value	Total Estimated Replacement Cost
Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre	\$25,000,000	\$25,000,000
Pitt Meadows Arena	\$15,000,000 per ice sheet	\$45,000,000
Harris Road Park (Skateboard Park, Outdoor Pool, Playground, Sports Fields and Diamonds, Amenities)	Skateboard Park - \$750,000  Sports Fields - \$250,000 x 4 site blocks  Outdoor Pool and Splash Park - \$8,000,000  Playground - \$250,000  Allocation for other site amenities, structures and community space - \$3,000,000	\$13,000,000
Pitt Meadows Spirit Square / Civic Hall Plaza	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000
Pitt Meadows Athletic Park	Sports fields - \$250,000 x 8 sport field blocks  Tennis courts - \$250,000  Allocation for other site amenities, structures and community space - \$3,000,000	\$5,250,000
Pitt Meadows Secondary School Artificial Turf Field	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
South Bonson Community Centre	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000
Heritage Hall	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000
Tennis Court Sites (exluding PMAP)	\$250,000 x 3 sites	\$750,000
Community Gardens	\$100,000	\$100,000



Facility / Amenity	Unit Costs Used to Determine Replacement Value	Total Estimated Replacement Cost
Sports Fields and Ball Diamond Sites (excluding the PMAP and Harris Road Park)	\$250,000 x 12 fields / diamonds	\$3,000,000
Dog Off Leash Parks	\$500,000 x 2 sites	\$1,000,000
Outdoor Sports Courts	\$75,000 x 10 sites	\$750,000
Art Gallery	\$1,000,000 (small community art gallery and display space)	\$1,000,000
Playgrounds (exlcuding Harris Road Park)	\$100,000 x 12 sites	\$1,200,000
Library	\$20,000,000	\$20,000,000
Museum	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$161,050,000</b>

## B. Detailed Benchmarking Findings

### Methodology

The level of facility provision in Pitt Meadows is given a **"Better"**, **"Similar"**, or **"Lesser"** based on the following criteria:

**Better:** both the overall average of the facility / amenity provided and the average provision ratio (# of residents per unit of provision) in the comparator communities in better in Pitt Meadows.

**Similar:** both the overall average of the facility / amenity provided and the average provision ratio (# of residents per unit of provision) in the comparator communities in similar to Pitt Meadows. If one of the two comparison types (average of the overall number of provision ratio) differ than the facility / amenity is also categorized as similar.

**Lesser:** both the overall average of the facility / amenity provided and the average provision ratio (# of residents per unit of provision) in the comparator communities in lesser in Pitt Meadows.

### Indoor Facility / Amenity Types – Overall Count

	Port Moody	Maple Ridge****	Courtenay*	White Rock	Langford**	Port Coquitlam*****	Oceanside - RDN (Parksville and Qualicum beach)*****	Langley (City)***	Average	Pitt Meadows
Population (2016)	33,551	82,256	25,599	19,952	35,342	58,612	21,457	21,457	<b>37,278</b>	<b>18,573</b>
Ice Arenas (# of sheets of ice)	2	2	0	1	1	2	2	0	<b>1.3</b>	<b>3</b>
Curling (# of sheets of ice)	6	6	0	4	0	0	9	0	<b>3.1</b>	<b>0</b>
Indoor Aquatics Facilities	0	1	0	0	1	2	1	0	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0</b>
Community Gymnasiums (not including schools)	1	1	2	0	1	1	2	1	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1</b>

	Port Moody	Maple Ridge****	Courtenay*	White Rock	Langford**	Port Coquitlam*****	Oceanside - RDN (Parksville and Qualicum beach)*****	Langley (City)***	Average	Pitt Meadows
Public Performing Arts Theatres (municipally operated or supported dedicated venue with fixed seating)	1	1	1	1	1	0	2	0	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0</b>
Community Arts Hubs (municipally operated or supported creative arts program facility)	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	<b>0.8</b>	
Community Art Galleries	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1</b>
Youth Centre (dedicated spaces)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1</b>
Seniors Centres (dedicated spaces)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1</b>
Libraries	1	1	1	1	3	1	2	0	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1</b>
Social Gathering / Hall Types Spaces	5	5	3	1	2	2	3	1	<b>2.8</b>	<b>1</b>
Public Fitness Centres	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1</b>

## Indoor Facility / Amenity Types – Provision Ratio

	Port Moody	Maple Ridge****	Courtenay*	White Rock	Langford**	Port Coquitlam*****	Oceanside - RDN (Parksville and Qualicum beach)*****	Langley (City)***	Average	Pitt Meadows
Population (2016)	33,551	82,256	25,599	19,952	35,342	58,612	21,457	21,457	<b>37,278</b>	<b>18,573</b>
Ice Arenas (# of sheets of ice)	16,776	41,128	-	19,952	35,342	29,306	10,729	-	<b>29,823</b>	<b>6,191</b>
Curling (# of sheets of ice)	5,592	13,709	-	4,988	-	-	2,384	-	<b>11,929</b>	-
Indoor Aquatics Facilities	-	82,256	-	-	35,342	29,306	21,457	-	<b>59,645</b>	-
Community Gymsnasiums (not including schools)	33,551	82,256	12,800	-	35,342	58,612	10,729	21,457	<b>33,136</b>	<b>18,573</b>
Public Performing Arts Theatres (municipally operated or supported dedicated venue with fixed seating)	33,551	82,256	25,599	19,952	35,342	-	10,729	-	<b>42,604</b>	-
Community Arts Hubs (municipally operated or supported creative arts program facility)	33,551	-	25,599	19,952	35,342	58,612	21,457	-	<b>49,704</b>	-
Community Art Galleries	33,551	82,256	25,599	19,952	35,342	58,612	21,457	21,457	<b>37,278</b>	<b>18,573</b>
Youth Centre (dedicated spaces)	33,551	82,256	25,599	19,952	35,342	58,612	21,457	21,457	<b>37,278</b>	<b>18,573</b>
Seniors Centres (dedicated spaces)	33,551	82,256	25,599	19,952	35,342	58,612	21,457	21,457	<b>37,278</b>	<b>18,573</b>
Libraries	33,551	82,256	25,599	19,952	11,781	58,612	10,729	-	<b>26,095</b>	<b>18,573</b>
Social Gathering / Hall Types Spaces	6,710	16,451	8,533	19,952	17,671	29,306	7,152	21,457	<b>13,556</b>	<b>6,191</b>
Public Fitness Centres	33,551	82,256	25,599	-	35,342	58,612	-	21,457	<b>49,704</b>	<b>18,573</b>



## Outdoor Facility / Amenity Types – Overall Count

	Port Moody	Maple Ridge****	Courtenay*	White Rock	Langford**	Port Coquitlam*****	Oceanside - RDN (Parksville and Qualicum beach)*****	Langley (City)***	Average	Pitt Meadows
Population (2016)	33,551	82,256	25,599	19,952	35,342	58,612	21,457	21,457	<b>37,278</b>	<b>18,573</b>
Outdoor Pools	2	1	1	0	0	2	0	1	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1</b>
Splash Pads	3	2	1	1	5	4	1	3	<b>2.5</b>	<b>1</b>
Community Parks with Playgrounds	17	47	19	N/A	N/A	N/A	40	13	<b>27.2</b>	<b>13</b>
Artificial Turf Fields	2	6	1	0	1	2	0	0	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1</b>
Major "Hub" Sports Parks	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	1	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1</b>
Outdoor Sports Boxes	1	0	1	0	1	3	1	1	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0</b>
Outdoor Festival Venues (parks with amphitheatres or similar venues)	1	N/A	1	1	1	1	1	1	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1</b>
Skateboard Parks	1	1	2	0	1	1	2	1	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1</b>
Tennis / Pickleball Court Sites (# of total site)	4	8	1	N/A	1	7	3	2	<b>3.7</b>	<b>4</b>
Bike Skills Parks	1	1	1	0	1	1	N/A	1	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1</b>
Sports Courts	6	17	8	N/A	N/A	5	N/A	6	<b>8.4</b>	<b>10</b>
Dog Off Leash Parks	5	6	N/A	1	N/A	4	2	3	<b>3.5</b>	<b>2</b>
Community Garden (# sites)	1	6	2	1	N/A	3	N/A	3	<b>2.7</b>	<b>1</b>

## Outdoor Facility / Amenity Types – Provision Ratio

	Port Moody	Maple Ridge****	Courtenay*	White Rock	Langford**	Port Coquitlam*****	Oceanside - RDN (Parksville and Qualicum beach)*****	Langley (City)***	Average	Pitt Meadows
Population (2016)	33,551	82,256	25,599	19,952	35,342	58,612	21,457	21,457	<b>37,278</b>	<b>18,573</b>
Outdoor Pools	16,776	82,256	25,599	-	-	29,306	-	21,457	<b>42,604</b>	<b>18,573</b>
Splash Pads	11,184	41,128	25,599	19,952	7,068	14,653	21,457	7,152	<b>14,911</b>	<b>18,573</b>
Community Parks with Playgrounds	1,974	1,750	1,347	-	-	-	536	1,651	<b>1,371</b>	<b>1,429</b>
Artificial Turf Fields	16,776	13,709	25,599	-	35,342	29,306	-	-	<b>24,852</b>	<b>18,573</b>
Major "Hub" Sports Parks	33,551	41,128	25,599	19,952	35,342	58,612	7,152	21,457	<b>27,111</b>	<b>18,573</b>
Outdoor Sports Boxes	33,551	-	25,599	-	35,342	19,537	21,457	21,457	<b>37,278</b>	-
Outdoor Festival Venues (parks with amphitheatres or similar venues)	33,551	-	25,599	19,952	35,342	58,612	21,457	21,457	<b>37,278</b>	<b>18,573</b>
Skateboard Parks	33,551	82,256	12,800	-	35,342	58,612	10,729	21,457	<b>33,136</b>	<b>18,573</b>
Tennis / Pickleball Court Sites (# of total site)	8,388	10,282	25,599	-	35,342	8,373	7,152	10,729	<b>10,036</b>	<b>4,643</b>
Bike Skills Parks	33,551	82,256	25,599	-	35,342	58,612	-	21,457	<b>43,491</b>	<b>18,573</b>
Sports Courts	5,592	4,839	3,200	-	-	11,722	-	3,576	<b>4,438</b>	<b>1,857</b>
Dog Off Leash Parks	6,710	13,709	-	19,952	-	14,653	10,729	7,152	<b>10,651</b>	<b>9,287</b>
Community Garden (# sites)	33,551	13,709	12,800	19,952	-	19,537	-	7,152	<b>13,979</b>	<b>18,573</b>

## Notes

\*Courtney – Ice arenas and indoor aquatics provided through regional partnership. The Comox Valley Curling Club also services the region. The lacrosse box in Courtenay is lined and regularly used for pickleball.

\*\*Langford – Spectator ice arena, additional indoor pool, and community arts spaces provided regionally through West Shore Recreation. Curling facility also regional. A new community arts theatre and program hub also approved while construction anticipated to start in 2021 (these future facilities have been counted within the inventory)

\*\*\*City of Langley - Ice arena, curling, 2 indoor aquatics facilities and multiple artificial turf fields area available in the Township of Langley. The Langley Arts Council, support by both the City of Langley and Township of Langley, operates an arts hub facility located in the Township.

\*\*\*\* City of Maple Ridge – 6 smaller splash parks are also available in Maple Ridge but not included within the count.

\*\*\*\*\* Port Coquitlam – does not have formal dog off leash parks but does permit dogs off leash in parks spaces and on trails as per a community bylaw

\*\*\*\*\* Oceanside – population and inventory counts only include those amenities in the City of Parksville and Town of Qualicum Beach (electoral areas excluded)





A photograph of three children playing on a playground structure. The child on the left is a young girl with light brown hair and bangs, wearing a white short-sleeved shirt and a red, white, and blue plaid skirt. She is smiling broadly and has her arms raised, holding onto a black horizontal bar. The child in the middle is a young girl with dark skin and curly hair, wearing a teal long-sleeved shirt. She is also smiling and has her arms raised, holding onto the same bar. The child on the right is a young boy with dark hair, wearing a white shirt, and is partially visible, also smiling. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with trees and a wooden structure. The entire image has a warm, orange-toned overlay.

*Play.* **Grow.** *Create.*