

Play. Grow. Create.

May 2021

“What We Heard”

Engagement Summary 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**

Table of Contents

1	Project Background and Engagement Overview	1	Appendices	52
	Master Plan Purpose and Process	1	Appendix A: Stakeholder Discussion Participants	53
2	Household Questionnaire Findings	3	Appendix B: Community Group Questionnaire Respondents	54
	Methodology	3		
	Questionnaire Findings	4		
3	Youth Survey Findings	26		
4	Stakeholder Discussion Sessions - Key Themes	32		
	Overview	32		
	Parks, Trails and Outdoor Spaces – Discussion Findings and Themes	33		
	Recreation and Sport – Discussion Findings and Themes	36		
	Arts and Culture – Discussion Findings and Themes	39		
5	Community Group Questionnaire Findings	42		
	Overview	42		
	Findings from the Community Group Questionnaire	43		
6	Summary of Key Findings	48		

Section 1

Project Background and Engagement Overview

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.




Engagement Overview

Engagement with residents, facility user groups, rightsholder, and stakeholders was identified as a critical aspect of the Master Plan process. Early in the project (as part of Phase 1) an Engagement and Communications Action Plan was developed to guide the project engagement and ensure alignment with leading practices, including IAP2's (International Association of Public Participation) Spectrum of Public Participation. A key overarching objective of the Master Plan engagement was to ensure all individuals were provided with meaningful opportunities to offer their perspectives and viewpoints and influence the strategic direction contained in the Master Plan. As such, the engagement process utilized a variety of methods to garner this input.


This "What We Heard" Engagement Summary Report contains the findings from the engagement activities. The intent of this report is to share back findings from the engagement process as well as provide a background reference document for the Master Plan that captures activity preferences, factors that influence participation, perspectives on current services and opportunities, and future priorities. In total, the project has three documents:


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




Resident Questionnaire

889 household responses (representing 2,268 individuals) were provided


 447 of these responses were to the "coded" version of the questionnaire (representing 1,183 individuals)

 442 responses were provided to the "non-coded" version of the questionnaire (representing 1,085 individuals)



Youth Survey

120 youth participated



Community Group Questionnaire

19 local organizations completed a Community Group Questionnaire



Stakeholder Discussion Sessions

24 stakeholder interests and organizations were represented during 13 facilitated Stakeholder Discussion Sessions

Section 2

Household Questionnaire Findings

Methodology

A Household Questionnaire was fielded to gather data from residents on current parks, recreation and culture participation and preferences as well as perspectives on current service levels, barriers to participation, and future priorities for facilities and programming. A postcard was mailed to households in Pitt Meadows using Canada Post Neighbourhood Mail. Each postcard contained a unique access code and instructions on how to complete the “coded” version of the Household Questionnaire - either online via the City’s *Have Your Say Pitt Meadows* engagement platform or by requesting a paper copy. The coded postcard methodology was used to provide the project team with a statistically representative sample. In other words, a control mechanism (the coded postcard) was used to reduce the risk of duplicate responses as each code could only be used one time. In total, 447 resident households completed the coded questionnaire which provides a margin of error of $\pm 4.6\%$.¹

A “non-coded” or open version of the questionnaire was also made available through the City’s *Have Your Say Pitt Meadows* engagement platform. 442 responses were provided to this version of the questionnaire.



Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan Resident Questionnaire

Visit haveyoursaypittmeadows.ca/prcmasterplan. Use the unique code below to access the questionnaire. Please note, this access code is unique to your household and can only be used once.

Your Household's Unique Access Code Is

If you prefer, please call 604.465.2484 to make arrangements to receive a paper copy of the questionnaire.

Deadline to complete the questionnaire is January 31, 2021.

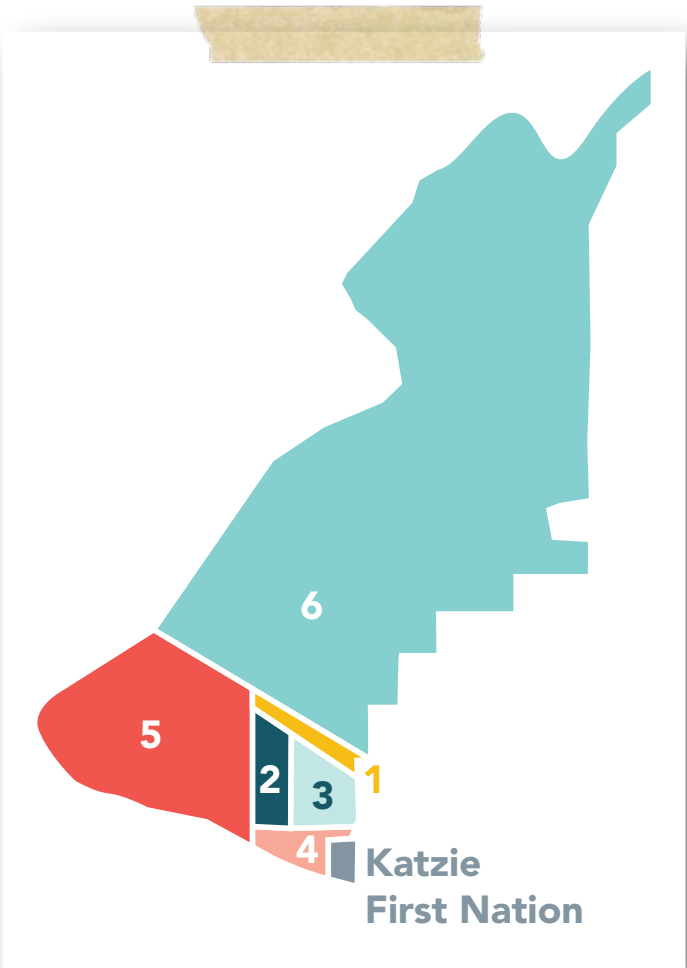
Play. Grow. Create.

City of
Pitt Meadows
THE PIONEER PLACE

¹ The margin of error indicates that if the questionnaire was fielded again using the same methodology and parameters, the responses would be within $\pm 4.6\%$ 19 times out of 20.

Questionnaire Findings

Provided as follows are findings from the Household Questionnaire. **The graphs and charts in light blue reflect findings from the coded version of the questionnaire.** Findings from the non-coded version of the questionnaire are identified in call-outs (text with the grey background to the immediate right or left of the graph or chart) for each question. Points of interest (similarities or differences) are also identified where pertinent in the questionnaire analysis. Both sub-sets of questionnaire data will be used to inform the Master Plan. **Some of the questions have additional analysis to look at how results differ by geographic location; responses from both the coded and non-coded version were used and these findings are presented in the yellow charts.** Please note that the level of reliability for each sector differs, as shown in the following chart, due to the number of responses from each area.

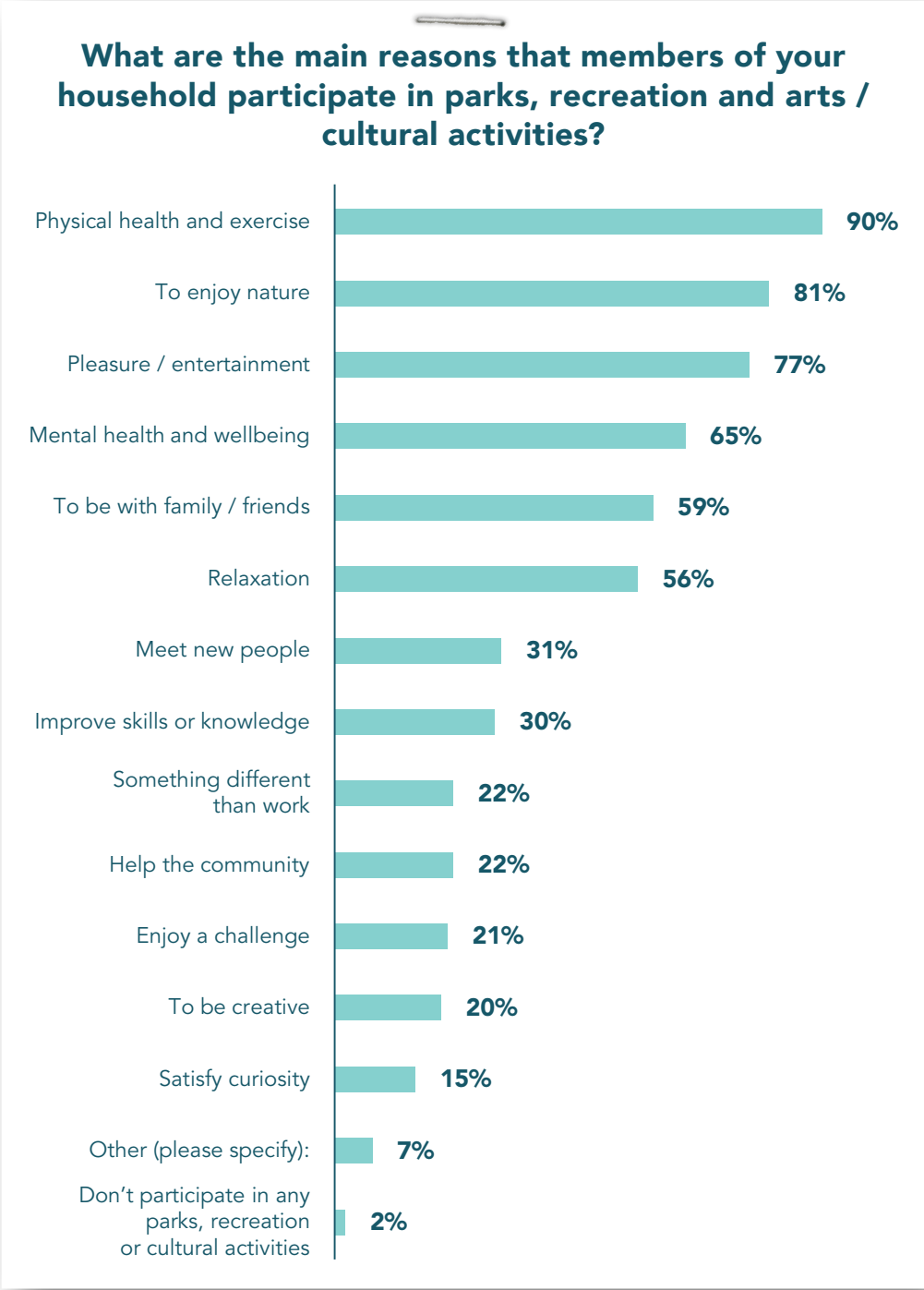


Sub-Area	Responses	Households in the Area ²	Margin of Error (19 times out of 20)	Level of Reliability
Sector 1	99	1,393	9.5%	Good
Sector 2	203	2,011	6.5%	Very good
Sector 3	238	2,680	6.1%	Very good
Sector 4	90	659	9.6%	Good
Sector 5	20	246	21.0%	Fair
Sector 6	44	689	14.3%	Moderate

2 Source: Environics Analytics - 2020DemoStats

Participation in Parks, Recreation and Culture Activities

Respondents were asked to identify the main reasons that motivate members of their household to participate in parks, recreation and culture activities. As illustrated by the following graph, the top 3 motivators identified were physical health and exercise, (the desire) to enjoy nature, and pleasure / entertainment.



Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

The top 5 reasons that motivate parks, recreation and arts / cultural participation were the same among non-coded questionnaire respondents.

1. Physical health and exercise (92%)
2. To enjoy nature (69%)
3. Pleasure / entertainment (67%)
4. Mental health and wellbeing (66%)
5. To be with family / friends (62%)

**Dog walking was the most prevalent "other" motivator identified by respondents.*

Respondents were next asked to identify types of indoor activities that members of their household participate in on a regular basis (at least two or more times per month during the suitable / available seasons for each activity type). Respondents were encouraged to think about their household's activity preferences regardless of whether or not the activity takes place in Pitt Meadows. Library activities, fitness classes and training, and aquatics activities were identified as the most prevalent regular activity types. *To further understand aquatics participation, the project team undertook further analysis of the findings by looking at specific demographic characteristics of respondents. Among responding households with children, 56% indicated that they regularly participate in swimming on a drop-in basis (e.g. lane swimming and / or family swimming) compared to 33% of responding households without children. Similarly, 52% of responding households with children indicate that they regular participate in swimming programs (e.g. lessons, swim club, aquasize) compared to 22% of responding households without children.*

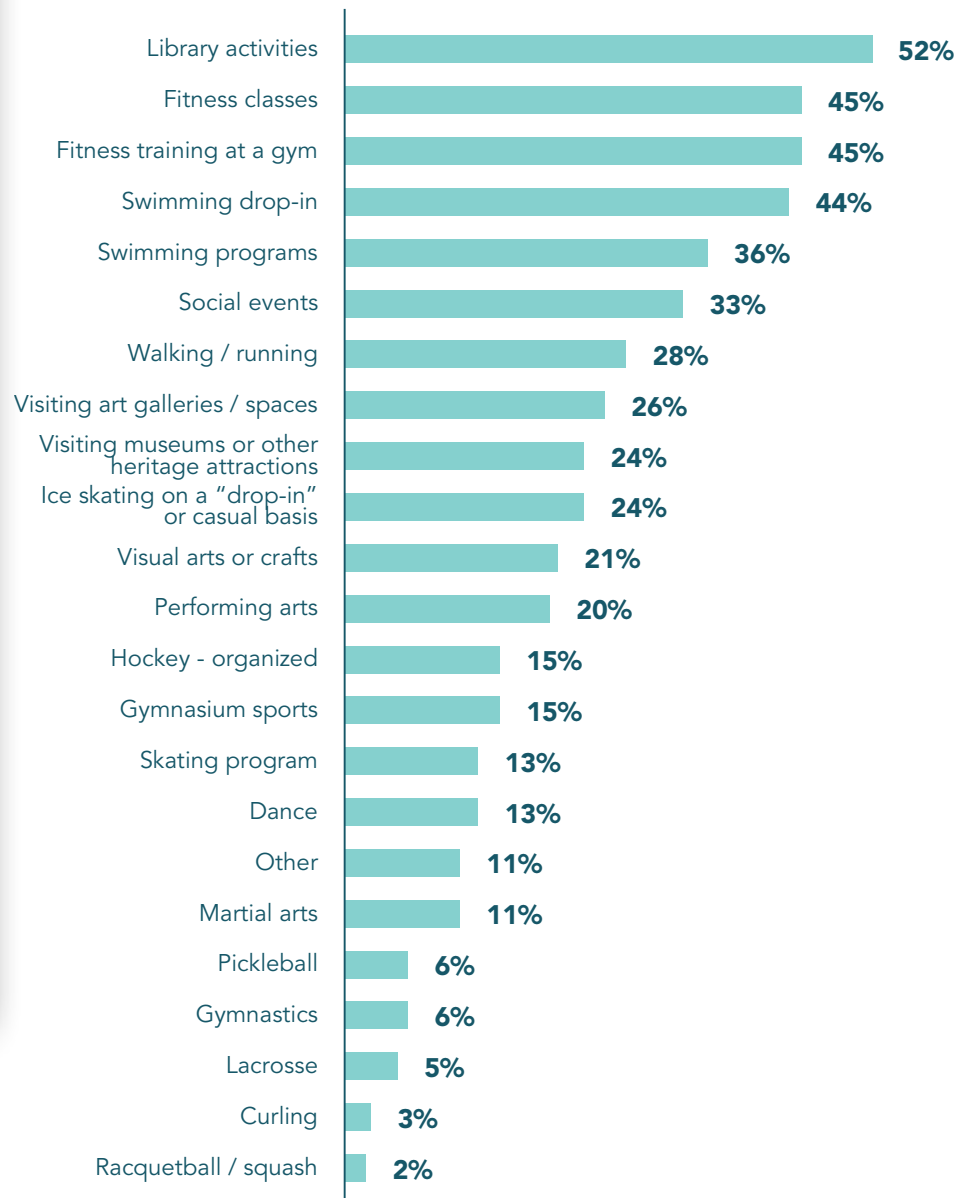
Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

The top 10 indoor activities among non-coded respondents were:

1. Fitness training at a gym (40%)
2. Swimming drop-in (39%)
3. Fitness classes (35%)
4. Library activities (34%)
5. Swimming programs (33%)
- T6. Hockey – organized (28%)
- T6. Ice skating – drop-in (28%)
7. Walking / running (27%)
8. Lacrosse (22%)
9. Social events (21%)

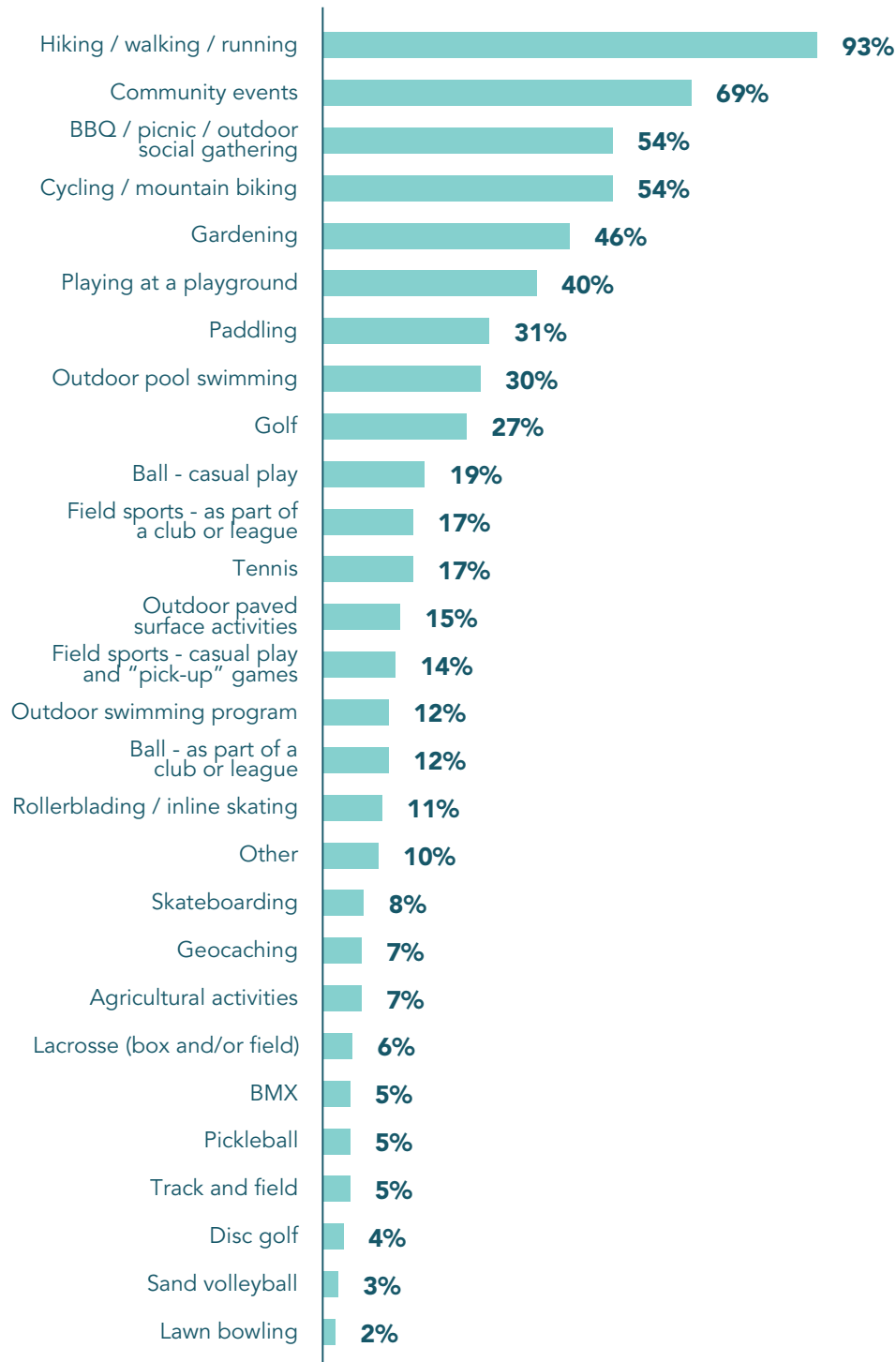
*The majority of "other" responses provided to this question identified outdoor activities or specific types of arts, cultural or court space activities.

Indoor Activity Participation



When asked about household participation in outdoor activities, trail and pathway based activities (hiking, walking or running), community event attendance, BBQ / picnicking / outdoor social gathering, cycling and mountain biking, and gardening were the most prevalent activities identified by respondents. Similar to the indoor findings, the majority of the most popular outdoor activities among residents are unstructured and spontaneous in nature (do not require participation through a formal program or organization).

Outdoor Activity Participation



Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

The top 10 outdoor activities among non-coded respondents were:

1. Hiking / walking / running (82%)
2. BBQ / picnic / outdoor social gathering (55%)
3. Community events (54%)
4. Cycling / mountain biking (49%)
5. Playing at a playground (41%)
6. Paddling – kayaking / canoeing (37%)
7. Gardening (31%)
7. Outdoor pool swimming (31%)
8. Golf (25%)
9. Ball - casual play (23%)

**The most prevalent "other" responses provided were walking dogs off-leash and use of scooters.*

Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

Non-coded questionnaire respondents held similar levels of value for parks, recreation and arts / culture.

- 80% indicated that these opportunities are “very important” to their household’s quality of life.
- 87% indicated that these opportunities are “very important” to the quality of life for all residents in the city.
- 82% indicated that these opportunities are “very important” to the appeal and attractiveness of Pitt Meadows for prospective and current residents.

Sub-Area	“Very Important ” Responses
Sector 1	80%
Sector 2	74%
Sector 3	75%
Sector 4	80%
Sector 5	75%
Sector 6	68%

Importance of Parks, Recreation and Arts / Culture

Respondents were asked to identify how important parks, recreation and arts / culture are to their household and the community. As reflected by the following chart, respondents clearly recognize the wide ranging benefits of parks, recreation and arts / culture.

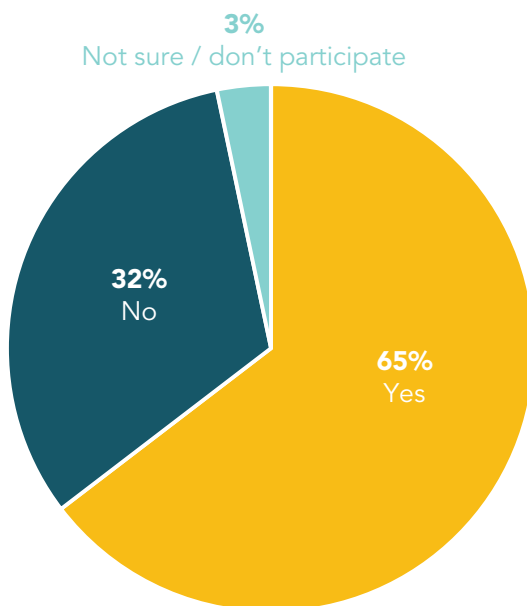
How important are parks, recreation, and arts / culture opportunities to...	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Unsure
...your household’s quality of life?	75%	22%	2%	1%
...the quality of life for all residents in the city?	80%	18%	0%	2%
...the appeal and attractiveness of Pitt Meadows for prospective and current residents?	79%	18%	2%	2%



Location of Participation

Recognizing that residents participate in activities and use facilities across municipal boundaries, respondents were asked a series of questions about where their participation occurs. As illustrated by the following pie graph, approximately two-thirds of respondents indicated that the majority of their participation occurs in Pitt Meadows.

Does the majority of your household's recreation and arts / culture participation occur in Pitt Meadows?



Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

Responses to the non-coded survey mirrored those of the coded version with 65% indicating that the majority of their participation occurs in Pitt Meadows and 32% indicating that their participation occurs elsewhere (3% were unsure or don't participate).



Respondents who indicated that the majority of their recreation and arts / culture participation occurs elsewhere (32% of the total; 134 respondents) where then asked to identify the other communities in which most of their participation occurs (respondents could select up to two other communities). As reflected by the following graph, just over half of these respondents identified Maple Ridge as a primary location of their participation. Interestingly, two-thirds of respondents to this question identified one of the tri-cities communities (Port Coquitlam, Coquitlam, and Port Moody) as a primary location of their leisure participation.

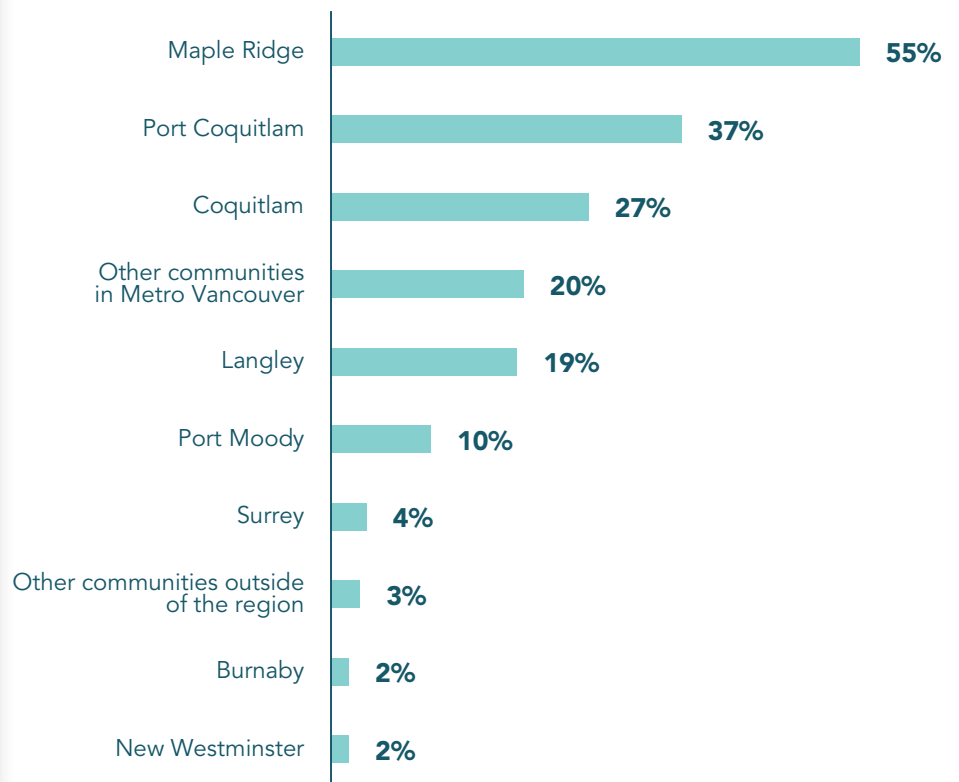
Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

Responses to this question by non-coded questionnaire respondents also generally aligned with those provided by coded questionnaire respondents.

1. Maple Ridge (66%)
2. Port Coquitlam (35%)
3. Coquitlam (19%)
4. Other communities in Metro Vancouver (15%)
5. Langley (14%)
6. Port Moody (7%)
7. Other communities outside of the region (3%)
- T8. Surrey (2%)
- T8. New Westminster (2%)
- T8. Burnaby (2%)

Primary location(s) of participation

(Only answered by respondents that indicated that most of their participation occurs outside of Pitt Meadows)



Facility and Amenity Utilization

Respondents were provided with lists of indoor and outdoor facilities and amenities in Pitt Meadows (specific facilities or types / categories of spaces) and asked to identify their household's frequency of use for each. As reflected by the following charts, a variety of spaces in the community are used to varying frequencies. Trails and pathways are by far the single most utilized facility or amenity in the community with 98% of respondents identifying some level of utilization (77% identified that they are daily or weekly users). The data also supports that the Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre spaces and amenities are used by a large proportion of residents with 62% indicated use of the fitness centre (27% on a daily or weekly basis) and 48% indicating use of the community gymnasium and fitness studio.

INDOOR FACILITY AND AMENITY USE

	Daily or Almost Daily (5 or more visits per week)	Weekly (1 or 2 times per week)	Monthly (1 or 2 visits per month)	A few times per year	Never
Public Library	1%	14%	33%	37%	14%
Heritage Hall	1%	5%	2%	57%	35%
Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre – Fitness Centre	6%	21%	13%	23%	38%
Pitt Meadows Arena	3%	14%	11%	34%	39%
South Bonson Community Centre	1%	8%	5%	38%	50%
Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre – Gymnasium	2%	13%	8%	26%	52%
Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre – Fitness Studio and Activity Rooms	3%	11%	12%	22%	52%
Pitt Meadows Art Gallery	0%	1%	6%	39%	54%
Pitt Meadows Museum (Old General Store) & Hoffmann and Son Machine Shop	0%	1%	2%	40%	57%
School Gymnasiums during non-school hours (for community programs and activities – not including extracurricular activities offered by schools or physical education class)	0%	6%	4%	18%	72%
Pitt Meadows Seniors Activity Centre	2%	7%	2%	10%	80%
Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre – The Lounge Youth Centre	1%	3%	2%	6%	88%



Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

Top 3 indoor facilities used by non-coded questionnaire respondents:

1. Pitt Meadows Arena (87% indicated some level of use)
2. Public Library (83% indicated some level of use)
3. Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre – Fitness Centre (83% indicated some level of use)

Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

Top 3 outdoor facilities and spaces used by non-coded questionnaire respondents:

1. Trails and pathways (96% indicated some level of use)
2. Community and Neighbourhood Parks and Playground (91% indicated some level of use)
3. Harris Road – Playground and Park Space (81% indicated some level of use)



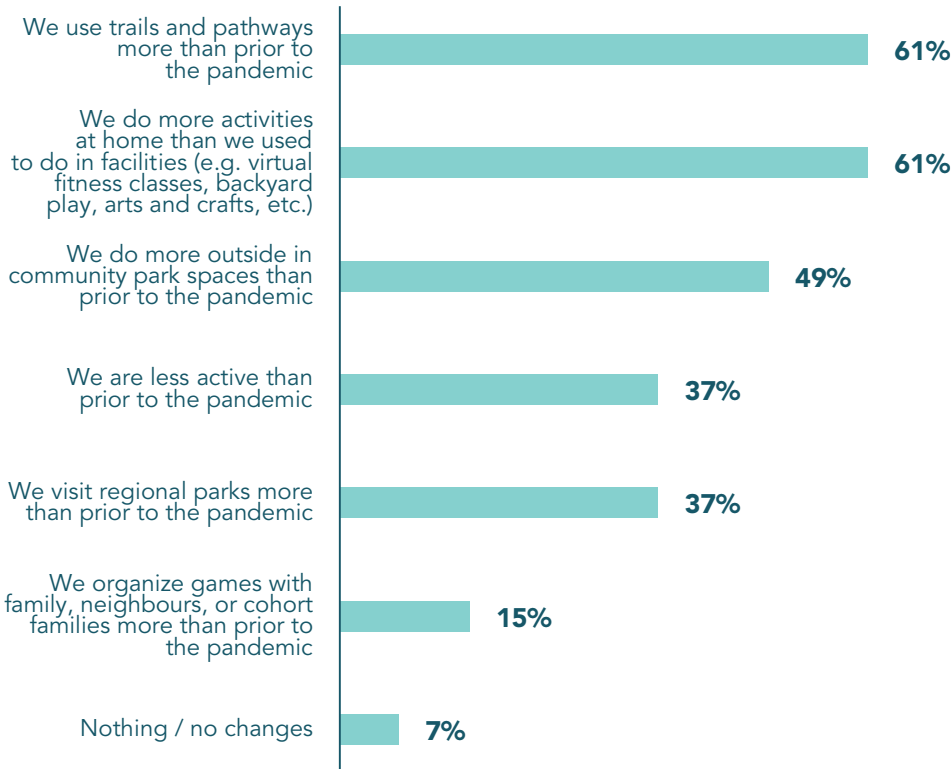
OUTDOOR FACILITY AND AMENITY USE

	Daily or Almost Daily (5 or more visits per week)	Weekly (1 or 2 times per week)	Monthly (1 or 2 visits per month)	A few times per year	Never
Trails and pathways (throughout Pitt Meadows)	42%	35%	15%	6%	2%
Community and Neighbourhood Parks and Playgrounds (throughout Pitt Meadows)	30%	30%	17%	13%	10%
Pitt Meadows Spirit Square	3%	9%	21%	49%	18%
Harris Road – Playground and Park Space	6%	16%	20%	34%	23%
Harris Road Park – Spray Park	2%	10%	11%	34%	44%
Pitt Meadows Athletic Park – Sports Fields and Ball Diamonds	4%	14%	14%	24%	45%
Designated Dog Parks and Off-Leash Areas (North Bonson Park, Hoffmann Park, Dike Trails)	15%	15%	13%	12%	46%
Sport Courts (throughout Pitt Meadows)	1%	7%	12%	30%	50%
Harris Road Outdoor Pool	1%	3%	7%	29%	59%
Tennis Courts	0.3%	5%	8%	23%	63%
Pitt Meadows Community Field (artificial turf field located at Pitt Meadows Secondary School)	2%	9%	9%	16%	65%
Harris Road Park – Ball Diamonds	1%	3%	6%	23%	68%
Harris Road – Skate Park (Youth Action Park)	2%	6%	8%	14%	71%
Community Garden	3%	4%	6%	12%	77%
BMX Track	0.3%	4%	3%	11%	81%

The Impacts of COVID-19

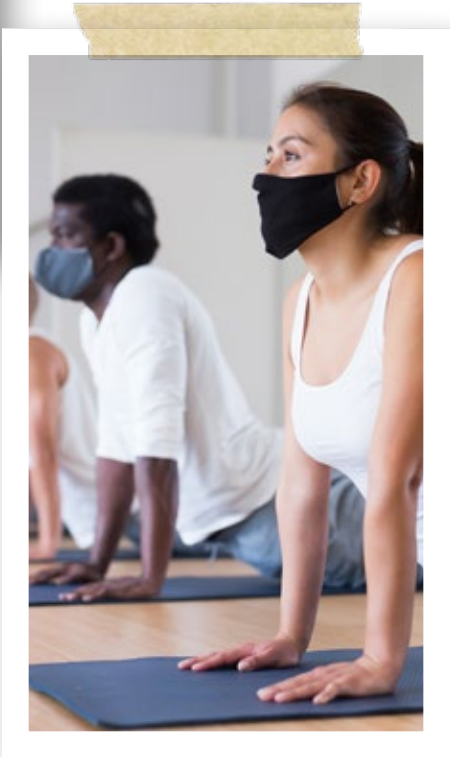
Respondents were next asked how the pandemic has altered their household’s parks, recreation and culture activity participation. As the graph below illustrates, well over half of respondents indicated that their household uses trails and pathways more now than prior to the pandemic and that they also do more activities at home.

How has the COVID-19 pandemic altered how your household participates in recreation and arts / culture pursuits?



Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

Non-coded respondents identified similar changes to the nature of recreation and arts / culture participation as a result of the pandemic. 61% identified that they use trails and pathways more and 57% do more activities at home.



Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

The top 5 barriers identified by non-coded questionnaire respondents were:

1. Inconvenient program times (33%)
- T2. Better or more appealing opportunities elsewhere (29%)
- T2. Unaware of some opportunities (29%)
3. Poor / inadequate facilities (27%)
4. Overcrowded facilities (21%)

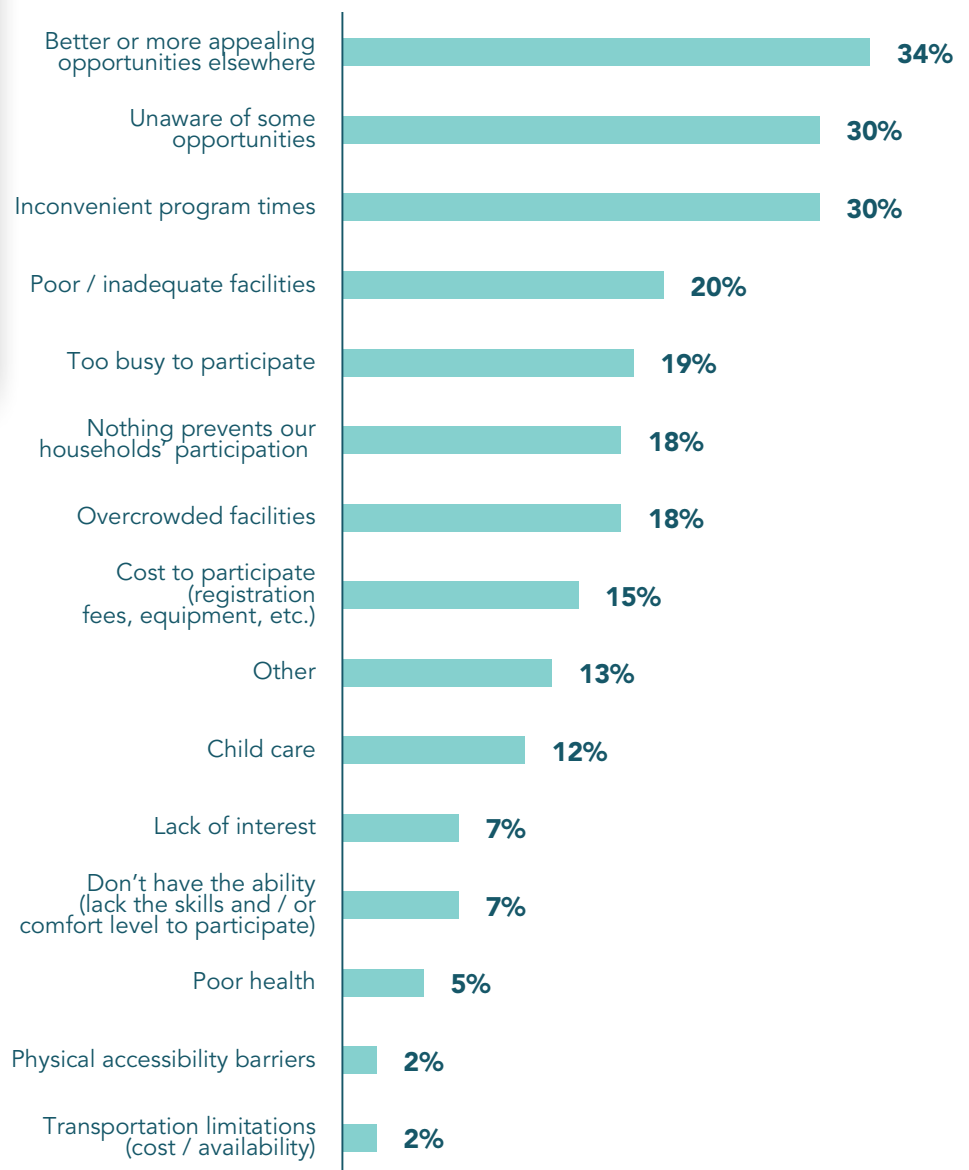
Sub-Area Analysis

Sub-Area	Cost to Participation Barriers (registration fees, equipment, etc.)	Transportation limitations (cost / availability)
Sector 1	9%	3%
Sector 2	17%	1%
Sector 3	16%	1%
Sector 4	6%	3%
Sector 5	15%	15%
Sector 6	11%	9%

Barriers to Participation

To get a sense of factors that may hinder participation, respondents were provided with a list of potential barriers and asked to identify any that prevent members of their household from participating in recreation and arts / cultural opportunities. The top three barriers identified by respondents were the existence of better or more appealing opportunities elsewhere, being unaware of some opportunities, and inconvenient program times.

Barriers to Participation



**The most prevalent "other" response provided was the lack of indoor aquatics opportunities in Pitt Meadows.*

Overall Levels of Satisfaction

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of satisfaction with key aspects of parks, recreation and culture in the community. As reflected by the following chart, levels of satisfaction were highest for outdoor spaces such as parks, trails and open spaces.

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	No Opinion / Unsure
The availability of quality parks, trails, and open space	40%	46%	7%	6%	2%
The availability of arts and cultural programs, opportunities, and facilities	9%	33%	30%	12%	15%
The availability of recreation programs, opportunities, and facilities	10%	42%	18%	23%	7%

Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

The responses provided by non-coded questionnaire respondents mirrored those provided in the coded questionnaire.

Sub-Area Analysis



Dissatisfied Responses			
Sub-Area	Parks, trails, and open space.	Arts and cultural programs, opportunities, and facilities.	Recreation programs, opportunities, and facilities.
Sector 1	5%	14%	21%
Sector 2	5%	12%	21%
Sector 3	6%	11%	24%
Sector 4	7%	9%	23%
Sector 5	10%	5%	5%
Sector 6	9%	11%	18%



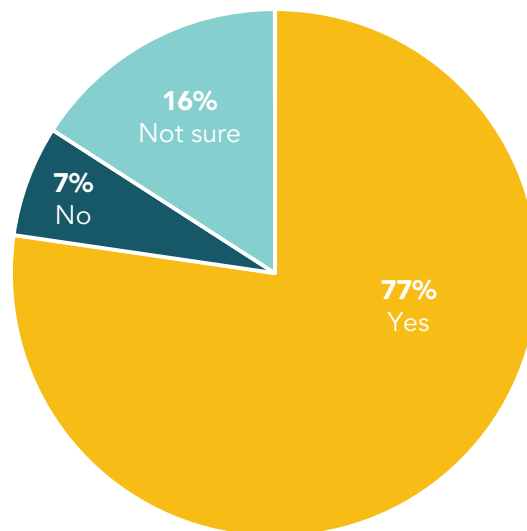
Future Needs and Priorities

Respondents were asked if there is a need for new and / or enhanced parks, recreation and arts / culture facilities to be developed in Pitt Meadows. As reflected by the following pie chart, over three-quarters of respondents believe that capital development is needed. *Additional sub-segment analysis of the findings from this question was undertaken to better understand if the presence of children in respondent households impacted desire for facility development. While this sub-segment analysis did find some variation (82% "yes" responses among households with children compared to 73% "yes" responses among households without children), the key take-away finding from this analysis is that strong support for new and / or enhanced facilities exists regardless of whether or not children are present in the household.*

Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

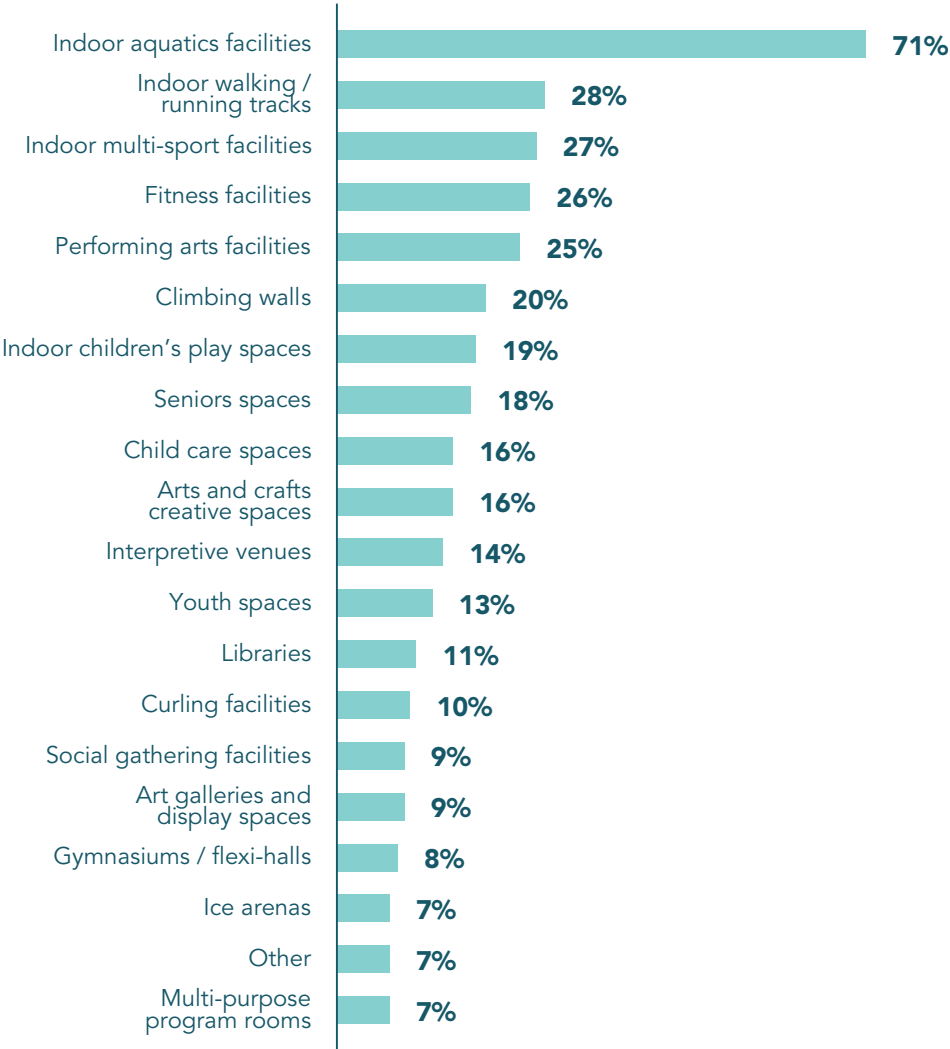
81% of non-coded respondents indicated that new and / or enhanced parks, recreation and arts / culture facilities are needed.

Is there a need for new and / or enhanced parks, recreation and arts / culture facilities to be developed in Pitt Meadows?



Next, respondents that provided a “yes” or not sure” answer to the previous question (84%; 344 respondents) were provided with lists of indoor and outdoor facility and amenity types and asked to identify those that they think should be a priority (respondents could choose up to 5 indoor spaces and 5 outdoor spaces that they think should be a priority for enhancement and / or new development). As the following graph illustrates, indoor aquatics was selected by the highest proportion of respondents. *Given the high proportion of respondents that identified indoor aquatics as a priority, sub-segment analysis was also conducted on the findings from this question to see if the presence of children in responding households was a significant factor in wanting an indoor aquatics facility to be developed in Pitt Meadows. Of households with children, 78% identified an indoor aquatics facility as a priority compared to 66% of households without children.*

Indoor Facility Priorities



*The majority of “other” responses provided further detail on components and amenities that would be desired at a new aquatics facility should one be developed.

Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

Indoor multi-sport facilities and ice arenas were a higher priority among non-coded questionnaire respondents.

Top 10 indoor facility priorities:

- 1. Indoor aquatics facilities (61%)
- 2. Indoor multi-sport facilities (47%)
- 3. Ice arenas (29%)
- 4. Indoor walking / running tracks (29%)
- 5. Climbing walls (22%)
- 6. Indoor children’s play spaces (20%)
- 7. Fitness facilities (19.1%)
- 8. Arts and crafts creative spaces (18.5%)
- 9. Child care spaces (15%)
- 10. Performing arts facilities (14%)

Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

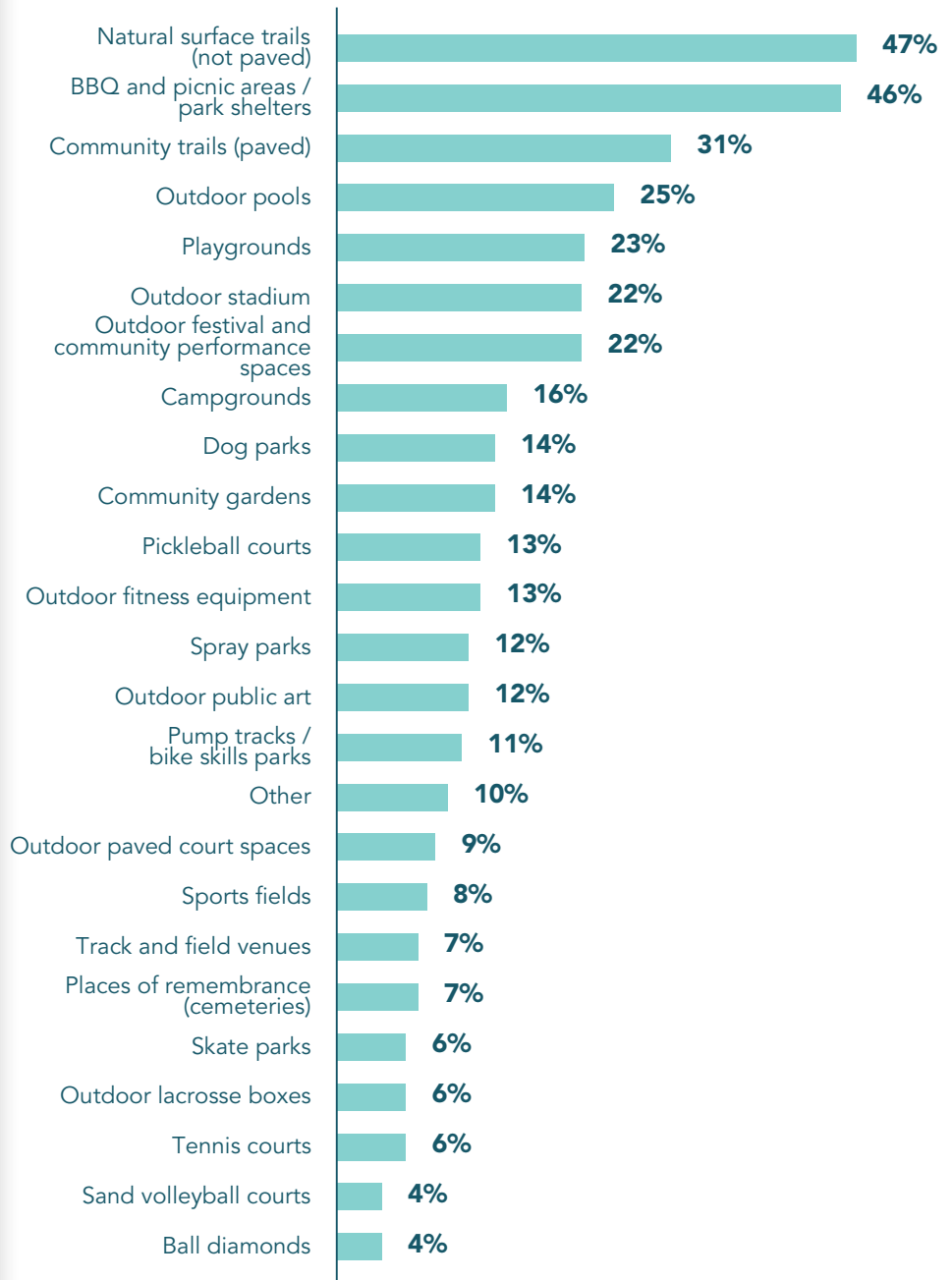
Trails, community park amenities and outdoor events and gathering were also high priorities among non-coded questionnaire respondents.

Top 10 outdoor facility priorities:

1. Natural surface trails (39%)
2. BBQ and picnic areas / park shelters (39%)
3. Outdoor stadium (24.9%)
4. Community trails (24.6%)
5. Outdoor lacrosse boxes (24%)
6. Campgrounds (20.3%)
7. Outdoor pools (19.7%)
8. Pump tracks / bike skills parks (18%)
- T9. Outdoor festival and community performance spaces (17%)
- T9. Playgrounds (17%)

Trails (natural surface and paved) and community park amenities were top outdoor facility priorities for respondents. Of note, venues for outdoor events and gathering (outdoor stadium and outdoor festival and community performance spaces) were also identified as top 10 outdoor facility priorities.

Outdoor Facility Priorities



**The majority of "other" responses provided further detail on desired park amenities or improvements, including archery space, court retrofits for pickleball, disc golf, and specific dog park amenities.*

Respondents were also asked to identify types of recreation and arts / culture programming that needs to be more readily available or improved in the community. Those programming types identified as requiring improvement by twenty percent or more respondents are identified in green. No one type of programming was identified as requiring significant improvement by more than 23% of respondents (programming types identified by 20% of respondents are highlighted in **blue**).

	Children and Youth (12 and under)	Teens (ages 13-18 Years)	Adults (ages 19-59 years)	Older Adults (ages 60+)	Current programming is sufficient	Not aware of what is currently available or needed
Nature / outdoor education programming	22%	16%	13%	12%	7%	30%
Fitness and wellness programming	13%	13%	23%	18%	11%	23%
Casual recreation programming ("drop- in" and unstructured types of programs)	17%	15%	20%	17%	10%	23%
Organized sports teams, leagues, and clubs	16%	14%	15%	7%	17%	32%
Visual arts and culture programming	10%	9%	13%	10%	13%	46%
Performing arts and culture programming	12%	11%	14%	11%	12%	40%
Programs for individuals facing social, physical, or cognitive barriers to participation	11%	11%	10%	11%	5%	52%
Programs that encourage socialization	13%	12%	15%	18%	6%	35%

Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

Similar to the coded questionnaire respondents, no one programming gap was identified by more than 23% of respondents. Those identified by over 20% of non-coded respondents are listed below:

- Nature / outdoor education programming for children and youth (23%)
- Organized sports teams, leagues, and clubs for children and youth (23%)
- Fitness and wellness programming for teens (20%)
- Casual recreation programming for teens (21%)
- Organized sports teams, leagues, and clubs for teens (23%)

Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

Support for increased taxes to sustain parks, recreation and arts / culture services:

- Yes (open to paying more) – 59%
- No (not open to paying more) – 15%
- Not sure – 26%

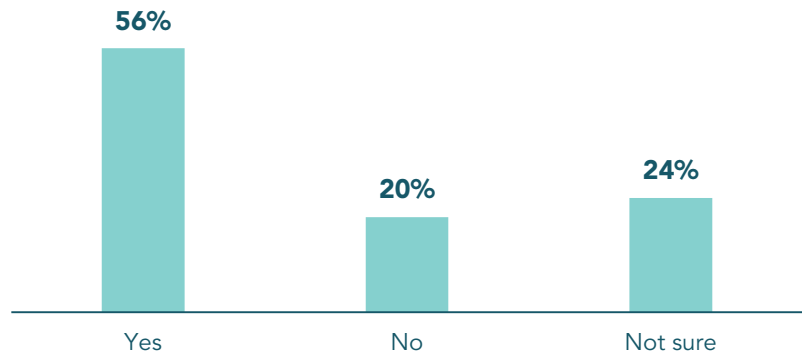
Support for increased taxes to enhance parks, recreation and arts / culture services:

- Yes (open to paying more) – 67%
- No (not open to paying more) – 10%
- Not sure – 23%

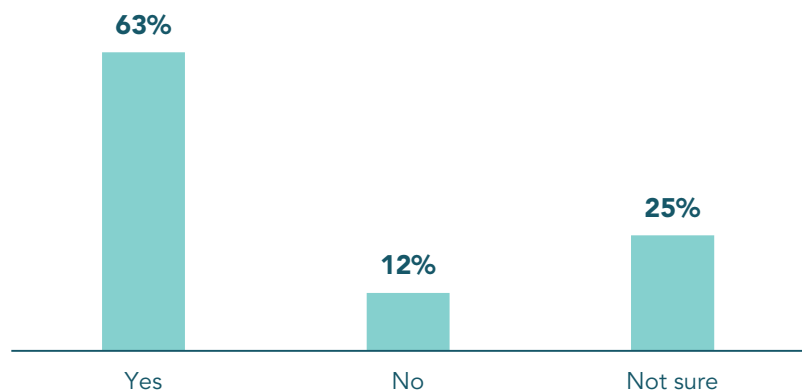
Paying for Potential Enhancements and New Development

To get a sense of how ongoing operations and future projects could be funded, respondents were asked about their willingness to pay increased taxes. It is important to note that no parameters were put around this question (e.g. what specific projects or areas of service delivery that an increase would support) and the intent was simply to gauge overall perspectives on taxes as a source of funding. As illustrated by the following graphs, over half of respondents indicated that they would be open to paying increased taxes to sustain existing services and approximately two-thirds would support increased taxes to enhance existing services.

Support for a tax increase to sustain parks, recreation, and arts / culture services (facilities and programs) in Pitt Meadows

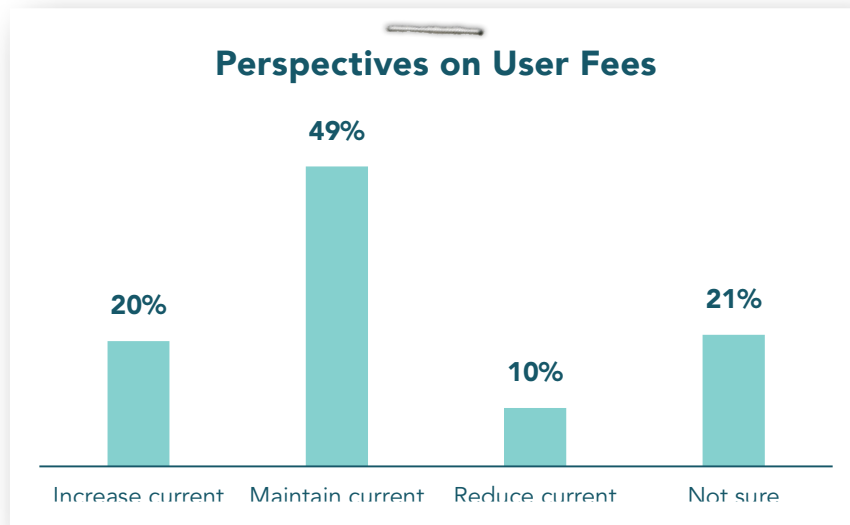


Support for a tax increase to enhance parks, recreation, and arts / culture services (facilities and programs) in Pitt Meadows



Sub-Area	Sustain (Response: Yes)	Enhance (Response: Yes)
Sector 1	53%	63%
Sector 2	49%	58%
Sector 3	54%	57%
Sector 4	49%	62%
Sector 5	50%	50%
Sector 6	52%	52%

Recognizing that facility admissions and rentals are another way that parks, recreation and arts / culture services are funded, respondents were asked to identify their future preference for user fees. As reflected by the adjacent graph, approximately half of respondents support maintaining current user fees while minimal support existed for increasing user fees.



Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

Responses provided by non-coded questionnaire respondents were similar to those provided by coded questionnaire respondents.

- Supported increasing user fees – 22%
- Supported maintaining current user fees – 51%
- Support reducing current user fees – 9%
- Not sure – 19%



Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

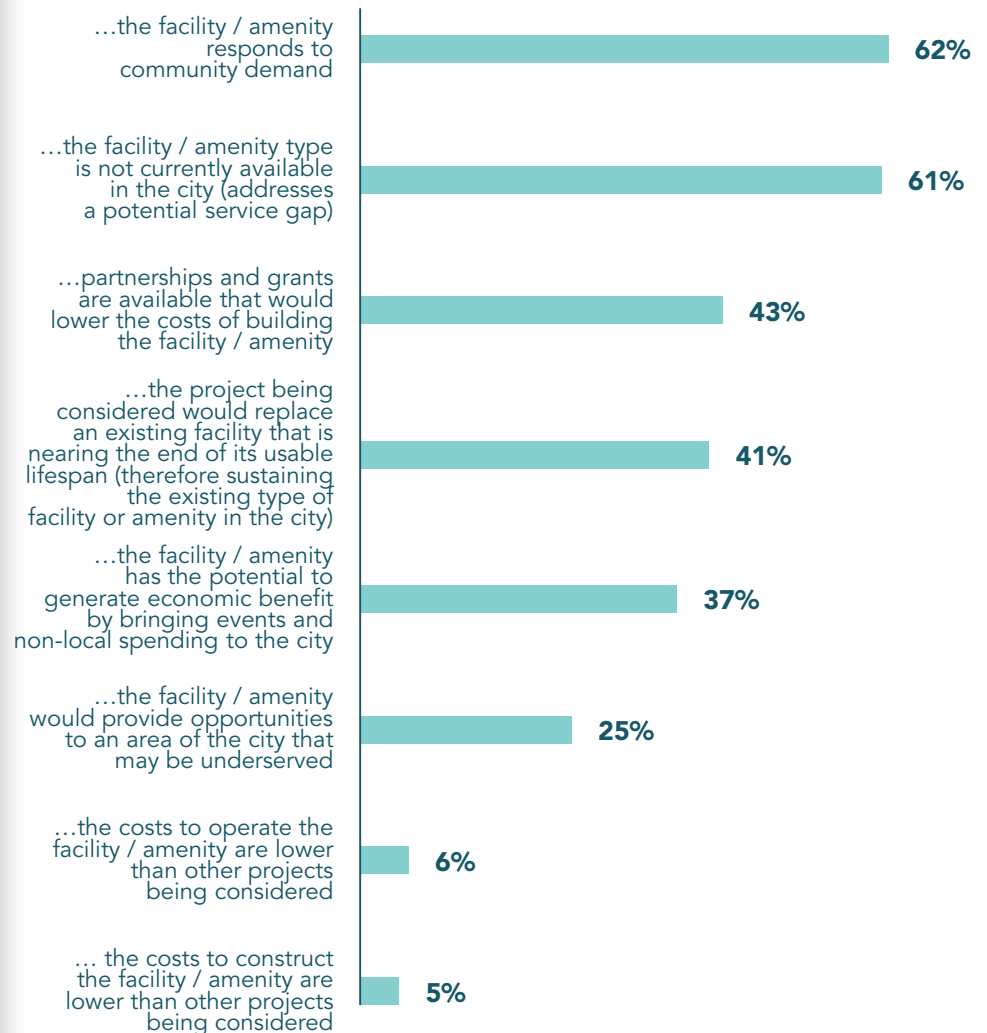
Most important criteria among non-coded questionnaire respondents:

1. The facility / amenity type is not currently available in the city (67%)
2. The facility / amenity responds to community demand (62%)
3. The facility / amenity has the potential to generate economic benefit by bringing events and non-local spending to the city (36%)
4. The project being considered would replace an existing facility that is nearing the end of its usable lifespan (34%)
5. Partnerships and grants are available that would lower the costs of building the facility / amenity (31%)
6. The facility / amenity would provide opportunities to an area of the city that may be underserved (17%)
7. The costs to operate the facility / amenity are lower than other projects being considered (5%)
8. The costs to construct the facility / amenity are lower than other projects being considered (3%)

Priority Setting

Respondents were provided with a list of potential criteria that could be used to determine future facility project priorities and asked to select up to three that they believe are most important. As reflected by the graph below, community demand and potential service gaps were both identified by over sixty-percent of respondents. Notably, capital and operating costs were only selected by a small proportion of respondents as an important criteria.

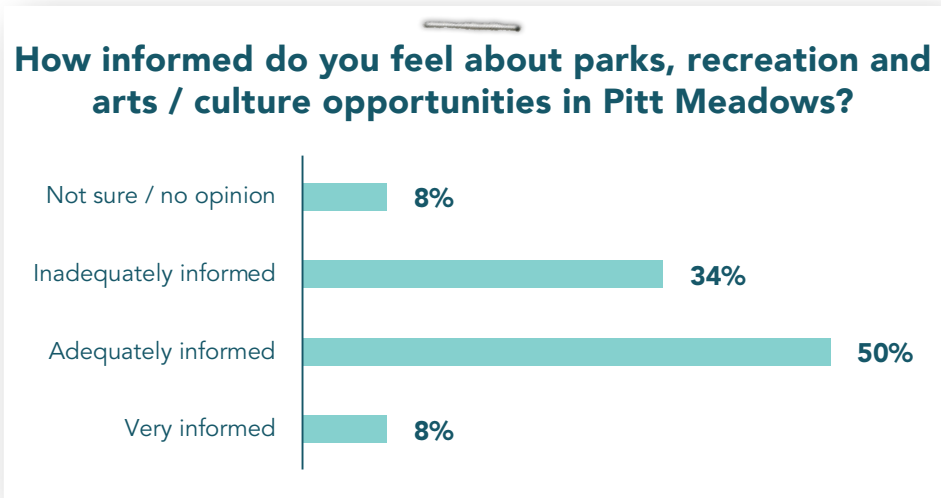
A parks, recreation, or culture facility project should be a higher priority if...



**Space was provided for respondents to identify any other criteria that should be considered to help establish priority. The majority of comments provided mentioned specific facility or amenity projects that are desired and not additional criteria (an aquatics facility was mentioned in approximately one-third of these comments).*

Promotions and Communications

Respondents were asked to indicate how well informed they feel about parks, recreation and arts / culture opportunities. As illustrated by the following graph, most respondents feel adequately or well informed. Approximately one-third of respondents feel inadequately informed, suggesting that room for improvement exists.



Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

Similar to the coded questionnaire findings, 8% of non-coded questionnaire respondents felt “very informed” and 54% felt “adequately informed” informed about parks, recreation and arts / culture opportunities (34% felt “inadequately informed” and 10% were unsure).



Non-Coded (Open) Resident Questionnaire Findings

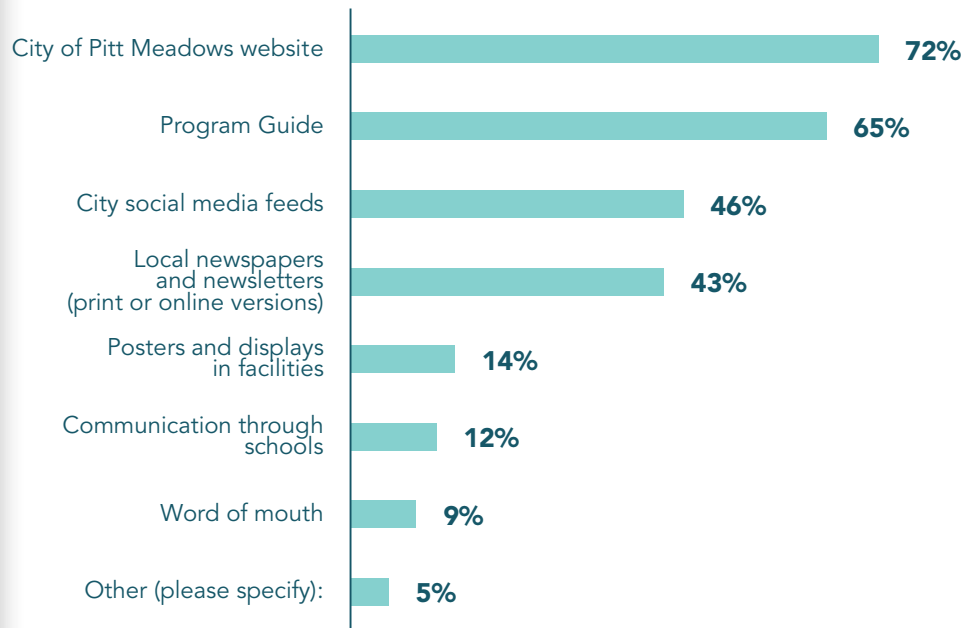
The City's website and program guide were also important communication mechanisms among non-coded questionnaire respondents. A higher proportion of non-coded respondents learn about parks, recreation and arts / culture opportunities via social media feeds.

Top 5 ways non-coded questionnaire respondents learn about parks, recreation and arts / culture opportunities:

1. City social media feeds (65%)
2. City of Pitt Meadows website (63%)
3. Program Guide (53%)
4. Local newspapers and newsletters (26%)
5. Communication through schools (20%)

Respondents were next asked how they prefer to learn about parks, recreation and arts / culture opportunities. The City's website and program guide were identified as the two top preferred methods. Just under half of respondents also identified the City's social media feeds as a preferred method.

How do you prefer to learn about parks, recreation and arts / culture opportunities in Pitt Meadows?



**Email was the most common "other" response provided.*



General Comments

To conclude the questionnaire space was provided for respondents to offer additional comments and perspectives on parks, recreation and culture. Summarized below are themes from the 179 comments provided.

- The need for indoor aquatics to be provided in the community was noted in a number of the comments, however a handful of other comments expressed concern over the likely costs associated with developing and operating a new indoor aquatics facility.
- The importance of continued investment in parks and trails (the need to refresh some parks and public spaces was also frequently noted).
- Ensuring sufficient programming and active living opportunities exist for children and youth.
- Appreciation for the City's continued investment in active living opportunities, especially park spaces.
- A number of comments were provided on the Pitt River Regional Greenway and Dike Trails. These comments included the value of this space, management issues (mostly related to dogs being off-leash), and the importance of sustaining the Dike Trails into the future.

Respondent Profile

Tenure Residing in Pitt Meadows

	Coded Questionnaire	Non-Coded Questionnaire
Less than 5 years	19%	16%
5 to 9 years	19%	26%
10 to 19 years	29%	31%
20 to 29 years	14%	12%
30 to 39 years	11%	10%
40 years or longer	8%	5%
Prefer not to answer	1%	0%

Age Distribution of Responding Households

	Statistics Canada (2016)	Coded Survey	Non-Coded Survey
Age 0 – 4 years	5.5%	8.0%	7.4%
Age 5 – 9 years	6.1%	9.4%	12.4%
Age 10 – 19 years	11.2%	10.6%	18.2%
Age 20 – 29 years	11.0%	8.5%	6.3%
Age 30 – 39 years	13.0%	15.0%	14.6%
Age 40 – 49 years	14.3%	13.4%	18.6%
Age 50 – 59 years	16.8%	12.6%	11.4%
Age 60 – 69 years	11.6%	13.9%	8.0%
Age 70 – 79 years	7.0%	7.4%	2.8%
Age 80+ years	3.4%	1.3%	0.4%

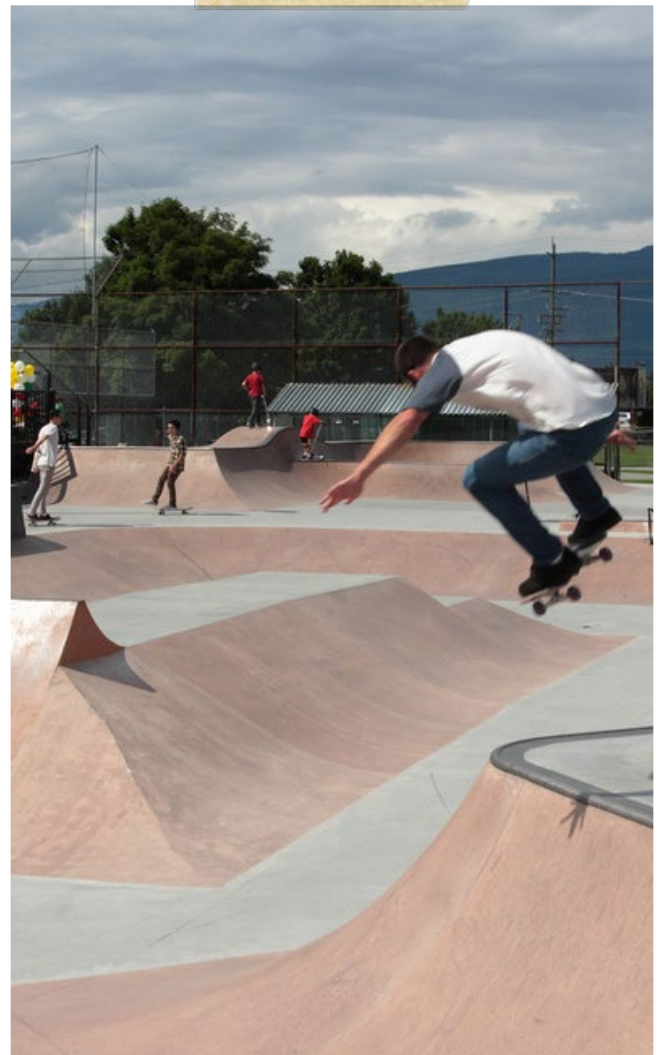
Section 3

Youth Survey Findings

A survey was fielded to garner feedback directly from youth in the community. With approval and support from School District 42, a link to a brief five question survey was distributed to participating school classrooms in Pitt Meadows. In total, 120 youth participated in the survey.
**Not all of the 120 responding youth answered every question.*

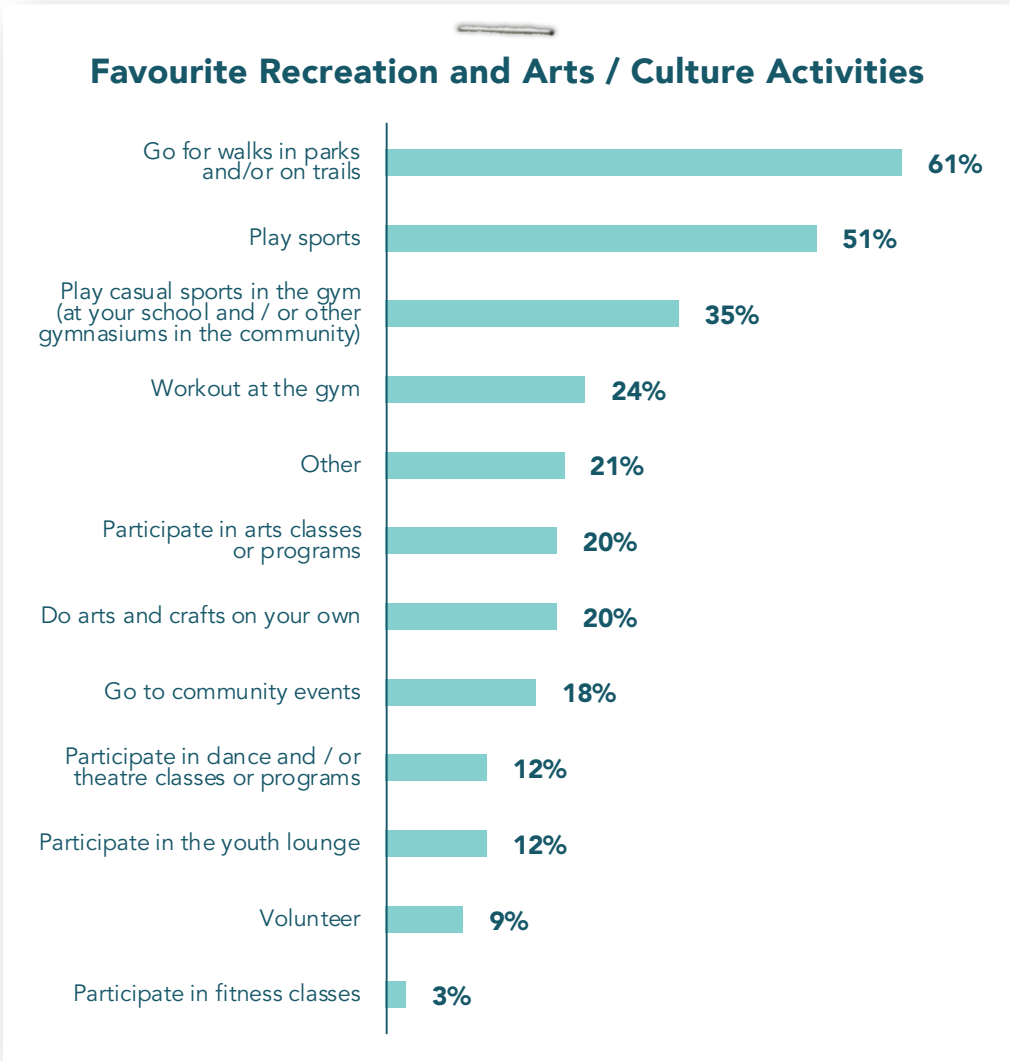
Grades of Youth Survey Respondents

Grade	# of Youth Survey Respondents
Grades 5 – 6	36
Grade 7 - 9	50
Grades 10 - 12	12
Did not provide their grade of study	22



Findings from the Youth Survey

Youth respondents were provided with a list of recreation and arts / culture activity types and asked to select their three favourite activities. As illustrated by the following graph, going for walks and playing sports were the top activities selected.



Favourite Activities - "Other" Responses

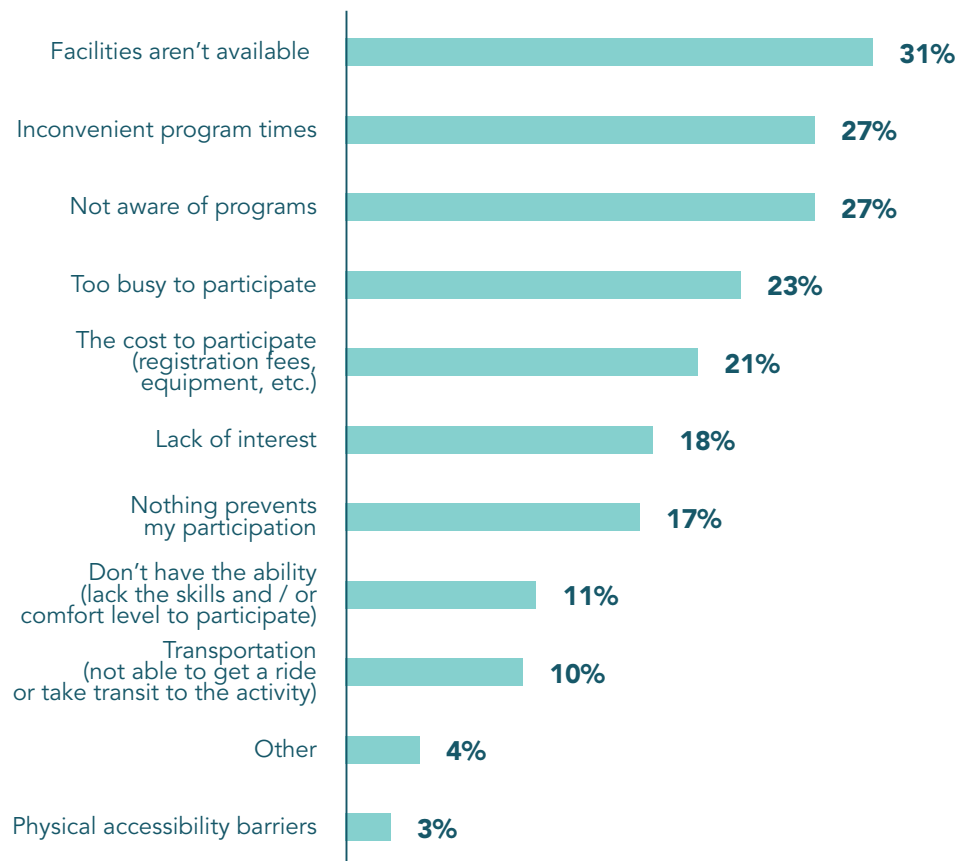
As reflected in the graph, 21% of the youth selected "other" when asked about their favourite activities and space was provided in the survey for youth to type in an activity not provided in the list. Below is a summary of the additional favourite activities identified by the youth.

- Swimming (7 youth)
- Skateboarding (3)
- Bike riding (3 youth)
- Riding a scooter (2 youth)
- Hanging out with friends (2 youth)
- Playing hockey (1 youth)
- Yoga (1 youth)
- Video games (1 youth)
- Mall (1 youth)
- Gymnastics (1 youth)
- Youth badminton as part of a program (1 youth)



Next, youth were asked about any barriers they face to participating in recreation and arts / culture activities. The top three barriers identified were facilities not being available, inconvenient program times, and not being aware of programs.

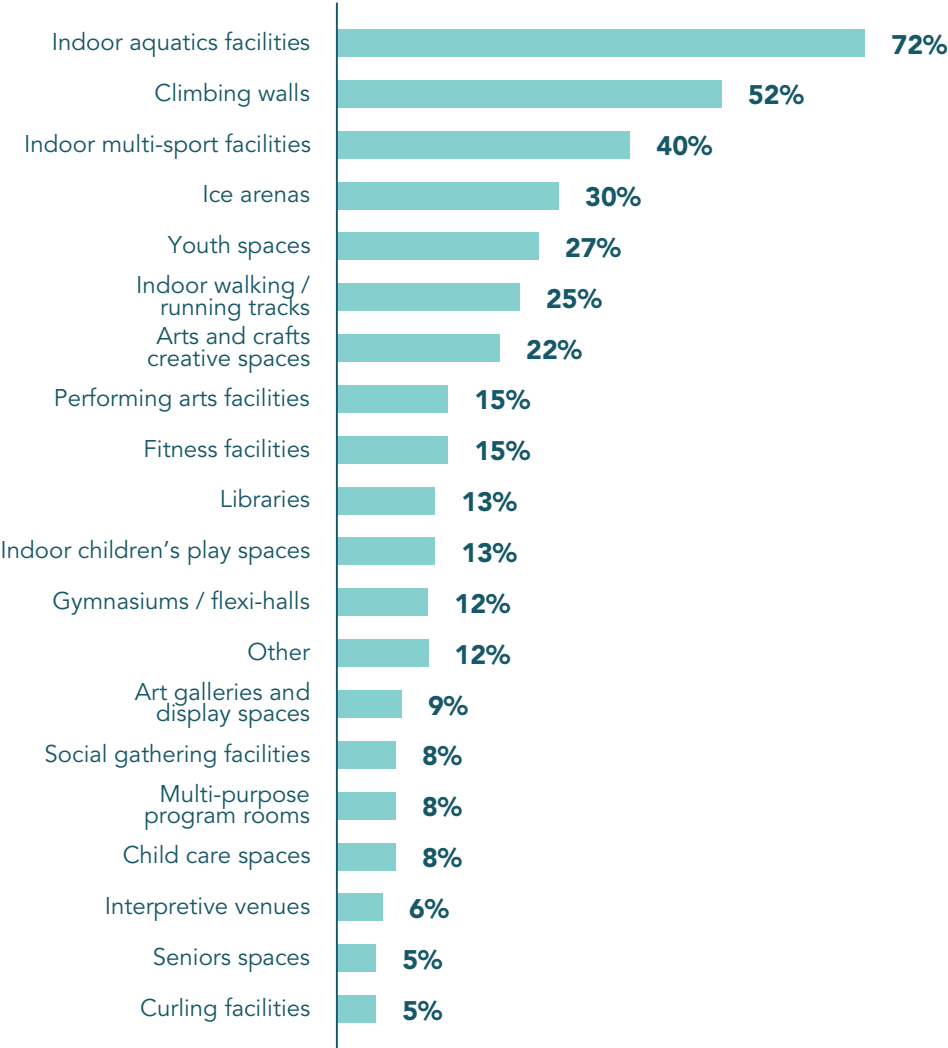
Barriers to Participation



*The 4 "other" responses provided were: COVID-19, special needs supports not available, programming of interest not offered, and construction and development taking away their favourite green space.

Youth were then provided with lists of indoor and outdoor facility types and asked to identify up to five from each list that they think should be a priority for new development and / or improvement (the same lists were provided to respondents in the Resident Survey). The top five indoor priorities selected by the youth were indoor aquatics facilities, climbing walls, indoor multi-sport facilities, ice arenas, and youth spaces.

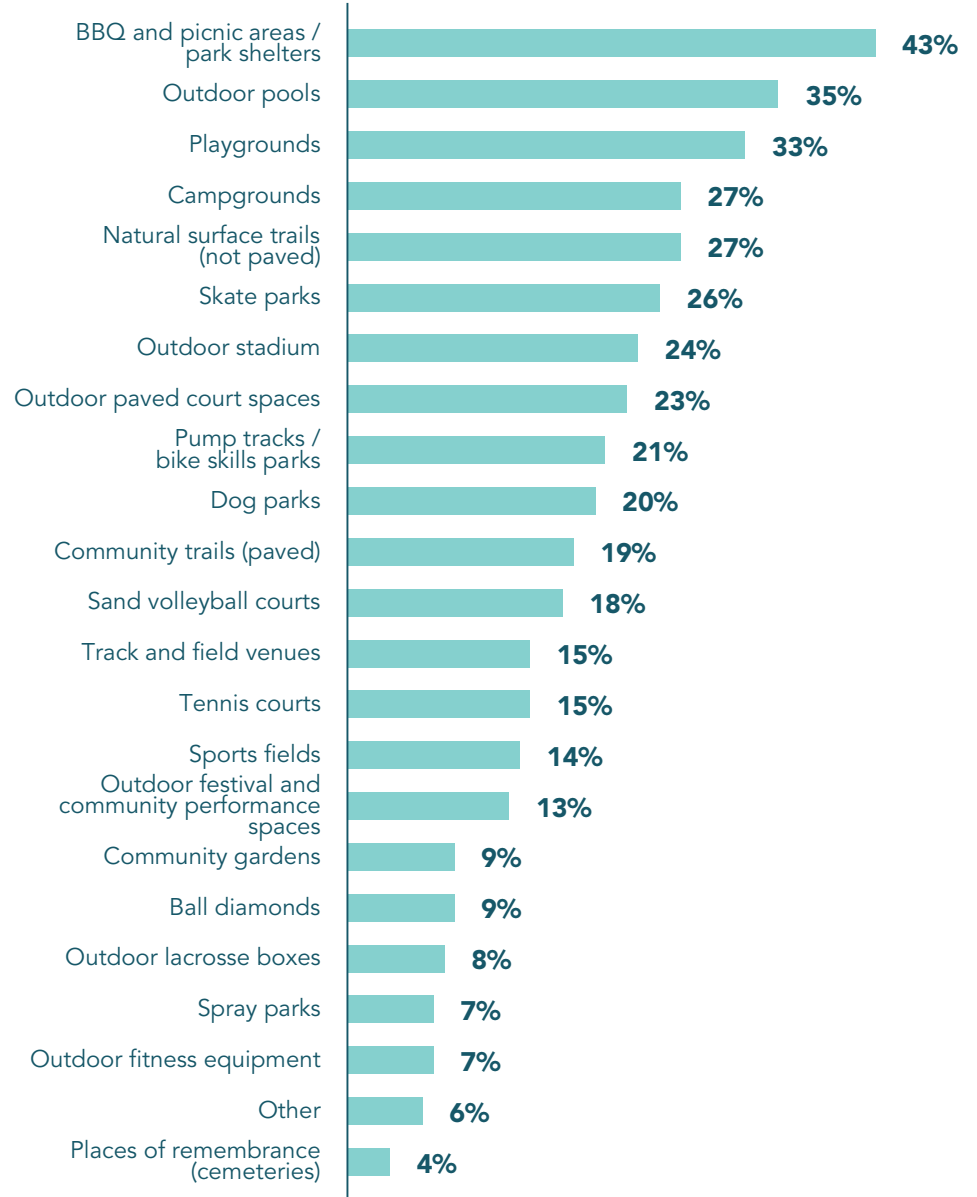
Youth - Indoor Facility Priorities





Youth identified BBQ and picnic areas / park shelters, outdoor pools, playgrounds, campgrounds, and natural surface trails as their top five outdoor facility priorities.

Youth - Outdoor Facility Priorities



To conclude the survey, youth were provided with space to identify types of recreation and arts / culture programs and events that they would like to see more of in Pitt Meadows. A total of 72 youth provided a response to the question. The following chart categorizes the responses to this question.

Type of Activity	Number of Comments Mentioning the Type of Program / Event*	% of Responses
Aquatics	18	21%
Outdoor Sports (e.g. soccer, ball hockey, basketball, tennis, volleyball, football, softball)	11	13%
Arts and culture programs (e.g. pottery, painting, cooking, theatre, library)	11	13%
Don't know / not sure / nothing	10	11%
Skateboarding / scootering / biking	8	9%
Outdoor festivals and events(e.g. food trucks and concerts)	7	8%
Indoor Sports (e.g. floor hockey, climbing, gymnastics / stunting)	4	5%
More / Better Ice Rinks or Ice Times	3	3%
Track and Field	3	3%
Drop in Spaces / Programs	3	3%
Programs for Older Youth	2	2%
Indoor Mall (comments alluding to hanging out at the mall)	2	2%
Walking / Nature programs	2	2%
After School Drop-in Programs	1	1%
Adapted Sports / Accessible Programs	1	1%
Video Games	1	1%

*A number of youth mentioned multiple types of activities in the same comment (as such, the above chart adds up to 87 comments).

Additional Resource that Provides Insight on Youth Physical Activity and Wellness

The University of British Columbia's School of Population and Public Health in partnership with participating school districts across the province conducts an annual MDI (Middle Years Development Instrument) questionnaire. The questionnaire is fielded to two specific age groups – Grades 4 and 7. The 2019-20 MDI report for School District 42 reflects findings from 1,032 students in Pitt Meadows – Maple Ridge (90% completion rate).

Key findings pertinent to parks, recreation and culture can be found in Section 6 of the Current State Research Report.

1 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.

Section 4

Stakeholder Discussion Sessions - Key Themes

Overview

Thirteen facilitated stakeholder discussion sessions were facilitated by the project team with a focus on exploring the following key topics related to parks, recreation and culture in Pitt Meadows:

- The current state (strengths and gaps / issues)
- Community dynamics (observed trends, indicators of need, factors that influence participation, desired experiences, etc.)
- Future needs and priorities (“move forward” focus areas pertaining to programming, events, and infrastructure)

Given the situation with COVID-19, all of the sessions were facilitated virtually using Zoom. Participating stakeholders were sent an agenda package in advance of the session that included meeting details and an overview of the discussion topics. In total, 24 stakeholder interests were represented in the discussions across a wide array of activity types and stakeholder viewpoints. *See Appendix A for a list of discussion session participants.*

While the discussions were not facilitated to attain consensus and differing viewpoints were encouraged, a number of themes did emerge. These themes and other notable points of interest from the discussions are summarized as follows in this section and have been organized into three overarching topic areas: parks, trails and outdoor spaces, recreation and sport facilities, and arts and culture.



Parks, Trails and Outdoor Spaces – Discussion Findings and Themes

Current State

Parks and outdoor recreation focused groups were asked to consider the current network of parks, trails and outdoor recreation amenities and comment on strengths, gaps and challenges.

Overall Perspectives

Importance of outdoor recreation. A common sentiment held by session participants was the overall importance of trails, parks, and natural space. These spaces draw visitors and new residents to Pitt Meadows and significantly influence perceived quality of life in the community. The dike system of trails and waterways were commonly referenced as a unique asset that help define the community and provide free active living opportunities for all residents.

Lack of clarity exists as to operational and service responsibility. A number of participants noted that many residents and visitors to the community don't often distinguish between spaces managed by the City and Metro Vancouver Regional Parks and are therefore unclear as to responsibilities for maintenance and upkeep of certain areas. A handful of participants did note that there are differences in service standards between City and Metro Vancouver Regional Parks managed areas, including signage typologies, trail development standards and overall amenity provision.



Issues and Opportunities

Community park space refreshment. A common theme expressed by participants was that a number of community park spaces and amenities are “tired” and in need of refreshment. Playgrounds in other communities were often referenced by some participants as examples of those that provide diverse and appealing play opportunities. It was also suggested by some participants that major community outdoor spaces like Harris Road Park could use a refresh with replacement of amenities and addition of new or upgraded feature amenities.

Mitigating environmental issues and concerns. Participants, especially those affiliated with outdoor advocacy and conservation groups, identified the importance of ensuring that the City has a strong invasive species control program and noted a number of specific areas of concern (e.g. invasive species in Hoffman Park). Managing access to waterways in such a manner that balances recreational use with sustainability of these important resources and safety was also identified by participants. It was also suggested that the City can continue to work at promoting responsible use of outdoor and natural spaces in collaboration with local and regional community partners.

Safety, cleanliness, and experience. Participants generally believe the City does an excellent job maintaining its parks and outdoor spaces. Specific issues referenced by participants pertained to design and construction flaws with these amenities (e.g. uneven trail surfacing, lack of sightlines into park spaces, parking, etc.).

Community Dynamics

Participants were asked to discuss trends in the community as well as other factors that influence how resident use and engage with parks, trails and outdoor spaces.

Impacts of COVID-19. Participants were keen to talk about the impacts of the pandemic on parks and trails in the community. Data and anecdotal information provided by participants indicates that park and trail use has grown significantly as a result of the pandemic and subsequent restrictions on access to indoor recreation spaces. While this was viewed positively and as an opportunity to connect more residents with outdoor recreation, some management concerns and potential issues were identified. These included environmental degradation due to increased traffic and parking at trail heads and staging areas.

Evolving Outdoor Space Expectations. A number of trends were noted during the discussions, including the overall diversification of recreation and leisure pursuits and activities. It was suggested that the City will need to continue monitoring these trends and ensure park spaces are aligned with what residents want. Specific to playgrounds (and as previously noted) it was mentioned by some participants that different expectations exist for playgrounds and related amenities (e.g. splash parks and outdoor pools) now compared to in the past. Participants noted that children and parents are looking for more dynamic play opportunities and place a premium on safety and overall appeal of the park space.

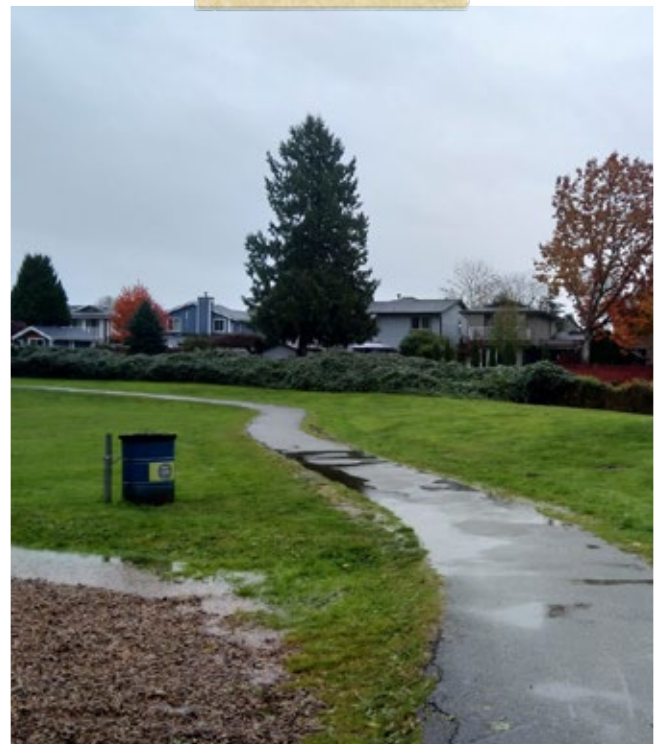
Future Needs and Priorities

Building on the previous topics, stakeholders were asked to identify future priorities as well as how the City should go about setting these priorities.

Focus on Education and Partnerships

Nature education and advocacy. As previously noted participants expressed that the City can play a key role in advancing education and advocacy for responsible use of parks, trails and outdoor spaces. It was suggested that, where possible, the City should leverage the expertise of existing groups in the community and across the region to support these advocacy campaigns and initiatives.

Working across municipal boundaries. Participants were keen to express that the City and other public organizations need to view parks and trails as a cohesive regional network. Wherever possible, consistency in design standards, signage, and maintenance should be sought.



Focus Areas for Infrastructure Investment

Trails and connectivity. A number of participants expressed that trails provide good value as they can be used by all residents for a multitude of activities. Addressing connection gaps in the trails network, improving wayfinding signage, and improving trail surfacing were identified as desired focus areas for investment. Opportunities to connect people to the greenway and dikes via pathways and community trails was also commonly identified as important. A handful of participants also expressed that the City and other regional partners need to address parking challenges at key staging areas and trail heads in order to both encourage use and limit the impacts on traffic flow and local residents in those areas.

Active transportation. Some stakeholders were keen to ponder the overlap and synergies between trails and other active transportation infrastructure such as bike lanes. It was suggested that the City should work to ensure better linkages across the network and ensure that future planning for both parks, trails and bike paths have a synergistic relationship.

A vision for key community park spaces. As previously noted, participants expressed that a few key community park spaces require refreshment and a forward looking vision. Harris Road Park, areas of Pitt Meadows Athletic Park (e.g. public spaces), and a handful of other community parks (Mitchell Park) were noted as being valuable spaces that could use amenity enhancements and investment. A number of these comments focused on enhancing children's play opportunities and creating attractive multi-generational spaces that are comfortable, inclusive, safe and appealing across all age groups and demographics. The desire for outdoor gathering spaces (e.g. gazebos, band stages, etc.) and picnic / BBQ areas were also mentioned. A few participants also noted opportunities that could exist with the new amenity lands located immediately adjacent to the Pitt Meadows Athletic Park.

Community garden plot capacity. Numerous participants identified community gardens as a high demand amenity and trending that brings tremendous benefit to the community. It was suggested that the City should investigate opportunities to expand the number of available plots in the community and continue to promote community gardening opportunities.



Summary of Key Take-Away's from Parks, Trails and Outdoor Space Discussions

- Parks, trails and natural space are critical to quality of life in the community, attract non-local visitors and facilitate affordable active living.
- Parks and trails in the community need to be viewed as comprehensive network with City and Metro Vancouver Regional Parks managed spaces integrating with each other in a cohesive manner.
- Opportunity exists to integrate more consistency into City trails and park space design and amenity provision (e.g. consistent trail surfacing and width, wayfinding signage, etc.).
- Opportunities exist to enhance play spaces and amenities in the community.
- There is a belief that some park spaces in the community need a refresh and future vision.

Recreation and Sport – Discussion Findings and Themes

Current State

Participants were asked to comment generally on the state of recreation facilities, programming and opportunities in Pitt Meadows.

Perspectives on Current Opportunities

Good variety of spaces and programming in the community. Participants generally agreed that Pitt Meadows offers a good variety of sport and recreation infrastructure and programming for a community of its size. The contributions and importance of both the City and a number of organizations in delivering these opportunities was frequently referenced by participants.

Recognition that aging infrastructure will require investment. Participants recognize that existing facilities will require ongoing investment to sustain their operations and functionality into the future. A number of participants also expressed that they hope the City can find “easy win” opportunities to undertaken enhancements and additions in conjunction with needed upgrades and modernizations (examples provided included: continuing to modernize change rooms at the Pitt Meadows Arena, modernizing spaces in Heritage Hall, considering pickleball needs as tennis courts require resurfacing, and enhancing support amenities at the Pitt Meadows Athletic Park).



Allocation of Spaces

Opportunities exist to clarify the space allocation process. Participants representing organized user groups were keen to discuss space allocations and suggested that the City and its partners need to revisit and refresh its allocations policies and procedures. Specific issues identified included an overall lack of clarity as to priority (rationale for which groups receive priority), scheduling to make the most efficient use of sports fields, and ensuring consistency in bookings and time slots allocated to groups.

Potential Gaps

Multi-purpose dry-floor space. The lack of a multi-purpose dry-floor facility such as a covered lacrosse box and / or indoor field house was commonly identified as a gap by participants. The arena, while appreciated by many groups, has limited availability (only a few months in the summer) and issues with roof height. Participants indicated that developing such a space could address a number of gaps for both organized user groups and other community events and fitness activities.

Sport field amenities. Participants representing sport field groups identified parking, lighting and spectator seating as amenity gaps. Most participants expressed a preference for multi-field sites like the Pitt Meadows Athletic Park but would like to see some amenity upgrades to the site. A number of these comments also referenced potential opportunities and synergies that could be realized as part of the future development of the amenity lands.

Community Dynamics

Stakeholders were next asked to discuss potential changes and trends they've observed and factors that may influence future participation levels.

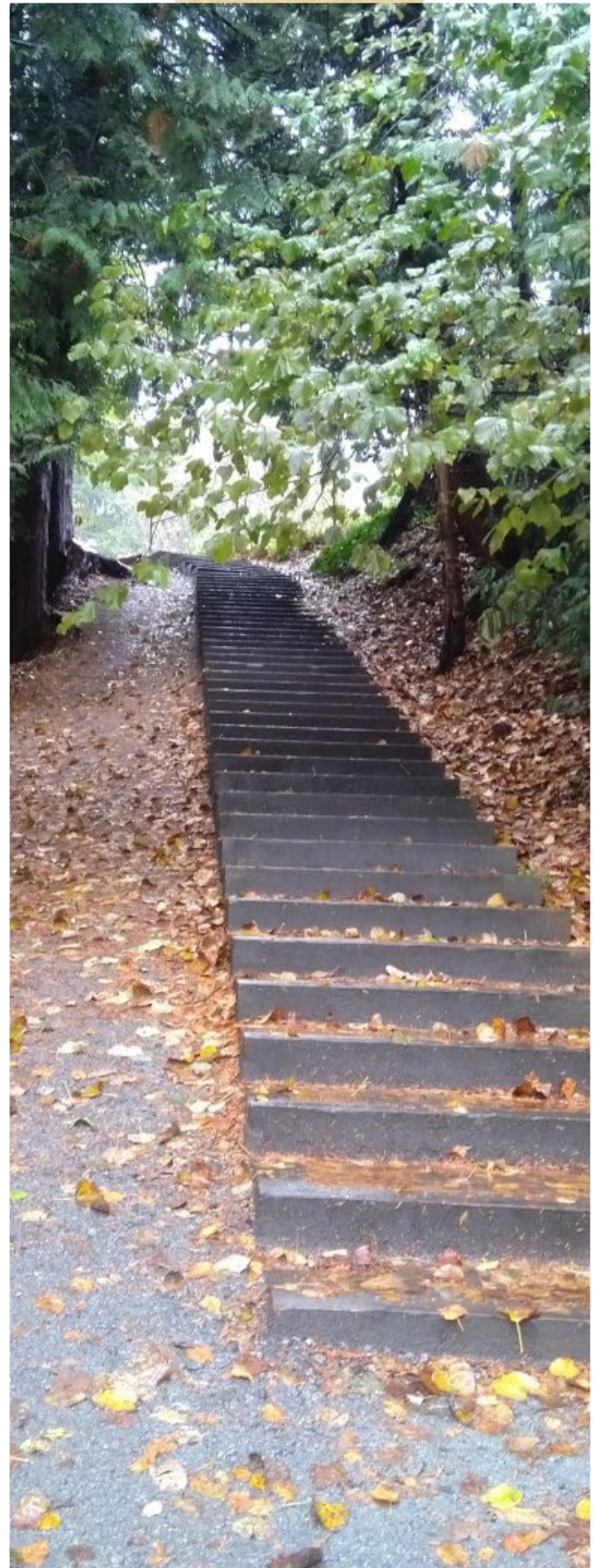
Potential Changes and Trends

Most groups expect to grow. Most participants representing organized groups indicated that they expect to experience future growth, although COVID-19 presents some uncertainty. Community demographics (young families) are a major driver of growth. Most of the anticipated growth is expected to occur at the younger age groups.

The City will need to continue supporting emerging groups and activities. As the city continues to grow so will many existing groups as well as new ones. Pickleball was identified by a number of participants as an example of a new activity that is growing in popularity. Ensuring that space allocation occurs in such a manner that makes optimal use of existing space and ensures equitable access for all activities will be important.

The regional sport landscape is competitive. Participants mentioned that their members (and parents) often compare the quality of their programming and facilities with other communities across the region. The growth of academy programs is impacting some minor sport groups and a notable trend to monitor.

Stakeholders recognized that parks, recreation and culture are a new service undertaking in Pitt Meadows. Various perspectives exist on the pros and cons of the City establishing its own services in 2016. Regardless of their viewpoints on this topic, participants believed that the development of a Master Plan presents an opportunity to create a strategic roadmap that can guide services and priorities. However, it was also commonly expressed that planning undertaken for Pitt Meadows needs to recognize the regional nature of sport and recreation in the area (e.g. most groups operate across the Ridge-Meadows area and in some case beyond).



Future Needs and Priorities

Collaboration and Communication

Desire for ongoing engagement and involvement.

A number of participants expressed appreciation for the opportunity to be involved in the Master Plan process and indicated that they would like ongoing opportunities to provide input. Participants also indicated that they'd like increased opportunities to learn about projects, initiatives and provide input into projects pertinent to their activity.

Desired facility and amenity projects. As previously mentioned, covered dry-floor space was mentioned as a gap by a number of participants and a potential priority for development on the new amenity lands. Other spaces that received multiple mentions during the discussions include an indoor aquatics facility, indoor walking / running tracks, pickleball courts, dedicated youth spaces, and amenity additions to the Pitt Meadows Athletic Park (lighting, seating and parking).

Importance of youth. Participants expressed that all age groups are important but specifically referenced youth as warranting particular focus. Numerous comments were provided on the benefits of ensuring sufficient programming and spaces are provided that accommodate both structured and spontaneous activities for youth in the community.

Summary of Key Take-Away's from Recreation and Sport Discussions

- Pitt Meadows provides a wide array of sport and recreation opportunities, however it will be important for the community to keep up with trends, evolving activity participation, and population growth.
- Stakeholders are keen to be involved and engaged in future initiatives and planning.
- There is a need to refresh some allocations practices and procedures.
- Enhancing support amenities at existing facilities can help make optimal use of these spaces.
- There is a preference for multi-purpose spaces that can accommodate a variety of activities.
- Youth should continue to be a focus for investment.



Arts and Culture – Discussion Findings and Themes

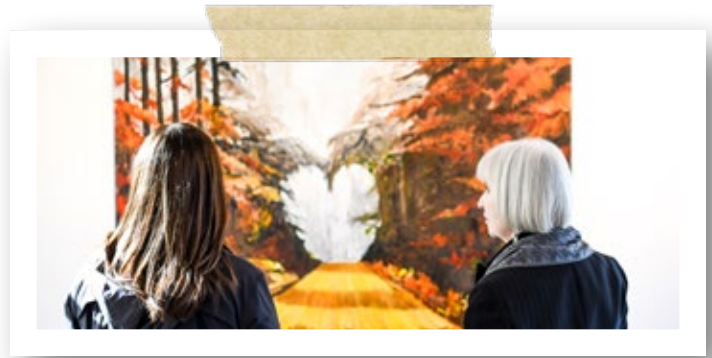
Current State

Participants were asked to consider the current state of culture in Pitt Meadows, providing them with an initial opportunity to discuss prevalent challenges in the cultural landscape.

Municipal Support

Lack of awareness. Many participants identified a lack of community awareness as a primary challenge in accessing cultural opportunities in Pitt Meadows. Moreover, cultural events often occur without awareness of other cultural groups' schedules. Participants would like to see more cross-sectoral awareness and collaborative scheduling for events in Pitt Meadows. For example, there exists a desire for a dedicated platform or **one-stop-shop for culture** outside of the Pitt Meadows main website, PRC guides, and social media pages.

Increased promotional resources available. The need for support from the municipality to provide promotional resources for arts and culture groups was voiced. Signage such as banners and / or displays that can be used to promote various cultural offerings informally at locations such as local shops, or more formally in areas such as at high volume blocks, were examples provided. Participants highlighted that this support is not only a way to increase awareness for residents, but it is also beneficial for tourism.



Space for Culture

Lack of "space to play". The need for more accessible spaces to accommodate different arts and cultural forms, including visual and performing arts, was voiced by several participants. Suggested solutions included the leveraging and creation of both outdoor and indoor spaces (e.g. the use of Spirit Square for free, outdoor shows) . Concerns included the existing competition for booking facilities in current community centres and multi-use spaces, as well as the lack of adequate basic equipment available in these spaces to meet the various user group needs.

Desire for a dedicated cultural space. There was a keen desire for a dedicated cultural space in the community for all those working and participating under the arts and culture umbrella. This space would include studio workspaces, exhibition spaces, and flex spaces such as small and large rental rooms. This dedicated space would cater to all different groups and activities and be used for different purposes throughout the day, such as daytime music rehearsals and evening dance classes. It was also noted that a collaboration with Maple Ridge could be an opportunity to create a space that benefits residents in both communities.

Community Dynamics

Participants were asked to explore what changes or trends they have observed in the community and how any perceived shifts will affect the Pitt Meadows cultural landscape.

Culture as a Critical Public Good

Changing demographics. Participants living in the community noted a growing number of young families moving to Pitt Meadows. Several participants identified the need to ensure that these new community members are aware of and encouraged to participate in the cultural offerings available in the community, and that these remain accessible to all residents.

Lack of engagement opportunities for youth and young adults. Participants highlighted a lack of engagement of youth and young adults despite the growing number of young families moving to Pitt Meadows. Participants from the cultural community noted a need to “specifically invite” and “create buzz” around the cultural scene to newer generations in order to retain interest in the Pitt Meadows’ cultural community in the future. This comment may suggest that the City would benefit from an assessment of non-users to better identify hinderances to participation.

Culture as a Way-of-Life

“Bringing culture into the community”. There was a keen desire by those in the cultural community to see creative placemaking and culture as “a way-of-life” in Pitt Meadows. Such an approach to creative placemaking would go beyond dedicated spaces such as galleries, whereby culture is woven into all aspects of the community such as on park trails, in public spaces, on streets, and in recreation centers. Participants highlighted how these enhancements can be boosted through closer collaboration with developers, the City, and the arts and culture community through various means, including community amenity contributions.

Resiliency through COVID-19

Varied virtual experiences. It was noted by participants the challenge of translating arts and culture for the virtual world. While some cultural groups have had some success, such as the ability for artists to sell their work online, many mediums such as theatre and dance have had to temporarily shut down operations. It was agreed that virtual events have many limitations and constraints for arts and culture, and not appealing to people in the same way as in-person formats. Ultimately, in-person experiences will continue to be a big part of how the cultural community engages with their audiences and community.

Creative solutions. Participants believe the lack of cultural activity in person has created some great virtual spaces such as online art classes and workshops. Continuation of some of these spaces post-pandemic was determined to be a positive move in expanding programming content and accessibility for the community.



Future Needs and Priorities

Finally, participants were asked to draw together what they learned from the session and identify where Pitt Meadows should focus regarding the cultural landscape moving forward.

Greater Community Collaboration with Local Groups

Engagement with Katzie First Nation. There was a strong desire to further engage with the Katzie First Nation, but some participants are unsure of how to approach these opportunities. Moreover, the need for expanding the intercultural interaction amongst peoples in the community was voiced. Identified opportunities include having Katzie-led permanent art and cultural installations throughout the community, a dedicated section of the museum to Katzie culture, and more Indigenous arts program offerings.

Extended Cultural Practitioner and / or Community Member Support

More opportunities to collaborate and connect between artists / cultural groups. There was consensus that culture should be a medium through which new community opportunities can be built. Therefore, new events and activities accessible to both emerging and established artists and cultural groups is desired. This notion was also connected to how having a dedicated cultural space could improve connectivity between artists and cultural groups and allow for organic connections to occur.

More resources available on funding and grant opportunities. Participants determined that further resources on how to access and apply for funding and grants are needed. These could include a specific dedicated platform where information on grants for arts and culture are shared, as well as more available municipal support for those wishing to seek and apply for funding and grants.

Summary of Key Take-Away's from the Arts and Culture Discussions

- Pitt Meadows' cultural / artist community is concerned that the City is not allocating adequate funding to invest in purpose-built spaces for arts and culture and may be relying too much on existing, multipurpose facilities.
- It is recognized that more cultural engagement and program opportunities targeted towards youth and newcomers should be developed to meet the needs of the evolving community makeup.
- Lack of awareness of cultural offerings and assets remains a key issue for culture in Pitt Meadows, further emphasizing a need for a robust outreach program through a centralized platform for advertising of cultural events, facilities, and services, both online and offline.
- There is a keen desire for cultural development to result in the bringing together of diverse communities, and the use of culture as a way of life for a more vibrant, connected, and welcoming Pitt Meadows.

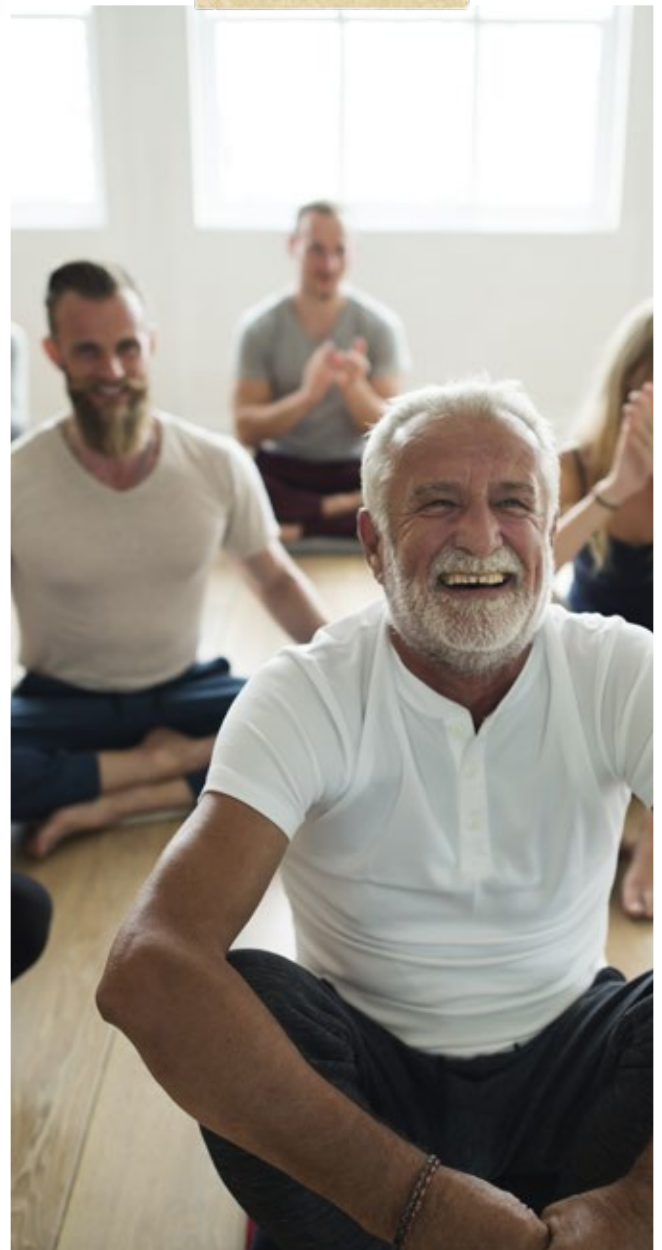


Section 5

Community Group Questionnaire Findings

Overview

A questionnaire was sent to community organizations that operate in Pitt Meadows in order to gather information on their organizations as well as perspectives on the current state of (and future needs for) parks, recreation and culture in the community. The questionnaire also provided groups that participated in the stakeholder discussion sessions with a follow-up opportunity to provide additional input on the topics covered during those engagements. Groups were requested to provide one response to the questionnaire that reflected the viewpoints of their organizations. Web and PDF versions of the questionnaire were available for completion. In total, 19 groups provided a response to the questionnaire. These groups represented a wide array of activity types and interests, including minor sport, adult sport and recreation, and outdoor and nature conservancy. *A list of all responding groups can be found in Appendix B.*



Findings from the Community Group Questionnaire

Findings and analysis from the questionnaire responses are presented as follows. **Note: not every group provided a response to every question (as such, the percentages and total may vary slightly from question to question).*

Historical and Anticipated Growth

Most groups indicated that they have experienced growth in recent years and anticipate further growth over the next 4-5 years.

	Growing	Remaining Stable	Declining
Participation / membership over the past few years (2018 – 2020)	12 groups (63%)	6 groups (32%)	1 group (5%)
Participant / membership expectations for the next few years (2020 – 2025)	15 groups (79%)	4 groups (21%)	0 groups (0%)

When asked to expand on their response, most groups noted that the city is growing in population and their organization has been active in promoting its activities. Facility space as a limiting factor to growth was also referenced in a number of the comments.

Satisfaction with Facilities and Amenities

Groups were asked to indicate their level of satisfaction with the space(s) they use on a regular basis. Overall, most groups indicated that they were satisfied (“very” or “somewhat”) with the spaces they use while less than one-fifth of groups indicated a level of dissatisfaction.

Level of Satisfaction	Responses
Very satisfied	7 groups (41%)
Somewhat satisfied	5 groups (29%)
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	2 groups (12%)
Somewhat dissatisfied	1 group (6%)
Very dissatisfied	2 groups (12%)

When asked to expand on their responses the two overarching themes of the comments provided were capacity challenges that limit access to an optimal amount of facility time and a lack of support amenities (washrooms, storage, garbage bins, spectator seating, etc.). A few specific facility and space issues and challenges were also identified, including:

- Ceiling height in the arena
- Lack of lighting at the Pitt Meadows Athletic Park
- Invasive species in parks

Need for New and / or Enhanced Facilities

Groups were asked if there is a need for new and / or enhanced parks, recreation and arts / culture facilities to be developed in Pitt Meadows. Similar to the responses provided by residents and youth, approximately three-quarters of group representatives (14 groups, 78%) indicated that they think new and / or enhanced facilities are needed. Groups were then provided with lists of indoor and outdoor facility types (same lists as those provided to Resident Questionnaire and Youth Survey respondents) and asked to identify up to five priorities for each. The following chart identifies facility types selected by two or more group representatives.



INDOOR Facility Priorities	OUTDOOR Facility Priorities
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indoor multi-sport facilities (11 groups, 69%) 2. Indoor walking / running tracks (8 groups, 50%) 3. Indoor aquatics facilities (6 groups, 38%) 4. Gymnasium / flexi-halls (5 groups, 31%) 5. Youth spaces (4 groups, 25%) T6. Child care spaces (3 groups, 19%) T6. Interpretive venues like museums and heritage facilities, nature centres, interactive learning spaces, etc. (3 groups, 19%) T7. Arts and crafts creative spaces like studios and collaborative work spaces (2 groups, 13%) T7. Ice arenas (2 groups, 13%) T7. Indoor children's play spaces (2 groups, 13%) T7. Multi-purpose program rooms (2 groups, 13%) T7. Seniors spaces (2 groups, 13%) T7. Social gathering facilities (2 groups, 13%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. BBQ and picnic areas / park shelters (8 groups, 47%) 2. Outdoor stadium venues (7 groups, 41%) 3. Sports fields (6 groups, 35%) T4. Natural surface trails (5 groups, 29%) T4. Track and field venues (5 groups, 29%) T5. Outdoor fitness equipment (4 groups, 24%) T5. Tennis courts (4 groups, 24%) T6. Ball diamonds (3 groups, 18%) T6. Outdoor festival and community performance spaces (3 groups, 18%) T6. Outdoor lacrosse boxes (3 groups, 18%) T7. Community gardens (2 groups, 12%) T7. Outdoor paved court spaces (2 groups, 12%) T7. Pump tracks / bike skills parks (2 groups, 12%)

Rates and Fees

When asked about rates and fees, most groups generally felt that the current rates and fees they pay are fair.

Level of agreement: "The rates and fees that your group pays to access the facilities and spaces that you use are fair."	Responses
Strongly agree	7 groups (39%)
Somewhat agree	4 groups (22%)
Somewhat disagree	1 group (6%)
Strongly disagree	1 group (6%)
Doesn't apply - we don't use City facilities or pay fees for the spaces we use	5 groups (28%)

Space was then provided for groups to explain their response. Differing perspectives emanated from the comments provided, with a couple groups expressing concern with ice rates, a couple groups indicating that current rates are fair, and one group expressing concern that any future rate and fee increases could impact participant affordability.



Space Allocation

Groups were also asked about their perspective on how space is allocated by the City and / or other facility operators. Of the 18 groups that responded to the question, 8 groups indicated that they have no issues while 5 groups indicated that they have issues.

Issues with how space is currently allocated to groups?	Responses
Yes – our organization has some issues with current allocation practices	5 groups (28%)
No - our organization does not have any issues with current allocation practices	8 groups (44%)
Not applicable / don't know how time is allocated	5 groups (28%)

Space was provided for groups to further expand on their response. Among groups that expressed issues with space allocations, the following comments were provided (summarized):

- The arena ice allocations process is too restrictive and doesn't provide flexibility for last minute cancellations or changes.
- Difficult to gain access to facilities for programming.
- Lack of ball diamonds creates space challenges for allocating available space.
- In general, growth of the city and user groups has created space challenges.



Organizational Challenges

Groups were asked to identify any challenges that their organization is facing. Inadequate facilities, funding and keeping user costs low, future uncertainty resulting from COVID-19, getting sufficient access to facilities and spaces, and equipment storage were the top five challenges identified by groups.

Challenge	Responses
Inadequate facilities and spaces (e.g. spaces are lacking or of poor quality)	9 groups (53%)
Funding / keeping user costs low	8 groups (47%)
Future uncertainty as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic	8 groups (47%)
Getting sufficient access to facilities and spaces for programming.	7 groups (41%)
Equipment storage	6 groups (35%)
Attracting and retaining volunteers	5 groups (29%)
Other (please specify):	5 groups (29%)
Attracting and maintaining coaches / instructors	4 groups (24%)
Increasing participation	3 groups (18%)

Challenge	Responses
Increased competition from other activities	3 groups (18%)
Board sustainability (e.g. keeping Board members engaged, defining roles and responsibilities, developing or following strategic planning, etc.)	2 groups (12%)
Organizational management (accessing needed skills and expertise such as accounting services, grantwriting, strategic planning, etc.)	2 groups (12%)
Promotions and marketing	2 groups (12%)

Group were then asked to identify anything the City could provide to help mitigate these challenges. Summarized below are the key themes from the comments provided.

- Appreciation for support already provided by the City
- City can help facilitate more collaboration between groups
- Undertaking facility improvement or new development is needed to offset capacity challenges
- There is a need to provide more storage
- The City can help further mitigate financial challenges for group participants that need support

Section 6

Summary of Key Findings

This report summarizes findings from the community engagement undertaken in early 2021. The engagement findings, along with the research findings presented in the “Current State Research Report”, provide a basis for the strategic direction contained in the Master Plan. Summarized as follows are a number of key findings from community engagement.

Residents, user groups and stakeholders generally believe that Pitt Meadows offers a wide array of opportunities.

While demand for new programs, activities and infrastructure exists, findings from the engagement support that individuals in Pitt Meadows believe there is ample opportunity for most residents to be active. The dike system along the Pitt River Regional Greenway are perceived as extremely valuable regional assets that attract visitors and make the community highly appealing for existing and prospective residents.

A number of factors motivate residents to participate in parks, recreation and culture pursuits.

Interpersonal factors such as health, wellness and wellbeing (physical and mental) as well as opportunities to engage socially and be part of the community are key motivators of participation across all age groups.

Residents place a high value on parks, recreation and culture.

Findings from the Resident Questionnaire confirm that the majority of residents believe these services are “very important” - not only to their household’s wellbeing but also the broader quality of life and vibrancy of the community. Engagement with stakeholders, user groups and youth in the community also further reiterated the importance of parks, recreation and culture opportunities and the role that the quality provision of these services has on making the community appealing for residents and visitors.

Levels of satisfaction with most aspects of parks, recreation and culture services are relatively good but have room for improvement.

86% of Resident Questionnaire respondents were satisfied (“very” or “somewhat”) with parks, trails and open spaces in Pitt Meadows. Levels of satisfaction for recreation and cultural programs, facilities and opportunities were not as strong, however less than a quarter of respondents identified that they were “dissatisfied” with these service areas (respondents had higher levels of “neither satisfied nor dissatisfied” responses).

Demand exists for facility development and enhancement.

Consistent across all of the engagement undertaken was a desire for new and / or enhanced facilities to be developed in the community. 77% of Resident Questionnaire respondents and 78% of Community Group Questionnaire respondents indicated that development is needed. The need for, and benefits of, facility development were also expressed during a number of the stakeholder discussion sessions. However, many stakeholders and user group representatives also recognize the capital and operating impacts of undertaking facility development as well as the need to sustain what already exists.

Aquatics, indoor multi-purpose dry floor space, trails, and park amenities were identified as top infrastructure priorities.

Demand for these types of parks, recreation and culture infrastructure were relatively consistent throughout the engagement. The Master Plan will need to further assess the need for these spaces and the associated cost impacts.

Opportunity exists to further develop cultural capacity in the community.

Arts and cultural stakeholders believe that infrastructure and community development investment is needed to expand the cultural capacity and vibrancy of the community.

Many stakeholders and user groups had difficulty separating strengths, gaps and needs in Pitt Meadows from those that exist more broadly across the region.

Many community organizations operate across the Ridge-Meadows area (and in some cases beyond) and look at space needs from a regional lens. Stakeholders and user groups frequently mentioned the importance of regional collaboration as a way to make the best use of limited resources and avoid duplication.

Residents, user groups and stakeholders are keen to be engaged.

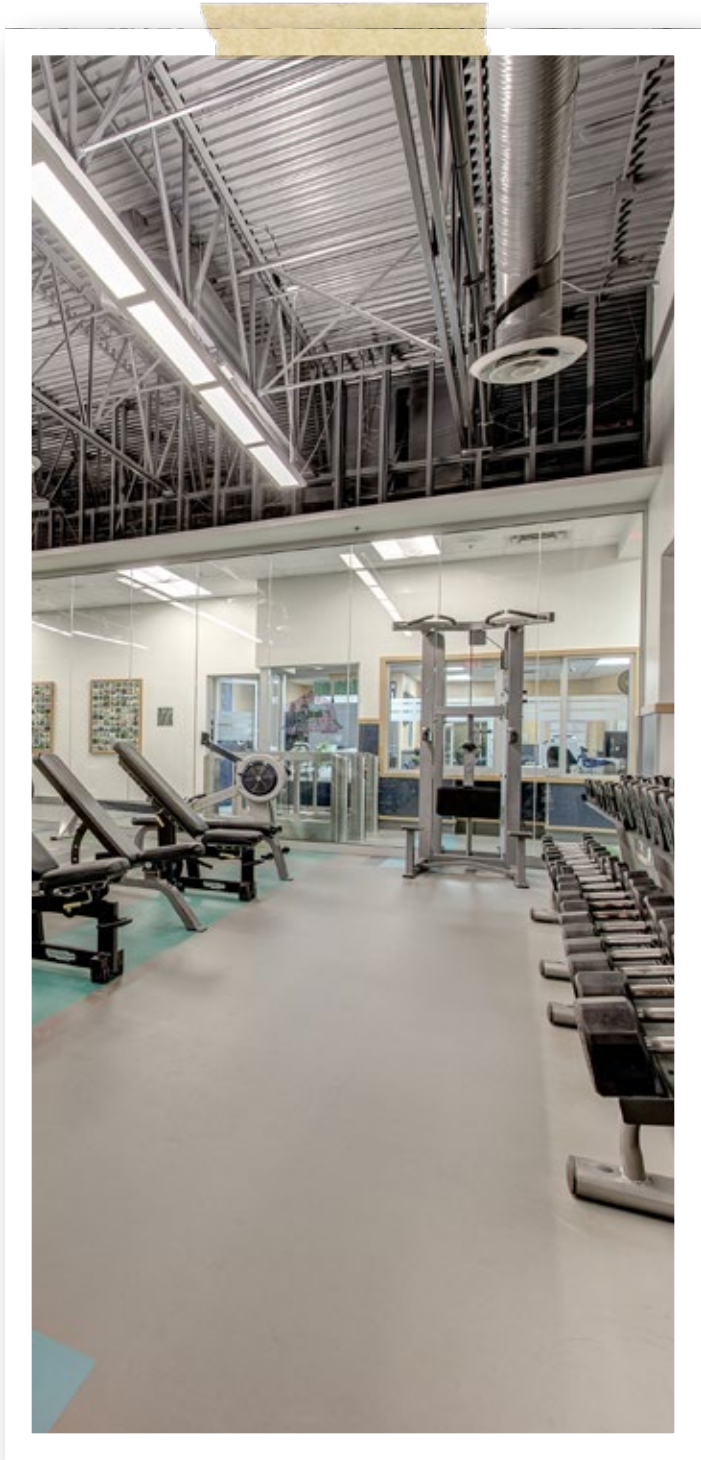
The level of participation in the Master Plan engagement and feedback provided during the stakeholder discussions and through the User Group Questionnaire indicate that the community is highly engaged and would like to participate in an ongoing conversation on parks, recreation and culture in the community.

Appendices



Appendix A: Stakeholder Discussion Participants

Allouette River Management Society
City of Maple Ridge
Emerald Pig Theatrical Society
Golden Ears Pickleball Club
Green Teams of Canada
Local artists (2 individuals)
Meadow Ridge Female Minor Hockey Association
Metro Vancouver Regional Parks
Nustadia (operator of the Pitt Meadows Arena)
Pitt Meadows Active Transportation Committee
Pitt Meadows Art Studio Tour
Pitt Meadows Community Garden
Pitt Meadows Museum and Archives
Pitt Meadows Public Art Steering Committee
Port Coquitlam Ridge Meadows Ringette Association
Ridge Meadows Minor Baseball Association
Ridge Meadows Minor Hockey Association
Ridge Meadows Minor Lacrosse Association
Ridge Meadows Seniors Society
Ridge Meadows Soccer Club
School District 42
Suburban Swing



Appendix B: Community Group Questionnaire Respondents

Allouette River Management Society
Golden Ears Pickleball Club
Green Teams of Canada
Maple Ridge Skating Club
Pitt Meadows Community Slo Pitch
Pitt Meadows Girl Guides of Canada
Pitt Meadows Paddling Club
Pitt Meadows Physiotherapy Clinic
Pitt Meadows Public Library
Pitt Meadows Community Garden
Port Coquitlam Ridge Meadows Ringette Association
Ridge Meadows Minor Baseball Association
Ridge Meadows Minor Softball Association
Ridge Meadows Seniors Society
Ridge Meadows Soccer Club
Ridge Meadows Minor Hockey Association
Ridge Meadows Minor Lacrosse Association
Scouts Canada
Stardom Childcare



A full-page photograph with a warm, golden-yellow tint. It depicts three young adults in a grassy field, laughing and celebrating. In the foreground, a woman on the left with long, wavy brown hair is laughing with her head tilted back, wearing a white button-down shirt and jeans, with a silver chain bracelet on her right wrist. To her right, another woman with voluminous curly dark hair is laughing broadly, wearing a white t-shirt and jeans, with confetti in her hair. In the background, a man with short brown hair and sunglasses is smiling, wearing a dark shirt. Confetti is scattered in the air and on their clothes. The text "Play. Grow. Create." is overlaid at the bottom in a white, stylized font.

Play. Grow. Create.