

CITY OF YORKTON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
Monday, June 26, 2023 - 5:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
3. **PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - Regular Council Meeting Minutes – June 5, 2023
 - Special Meeting of Council Minutes – June 12, 2023
5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
6. **REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND MATTERS REFERRED**
 - Yorkton Public Library Meeting Minutes – February 8, 2023
7. **HEARING OF PETITIONS, PUBLIC NOTICES AND PRESENTATIONS**
8. **BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF PETITIONS, PUBLIC NOTICES AND PRESENTATIONS**
9. **CORRESPONDENCE**
 - Letter from Yorkton Chamber of Commerce re: Relocation of Library – June 21, 2023
10. **BYLAWS**
 - Director of Legislation and Procedures (City Clerk)
 - Proposed Bylaw No. 7/2023 - Permanent Closure and Sale of a Portion of Service Street Right-of-Way in Plan No. 71Y09466, Adjacent to 415 & 441 Broadway Street East [Introduction and First Reading, Authorization of Public Notice]
11. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**
 - Gallagher Centre General Manager
 - Adoption of Yorkton’s Parks and Recreation Master Plan
12. **GIVING NOTICE OF MOTION**
13. **IN CAMERA SESSION**
 - 2 Other Items
 - Other Item A
 - Other Item B
 - 2 Property Items
 - Property Item A
 - Property Item B
14. **ADJOURNMENT**

Yorkton Public Library Board

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 8, 2023

4:30 PM

YPL MEETING ROOM

Attendees	Lauretta Ritchie-McInnes, Eileen Dellow, Malena Vroom, Melinda Sevilla, Tami Hall, Juanita Brown (joined via Zoom), Darcy McLeod (Ex-Officio)
Regrets	Luba Magis, Councillor Chris Wyatt
Staff, Recording	Amber Harvey, Branch Manager
Call to order	Called to order by Harvey at 4:40 p.m.
Adjourn	5:41 pm

Agenda Topics

1. Call to Order	
2. Adoption of Agenda	
Motion 23-001	Dellow That the agenda be adopted as revised to include the February 8 th , 2023 letter from the PRL Director. CARRIED

3. Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson	
a. Chairperson Election <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Harvey led the first call for Chairperson nominations. Brown nominated Ritchie-McInnes. Ritchie-McInnes accepted the nomination for Chairperson.ii. Second call for Chairperson nominations. None received.iii. Third call for Chairperson nominations. None received.iv. Nominations cease and Ritchie-McInnes is acclaimed as Chairperson of the Yorkton Public Library Board.v. Harvey passed the Chairperson duties back to Ritchie-McInnes.	
b. Vice Chairperson Election <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. First call for Vice Chairperson nominations. Hall nominated Brown. Brown accepted the nomination for Vice Chairperson.ii. Second call for Vice Chairperson nominations. None received.iii. Third call for Vice Chairperson nominations. None received.iv. Nominations cease and Brown is acclaimed as Vice Chairperson of the Yorkton Public Library Board.	
4. Minutes of the November 9, 2022 Meeting	
Minutes from the November 9, 2022 meeting of the Committee were circulated.	
Motion 23-002	Vroom That the minutes of November 9, 2022 meeting be approved as presented. CARRIED
5. Branch Manager Report	
The Branch Manager Report submitted by Harvey was discussed.	
Motion 23-003	Sevilla That the Branch Manager Report is received and filed. CARRIED

6. Correspondence

The December 30th letter from PRL was briefly discussed.

Motion 23-004

Hall

That the correspondence is received and filed. CARRIED

The February 8th letter from PRL was circulated and discussed.

Motion 23-005

Vroom

That the correspondence is received and filed. CARRIED

7. Budget 2023 and Financial Reports

The Branch Manager distributed the December 31, 2022 Financial Report and the February 1, 2023 Financial Report. General discussion on the YPL budget for 2023.

Motion 23-006

Dellow

That the December 31, 2022 Financial Report be received and filed. CARRIED

Motion 23-007

Dellow

That the February 1, 2023 Financial Report be received and filed. CARRIED

8. Business Arising/Updates

- a. PRL Executive Report – Brown spoke to the facility upgrades planned for the PRL office. Because of budget constraints the full scope of the project will not be undertaken this year, just work to the envelope of the building. Brown shared that the PRL Interim Director has signed a contract extension to the end of the year. If a Director is hired in the meantime, she will transition with them in the role. Ritchie-McInnes added that Executive meetings with the new PRL Board are now a delight to take part in. Meetings are efficient and run approximately 1.5 hours instead of 6-8 hours.
- b. City of Yorkton Report – McLeod spoke to the February 8th letter from PRL and stated that the City is aware of the deficit and met with the PRL Director, City Manager, and Harvey last month to discuss matters in detail. McLeod and Harvey are working on the staffing and scheduling impacts to set the budget plan going forward. In addition, the staffing agreement has been reviewed by the new PRL Board as well as a lawyer, and discussion continues in respect to the proposal.

9. New Business

Nothing at this time.

10. Meeting Schedule 2023

Meeting dates for the YPL Board were set for the 2023 calendar year. Discussion took place on the meeting time, and 4:00 p.m. was discussed for future meetings. Harvey will check with Magis and Wyatt on their availability.

April 12, June 14, September 13, November 8

11. In-Camera

No in-camera items.

12. Adjournment

Motion 23-008

Hall

That the meeting of the YPL Board be adjourned at 5:41 pm. CARRIED.

Lauretta Ritchie-McInnes

CHAIRPERSON, Lauretta Ritchie-McInnes

Amber Harvey

RECORDING SECRETARY, Amber Harvey



YORKTON CHAMBER of COMMERCE

Junction #9 & #16 • P.O. Box 1051 Yorkton, Sask. S3N 2X3 • Phone: (306) 783-4368 Fax: (306) 786-6978
Website: www.yorktonchamber.com • email: info@yorktonchamber.com

June 21, 2023

RE: Relocation of Public Library

Dear Mayor Hipsley and Members of Council:

Following the meeting between you and the Policy Committee of the Yorkton Chamber, the Chamber wishes to again applaud you for your decision to sell the property at 93 Broadway Street West and relocate the Library to the Gallagher Centre. This decision demonstrated fiscal responsibility for several reasons:

- 1) The one time infusion of \$1.5M into the City Coffers
- 2) The annual collection of property taxes of \$60K
- 3) The drastic reduction in operational and maintenance costs for the Library

It is for these reasons the Chamber is adamant that this is a good decision by Council and is willing to support Council on this.

However, your decision June 5 to rescind relocating the Public Library to the Gallagher Centre deeply concerns the Chamber. We, the Directors, reiterate that **the Gallagher Centre is the centrepiece of Yorkton attractions**. Adding the Library to the facility will only enhance the Gallagher Centre as the “hub” of activity in Yorkton. Further you **have already invested resources** into relocating the Library at the Gallagher Centre. It is the understanding of the Chamber that you had engaged an architect and have seen conceptual drawings of a Library located in the Gallagher Centre.

As President Andres indicated in her presentation to City Council June 5, if you buy or construct a new building to house the Library, all the financial gains you will have made by selling the property at 93 Broadway Street West will be lost.

At the May 15 Council meeting, you heard (and likely continue to hear from) a very vocal small group of people. The Board of Directors of the Yorkton Chamber can assure you that a great many business owners and private citizens alike approve the relocation of the Library to the Gallagher Centre.

You must make the decision that is best for the majority of the city's residents. We urge you to take the initiative to relocate the Library to the Gallagher Centre and make it a modern, sleek facility that people will want to visit. Promote the benefits and advantages to relocating the Library there and be proud of the decision.

Sincerely,



Vanessa Andres

Vanessa Andres, President

Voice of Business in Yorkton

TITLE: Proposed Bylaw No. 7/2023 Permanent Closure and Sale of a portion of Service Street Right-of-Way in Plan No. 71Y08466, adjacent to 415 & 441 Broadway Street East	DATE OF MEETING: June 26, 2023
<p>CLEARANCES:</p> <p>Michael Eger</p> <hr/> <p>Michael Eger, Director of Planning, Building & Development</p>	<p>REPORT DATE: May 5, 2023</p> <p>ATTACHMENTS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft Bylaw No. 7/2023 – A Bylaw of the City of Yorkton in the Province of Saskatchewan to Provide for the Closure of a Service Street Right-of-Way in Plan No. 71Y08466, adjacent to 415, 441 and Broadway Street East 2. Public Notice
<p>Written by: Jessica Matsalla - City Clerk</p> <p>Jessica Matsalla</p>	
<p>Approved by: Lonnie Kaal - City Manager</p> <p>Lonnie Kaal</p>	

Summary of History/Discussion:

The owner of 415 and 441 Broadway Street East wishes to obtain a portion of unused service street right-of-way along the southerly property boundary (as shown on Attachment 1).

Administration sees no need to protect the portion of right-of-way being requested for current or future services and has tentatively agreed to close an approximately 20.3m wide and 0.21km long portion of the Service Street right-of-way. The 1.04 acre strip of service street right-of-way adjacent to 415 and 441 Broadway Street East would be sold, subdivided, and consolidated with the private lands.

The Ministry of Highways has provided preliminary approval and further indicated that they will require compensation, of which has been negotiated at market value.

In accordance with *the Cities Act* the proposed bylaw is subject to public notice requirements. As such, the proposed Bylaw will be posted at City Hall and on the City webpage, and advertised in the local newspaper.

Options:

1. That Bylaw No. 7/2023, a Bylaw of the City of Yorkton in the Province of Saskatchewan to provide for the permanent closure and sale of a portion of Highway 10 Service Street Right-of-Way in Plan No. 71Y08466, adjacent to 415 and 441 Broadway Street East, be introduced and given 1st Reading, and that Administration be authorized to proceed with the Public Notice process.

2. That Bylaw No. 7/2023, a Bylaw of the City of Yorkton in the Province of Saskatchewan to provide for the permanent closure and sale of a portion of Highway 10 Service Street Right-of-Way in Plan No. 71Y08466, adjacent to 415 and 441 Broadway Street East, be denied for reasons as listed by Council.
3. That Administration be provided with alternative direction.

Recommendation:

1. That Bylaw No. 7/2023, a Bylaw of the City of Yorkton in the Province of Saskatchewan to provide for the permanent closure and sale of a portion of Highway 10 Service Street Right-of-Way in Plan No. 71Y08466, adjacent to 415 and 441 Broadway Street East, be introduced and given 1st Reading this 26th day of June, 2023, A.D., and that Administration be authorized to proceed with the Public Notice process.

**City of Yorkton
Saskatchewan**

Bylaw No. 7/2023

**A Bylaw of the City of Yorkton in the Province of Saskatchewan to
provide for the permanent closure and sale of a portion of Highway 10 Service Street
Right-of-Way in
Plan No. 71Y08466, adjacent to 415 and 441 Broadway Street East**

WHEREAS, in accordance with Sections 8 (1)(g) and 13 of *The Cities Act*, the Council of the City of Yorkton in the Province of Saskatchewan in Council assembled hereby enacts that the following street be permanently closed:

“All that portion of Service Street Right-of-Way in Plan No. 71Y08466, as identified on Schedule ‘A’, attached to and forming part of this bylaw.”

And that Bylaw No. 12/2015 to provide for closure to lease is hereby repealed.

Effective Date of Bylaw

This bylaw shall come into force and take effect upon the day of final passing thereof.

MAYOR

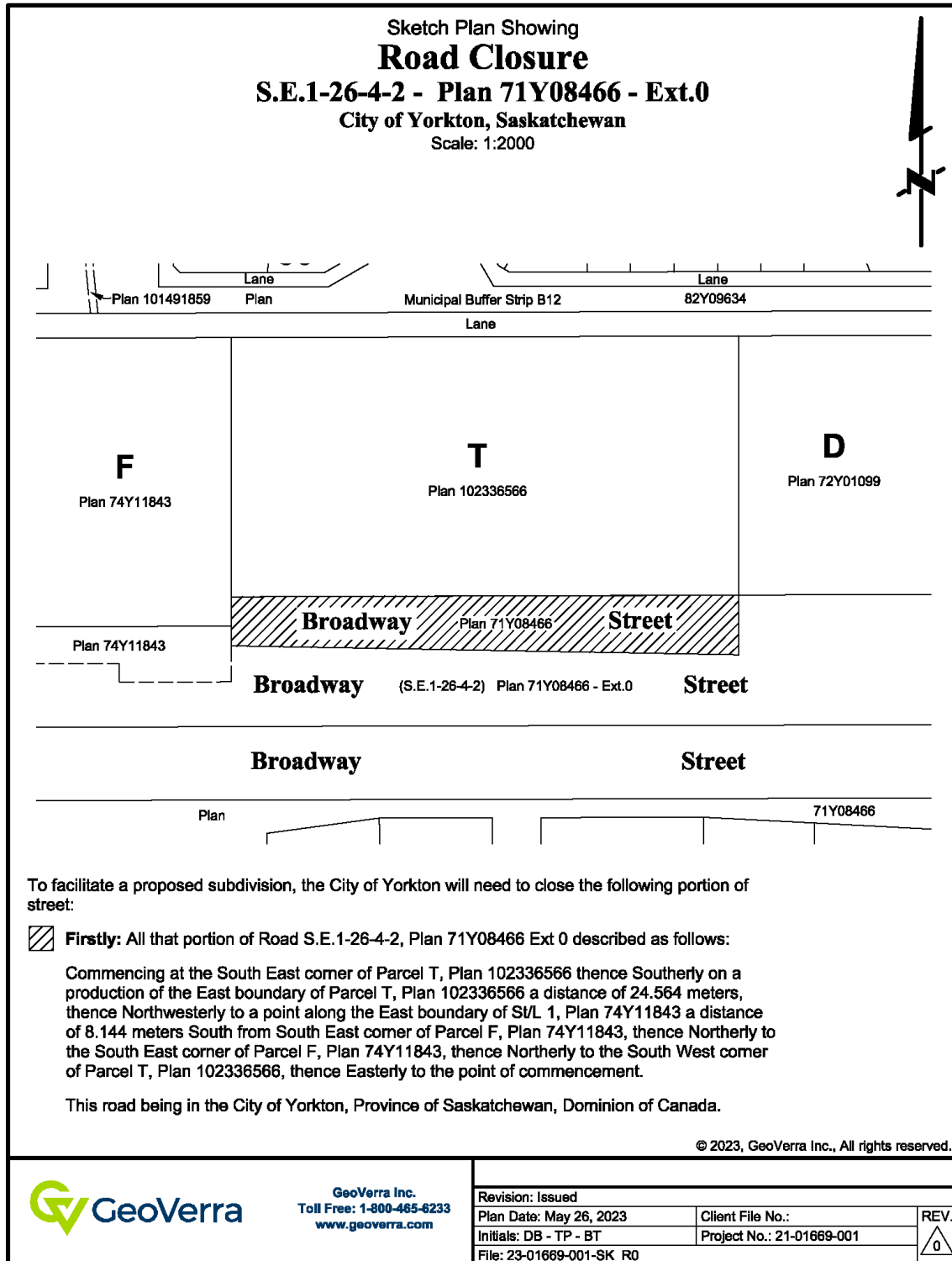
CITY CLERK

Introduced and read a first time this ____ day of _____, A.D. 20__.

Read a second time this ____ day of _____, A.D. 20__.

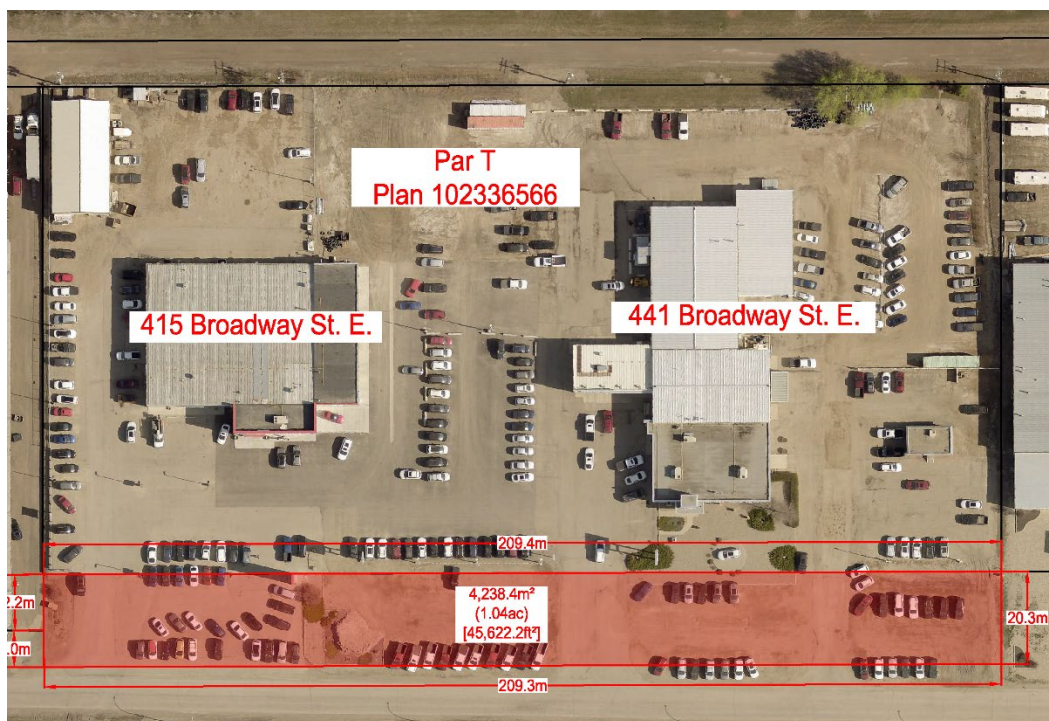
Read a third time and adopted this ____ day of _____ A.D. 20__.

Schedule 'A'



PUBLIC NOTICE

Bylaw No. 7/2023 - Permanent Service Street Closure (a portion of) and Sale



Legal Description: A portion of plan 71Y08466 abutting Parcel T Plan 102336566

Civic Address: A portion of Service Street Right-of-Way adjacent to 415 and 441 Broadway Street East, Yorkton, SK

Pursuant to *The Cities Act* section 13, the Council of the City of Yorkton hereby gives notice of its intention to permanently close and sell at market value a 20.3 metre wide by 209.4 metre long strip of service street right of way to the owner of adjacent property: 415 and 441 Broadway Street East. Permanent road closures must be passed as a City bylaw before the Province will authorize transfer of ownership.

Information: You can view this bylaw online at www.yorkton.ca . A link for Public Notices appears on the home page. Questions regarding the closure and sale can be directed to:

Jessica Matsalla, City Clerk
Telephone: 306-786-1717
Email: cityclerk@yorkton.ca

Public Hearing: A Public Hearing will be held on the matter described above on **Monday, July 17, 2023 in City Hall Council Chambers, located at 37 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, Saskatchewan at 5:00 p.m.**

City Council will hear all persons who are present and wish to speak to the proposed bylaw. A person may provide a submission in writing regarding the matter and all written submissions will be read verbatim aloud unless the submitter is in attendance to speak on the submission. Any written submissions will be included in the public Council package and circulated to City Council. Written submissions must be received by 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 12, 2023 and must be directed to:

Jessica Matsalla, City Clerk
Box 400, 37 Third Avenue North
Yorkton, SK S3N 2W3
Email: jmatsalla@yorkton.ca

Dated this 27th day of June in the City of Yorkton in the Province of Saskatchewan.

Jessica Matsalla, City Clerk

TITLE: Adoption of Yorkton's Parks and Recreation Master Plan	DATE OF MEETING: June 26, 2023 REPORT DATE: June 21, 2023
CLEARANCES: Darcy McLeod, Director Recreation and Community Services Darcy McLeod	ATTACHMENTS: 1. PRMP Council Presentation 2. Parks and Recreation Master Plan
Written by: Taylor Morrison, Gallagher Centre General Manager Taylor Morrison	
Reviewed by: Jessica Matsalla - City Clerk Jessica Matsalla	
Approved by: Lonnie Kaal - City Manager Lonnie Kaal	

PURPOSE

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee and RCS Strategies have completed the City's Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and the purpose of this report is to formally adopt the Master Plan. Rob Parks and Stephen Slawuta from RC Strategies will be attending the meeting virtually to present the Master Plan to Council.

BACKGROUND

The Canadian Parks and Recreation Association states that, "Recreation is a fundamental human need in all ages and stages of life. It is the pursuit of physical, social, intellectual, creative, and spiritual experiences that enhance individual and community wellbeing." The benefits of recreation cannot be overstated. It provides personal, social, economic, and environmental benefits, helps build strong families and communities, helps connect people to nature, and promotes active living.

Recreation, sport, culture, and parks are valued and important municipal services. Residents that have access to quality opportunities are proven to be healthier, happier, and more connected to their community. These services spur on economic activity, provide healthier choices to anti-social behavior, and are a source of community pride and spirit. It is for these reasons, and more, that the City of Yorkton invests in these services, and why residents have come to expect the quality and quantity of current facilities and spaces as part of their everyday lives.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS/IMPACT

To proactively manage these services, the City of Yorkton is developing a comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Master Plan will guide the development, delivery, and continuous improvement of parks, sport, culture, and recreation programs, services, and facilities. The Master Plan will:

- Align with the strategic direction, priorities, plans, and policies of the City;
- Account for forecasts related to the City's changing community profile and demographics;
- Reflect on trends, best practices, and changing expectations related to sports and recreation;
- Provide guidance on the future direction of parks and recreation programs, services and facilities;

- Create strategies for service and amenity implementation; and
- Reflect public and stakeholder input in parks and recreation values, needs, and expectations.

RC Strategies specializes in recreation and parks planning and policy development, and has consulted for a number of communities within Saskatchewan, including The Battlefords, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert to name a few.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan was approved during the 2022 and 2023 Capital Budget process. Once the Parks and Recreation Master Plan is adopted by the City of Yorkton, any actions or recommendation that may have costs attached to them would be considered as part of future budget discussions.

COMMUNICATION PLAN/PUBLIC NOTICE

Community engagement was a major aspect of the Master Plan process. To ensure residents were able to provide their thoughts and feedback, a comprehensive communication plan was developed, including general advertising through print, radio, and television means, marketing on our social media platforms, and maintaining all project information and updates on the City's website. Community engagement opportunities were also available through household and community group surveys, pop-up events, and stakeholder interviews and meetings.

If adopted, the Master Plan will be placed on the City website for all residents to access. Notice of the adopted plan will also be promoted through the City's social media outlets.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES/OCP/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION(S)

The Master Plan project meets the Infrastructure priority identified in the 2020 Strategic Plan, which states that Yorkton will be "A community with a comprehensive, integrated and sustainable infrastructure plan and programs that meet current and future needs."

This project speaks to the Community Development priority of the 2020 strategic Plan which includes the objective that the City will "Develop and maintain facilities that offer a diverse range of sports and recreational opportunities for youth to seniors including, spray parks, playgrounds, bike trails, walking paths and organized sports." This project meets the strategic direction of Recreation and Community Services to ensure services are available that provide opportunities for youth and families to provide positive healthy lifestyle choices.

PRESENTATION OF MASTER PLAN

Rob Parks and Steven Slawuta will present the final Master Plan document.

OPTIONS

1. That Council adopt the Yorkton Parks and Recreation Master Plan as presented.
2. Other direction at the discretion of Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Yorkton Parks and Recreation Master Plan as presented.



Parks and Recreation Master Plan

June 26, 2023

City of
Yorkton



Presentation Overview

1. Review the project purpose and process
2. Research and engagement – selected findings
3. Master Plan overview

Project Purpose and Process

Master Plan Purpose

Why is the City developing a new Parks and Recreation Master Plan?

- Assess the current state of parks and recreation in the community.
- Guide future investment priorities and focus areas.
- Provide Council and staff with a point of reference.
- Ensure decision is based on sound rationale.

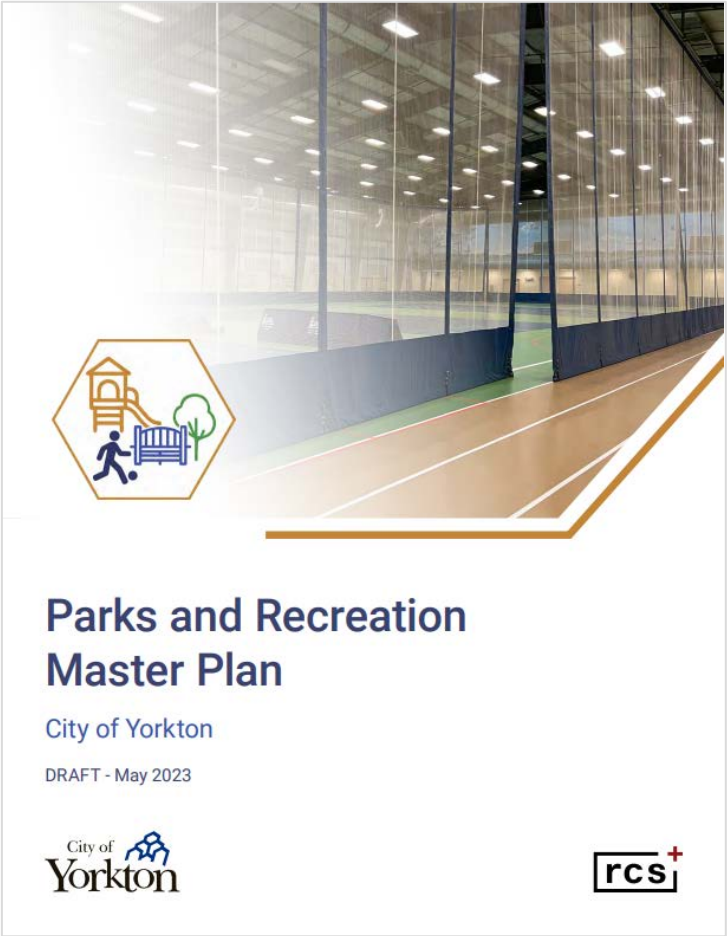
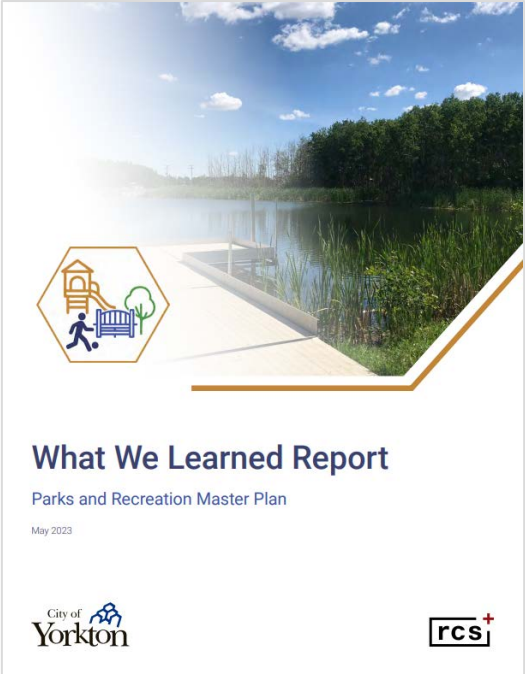
Project Process



Master Plan Inputs



Project Documents



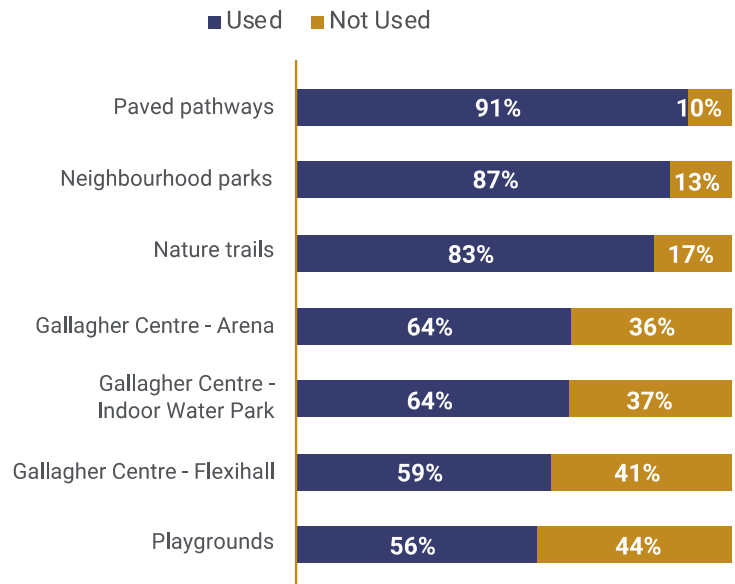
Research and Engagement – Selected Findings

Community Input

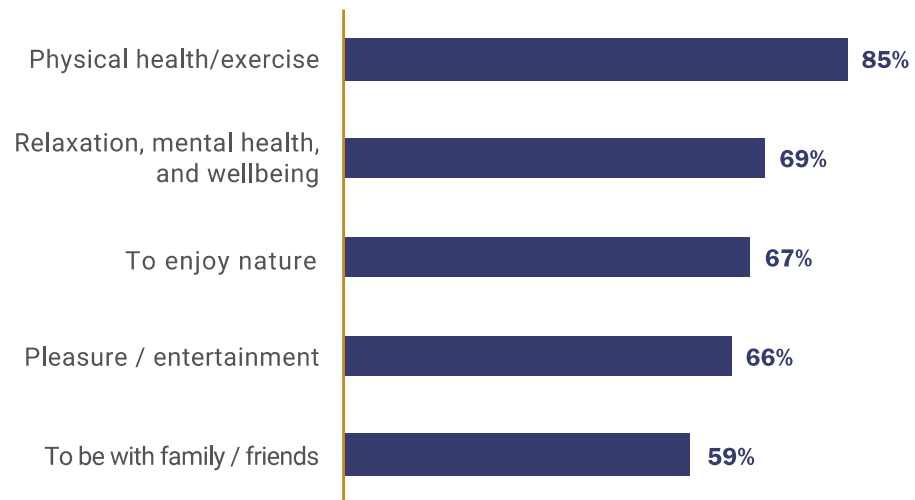
Tactic	Participation
Coded Access Survey	372 responses*
Open Access Survey	93 responses
Community Pop-Up Events	3 events
Group Survey	13 responses
Youth Survey	340 responses
Community Contributor Meetings	36 participating groups

Household Survey

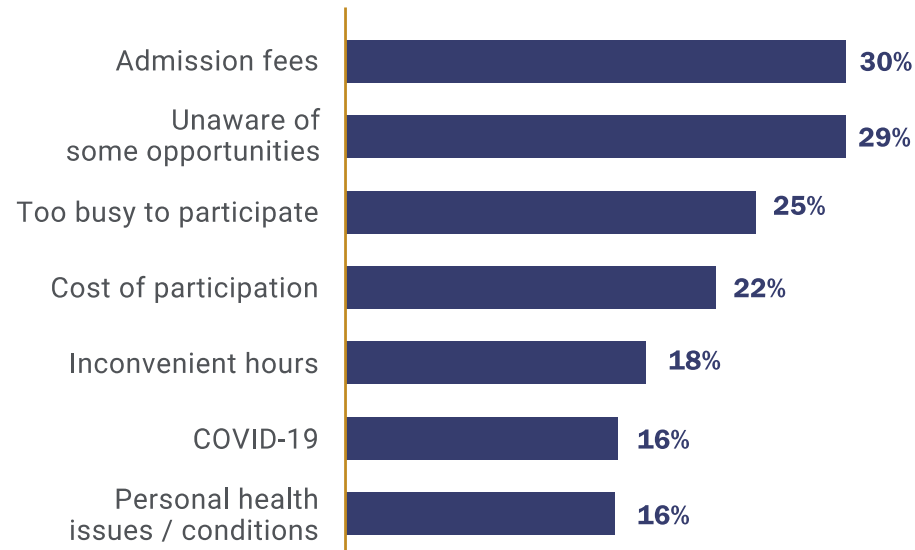
Frequency of Use



Reasons Households Participate

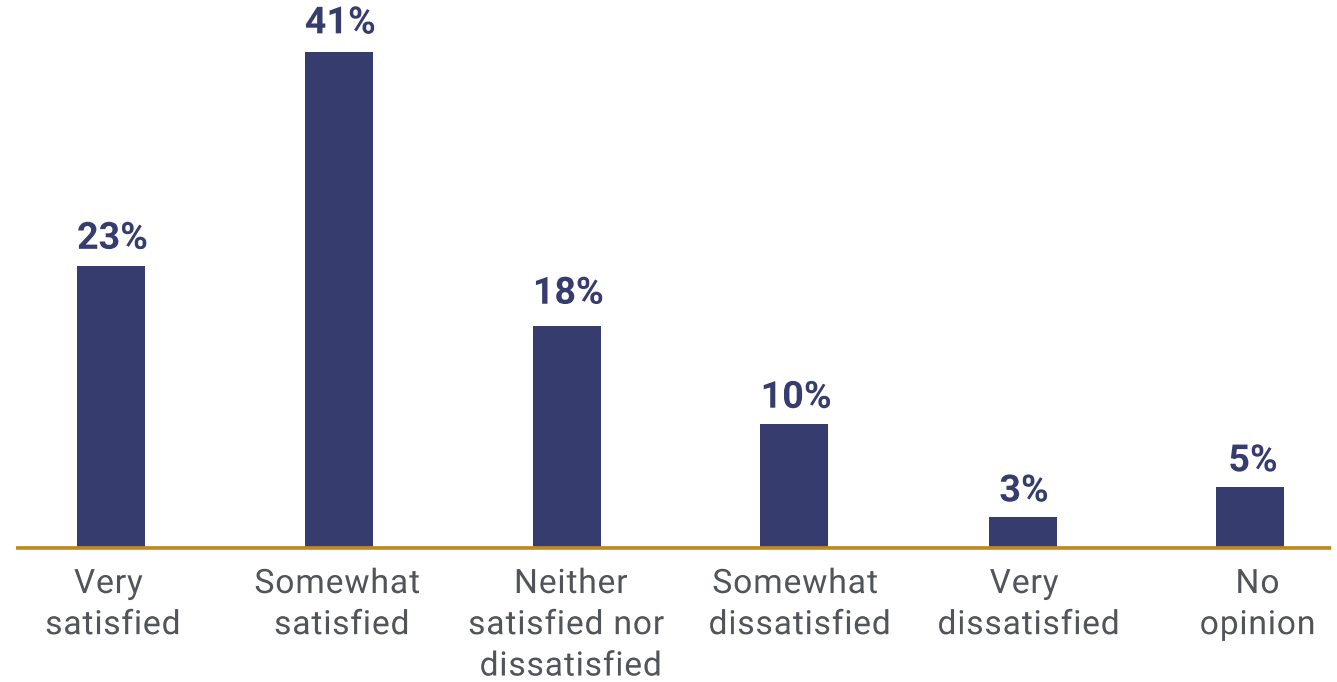


Barriers to Participation

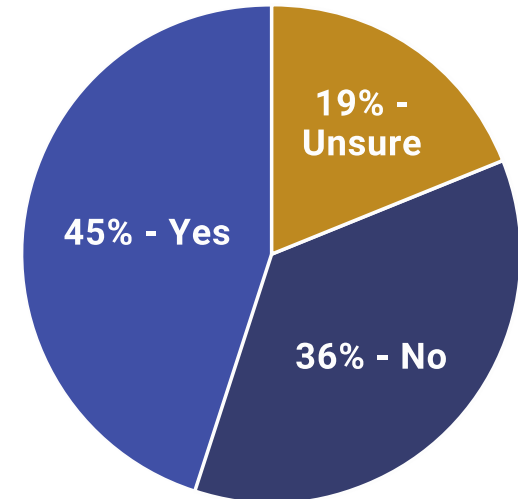


Household Survey

Satisfaction with Availability of Opportunities



Are There Adequate Parks and Recreation Facilities in Yorkton?



Agreement Level with Values and Considerations in Yorkton

■ Strongly Agree
■ Somewhat Agree
■ Neither Agree or Disagree
■ Somewhat Disagree
■ Strongly Disagree

It is important to ensure that recreation and parks opportunities are available and accessible for all residents in the community



Recreation and parks are very important to my community



Community events can help people to develop a sense of community and connection to each other



Where possible the City should partner with community groups to provide recreation and parks services



Recreation and parks services benefit all residents in the community even if they don't use them directly



Recreation and parks are very important to my household



It is important to maintain or upkeep our existing facilities before we consider developing new ones



Research Findings

Other Research and Analysis

Utilization of facilities

- Arenas are well used.
- Sports fields, ball diamonds, the field house and the pool have capacity for more use.

Trends and best practices

- Yorkton is generally well aligned with trends.
- Pickleball, evolving older adult activity preferences, and demands for spontaneous recreation are key trends to monitor.

Parks system

- Generally well distributed.
- Opportunities to increase park experience appeal and activity diversity.

Overview of the Master Plan

Master Plan Overview

Main Strategic Components of the Master Plan:

Service Delivery Objectives

- foundations for parks and recreation investment and service delivery

Service Delivery Strategies

- focus areas and tools for management, operations, and planning.

Amenity Strategies

- approaches and priorities for parks and recreation infrastructure.

**Implementation guidance is provided in Section 6 and the appendices.*

Service Delivery Objectives

Overview of the Service Delivery Objectives



Getting inactive residents involved in active living opportunities.



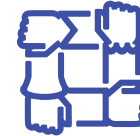
Ensuring children and youth have the physical literacy skills required to enable lifelong participation in recreation.



Meeting needs for both organized and unstructured activity.



Making optimal use of existing infrastructure.



Recognizing the increasing diversity of Yorkton and the City's commitment to Reconciliation, leveraging parks and recreation as a mechanism to build an even more inclusive and connected community.



Balancing the reality of finite financial resources (including the need to sustain existing, aging facilities) with meeting emerging recreation needs and trends.



Using parks recreation as a key mechanism to attract and retain residents.

Service Delivery Strategies

- Continue to use a **balance of direct and indirect delivery methods.**
- Use the **Program Evaluation Planning Tool** to inform decision making.
- More proactively and overtly **share the costs of providing parks and recreation services** with the public.
- **Align user fees and programs with a benefits-based model.**
- Continue to use **partnerships and collaborations.**

Service Delivery Strategies

(con't)

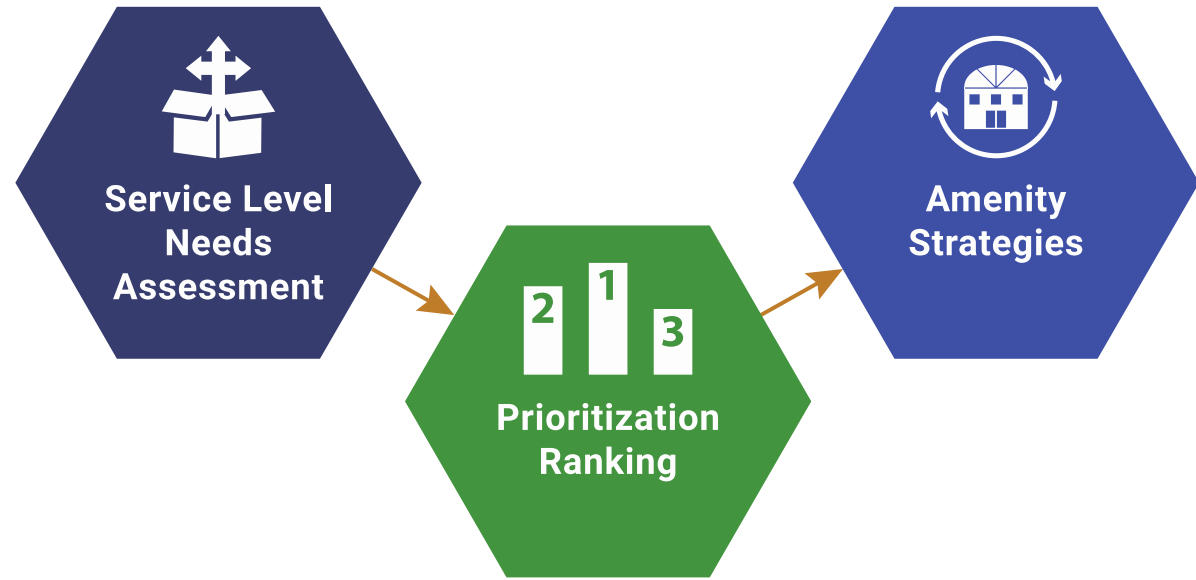
- **Implement the recently updated Parks Classification Guidelines Policy.**
- **Continue ensuring adequate investment in parks and outdoor spaces.**
- **Regularly engage with the community.**
- **Work with local agencies and other community partners to create a Recreation Access (subsidy) program.**
- **Provide staff with training regarding interactions with equity deserving residents.**

Service Delivery Strategies

(con't)

- Ensure that **allocations prioritize space based on need** while recognizing emerging activities.
- **Work closely with the Indigenous community** to promote recreation opportunities and implement the Master Plan.
- Ensure sufficient resources are invested in **promotions and marketing.**
- **Conduct audits / reviews of communications methods every 3 years.**

Infrastructure Needs



Service Level Needs Assessment 'Inputs'

- Public demand (resident perspectives on priority)
- User group and stakeholder demand
- Utilization of current facilities
- Benchmarking (comparison of service levels to other communities)
- Trends

Additional Prioritization Ranking 'Inputs'

- Recreation benefit to the community
- Estimated capital cost impacts
- Estimated operating cost impacts
- Future adaptability of the space
- Economic benefits and potential positive impacts

Amenity Strategies

Key Outdoor Amenity Strategies

- **Increase play diversity** as playground renewals occur.
- **Focus investment on** improving and expanding **parks and trails**.
- Work with the local **pickleball** community to **explore potential sites and operational models** for a hub.
- Support a business case for a **potential rectangular sport fields**.

Amenity Strategies

Key Indoor Amenity Strategies

Indoor Ice

- When the Kinsmen Arena needs to be replaced **consider replacement as part of a multi-sheet facility** (e.g. Westland Arena or potential twin sheet facility at another site).
- **Initiate feasibility analysis** of developing a **third sheet of indoor ice**.

Aquatics

- No action required – 5 swims per capita is a recommended trigger to explore increased aquatics infrastructure (currently 3.0 - 3.5).

Amenity Strategies

Key Indoor Amenity Strategies

Community Gathering and Social Space

- Identify opportunities and options to provide a low cost, social gathering space with basic food preparation amenities.

Other

- Continue to identify opportunities to **increase use of existing infrastructure** (incl. Flexihall, the Gloria Hayden, and school gyms).
- In five years, conduct a **needs assessment study on community gymnasium**.
- Identify opportunities to provide **increased seniors social space at an existing facility**.

Thank You

- Community Review and Feedback



Thank You!

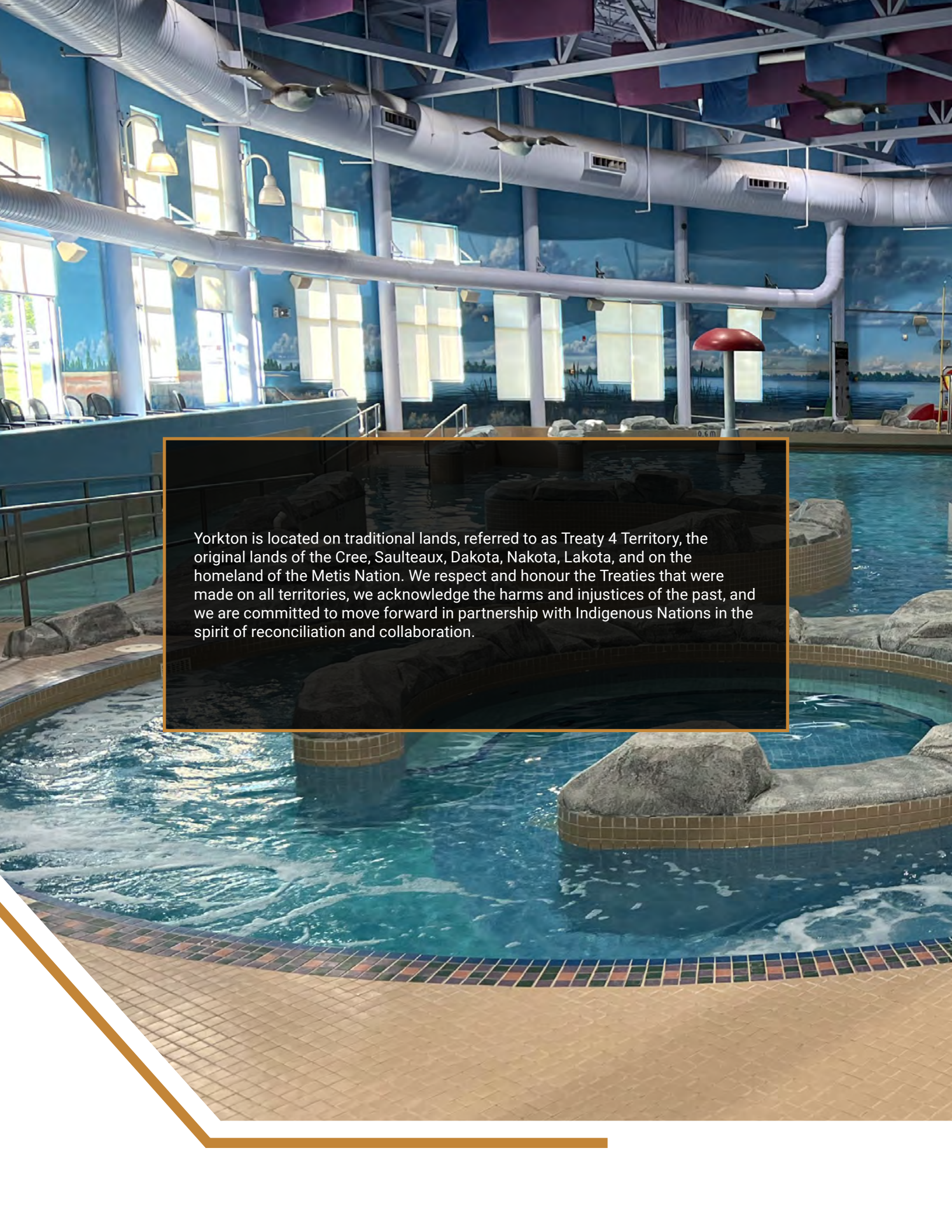


Parks and Recreation Master Plan

City of Yorkton

DRAFT - May 2023





Yorkton is located on traditional lands, referred to as Treaty 4 Territory, the original lands of the Cree, Saulteaux, Dakota, Nakota, Lakota, and on the homeland of the Metis Nation. We respect and honour the Treaties that were made on all territories, we acknowledge the harms and injustices of the past, and we are committed to move forward in partnership with Indigenous Nations in the spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

Acknowledgments

The development of this Master Plan document would not have been possible without the contributions of Yorkton residents, community organization representatives, and City staff and Council members.

The City and consulting team would like to thank everyone that participated in the development of the Master Plan for their input and contributions towards helping plan the future of parks and recreation in Yorkton!

Executive Summary

The City of Yorkton has developed this Master Plan document to guide how it invests in and delivers parks and recreation over the next 10+ years. The Master Plan is an important resource that City Council and staff can use to allocate resources, set priorities, identify opportunities to sustain what works well, and establish focus areas for improvement.

The Master Plan was informed by significant community engagement that included:

- Feedback from 465 residents through a Household Survey.
- Input from 13 groups through a Group Survey.
- Input from 36 community organizations through Community Contributor Meetings.
- Perspectives from 340 youth through a Youth Survey.

The Master Plan process also included significant research into trends, current service delivery practices, facility utilization, benchmarking, spatial analysis of the current parks system, and review of previous planning.

Section 3 of the Master Plan provides an overview of the project research and engagement. The detailed findings have been compiled into two separate background report documents: What We Learned Report (research) and What We Heard Report (engagement)

Section 4 of the Master Plan identifies seven Service Delivery Outcomes that are intended to provide foundational and aspirational goals for how the City invests in, focuses resources, and delivers parks and recreation opportunities.

The Service Delivery Objectives have been identified (see call-out box below) to provide foundational and aspirational goals for how the City invests in, focuses resources, and delivers parks and recreation opportunities. The outcomes align with broader City planning and also reflect key values identified through the community engagement.

Overview of the Service Delivery Objectives



Getting inactive residents involved in active-living opportunities.



Ensuring children and youth have the physical literacy skills required to enable lifelong participation in recreation.



Meeting needs for both organized and unstructured activity.



Making optimal use of existing infrastructure.



Recognizing the increasing diversity of Yorkton and the City's commitment to Reconciliation, leveraging parks and recreation as a mechanism to build an even more inclusive and connected community.



Balancing the reality of finite financial resources (including the need to sustain existing, aging facilities) with meeting emerging recreation needs and trends.









Using parks recreation as a key mechanism to attract and retain residents.






Section 5 of the Master Plan provides strategies for service delivery as well as parks and recreation infrastructure. The Strategies are identified below under each of these areas.

Service Delivery Strategies

- Continue to use a balance of direct and indirect delivery methods to provide recreation and related opportunities.
- Use the recommended tool (Program Evaluation Planning Tool) to inform decision making on the best approach to providing programming and activities.
- More proactively and overtly share the cost impacts of providing parks and recreation services with the public to increase levels of understanding (e.g. cost recovery for major facilities).
- Align user fees with a benefits-based model.
- Align programming with a benefits-based model.
- Continue to use partnerships and collaborations to maximize available resources.
- Implement the recently updated Parks Classification Guidelines Policy and continue to review and refresh this important parks management and planning tool on a regular basis.
- Continue ensuring adequate investment in parks and outdoor spaces.
- Regularly engage with the community to learn about desired park and outdoor space experiences and perceived gaps.
- Work with local agencies and other community partners to create a Recreation Access (subsidy) program that can support recreation programming participation and facility access for residents of all ages facing financial barriers.
- Provide all permanent staff with the appropriate training to ensure their interactions are positive and respectful with equity deserving residents, individuals facing homelessness, residents facing language barriers, and disabled individuals.
- Ensure that allocations policies and practices prioritize facility space based on need and allow time for new and emerging activities.
- Work closely with the Indigenous community and under-represented demographics in the community to promote recreation opportunities, implement mutually beneficial aspects of the Master Plan, and to deliver services on an ongoing basis.
- Ensure sufficient resources are invested in promotions and marketing.
- Conduct audits / reviews of communications methods every 3 years, including a public survey to test changes in how residents would like to learn about opportunities.
- Work with local agencies and service providers to determine how to promote recreation and parks to hard to reach populations.

Parks and Recreation Infrastructure Amenity Strategies

Amenity Type / Category	Strategies	Recommended Supply in 10 Years Relative to Current
Parks	<p>A. Increase play diversity as playground renewals and park enhancements are undertaken. These efforts should include expanded use of natural and adventure play equipment with a broader age range appeal.</p> <p>B. Establish a 10-year park renewal program focused on increasing the quality, activity diversity, and appeal of the City's parks inventory. <i>*A list of potential projects is provided in Appendix B.</i></p> <p>C. Continue to work with the Indigenous community and partner organizations to reflect Indigenous culture and history, and to advance decolonization efforts.</p>	 Increase Supply
Trails	<p>A. Increase the supply of all trail types in the community with a focus on improving connectivity and linking recreation sites (to enable better access via active transportation modes). <i>*A list of potential projects is provided in Appendix B.</i></p> <p>B. Improve trail animation and functionality, including wayfinding signage and support amenities (benches, garbage receptacles, etc.).</p> <p>C. Encourage the increased use of the golf course for off-season (winter) trail activities.</p> <p>D. Develop and implement a system for trail usage tracking.</p>	 Increase Supply
Ice Arenas	<p>A. When the Kinsmen Arena needs to be replaced (previous study has estimated approximately 15 years), consider replacement as part of a multisheet facility with the existing Westland Arena or potentially as part of an eventual new twin sheet facility at another site.</p> <p>B. Initiate feasibility analysis to validate the costs of developing a third sheet of indoor ice and identify potential site options.</p> <p><i>*Both of the above Strategies could occur simultaneously as part of an Arena Strategy that helps map out ice needs in the community and opportunities to maximize multisheet facilities over the long-term.</i></p>	 Potentially Increased Supply (pending further study and cost analysis)
Aquatics	<p>A. Explore options for additional water space capacity (indoor expansion or outdoor pool) when annual swims per capita exceed 5 (currently 3.0 - 3.5).</p> <p>B. As existing spray parks require renewal, identify and evaluate opportunities to meet outdoor aquatics demand as part of the Park Renewal Strategy.</p>	 Similar Supply
Large Span Indoor Dry-Floor Spaces	<p>A. Continue to identify opportunities to increase use of existing infrastructure, including the Flexihall, the Gloria Hayden Community Centre, and school gymnasiums (including Joint Use Agreements).</p> <p>B. In approximately five years, conduct a needs assessment study on community gymnasium needs to re-assess capacity, emerging trends, and identify if current infrastructure is sufficient for the long-term.</p>	 Similar Supply
Community Gathering and Social Spaces	<p>A. Identify opportunities and options to provide a low cost, social gathering space with basic food preparation amenities (e.g. community cook shack or indoor space).</p>	 Potentially Increased Supply (pending options identification)

Amenity Type / Category	Strategies	Recommended Supply in 10 Years Relative to Current
Indoor Specialty Amenities	A. Identify opportunities to provide increased seniors social space at an existing facility.	 Potentially Increased or Enhanced Supply
Outdoor Specialty Amenities	A. Consider trending amenities like pump tracks, smaller scale skateboard and scooter features (e.g. "skate spots"), and disc golf course as part of all community park renewal and new development projects.	 Potentially Increased or Enhanced Supply
Outdoor Courts	A. Work with the local pickleball community to explore potential sites and operational models for a pickleball hub of 8+ courts.	 Increased Supply
Ball Diamonds	A. Maintain the current supply of ball diamond infrastructure.	 Similar Supply
Sports Fields	<p>A. Support a business case for a potential rectangular sport field. The business case should be led by a committee consisting of representative from multiple field sport interests / activities, the business community, community-at-large, and City representatives. The business case should focus on and further exploring field typology needs and benefits (e.g. Class A natural surface vs artificial turf), capital and operating cost impacts, potential levels of use, and community fundraising capacity as guidelines for the City to support future funding and other contributions to this project.</p> <p>B. Continue to ensure the existing sport field inventory is optimized through sound maintenance practices.</p>	 Potentially Increased or Enhanced Supply

A high level implementation plan for the Service Delivery Strategies and Parks and Recreation Infrastructure Amenity Strategies are provided in [Section 6](#). It will be important for the City to review, refresh, update, and add detail to the implementation plan on a regular basis.

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1.0 Introduction



1.1. Master Plan Context and Purpose

The City of Yorkton is located in southeast Saskatchewan on Treaty 4 Territory, the traditional lands of the Plains Cree, Saulteux, Dakota, Lakota, Nakota peoples, and the homeland of the Metis. The city is home to over 16,000 residents making it the 6th largest city in the province. Situated approximately 200 km from Regina, Yorkton also serves as the service centre for east central Saskatchewan having a trading area of over 100,000 people.

As is common for a city of its size that serves as a regional service centre, Yorkton provides a broad array of parks and recreation services. Including indoor and outdoor facilities and amenities as well as programs and events, there is a broad range of services to address the needs of both residents and visitors. These services are provided directly by the City of Yorkton and are also delivered by a broad array of organizations in Yorkton, many of them volunteer run.

The provision of recreation and parks services requires a significant amount of resources. The City has a significant investment in indoor and outdoor infrastructure including, but not limited to, the Gallagher Centre, Kinsmen Arena, a golf course, outdoor skating rinks, tennis courts, skateboard park, innumerable parks, diamonds, soccer pitches, play structures, spray parks, and its paved and unpaved pathway system. While requiring initial investment, there is a need for ongoing capital investments to keep facilities and amenities in good repair and to address needed improvements. As many of the services are delivered by community organizations using City facilities, resources are expended by the City in working with these groups through agreements and other partnerships. Interacting with the residents of Yorkton is an ongoing effort as well.

The City developed this Master Plan as part of its efforts to best respond to current demands and also to position itself for future program and infrastructure needs. This document presents a recommended course of action for the City. More specifically, the Master Plan will:

- Guide future capital investment (new facilities / amenities and re-investment into existing ones);
- Identify opportunities to optimize programming, policy and other aspects of service delivery; and
- Provide staff and decision makers with a resource that can ensure decision making is informed.



1.2. Master Plan Process

A structured process was implemented that led from project initiation through the collection of information and the development of the Master Plan itself. This process ensured the strategic direction provided in the Master Plan was based on sound research and reflects community need.



The Master Plan is informed and built upon a thorough program of research including an examination of the current state in Yorkton along with a comprehensive community engagement process. This information is fully presented under two separate covers: “What We Learned” and “What We Heard”. References to the content of these two reports is included in subsequent sections of this document.



1.3. Planning Alignment

This Master Plan, while providing guidance to the Recreation and Community Services Department, will ultimately direct the City in its delivery of recreation and parks services. It is important to note that this plan is intended to augment and support other plans in place in the City. An interconnected system of plans helps ensure that the City is working most effectively and efficiently. *An overview of key documents reviewed is provided in Section 3.

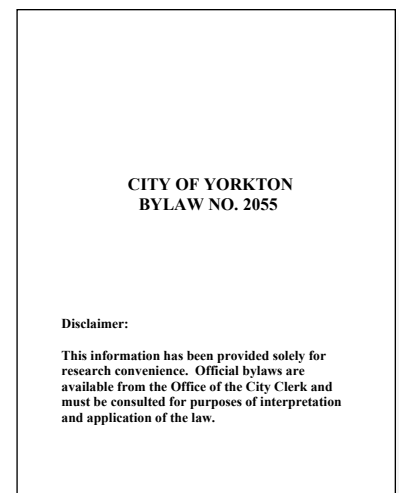
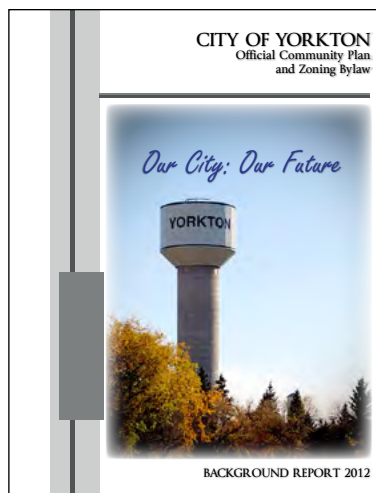
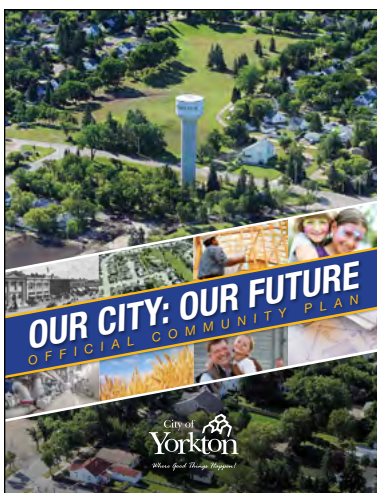
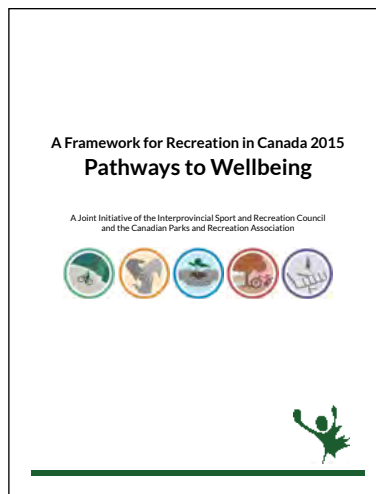
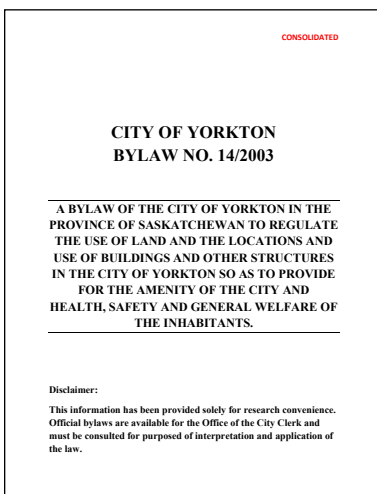
This Master Plan is also guided by the Framework for Recreation in Canada (2015). The Framework is a joint initiative of the Interprovincial Sport and Recreation Council and the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association.

The Framework, through its definition of recreation, provides a reference point for all.

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.

The Framework also presents a Vision:

We envision a Canada in which everyone is engaged in meaningful, accessible recreation experiences that foster individual well-being, community well-being and the well-being of our natural and built environments.



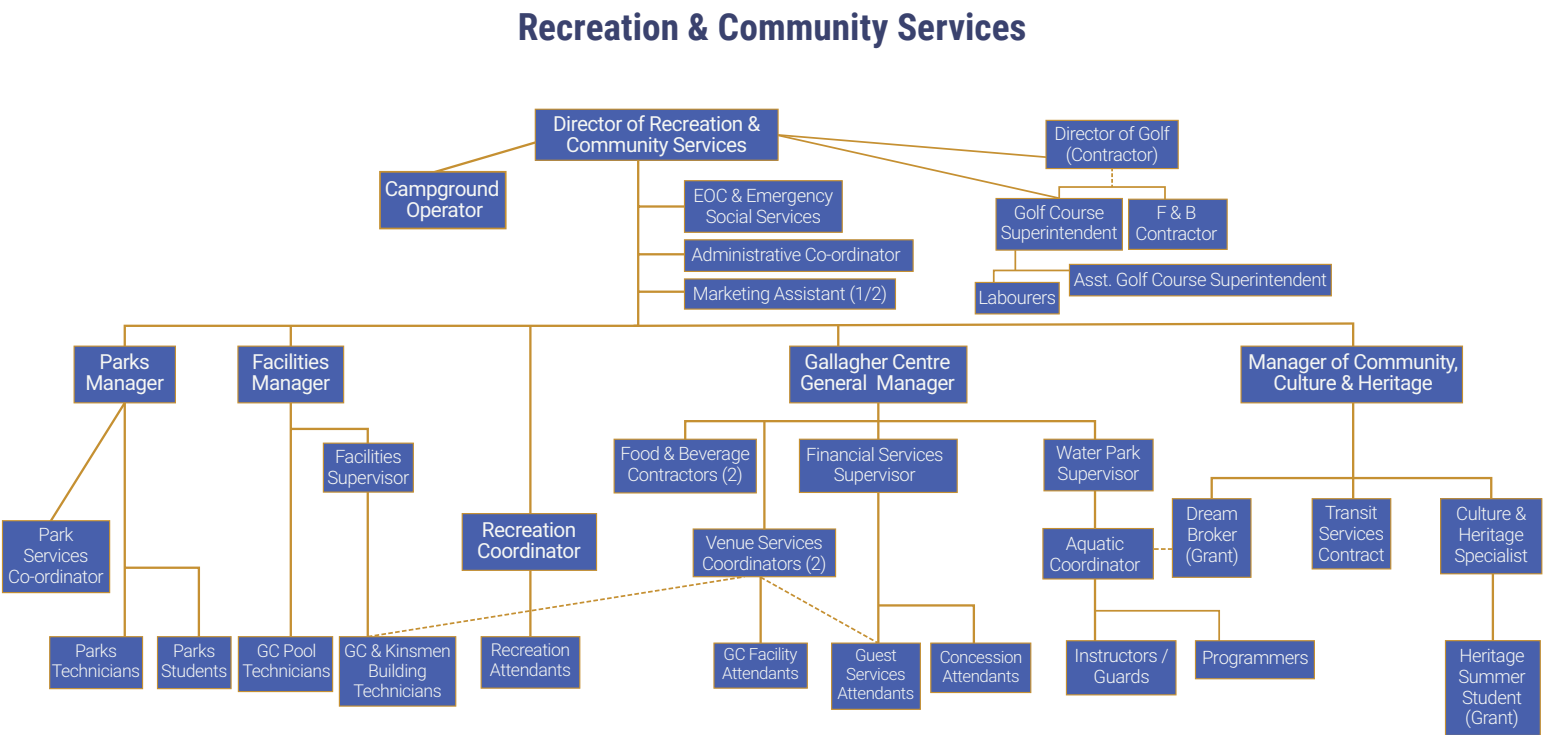
2.0 The Current Recreation and Parks Context in Yorkton



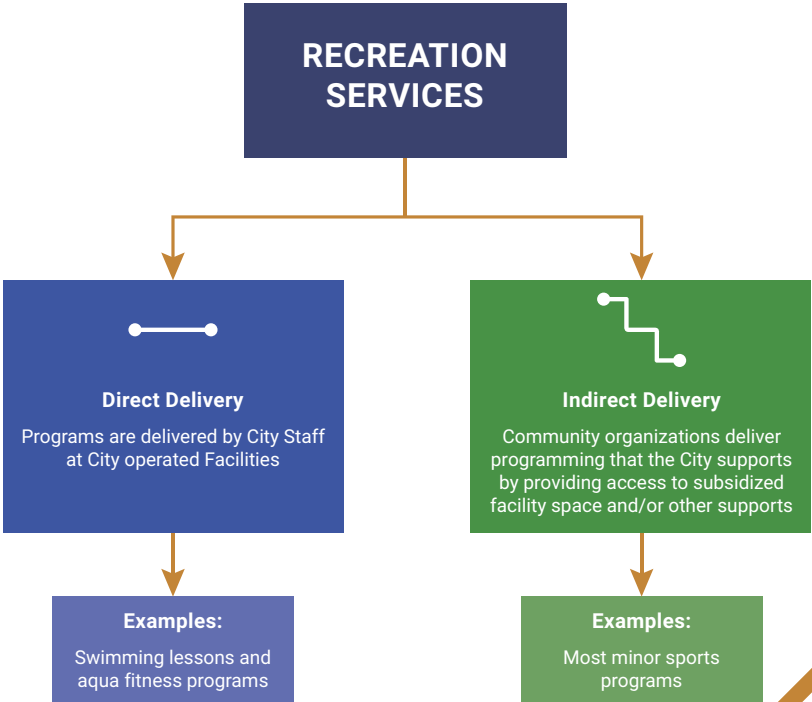
Photo from City of Yorkton Facebook

2.1. Service Delivery Context (How does the City currently provide parks and recreation?)

The City invests significantly in recreation and parks services and provides these opportunities to residents through its Recreation and Community Services Department. The following graphic provides an overview of the structure and roles within the department.



Like most municipalities of a similar size, the City provides parks and recreation opportunities using a combination of direct and indirect delivery. The determination on which approach to use is usually based on community group and volunteer capacity (e.g. whether a group exists to run the program). It is important to reiterate that indirect delivery, while reliant on community organizations, has a cost impact on the City through the provision of subsidized facility time, in-kind supports, and in grants.



2.2.Current Facilities and Spaces Overview

The City provides a wide range of indoor and outdoor recreation and leisure opportunities for residents. The replacement value of the City's asset based of facilities is in the hundreds of millions of dollars and will require ongoing lifecycle reinvestment to sustain what currently exists.

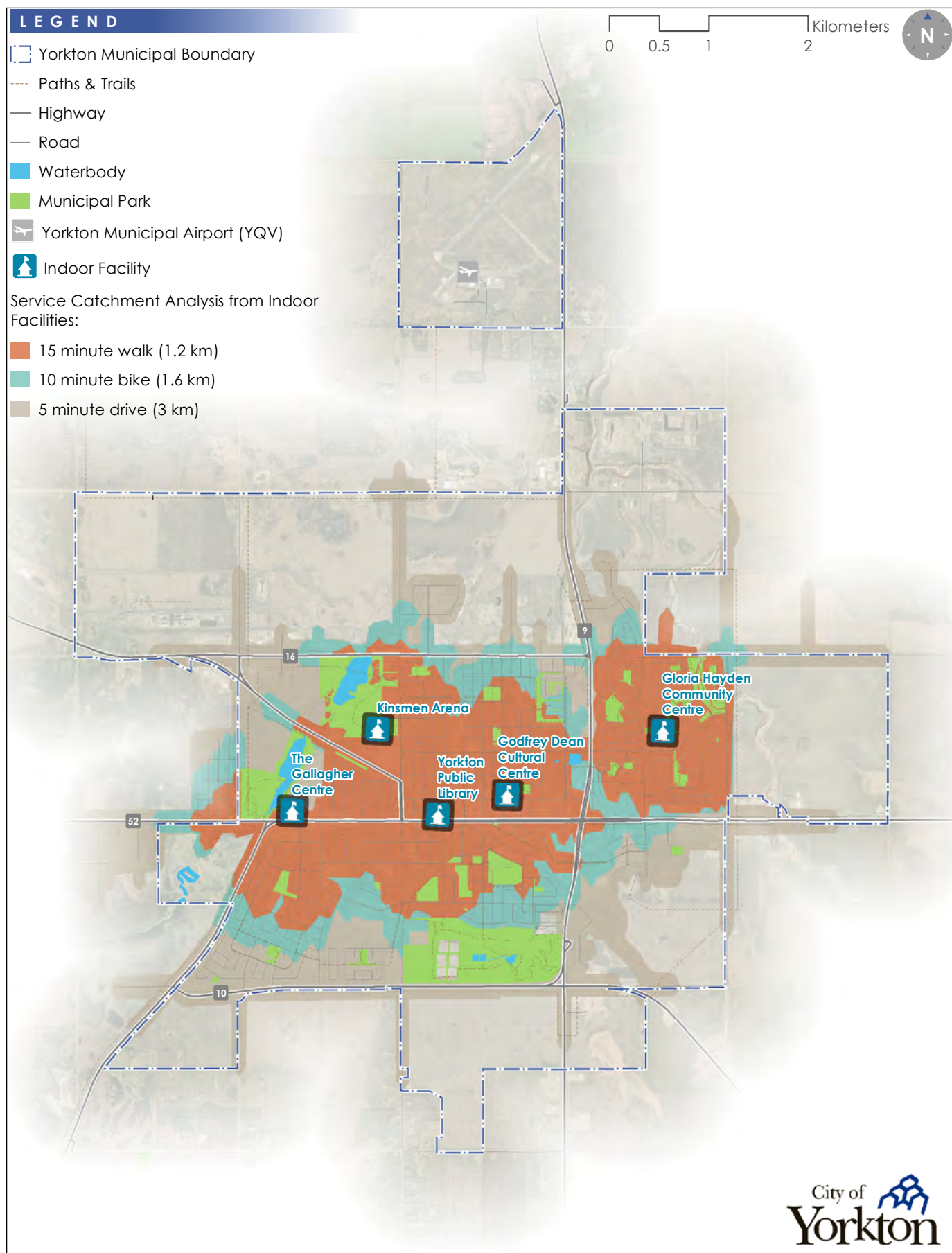
At a Glance – Overview of Major Parks and Recreation Infrastructure in Yorkton

Facility / Amenity Type	#	Location(s)
Indoor Ice Arenas	2	Westland Insurance Arena - Gallagher Centre (1) Kinsmen Arena (1)
Indoor Pools	1	Access Communications Water Park - Gallagher Centre
Multipurpose Large Span Spaces	2	Gallagher Centre Flexihall Gloria Hayden Community Centre
Libraries	1	Yorkton Public Library and Reference Centre
Arts and Cultural Centres	1	Godfrey Dean Cultural Centre
Ball Diamonds	9	Jubilee Park (4) Jaycee Beach Ball Diamonds (4) Lions Ball Diamond (1)
Sport Fields	4	Logan Park (4)
Trails	10 km (paved)	Throughout the community
Skate Parks	1	Yorkton Skate Park
Tennis Courts	8	Western Development Museum Tennis Courts (4) Knights of Columbus Park (2) Heritage Heights Park (2)
Playgrounds	9	Heritage Heights Park, Silver Heights Park, Tupper Park, Shaw Park, Jackson Park, Weinmaster Park, Knights of Columbus Park, Waterloo Park, Sign Park.

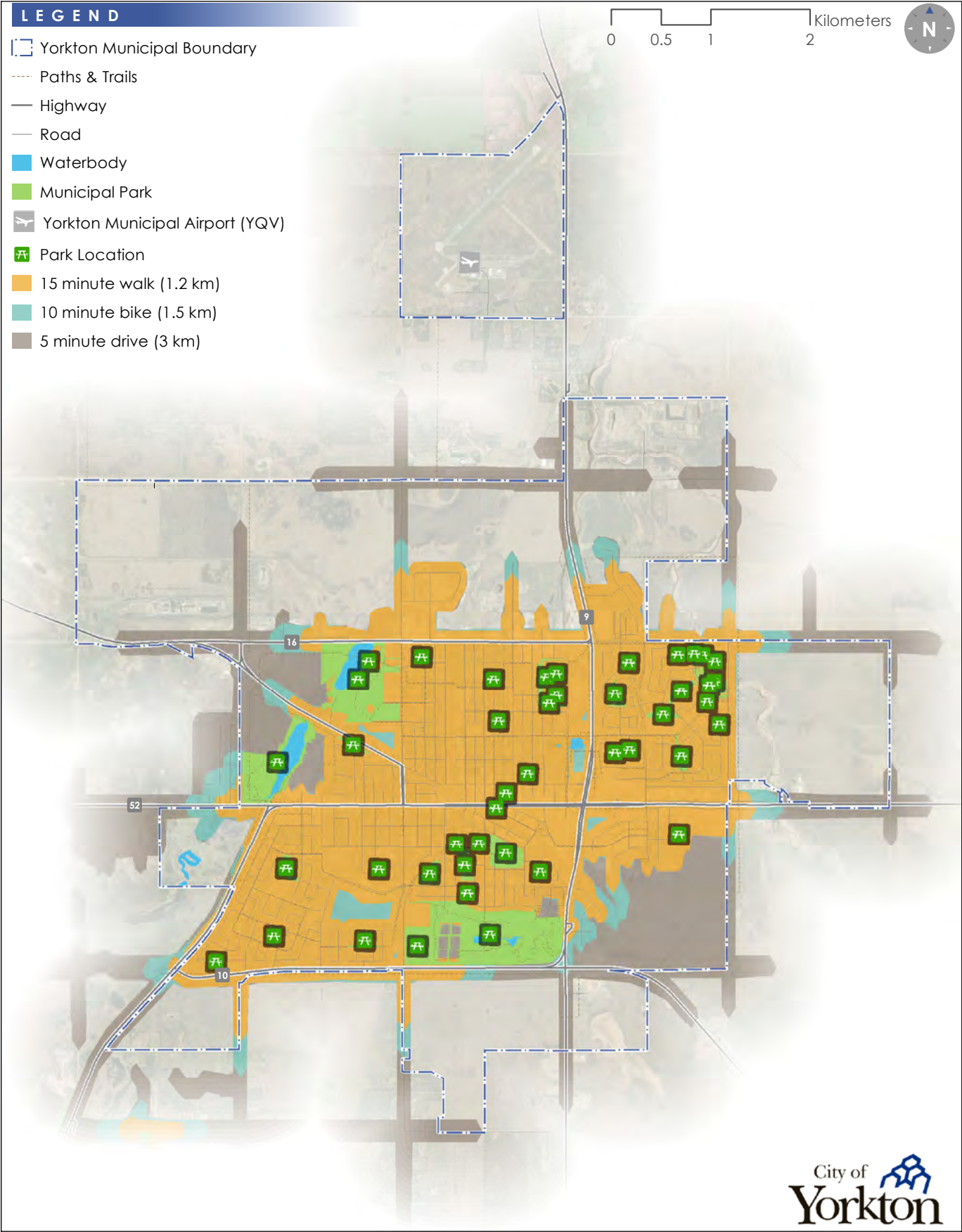
Noted below are additional key indicators and characteristics pertaining to the City's inventory and recreation and parks assets.

- Excluding pandemic impacted years, the City's ice arenas are consistently used >90% of available prime time hours. Both arena facilities are older and the City has undertaken assessment and study of lifespan and required re-investment.
- Parks are well distributed within the community, with well over 90% of residents having access to a park space within a 15 minute walk.
- Available bookings data suggests that there is ample opportunity to increase utilization of sports fields and ball diamonds.
- Prior to the pandemic, the Access Communications Water Park was receiving between 3-4 annual swims per capita. This figure suggests that current aquatics space is not nearing capacity.
- The City has made some investments in trails over the past 10-15 years, however opportunities remain to improve connectivity and trail diversity.
- Unlike many communities, Yorkton does not currently provide a public fitness centre. As the private fitness market tends to be dynamic and tailored to specific demographics, this may impact fitness opportunity access for some demographics.

Overview of Indoor Facilities



Overview of the Parks System



3.0 What We Learned & Heard Summary



Photo from City of Yorkton

3.1 Overview – Research Inputs and Master Plan Background Documents

The What We Learned Report is built upon a thorough program of research that includes the following components:

- Community Demographics
- Trends and Leading Practices
- Policy and Planning Review
- Inventory and Utilization Assessment
- Benchmarking
- Service Review



3.2 What We Learned Summary

This section provides a brief overview of each component of research conducted. For a more in-depth analysis on the research conducted, please see the What We Learned Report.

Community Demographics

- Yorkton is the sixth largest City in Saskatchewan.
- Yorkton has a robust trading area which is estimated to service 113,000 people
- There is an abundance of education opportunities for Youth in Yorkton.
- In general, Yorkton's age demographic aligns with similarly sized municipalities in the province.
- The City is projecting growth of 25,000 residents by 2040.
- Yorkton has the third highest Indigenous population in the province with a population of 1,935.
- The largest sector of employment within Yorkton is sales and service, employing 30% of the workforce.

Trends and Leading Practices

- Data collection is an important tactic that municipalities are utilizing to understand needs, preferences, and desires of users.
- Recognizing the role of recreation in Truth and Reconciliation efforts and how the sector can continue moving forward in a positive way.
- Reiterating the importance of belonging in community and the role parks and recreation can play in creating safe and welcoming spaces.
- There is a continued shift away from standalone to multipurpose facilities that can provide opportunities for all ages, interests, and ability levels at a single facility.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has led to increasing use and passion for parks and trails; a trend that appears to be continuing. While connecting individuals to these spaces is a great societal opportunity, it does require adequate management and conservation focus by municipalities and other stewards of these spaces.
- There is increasing demand for older adult participation in parks and recreation activities. Older adults are steering away from the traditional activities and are taking part in trending activities such as pickleball. Ensuring programming opportunities and space for this generation to participate is important.
- Recreation interests and preferences continue to diversify, with a willingness to try a wider array of organized and nonorganized activities.

Policy and Planning Review

A review of planning and policy documents that influence the provision of parks and recreation service delivery was conducted. The list of documents reviewed included:

City Plans

- » Yorkton Strategic Plan (2010)
- » City of Yorkton Official Community Plan Background Report (2012)
- » City of Yorkton Master Plan (2014)
- » Yorkton Municipal Culture Plan (2009)
- » Yorkton Kinsmen Arena Facility and Assessment Feasibility Study (2019)
- » Yorkton Recreation Planning Study City Council Presentation (2019)
- » Gallagher Centre Renewal Project Council Presentation (2020)
- » Pump Bike Park Development Review (2021)
- » Community Development, Parks and Recreation Fees (2022)
- » City of Yorkton Transportation Master Plan (2012)

Regional Plans

- » Yorkton Regional Transportation Study (2018)
- » Yorkton Regional Planning District Plan (2016)

National Plans

- » Parks for All (2017)
- » Framework for Recreation in Canada (2015)
- » Canada Sport Policy (under review)

Facility Utilization Analysis

Utilization and participation data was gathered for both indoor and outdoor recreation and parks spaces in Yorkton. The analysis focused on a timeframe from 2019-2022 in attempt to reflect typical levels of use before the COVID-19 pandemic. It also provided insight into how some amenities dealt with the pandemic and how some spaces rebounded. The key findings from the utilization analysis follows.

- Arenas have consistently experienced high levels of utilization (prime time hours booked above 90%). Youth ice sport groups consume the most ice time, accounting for approximately 40% of all bookings.
- Yorkton's overall ball diamonds and sport fields inventory has a significant amount of capacity to accommodate future growth. User group demands for enhanced fields are most likely a product of field quality or typology.
- The Access Communications Water Park accommodates between 50,000 - 60,000 swim visits annually (3.0 - 3.6 swims per capita). While the facility is well-utilized it is not nearing or over capacity.
- In general, opportunities exist to increase use of the Gallagher Centre fieldhouse for drop-in sports, fitness classes, and other programming.

Benchmarking

Benchmarking comparison research was conducted to contrast municipally owned or supported infrastructure provision in Yorkton against other municipalities of similar size or context in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Additionally, some specific policies and practices were reviewed to provide some insight into how these other communities provide services. Comparing municipalities directly in this way must be done carefully, as all communities are unique. However, this comparison research does provide a general picture as to how Yorkton compares to other municipalities. Working with the Project Steering Committee, five different municipalities were selected for comparison. These included¹:

- North Battleford SK (13,836)
- Swift Current SK (16,750)
- Brandon MB (51,313)
- Brooks AB (14,924)
- Cold Lake AB (15,661)

Provided below is a synopsis of key findings from the benchmarking research:

- Yorkton generally provides most types of recreation amenities at similar levels to the comparators.
- Amenities provided at a higher (better) provision level included indoor aquatics facilities, gymnasiums, curling sheets, indoor walking tracks, theatre venues, disc golf courses, municipal golf courses, multisport courts, and outdoor rinks.
- Amenities provided at lesser (worse) levels to comparators included bike parks, off-leash areas, public fitness / weight rooms, and ice arena sheets.

Service Review Summary

Parks and recreation opportunities are provided by several departments, boards, and organizations in Yorkton with the City taking a key leadership role. The City actively supports programs, activities, and events offered by community groups and nonprofits in the area. As part of the research and analysis, the project team also reviewed how the City invests in and provides parks and recreation opportunities. Summarized below are key findings and important considerations.

- The City of Yorkton has a sizable array of community groups providing a variety of activities to residents.
- The City has successfully balanced direct program provision (City staff providing programming) with indirect program provision (supporting community groups to offer programming and other activities).
- Opportunities exist to be more transparent with the rationale and structure for setting user fees.
- City staff have done an excellent job being creative through the pandemic, and will now need to monitor how activity preferences and demands have evolved.
- Parks and recreation provide wide ranging physical, social, community, and economic benefits. The City should continue to ensure that residents understand these benefits and how they impact decision making.
- The City's approach to programming at facilities it operates is highly cost recovery driven. While it will always be important for the City to provide recreation services within its financial means, ensuring equity and access for all residents needs to also be an important consideration as program planning is undertaken.

¹ North Battleford, Swift Current, Brandon, Brooks, and Cold Lake population data is sourced from the most recent (2021) census.

3.3 What We Heard Summary

To support and inform the development of the Recreation and Parks Master Plan, a comprehensive engagement program was implemented to gather the thoughts from residents.

Tactic	Participation
Coded Access Survey	372 responses*
Open Access Survey	93 responses
Community Pop-Up Events	3 events
Group Survey	13 responses
Youth Survey	340 responses
Community Contributor Meetings	36 participating groups

* If the survey was fielded by random sampling the margin of error would equate to +/- 4.9% nineteen times out of twenty.

This section provides a brief overview of the engagement findings. For a detailed analysis and presentation of the engagement findings, please see the What We Heard Report.



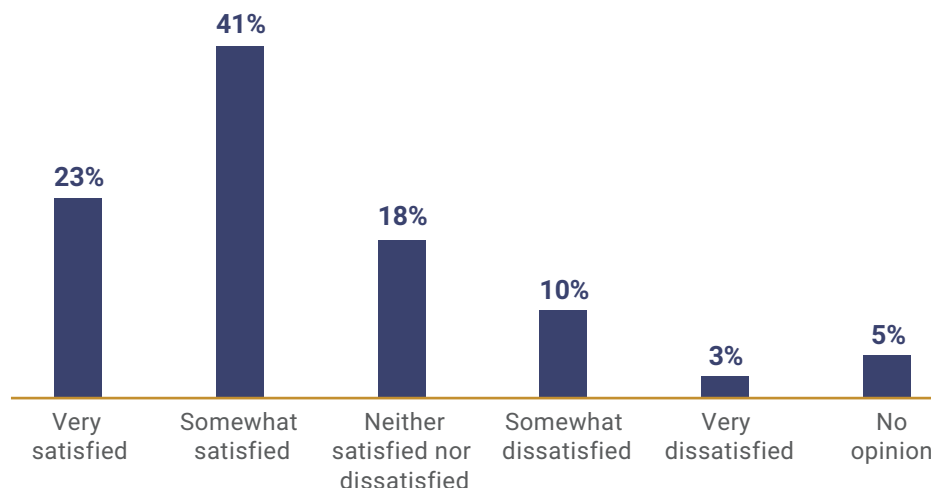
Household Survey Highlights & Key Themes

A coded access survey was fielded with households in Yorkton to gather their perspectives on parks and recreation provision. The access codes were distributed to households via postcards utilizing Canada Post's neighbourhood mail – 8,151 households were sent a postcard. The City's website was used as a host for the survey. The survey gathered responses from September 28th – October 16th. Over that time 372 responses were gathered.

Satisfaction with Availability of Opportunities

Key Finding:

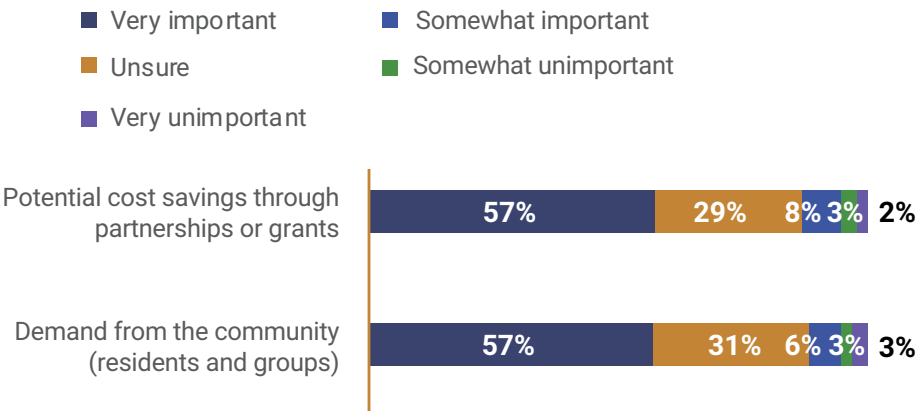
There is general satisfaction with the availability of parks and recreation opportunities in Yorkton.



Key Finding:

It is important that the City consider potential cost savings through partnerships and grants and demand from the community when making future decisions about parks and recreation.

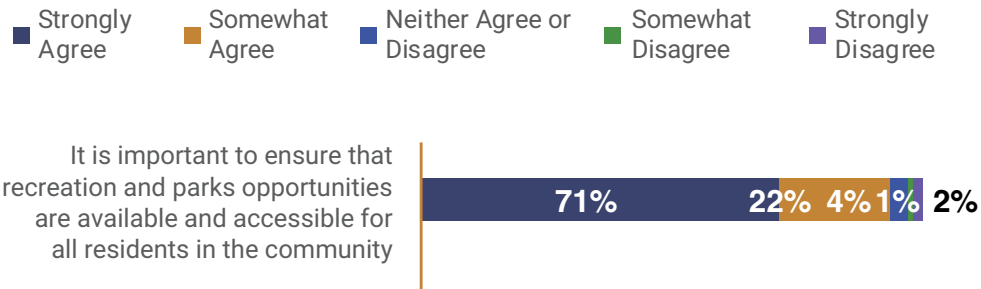
Importance of Criteria Set Priorities



Key Finding:

There is a strong belief that it is important to ensure that parks and recreation opportunities are available and accessible for all residents in the community.

Agreement Level with Values and Considerations in Yorkton



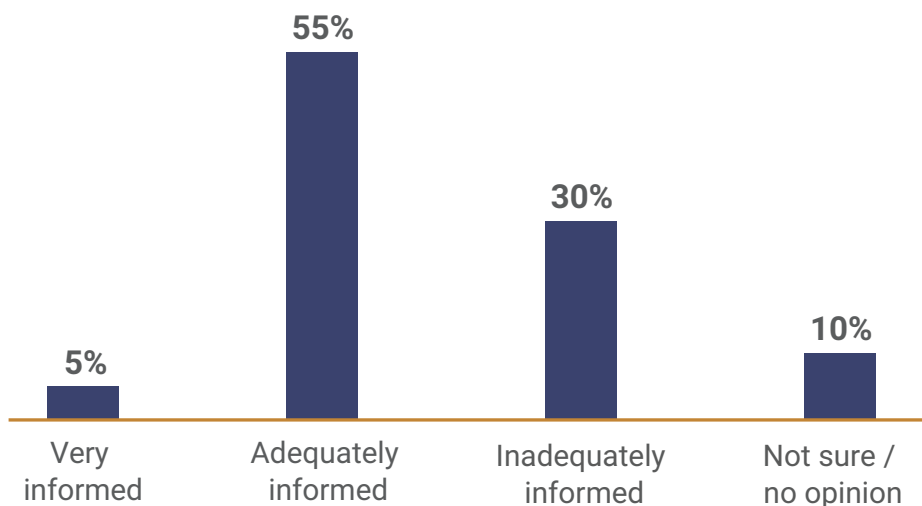
The Importance of Considering Equity in Prioritization

While resident priorities as identified through the Household Survey are an important input to prioritization (including the recommended priorities and strategies identified in Section 5), others factors and considerations beyond public demand must be taken into account. These factors include recreation equity and focusing resources where they can provide the greatest public benefit to all – including populations that may be hard to reach or fully represented through some engagement methods like surveys. For example, discussions with community service agencies strongly reflected the need for multipurpose / flexible and affordable spaces such as sport courts for basketball, social gathering areas for new Canadians, and youth focused spaces.

Key Finding:

While most Yorkton residents are adequately informed about parks and recreation opportunities, room for improvement exists (nearly one third expressed that they are inadequately informed).

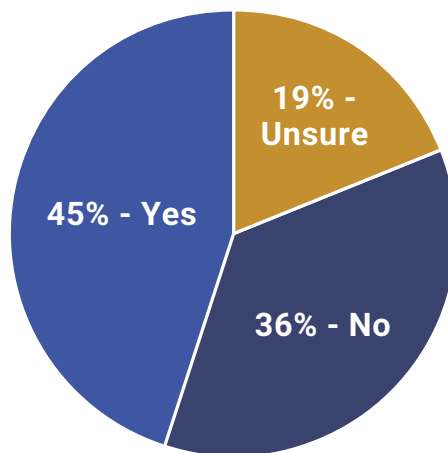
How Informed Residents Feel About Parks and Recreation in Yorkton



Key Finding:

Residents have mixed perspectives on whether current facilities are adequate in the community.

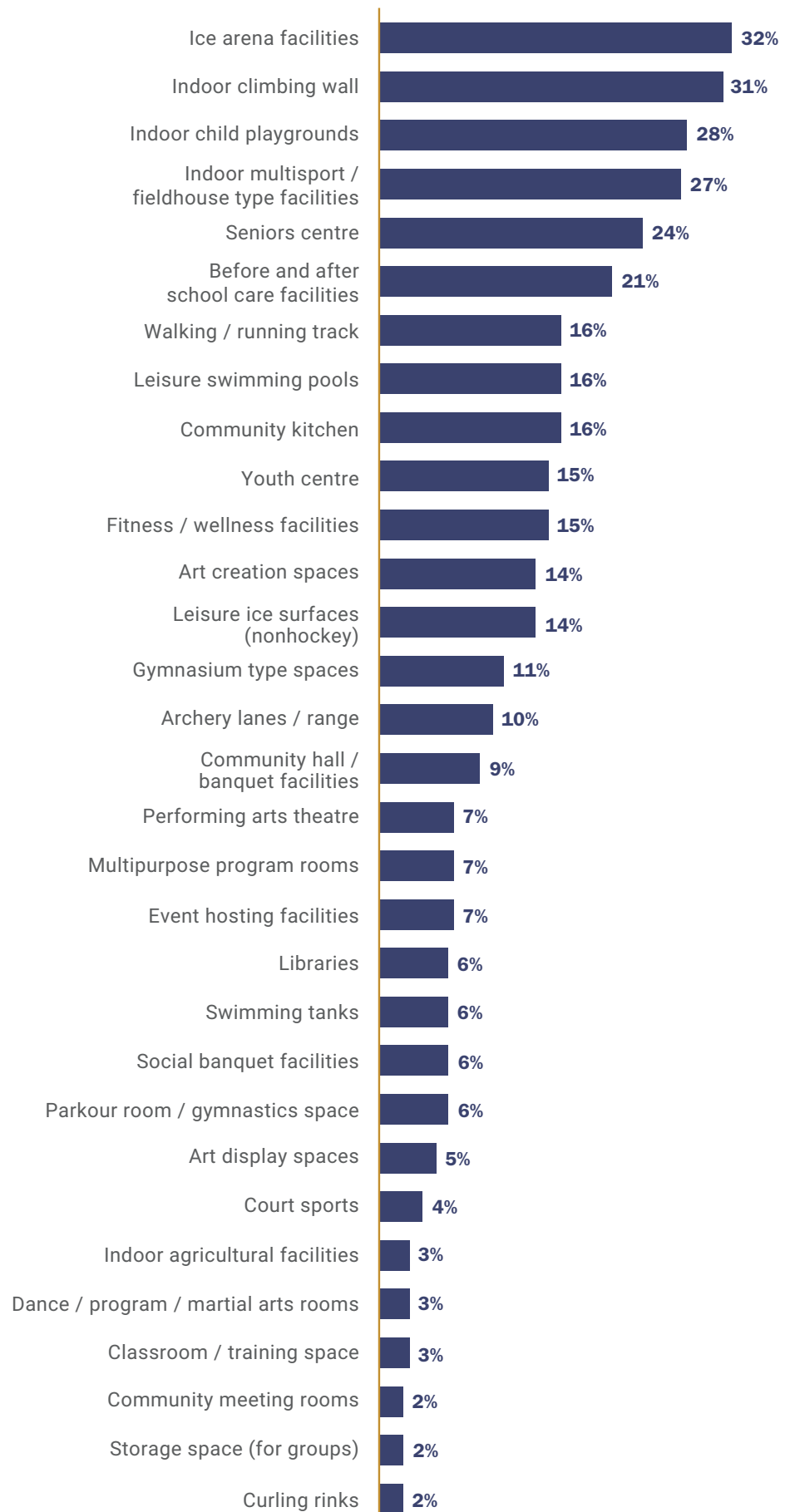
Are There Adequate Parks and Recreation Facilities in Yorkton?



Key Finding:

Resident demands and desires for new and improved recreation infrastructure are diverse.

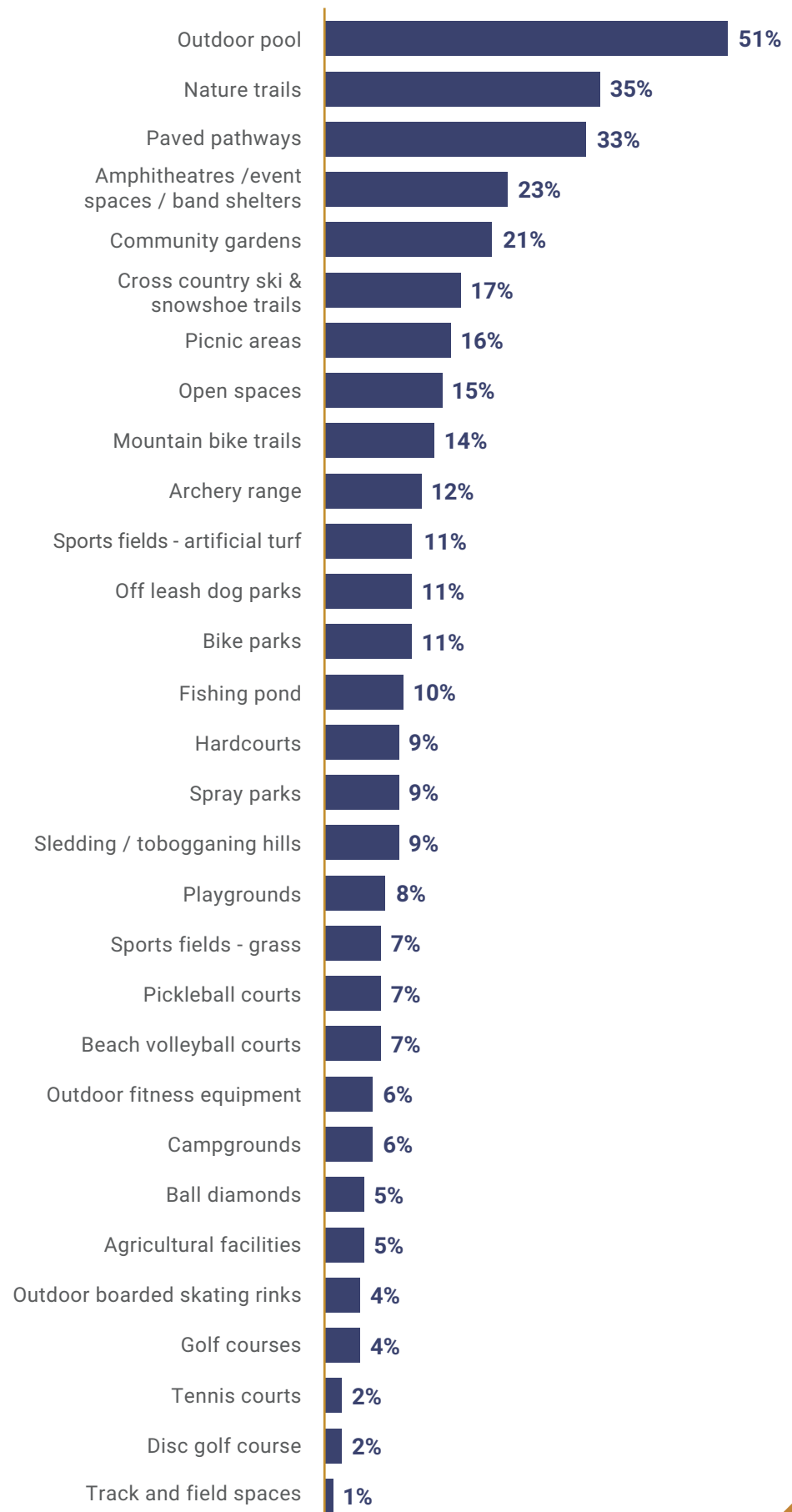
Indoor Facilities and Amenities That Should Be More Readily Available or Enhanced



Key Finding:

There is a strong demand for new and improved trails and pathways in the community.

Outdoor Facilities and Amenities That Should Be More Readily Available or Enhanced



Key Finding:

There is some support for a tax increase for new services in Yorkton.

Increase In Property Taxes For New Services Your Household Members Would Use

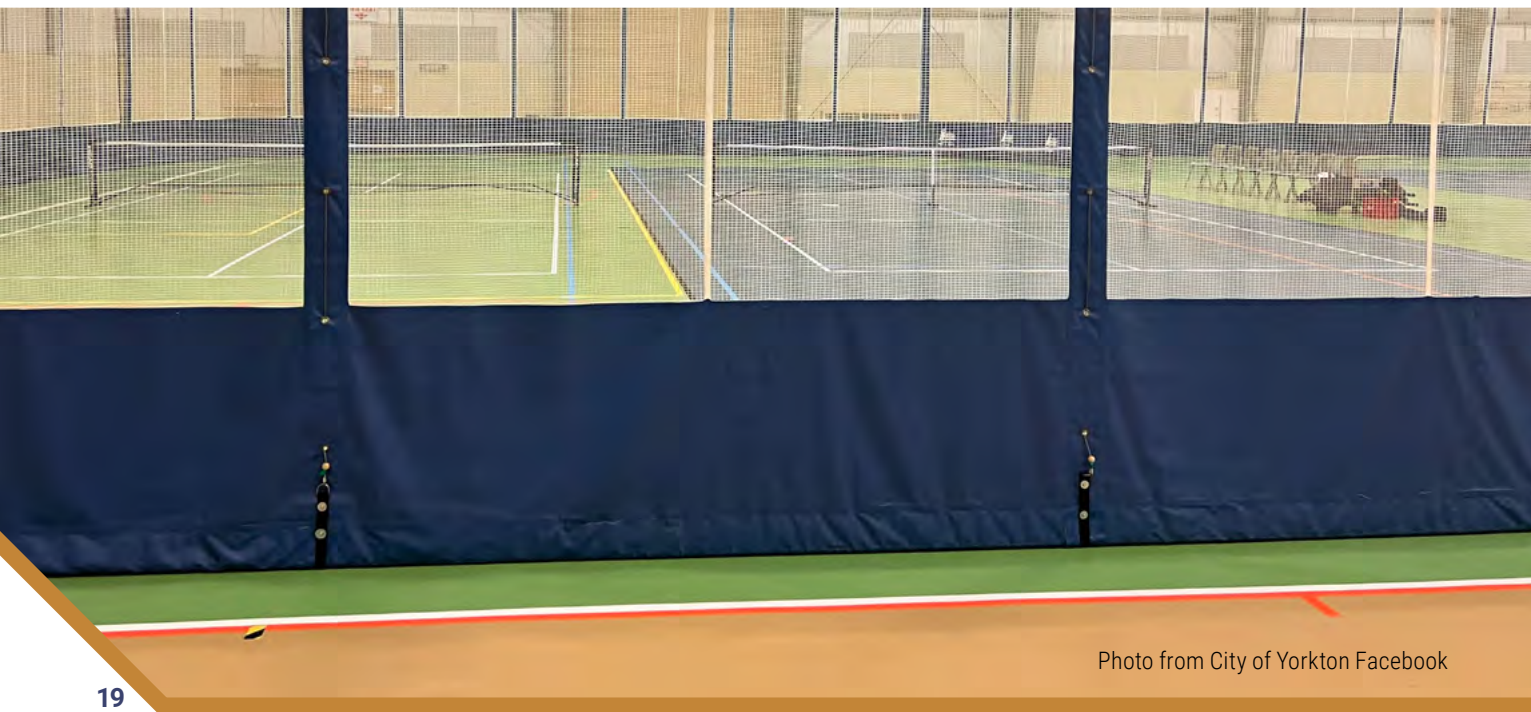
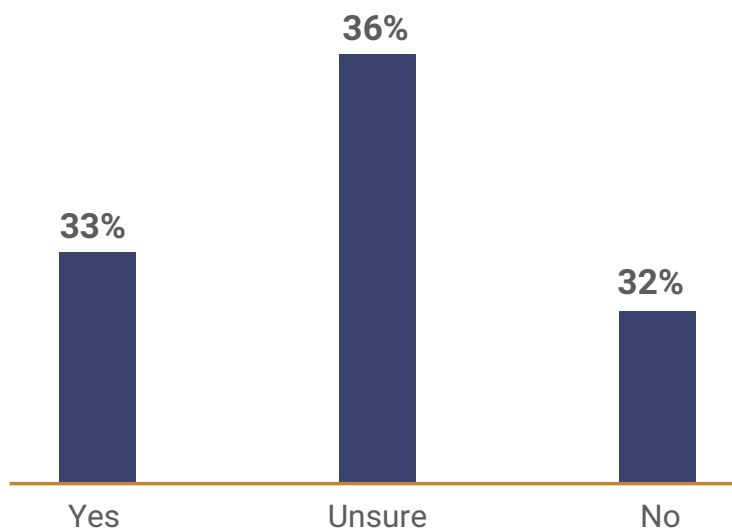


Photo from City of Yorkton Facebook

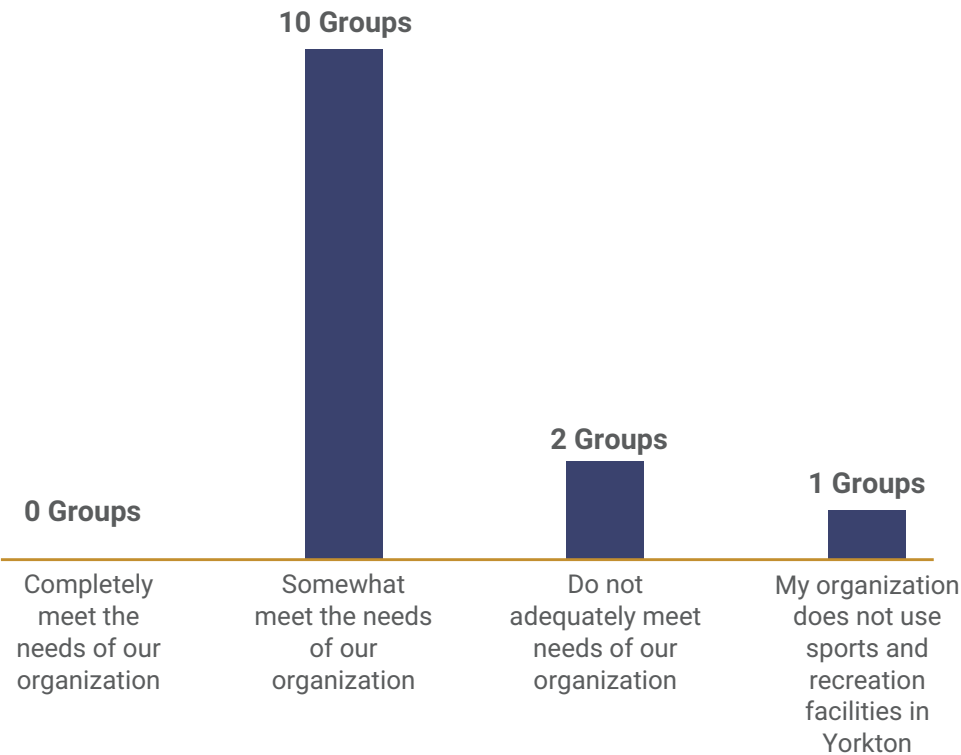
Group Survey Highlights & Themes

A survey was fielded with a variety of organizations in Yorkton. These organizations included indoor and outdoor recreation groups but also included a series of others who may use parks and recreation spaces and facilities in Yorkton. Responses were gathered from September 23rd – October 31st. In total 13 responses were received.

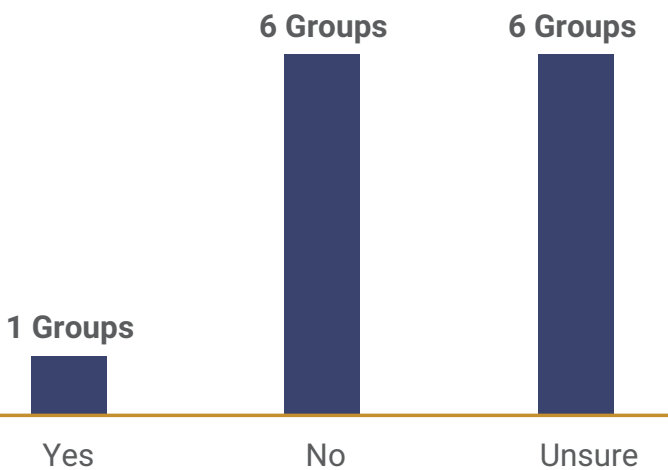
Key Finding:

Groups provided somewhat contradictory perspectives on the state of recreation infrastructure in the community. While most groups indicated that the current facilities they use somewhat meet their organization’s specific needs, it was also expressed that in general there are not adequate sports and recreation facilities in Yorkton.

Do Current Sports and Recreation Facilities Meet The Needs of Your Organization?



Are there Adequate Sports and Recreations Facilities In Yorkton?



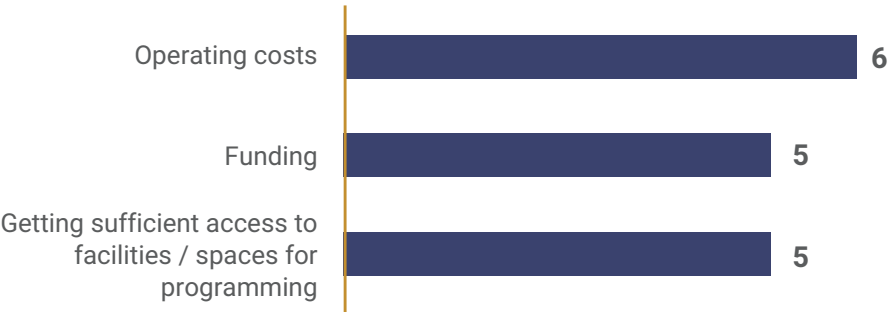
Facilities and spaces identified as need to be enhanced or more readily available include:

- Indoor Field Facilities
- Gymnasium Type Spaces
- Storage Space
- Hardcourts
- Sports Fields – Turf
- Sports Fields – Grass

Key Finding:

Some challenges groups are facing include operating costs, funding, and getting sufficient access to facilities and spaces for programming.

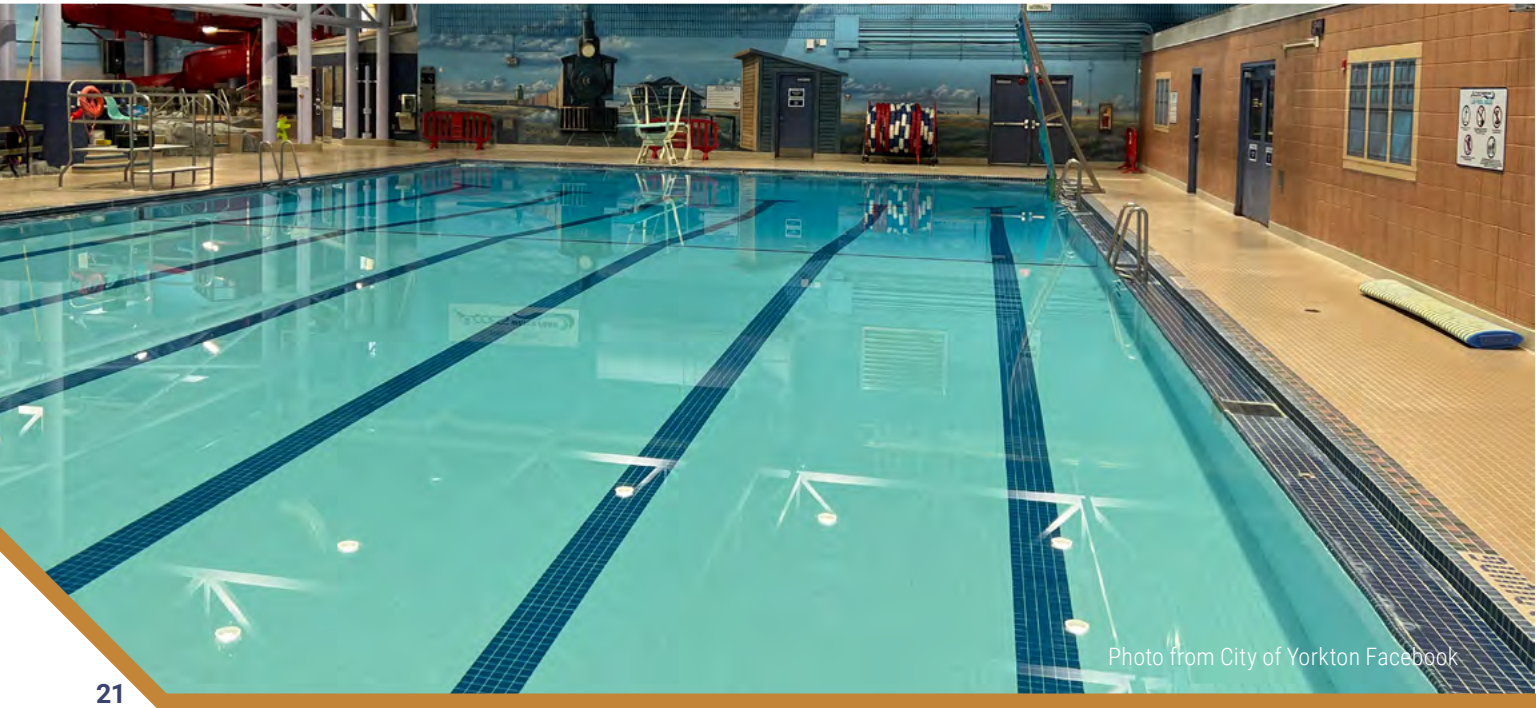
Organizational Challenges



Key Finding:

When asked about support the City can provide to help address these challenges, groups said that developing additional facilities & amenities & enhancing existing facilities and amenities would help address some of their challenges.

What City Support Can Help Address Your Organizations Challenges?



Youth Survey Highlights & Themes

A survey was fielded with youth in the community to gain their perspectives on the provision of parks and recreation in Yorkton. The survey gathered responses from September 28th – November 8th. In total 340 responses were gathered, providing excellent insights into the recreation perspectives and needs of this important age cohort.

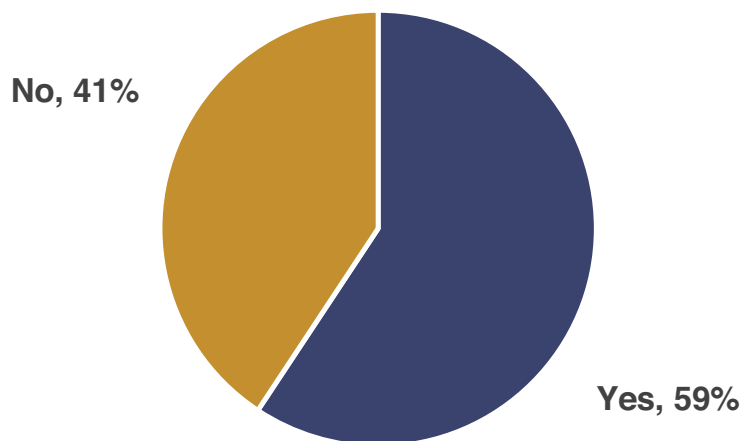
Key Finding:

There is belief that youth would like to see more indoor and outdoor recreation facilities and spaces.

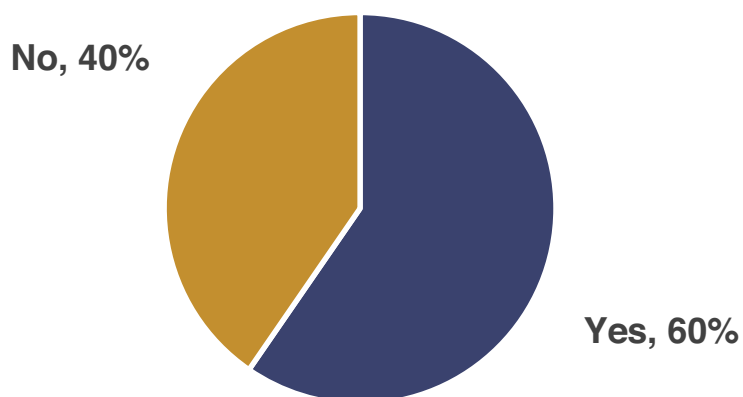
Some indoor and outdoor facilities that youth believe should be more readily available or enhanced are:

- **Indoor**
 - » Indoor Climbing Walls
 - » Gymnasium Type Spaces
 - » Parkour Room / Gymnastic Space
 - » Ice Arena Facilities
 - » Indoor Child Playgrounds
- **Outdoor**
 - » Beach Volleyball Courts
 - » Outdoor Pool
 - » Bike Parks
 - » Campgrounds
 - » Spray Parks

Are There Indoor Facilities Or Spaces That Could Be Improved Or You Would Like To See More Of?



Are There Outdoor Facilities Or Spaces That Could Be Improved Or You Would Like To See More Of?



Community Contributor Meeting Highlights & Themes

A series of meetings were convened with a variety of groups who presented their unique perspectives on parks and recreation provision in Yorkton. Conversations were held with indoor and outdoor recreation user groups, social agencies, Public/Catholic and post secondary institutions, art organizations, and some others. In total there were 36 participating organizations. Additionally, two separate meetings were held with the Yorkton Tribal Council.

- Reconciliation efforts are extremely important and should continue to be a priority.
- Grassroots organizations should continue to be the driver of programming in Yorkton.
- To ensure the sustainability of not-for-profit organizations in Yorkton, capacity building initiatives should be provided.
- The Exhibition site should be utilized to its full extent.
- There are concerns with the affordability of recreation and parks opportunities.
- The ability to access recreation and parks opportunities throughout Yorkton via nonmotorized active transportation is important.
- It is important that existing space allocations and overall infrastructure investment is balanced and does not simply defer to the “loudest voices”.
- The efforts of City staff and community volunteers are appreciated.
- Ensure community groups are brought into City planning efforts that may impact them.
- While there is a good variety of indoor and outdoor facilities and amenities, some improvement is desired, including: additional access to arena ice and gymnasium space and enhanced support amenities along the pathways (e.g. washrooms, fountains, benches)
- The City should enhance its transparency in decision making and improve its communications about decisions.
- Outdoor sport courts, youth focused amenities (wheeled sports), and social gathering spaces for New Canadians and cultural groups were identified as key outdoor priorities by many organization representatives that have insights into the needs of potentially hard to reach segments of the community.
- Changing recreation preferences and demands were noted during some of the discussions, especially pertaining to children and youth. Stakeholders reiterated the importance of providing both organized and unstructured activities.
- The needs for connections and synergies between recreation and culture are important.



Photo from City of Yorkton Facebook

4.0

Strategic Foundations for Recreation and Parks Investment



4.1. The Importance of Having Strategic Foundations for Recreation and Parks Services

Yorkton residents place a high value on parks and recreation opportunities and recognize that providing these services offers wide ranging personal and community-wide benefits.

The provision of parks and recreation services is most effective when there is a clear understanding of what drives service delivery or, in other words, what return the City is looking to accrue through its investment. Residents in turn want the City to continue getting the best value from its investment in all types of services – including parks and recreation.

Establishing clear, philosophical foundations for service delivery articulates clear objectives and measurables that can be used to assess success (or areas that require continued improvement) and ensure resources are focused around some common values.

From the Community Survey

The top 5 reasons residents participate in parks and recreation activities...

- Physical health / exercise
- Relaxation, mental health, and well-being
- To enjoy nature
- Pleasure / entertainment
- To be with friends and family



Photo from City of Yorkton Facebook

4.2.Key Service Delivery Outcomes

Seven Service Delivery Outcomes have been identified to provide foundational and aspirational goals for how the City invests in, focuses resources, and delivers parks and recreation opportunities. These outcomes align with broader City planning and also reflect key values identified through the community engagement.

Recognizing that parks and recreation can and needs to achieve numerous outcomes, the following outcomes will be most important over the next 10 years.

Overview of the Service Delivery Objectives



Getting inactive residents involved in active living opportunities.



Ensuring children and youth have the physical literacy skills required to enable lifelong participation in recreation.



Meeting needs for both organized and unstructured activity.



Making optimal use of existing infrastructure.



Recognizing the increasing diversity of Yorkton and the City's commitment to Reconciliation, leveraging parks and recreation as a mechanism to build an even more inclusive and connected community.



Balancing the reality of finite financial resources (including the need to sustain existing, aging facilities) with meeting emerging recreation needs and trends.



Using parks recreation as a key mechanism to attract and retain residents.

The strategies and priorities identified in Section 5 are focused on helping achieve the Service Delivery Outcomes. The Implementation Plan identified in Section 6 also provides key performance indicators (KPI's) that can be used to help track success and alignment with the Service Delivery Outcomes.

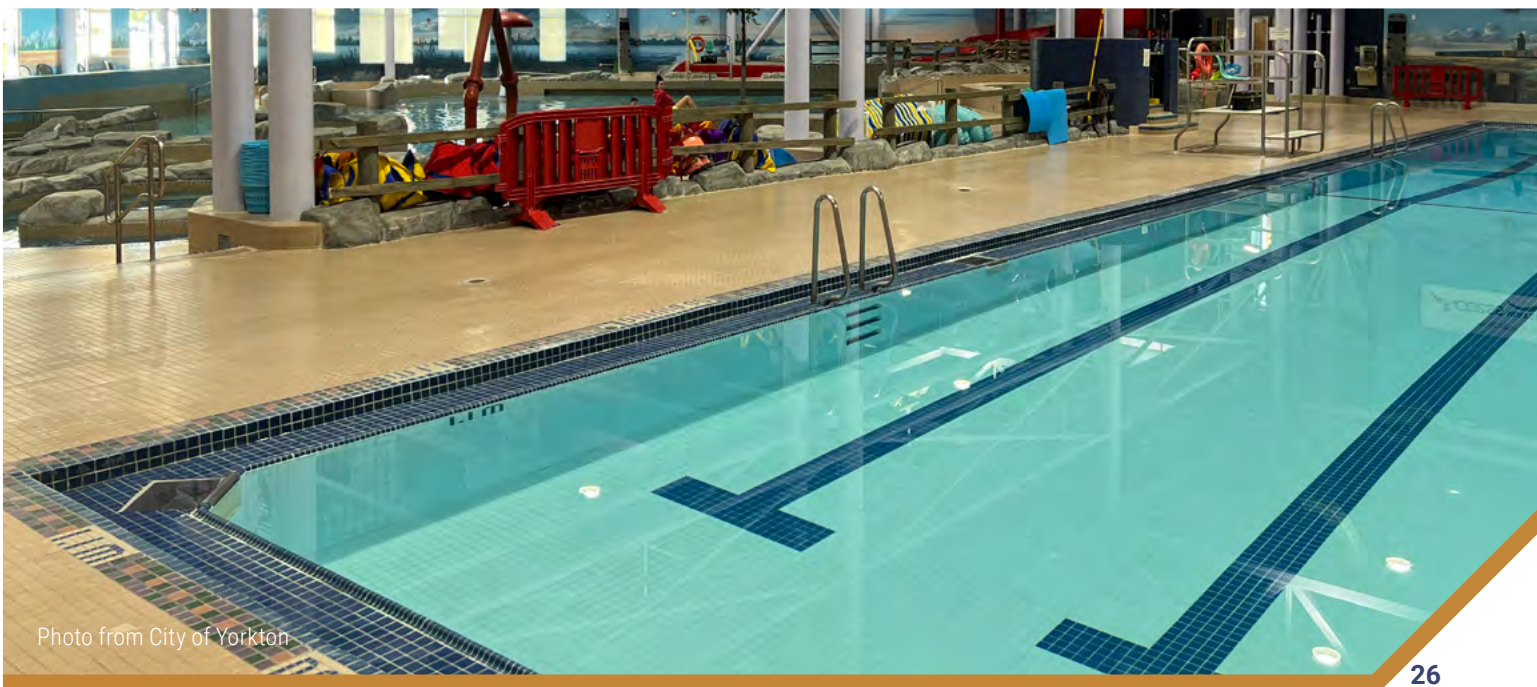


Photo from City of Yorkton

5.0 Recommended Strategies and Priorities



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5.1. Service Delivery Strategies

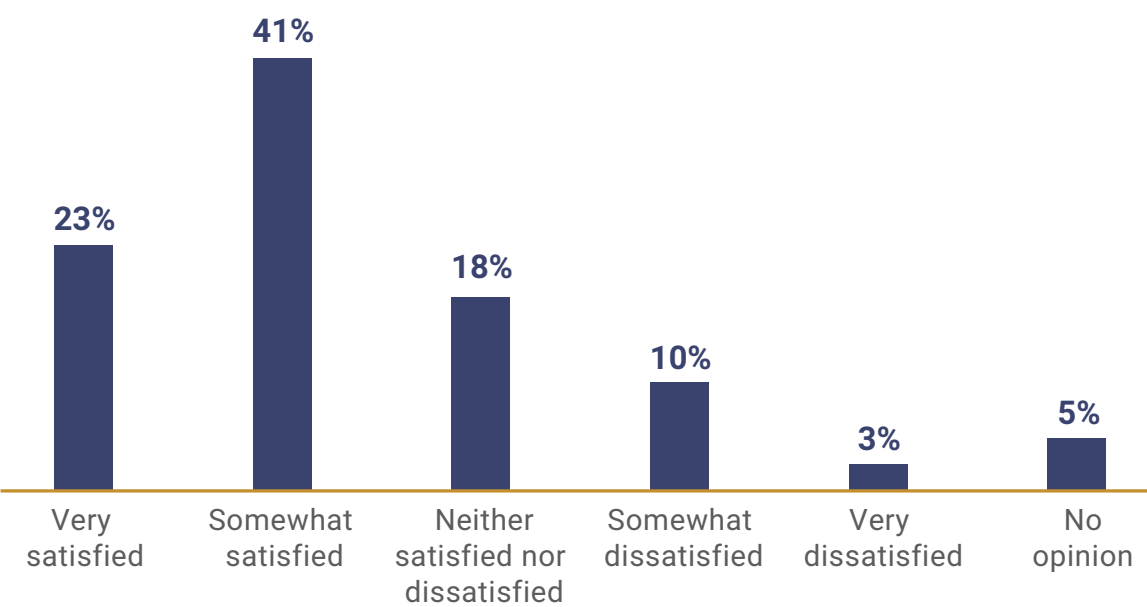
Focus Area: Overall Programming and Opportunity Provision

Summary of Strategies

- A. Continue to use a balance of direct and indirect delivery methods to provide recreation and related opportunities.
- B. Use the recommended tool (Program Evaluation Planning Tool) to inform decision making on the best approach to providing programming and activities.
- C. More proactively and overtly share the cost impacts of providing parks and recreation services with the public to increase levels of understanding (e.g. cost recovery for major facilities).

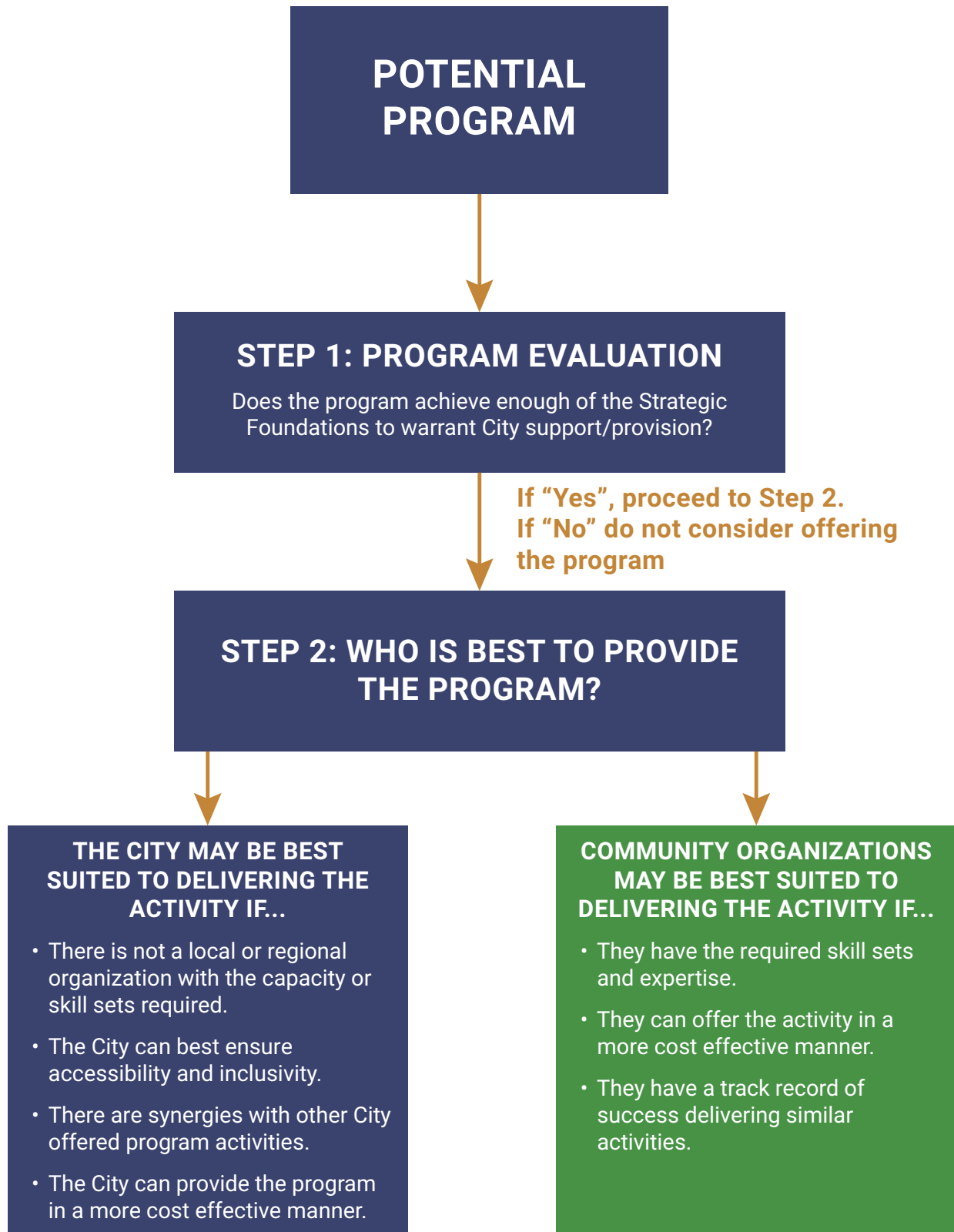
Levels of satisfaction with parks and recreation services are relatively high, suggesting that most residents feel that they are getting relatively good value for their tax dollar. The City’s delivery of parks and recreation using a mix of direct and indirect approaches appears to work well and in many cases is necessary – both to meet gaps where community based provision is not possible (through direct provision by the City) and to leverage volunteer resources where available (through indirect provision).

Satisfaction With Availability Of Opportunities



Program Evaluation Tool

The following planning tool is intended to help guide the City when it needs to determine how (or if) to provide a potential new or expanded type of recreation opportunity. Using this process will help rationalize decision making and also identify potential resources required to ensure that the opportunity is delivered in a quality and sustainable manner.



It is also recommended that the City overtly and proactively share key financial aspects of service delivery, such as cost recovery for major facilities and the level of subsidy provided to user groups that access space. Doing so will help create increased levels of clarity and improve understanding as to the many factors that go into programming and facility decision making.

Focus Area: Resourcing

Summary of Strategies

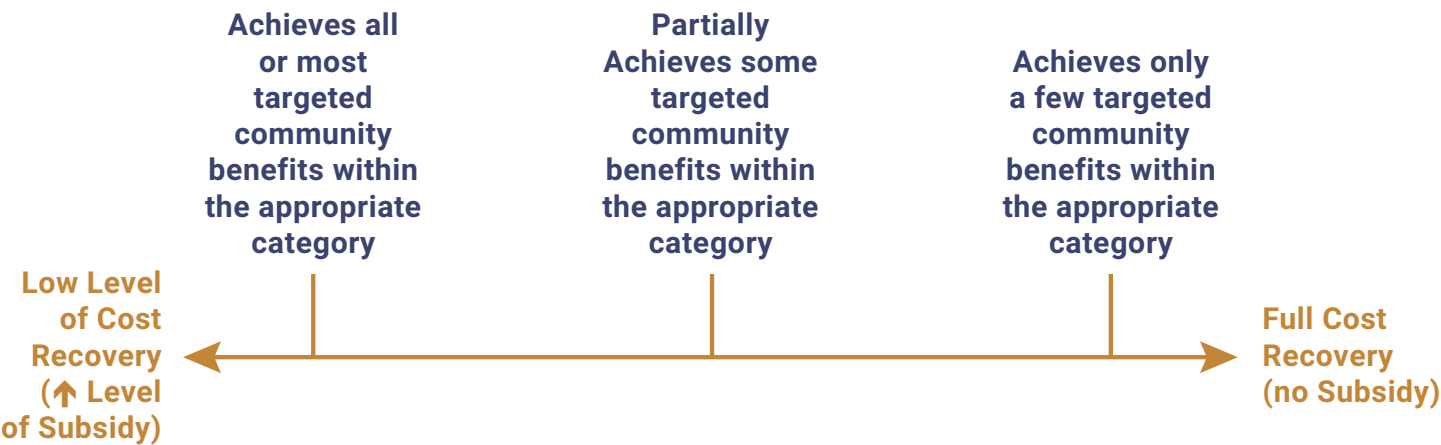
- A. Align user fees with a benefits-based model.
- B. Align programming with a benefits-based model.
- C. Continue to use partnerships and collaborations to maximize available resources.

The City’s current approach to delivering parks and recreation services is cost recovery focused. This approach is prudent and recognizes resource limitations as well as resident values for service delivery efficiency. However, it is also important to recognize the following two overarching truths:

- Residents have varying levels of ability to pay for programs and facility access; and
- The level of community benefit achieved by different types of residents accessing different types of programming varies.

To better balance financial sustainability (cost recovery) with the overall rationale for providing and investing in parks and recreation, it is recommended that the City shift its approach to a model that better aligns cost recovery with the benefits achieved from providing the opportunity.

The following graphic, along with the example benefits and scenarios on the following page, outline how this model could be applied, both when setting specific user fees and overall cost recovery targets for specific programs or categories of programming.



Example List of Benefits

- Increases physical literacy for children and youth
- Increases physical activity levels among adults
- Keeps seniors physically active and socially engaged
- Integrates multiple generations
- Engages at-risk / vulnerable populations in recreation and culture activities
- Increases community connectedness and vibrancy
- Connects residents to nature
- Fosters community collaborations and contributes to community capacity
- Teaches new skills
- Attracts non-local visitation and spending

A list of benefits (such as those listed above) may evolve or expand over time and should be validated on a regular basis by City staff and Council. The table below reflects an example of how a list of benefits can be used to set fees and cost recovery.

Scenario	Cost Recovery Target	User Fees Impact
More than 8 key benefits outcomes are achieved	0 - 25%	Fees aligned to achieve cost recovery target
5 – 8 key benefits outcomes area achieved	26 – 50%	Fees aligned to achieve cost recovery target
3 – 5 key benefits outcomes are achieved	50 – 100%	Fees aligned to achieve cost recovery target
Less than 3 key benefits outcomes are achieved	100%+	Fees aligned to ensure that the program achieves a profit that can help offset other cost

While this approach is intended to provide a logical, transparent, and values based approach to delivering recreation programming, flexibility and adaptability will also be required. For example, the City may wish to seek higher levels of cost recovery for some programs based on user ability to pay or the opportunity to offset costs for other programming.

It is also recommended that the City continue leveraging partnerships wherever possible. Working with Good Spirit School Division and Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools to maximize community access to school gymnasiums and other spaces should be a priority and may require the development of a Joint Use Agreement. Other cross-sectorial collaborations with public health and social agencies can be mutually beneficial, increasing resident participation and potentially leading to future funding opportunities.



Photo from City of Yorkton

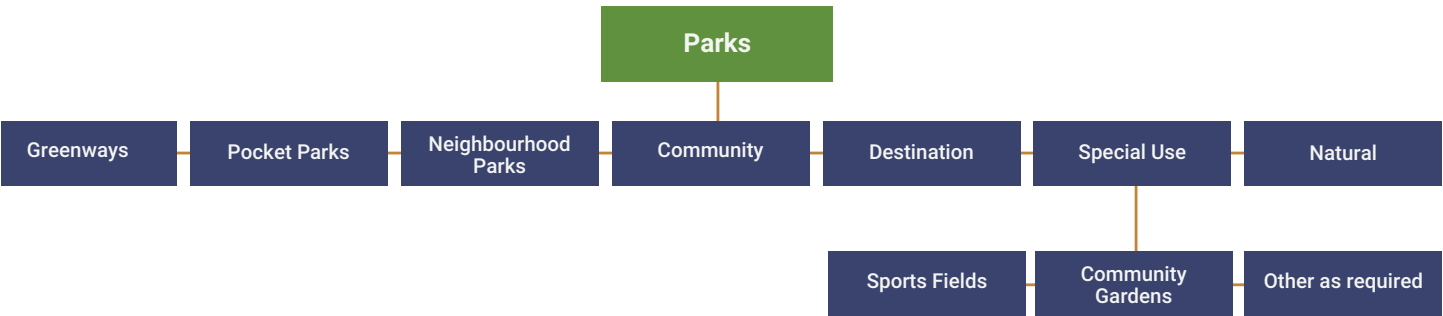
Focus Area: Parks and Outdoor Amenity Classification

Summary of Strategies

- A. Implement the recently updated Parks Classification Guidelines Policy and continue to review and refresh this important parks management and planning tool on a regular basis.
- B. Continue ensuring adequate investment in parks and outdoor spaces.
- C. Regularly engage with the community to learn about desired park and outdoor space experiences and perceived gaps.

Having a structured approach to planning and managing outdoor assets is important to ensure these valued spaces are well distributed, sufficiently maintained, and aligned with the types of experiences residents are looking for. Analysis of Yorkton’s parks space suggests that the City has generally done a good job providing quality park experiences.

The following graphic provides an overview of the City’s parks and outdoor space hierarchy as reflected in the recently refreshed (April 2022) Parks Classification Guidelines Policy (Policy # 50.500).



The Parks Classification Guidelines Policy provides a sound structure for parks management and planning. It is recommended that the City place an emphasis on aligning the current park system with the guidance provided in the Policy through operations, improvements, and park renewals as they are undertaken. New parkland acquisition and development should also follow-up the Policy as this will help ensure that the right types of parks are developed for the right types of areas.

As with any policy and management tool, the Parks Classification Guidelines Policy should be regularly reviewed and refreshed, recognizing that park infrastructure and experience needs evolve over time along with the built environment of the community, growth, and land supply availability. Listed below are potential additions to the Policy that are suggested for consideration when the Policy is next reviewed and updated.

- Description of the experiences that each classification of park is designed to achieve.
- Additional detail on the types of support amenities that are to be provided in each class / type of park.
- Identification of how the City will animate / program the park (if applicable).

Focus Area: Inclusion and Equity

Summary of Strategies

- A. Work with local agencies and other community partners to create a Recreation Access (subsidy) program that can support recreation programming participation and facility access for residents of all ages facing financial barriers.
- B. Provide all permanent staff with the appropriate training to ensure their interactions are positive and respectful with equity deserving residents, individuals facing homelessness, residents facing language barriers, and disabled individuals.
- C. Ensure that allocations policies and practices prioritize facility space based on need and allow time for new and emerging activities.
- D. Work closely with the Indigenous community and underrepresented demographics in the community to promote recreation opportunities, implement mutually beneficial aspects of the Master Plan, and to deliver services on an ongoing basis.

Recreation services are most beneficial to the health, well-being, and vibrancy of a community when they are accessible to all residents. The City provides a number of low-cost opportunities, such as reduced swimming fees at set times, and works with local organizations like KidSport. The City does not currently have a recreation access subsidy program. Developing such a subsidy program and working with local service organizations to promote uptake will enable residents facing financial barriers to access programming and facilities in an equitable manner.

It is also important to recognize that barriers to programming and facilities extend beyond those that are financial. Social, language, and cultural barriers can prevent residents from feeling comfortable, taking part in programs, and using facilities. Providing staff training and scheduling times for culturally and socially focused participation (e.g. women's only swims) can help ensure all residents can benefit from recreation.

Within recreation and community sport, tenured user groups often have embedded priority when it comes to accessing the most appealing and in-demand facility time slots. While it is important to recognize the longstanding contributions of these groups to providing programming, it is also important to ensure sufficient facility time exists for new and emerging groups and activities. Ensuring that facility allocations are equitable and needs-based aligns with best practice, including Sport for Life and Long Term Development (LTD).

The City has made a commitment to Reconciliation and Decolonization, both stated at the Council level, and through support of initiatives like the City Centre Park teepee installation. The Truth and Reconciliation Final Report and Calls to Action specifically identify the role that sport and physical activity can play in helping advance Reconciliation.



Photo from City of Yorkton

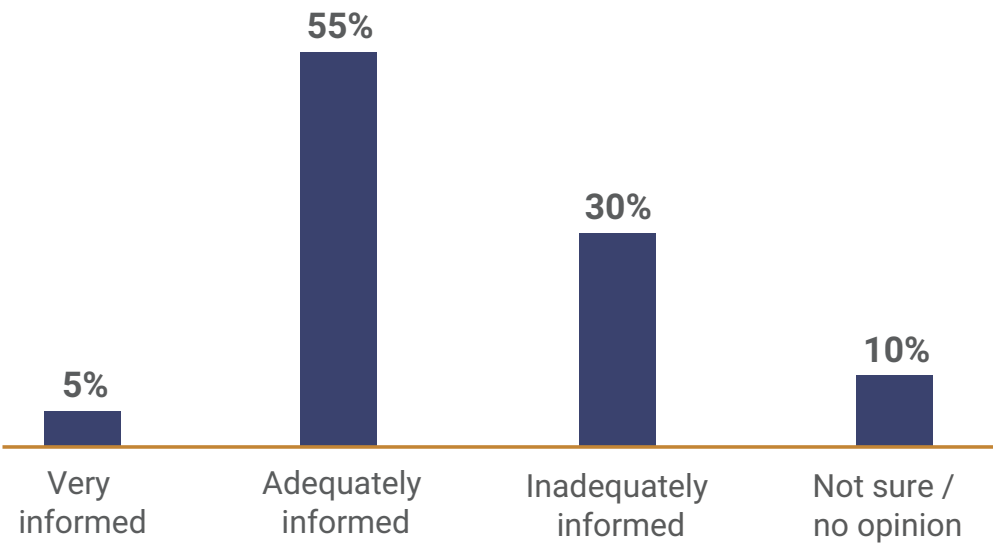
Focus Area: Increasing Participation

Summary of Strategies

- A. Ensure sufficient resources are invested in promotions and marketing.
- B. Conduct audits / reviews of communications methods every 3 years, including a public survey to test changes in how residents would like to learn about opportunities.
- C. Work with local agencies and service providers to determine how to promote recreation and parks to hard to reach populations.

The Community Survey and other engagement findings reflect that there is a need to better inform residents about available parks and recreation opportunities. The engagement findings also indicate the residents prefer to hear about these opportunities through a combination of traditional and new communications mediums.

How Informed Residents Feel About Parks And Recreation In Yorkton?



While Yorkton is generally considered an active community, many residents are still not sufficiently active. Getting those inactive residents more active presents a great opportunity to achieve a host of downstream benefits, including:

- Reduced social and health care spending
- A more vibrant and connected community
- A deeper sense of connection to others and the community (sense of place)
- Increased facility use and program participation (higher revenues and cost recovery)

Communication Preferences

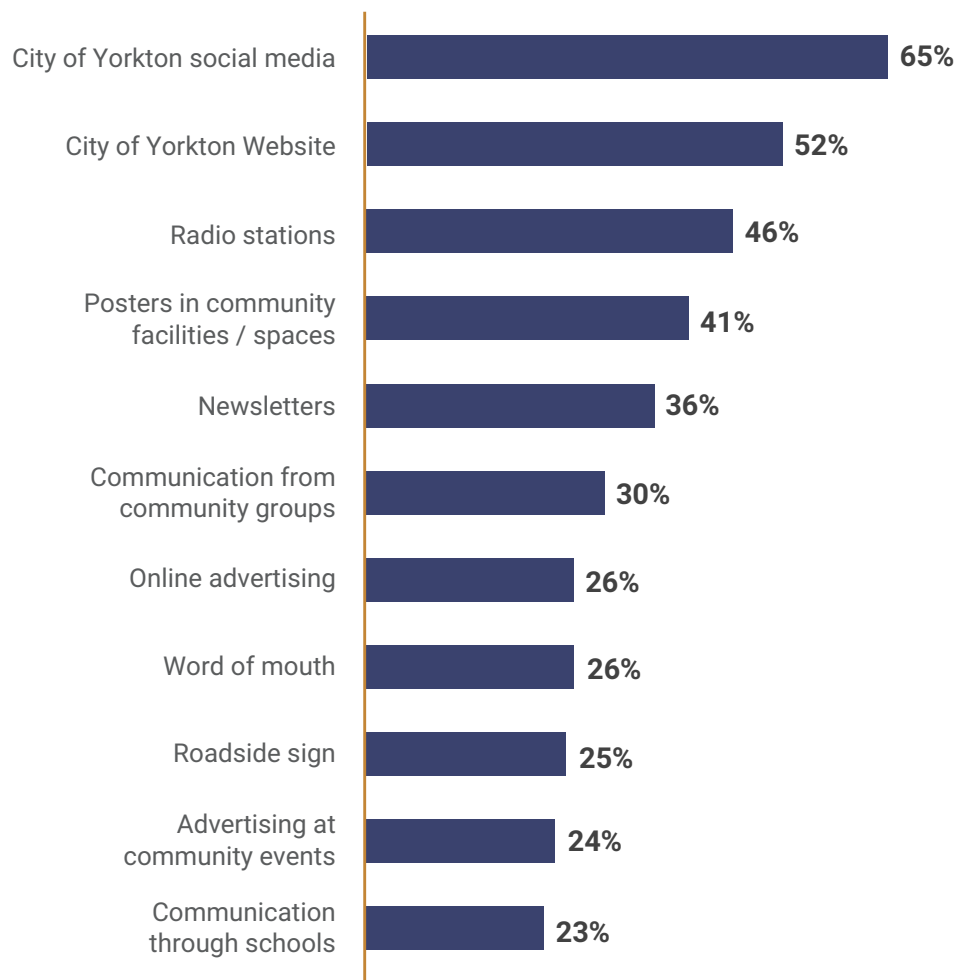


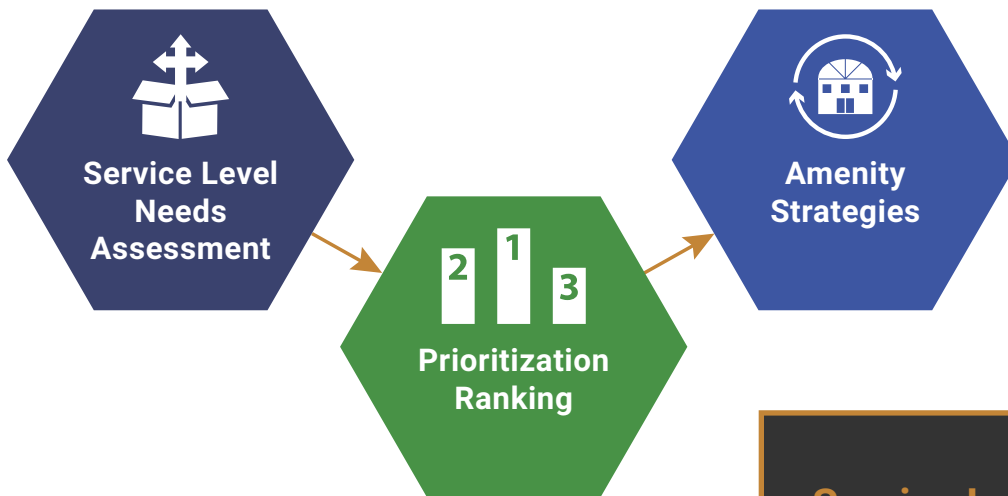
Photo from City of Yorkton

5.2. Parks and Recreation Infrastructure

A Process for Prioritizing Capital Investment

Over the next 10 years the City will need to prioritize capital investments in parks and recreation to ensure that its limited resources are directed to those projects that can achieve the highest level of benefit to residents and address identified gaps.

Provided in this Section are Amenity Strategies that identify recommended future actions and approaches for meeting the City's parks and recreation infrastructure needs over the next 10 years. These Amenity Strategies were informed by a Service Level Needs Assessment and Prioritization Ranking process as illustrated by the graphic.



How were the Amenity Strategies identified?

The **Service Level Needs Assessment** takes into account a number of Master Plan research and engagement inputs to provide an initial assessment of whether the provision (supply) of an amenity type should be “Expanded”, “Sustained”, or “Reduced”.

The **Prioritization Ranking** then builds on the Service Level Needs Assessment by integrating other practical factors that are important to consider when prioritizing future capital investment, resulting in a scored and ranked list of potential parks and recreation infrastructure priorities.

The **Amenity Strategies** consider the ranked list of potential parks and recreation infrastructure priorities, but also apply a practical lens and other important considerations (e.g. resourcing, land, strategic alignment with other City priorities, etc.).

Service Level Needs Assessment ‘Inputs’

- Public demand (resident perspectives on priority)
- User group and stakeholder demand
- Utilization of current facilities
- Benchmarking (comparison of service levels to other communities)
- Trends

Additional Prioritization Ranking ‘Inputs’




- Recreation benefit to the community
- Estimated capital cost impacts
- Estimated operating cost impacts
- Future adaptability of the space
- Economic benefits and potential positive impacts









The table identifies the top 10 ranked indoor and outdoor facility types from the Prioritization Ranking. **The detailed Service Level Needs Assessment and Prioritization Ranking scoring results can be found in Appendix A.**

Indoor Facility Types	Outdoor Facility Types
1. Indoor child playgrounds	1. Nature trails
2. Indoor multisport / fieldhouse type facilities	2. Paved pathways
3. Ice arena facilities	3. Community gardens
4 (tied). Indoor climbing wall	4. Amphitheatres / event spaces / band shelters
4 (tied). Seniors centre	5. Cross country ski & snowshoe trails
5. Before and after school care facilities	6. Mountain bike trails
6 (tied). Fitness / wellness facilities	7. Open spaces
6 (tied). Community kitchen	8. Picnic areas
7. Youth centre	9. Beach volleyball courts
8. Art display spaces	10. Disc golf course

Priority Amenity Strategies

The following Amenity Strategies translate the results from the Service Level Needs Assessment and Prioritization Ranking into key strategies that the City should consider as it allocates resourcing and identified specific projects to complete. **As an overarching strategy across all amenity types, the City will need to ensure adequate lifecycle and capital reserve contributions are budgets in order to sustain existing infrastructure at a safe and functional level.**

Amenity Type / Category	Strategies	Recommended Supply in 10 Years Relative to Current
Parks	<p>A. Increase play diversity as playground renewals and park enhancements are undertaken. These efforts should include expanded use of natural and adventure play equipment with a broader age range appeal.</p> <p>B. Establish a 10-year park renewal program focused on increasing the quality, activity diversity, and appeal of the City's parks inventory. *A list of potential projects is provided in Appendix B.</p> <p>C. Continue to work with the Indigenous community and partner organizations to reflect Indigenous culture, history, and to advance decolonization efforts.</p>	 Increase Supply
Trails	<p>A. Increase the supply of all trail types in the community with a focus on improving connectivity and linking recreation sites (to enable better access via active transportation modes). *A list of potential projects is provided in Appendix B.</p> <p>B. Improve trail animation and functionality, including wayfinding signage and support amenities (benches, garbage receptacles, etc.).</p> <p>C. Encourage the increased use of the golf course for off-season (winter) trail activities.</p> <p>D. Develop and implement a system for trail usage tracking.</p>	 Increase Supply
Ice Arenas	<p>A. When the Kinsmen Arena needs to be replaced (previous study has estimated approximately 15 years), consider replacement as part of a multisheet facility with the existing Westland Arena or potentially as part of an eventual new twin sheet facility at another site.</p> <p>B. Initiate feasibility analysis to validate the costs of developing a third sheet of indoor ice and identify potential site options.</p> <p>*Both of the above Strategies could occur simultaneously as part of an Arena Strategy that helps map out ice needs in the community and opportunities to maximize multisheet facilities over the long-term.</p>	 Potentially Increased Supply (pending further study and cost analysis)

Amenity Type / Category	Strategies	Recommended Supply in 10 Years Relative to Current
Aquatics	<p>A. Explore options for additional water space capacity (indoor expansion or outdoor pool) when annual swims per capita exceed 5 (currently 3.0 - 3.5).</p> <p>B. As existing spray parks require renewal, identify and evaluate opportunities to meet outdoor aquatics demand as part of the Park Renewal Strategy.</p>	 Similar Supply
Large Span Indoor Dry-Floor Spaces	<p>A. Continue to identify opportunities to increase use of existing infrastructure, including the Flexihall, the Gloria Hayden Community Centre, and school gymnasiums (including Joint Use Agreements).</p> <p>B. In approximately five years, conduct a needs assessment study on community gymnasium needs to re-assess capacity, emerging trends, and identify if current infrastructure is sufficient for the long-term.</p>	 Similar Supply
Community Gathering and Social Spaces	<p>A. Identify opportunities and options to provide a low cost, social gathering space with basic food preparation amenities (e.g. community cook shack or indoor space).</p>	 Potentially Increased Supply (pending options identification)
Indoor Specialty Amenities	<p>A. Identify opportunities to provide increased seniors social space at an existing facility.</p>	 Potentially Increased or Enhanced Supply
Outdoor Specialty Amenities	<p>A. Consider trending amenities like pump tracks, smaller scale skateboard and scooter features (e.g. "skate spots"), and disc golf course as part of all community park renewal and new development projects.</p>	 Potentially Increased or Enhanced Supply
Outdoor Courts	<p>A. Work with the local pickleball community to explore potential sites and operational models for a pickleball hub of 8+ courts.</p>	 Increased Supply
Ball Diamonds	<p>A. Maintain the current supply of ball diamond infrastructure.</p>	 Similar Supply
Sports Fields	<p>A. Support a business case for a potential rectangular sport field. The business case should be led by a committee consisting of representative from multiple field sport interests / activities, the business community, community-at-large, and City representatives. The business case should focus on and further exploring field typology needs and benefits (e.g. Class A natural surface vs artificial turf), capital and operating cost impacts, potential levels of use, and community fundraising capacity as guidelines for the City to support future funding and other contributions to this project.</p> <p>B. Continue to ensure the existing sport field inventory is optimized through sound maintenance practices.</p>	 Potentially Increased or Enhanced Supply

Capital Planning Process

Implementing many of the recommended capital projects identified in the Master Plan will require further study and analysis. Additionally, new projects will come forward over the next ten years based on emerging trends and funding or partnership opportunities. The following graphic outlines a recommended process for the City to follow as it analyzes major capital projects, including those initiated / led by the City as well as those that come forward from external entities (e.g. community groups, the private sector, etc.). Following this process will ensure transparency and result in final decision making that is well informed.

**Projects identified in the Master Plan have already demonstrated sufficient needs rationale and can proceed directly to Step 3.*

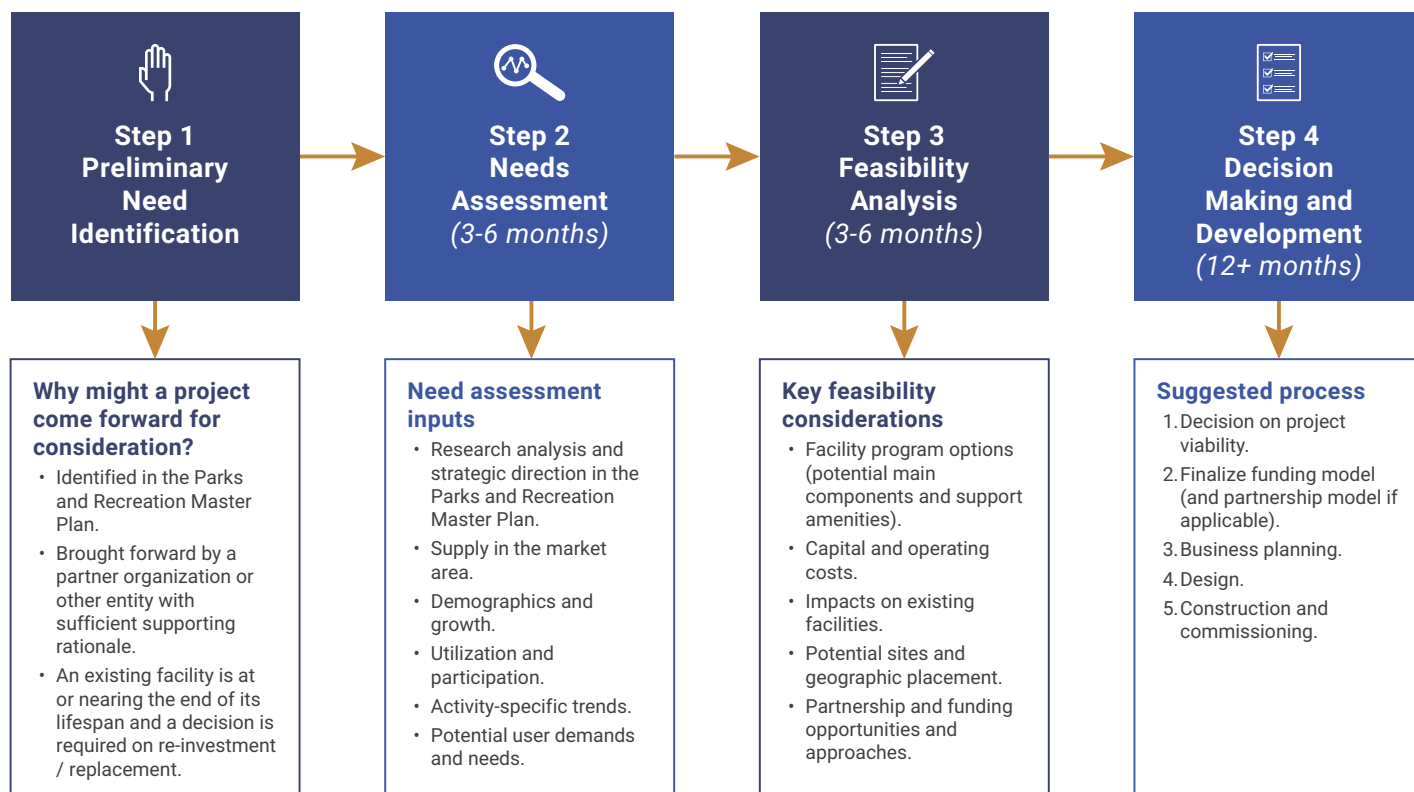


Photo from City of Yorkton

6.0 Implementation



6.1. Service Delivery Strategies

The following table outlines estimated resource requirements and timing for the Service Delivery Strategies identified in Section 5.1. It is recommended that the City review, refresh, update, and add detail to this implementation plan on a regular basis.

Service Delivery Strategies	Ongoing	Short Term (0 - 3 Years)	Medium Term (3 - 7 Years)	Long-Term (7+ Years)	Potential Incremental Resource Requirements & Impacts
Focus Area: Overall Programming and Opportunity Provision					
A. Continue to use a balance of direct and indirect delivery methods to provide recreation and related opportunities.	✓				N/A
B. Use the recommended tool (Planning Tool A) to inform decision making on the best approach to providing programming and activities.	✓				N/A
C. More proactively and overtly share the cost impacts of providing parks and recreation services with the public to increase levels of understanding (e.g. cost recovery for major facilities).	✓				N/A
Focus Area: Resourcing					
A. Align user fees with a benefits-based model.	✓	✓			Staff time and resources.
B. Align programming with a benefits-based model.	✓	✓			Staff time and resources.
C. Continue to use partnerships and collaborations to maximize available resources.	✓				
Focus Area: Parks and Outdoor Amenity Classification					
A. Implement the recently updated Parks Classification Guidelines Policy and continue to review and refresh this important parks management and planning tool on a regular basis.	✓		✓		Staff time and resources to review and refresh.
B. Continue ensuring adequate investment in parks and outdoor spaces.	✓				N/A
C. Regular engagement with the community to learn about desired park and outdoor space experiences and perceived gaps.	✓				N/A

Service Delivery Strategies	Ongoing	Short Term (0 - 3 Years)	Medium Term (3 - 7 Years)	Long-Term (7+ Years)	Potential Incremental Resource Requirements & Impacts
Focus Area: Inclusion and Equity					
A. Work with local agencies and other community partners to create a Recreation Access (subsidy) program that can support recreation programming participation and facility access for residents of all ages facing financial barriers.	✓	✓			Ongoing allocation of training resources.
B. Provide all permanent staff with the appropriate training to ensure their interactions are positive and respectful with equity seeking residents, individuals facing homelessness, residents facing language barriers, and disabled individuals.	✓				Staff time and resources.
C. Ensure that allocations policies and practices prioritize facility space based on need and allow time for new and emerging activities.	✓				Staff time and resources.
D. Work closely with the Indigenous community and other underrepresented demographics in the community to promote recreation opportunities, implement mutually beneficial aspects of the Master Plan, and to deliver services on an ongoing basis.	✓				
Focus Area: Increasing Participation					
A. Ensure sufficient resources are invested in promotions and marketing.	✓				Increased annual allocation to promotions and marketing.
B. Conduct audits / reviews of communications methods every 3 years, including a public survey to test changes in how residents would like to learn about opportunities.		✓		✓	Resourcing for community engagement.
C. Work with local agencies and service providers to determine how to promote recreation and parks to hard to reach populations.	✓				



Photo from City of Yorkton

6.2. Amenity Strategies

The table below provided high level guidance for key capital and planning projects identified in the Amenity Strategies (Section 5.2).

Service Delivery Strategies	Short Term (0 - 3 Years)	Medium Term (3 - 7 Years)	Long-Term (7+ Years)	Potential Capital Resource Requirement	Potential Incremental Resource Requirements & Impacts
Park renewals and enhancements. <i>*Target 2 projects in each of the short, medium, and long terms. See Appendix B for potential park projects</i>	✓	✓	✓	TBD	Park planning and design.
Trail projects	✓	✓	✓	TBD	Trails planning and design.
Kinsmen Arena Replacement Planning and/or Arena Strategy			✓	TBD (typical arena cost in 2023 dollars: \$15 - 25M)	\$50,000 - \$75,000 for arena planning or strategy
Community Gymnasium Needs Assessment Study		✓		TBD	\$25,000 - \$50,000
Pickleball Court Development		✓		TBD (typical 8 court pickleball hub in 2023 dollars: \$250,000 - \$500,000)	Staff time or consultant resources to explore pickleball options.
New Outdoor Sports Field Business Case	✓			TBD (typical Class A natural surface sports field in 2023 dollars: \$250,000 - \$500,000; typical artificial turf field in 2023 dollars: \$3 - 5M)	\$25,000



Photo from City of Yorkton

7.0 Appendices



Photo from City of Yorkton

Appendix A: Service Level Needs Assessment and Prioritization Ranking Metrics and Results

Service Level Needs Assessment Metric

Service Level Consideration	Expand	Sustain	Reduce
Public Demand	Identified as priority for investment by >20% of Community Survey Respondents	Identified as a priority for investment by <20% of Community Survey Respondents.	N/A
User Group and Stakeholder Demand	Identified as priority for investment by more than 3 responding groups to the Community Organization Questionnaire and frequently identified during the stakeholder discussions.	Not identified as major priority for additional investment in the Community Organization Survey or stakeholder discussions (but also not frequently identified as being oversupplied).	Frequently identified as being oversupplied by stakeholders.
Utilization Indicators	Available utilization data suggests that the facility type is at or nearing capacity.	Available utilization data suggests that the facility type has sufficient capacity to accommodate future growth over the next 10 years. <i>*Also categorized as "Sustain" if not in existence of data is not available to support over or under use.</i>	Available utilization data suggests that the facility type may be oversupplied.
Benchmarking	Benchmarking suggests that the facility type is under-supplied in Yorkton relative to comparators.	Benchmarking suggests that the facility type is supplied in Yorkton at similar or a slightly high level relative to comparators.	Benchmarking suggests that the facility type is oversupplied in Yorkton (provided at significantly higher levels than comparators).
Trends	The activities that use the facility are emerging in popularity at a provincial and national levels.	The activities that use the facility are remaining stable provincially and nationally.	The activities that use the facility are declining provincially and nationally.

Service Level Needs Assessment – Indoor

*Overall assessment based on a score of 3 or more of “Expand”, “Sustain”, or “Reduce”

Facility Type	Public Demand	User Group Stakeholders Demand	Utilization Indicators	Benchmarking	Trends	Overall Service Level Assessment
Ice arena facilities	Expand	Expand	Expand	Sustain	Sustain	Expand
Indoor climbing wall	Expand	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Sustain
Indoor child playgrounds	Expand	Expand	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Expand
Indoor multisport / fieldhouse type facilities	Expand	Expand	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Expand
Seniors centre	Expand	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain / Enhance	Sustain	Sustain
Before and after school care facilities	Expand	Expand	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Expand
Community kitchen	Sustain	Expand	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Sustain
Leisure swimming pools	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Sustain
Walking / running track	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Sustain
Fitness / wellness facilities	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Expand	Sustain
Youth centre	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain / Expand	Sustain
Leisure ice surfaces (non hockey)	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Art creation spaces	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Gymnasium type spaces	Sustain	Expand	Sustain	Expand	Expand	Expand
Archery lanes / range	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Community hall / banquet facilities	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Event hosting facilities	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Multi-purpose program rooms	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Performing arts theatre	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Parkour room / gymnastics space	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Social banquet facilities	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Swimming tanks	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Libraries	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Sustain
Art display spaces	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Sustain
Court sports	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Classroom / training space	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain / Expand	Sustain
Dance / program / martial arts rooms	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Sustain
Indoor agricultural facilities	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Curling rinks	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain/Reduce	Sustain
Community meeting rooms	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain

Service Level Needs Assessment – Outdoor

Facility Type	Public Demand	User Group Stakeholders Demand	Utilization Indicators	Benchmarking	Trends	Overall Service Level Assessment
Outdoor pool	Expand	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Nature trails	Expand	Expand	Sustain	Expand	Expand	Expand
Paved pathways	Expand	Expand	Sustain	Expand	Expand	Expand
Amphitheatres /event spaces / band shelters	Expand	Expand	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Expand
Community gardens	Expand	Expand	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Expand
Cross country ski & snowshoe trails	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Picnic areas	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Open spaces	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Mountain bike trails	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Sustain
Archery range	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Sports fields – artificial turf	Sustain	Sustain / Expand	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Sustain
Bike parks	Sustain	Sustain / Expand	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Sustain
Off leash dog parks	Sustain	Expand	Sustain	Expand	Expand	Expand
Fishing pond	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Hardcourts	Sustain	Expand	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Sledding / tobogganing hills	Sustain	Sustain / Expand	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Sustain
Spray parks	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Sustain
Playgrounds	Sustain	Enhance	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Sustain
Sports fields - grass	Sustain	Expand	Sustain	Expand	Sustain	Sustain
Beach volleyball courts	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Pickleball courts	Sustain	Expand	Sustain	Expand	Expand	Expand
Outdoor fitness equipment	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Campgrounds	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Sustain
Agricultural facilities	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Ball diamonds	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Golf courses	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Outdoor boarded skating rinks	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Tennis courts	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain
Disc golf course	Sustain	Expand	Sustain	Sustain	Expand	Sustain
Track and field spaces	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain	Sustain

Prioritization Metric

Criteria	2 PTS	1 PT	0 PTS	WEIGHTING
Service Level Needs Assessment	"Expand" in the Service Level Assessment	"Sustain" in the Service Level Assessment	"Reduce" in the Service Level Assessment	5
Resident Priority	Top 5 priority in the Community Survey	6 - 10 priority in the Community Survey	Not a top 10 priority in the Community Survey	4
Recreation Benefit	Capital investment in the facility type would provide a new type of recreation opportunity.	Capital investment in the facility type would significantly enhance the provision of an amenity that already exists.	Capital investment in the facility type would duplicate what already exists in sufficient supply.	3
Capital Cost Impacts	Low Impact	Moderate Impact	High Impact	3
Operating Cost Impacts	Facility type has a low subsidy requirement and may even generate positive revenues.	Facility type has an associated moderate subsidy level requirement.	Facility type has an associated high subsidy level requirement.	3
Future Adaptability	Facility type is easily adaptable for a variety of activities and future trends.	Facility type is purpose built but has some adaptability for a variety of activities and future trends.	Facility type is purpose built with minimal future adaptability (or a significant cost to do so).	2
Economic Benefit	Facility type generates significant non-local visitation and spending.	Facility type generates moderate non-local visitation and spending.	Facility type generates minimal non-local visitation and spending.	1

Prioritization Scoring Results - Indoor

*See page 51 for the list of facility types ordered by weighted score.

Facility Type	Service Level Needs Assessment	Resident Priority	Recreation Benefit	Capital Cost Impacts	Operating Cost Impacts	Future Adaptability	Economic Benefit	Total Weighted Scored
Ice arena facilities	2	2	1	0	1	1	2	28
Indoor climbing wall	1	2	1	1	2	0	1	26
Indoor child playgrounds	2	2	2	1	1	0	1	31
Indoor multisport / fieldhouse type facilities	2	2	1	0	1	2	2	30
Seniors centre	1	2	1.5	1	1	1	0	26
Before and after school care facilities	2	1	1	1	1	1	0	25
Community kitchen	1	1	1.5	2	1	0	0	23
Leisure swimming pools	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	13
Walking / running track	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	18
Fitness / wellness facilities	1	1	1	1	2	1	0	23
Youth centre	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	20
Leisure ice surfaces (non hockey)	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	13
Art creation spaces	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	15
Gymnasium type spaces	2	0	1	0	0	2	1	18
Archery lanes / range	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	17
Community hall / banquet facilities	1	0	1	0	1	1	2	15
Event hosting facilities	1	0	1	0	1	1	2	15
Multi-purpose program rooms	1	0	1	1	1	2	0	18
Performing arts theatre	1	0	1	0	1	1	2	15
Parkour room / gymnastics space	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	17
Social banquet facilities	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	14
Swimming tanks	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	10
Libraries	1	0	1	1	1	2	0	18
Art display spaces	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	20
Court sports	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	17
Classroom / training space	1	0	1	1	1	2	0	18
Dance / program / martial arts rooms	1	0	1	1	1	2	1	19
Indoor agricultural facilities	1	0	1	0	1	1	2	15
Curling rinks	1	0	1	0	1	1	2	15
Community meeting rooms	1	0	1	1	1	2	0	18

Prioritization Scoring Results – Outdoor

*See page 52 for the list of facility types ordered by weighted score.

Facility Type	Service Level Needs Assessment	Resident Priority	Recreation Benefit	Capital Cost Impacts	Operating Cost Impacts	Future Adaptability	Economic Benefit	Total Weighted Scored
Outdoor pool	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	17
Nature trails	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	38
Paved pathways	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	35
Amphitheaters /event spaces / band shelters	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	30
Community gardens	2	2	1	2	1	2	0	34
Cross country ski & snowshoe trails	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	29
Picnic areas	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	26
Open spaces	1	1	1	2	2	2	0	28
Mountain bike trails	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	29
Archery range	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	24
Sports fields – artificial turf	1	0	1	1	1	2	2	20
Bike parks	1	0	1	1	1	2	1	19
Off leash dog parks	2	0	1	1	0	2	0	20
Fishing pond	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	13
Hardcourts	1	0	1	2	1	2	0	21
Sledding / tobogganing hills	1	0	1	2	1	2	0	21
Spray parks	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	11
Playgrounds	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	16
Sports fields - grass	1	0	1	1	1	2	1	19
Beach volleyball courts	1	0	1	2	2	2	1	25
Pickleball courts	2	0	1.5	1	1	1	1	23.5
Outdoor fitness equipment	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	16
Campgrounds	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	12
Agricultural facilities	1	0	1	0	1	1	2	15
Ball diamonds	1	0	1	1	1	1	2	18
Golf courses	1	0	1	0	0	1	1.5	11.5
Outdoor boarded skating rinks	1	0	1	1	1	2	0	18
Tennis courts	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	17
Disc golf course	1	0	1	2	2	2	1	25
Track and field spaces	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	14

Prioritization Ranking Results – Indoor

Facility Type	Total Weighted Scored
Indoor child playgrounds	31
Indoor multisport / fieldhouse type facilities	30
Ice arena facilities	28
Indoor climbing wall	26
Seniors centre	26
Before and after school care facilities	25
Fitness / wellness facilities	23
Community kitchen	23
Youth centre	20
Art display spaces	20
Dance / program / martial arts rooms	19
Walking / running track	18
Gymnasium type spaces	18
Multi-purpose program rooms	18
Libraries	18
Classroom / training space	18
Community meeting rooms	18
Archery lanes / range	17
Parkour room / gymnastics space	17
Court sports	17
Art creation spaces	15
Community hall / banquet facilities	15
Event hosting facilities	15
Performing arts theatre	15
Indoor agricultural facilities	15
Curling rinks	15
Social banquet facilities	14
Leisure swimming pools	13
Leisure ice surfaces (non hockey)	13
Swimming tanks	10

Prioritization Ranking – Outdoor

Facility Type	Total Weighted Scored
Nature trails	38
Paved pathways	35
Community gardens	34
Amphitheatres /event spaces / band shelters	30
Cross country ski & snowshoe trails	29
Mountain bike trails	29
Open spaces	28
Picnic areas	26
Beach volleyball courts	25
Disc golf course	25
Archery range	24
Pickleball courts	24
Hardcourts	21
Sledding / tobogganing hills	21
Sports fields – artificial turf	20
Off leash dog parks	20
Bike parks	19
Sports fields - grass	19
Ball diamonds	18
Outdoor boarded skating rinks	18
Outdoor pool	17
Tennis courts	17
Playgrounds	16
Outdoor fitness equipment	16
Agricultural facilities	15
Track and field spaces	14
Fishing pond	13
Campgrounds	12
Golf courses	12
Spray parks	11

Appendix B: Potential Parks and Trails Capital Projects

Timing Description

- Short Term (0 - 3 Years)
- Medium Term (3 - 7 Years)
- Long Term (7+ Years)

Trails and Pathways

Potential Project	Suggested Timing
Weinmaster Park Pathway	Short Term
Heritage Heights Pathway	Short Term
Riverside Terrace Park Path Paving	Short Term
Drake Field Path Paving	Medium Term
Gallagher Centre to Ravine Pathway Paving	Medium Term
Kinsmen Arena to Sacred Heart Pathway Paving	Long Term
Fenson Park Pathway Paving	Long Term
Langrill Park Pathway	Long Term
Morrison Park Pathway	Long Term
Parkland College to York Road Pathway	Long Term

Community Parks and Playgrounds

Potential Project	Suggested Timing
Deer Park Golf Course Renewal	Short – Medium Term
Weinmaster Park Washroom and Shelters	Short Term
Heritage Heights Tennis & Pickleball Court Improvements	Short Term
Fit Park at Logan Green	Medium Term
Columbia Park Basketball Courts	Medium Term
Columbia Park Pump Track	Medium Term
Patrick Park Washroom and Shelter	Medium Term
Heritage Park Washroom and Shelter	Medium Term
Silver Heights Washroom/Shelter & Picnic Pads	Medium Term
Knights of Columbus Park Washroom / Shelter	Medium Term
UPP Park, Washroom/Shelter	Medium Term

Appendix C: Parkland Acquisition Guidance

Land acquisition for parks and related public uses occurs in lockstep with new subdivision growth as developers are required to contribute land for park development in the neighbourhoods they are designing. Parks development in new neighbourhoods is intended to meet the needs of the neighbourhood and attract potential new home buyers, further reflecting how park development contributes to community appeal.

Maximizing the recreation value of land acquired through the development process is critical to achieving a parks system that is functional, appealing, adaptable, and responsive to the community needs. Conversely, communities that make mistakes with parkland acquisition through the development process are often left with a legacy of low value parks that become a burden on the municipality with numerous challenges (e.g. low use and appeal, maintenance challenges, lack of connections / synergies with other outdoor infrastructure, etc.).

Provided below are some basic principles that, if applied, can help the City maximize parkland acquisition.

- Wherever possible, the City will avoid accepting utility corridors or features (e.g. storm retention ponds) unless those spaces have unique recreation value.
- Cash in lieu will only be accepted if it enables the City to achieve another parkland acquisition objective (e.g. amass land for a larger park space or recreation project) and the neighbourhood being developed already has sufficient access to parks and trails opportunities.
- The City will avoid accepting parcels less than 0.5 acres ("pocket parks") and explore other alternatives to meeting park space needs in that area of the city (e.g. accepting cash in lieu to provide a larger park space, developing nearby reserve parkland if available, etc.).







What We Heard Report

Recreation and Parks Master Plan

April 2023



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1.0 Introduction



Recreation and parks provide immense benefit to residents of and visitors to Yorkton. Residents and visitors are healthier and more connected to each other because of the recreation activities and experiences they have. The City directly provides some recreation and parks services and plays a role in facilitating and supporting them. To ensure that resources are applied in the most effective manner, the City is proceeding with the development of a Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Plan will help the City make informed decisions on the development, delivery, and improvement of parks and recreation programs, services, and facilities in Yorkton for the next 15 years.

A comprehensive program of engagement was implemented to gather inputs from many perspectives in Yorkton. The tactics utilized included a coded access household survey as well as an open access survey; a survey of organized groups associated with recreation and parks; a series of meetings and discussions with user groups and community contributors; and a youth survey. Initial engagement and promotion were utilized as City staff hosted a number of pop-up sessions throughout Yorkton during the summer. Combined, these findings offer a comprehensive perspective on recreation and parks provision in Yorkton.

Tactic	Participation	Margin of Error
Coded Access Survey	372 responses	+/- 4.9% 19/20*
Open Access Survey	93 responses	N/A
Community Pop-Up Events	3 events	N/A
Group Survey	13 responses	N/A
Youth Survey	340 responses	N/A
Community Contributor Meetings	36 participating groups	N/A

*If the survey was fielded by random sampling the margin of error would equate to +/- 4.9% nineteen times out of twenty.



2.0 Community Pop-Ups



Prior to the survey being released to the public, City staff held a variety of pop-Up events to gather some top of mind thoughts and to inform the community about the up and coming Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The pop-up events were held on July 19th at the Yorkton Public Library, July 25th at Water Park and August 13th at Canadian Tire.

The pop-ups included two panels asking the community: *what their favorite parks and recreation activities are to do in Yorkton*, and *why parks and recreation services are important to them*. Some comments gathered are captured below:

Question 1: What are your favourite parks and recreation activities to do in Yorkton?

- Bike and walking paths
- Mini powwows
- Dog parks
- Visiting the museum
- Swimming (leisurely and for fitness)
- Playing tennis
- Skating
- Attending the fair
- Disc golf
- The spray park
- Camping
- Attending the dog park

Question 2: Why are parks and recreation services important to you?

- To maintain our mental, emotional, physical, and social health
- They are good spaces to connect with others
- They make me feel valued and help create quality of life for my family
- Makes our family feel close to the community
- Keeps youth active and creates a fun safe place for them to play
- It helps relieve stress and bring our creativity



3.0 Community Survey



3.0 Community Survey

A survey was fielded to households in Yorkton to gather their perspectives on recreation and parks provision. It required respondents to answer questions considering the perspectives of all people in the household. Participation in this survey required an access code that was unique to each household. The access codes were distributed to households using a postcard utilizing Canada Post's neighbourhood mail – 8,151 households were sent a postcard. Refer to Appendix A for the postcard. In addition to the access code, the postcard provided a brief explanation of the project and directions on how to access the survey. Survey respondents were able to enter a draw for one of two \$250 Visa gift cards.

The City's website was used as a host for the survey. While the survey was fielded online, residents were able to request hard copies of the questionnaire. The survey gathered responses from September 28th – October 16th. Over that time 372 responses were gathered. If the survey was fielded through random sampling, the findings would have a margin of error of +/- 4.9% nineteen times out of twenty. The findings from the coded survey are considered representative of all households in Yorkton. Refer to Appendix B for the questionnaire. Additionally, an open access survey was fielded. This survey was intended to provide a means for Yorkton residents to participate in the survey in the event they did not have an access code.

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

- Social media posts and reposts on Facebook
- Newspaper
- Shape Your City Platform
- Advertisements on the City's website
- Radio
- Television (CTV News)

3.1 Survey Findings

The findings are presented in the order they were posed in the survey. They reflect the proportion of respondents who answered the question as not all respondents answered each question. The findings were also examined by some subsegments¹. Where appropriate and sizeable differences exist, mention is made in the report. The findings from the coded access survey are considered representative of Yorkton residents. Findings from the open access survey are presented alongside the coded access findings. Due to rounding totals may not equal 100%².



¹ Subsegments examined: households with kids, households without kids, by age (0-9, 10-19, 20-39, 40-69, 70 and older), satisfaction with availability of facilities and amenities and tenure in Yorkton.

² Note: due to rounding totals may not equal 100%. Likewise the findings presented in graphs, while the numbers are the same, may not have the identical length bar.

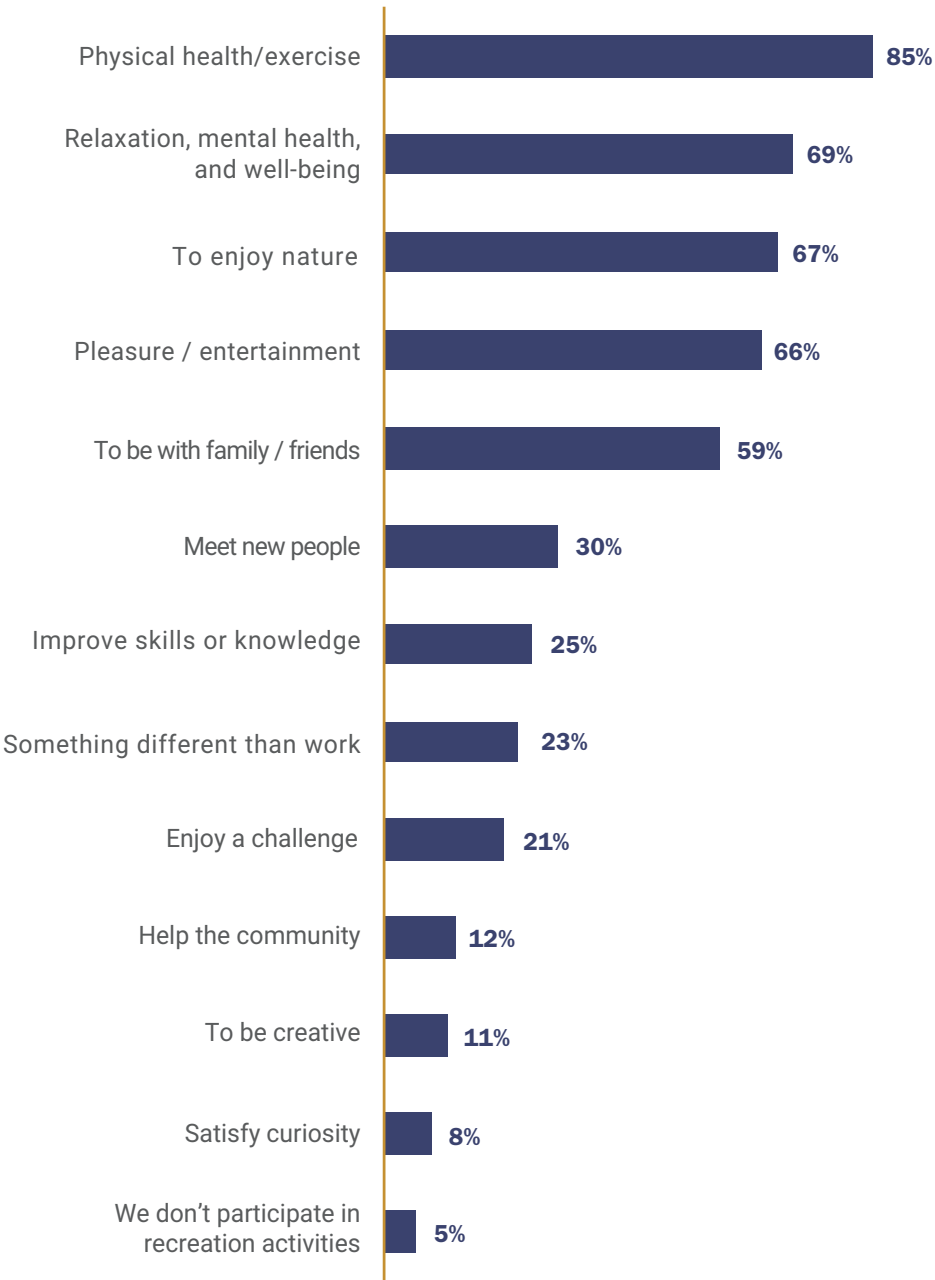
3.1.1 Top of Mind Thoughts

To begin the survey, respondents were asked to identify the main reasons members of their households participate in recreation activities. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, over three quarters of respondents (85%) participate in parks and recreation activities for physical health and exercise. Notably, over two thirds of respondents participate for relaxation, mental health, and well-being (69%) and to enjoy nature (67%). The minority of respondents (5%) said they do not participate in parks and recreation activities. Refer to the graph for additional responses.

Subsegment Analysis

- Households with children aged 0-14 years are more likely to participate in parks and recreation activities to improve skills or knowledge (39%) than households without children (19%).
- Those that have lived in Yorkton for less than one year (53%) are more likely to participate in recreation activities to meet new people than those who have lived in Yorkton for 6-10 years (33%), 1-5 years (31%) and 10 or more years (29%).
- Those that have lived in Yorkton for less than one year (40%) are more likely to participate in recreation activities for something to do other than work than those who have lived in Yorkton for 1-5 years (19%) and 10 or more years (19%).

Reasons Households Participate



**OPEN ACCESS SURVEY -
REASONS HOUSEHOLDS
PARTICIPATE**

Physical health / exercise - 86%

Relaxation, mental health, and well-being - 65%

To be with family and friends - 63%

Pleasure / entertainment - 63%

To enjoy nature - 53%

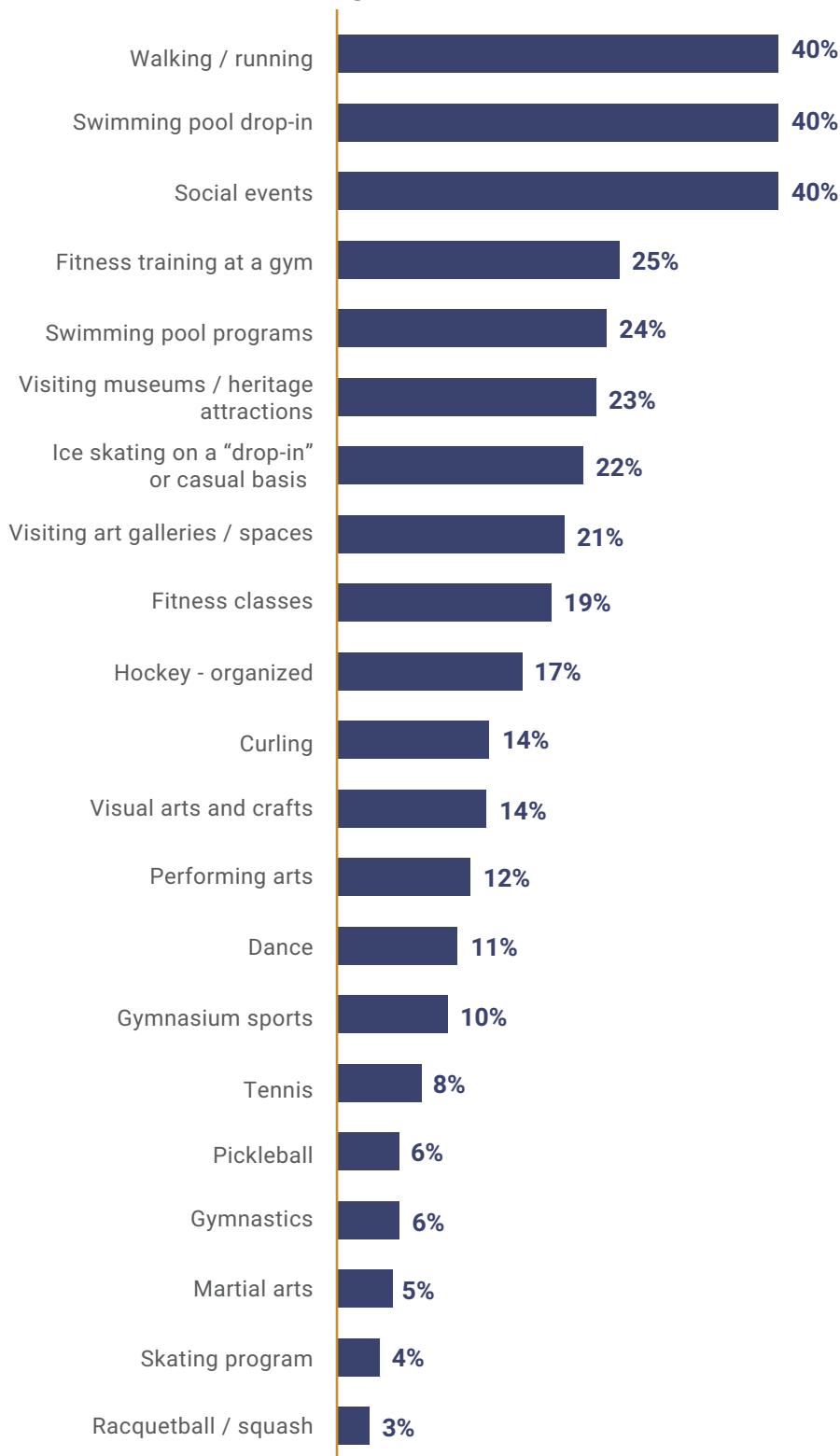
3.1.2 Current Usage / Visitation

A series of indoor parks and recreation activities were presented to respondents. For each activity they were asked to identify if someone in their household participated in the activity on a regular basis (2 or more times per month during the season) prior to the disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic. Regarding indoor activities, two fifths of respondents said that someone in their household participated in walking and running (40%), swimming pool drop-in (40%) and social events (40%). Refer to the graph.

Subsegment Analysis

- Households with children aged 0-14 years are more likely to participate in ice skating on a drop-in basis (39%) than households without children (16%).
- Households with children aged 0-14 years are more likely to participate in swimming pool drop-in activities (67%) than households without children (30%).
- Households with children aged 0-14 years are more likely to participate in swimming pool programs (52%) than households without children (14%).
- Those who have lived in Yorkton for 6-10 years are more likely to participate in swimming pool programs (46%) than those who have lived in Yorkton for over 10 years (20%).
- Those who have lived in Yorkton for less than one year are more likely to visit museums (43%) than those who have lived in Yorkton for 10 or more years (21%).

Indoor Activities That Households Participated In On A Regular Basis



OPEN ACCESS SURVEY - INDOOR ACTIVITIES THAT HOUSEHOLDS PARTICIPATED IN ON A REGULAR BASIS

Swimming Pool drop-in - 53%

Walking running - 37%

Fitness classes - 35%

Ice skating drop-in - 35%

Social events - 35%

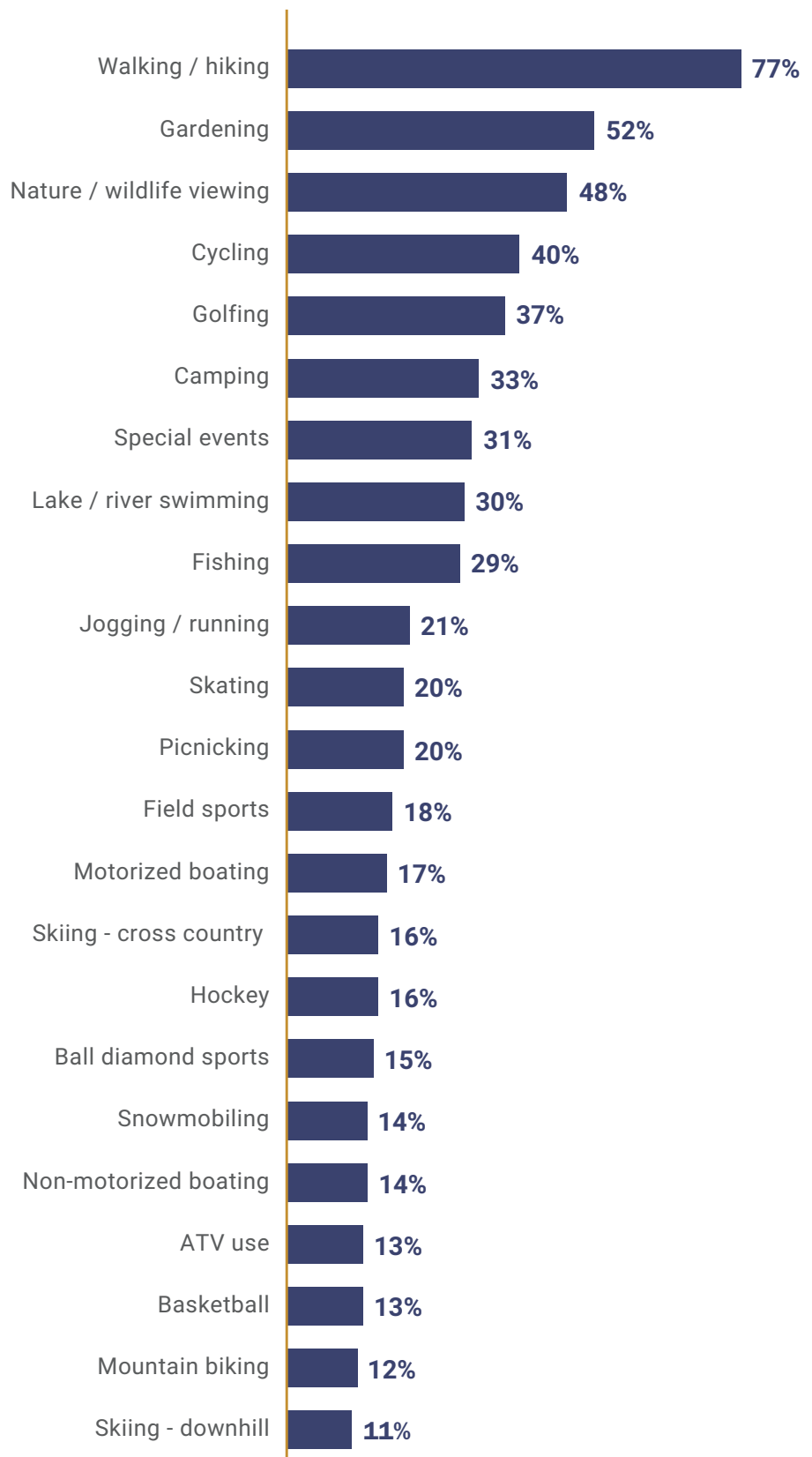
Swimming pool programs - 34%

Regarding outdoor parks and recreation activities, approximately three quarters of respondents said they participate in walking/ hiking (77%). Approximately half of respondents (52%) identified gardening as an activity they participate in on a regular basis and enjoy nature/wildlife viewing (48%). Activities with percentages under 10% were not included on the graph. Those activities include snowshoeing (9%), tennis (7%), skateboarding (7%), stand-up paddle boarding (5%), pickleball (4%) and horseback riding (4%). Refer to the graph for additional findings.

Subsegment Analysis

- Households with children aged 0-14 years are more likely to participate in field sports (42%) than households without children (7%).
- Households with children aged 0-14 years are more likely to participate in lake/river swimming (50%) than households without children (23%).
- Households with children aged 0-14 years are more likely to participate in outdoor skating (37%) than households without children (11%).
- Those who have lived in Yorkton for over 10 years are more likely to participate in golf (41%) than those who have only lived in Yorkton for less than a year (14%).
- Those who have lived in Yorkton for 6 to 10 years are more likely to participate in running and jogging (51%) than those who have lived in Yorkton for over 10 years (15%).
- Those who have lived in Yorkton for 6-10 years are more likely to attend special events and festivals (49%) than those who have only lived in Yorkton for less than a year (27%).

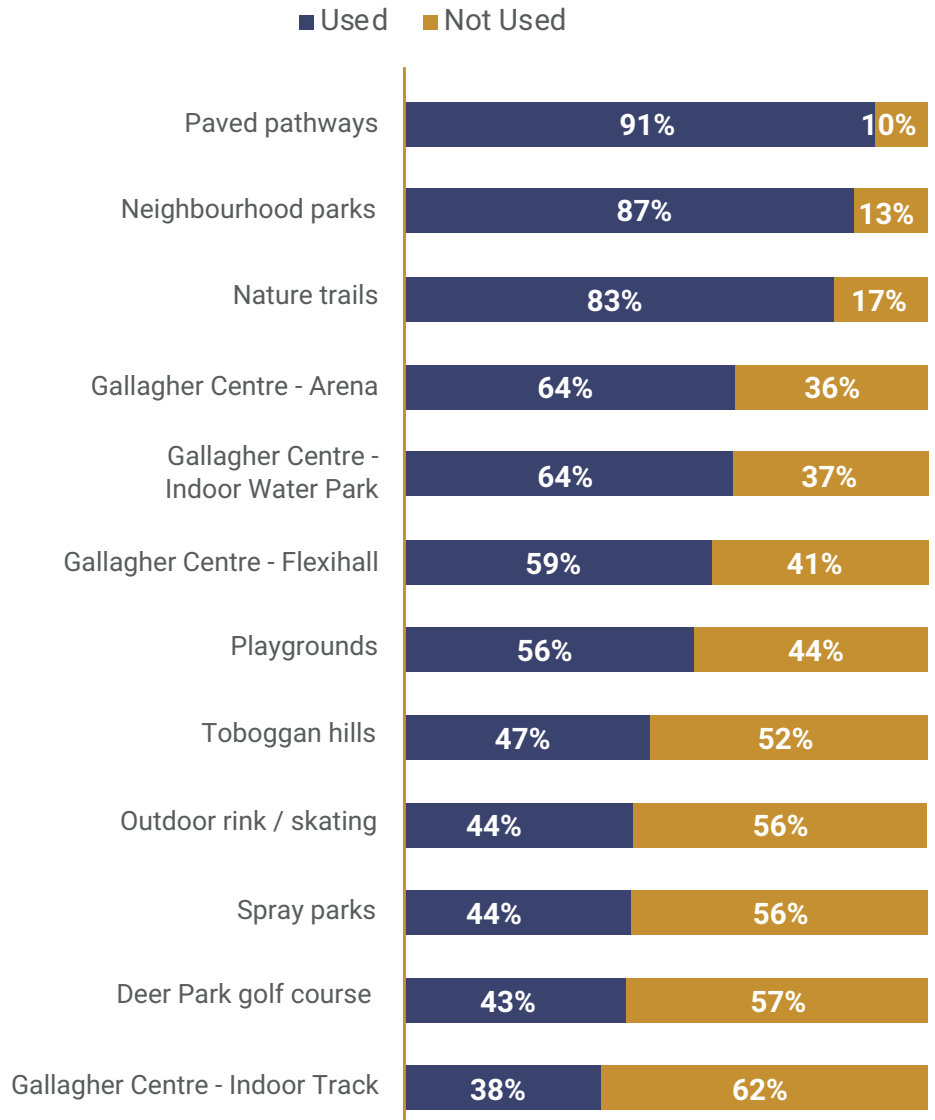
Outdoor Activities Households Participated in on A Regular Basis



**OPEN ACCESS SURVEY-
OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES
HOUSEHOLDS PARTICIPATED
IN ON A REGULAR BASIS**

Walking / hiking - 71%
Gardening - 50%
Camping - 44%
Cycling - 40%
Nature / wildlife viewing - 39%
Lake / river swimming - 36%

Frequency of Use



Respondents were given a list of parks and recreation **facilities and spaces** and were asked to identify the frequency of which a household member used or visited each in the previous two years. The largest proportion of users identified paved pathways (91%), neighbourhood parks (87%) and nature trails (83%) as the most frequently visited spaces over the last two years. Approximately two thirds of respondents said that a household member visited the Gallagher Centre – Arena (64%), Gallagher Centre – Indoor Water Park (64%), and the Gallagher Centre – Flexihall (59%) over the last two years. The racquetball and squash courts at the Gloria Hayden Community Centre were utilized by the fewest proportion of households. Refer to the graph.

Frequency of Use (Continued)

OPEN ACCESS SURVEY - FREQUENCY OF USE (USED)

Indoor facilities - 88%

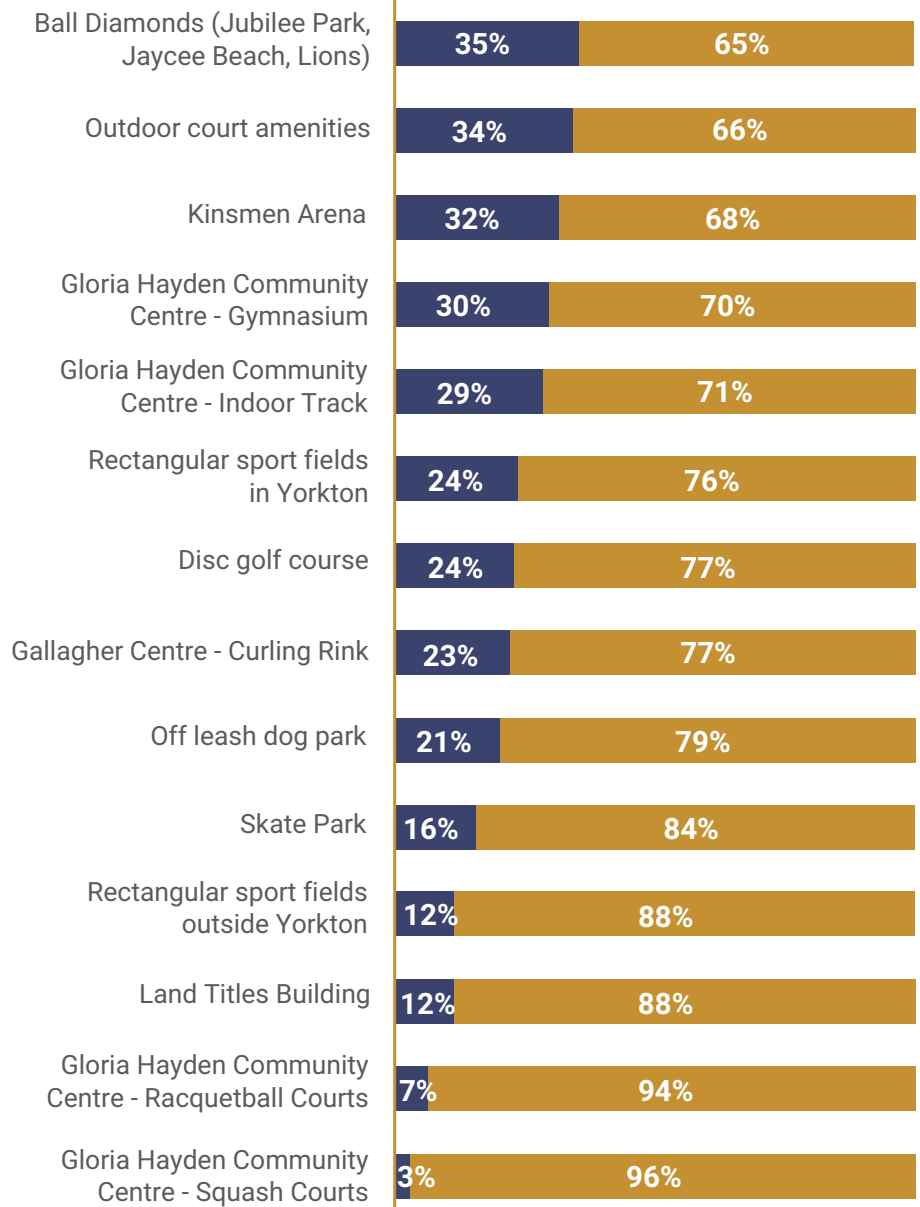
Neighborhood parks - 87%

Nature trails - 87%

Paved pathways - 85%

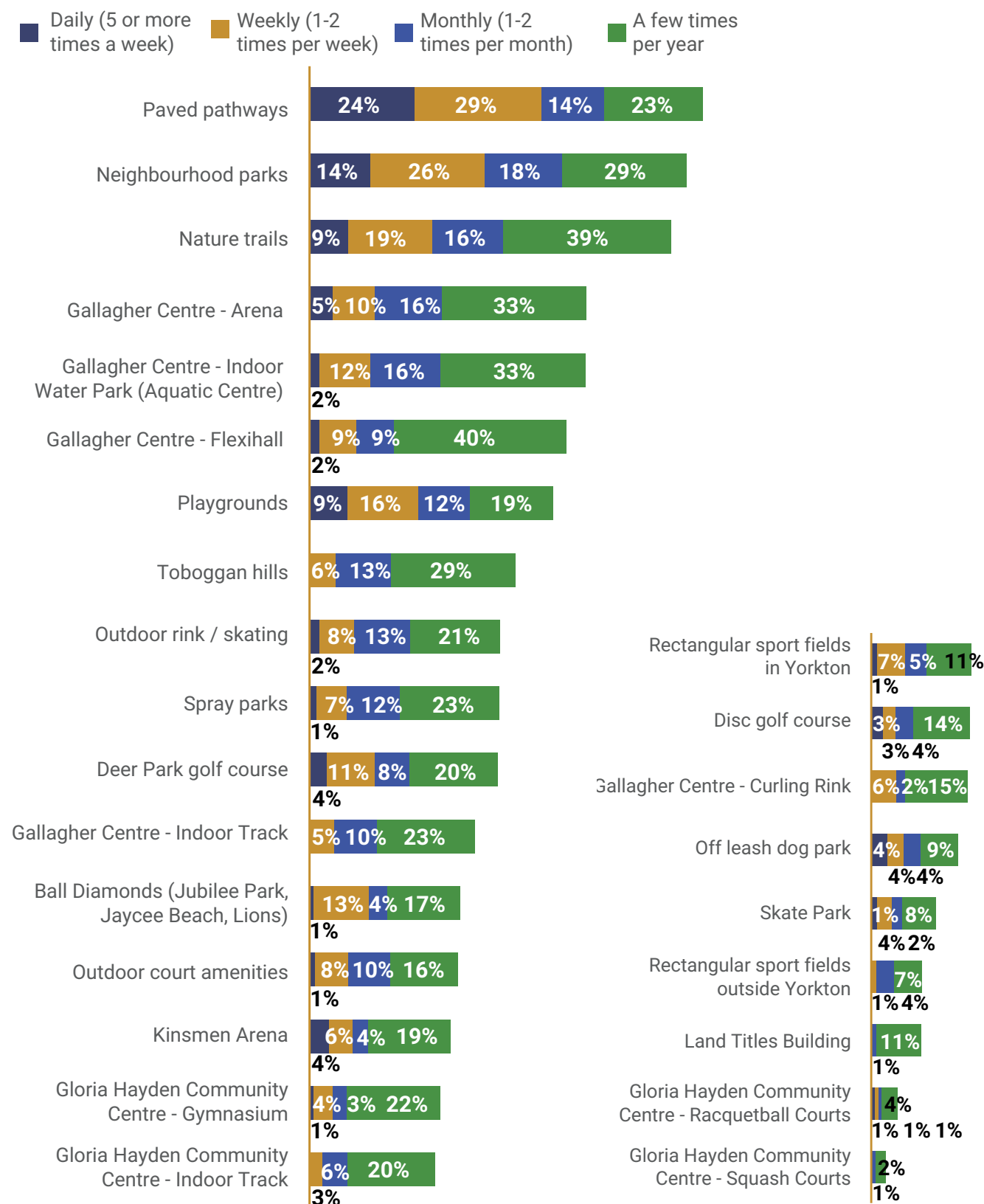
Gallagher Centre - Aquatic Centre -
82%

Gallagher Centre - Arena - 70%



Considering the breakdown of frequency of use, approximately one quarter (24%) of respondents utilize paved pathways daily. One third of respondents (33%) utilize the Gallagher Centre – Arena and Indoor water park monthly and over one third (40%) utilized the Gallagher Centre – Flexihall. Refer to the graph.

Frequency of Use (Used Only)



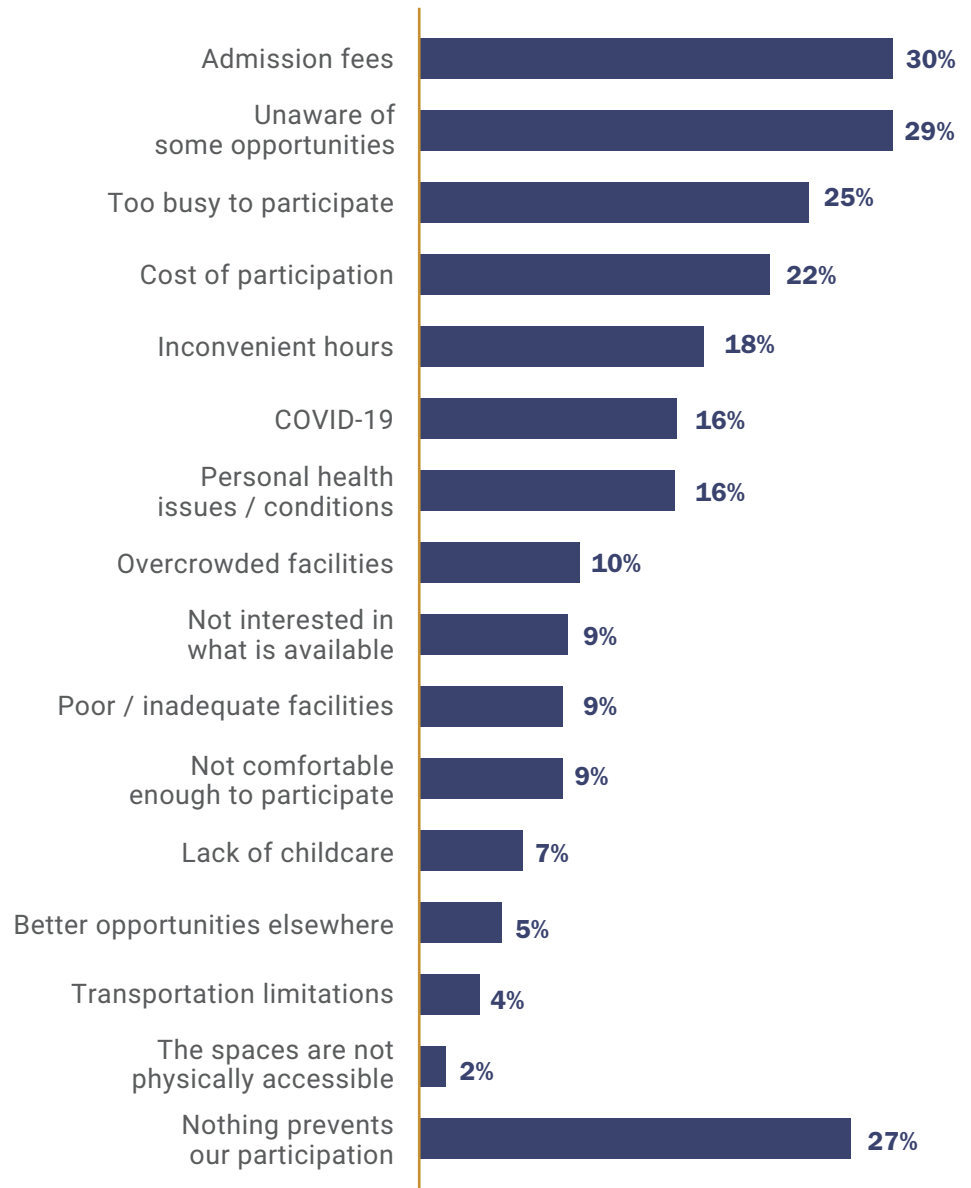
3.1.3 Parks and Recreation Service Assessment

Next, respondents were asked to identify barriers that prevent a household member from participating in parks and recreation activities in Yorkton. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, approximately one third of respondents said that admission fees (30%) and being unaware of some opportunities (29%) are the biggest barriers to participating in parks and recreation activities. Notably, approximately one quarter of respondents also said that nothing prevents their participation (27%).

Subsegment Analysis

- Those who said they are dissatisfied with the availability of parks and recreation opportunities in Yorkton are more likely to say that poor and inadequate facilities prevent them from participating (37%) compared to those who are satisfied (3%).
- Those who said they are dissatisfied with the availability of parks and recreation opportunities in Yorkton are more likely to say that there are better recreation opportunities elsewhere (17%) than those who are satisfied (3%).
- Those who said they are satisfied with the availability of parks and recreation in Yorkton are more likely to say that nothing prevents their participation (35%) than those who are dissatisfied (15%).
- Households without children (31%) are more likely to say that nothing prevents their participation in recreation opportunities than households with children aged 0-14 years (19%).
- Households with children aged 0-14 years are more likely to say that a barrier to participation is being too busy (42%) than households without children (20%).
- Households with children aged 0-14 years (43%) are more likely to say that they are unaware of some opportunities than households without children (25%).

Barriers to Participation

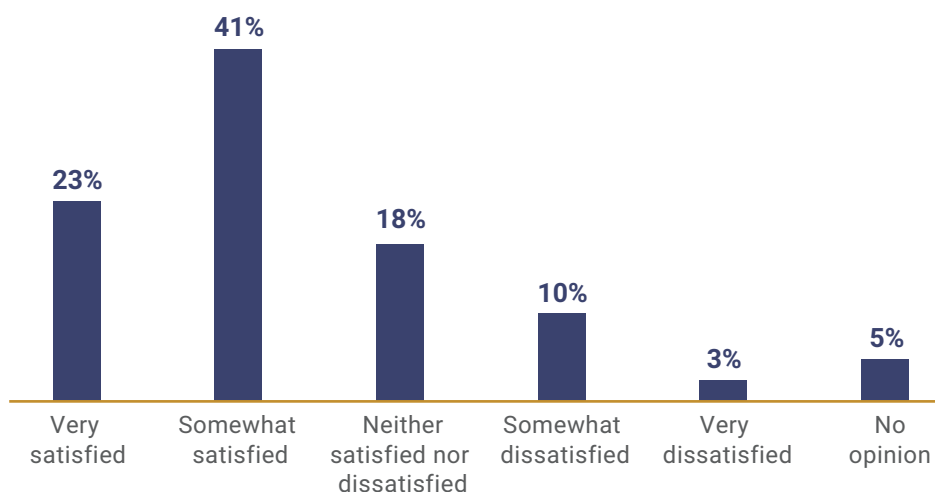


- Those that have lived in Yorkton for less than one year are more likely to say that they are unaware of some opportunities (60%) than those who have lived in Yorkton for over 10 years (25%).
- Those that have lived in Yorkton for 6-10 years are more likely to say that lack of childcare (28%) is a barrier to participation than those who have lived in Yorkton for 1-5 years (3%).
- Those who have lived in Yorkton for 6-10 years are more likely to say they are too busy to participate in recreation opportunities (42%) than those who have lived in Yorkton for less than one year (20%).

OPEN ACCESS SURVEY - BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION)

Unaware of opportunities - 40%
Inconvenient hours - 33%
Admission fees - 29%
Nothing prevents participation - 27%

Satisfaction with Availability of Opportunities



Regarding the availability of parks and recreation opportunities in Yorkton, approximately two thirds (64%) of respondents said they are satisfied (very satisfied and somewhat satisfied) with the availability of opportunities. A minority of respondents (13%) said they are dissatisfied (somewhat dissatisfied and very dissatisfied) with the availability of opportunities in Yorkton.

OPEN ACCESS SURVEY- SATISFACTION WITH AVAILABILITY OF OPPORTUNITIES

Very satisfied - 16%
Somewhat satisfied - 39%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied - 21%
Somewhat dissatisfied - 16%
Very dissatisfied - 5%
No opinion - 3%

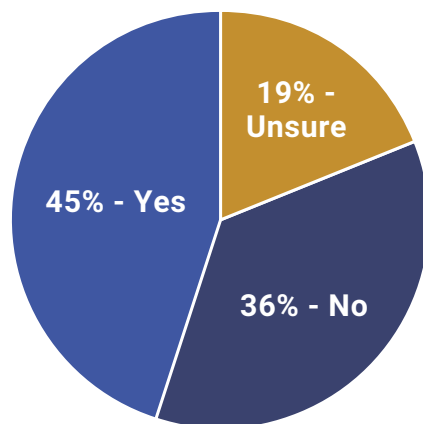
Subsegment Analysis

- Households without children (28%) are more likely to say they are very satisfied with the availability of parks and recreation opportunities in Yorkton than households with children aged 0-14 years (15%)

3.1.4 Future Priorities and Focus Areas

Respondents were then asked if there are adequate recreation and parks facilities (indoor and outdoor) in Yorkton. As illustrated in the graph, approximately half (45%) of respondents said there are adequate facilities, while approximately one third of respondents (36%) said there are not adequate facilities.

Are There Adequate Recreation and Parks Facilities in Yorkton?



OPEN ACCESS SURVEY- ARE THERE ADEQUATE RECREATION AND PARKS FACILITIES IN YORKTON?

Yes - 41%

Unsure - 39%

No - 20%

Subsegment Analysis

- Those who said they are dissatisfied with the availability of parks and recreation opportunities in Yorkton are more likely to say that there are not adequate recreation and parks facilities in Yorkton (79%) compared to those who are satisfied (25%).
- Those who are satisfied with the availability of parks and recreation opportunities in Yorkton are more likely to say that there are adequate recreation and parks facilities (56%) than those who are dissatisfied (6%).
- Households with no children (56%) are more likely to say there are adequate recreation and parks facilities in Yorkton than households with children (34%).
- Households with children (51%) are more likely to say that there are not adequate recreation and parks facilities in Yorkton than households without children (26%).
- Those that have lived in Yorkton for less than one year (73%) are more likely to say that there are adequate recreation and parks facilities than those who have lived in Yorkton for 6-10 years (41%), 10 or more years (44%) and 1-5 years (46%).

Respondents who said there are not adequate facilities in Yorkton and those who are unsure were then asked to **identify indoor and outdoor facilities and amenities** that they think should be more readily available or enhanced. Respondents were provided with a list of facilities and amenities and were asked to select up to five that should be more readily available or enhanced.

Regarding **indoor** facilities and amenities, approximately one third of households identified ice arena facilities (32%), indoor climbing wall (31%), and indoor child playgrounds (28%) as a top priority in Yorkton. In lower, but similar proportions, indoor multi sport / fieldhouse facilities (27%) and seniors centres (24%) were also identified as top priorities in Yorkton.

**OPEN ACCESS SURVEY -
INDOOR FACILITIES AND
AMENITIES THAT SHOULD BE
MORE READILY AVAILABLE OR
ENHANCED**

Indoor climbing walls - 42%

Indoor child playgrounds - 40%

Ice arena facilities - 35%

Youth centre - 30%

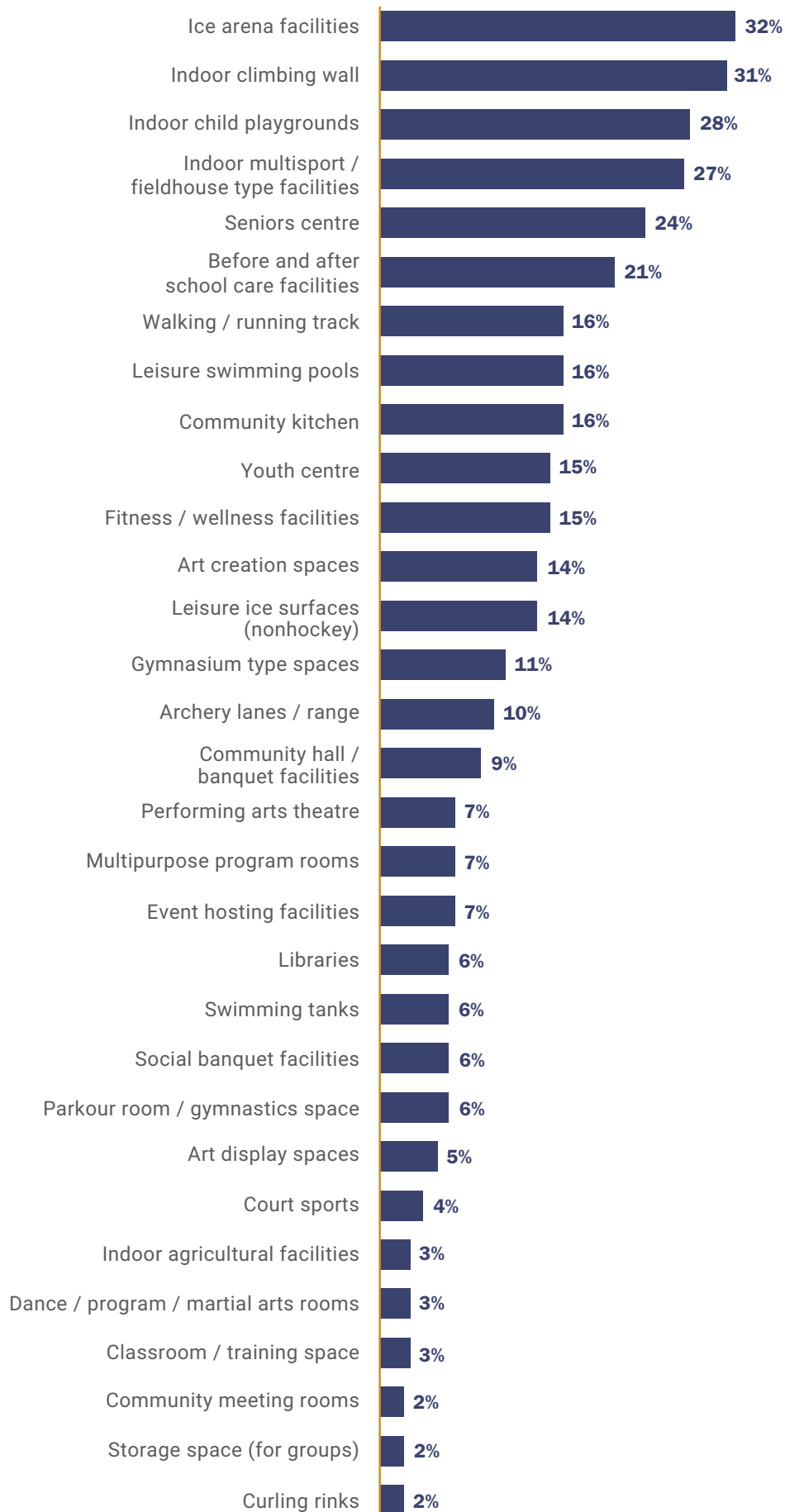
Before and after school care facilities - 28%

Indoor multisport fieldhouse type facilities - 28%

Community kitchen - 26%

Leisure swimming pools - 19%

Indoor Facilities and Amenities That Should Be More Readily Available or Enhanced

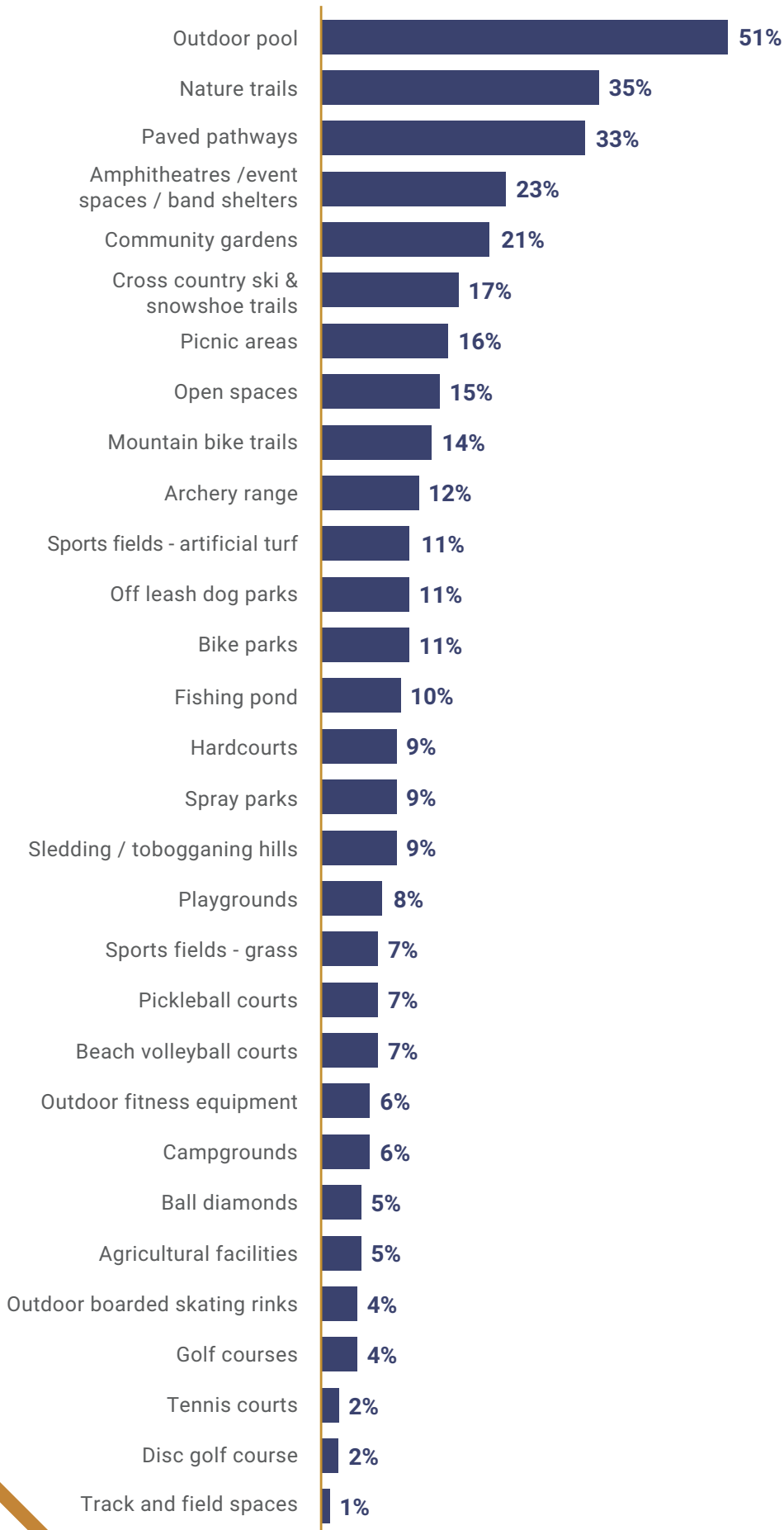


Subsegment Analysis

- Households without children (34%) are more likely to say that seniors' centres need to be more readily available or enhanced than households with children aged 0-14 years (11%).
- Households with children aged 0-14 (47%) years are more likely to say that indoor child playgrounds need to be more readily available or enhanced than households without children (17%).
- Households with children aged 0-14 years are more likely to say that indoor climbing walls (47%) need to be more readily available or enhanced in Yorkton than households without children (28%).
- Households without children (22%) are more likely to say that fitness and wellness facilities need to be more readily available or enhanced than those with children aged 0-14 years (8%).
- Those who have lived in Yorkton for less than one year are more likely to say that art display spaces need to be more readily available or enhanced (50%) than those who have lived in Yorkton for 6-10 years (16%) and 10 or more years (12%).
- Those who have lived in Yorkton for less than a year are more likely to say that archery lanes and ranges need to be more readily available or enhanced (50%) than those who have lived in Yorkton for over 10 years (8%).
- Those who have lived in Yorkton for 1-5 years (44%) are more likely to say that fitness and wellness facilities need to be more readily available or enhanced than those who have lived in Yorkton for over 10 years (11%).



Outdoor Facilities and Amenities That Should Be More Readily Available or Enhanced



Respondents were then provided a list of **outdoor facilities** and amenities that need to be more readily available or enhanced. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, approximately half of respondents identified an outdoor pool (51%) as a top priority for Yorkton. In lower proportions, nature trails (35%), paved pathways (33%), amphitheatres (23%), and community gardens (21%) were also identified as top priorities.

OPEN ACCESS SURVEY - OUTDOOR FACILITIES AND AMENITIES THAT SHOULD BE MORE READILY AVAILABLE OR ENHANCED

Outdoor pools - 64%
 Amphitheatres / event spaces - 26%
 Nature trails - 24%
 Sports fields - artificial turf - 24%
 Paved pathways - 19%
 Sports fields - grass - 17%
 Bike parks - 14%
 Community gardens - 14%
 Mountain bike trails - 14%

Subsegment Analysis

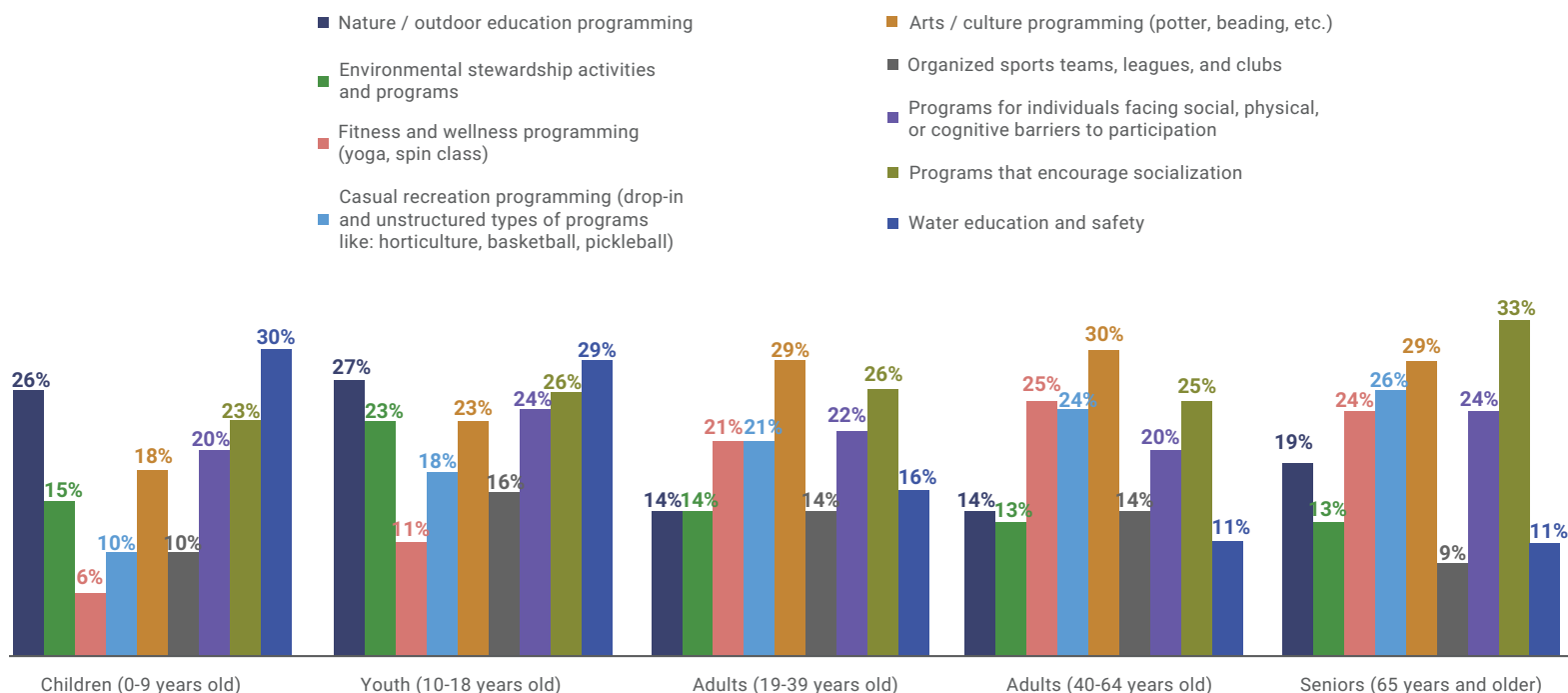
- Households without children are more likely to say that nature trails (42%) need to be more readily available or enhanced than households with children aged 0-14 years (24%)
- Those who have lived in Yorkton for less than one year are more likely to say that archery ranges need to be more readily available or enhanced (50%) than those who have lived in Yorkton for 1-5 years (6%).
- Those who have lived in Yorkton for 6-10 years are more likely to say that bike parks need to be more readily available or enhanced (33%) than those who have lived in Yorkton for 1-5 years (6%) and over 10 years (7%).
- Those who have lived in Yorkton for over 10 years are more likely to say that an outdoor pool needs to be more readily available (56%) than those who have lived in Yorkton for less than a year (25%) and 1-5 years (25%).



3.1.5 Programming

Respondents were provided with a list of programming types and were asked to identify if each of them should be more readily available in Yorkton based on age of participants. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, approximately one third of respondents said that programs that encourage socialization (33%) for seniors aged 65 years and older, water education and safety (30%) for children aged 0-9 years, arts and culture programming for adults aged 40-64 years, and water education and safety for children aged 10-18 years (29%) were the most identified programs that should be more readily available in Yorkton.

Programming Types by Age



Subsegment Analysis

- Households with seniors aged 70 and older are more likely to say that fitness and wellness programming for seniors 65 years and older should be enhanced (30%) than households with children aged 0-9 years (9%).
- Households with youth aged 10-19 years are more likely to say that casual recreation programming should be enhanced for youth 10-18 years old (21%) than households with seniors over the age of 70 (7%).
- Households with seniors aged 70 and older are more likely to say that casual recreation programming for seniors 65 years and older (30%) should be enhanced than households with children aged 10-19 years (9%).

3.1.6 Prioritization Criteria

When considering public investment in parks and recreation amenities and facilities there are limited resources available. Due to this, priorities must be determined. Respondents were provided with a list of factors that the City could use to prioritize investment in parks and recreation in Yorkton. For each factor they were asked to identify how important it should be when the City sets priorities. Over half of respondents identified potential cost savings through partnerships or grants (57%) and demands from the community, resident, and groups (57%) as very important criteria for when the City sets priorities. Refer to the graph to see the importance respondents identified for other criteria.

OPEN ACCESS SURVEY - IMPORTANCE OF CRITERIA TO SET PRIORITIES (VERY IMPORTANT)

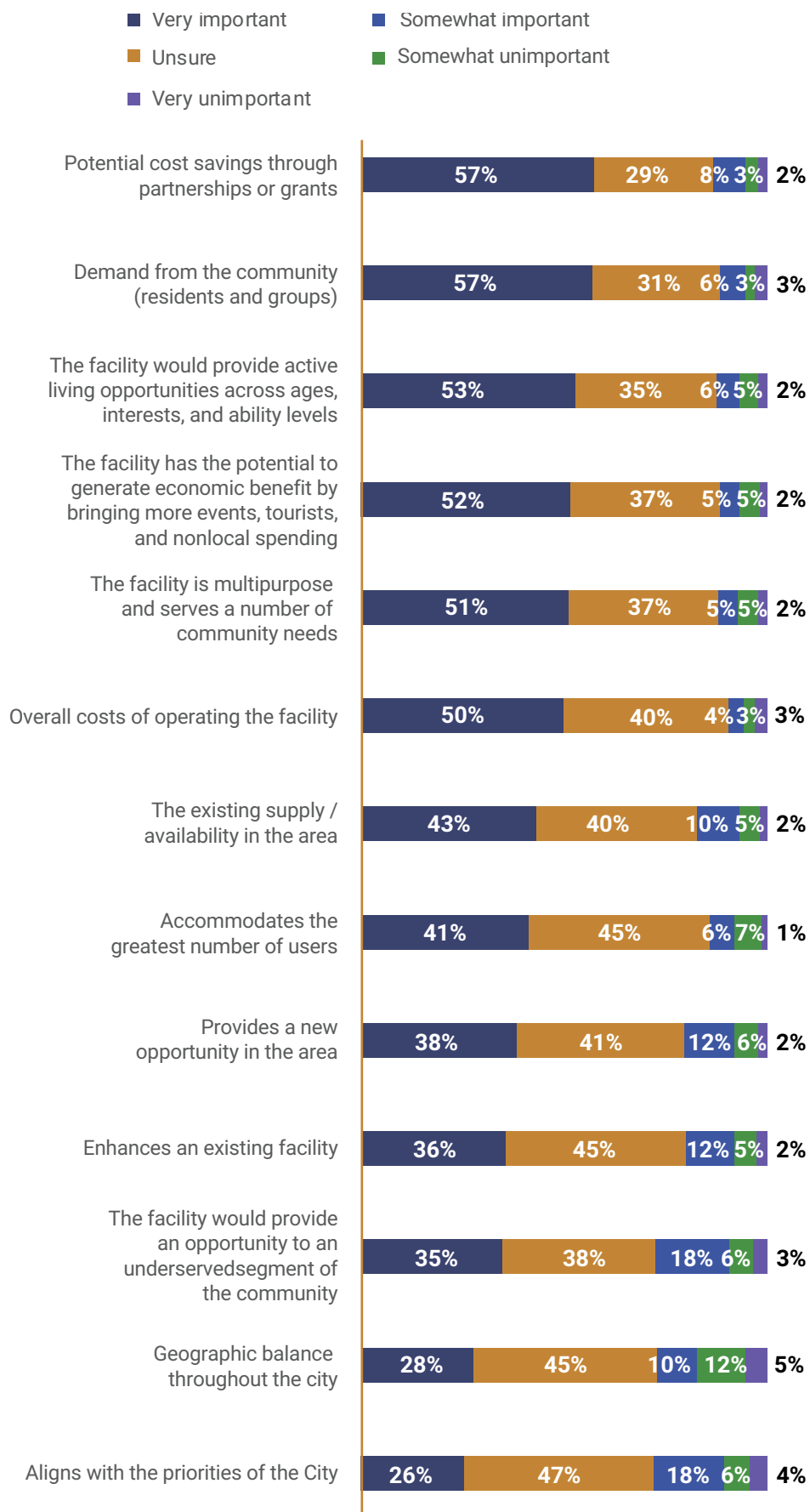
The facility would provide active living opportunities across ages, interests, and ability levels - 61%

Demand from the community (residents and groups) - 59%

The facility has the potential to generate economic benefit by bringing more events, tourists, and nonlocal spending - 53%

Potential cost savings through partnerships and grants - 53%

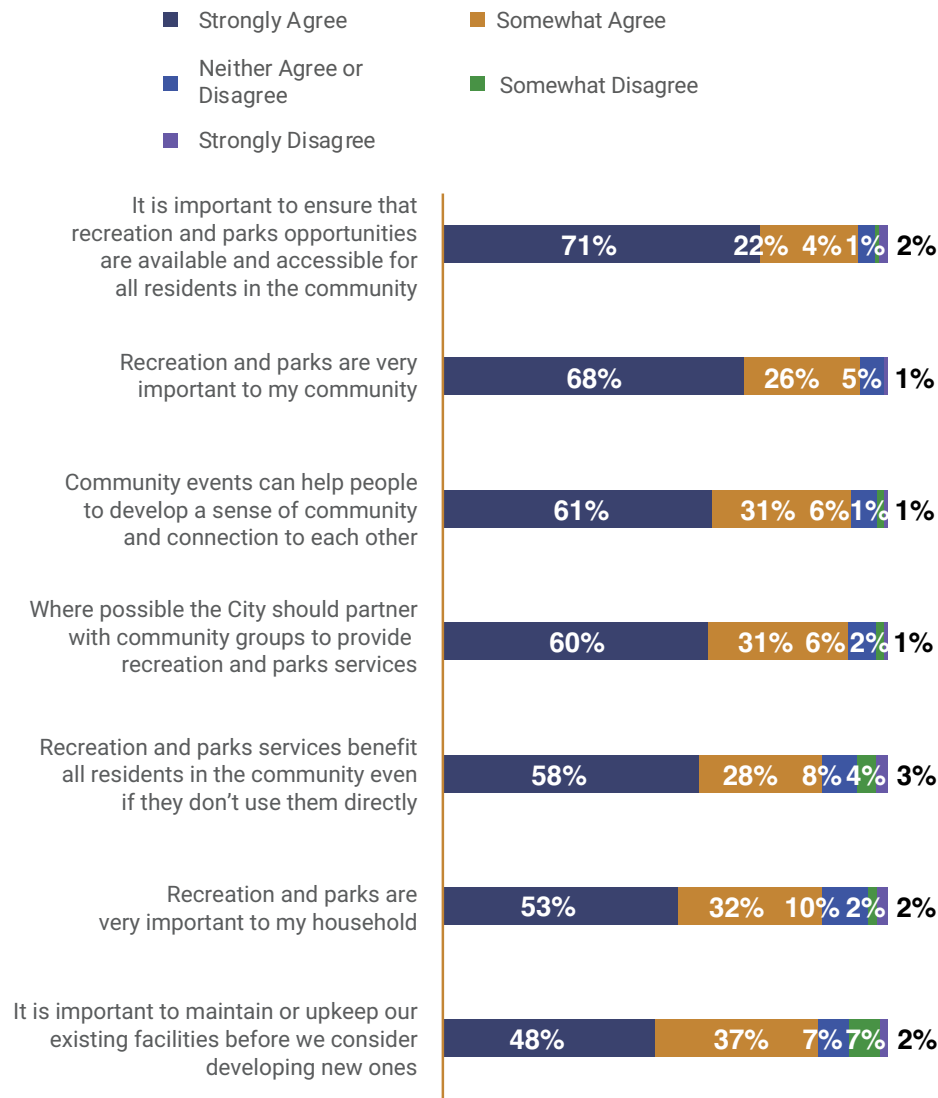
Importance of Criteria to Set Priorities



3.1.7 Values and Considerations

Respondents were presented with several statements regarding the provision of parks and recreation facilities and amenities in Yorkton. For each statement they were asked to identify the extent to which they agreed. Approximately three quarters of respondents strongly agree that it is important to ensure that recreation and parks opportunities are available and accessible for all residents in the community (71%). Approximately two thirds of respondents strongly agree that recreation and parks are very important to the community (68%) and that community events can help people develop a sense of community and connection to each other (61%). As illustrated in the graph, a large majority of respondents somewhat or strongly agree with each statement.

Agreement Level with Values and Considerations in Yorkton

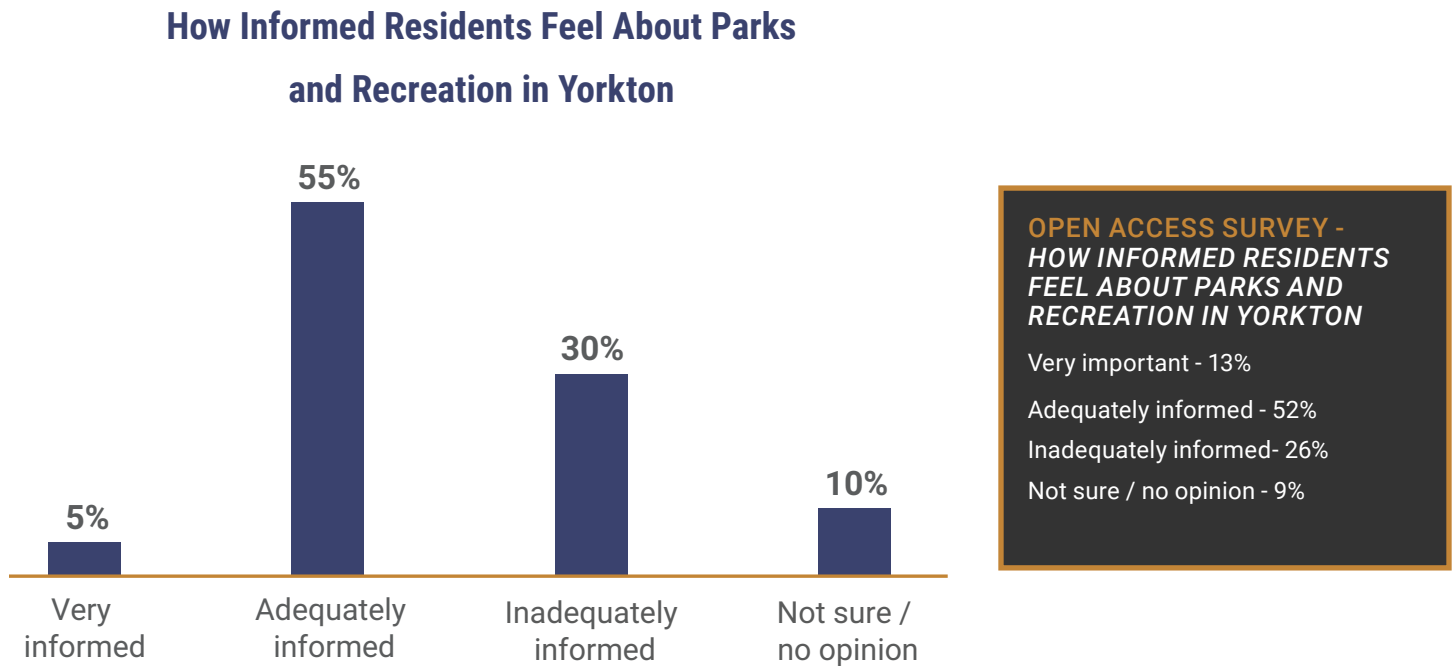


OPEN ACCESS SURVEY - AGREEMENT LEVEL WITH VALUES AND CONSIDERATIONS IN YORKTON

- It is important to ensure that recreation and parks opportunities are available and accessible for all residents in the community - 72%
- Community events can help people to develop a sense of community and connection to each other - 69%
- Where possible the City should partner with community groups to provide recreation and parks services- 65%
- Recreation and parks are very important to my community - 61%

3.1.8 Communications

As illustrated in the graph, approximately two thirds of respondents feel very or adequately informed (60%) about parks and recreation in Yorkton. Notably, approximately one third of respondents feel inadequately informed (30%). Refer to the graph.



Subsegment Analysis

- Those who said they are dissatisfied with the availability of parks and recreation opportunities in Yorkton are more likely to say they do not feel informed about parks and recreation in Yorkton (58%) than those who are satisfied (20%).
- Those who said they are satisfied with the availability of parks and recreation opportunities in Yorkton are more likely to say they feel adequately informed about parks and recreation in Yorkton (64%) than those who are dissatisfied (30%).
- Those who have lived in Yorkton for 1-5 years (53%) are more likely to say they are inadequately informed about parks and recreation than those who have lived in Yorkton for over 10 years (26%).

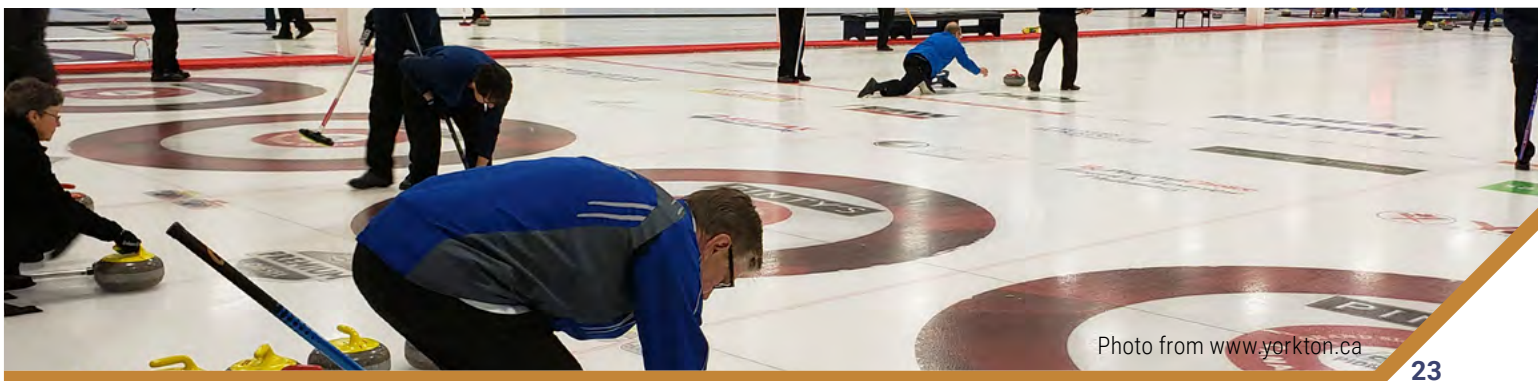
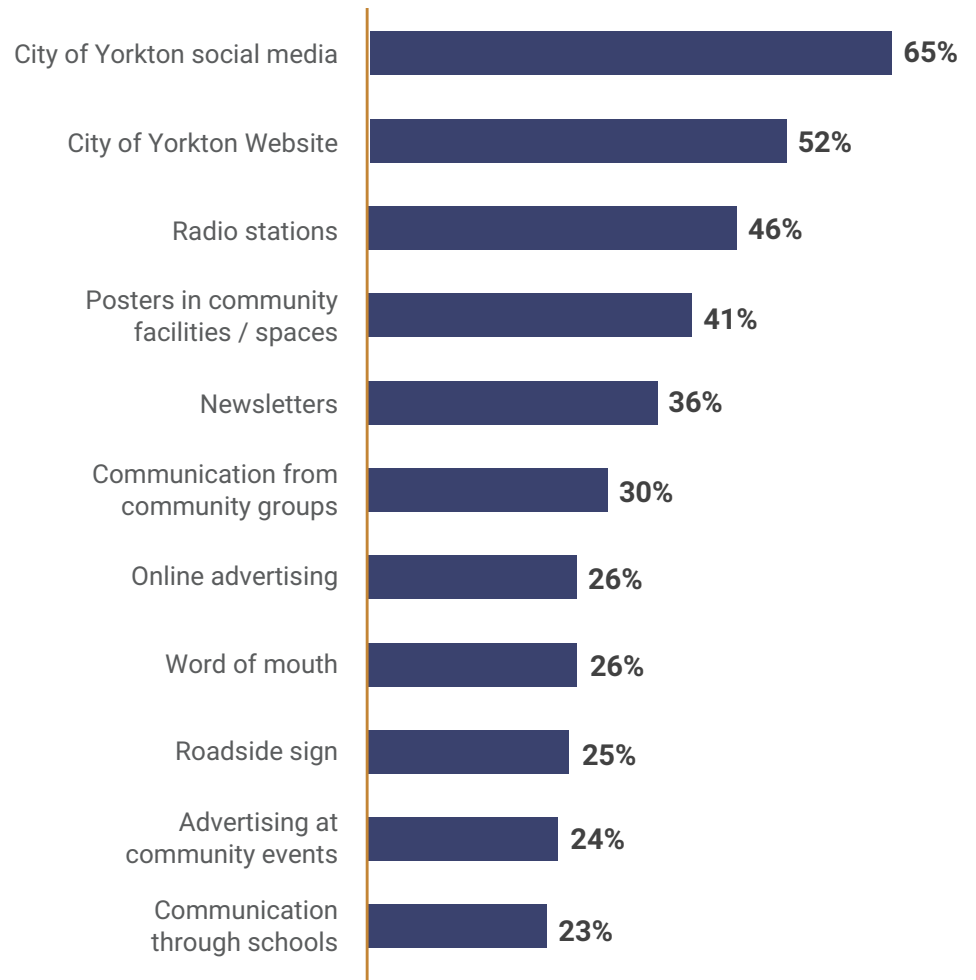


Photo from www.yorkton.ca

When asked about their preferences for communication channels to learn about parks and recreation opportunities, approximately two thirds of respondents identified City of Yorkton social media (65%) as one of the best communication channels. Notably, over half of respondents identified the City of Yorkton website (52%) as a top five preference. Refer to the graph.

Communication Preferences



OPEN ACCESS SURVEY - COMMUNICATION PREFERENCES

City of Yorkton social media - 87%

City of Yorkton website - 49%

Communication through schools-
43%

Online advertising - 38%



3.1.9 Willingness to Pay

The City of Yorkton facilities are paid for by a combination of tax support and fees paid by users. To ensure that community needs regarding parks and recreation facilities, amenities, and services in Yorkton are better met, respondents were asked a variety of questions regarding tax increases.

As illustrated in the accompanying graph, one third (33%) of respondents said they would support a property tax increase for **enhancements to services their households use**. In very similar proportions, over one third (36%) said they were unsure and just under one third (32%) said they would not support a tax increase.

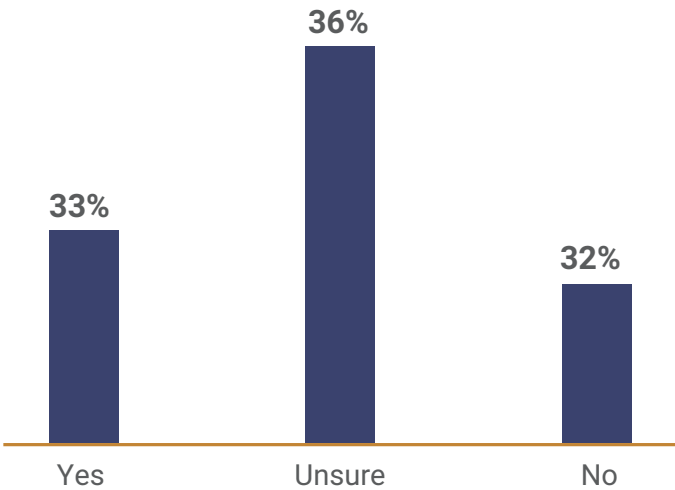
**OPEN ACCESS SURVEY -
SUPPORT AN INCREASE
IN PROPERTY TAXES FOR
ENHANCEMENTS TO EXISTING
SERVICES YOUR HOUSEHOLD
USES**

Yes - 54%

Unsure - 29%

No- 16%

Support An Increase In Property Taxes For *Enhancements to Existing Services Your Household Uses*



Considering new services, respondents were asked if they would support an increase in property taxes for new **services their household would use**. Less than a half (43%) of respondents said they would support a tax increase for new services their household would use. Approximately one third of respondents are unsure (31%) and would not support an increase (27%). Refer to the graph.

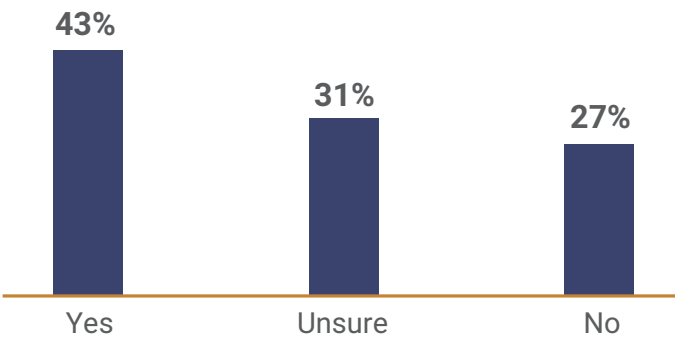
**OPEN ACCESS SURVEY -
INCREASE IN PROPERTY
TAXES FOR NEW SERVICES
YOUR HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS
WOULD USE**

Yes - 35%

Unsure - 36%

No- 29%

Increase In Property Taxes for *New Services Your Household Members Would Use*



Subsegment Analysis

- Households with children aged 0-14 (57%) years are more likely to support a tax increase for new services their household would use than households without children (39%)

Respondents were then asked if they would support an increase in property taxes for services that are **important to the broader community** but that **their household may not use**. As illustrated in the graph then, approximately one quarter (27%) of respondents would support a tax increase for services they would not use while approximately one third (35%) would not support a tax increase.

**OPEN ACCESS SURVEY -
SUPPORT AN INCREASE
IN PROPERTY TAXES
FOR SERVICES THAT ARE
IMPORTANT TO THE BROADER
COMMUNITY BUT YOUR
HOUSEHOLD MAY NOT USE**

Yes - 35%

Unsure - 36%

No- 29%

Finally, respondents were asked to identify their level of support in relation to user fees for parks and recreation services. As illustrated in the graph, over half (58%) of respondents expressed support to maintain current level of user fees.

**OPEN ACCESS SURVEY
- SUPPORT RELATED TO
USER FEES FOR PARKS AND
RECREATION SERVICES**

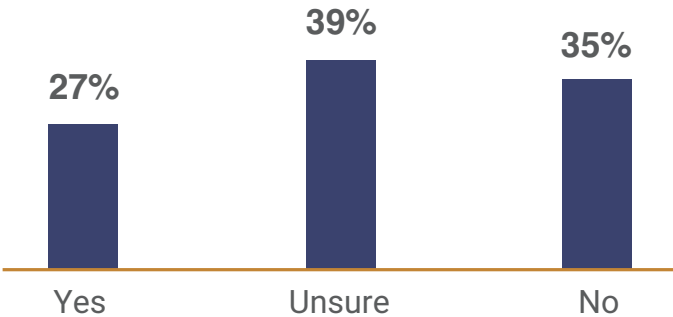
Increase current level of user fees -
17%

Maintain current level of user fees -
62%

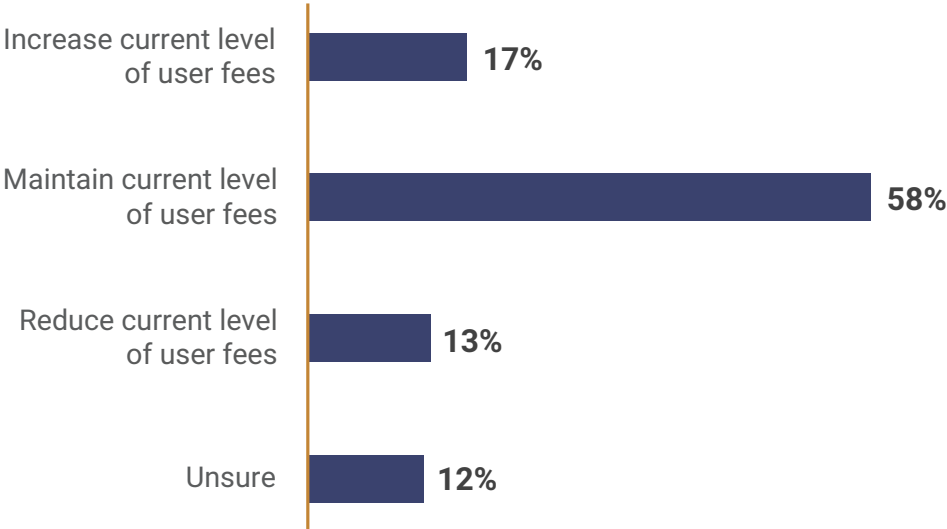
Reduce current level of user fees -
15%

Unsure- 6%

Support An Increase in Property Taxes For Services That Are Important To The Broader Community But Your Household May Not Use



Support Related to User Fees for Parks and Recreation Services



3.1.10 Other Comments

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

- Residents would like to see better use of tax dollars on facilities and amenities that benefit the entire community (15 comments)
- Residents do not want to see a tax increase, however, would prefer a user fee increase to cover costs (14 comments)
- Respondents would like to see a subsidy program in place to access recreation services in Yorkton (10 comments)
- Upgrades to the arena and a third ice surface were mentioned as priorities. (9 comments)
- Discount admission for seniors to access recreation services (8 comments)
- Increase opportunities for youth to participate (8 comments). Some specific mentions are below:
 - » Better hours at all facilities in Yorkton
 - » More options outside of sports
 - » Increased capacity for swimming lessons
- The addition of an outdoor pool is desired in Yorkton (7 comments)
- Connecting the trails throughout Yorkton (7 comments)
- Additional amenities along the trails will better enhance experience and safety (7 comments)
 - » Washrooms
 - » Benches
 - » Garbage cans
 - » Lights
- Maintain the buildings that already exist in Yorkton (6 comments)

3.1.11 Household Profile

Respondents were asked several questions about their household. Percentages in parathesis are representative of the 2016 census. The responses are presented in the following table.

Area of Residence	
Do you live in Yorkton?	
Yes	100%
No	0%
Tenure in Yorkton	
Less than 1 year	4%
1-5 years	9%
6-10 years	10%
More than 10 years	76%
Household Composition (by age)	
(Figures in brackets refers to the 2016 Census)	
0-4 years	5% (6%)
5-9 years	6% (6%)
10-14 years	6% (6%)
15-19 years	8% (6%)
20 -29 years	12% (12%)
30-39 years	9% (13%)
40-49 years	9% (12%)
50-59 years	15% (13%)
60-69 years	12% (11%)
70-79 years	7% (8%)
80 years and older	10% (11%)
Household Composition	
Couple with children	31%
Couple without children	41%
Lone parent family	3%
One-person household	14%
Multigenerational household	2%
Two or more adults not a couple	3%
Prefer not to answer	6%
Households that Identify as Indigenous	
Yes	4%
No	89%
Prefer not to answer	6%

4.0 Group Survey



4.0 Group Survey

A survey was fielded with a variety of organizations in Yorkton. These organizations included indoor and outdoor recreation groups but also included a series of others who may use parks and recreation spaces and facilities in Yorkton.

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

Responses were gathered from September 23 - 31, 2022. In total 13 responses were received. These findings are not representative of all groups in Yorkton however they do provide insight into the perspectives of the organizations responding. Refer to Appendix D for the list of groups who participated in the survey.

4.1 Survey Findings

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

4.1.1 About Your Organization

The survey began by gathering information about the organizations. There was an array of responses from ice users, field users, adult sport groups, outdoor sport groups, and others who provide a diverse range of activities to the community.

To begin, respondents were asked if their group provides sport and recreation programming. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, all groups that participated in the survey provide sport and recreation programming.

Does Your Organization Provide Sports and Recreation Programming?

Yes, 13

100%

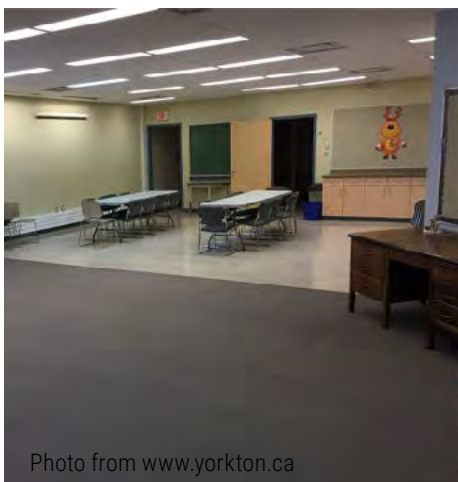
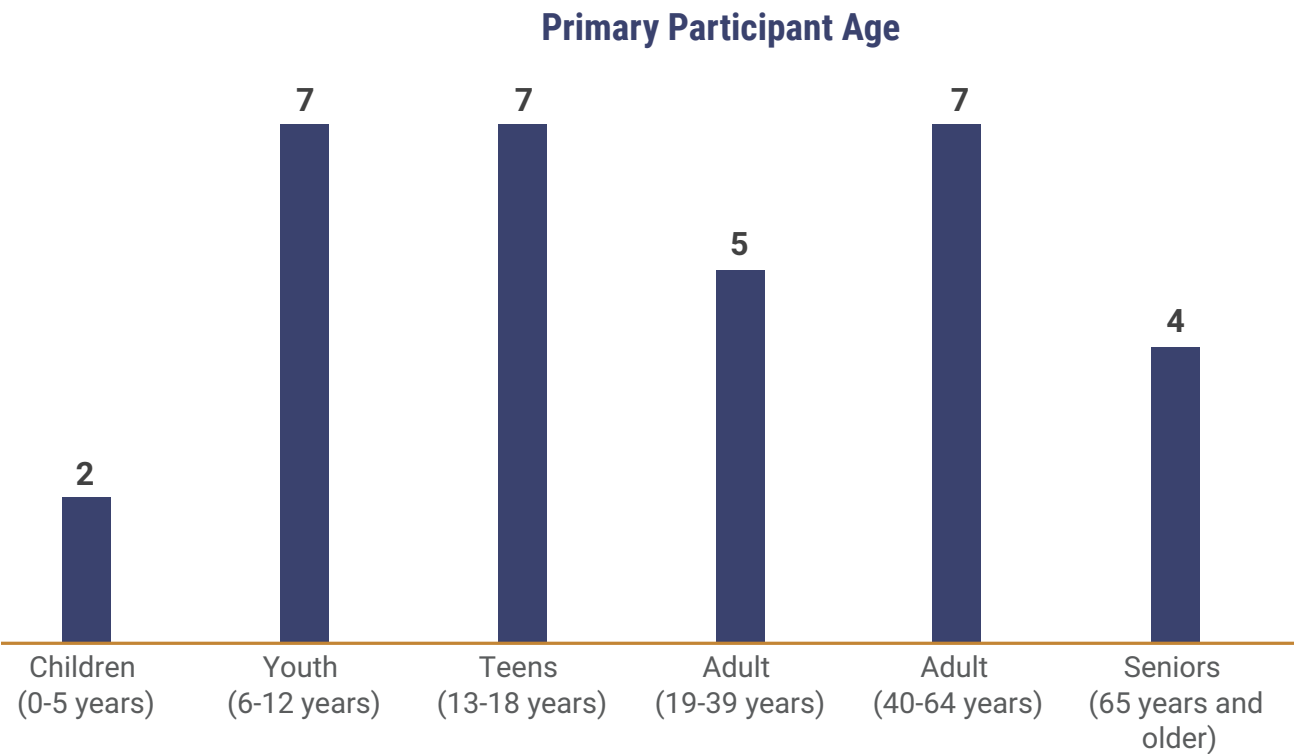


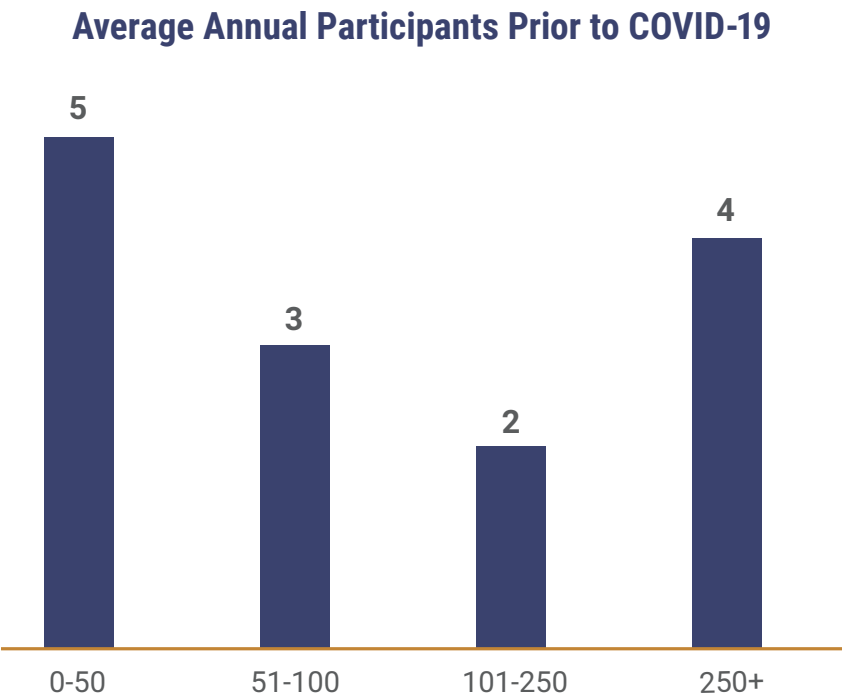
Photo from www.yorkton.ca



Next, respondent groups were asked to identify which age group(s) that best describes their primary participants or members. As illustrated in the graph, groups provide programs and services to a variety of ages with the majority being youth (7 of 13), teens (7 of 13) and adults aged 40-64 (7 of 13).

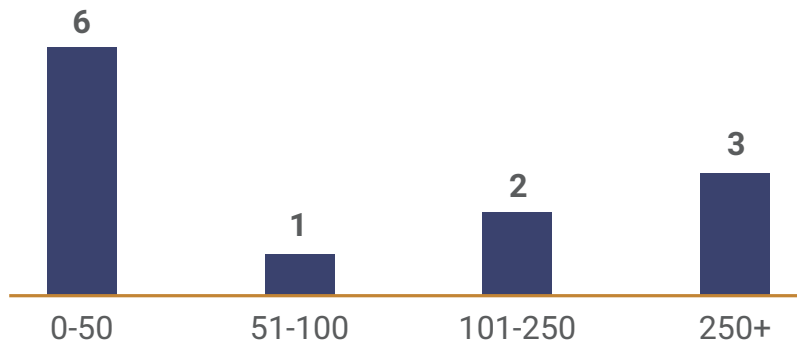


Respondents were then asked to provide their annual and current participation numbers. As illustrated in the accompanying graphs, over two thirds of groups (5 of 13) averaged up to 50 participants prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. Approximately one quarter of groups (3 of 13) averaged over 250 participants prior to the pandemic.



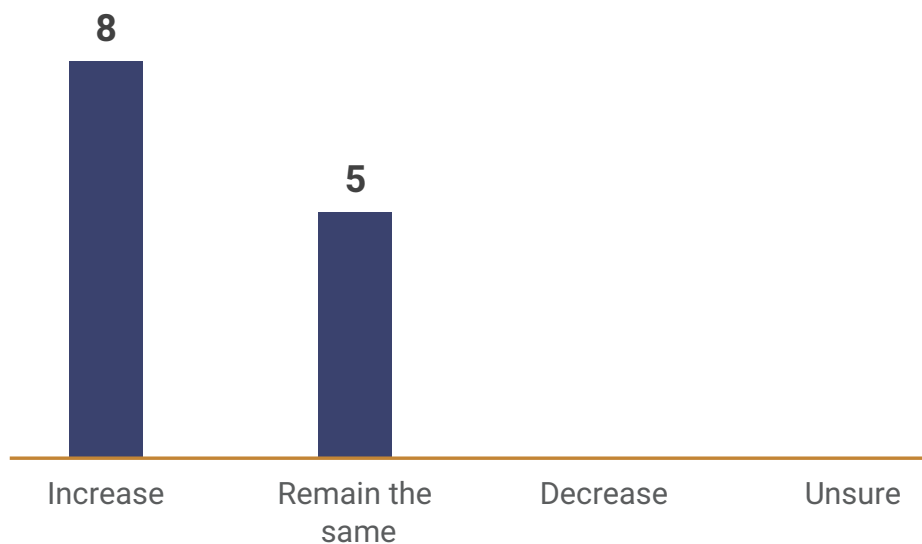
Considering current participation numbers, almost half (6 of 13) of groups identified that they have up to 50 participants, while approximately one third (4 of 13) said they currently have over 250 participants.

Current Number of Participants

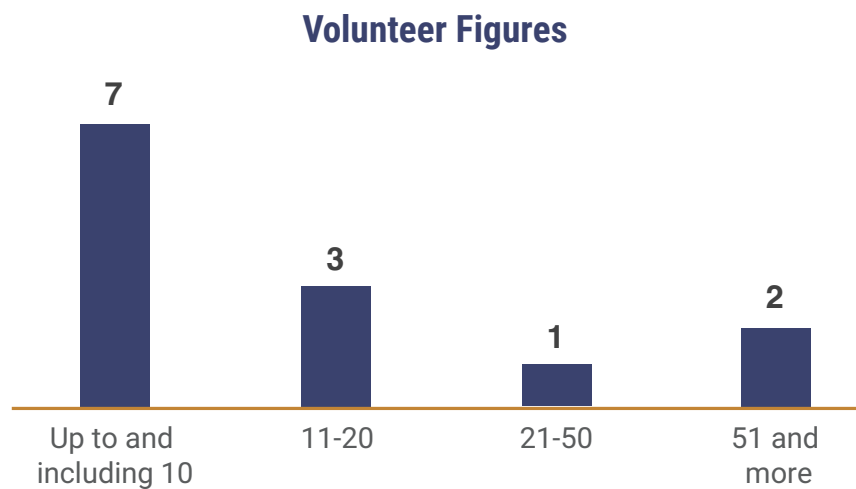


Respondents were then asked to identify their expectation for participation over the next few years. Almost two thirds of respondents (8 of 13) said they expect an increase, while approximately one third (5 of 13) expect a decrease in participation. Refer to the graph.

Participation Expectations

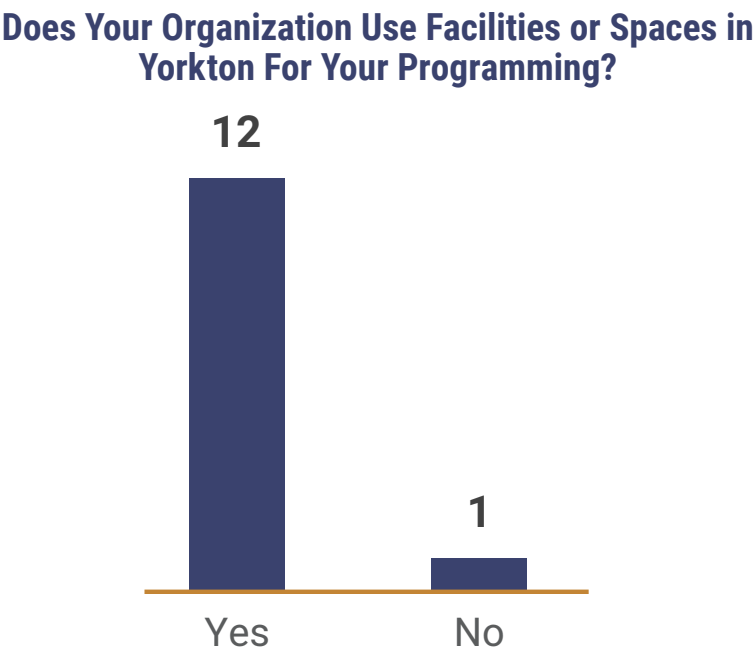


Considering volunteer support for their organization, the respondent groups represent different sizes and have a variety of roles community members fill to ensure programs and events are available in Yorkton. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, over half (7 of 13) of organizations have up to and including 10 volunteers supporting their organization. The minority of groups (1 of 13) have between 21-51 volunteers. Notably, two of the three groups that have over 250 participants also have over 51 volunteers supporting their organization

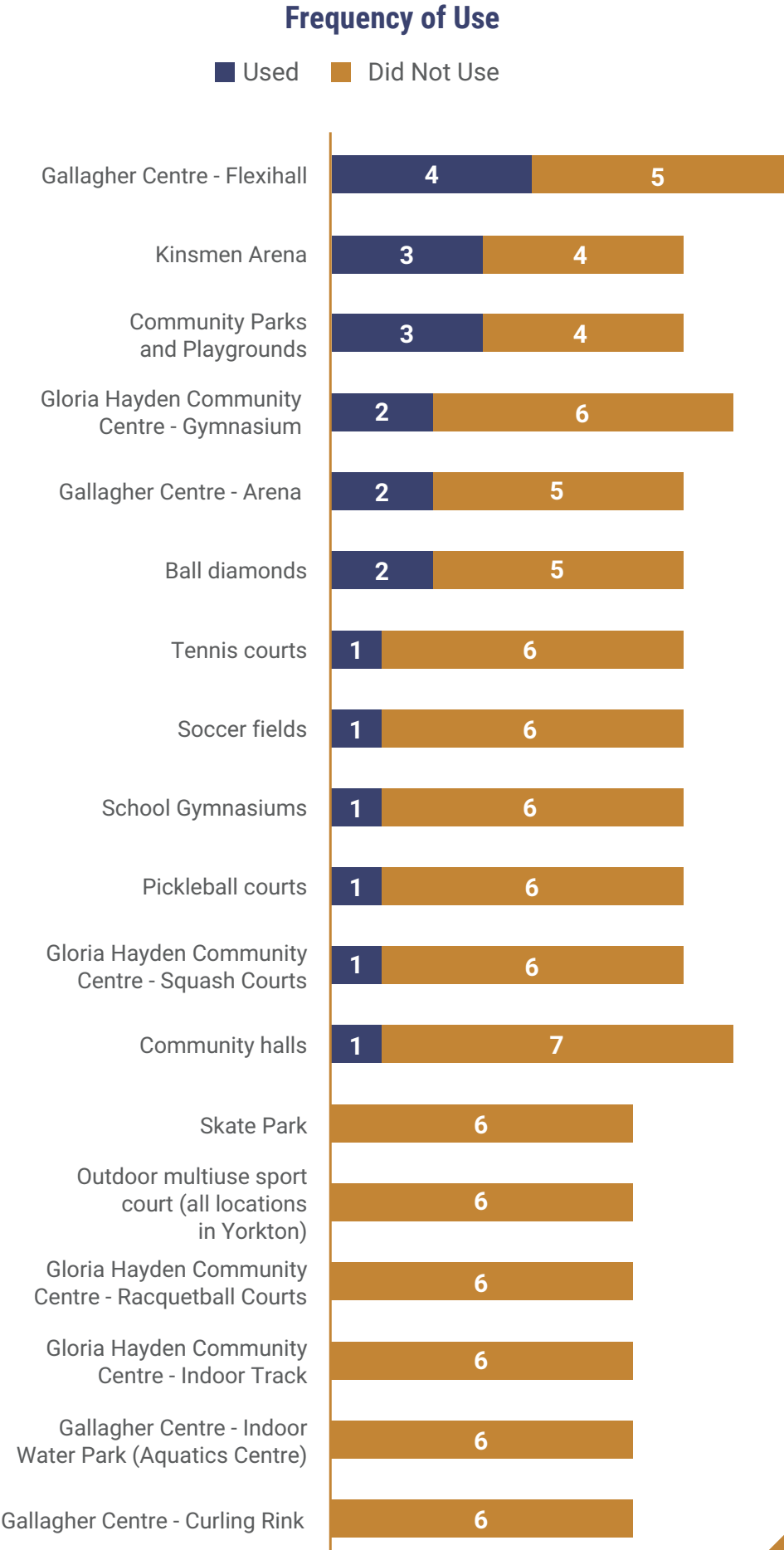


4.1.2 Facility Utilization

Respondents were then asked if their organization uses any facilities or spaces in Yorkton for their programming. Almost all respondents (12 of 13) use facilities and spaces in Yorkton for their programming. Refer to the graph.



Respondents were then provided with a list of facilities and spaces and asked to identify how frequently their organization used it during their season of programming over the last three years. Approximately one third of respondents used the Gallagher Centre – Flexihall (4 of 13); the Flexihall is used by the largest number of groups over the last three years. In similar proportions, community parks and playgrounds (3 of 13) and the Kinsmen Arena (3 of 13) were also frequently used over the last three years by community groups in Yorkton. Refer to the graph.



Next, respondents were asked if the current sport and recreation facilities and spaces in Yorkton meet the needs of their organization. Approximately three quarters of respondents (10 of 13) said the facilities and spaces somewhat meet the needs of their organization. Notably, no respondents said that the facilities and spaces in Yorkton completely meet the needs of their organization. Refer to the graph.

Respondents were then asked to provide an explanation to the previous question. A variety of responses were provided that spoke about additional indoor facility space and support amenities such as storage space and communication with user groups about unused and/or canceled bookings. In regard to outdoor facilities and amenities there was mention of upgrading facilities to enhance programs and enable organizations to host provincial, regional, and/or national tournaments which in turn will benefit the economic development of Yorkton.

4.1.3 Future Priorities and Focus Areas

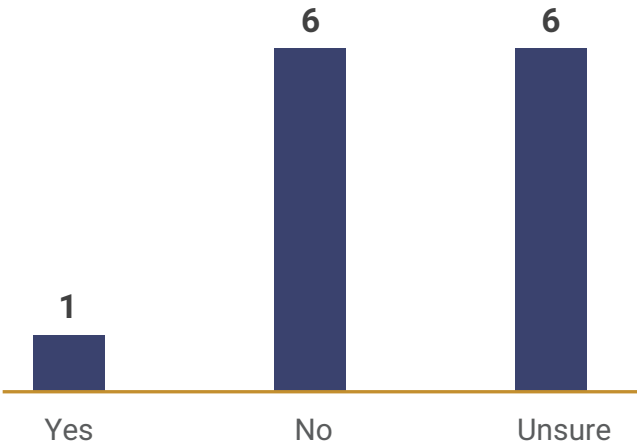
Respondents were asked if there are adequate indoor and outdoor sports and recreation facilities in Yorkton. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, almost half (6 of 13) of respondents believe there are not adequate facilities, or they are unsure (6 of 13).

Respondent groups who said there are not adequate facilities in Yorkton and those who are unsure were then asked to identify indoor and outdoor facilities and amenities that they think should be more readily available or enhanced. Respondents were provided with a list of facilities and amenities and were asked to select up to five that should be more readily available or enhanced.

Do Current Sport and Recreation Facilities Meet The Needs of Your Organization

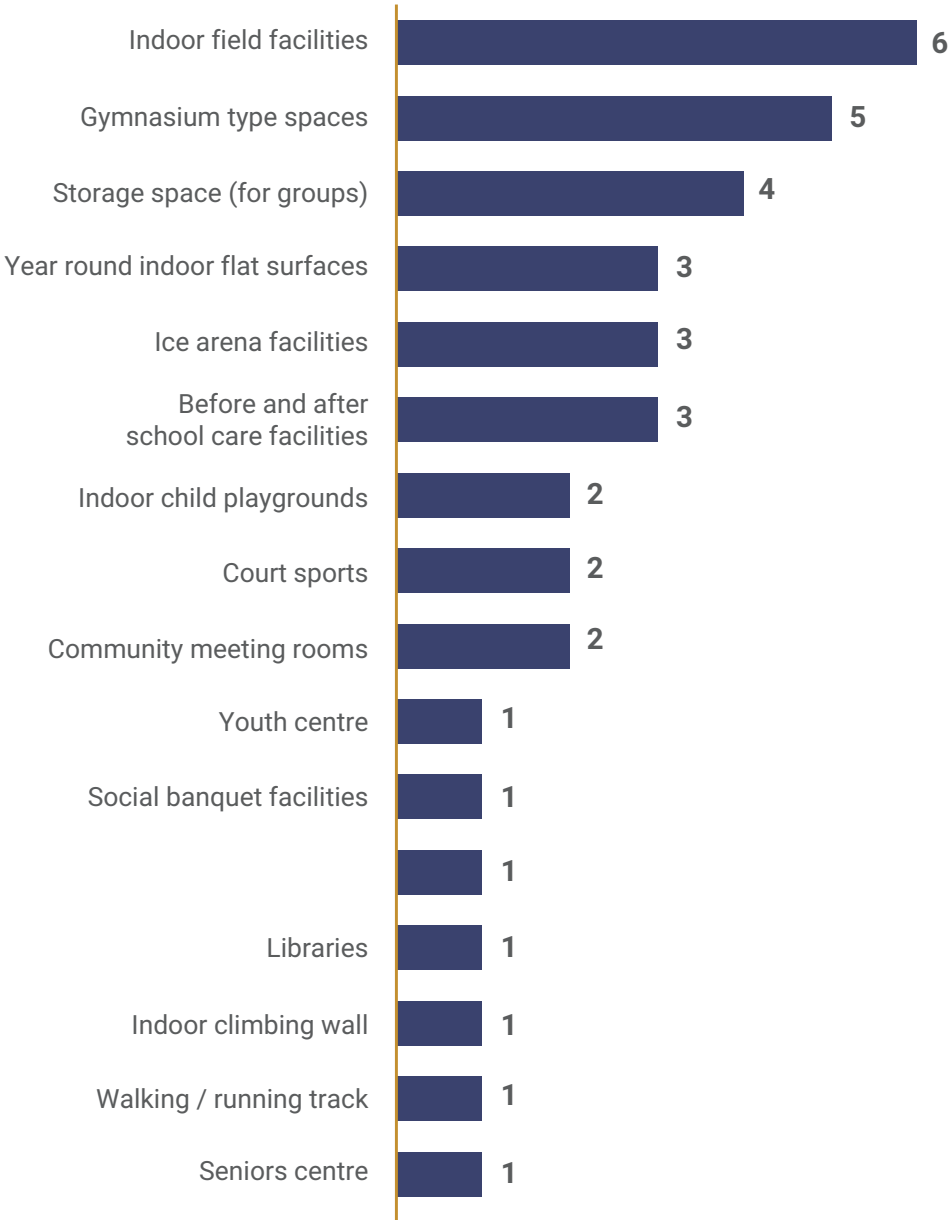


Are There Adequate Sports and Recreation Facilities in Yorkton?



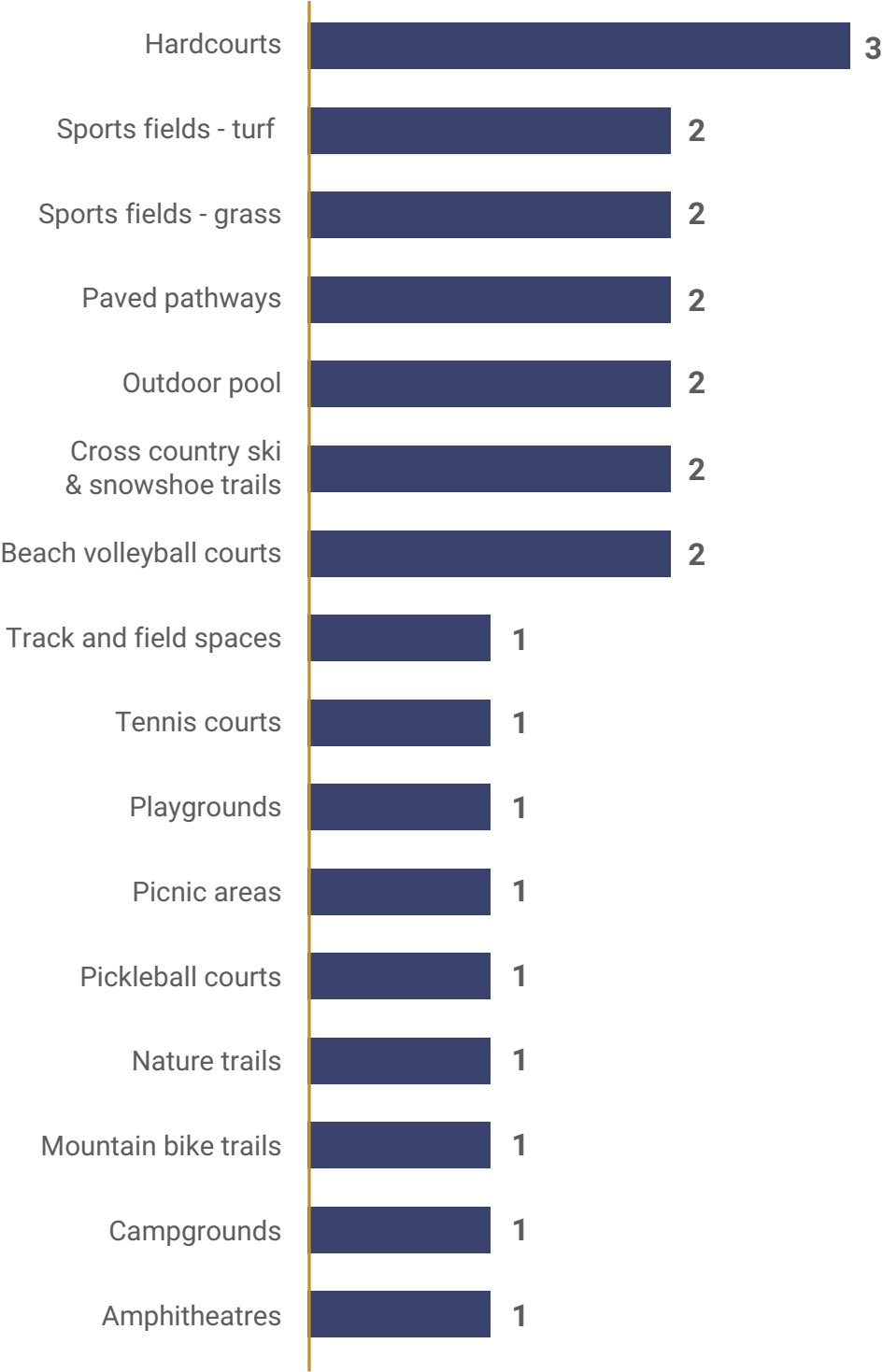
Regarding **indoor facilities and amenities**, over half of respondents (6 of 13) groups identified indoor field facilities as needing to be more readily available or enhanced in Yorkton. Respondents also identified gymnasium type spaces (5 of 13) and storage space (4 of 13) as facilities and amenities that should be more readily available or enhanced. Refer to the graph.

Indoor Facilities and Amenities That Should Be More Readily Available or Enhanced

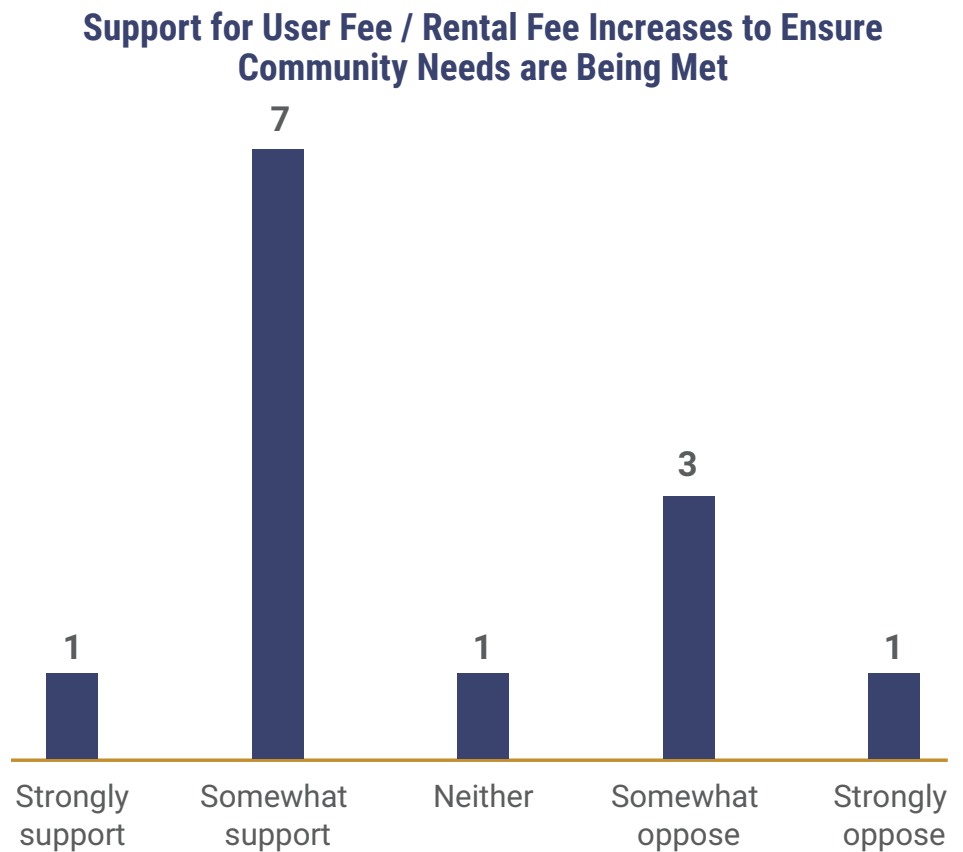


Regarding **outdoor facilities and amenities**, approximately two fifths of respondents (3 of 13) identified hardcourts as being more readily available or enhanced. In lower but similar proportions, one quarter of respondents (2 of 13) identified turf sports fields, grass sports fields, paved pathways, an outdoor pool, cross country ski and snowshoe trails and beach volleyball courts as other amenities and facilities that should be more readily available. Refer to the graph.

Outdoor Facilities and Amenities That Should Be More Readily Available or Enhanced



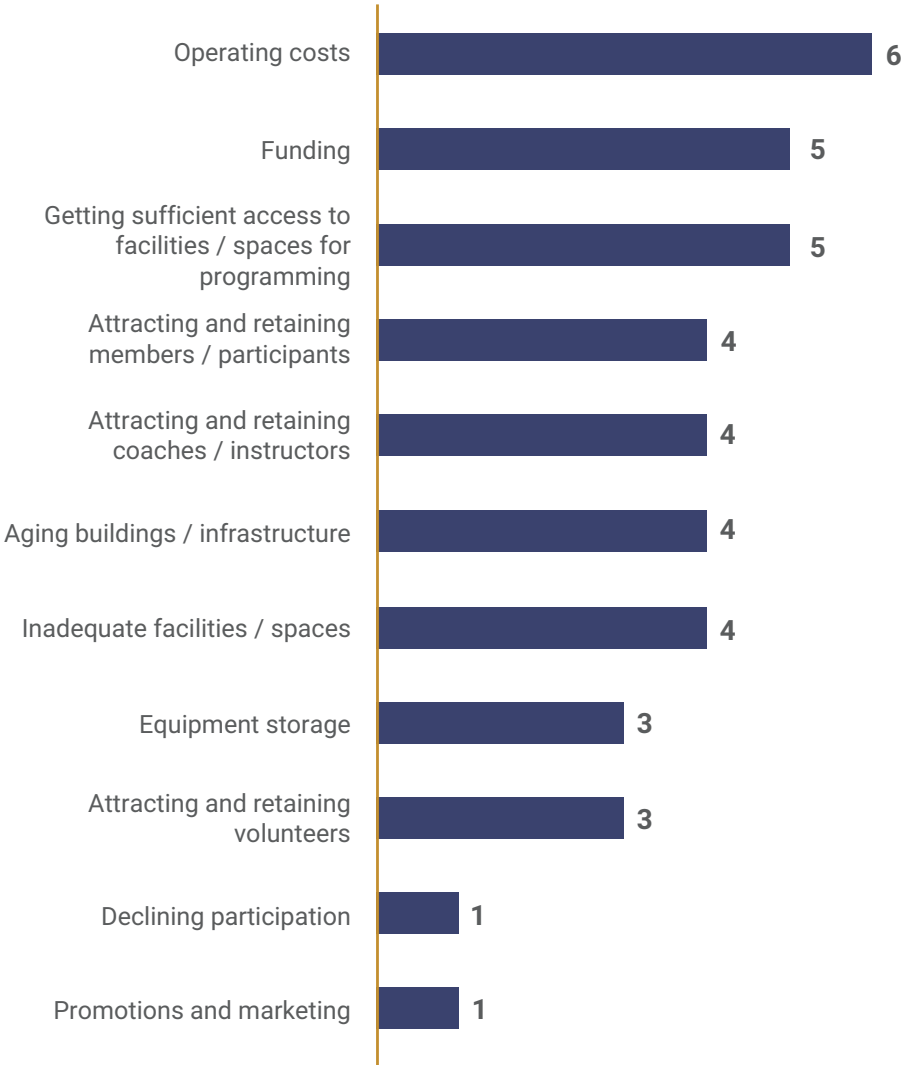
The City of Yorkton facilities and amenities are paid for by a combination of taxes and user fees. Respondents were asked to identify their **level of support for user or rental fee increases** to ensure community needs are being met. As illustrated in the graph, approximately two thirds of groups (8 of 13) support a tax increase, while approximately one third (4 of 13) oppose an increase in taxes.



4.1.4 Challenges

Next, respondents were asked to identify challenges their organization may be facing. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, almost half of the groups (6 of 13) are challenged with operating costs. In lower proportions, funding (5 of 13) and getting sufficient access to facilities and spaces for programming (5 of 13) were also identified as significant challenges for community groups in Yorkton.

Organizational Challenges



Finally, respondent groups were asked if there are any supports the City could provide to their group to help best address their challenges. Over half (7 of 13) of groups identified developing additional facilities and amenities as an action the City could take to assist them. Less than half (6 of 13) said that enhancing facilities and amenities would address their challenges.

What City Support Can Help Address Your Organizations Challenges



4.1.5 Final Thoughts

Finally, respondent groups were able to share any other comments related to the provision of parks and recreation in Yorkton. Generally, groups are pleased with the availability of facilities, however aging infrastructure will require investment in the future. Groups also mentioned they would like to see more low-cost programming, more benches along pathways and investment in baseball diamonds and football fields.

5.0 Youth Survey



5.0 Youth Survey

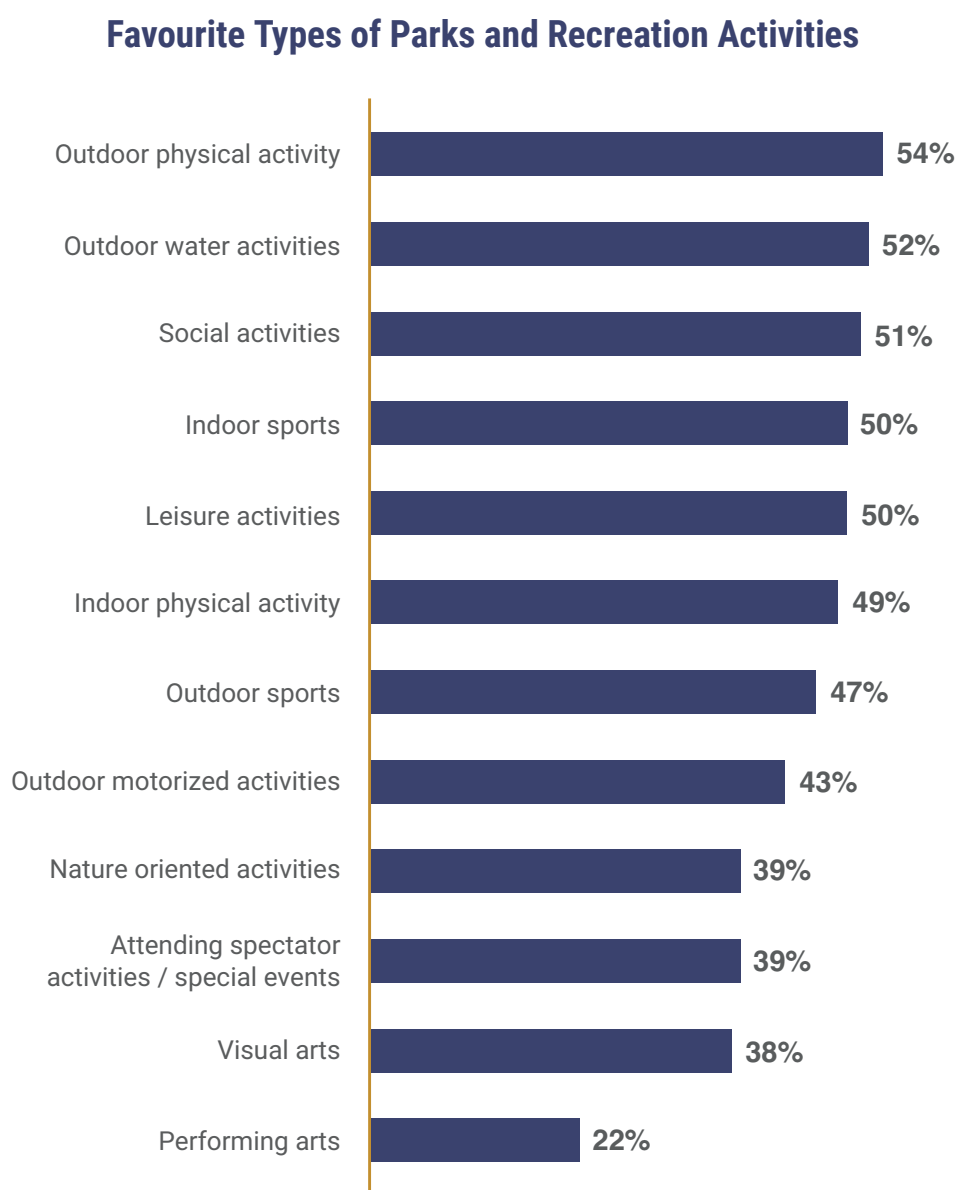
A survey was fielded with youth in the community to gain their perspectives on the provision of parks and recreation in Yorkton. The survey gathered responses from September 28th – November 8, 2022. In total 340 responses were gathered. The survey was fielded through a partnership with the Society for the Involvement of Good Neighbours (SIGN) who had “boots on the ground” in schools weekly to gather perspectives from the youth. The survey was also sent directly to schools in Yorkton. The survey was available online and a PDF copy of the survey was also available. Refer to Appendix F to see the survey.

5.1 Survey Findings

The findings below are presented in the order they were asked in the survey.

5.1.1 Participating in Parks and Recreation Activities

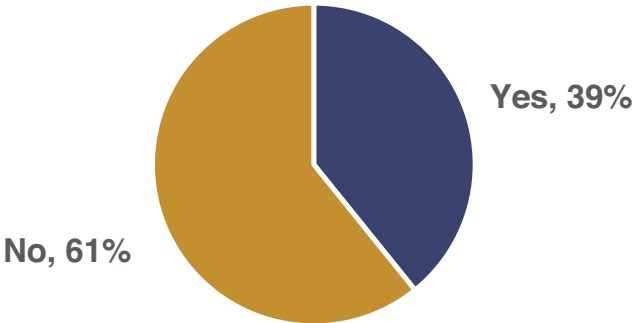
To begin the survey, respondents were asked to identify their favourite types of parks and recreation activities. As illustrated in the graph, approximately half of respondents said they like outdoor physical activity (54%), outdoor water activities (52%), and social activities (51%) as their favorite activities in which to participate.



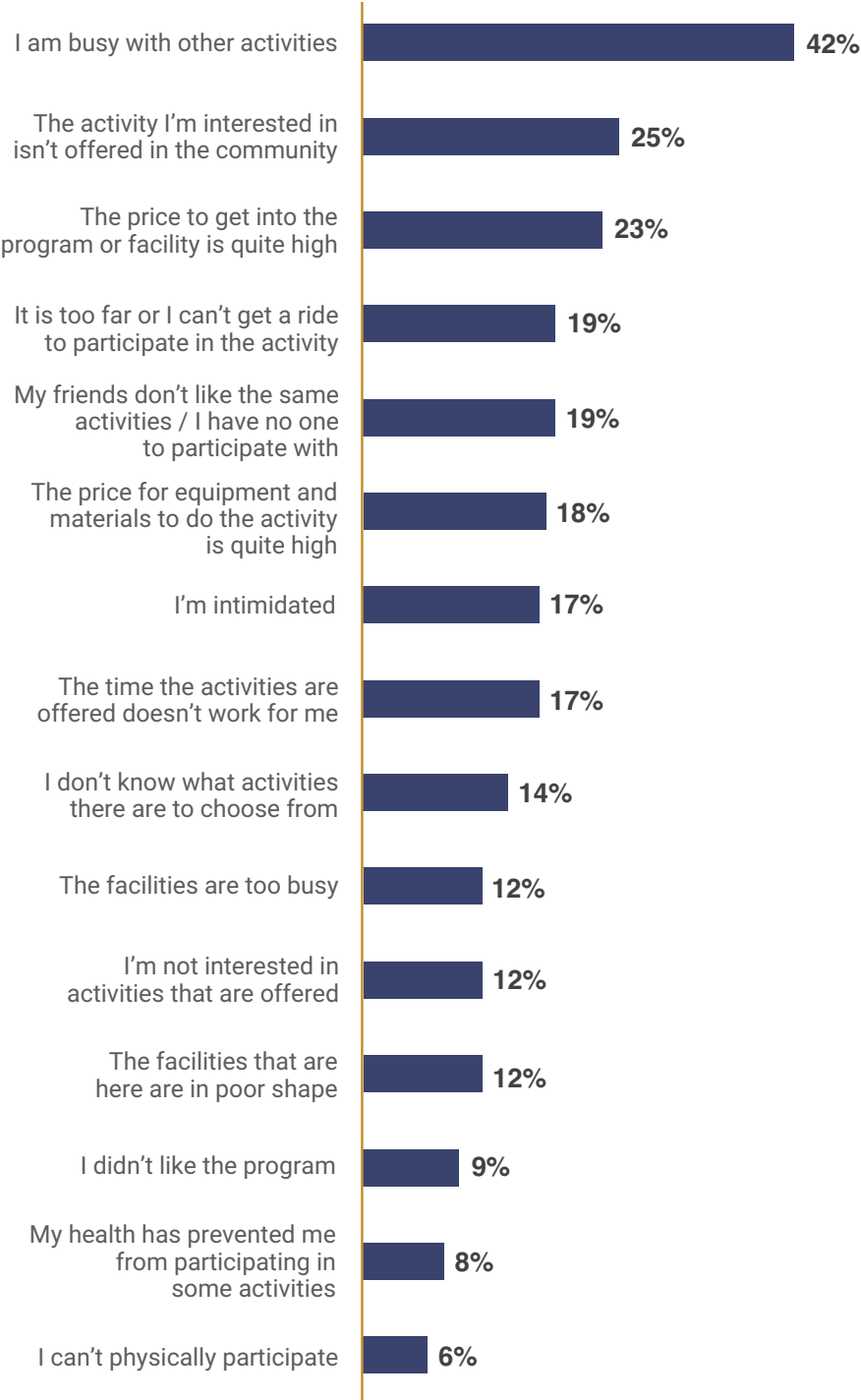
Respondents were then asked if there was anything that stopped them from participating in parks and recreation activities and programs. As illustrated in the graph, approximately two-thirds (61%) said that nothing prevents them from participating; the remaining respondents (39%) said they do experience barriers.

Respondents who experience barriers to participation were then asked what stopped them from participating in parks and recreation programs and activities. Over one third (42%) of respondents said they are too busy with other activities. One quarter (25%) of respondents identified that the program they are interested in is not offered in Yorkton. Notably, the minority of respondent (6%) said they cannot physically participate in parks and recreation programs and activities. Refer to the graph for additional responses.

Is There Anything That Prevents Participation?



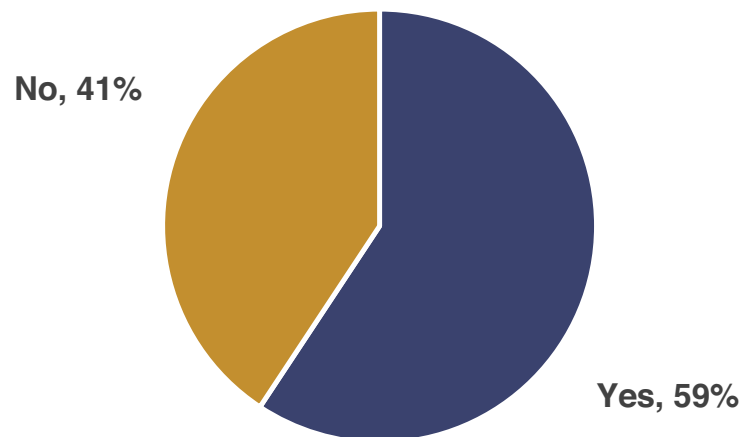
Barriers to Participation



5.1.2 Indoor and Outdoor Parks and Recreation Facilities and Spaces

Respondents were then asked if indoor facilities or spaces need to be improved or if more are needed. As illustrated in the graph, over half of respondents (59%) agreed that indoor facilities and spaces need to be improved or more are needed.

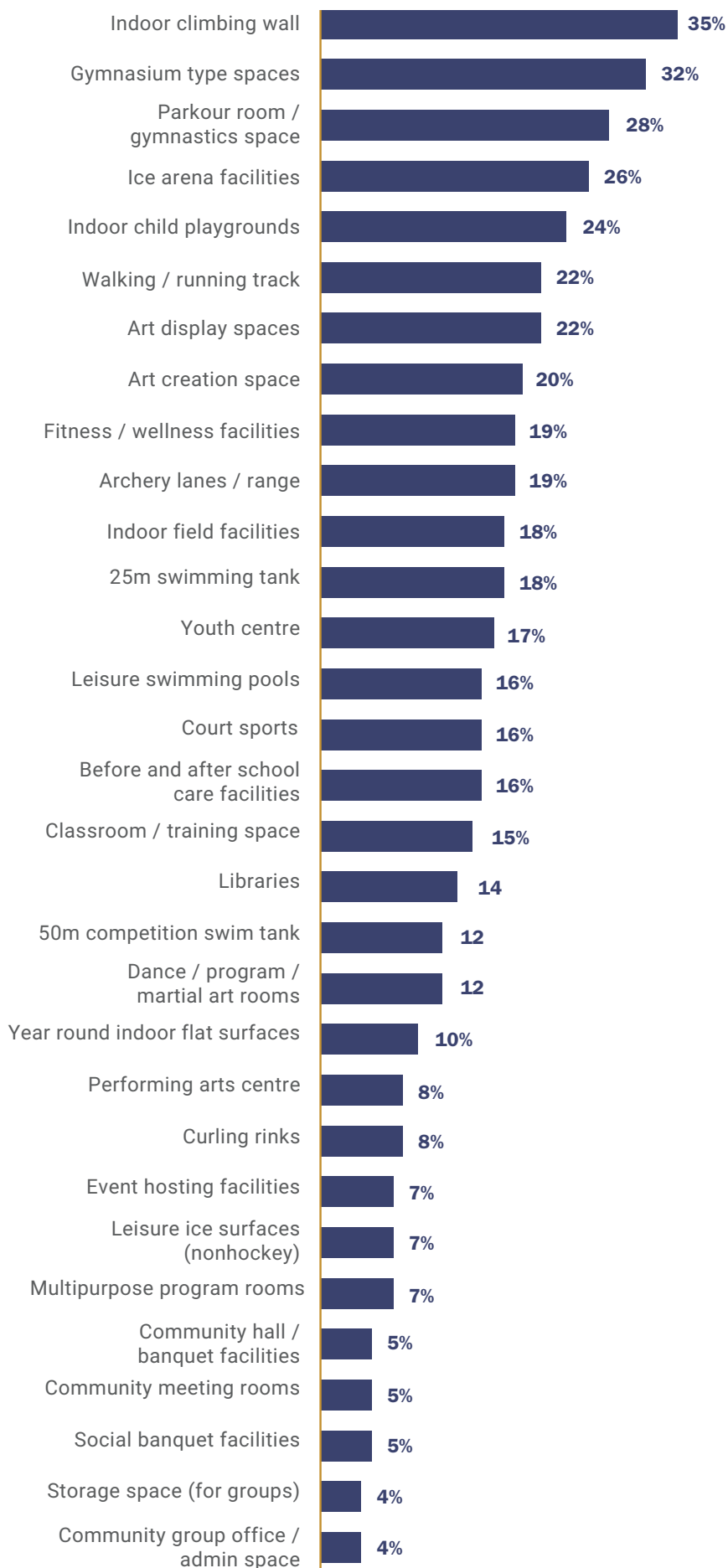
Are There Indoor Facilities or Spaces That Could Be Improved or You Would Like to See More of?



Respondents who said that **indoor facilities** and spaces in Yorkton need improvement or more are needed were asked to identify five facilities that need to be enhanced or more readily available. The most cited are indoor climbing walls (35%), gymnasium type spaces (32%), parkour room/gymnastic space (28%), ice arena facilities (26%), and indoor child playgrounds (24%). Refer to the graph.



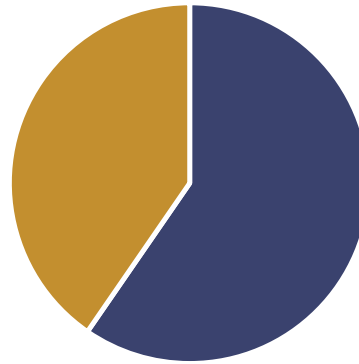
Are There Indoor Facilities or Spaces That Could Be Improved or You Would Like to See More Of?



Respondents were then asked if **outdoor facilities** or spaces need to be improved or if more are needed. As illustrated in the graph, three fifths (60%) of respondents agreed that outdoor facilities and spaces need to be improved.

Are There Outdoor Facilities or Spaces That Could Be Improved or You Would Like to See More of?

No, 40%

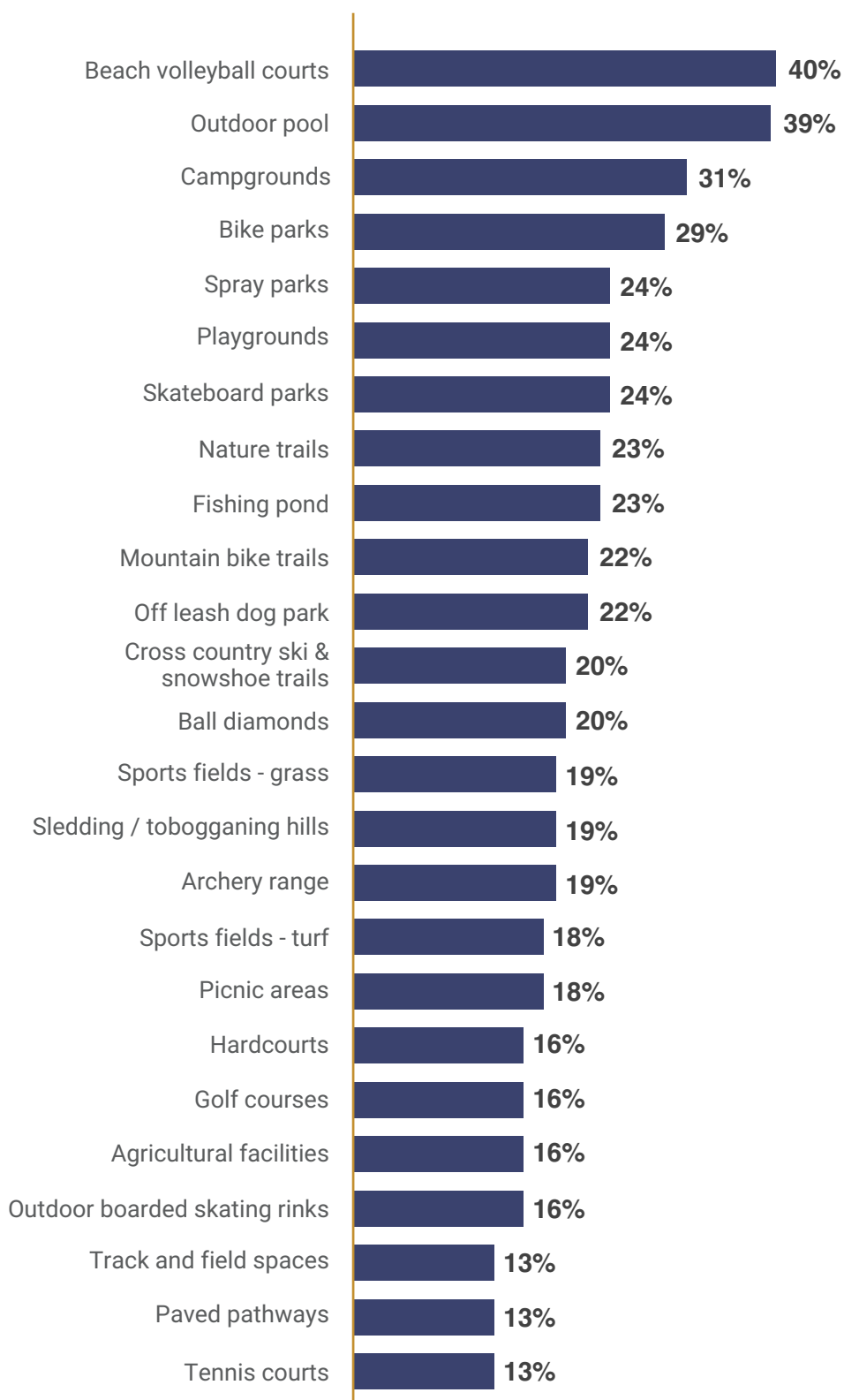


Yes, 60%



Respondents who said that outdoor facilities and spaces need improvement were asked to identify five facilities that should be enhanced or more readily available in Yorkton. The most cited are beach volleyball courts (40%), outdoor pool (39%), bike parks (31%), campgrounds (29%), and spray parks / playgrounds (24%). Facilities under 11% were not included on the graph. Those facilities include outdoor fitness equipment (11%), open spaces (11%), community gardens (10%), disc golf (9%), amphitheatres (7%), and pickleball courts (4%). Refer to the graph.

Outdoor Facilities That Should Be Improved or Enhanced



5.1.3 Other Thoughts

Finally, youth were able to share more thoughts about the activities or programs they would like to see come to Yorkton. The most commonly mentioned responses are noted below:

New Amenities

- A trampoline park would be a good addition (24 comments)
- An outdoor pool (22 comments)
- An arcade (17 comments)

Improved and/or Enhanced Amenities and Programs

- Beach volleyball facilities (16 comments)
- Upgrades to the Kinsmen arena (7 comments)
 - » Comments regarding upgrades to the girls change room were mentioned
- Art programs (13 comments)
- Basketball programs (13 comments)



6

Community Contributor Meetings



6.0 Community Contributor Meetings

A series of meetings were held with a variety of groups who presented unique perspectives. Discussions were convened in a group setting, while some were conducted one on one. Regardless of the format, the intent of the meetings was to discuss the current and future provision of parks and recreation services in Yorkton. The varying perspectives helped ensure that an all encompassing perspective was gathered. The list of participating organizations is located in Appendix E. Conversations were held with indoor and outdoor recreation user groups, social agencies, Public / Catholic and postsecondary institutions, art organizations and others. In total 36 organizations were included in the meetings. Additionally, two separate conversations were had with the Yorkton Tribal Council.



A synopsis of the meetings is presented below according to themes. The synopsis is intended to be presented as an overview of all the meetings; no comments are connected to any single session of organization. However, there is not total unanimity across all discussions, some items below are included because there were multiple mentions or because they warrant a mention. The information presented is a reflection of the conversations and meetings, the points represent the perspectives of the participants.

Reconciliation efforts are good and should be continued.

The City has demonstrated a genuine interest in furthering efforts toward Reconciliation. This interest has been manifested in City wide efforts. This effort and work needs to continue. The means to further these efforts are varied and should include partnering with the Yorkton Tribal Council during Master Plan implementation.

Continue to grow grassroots programming. It is important that those in the community are the drivers of programming. As the ultimate “consumers” of the programming offered in the community, community members are best positioned to know what programs are most desired. While City staff are able to learn of community interests, having programs emanate from the grassroots is the most effective means and offers lower risk.

Capacity building amongst not-for-profit groups to ensure sustainability. Many not-for-profit organizations rely on volunteers for their daily operations. While typically successful, this can be challenging for individual volunteers as they take on roles for which they may have minimal expertise or exposure. All organizations need to have staff (volunteer or paid) that are familiar and adept in tasks needed for sustainability. Depending upon the state of volunteerism, the in-house level of expertise can vary as volunteers come and go. It is in the community’s best interest (and the City’s) that these not-for-profit organizations continue delivering services. As such the City should do what it can to help each organization have the skills necessary for successful operation. This can be a range of skills including decision making, planning, money management, grant identification, promotions, marketing, and others.

Maximize use of facilities including the Exhibition site.

There is an impressive portfolio of indoor and outdoor recreation and culture facilities in Yorkton. This portfolio represents a significant pool of resources including capital and operating costs but also for human resources. As much as possible, these spaces need to be maximized in their usage. Looking for opportunities to take advantage of these spaces is important. The Exhibition site hosts many different events and programs and there is belief that more could be done with this site.

Attract events to the City. Yorkton is a service centre in the region. It has a very good portfolio of amenities and a good and interested volunteer base. Attracting more events to the city is helpful to bring visitors and dollars into the community, it can provide recreation opportunities to residents as well through volunteer opportunities, opportunities to participate in their own community, as well as spectator occasions. Event attraction can also be the impetus to make some enhancements to some infrastructure.

There are concerns with affordability. There are costs accrued by the City and its partners as recreation and cultural opportunities are offered in Yorkton. However, revenue generation, as an outcome, is not as important as people's participation. There are many people in Yorkton for whom cost of participation is a real concern. Considering future provision, there needs to be a recognition of the barriers that exist for some. Efforts need to be expanded to help ensure that as few as people as possible are able to participate and are not denied opportunities due to cost.



Ensure there is safe active transportation across the City. Residents of Yorkton are fortunate in the diversity of recreation and culture opportunities that are available to them throughout the city. There are not equal opportunities in every neighbourhood in Yorkton and there is not an expectation for this. However, the ability to access all opportunities via non-motorized means is important. This means that amenities should be accessible, safely, along the trail / pathway system. Some challenges exist connecting the south part of town with the north but consideration should be given to ensuring the connectivity of the trail / pathway system.

Ensure community groups are brought into planning. Some of the planning that is undertaken by the City has an impact on community groups. Sometimes this impact may not be obvious. Including community organizations in the planning process is beneficial because it can lead to better and more effective decisions. It also can serve as a communications vehicle and help strengthen relationships between groups and the City.

Improve infrastructure or access to it. While there was a recognition of the variety of outdoor amenities in Yorkton, there were some calls for improvements to some amenities or those that support the use of them. The availability of washroom facilities, water fountains, and benches along pathways, near playgrounds and playfields (including diamonds) was considered an area of improvement. In some instances these amenities are missing, in other instances there are porta-potties but they are not always available. There also were some comments about a desire to get additional access to arena ice and gymnasium space.

Better communication and transparency when making decisions. While decisions may not always be favourable to an organization, it was felt that the City could improve its communication about how decisions have been made, or even the decisions themselves. There is an interest to better understand the factors that are part of City decision making. It was felt that learning about the decisions and how those decisions were made would be beneficial to groups in understanding the complexity of City decision making. It was also considered a means of strengthening the partnership the City has with the community.



7.0 Conclusions



7.0 Conclusions

Several conclusions can be drawn from the engagement undertaken. These conclusions, presented below, represent key takeaways from all engagement even though some may be rooted in findings from one of the specific mechanisms.

- There is general satisfaction with the availability of parks and recreation opportunities in Yorkton. However, some believe there are not adequate recreation and parks facilities in Yorkton.
- It is important that the City consider potential cost savings through partnerships and grants, demand from the community, and that facilities provide active living opportunities across all ages, interests, and ability levels when making future decisions about recreation and parks.
- There is belief that it is very important to ensure that recreation and parks opportunities are available and accessible for all residents in the community.
- The community is adequately informed about recreation and parks in Yorkton, however, there needs to be improvements on the advertising of programs and activities.
- Barriers impacting respondents' participation in recreation and parks activities include being unaware of some opportunities, admission costs, being too busy to participate, and the cost of participating.
- There is belief that there is not adequate recreation and parks facilities and amenities in Yorkton. Facilities and spaces that were identified as needing to be enhanced or more readily available include:
 - » Indoor
 - Ice arena facilities
 - Indoor climbing wall
 - Indoor child playground
 - Indoor multisport / fieldhouse type facilities
 - Seniors centre
 - » Outdoor
 - Outdoor pool
 - Nature trails
 - Paved pathways
 - Amphitheatres, event spaces and band shelter
 - Community gardens
- There is some support for a tax increase for new services in Yorkton.
- There are challenges with operating costs and access to funding. Some other challenges identified are gaining sufficient access to facilities and spaces and attracting and retaining members.
- The current sport and recreation facilities and amenities in Yorkton somewhat meet the needs of the community.
- Developing additional facilities and amenities and enhancing existing facilities and amenities were identified as some things the City can do to help address challenges.



8.0 Appendices



Appendix A: Postcard



City of Yorkton Parks & Recreation Master Plan



LET'S TALK ABOUT PARKS AND RECREATION IN YORKTON

Image source facebook.com/cityofyorkton

PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

The City of Yorkton is developing a Parks and Recreation Master Plan to ensure you have access to recreation opportunities now and into the future. The Master Plan will guide the development, delivery and improvement of parks and recreation programs, services and facilities.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Your input is important to the project and will help the project team better understand needs, trends, and perspectives on future priorities.

Please visit **yorkton.ca** to access the survey using the code provided on this card. . Please note, this access code is unique to your household and can only be used once.

If you'd prefer to complete a paper copy of the survey, please call 306-828-2452 or email DMcLeod@yorkton.ca and we will coordinate one for you.

Attention: City of Yorkton Resident
Your Household's Unique Access Code Is

XXXXXXXX

Please visit <https://www.yorkton.ca/en/index.aspx> to access the survey using the above code.

**The deadline to complete the survey is
September 30, 2022.**

Households that complete the survey will be entered into a draw (insert prize). Entry is optional.



Appendix B: Household Questionnaire



City of Yorkton Parks & Recreation Master Plan



Household Questionnaire

The City of Yorkton is developing a Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Master Plan is a strategic document that will guide the development, delivery, and improvement of parks and recreation programs, services, and facilities in Yorkton for the next 15 years.

If you have already provided your input in the coded access survey, you do not need to complete this survey.

Your responses to this survey will be combined with all others when reported. Your anonymity will be protected. **Please complete the questionnaire by November 6, 2022. This survey will take you approximately 20 minutes to complete.**

If you have any questions regarding this survey or the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, please contact the City of Yorkton at parksandrec@yorkton.ca.



Section 1: Top of Mind Thoughts

1. What are the main reasons that members of your household participate in recreation activities? Check all that apply.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physical health/exercise | <input type="checkbox"/> Help the community |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoy a challenge | <input type="checkbox"/> Relaxation, mental health, and well-being |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To be with family / friends | <input type="checkbox"/> To enjoy nature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meet new people | <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfy curiosity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To be creative | <input type="checkbox"/> Something different than work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pleasure / entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> We don't participate in recreation activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improve skills or knowledge | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____ |

Section 2: Current Usage / Visitation

2. Consider your households participation prior to the disruptions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. From the list below please select those activities that household members participated in on a regular basis (at least 2 or more times per month during the suitable / available seasons for each activity type)

Indoor Activities

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Curling | <input type="checkbox"/> Racquetball / squash |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dance | <input type="checkbox"/> Skating program (e.g. figure skating, learn to skate) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness classes (e.g. spin, yoga, boot camp) | <input type="checkbox"/> Social events (e.g. events at a community centre or hall) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness training at a gym (e.g. cardio, weight training) | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming pool drop-in (e.g. lane swimming, family drop-in swimming) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gymnastics | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming pool programs (e.g. lessons, swim club, aquasize) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gymnasium sports (e.g. basketball, volleyball, badminton) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hockey - organized (part of a team or league) | <input type="checkbox"/> Visiting museums or other heritage attractions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ice skating on a "drop-in" or casual basis (e.g. public skating or shinny) | <input type="checkbox"/> Visiting art galleries / spaces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Martial arts | <input type="checkbox"/> Visual arts and crafts (pottery, weaving / knitting, painting, print making, scrapbooking, photography) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Performing arts (e.g. participation in a theatre, musical or other type of performing arts program or activity) | <input type="checkbox"/> Walking / running (in a gymnasium or indoor track) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pickleball | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____ |

Outdoor Activities

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ATV use | <input type="checkbox"/> Nature / wildlife viewing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ball diamond sports | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-motorized boating (e.g. canoeing, kayaking) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball | <input type="checkbox"/> Pickleball |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping | <input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cycling | <input type="checkbox"/> Skateboarding / scootering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Field sports (e.g. soccer, football, ultimate) | <input type="checkbox"/> Skating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Skiing – cross country |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening | <input type="checkbox"/> Skiing - downhill |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golfing | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hockey | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowshoeing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horseback riding | <input type="checkbox"/> Special events (e.g. festivals) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jogging / running | <input type="checkbox"/> Stand up paddling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lake / river swimming | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Motorized boating | <input type="checkbox"/> Walking / hiking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain biking | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____ |

3. For each of the facilities and spaces listed, please indicate how frequently you or a member of your household used or visited each in the previous 2 years. (Note – if multiple household members used the facility at the same time, please count that as one use / visit.)

	Daily (5 or more times a week)	Weekly (1-2 times per week)	Monthly (1-2 times per month)	A few times per year	Did not use / visit in the previous 2 years
Outdoor Spaces and Facilities					
Ball Diamonds (Jubilee Park, Jaycee Beach, Lions)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deer Park golf course	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disc golf course	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nature trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Neighbourhood parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Off leash dog park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor court amenities (basketball, tennis, pickleball courts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor rink / skating	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paved pathways	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Playgrounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rectangular sport fields in Yorkton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rectangular sport fields outside Yorkton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skate Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spray parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Toboggan hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Daily (5 or more times a week)	Weekly (1-2 times per week)	Monthly (1-2 times per month)	A few times per year	Did not use / visit in the previous 2 years
Indoor Facilities					
Gallagher Centre – Arena	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gallagher Centre – Curling Rink	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gallagher Centre – Flexihall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gallagher Centre – Indoor Water Park (Aquatic Centre)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gallagher Centre – Indoor Track	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gloria Hayden Community Centre – Gymnasium	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gloria Hayden Community Centre – Indoor Track	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gloria Hayden Community Centre – Racquetball Courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gloria Hayden Community Centre – Squash Courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kinsmen Arena	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land Titles Building	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 3: Parks and Recreation Services Assessment

4. What, if anything prevents you or someone in your household from participating in recreation opportunities in Yorkton?
Check all that apply.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nothing prevents our participation | <input type="checkbox"/> Better opportunities elsewhere |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Admission fees | <input type="checkbox"/> The spaces are not physically accessible |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation limitations (cost / availability) | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaware of some opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overcrowded facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Not interested in what is available |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poor / inadequate facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal health issues / conditions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Too busy to participate | <input type="checkbox"/> COVID-19 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cost of participation (e.g. registration fees, equipment costs) | <input type="checkbox"/> Not comfortable / confident enough to participate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inconvenient hours | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of childcare | |

5. How satisfied are you with the overall availability of parks and recreation opportunities in Yorkton?

- ☐ Very satisfied
☐ Somewhat satisfied
☐ Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
☐ Somewhat dissatisfied
☐ Very dissatisfied
☐ No opinion

Section 4: Future Priorities and Focus Areas

6. Answering on behalf of your entire household, do you think there are adequate recreation and parks facilities (indoor and outdoor) in Yorkton?

- ☐ Yes (proceed to Q9)
- ☐ No (proceed to Q7)
- ☐ Unsure (proceed to Q7)

7. Please select up to **five (5) INDOOR** parks & recreation facilities and amenities that should be more readily available or enhanced in Yorkton. A couple of things to consider:

- » There are costs to building and operating facilities and amenities (this may impact taxes and/or user fees).
- » Your responses will be used to help determine facility priorities for planning purposes. They may not lead to changes in a facility or new facilities being built.

☐ Art creation spaces (e.g. dedicated studios, maker spaces)

☐ Art display spaces

☐ Archery lanes / range

☐ Before and after school care facilities

☐ Classroom / training space

☐ Community group office / admin space

☐ Community hall / banquet facilities

☐ Community kitchen (e.g. a cooking space that is health authority approved that can be used for events, birthday parties etc.)

☐ Community meeting rooms

☐ Court sports (e.g. racquetball, squash)

☐ Curling rinks

☐ Dance / program / martial arts rooms

☐ Event hosting facilities

☐ Fitness / wellness facilities (e.g. exercise / weight room)

☐ Gymnasium type spaces (e.g. basketball, volleyball, badminton, pickleball)

☐ Ice arena facilities (e.g. hockey, figure skating, ball hockey, lacrosse)

☐ Indoor agricultural facilities (e.g. riding arena)

☐ Indoor child playgrounds

☐ Indoor climbing wall

☐ Indoor multi-sport / field house type facilities (e.g. for activities like indoor soccer, ball hockey, roller derby, lacrosse, etc.)

☐ Libraries

☐ Leisure ice surfaces (non hockey)

☐ Leisure swimming pools (e.g. for fun including water play features)

☐ Multi-purpose program rooms

☐ Parkour room / gymnastics space

☐ Performing arts theatre

☐ Seniors centre

☐ Social banquet facilities

☐ Storage space (for groups)

☐ Swimming tanks (e.g. for lane swimming, lessons, aquafit)

☐ Walking / running track

☐ Youth centre

a. In addition to the **indoor spaces** identified above, are there any other types of **indoor spaces** that you think should be more readily available? If so, please note them here.

8. Please select up to **five (5) OUTDOOR** parks & recreation facilities and amenities that should be more readily available or enhanced in Yorkton. A couple of things to consider:

- » There are costs to building and operating facilities and amenities (this may impact taxes and/or user fees).
- » Your responses will be used to help determine facility priorities for planning purposes. They may not lead to changes in a facility or new facilities being built.

☐ Agricultural facilities (e.g. rodeo grounds, riding arenas)

☐ Amphitheatres /event spaces / band shelters

☐ Archery range

☐ Ball diamonds

☐ Beach volleyball courts

☐ Bike parks (e.g. pump track)

☐ Campgrounds

☐ Community gardens

☐ Cross country ski & snowshoe trails

☐ Disc golf course

☐ Off leash dog parks

☐ Fishing pond

☐ Golf courses

☐ Hardcourts (e.g. basketball, ball hockey)

☐ Mountain bike trails

☐ Nature trails

☐ Open spaces (e.g. parks, greenfields)

☐ Outdoor boarded skating rinks

☐ Outdoor fitness equipment

☐ Outdoor pool

☐ Paved pathways

☐ Pickleball courts

☐ Picnic areas

☐ Playgrounds

☐ Sledding / tobogganing hills

☐ Skateboard parks

☐ Sports fields - grass (e.g. soccer, football)

☐ Sports fields – artificial turf (e.g. soccer, football)

☐ Spray parks

☐ Tennis courts

☐ Track and field spaces

- a. In addition to the **outdoor spaces** identified above, are there any other types of **outdoor spaces** that you think should be more readily available? If so, please note them here.

Section 5: Programming

9. The table lists different types of programming. Please identify any that you think should be enhanced or provided in Yorkton for each of the different age groups.

Program Type	Children (0 – 9 years old)	Youth (10 - 18 years old)	Adults (19-39 years)	Adults (40-64 years)	Seniors (65 years and older)	Current programming is sufficient	Unsure
Nature / outdoor education programming	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental stewardship activities and programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fitness and wellness programming (yoga, spin class)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Casual recreation programming ("drop-in" and unstructured types of programs. Like: horticulture, basketball, pickleball)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arts / culture programming (pottery, beading, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organized sports teams, leagues, and clubs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Programs for individuals facing social, physical, or cognitive barriers to participation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Programs that encourage socialization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water education and safety	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 6: Prioritization Criteria

10. The City has limited resources and must set priorities for major facility projects (renewals, expansions / enhancements and new builds) based on achieving the highest level of public benefit.

From the list, please indicate how important each factor should be when the City sets priorities.

	Very important	Somewhat important	Unsure	Somewhat unimportant	Very unimportant
Demand from the community (residents and groups)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aligns with the priorities of the City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overall costs of operating the facility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The existing supply / availability in the area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Potential cost savings through partnerships or grants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Geographic balance throughout the city	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Enhances an existing facility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accommodates the greatest number of users	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provides a new opportunity in the area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The facility is multi-purpose and serves a number of community needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The facility has the potential to generate economic benefit by bringing more events, tourists, and non local spending	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The facility would provide an opportunity to an underserved segment of the community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The facility would provide active living opportunities across ages, interests, and ability levels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 7: Values and Considerations

11. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Recreation and parks are very important to my household.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreation and parks are very important to my community.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreation and parks services benefit all residents in the community even if they don't use them directly.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
It is important to ensure that recreation and parks opportunities are available and accessible for all residents in the community.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Where possible the City should partner with community groups to provide recreation and parks services.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community events can help people to develop a sense of community and connection to each other.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
It is important to maintain or upkeep our existing facilities before we consider developing new ones.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 8: Communications

12. In general, how informed do you feel about parks and recreation in the City of Yorkton?

- ☐ Very informed
- ☐ Adequately informed
- ☐ Inadequately informed
- ☐ Not sure / no opinion

13. How do you prefer to learn about parks and recreation opportunities in the City of Yorkton? Please select your top 5 preferences.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> City of Yorkton Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Communication through schools |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City of Yorkton social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram) | <input type="checkbox"/> Advertising at community events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Posters in community facilities / spaces | <input type="checkbox"/> Word of mouth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletters | <input type="checkbox"/> Communication from community groups, organizations, or clubs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Online advertising | <input type="checkbox"/> Roadside sign |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Radio stations | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____ |

Section 9: Willingness to Pay

14. City parks and recreation programs and services are paid for by a combination of tax support (including property taxes) and fees paid by users.

To ensure that community needs for parks and recreation facilities, programs, and services in Yorkton are better met, would you support an increase in annual property taxes in each of the following scenarios?

- a. Would you support an increase in property taxes for **enhancements to existing** services your household members use?

☐ Yes

☒ Unsure

☐ No

- b. Would you support an increase in property taxes for **new services** your household members would use?

☐ Yes

☒ Unsure

☐ No

- c. Would you support an increase in property taxes for services that are **important to the broader community** but that your household members may not use?

☐ Yes

☒ Unsure

☐ No

15. Which of the following options do you support in relation to user fees for parks and recreation programs and services?

☐ Increase current level of user fees

☒ Maintain current level of user fees

☐ Reduce current level of user fees

☐ Unsure

Section 10: Other Comments

16. Please use the following space to provide any other comments you may have about the provision of parks and recreation in Yorkton.

Section 11: Household Profile

Please provide the following information about your household. This information will help with the analysis of the survey findings. For example, we may examine the findings according to the age of household members. The responses you provide will not be used to identify your individual household.

17. Do you live in Yorkton?

☐ Yes

☐ Other, please specify: _____

18. Please provide your postal code: _____

19. How long have you lived in the City of Yorkton?

☐ Less than 1 year

☐ 1 - 5 years

☐ 6 - 10 years

☐ More than 10 years

20. Please describe your household by identifying the number of members in each of the following age groups – including yourself!

_____ 0 - 4 yrs

_____ 5 - 9 yrs

_____ 10 - 14 yrs

_____ 15 - 19 yrs

_____ 20 - 29 yrs

_____ 30 - 39 yrs

_____ 40 - 49 yrs

_____ 50 - 59 yrs

_____ 60 - 69 yrs

_____ 70 - 79 yrs

_____ 80+ yrs

21. Which best describes your household composition?

☐ Couple with children

☐ Couple without children

☐ Lone parent family

☐ One-person household

☐ Multigenerational household (at least 3 generations)

☐ Two or more adults not a couple (e.g., roommates, siblings living together)

☐ Prefer not to answer

22. Do you or members of your household identify as Indigenous?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Prefer not to answer

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

Appendix C: Group Questionnaire



City of Yorkton Parks & Recreation Master Plan



Group Questionnaire

The City of Yorkton is completing a Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Master Plan will help guide the development, delivery and improvement of parks and recreation programs, services, and facilities in Yorkton for the next 15 years.

To develop the Master Plan we are implementing a program of engagement in the community. As part of this engagement the City is gathering input from the groups that provide parks and recreation services to Yorkton residents.

If you have any questions regarding this survey or the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, please contact the City of Yorkton at parksandrecreation@yorkton.ca.

We Want to Hear from You!

Please answer the following questions considering the perspective of your organization. Only one response per group / organization is requested. Please provide your response by **October 7, 2022**.

Thank you very much!



Section 1: About Your Organization

1. What is the name of your organization? _____

2. Briefly explain the purpose of your organization (mission) and its main activities. _____

3. Does your organization provide sports and recreation programming?

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ Unsure (go to 3a)

3a. Please explain your answer. _____

4. From the age groups below, please indicate which ones best describe your primary participants / members. (Select all that apply.)

☐ Children (0-5 years)

☒ Youth (6-12 years)

☐ Teens (13-18 years)

☒ Adult (19-39 years)

☐ Adult (40-64 years)

☒ Seniors (65 years and older)

5. Please identify the number of participants / members that belong to your organization.

Average Annual # of Participants / Members Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic (e.g. 2017-2019 annual average)	
Current Number of Participants / Members	

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

☐ Decrease

☒ Remain the same

☐ Increase

☐ Unsure

7. How many volunteers regularly support your organization?

☐ Up to and including 10

☒ 11-20

☐ 21-50

☐ 51 and more

Section 2: Facility Utilization

8. Does your organization use any facilities or spaces in Yorkton for your programming?

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ Unsure (go to 10a)

9. For each of the facilities and spaces listed, please indicate how frequently your organization has used it, during your season, for your programming in the previous 3 years. (Consider your typical use prior to COVID.)

Facility / Space	Daily or almost daily (5 or more visits per week)	Weekly (1-2 times per week)	Monthly (1-2 times per month)	A few times per year	Did not use / visit in the previous 2 years
Ball diamonds (Jaycee Beach, Jubilee Park, Lions)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community halls (all facilities in Yorkton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Parks and Playgrounds (all locations in Yorkton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gallagher Centre – Arena	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gallagher Centre – Curling Rink	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gallagher Centre – Flexihall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gallagher Centre – Indoor Water Park (Aquatics Centre)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gloria Hayden Community Centre – Gymnasium	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gloria Hayden Community Centre – Indoor Track	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gloria Hayden Community Centre – Racquetball Courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gloria Hayden Community Centre – Squash Courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kinsmen Arena	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor multi-use sport court (all locations in Yorkton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pickleball courts (all facilities in Yorkton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
School Gymnasiums (all facilities in Yorkton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skate Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soccer fields (all facilities in Yorkton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tennis courts (all facilities in Yorkton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- a. Please identify any other facilities / spaces that your organization uses in Yorkton.

10. To what degree do the current sports and recreation facilities and spaces in Yorkton meet the needs of your organization?

- ☐ Completely meet the needs of our organization
- ☒ Somewhat meet the needs of our organization
- ☐ Do not adequately meet the needs of our organization
- ☐ My organization does not use sports and recreation facilities in Yorkton

a. Please explain your answer to the last question. _____

Section 3: Future Priorities & Focus Areas

11. Do you think there are adequate sports and recreation facilities (indoor and outdoor) in Yorkton?

- ☐ Yes (Please proceed to Q 14)
- ☒ No
- ☐ Unsure

12. Please select **up to five (5) INDOOR** sports and recreation facilities and amenities that should be more readily available or enhanced in Yorkton. A couple of things to consider:

- There are costs to building and operating sports and recreation facilities and amenities (this may impact taxes and/or user fees).
- Your responses will be used to help determine facility priorities for planning purposes. They may not lead to changes in a facility or new facilities being built.

☐ 25m swimming tank (e.g. lane swimming, aquafit)

☐ 50m competition swim tank

☐ Art creation spaces (e.g. dedicated studios, maker spaces)

☐ Art display spaces

☐ Archery lanes / range

☐ Before and after school care facilities

☐ Classroom / training space

☐ Community group office / admin space

☐ Community hall / banquet facilities

☐ Community kitchen (e.g. a cooking space that is health authority approved that can be used for events, birthday parties etc.)

☐ Community meeting rooms

☐ Court sports (e.g. racquetball, squash)

☐ Curling rinks

☐ Dance / program / martial arts rooms

☐ Event hosting facilities

☐ Fitness / wellness facilities (e.g. exercise / weight room)

☐ Gymnasium type spaces (e.g. basketball, volleyball, badminton, pickleball)

☐ Ice arena facilities (e.g. hockey, figure skating, ball hockey, lacrosse)

☐ Indoor child playgrounds

☐ Indoor climbing wall

☐ Indoor field facilities (e.g. soccer, tennis, pickleball, ball hockey, lacrosse)

☐ Libraries

☐ Leisure ice surfaces (non hockey)

☐ Leisure swimming pools (e.g. for fun including water play features)

☐ Multi-purpose program rooms

☐ Parkour room / gymnastics space

☐ Performing arts centre

☐ Seniors centre

☐ Social banquet facilities

☐ Storage space (for groups)

☐ Walking / running track

☐ Year round indoor flat surfaces (for activities such as lacrosse & roller derby)

☐ Youth centre

- a. In addition to the **indoor spaces** identified above, are there any other types of **indoor spaces** that you think should be more readily available? If so, please note them here.

13. Please select **up to five (5) OUTDOOR** sports and recreation facilities and amenities that should be more readily available or enhanced in Yorkton. A couple of things to consider:

- There are costs to building and operating sports and recreation facilities and amenities.
- Your responses will be used to help determine facility priorities for planning purposes. They may not lead to changes in a facility or new facilities being built.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural facilities (e.g. rodeo grounds, riding arenas) | <input type="checkbox"/> Open spaces (e.g. parks, greenfields) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amphitheatres /event spaces / band shelters | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor boarded skating rinks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archery range | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor fitness equipment |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ball diamonds | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor pool |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beach volleyball courts | <input type="checkbox"/> Paved pathways |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bike parks (e.g. pump track) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pickleball courts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Campgrounds | <input type="checkbox"/> Picnic areas |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community gardens | <input type="checkbox"/> Playgrounds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cross country ski & snowshoe trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Sledding / tobogganing hills |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disc golf course | <input type="checkbox"/> Skateboard parks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing pond | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports fields - grass (e.g. soccer, football) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gardening | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports fields – turf (e.g. soccer, football) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf courses | <input type="checkbox"/> Spray parks |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hardcourts (e.g. basketball, ball hockey) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis courts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain bike trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Track and field spaces |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nature trails | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Off leash dog park | |

- a. In addition to the **outdoor spaces** identified above, are there any other types of **outdoor spaces** that you think should be more readily available? If so, please note them here.

14. To what extent would your organization support an increase in user / rental fees to ensure community needs for recreation and culture are better met?

- ☐ Strongly support
- ☒ Somewhat support
- ☐ Neither
- ☒ Somewhat oppose
- ☐ Strongly oppose

Section 4: Challenges

15. What challenges, if any, is your organization facing? Check all that apply.

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

16. What assistance or support could the City of Yorkton provide that would help your organization best address its challenges? Check your top five types of support.

- ☐ Promoting the group and its activities
- ☐ Equipment / materials storage
- ☐ Office / meeting space
- ☐ Board / organizational development
- ☐ Volunteer recruitment / retention support
- ☐ Identifying grant funding or sponsorship opportunities
- ☐ Operating grant support
- ☐ Capital grant support
- ☐ Enhance existing facilities / amenities
- ☐ Develop additional facilities / amenities
- ☐ Improved access to facilities
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

Section 5: Final Thoughts

17. Please use the space to provide any other comments you have about the provision of parks and recreation in Yorkton.

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

Your input is very important to the development of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan!

Appendix D : Community Group Survey Respondents



City of Yorkton Parks & Recreation Master Plan



Group Questionnaire

The City of Yorkton is completing a Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Master Plan will help guide the development, delivery and improvement of parks and recreation programs, services, and facilities in Yorkton for the next 15 years.

To develop the Master Plan we are implementing a program of engagement in the community. As part of this engagement the City is gathering input from the groups that provide parks and recreation services to Yorkton residents.

If you have any questions regarding this survey or the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, please contact the City of Yorkton at parksandrecreation@yorkton.ca.

We Want to Hear from You!

Please answer the following questions considering the perspective of your organization. Only one response per group / organization is requested. Please provide your response by **October 7, 2022**.

Thank you very much!



Section 1: About Your Organization

1. What is the name of your organization? _____
2. Briefly explain the purpose of your organization (mission) and its main activities. _____

3. Does your organization provide sports and recreation programming?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure (go to 3a)

- 3a. Please explain your answer. _____

4. From the age groups below, please indicate which ones best describe your primary participants / members. (Select all that apply.)

- ☐ Children (0-5 years)
- ☐ Youth (6-12 years)
- ☐ Teens (13-18 years)
- ☐ Adult (19-39 years)
- ☐ Adult (40-64 years)
- ☐ Seniors (65 years and older)

5. Please identify the number of participants / members that belong to your organization.

Average Annual # of Participants / Members Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic (e.g. 2017-2019 annual average)	
Current Number of Participants / Members	

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

- ☐ Decrease
- ☒ Remain the same
- ☐ Increase
- ☐ Unsure

7. How many volunteers regularly support your organization?

- ☐ Up to and including 10
- ☒ 11-20
- ☐ 21-50
- ☐ 51 and more

Section 2: Facility Utilization

8. Does your organization use any facilities or spaces in Yorkton for your programming?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No
- ☐ Unsure (go to 10a)

9. For each of the facilities and spaces listed, please indicate how frequently your organization has used it, during your season, for your programming in the previous 3 years. (Consider your typical use prior to COVID.)

Facility / Space	Daily or almost daily (5 or more visits per week)	Weekly (1-2 times per week)	Monthly (1-2 times per month)	A few times per year	Did not use / visit in the previous 2 years
Ball diamonds (Jaycee Beach, Jubilee Park, Lions)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community halls (all facilities in Yorkton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Parks and Playgrounds (all locations in Yorkton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gallagher Centre – Arena	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gallagher Centre – Curling Rink	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gallagher Centre – Flexihall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gallagher Centre – Indoor Water Park (Aquatics Centre)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gloria Hayden Community Centre – Gymnasium	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gloria Hayden Community Centre – Indoor Track	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gloria Hayden Community Centre – Racquetball Courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gloria Hayden Community Centre – Squash Courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kinsmen Arena	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor multi-use sport court (all locations in Yorkton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pickleball courts (all facilities in Yorkton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
School Gymnasiums (all facilities in Yorkton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skate Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soccer fields (all facilities in Yorkton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tennis courts (all facilities in Yorkton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- a. Please identify any other facilities / spaces that your organization uses in Yorkton.

10. To what degree do the current sports and recreation facilities and spaces in Yorkton meet the needs of your organization?

- ☐ Completely meet the needs of our organization
- ☒ Somewhat meet the needs of our organization
- ☐ Do not adequately meet the needs of our organization
- ☐ My organization does not use sports and recreation facilities in Yorkton

a. Please explain your answer to the last question. _____

Section 3: Future Priorities & Focus Areas

11. Do you think there are adequate sports and recreation facilities (indoor and outdoor) in Yorkton?

- ☐ Yes (Please proceed to Q 14)
- ☒ No
- ☐ Unsure

12. Please select **up to five (5) INDOOR** sports and recreation facilities and amenities that should be more readily available or enhanced in Yorkton. A couple of things to consider:

- There are costs to building and operating sports and recreation facilities and amenities (this may impact taxes and/or user fees).
- Your responses will be used to help determine facility priorities for planning purposes. They may not lead to changes in a facility or new facilities being built.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25m swimming tank (e.g. lane swimming, aquafit) | <input type="checkbox"/> Ice arena facilities (e.g. hockey, figure skating, ball hockey, lacrosse) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 50m competition swim tank | <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor child playgrounds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art creation spaces (e.g. dedicated studios, maker spaces) | <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor climbing wall |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art display spaces | <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor field facilities (e.g. soccer, tennis, pickleball, ball hockey, lacrosse) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archery lanes / range | <input type="checkbox"/> Libraries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Before and after school care facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Leisure ice surfaces (non hockey) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Classroom / training space | <input type="checkbox"/> Leisure swimming pools (e.g. for fun including water play features) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community group office / admin space | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purpose program rooms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community hall / banquet facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Parkour room / gymnastics space |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community kitchen (e.g. a cooking space that is health authority approved that can be used for events, birthday parties etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Performing arts centre |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community meeting rooms | <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors centre |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Court sports (e.g. racquetball, squash) | <input type="checkbox"/> Social banquet facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Curling rinks | <input type="checkbox"/> Storage space (for groups) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dance / program / martial arts rooms | <input type="checkbox"/> Walking / running track |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Event hosting facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Year round indoor flat surfaces (for activities such as lacrosse & roller derby) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness / wellness facilities (e.g. exercise / weight room) | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth centre |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gymnasium type spaces (e.g. basketball, volleyball, badminton, pickleball) | |

- a. In addition to the **indoor spaces** identified above, are there any other types of **indoor spaces** that you think should be more readily available? If so, please note them here.

13. Please select **up to five (5) OUTDOOR** sports and recreation facilities and amenities that should be more readily available or enhanced in Yorkton. A couple of things to consider:

- There are costs to building and operating sports and recreation facilities and amenities.
- Your responses will be used to help determine facility priorities for planning purposes. They may not lead to changes in a facility or new facilities being built.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural facilities (e.g. rodeo grounds, riding arenas) | <input type="checkbox"/> Open spaces (e.g. parks, greenfields) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amphitheatres /event spaces / band shelters | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor boarded skating rinks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archery range | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor fitness equipment |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ball diamonds | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor pool |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beach volleyball courts | <input type="checkbox"/> Paved pathways |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bike parks (e.g. pump track) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pickleball courts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Campgrounds | <input type="checkbox"/> Picnic areas |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community gardens | <input type="checkbox"/> Playgrounds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cross country ski & snowshoe trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Sledding / tobogganing hills |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disc golf course | <input type="checkbox"/> Skateboard parks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing pond | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports fields - grass (e.g. soccer, football) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gardening | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports fields – turf (e.g. soccer, football) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf courses | <input type="checkbox"/> Spray parks |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hardcourts (e.g. basketball, ball hockey) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis courts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain bike trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Track and field spaces |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nature trails | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Off leash dog park | |

- a. In addition to the **outdoor spaces** identified above, are there any other types of **outdoor spaces** that you think should be more readily available? If so, please note them here.

14. To what extent would your organization support an increase in user / rental fees to ensure community needs for recreation and culture are better met?

- ☐ Strongly support
- ☒ Somewhat support
- ☐ Neither
- ☒ Somewhat oppose
- ☐ Strongly oppose

Section 4: Challenges

15. What challenges, if any, is your organization facing? Check all that apply.

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

16. What assistance or support could the City of Yorkton provide that would help your organization best address its challenges? Check your top five types of support.

- ☐ Promoting the group and its activities
- ☐ Equipment / materials storage
- ☐ Office / meeting space
- ☐ Board / organizational development
- ☐ Volunteer recruitment / retention support
- ☐ Identifying grant funding or sponsorship opportunities
- ☐ Operating grant support
- ☐ Capital grant support
- ☐ Enhance existing facilities / amenities
- ☐ Develop additional facilities / amenities
- ☐ Improved access to facilities
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

Section 5: Final Thoughts

17. Please use the space to provide any other comments you have about the provision of parks and recreation in Yorkton.

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

Your input is very important to the development of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan!

Appendix E: Interview / Meeting Participants

1. Yorkton Family Resource Centre
2. SaskAbilities
3. Big Brothers and Big Sisters
4. Yorkton Business Improvement District
5. Cornerstone Credit Union
6. Yorkton Exhibition Association
7. Yorkton Arts Council
8. Christ the Teacher Catholic School Division
9. St. Paul's Elementary School
10. Dreambuilders High School
11. Yorkton Aquabatix Club
12. Deer Park Golf Course Men's Club
13. Lions Club and Health Foundation
14. Yorkton United Football Club
15. Yorkton Minor Baseball Association
16. Yorkton Kinsmen Club
17. Columbia Elementary School
18. M.C Knoll Elementary School
19. Parkland Colleges
20. Pickleball Yorkton
21. Yorkton Pirates Tennis Club
22. Tony Hayden Basketball
23. Yorkton Tribal Council
24. Old Relics Rec Hockey
25. Yorkton Rec Hockey League
26. JJs Rec Hockey
27. Legacy Co-op
28. Yorkton Minor Football
29. Good Spirit School Division
30. St. Alphonsus School
31. St. Michaels School
32. Sacred Heart High School
33. Chamber of Commerce

Appendix F: Youth Questionnaire



City of Yorkton Parks & Recreation Master Plan

Youth Questionnaire

The City of Yorkton is developing a plan to help guide decisions about parks and recreation programs, services and facilities which are very important components of our community!

To make this Parks and Recreation Master Plan, the City is inviting you to share your thoughts!

Please answer the following questions so we know what young people in Yorkton value about Parks and Recreation and what they would like to see in the future.

We value your feedback!

A couple notes:

- **This is anonymous.** That means the answers you provide will be combined with all the other answers and we won't know which answers are yours.
- **This is voluntary.** We want to learn your opinions, but you don't have to tell us if you don't want to.
- **Answer the questions based on what you think.** Don't worry about what your friend's answers are, tell us what you think. If you don't tell your friend, they won't know what you answered.



Part 1: Participating in Parks and Recreation Activities

1. What are your **favourite** types of parks and recreation activities? (You can pick several answers.)

- ☐ Nature oriented activities (e.g. fishing, wildlife watching, nature appreciation)
- ☐ Visual arts (e.g. painting, photography, pottery, crafts)
- ☐ Performing arts (e.g. singing, dancing, drama)
- ☐ Outdoor water activities (e.g. non-motorized activities such as canoeing, spray parks, swimming)
- ☐ Outdoor motorized activities (e.g. boating, water skiing, snowmobiling, quadding)
- ☐ Outdoor sports (e.g. soccer, baseball, golf)
- ☐ Indoor sports (e.g. basketball, soccer, hockey)
- ☐ Outdoor physical activity (e.g. walking, biking, running)
- ☐ Indoor physical activity (e.g. working out, swimming, yoga)
- ☐ Attending spectator activities / special events (e.g. concerts, sports events, festivals)
- ☐ Leisure activities (e.g. gaming, reading, social media)
- ☐ Social activities (e.g. get together with friends / family, going for lunch or coffee)
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

2. Is there anything that stops you from participating in any parks and recreation activities or programs?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No (skip to question 3)

a. What stops you from participating? (You can pick several answers.)

- ☐ I am busy with other activities.
- ☐ The activity I'm interested in isn't offered in the community.
- ☐ The facilities that are here are in poor shape.
- ☐ The facilities are too busy.
- ☐ The price to get into the program or facility is quite high.
- ☐ The price for equipment and materials to do the activity is quite high.
- ☐ It is too far or I can't get a ride to participate in the activity.
- ☐ I can't physically participate.
- ☐ I didn't like the program.
- ☐ The time the activities are offered doesn't work for me.
- ☐ I don't know what activities there are to choose from.
- ☐ I'm intimidated (e.g. I don't know the rules, I don't feel comfortable trying)
- ☐ My health has prevented me from participating in some activities.
- ☐ My friends don't like the same activities / I have no one to participate with.
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

Part 2: Indoor and Outdoor Parks and Recreation Facilities and Spaces

3. In your opinion, are there any **INDOOR** facilities or spaces that could be improved or that you would like to see more of?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No (skip to question 4)

- a. Of all the following **INDOOR** recreation and culture facilities and spaces, **pick up to five (5)** that you think should be improved or that more are needed.

- ☐ 25m swimming tank (e.g. lane swimming, aquafit)
- ☐ 50m competition swim tank
- ☐ Art creation spaces (e.g. dedicated studios, maker spaces)
- ☐ Art display spaces
- ☐ Archery lanes / range
- ☐ Before and after school care facilities
- ☐ Classroom / training space
- ☐ Community group office / admin space
- ☐ Community hall / banquet facilities
- ☐ Community meeting rooms
- ☐ Court sports (e.g. racquetball, squash)
- ☐ Curling rinks
- ☐ Dance / program / martial arts rooms
- ☐ Event hosting facilities
- ☐ Fitness / wellness facilities (e.g. exercise / weight room)
- ☐ Gymnasium type spaces (e.g. basketball, volleyball, badminton, pickleball)
- ☐ Ice arena facilities (e.g. hockey, figure skating, ball hockey, lacrosse)
- ☐ Indoor child playgrounds

4. In your opinion, are there any **OUTDOOR** facilities or spaces that could be improved or that you would like to see more of?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No (skip to question 5)

- a. Of all the following **OUTDOOR** recreation and culture facilities and spaces, **pick up to five (5)** that you think should be improved or that more are needed.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural facilities (e.g. rodeo grounds, riding arenas) | <input type="checkbox"/> Open spaces (e.g. parks, greenfields) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amphitheatres /event spaces / band shelters | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor boarded skating rinks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archery range | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor fitness equipment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ball diamonds | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor pool |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beach volleyball courts | <input type="checkbox"/> Paved pathways |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bike parks (e.g. pump track) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pickleball courts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Campgrounds | <input type="checkbox"/> Picnic areas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community gardens | <input type="checkbox"/> Playgrounds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cross country ski & snowshoe trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Sledding / tobogganing hills |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disc golf course | <input type="checkbox"/> Skateboard parks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing pond | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports fields - grass (e.g. soccer, football) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf courses | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports fields – turf (e.g. soccer, football) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hardcourts (e.g. basketball, ball hockey) | <input type="checkbox"/> Spray parks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain bike trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis courts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nature trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Track and field spaces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Off leash dog park | |

Part 3: Other Thoughts

5. Use the space to tell us anything else as we plan for the future of Parks and Recreation in Yorkton. (Are there some programs or activities that you would like to try, for example.)

Part 4: About You

6. Where do you live?

☐ Yorkton

☐ Other (please specify) _____

7. How old are you today?

☐ 11 years old or younger

☐ 12 years old

☐ 13 years old

☐ 14 years old

☐ 15 years old

☐ 16 years old

☐ 17 years old

☐ 18 years old or older

Thanks for answering the questions – we appreciate it!







What We Learned Report

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

May 2023



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1.0 Introduction



1.0 Introduction

Situated in the south-eastern portion of the province, Yorkton is home to 16,000¹ residents making it the 6th largest city in the province. The city's population is expected to surpass 25,000 by the year of 2040².

The City, along with many community organizations and partners offer parks and recreation opportunities to residents and visitors alike. These services provide multiple ways for residents and visitors to maintain their overall well-being. People who participate in recreation are healthier, more connected to their communities and less likely to participate in negative behaviours. Recreational spaces and parks in communities also enhance residents' sense of pride and can in turn have positive effects on the environment.

It is for all of these reasons and more that the City of Yorkton invests in parks and recreation services. Residents have come to expect a high level of provision whether it is facilities and spaces or programs. The desires and preferences from residents are diverse and shift over time. This is reflected in the use of facilities and spaces as well as the demands from residents. As well, infrastructure ages and is costly. It is because of these dynamics and the importance of parks and recreation services, that the City is undertaking a planning process. This process results in a Parks and Recreation Master Plan which provides a deliberate and evidence-based plan for the provision of these key services.

The purpose of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan is to provide an overall framework to guide the delivery and continuous improvement of parks and recreation programs, services, and facilities. The Plan recognizes the position of the City in the parks and recreation delivery system and acknowledges the costs (both financial and non) to provide these important services. While these services are critical they may also be costly so their provision needs to be sustainable.

¹- <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/search-recherche/productresults-resultatsproduits-eng.cfm?LANG=E&GEOCODE=2021A00054709012>

² <https://www.yorkton.ca/en/build-invest-and-grow/community-profile-demographics-and-statistics.aspx>



Photo from City of Yorkton Facebook

2.0 Report Structure

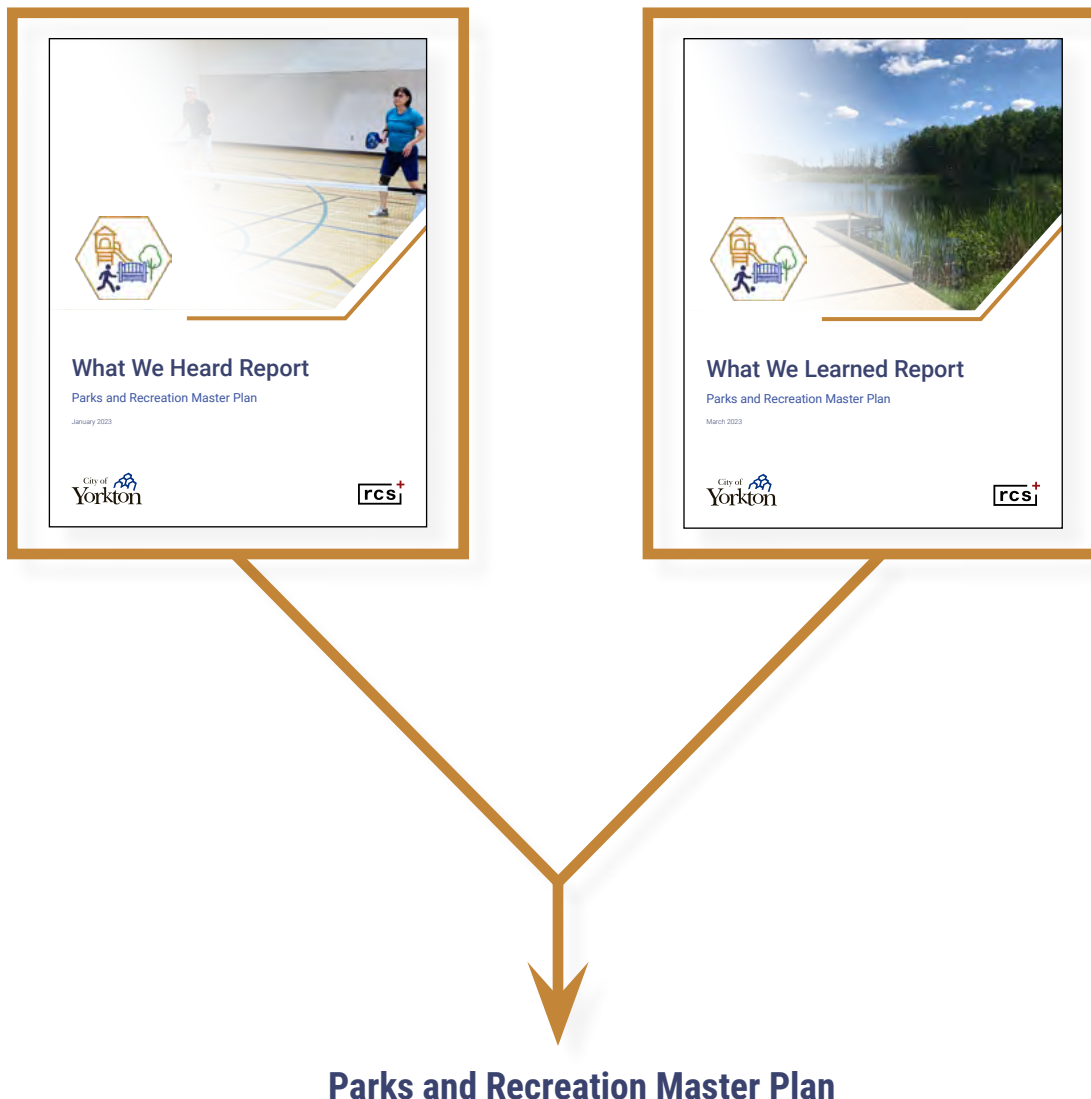


2.0 Report Structure

The Plan is built upon a thorough program of research that includes the following components:

- Community demographics;
- Trends and leading practices in parks and recreation provision;
- Policy and planning review;
- Inventory and utilization assessment;
- Benchmarking; and
- Service review.

These components are included in this “What We Learned” report. Community engagement is also a critical input in the development of the Master Plan. A thorough program of engagement was implemented through this process as well. The findings from it are presented under a separate cover, “What We Heard”.



3.0 Benefits of Recreation



Photo from City of Yorkton

A key question when undertaking a parks and recreation master plan is... why?

The strongest argument for investing in parks and recreation in a community is that it benefits almost everyone. There is an abundance of research around the importance of parks and recreation that can answer the 'why'. Research demonstrates the many benefits that communities may experience by investing in parks and recreation. Some of those benefits include:

- Improved health outcomes for all ages
- Longer life expectancies
- Improved mental health
- Deeper sense of community connection
- Economic and environmental impacts

Benefits of Parks and Recreation



4.0 Community Profile



Photo from City of Yorkton

4.0 Community Profile

The City of Yorkton is located on Treaty 4 Territory, the traditional lands of the Cree, Saulteux, Dakota, Lakota, Nakota peoples, and the homeland of the Metis, and home to over 16,000 residents in southeastern Saskatchewan. Indigenous people have inhabited the land for generations and will continue to positively impact the community. The city was founded in 1882 when settlers received a charter and received their first post office in 1884. The 1891 railway expansion westward from Manitoba facilitated the growing population to Yorkton, as many people from Eastern Canada, British Isles, Ukraine, and Russia moved to the area to begin homesteading³. Yorkton became an official city in 1928⁴.

Yorkton is the 6th largest city within Saskatchewan and is located along Highway 16 between Saskatoon and Winnipeg, which helps act as a central hub for the area. Furthermore, Yorkton is strongly connected to the rest of the province, the country, and the world by two main train lines, an airport, and highways 10, 52, and 9, which have helped to create a robust trading area for its size, which is an estimated 113,000⁵ people. Additionally, there are eight elementary schools and three high schools in the Good Spirit School Division and Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools. There is also one college (Parkland College), and combined these schools provide strong education opportunities for residents of Yorkton.

The city boasts a strong network of recreation opportunities which is a major draw to both its residents and people interested in moving to Yorkton. The city is home to more than just physical recreation amenities, and includes two-disc golf courses, cross country ski trails, golf course, cultural centre, community centre, library, and a walking trail system. There are also over 150 recreation and culture groups.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Yorkton is the 6th largest City in Saskatchewan.
- Yorkton has a robust trading area which is estimated to service 113,000 people
- There is an abundance of education opportunities for Youth in Yorkton.
- The City has a strong network of indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities.
- The City is projecting a growth of 25,000 residents by 2040.
- Yorkton has the third highest Indigenous population in the province with a population of 1,935.
- The largest sector of employment within Yorkton is sales and service, employing 30% of the workforce.

YORKTON RECREATION AMENITIES

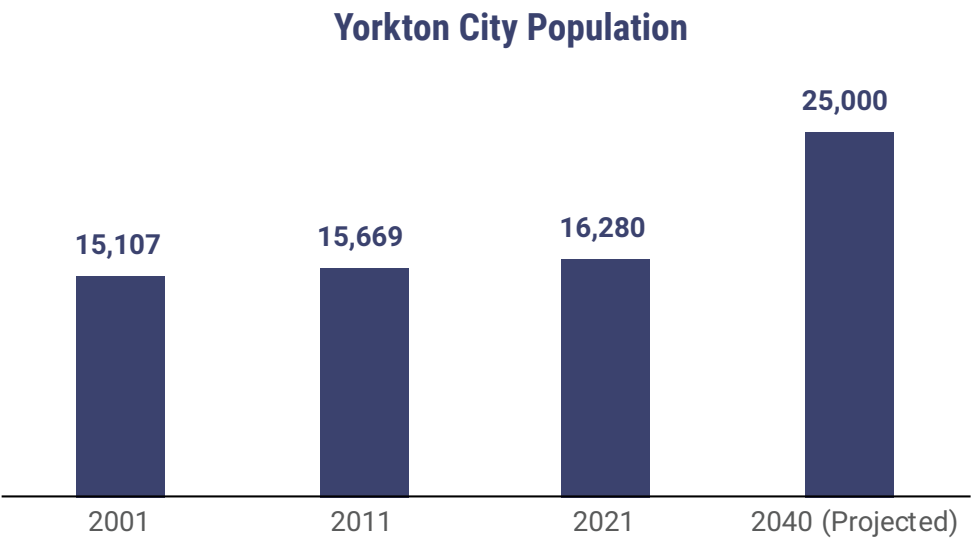


³ Yorkton Official Community Plan. (2014)

⁴ Yorkton Community Profile. (2015)

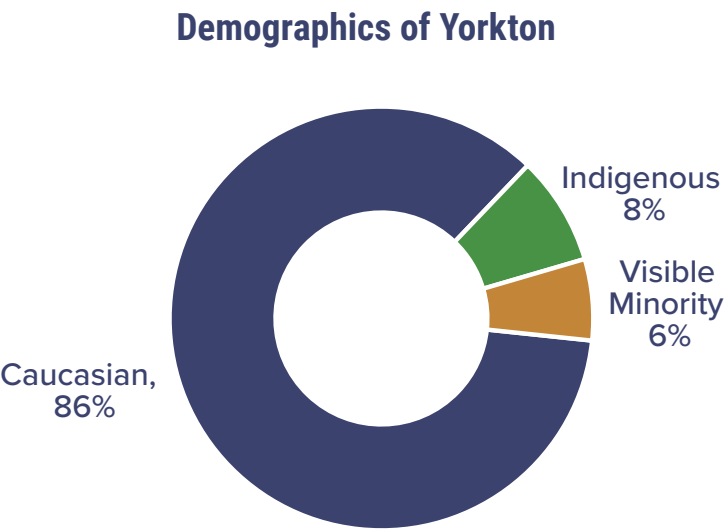
⁵ <https://www.yorkton.ca/en/build-invest-and-grow/commercial-and-retail.aspx>

The 2021 census data highlighted a population of 16,280 residents⁶. Looking forward to the year 2040 the population is anticipated to be 25,000 which is a growth of 54%. Refer to the graph.

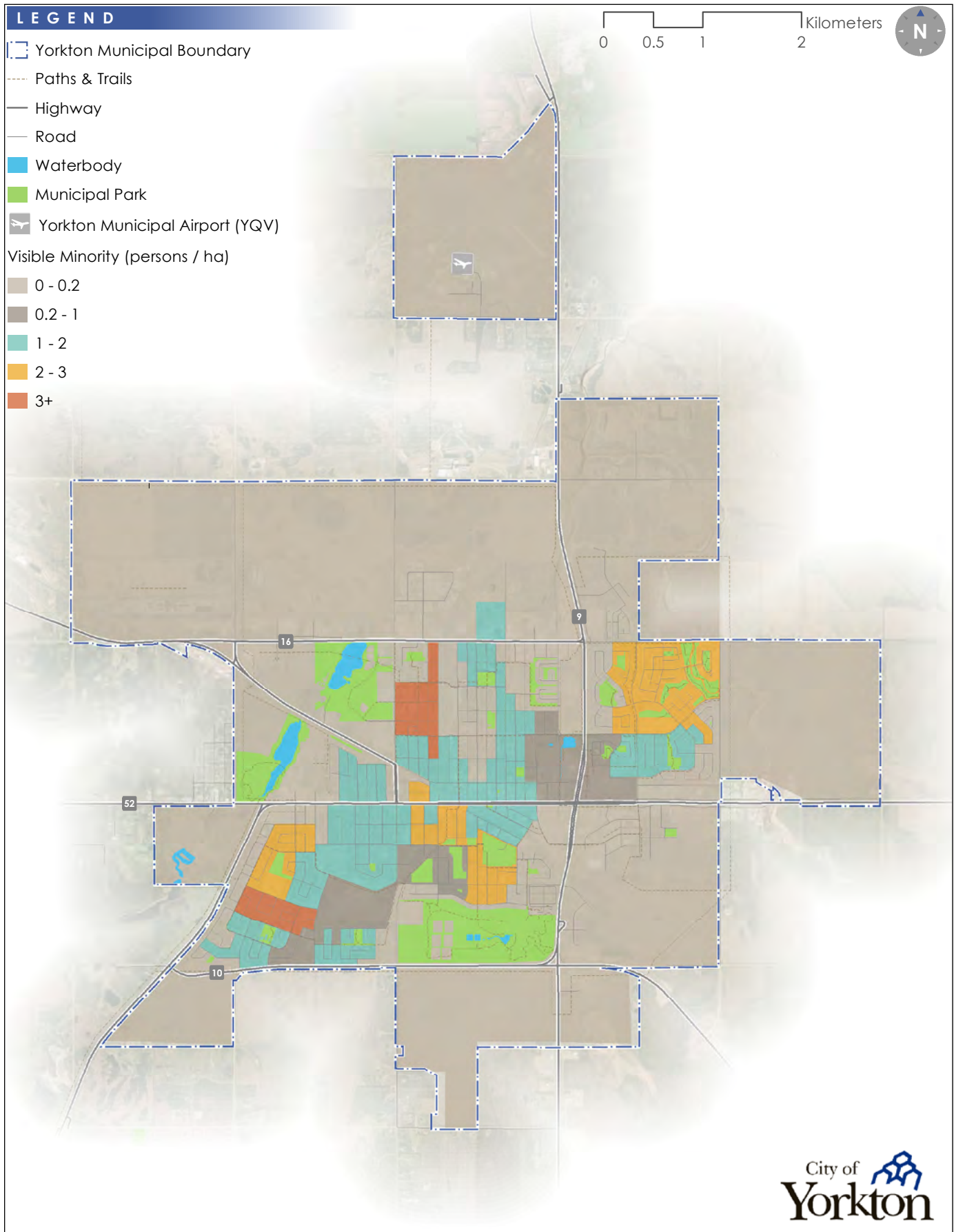


4.1 Demographics of Population

Of the cities in Saskatchewan, Yorkton has the third highest concentration of Indigenous residents (a population of 1,935), trailing only behind Prince Albert and North Battleford⁴. In 2016, there were 1,440 visible minorities, not including Indigenous residents. The majority of this group were from the Filipino community, as there was 615 people who identified with this ethnic group⁴. Yorkton has 6 surrounding Indigenous communities that include the Key First Nation, Keeseekoose First Nation, Cote First Nation, Zagime Anishinabek First Nations, and the Ocean Man First Nation. These communities are represented by the Yorkton Tribal Council in which they work with each community to provide programs and services that enrich the well being and health of their people. The city expects the immigration numbers to grow as the city continues expanding in future years.



⁶ <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/search-recherche/productresults-resultatsproduits-eng.cfm?LANG=E&GEOCODE=2021A00054709012>



4.2 Education and Employment

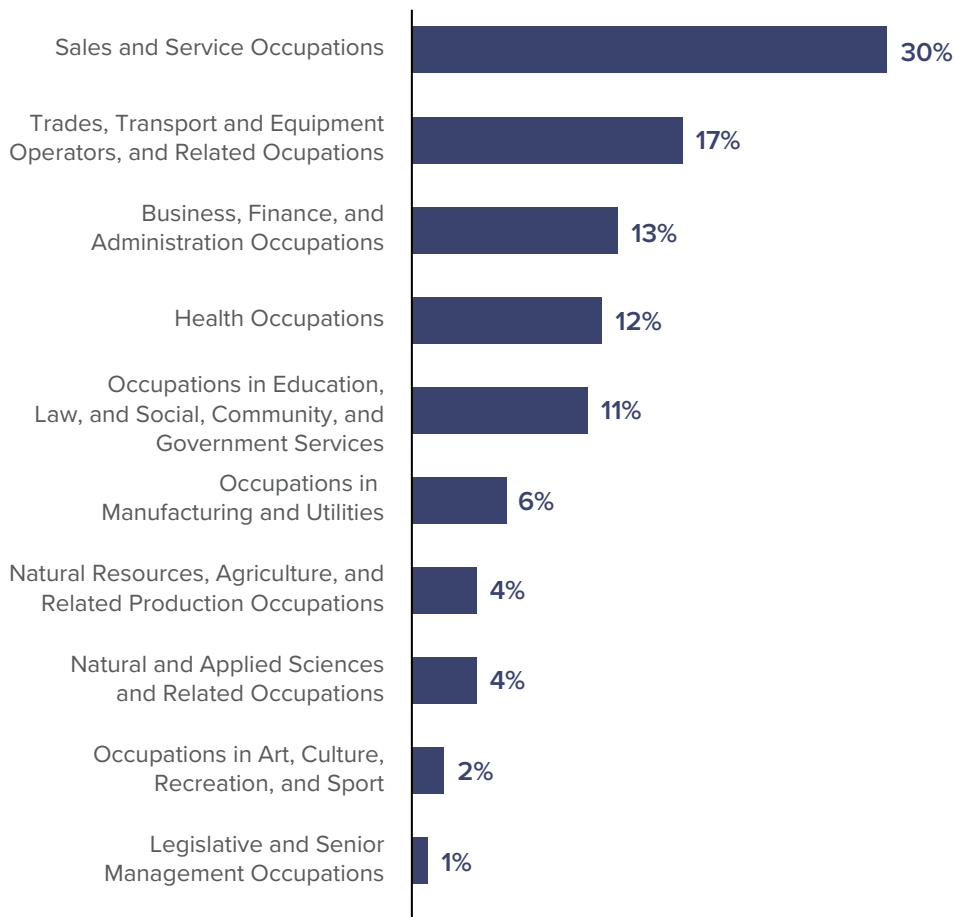
The largest sector of employment within Yorkton is sales and service, employing 30% of the workforce. This is followed by 16% who work in the trades, and 12% in business and finance. In addition, 88% of the population work within the municipality and 12% work outside of the metropolitan area.

Regarding education attainment in Yorkton, approximately half of residents have a certificate or degree (44%), while approximately one third of residents have attained a diploma.

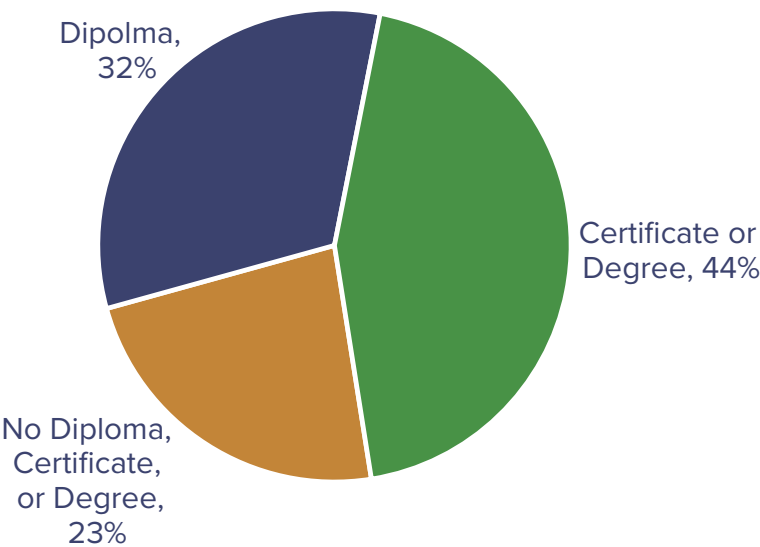
4.3 Housing and Family

The residential home price benchmark rose to \$213,600 in 2021, and the average home was on the market for 59 days, which is lower than both last year and the 5-year market average, indicating a possible higher interest in Yorkton as a place of residence⁷. The 2016 census highlighted an average household income of \$81,915, which is lower than the provincial average of \$93,942⁸.

Employment Sector in Yorkton



Education Attainment 15+



⁷ Yorkton. Yorkton Demographic Statistics. (2022). <https://www.yorkton.ca/en/build-invest-and-grow/community-profile-demographics-and-statistics.aspx>

⁸ The Canadian Real Estate Association. Yorkton. (2022). <https://creastats.crea.ca/board/sra-yton>

5.0

Trends and Leading Practices in Parks and Recreation



5.0 Trends and Leading Practices in Parks and Recreation

This section presents a summary review of service delivery, participation, and infrastructure trends related to both parks and recreation. These trends are broadly affecting the sector but have also been selected in consideration of the Yorkton context.

5.1 Data Collection

Parks and recreation departments are increasingly utilizing data to understand user behaviors, needs, preferences, and desires.

According to the National Parks and Recreation Association's Survey⁹ of parks and recreation professionals, more than 90% of respondents (in leadership roles) identified data collection and analysis as important or very important for activities such as master planning, capital investments, programming, and to support staff. However, not every municipality is collecting data and no two municipalities collect data using the same methods. Respondents identified facility usage data, program utilization data, demographic trends, crime data, and school enrollment as important data sources for decision-making.

In terms of methods for collecting data, surveying residents and users is the most common approach. For facility usage, some municipalities have staff manually count visitors and others use automated methods such as scanning user cards. Other departments that may be collecting useful data include public works or utilities, police and fire departments, and transportation departments. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are also becoming frequently used within the sector to understand where users live, what amenities are available to whom, and to identify gaps and opportunities geospatially.



Photo from City of Yorkton Facebook

KEY TAKEAWAYS -

- Data collection is an important tactic municipalities are utilizing to understand needs, preferences, and desires of users.
- Recognizing the role of recreation in Truth and Reconciliation efforts and how the sector can continue moving forward in a positive way.
- Reiterating the importance of belonging in community and the role parks and recreation can play in creating safe and welcoming spaces.
- There is an increased demand for older adult participation in parks and recreation activities. Older adults are steering away from the traditional activities and are taking part in trending activities such as pickleball. Ensuring there is space for this generation of people to participate is important.
- Spontaneous recreation has increased postpandemic and there is increased demand in facilities to have time scheduled for drop-in and spontaneous activities.

⁹ <https://www.nrpa.org/contentassets/f768428a39aa4035ae55b2aaff372617/data-analysis-park-and-recreation.pdf>

5.2 Equality and Inclusion

There is increasing cultural awareness regarding the systemic nature of racism and the structural inequalities that exist within society. In Canada, the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was fundamental in highlighting and exposing historical and ongoing structural flaws within society that perpetuate racism and harm towards Indigenous populations.

Like most sectors, municipalities and other public entities that provide recreation services are in the midst of evaluating their own history in perpetuating historical inequalities and future solutions that can address these issues. The recreation sector is uniquely positioned to foster inclusiveness and provide a platform to help blunt racism, prejudice, and inequality. Identified below are initiatives that are being undertaken by leading organizations in the sector.

viaSport

has identified inclusion as a key focus area and has developed a number of free or low cost resources focused on fostering increased diversity and opportunity for women and girls, persons with disabilities, the LGBTQI2S Community, marginalized youth, Indigenous people, individuals that are socio-economically disadvantaged, newcomers to Canada, individuals from rural / remote / isolated regions, and older adults.¹⁰

SPARC BC (The Social Planning and Research Council of B.C.)

has published or co-developed a wealth of resources on inclusion and access. One of these documents, *Everybody's Welcome: A Social Inclusion Approach to Program Planning and Development for Parks and Recreation Services* was developed in conjunction with the British Columbia Parks and Recreation Association and provided the sector with a formative resource that helped generate a greater understanding of what inclusion means and how to undertake actions that can foster it within public facilities and spaces.⁹

Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association (Parks and Recreation Create a Sense of Belonging and Connection Survey)

surveyed the province in March 2022 on inclusive gathering and feeling a sense of belonging in parks and recreation in their communities. Respondents were asked if they agreed or disagreed with two statements. The first statement was "Parks and recreation create opportunities and spaces for inclusive gathering". Almost all respondents (88%) agreed with the statement, while half of respondents strongly agreed with the statement. The second statement presented was "Recreation opportunities and spaces create a sense of belonging in our communities". Again, almost all respondents (89%) agreed with the statement, while half (50%) strongly agreed. The survey gave SPRA insight into the importance of parks and recreation to communities in the province and how they bring communities together through programs, events, and socialization.¹¹

¹⁰ www.viasport.ca/inclusion

¹¹ <https://www.spra.sk.ca/Blog/create-belonging-connection-Mar2022/>

5.3 Older Adult Participation in Recreation Activities

There is an increase of aging population who are retiring and thus we are seeing longer periods of retirement. The many “traditional” activities such as swimming, fitness classes, and low impact activities are still very popular amongst the older adult population. However, there has been an increase in demand for moderately vigorous forms of physical activity and multigenerational programs. The emergence of pickleball and aqua fitness classes are examples of activities where popularity is driven by older adult populations. More over, due to the increase in retirees, recreation facilities have seen an increase in demand by these groups.

5.4 Spontaneous Recreation

There is growing demand for flexibility in activities and timing for leisure activities amongst the population. People are seeking individual activities that can be done alone or in small group settings at flexible times and usually near home. This trend does not completely eliminate the need for structured activities but may suggest that planning for the general population is as important as planning structured programs. Spontaneous recreation is described as physical activities in which the activities, nature of participation, and timing of participation are freely chosen and do not require registration for structured programs and/or leagues.



Photo from City of Yorkton

6.0

Policy and Planning Foundations



6.0 Policy and Planning Foundations

This section provides a review of planning and policy documents that influence the provision of parks and recreation service delivery in Yorkton. These documents serve as the foundation for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The documents have been categorized by topic area. Key findings from each area are highlighted and summaries are provided below.

6.1 Strategic Policy

Key Takeaways

Strategic policy refers to documents that pertain to overarching long-term planning documents. These provide high level direction to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and help depict how recreation fits with other municipal services. Key takeaways from these that relate to recreation services include the importance of a healthy city, the population growth and requirements to expand recreation service capacity, and emphasis of green space such as walking trails.

Policy or Plan	Summary of Important Information
Yorkton 2020 Strategic Plan (2010)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strategic plan that was developed through consultation with residences providing a 10-year vision for the municipality• Outlined important policy goals including the cultivation of a healthy city, assessment of critical infrastructure, promotion of economic development, encourage EDI practices, sustainability, increase access to technology, improve lifelong education opportunities, and engage the community through future policy development
City of Yorkton Official Community Plan Background Report (2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Analyzed existing conditions pertaining to the physical environment, economy, population, infrastructure, land development, and policies• Outlined community cultural spaces within the municipality• Highlighted local recreation opportunities such as the campground, golf courses, casino, Gallagher Centre, art gallery, film festival, and airport
City of Yorkton Master Plan (2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning document outlining the goals, objectives, and policies that the municipality should align with for service delivery and future development• Yorkton was to be viewed as a trade hub in Eastern Saskatchewan supporting up to 150,000 in the trade area• It was predicted that the population would double by 2036 and greater investment into housing, recreation, and cultural amenities would be required to support the growth• Mixed use developments were considered an important feature of future infrastructure to integrate workplaces and housing• There was an emphasize on healthy communities, green space, and the development of a continuous walking path within the city• 7 opportunities and challenges emerged including: available serviced land for housing and businesses, affordable housing, improvements to transportation infrastructure, flood mitigation, inter-municipal relationships, aquifer protection, and environmental sustainability

6.2 Socio-Demographic and Housing

Key Takeaways

Socio-demographic and housing includes documents pertaining to understanding the population trends and issues of those who live in Yorkton. These influence the Parks and Recreation Master Plan as they identify segments of the population that may be currently underserved in the short and long term. Highlights from these documents include an aging population, the presence of Indigenous communities, the need for investment in housing, and the importance of partnerships that bridge stakeholder groups.

Policy or Plan	Summary of Important Information
Yorkton Municipal Culture Plan (2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan developed by Yorkton and Saskculture aimed to increase the social conviviality of city spaces while also embracing distinct cultural elements • Identified Strengths: Quality of life, regional hub, diversity, quantity and quality of attractions, volunteerism, municipal support for various groups • Identified Weaknesses: Lack of recognition of attractions, lack of coordination between stakeholders, aging volunteers, lack of cultural policy • Identified Opportunities: Increase partnerships between various stakeholders, develop a cultural policy, momentum for improved quality of life, communication and marketing for attractions, develop greater community support • Identified Constraints: Complacency, competition between groups for funding, event coordination between stakeholders, lacking a long-term vision • Action items: Develop partnerships between stakeholders, strategic communication, engage youth, build bridges with Indigenous groups, improve space utilization, continue to cultivate events and local attractions
Yorkton Area Demographic Market Segments Supplement Report (2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identified population trends such as a higher concentration of seniors and people who identify as aboriginal than both provincial and national averages • Immigrants only represent 3.6% of the population • The smallest population segments reported were 0-14- and 15-24 years old
Yorkton Community Housing Plan (2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlined strategies for addressing housing infrastructure gaps based on community demographics including enhancing the range of affordable housing • Highlights need to address housing for the growing senior population • Proposed capitalizing on Yorkton's recreational spaces to attract newcomers to the city



Photo from City of Yorkton Facebook

6.3 Recreation Infrastructure

Key Takeaways

Recreation infrastructure refers to both the physical infrastructure and recreation services delivered by the municipality. These documents provide an understanding of the current state of recreation service delivery. Within the documents, it was evident that new recreation infrastructure should be planned with multifunction capabilities to allow for more programming options.

Policy or Plan	Summary of Important Information
Yorkton Kinsmen Arena Facility Assessment and Feasibility Study (2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical condition of the arena built in the 1970s was good Utility updates were recommended such as the installation of a sprinkler system, improved ventilation, electrical and others that were not code compliant Limited ability to retrofit or repurpose due to the low roof Potential activities included cheer, dance, gymnastics, wrestling, martial arts, archery, soccer (U11), lacrosse (U10), baseball training – pitching or a batting cage
Yorkton Recreation Planning Study City Council Presentation (2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examined indoor recreation infrastructure, future needs, and community consultation Feedback suggested the city needed another ice surface, renovations to the current rinks change rooms, indoor turf, and increased partnerships among sport stakeholders New rink was projected to cost \$14.5 million at the Gallagher Center
Gallagher Center Renewal Project Council Presentation (2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reported findings from internal and external stakeholder consultation aimed to develop solutions in response to the Yorkton Recreation – Planning Study City Council Presentation 2019 Primary solutions to improve the user experience were lockers for figure skating and more functional stair space
Pump Bike Park Development Review (2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended that a pump bike park and two basketball courts replace the existing BMX track that was already in poor condition
Community Development, Parks, and Recreation Fees (2022)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports the fees for each recreation service such as day pass or facility rental.



Photo from City of Yorkton Facebook

6.4 Community Partners

Key Takeaways

Many reports from community partners were reviewed. These showed the importance of nonprofits for the delivery of recreation services within Yorkton. It will be important to consider these organizations when developing the future vision for recreation in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Policy or Plan	Summary of Important Information
Parkland Valley Sport, Culture, and Recreation District Annual Report (2019-2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• District network that supports community development and individual wellbeing through sport, culture, and recreation• Reports financial, partnership, and community development data within parkland• This year highlighted 19 workshops and over 500 participants
Parkland Valley Sport, Culture, and Recreation District Annual Report (2021-2022)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reports financial, partnership, and community development data within parkland• This year highlighted 32 workshops and over 248 participants• Outlines various partnering communities and stakeholders
Big Brother Big Sister Annual Report (2019-2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides support to young children and youth who face societal barriers through a volunteer-based mentorship program• Reports financial, programming, participation, and organizational data for this year• Youth report many benefits from the program such as mental health, optimism, reduced anxiety and depression, and overall improvements to well-being• 133 volunteers and 206 youth mentored through the program• Working towards a strategic plan for the Yorkton area
Boys and Girls Club Annual Report (2020-2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reports financials, partners, funders, and community assistance• 9,346 children were involved in the program with 94 volunteers
Western Development Museum Report (2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Serves communities through exhibitions, educational programs, special events, and research about Saskatchewan• Report providing financial statement, utilization data, and other attraction information• 511 visitors to the Yorkton location

6.5 Transit and Transportation

Key Takeaways

Transit and transportation refer to documents that support the planning of roads, highways, and cycling infrastructure. Along with roads that allow people to travel to and from recreation services, these documents also highlighted the importance of cycling to residents of Yorkton and the necessity to consider people who also live in the trade area surrounding Yorkton when developing the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Policy or Plan	Summary of Important Information
Yorkton Cycling Report (2008)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report was conducted to understand cycling trends• Found that city residents walked or cycled to work more than the average Canadian• Over 50% of the survey respondents biked at least twice a week• Indicated that the city should invest in future cycling infrastructure
City of Yorkton Transportation Master Plan (2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outlined transportation needs for anticipated population growth of up to 36,000 people• Recommended pertinent traffic issues including calming measures on King Street and the development of a truck bypass route• Proposed new cycling infrastructure based on the 2008 Yorkton Cycling Report
Yorkton Regional Transportation Study (2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provided recommendations for long term transportation infrastructure plan to meet the needs of local and regional partners• Projected that the city may also serve the 150,000 people who live in the 150km area surrounding the city
Yorkton Transit Bylaw (N.D)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bylaw outlining the responsibilities regarding transit within the City of Yorkton that is updated on a continual basis



Photo from City of Yorkton

6.6 Land Use, Buildings, and Economic Development

Key Takeaways

This section captured documents pertaining to land use and economic development. The documents outlined policy requirements for new parks and recreation services, flood mitigation plans, and concept plans as population grows. It should be noted that not all concept plans included recreation services. The documents that included requirements for park and recreation service delivery can help inform baselines for service delivery in the overarching the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Policy or Plan	Summary of Important Information
Roundhouse Concept Plan (2010)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed 80-acre commercial subdivision in the southeast end of the city No reference to recreation, greenspace, tourism, walkability, parks or sidewalks
Broadwalk Concept Plan (2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed a multi-lot residential subdivision for 700 people in the northeast end of the city Included is a 1.61 kms trail system to satisfy recreation requirements in land use bylaw
Willow Creek Concept Plan (2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed 267-acre mixed use development east of Husky Road Local creeks and greenspace to satisfy recreation requirements No playgrounds, pools, or other recreation infrastructure included in proposal
Jim Pattison Concept Plan (2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed 96-acre commercial area in the north west end of the city Required rezoning land from highway and recreation into commercial zones No reference to recreation or greenspace
Yorkton Regional Planning District Plan (2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines a regional planning process to address land use, economic development, environmental responsibilities, and strategies to improve the quality of life of residents Provides policy to ensure the longevity and usability of walking trails and park systems Identified flood plains to prevent development on those lands Policy directions for recreation suggested to review recreation funding and prepare a regional recreation plan
City of Yorkton Flood Mitigation Presentation (2017)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified areas of concern for flood risks Suggested that water retention ponds may serve to mitigate flood and provide recreation in the form of trail systems
Crowesses Concept Plan (2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed a mixed-use development of 19-acres of land owned by Crowesses First Nation in the south east end of the city No reference to recreation or parks and only walkability through sidewalk on the road
Yorkton Zoning Bylaw (N.D.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bylaw regulating the use of land, locations of buildings, and other infrastructure that is continuously updated Outlined that new major subdivisions must provide opportunities for active and passive forms of recreation Provides requirements for new parks corresponding to the number of families in new developments
Yorkton City Engineering Guidelines (N.D.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outline engineering standards for new and retrofitting infrastructure projects Standards are continuously updated Includes recreation amenities and sidewalks to facilitate pedestrian flow and physical activity

6.7 Municipal, Provincial, and National Policy

Key Takeaways

This section captures framework and policies that are being developed on a municipal, provincial, and national level to help move the parks and recreation sector forward. The documents outlined provide insight into inclusive recreation, best utilizing park space and some insight into the future of grassroots sport and the implication that may have on municipalities.

Policy or Plan	Summary of Important Information
SaskAbilities Annual Report (2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fosters inclusive communities by providing programs and services for people experiencing disabilities in Saskatchewan • Reports financials, partnerships, donors, and programs • Specific to Yorkton, 288 were helped finding employment, 200+ hours of virtual programming were provided, and an accessibility bus was added • The Snowarama fundraising documentary raised \$121,000
Special Olympics Saskatchewan Annual Report (2020-2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides sport and recreational opportunities to children, youth, and adults with intellectual disabilities • Reports fundraising, financials, and athlete performance • Featured inaugural Special Olympics Invitational with 292 athletes • Hosted virtual volunteer and coaches' summit
Parks for All (2017)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed by the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA) and the Canadian Parks Council (CPC) • Vision is to connect Canadian park lands and waters that support healthy nature and healthy people in harmony for generations. • Collaborate with and build partnerships with the Indigenous communities • Connect and raise awareness of parks • Conserve and expand Canada's park system • Lead and help build capacity, develop, and maintain systems and resources to support leaders.
The Framework For Recreation In Canada (2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of the framework is to guide coordinated policies and practices in the recreation sector in Canada. The document is split up into three sections as summarized below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Setting the context: provides a new definition of recreation and explores the challenges and benefits of recreation. - The framework: outlines five goals and priorities that foster individual wellbeing, community well-being, and the well-being of our natural and built environments. - Moving forward: provides steps to implement the framework.
Canada Sport Policy Review (Ongoing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An initiative intended to guide the actions of all contributors to competitive and recreational sport in Canada • May have significant implications at a community level as municipalities provide the environments for grassroots sports

7.0 Inventory of Indoor and Outdoor Facilities and Spaces



7.0 Inventory of Indoor and Outdoor Facilities and Spaces

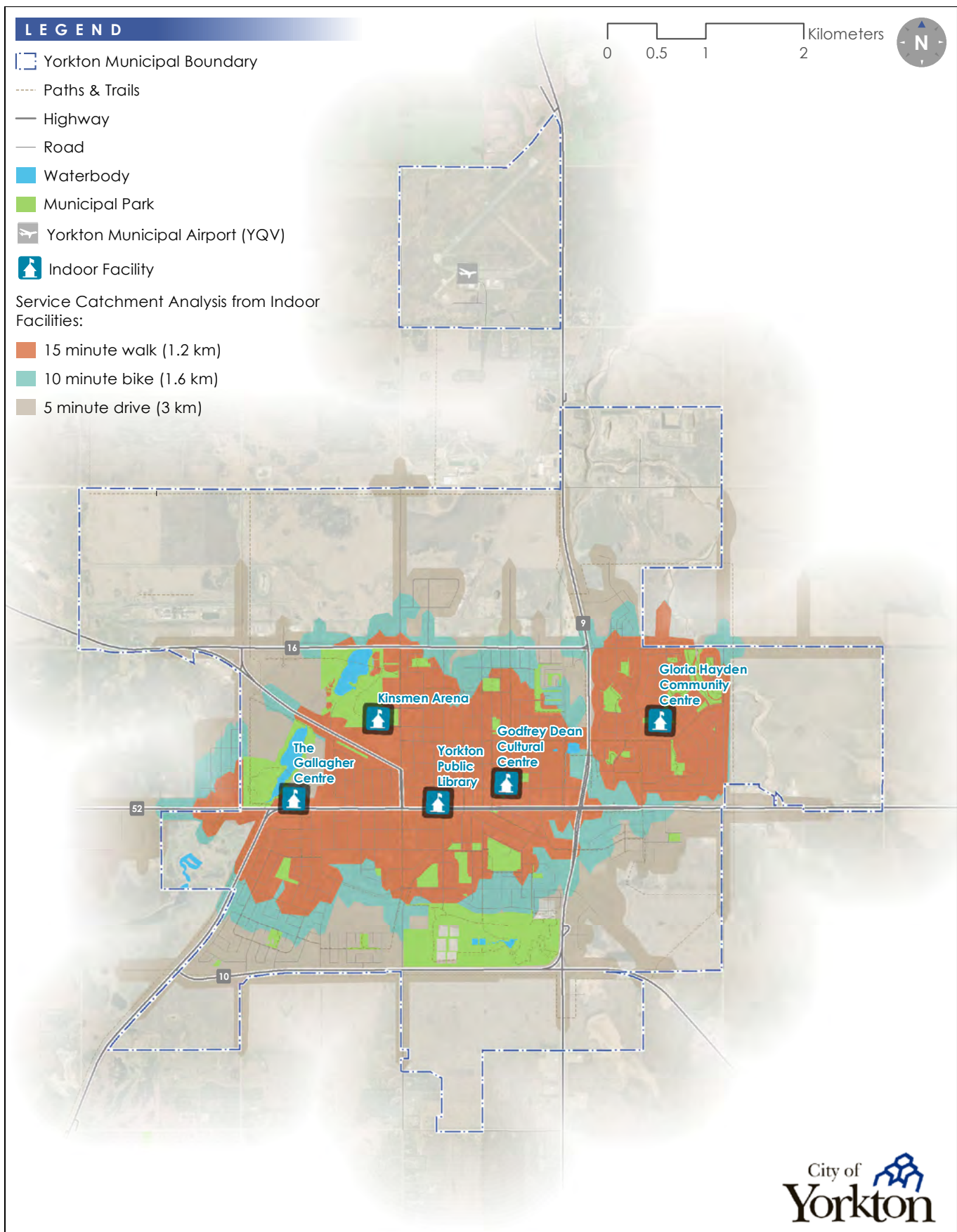
Below is a table that lists the key indoor recreation infrastructure in Yorkton along with the amenities located at those facilities.

7.1 Indoor Facilities and Spaces

Facility	Location	Amenities
The Gallagher Centre	455 Broadway Street West, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water park (Access Communications Water Park) • Convention centre (National Bank Convention Place) • Flexihall with four lane walking track (Gallagher Centre Flexihall) • Meeting and multipurpose rooms • Arena with one sheet of ice (Westland Insurance Arena) • Curling rink (Yorkton Curling Rink managed by the Yorkton Curling Club) • Grandstand • Exhibition Grounds
The Kinsmen Arena	227 Prystai Way, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arena with one sheet of ice • Meeting room
Gloria Hayden Community Centre	279 Morrison Drive, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gymnasium • Indoor walking track • Racquetball court • Squash court
Yorkton Public Library	93 Broadway Street West, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library • Meeting rooms
Godfrey Dean Cultural Centre	49 Smith Street East, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting rooms • Art gallery • Small event centre



Photo from City of Yorkton



7.2 Outdoor Facilities and Spaces

Yorkton boasts a variety of outdoor facilities and amenities. Maintaining these areas are crucial to the community and therefore the City has a grass maintenance standard policy that aims to ensure the community has access to outdoor sport, culture, parks, and recreation opportunities. Below defines the difference between sport fields, parks and play areas, and beautification areas. Along with these definitions is the priority classification system which is used to categorize the different spaces based on maintenance.

Sports Fields

Areas that have been designated for sport use. These lands typically require a higher level of maintenance, including regular mowing, fertilizing, aerating, irrigation, etc, and a fee is associated with their use.

Parks and Play Areas

Public land specifically designed or reserved for the general public for active or passive recreational use and includes all natural and man-made landscaping, facilities, playing fields, buildings, and other structures.

Beautification Areas

Areas that are deemed to be highly visible in nature, and require regular maintenance to ensure the visual attractiveness is maintained at an appropriate level.

Priority Classification	Land Category	Examples
A	Sports Fields	Ball Diamonds, Soccer Pitches
B	Parks & Play Areas	Neighborhood Parks, Destination Parks
C	Beautification Areas	Medians, Boulevards, Cemetery, Landscapes

Priority Classification	Cut Frequency	Cut Height	Whipping/Trimming	Maintained By
A-1	2.5 per week	1 7/8"	Weekly	City
A-2	Twice per week	3"	Weekly	City
B-1	Twice per week	3 1/2"	Weekly	City
B-2	Once per week	3 1/2"	On Rotation	City
B-3	Two week rotation	3 1/2"	On Rotation	City
C-1	Twice per week	3 1/2"	Weekly	City
C-2	Once per week	3 1/2"	On Rotation	City
C-3	Two week rotation	3 1/2"	On Rotation	City
C-4	Monthly	3 1/2"	Monthly	City
D-1	Two week rotation	3 1/2"	Monthly	City
D-2	Monthly	3 1/2"	Monthly	City
D-3	4 cuts per year	4 - 5"	Monthly	Contractor
D-4	2 cuts per year	4 - 5"	Monthly	Contractor
E-1	As required	3"	As required	City

Below is a table that lists key outdoor recreation infrastructure in Yorkton along with the amenities located at those facilities.

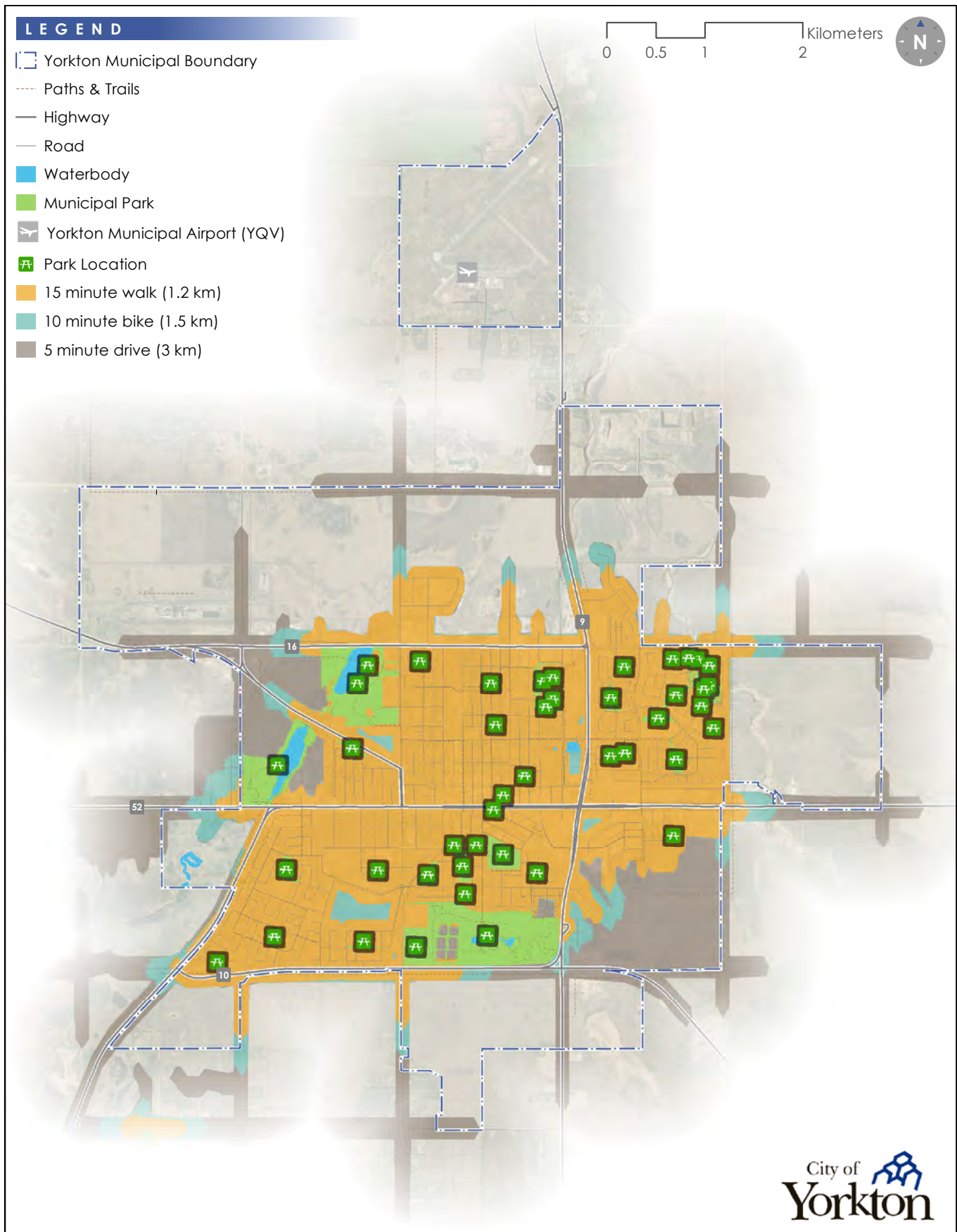
Facility	Location	Amenities
Jubilee Park	Foster Street, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 level 1 (A-1) lit ball diamond • 3 level (A-2) ball diamonds • Washrooms and concession facilities
Jaycee Beach Ball Diamonds	York Rd West, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 level 2 (A-2) ball diamonds • Washrooms and concession facilities
Lion's Ball Diamond	Prystai Way, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 level 1 (A-1) lit ball diamond
Croswaithe Park	Dalebrooke Drive, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green space
Logan Green	Queen Street, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 level 1 sport fields • Walking paths • Trout pond • Logan Green Memorial Tree Park • City of Yorkton Tree nursey • Botanical Gardens
Ukrainian Pioneer Park	1st Avenue North, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 lit outdoor rink with basketball nets • Outdoor Spray Park • Picnic tables with chess/checkerboard
Drake Field	1st Avenue North, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green space
Heritage Heights Park	McBurney Dr, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 lit outdoor rink with basketball nets • Benches • Outdoor rink • Playground • 2 lit tennis courts
Waterloo Park	Waterloo Rd, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground • Green space
Knights of Columbus Park	Circlebrooke Drive, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseball backstop • 1 lit outdoor rink with basketball nets • Benches • Picnic tables with chess/checker board • Green Space • Outdoor Rinks • 2 lit pickleball/tennis courts • Picnic Tables • Playgrounds • Tennis Courts • Toboggan Hills • Walking Paths
Western Development Museum Tennis Courts	Highway 16A West, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 lit tennis courts
Silver Heights Park	Sunset Drive North, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 lit outdoor rink with basketball nets • Benches • Crokicurl • Green Space • Outdoor Rinks • Outdoor Spray Park • Playgrounds • Walking Paths
Weinmaster Park	Morrison Drive, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 lit outdoor rink with basketball nets • Benches • Picnic tables with chess/checker board • Green Space • Outdoor Rinks • Outdoor Spray Park • Toboggan Hills • Walking Paths • Wheelchair accessible playground

Facility	Location	Amenities
Patrick Park	King Street West, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benches • Picnic tables with chess/checker board • Disc Golf Courses • Ice Skating Pathway • Picnic Tables • Porta Potties
Rodney Ridge	Rosalyn Avenue, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benches • Disc Golf Courses • Green Space • Toboggan Hills
BMX Park	Independent Street, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BMX Park • Green Space
City Centre Park	Broadway Street West, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benches • Picnic tables with chess/checker board • Outdoor Stage • Picnic Tables
Deer Park Golf Course	670 Broadway Street West, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Country Ski Trails • Golf Course • Toboggan Hills
Erichsen Park	Franko Drive, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benches • Outdoor Fitness Stations • Walking Paths
Jackson Park	Second Avenue North, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benches • Green Space • Playgrounds • Sun Shelters • Walking Paths
Sign Park	North Street, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benches • Green Space • Playgrounds
Tupper Park	Tupper Avenue, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picnic tables with chess/checker board • Green Space • Picnic Tables • Playgrounds
Skateboard Park	Brodie Avenue, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benches • Skateboard Park
Wiggly Field Dog Park	Park Rd, Yorkton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benches • Off Leash Dog Park • Picnic Tables

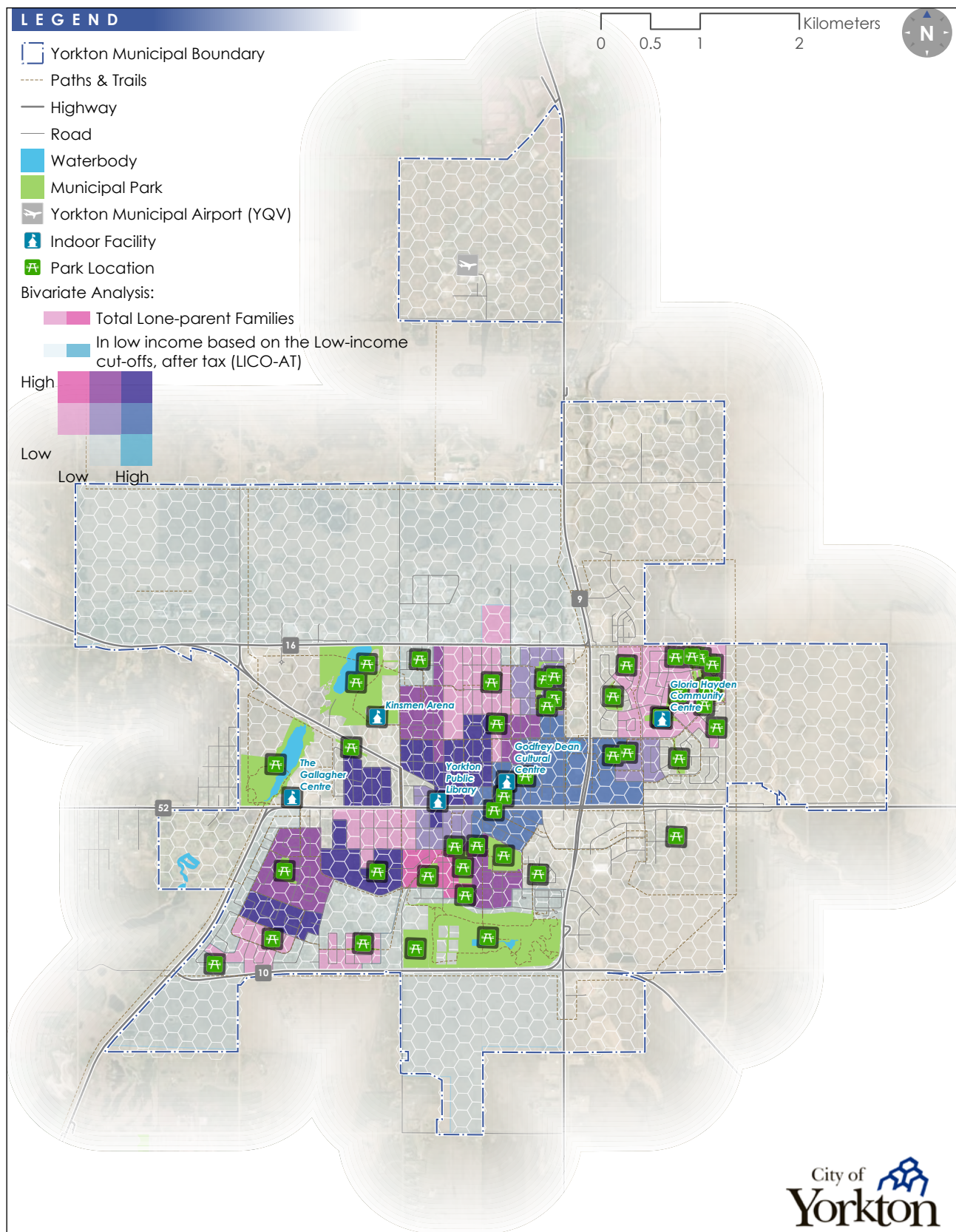
This list not a comprehensive list of all parks but rather all parks with significant recreation infrastructure.



Photo from City of Yorkton Facebook



There were 890 lone-parent households in 2021, which identified challenges to recreation during the survey and feedback period. As seen in the accompanying map, there is a high proportion of low income cut-off (LICO) and single-family households in the southwest area of the city. The below map can be understood by referencing the colour coded legend. The light pink section, identifies areas in Yorkton with high lone-parent families, while the light blue identifies areas with high low-income households. The purple colours represented on the map identify areas of the City that have high areas of both lone-parent families and low-income families.



8.0

Utilization of Indoor and Outdoor Recreation Spaces in Yorkton



Photo from City of Yorkton

8.0 Utilization of Indoor and Outdoor Recreation Spaces in Yorkton

Utilization and participation data were gathered for both indoor and outdoor recreation spaces in Yorkton – where the information was available. Most data contained herein is from 2019-2022 in attempt to reflect typical levels of use before the COVID-19 pandemic, but to also provide insight into how some amenities dealt with the pandemic, how some spaces rebounded, and to possibly show insight into changes in peoples’ behaviour. The approximate utilization rate of each facility is presented in the table below.

Utilization rates presented in the chart below are based on the best data available. Rates have been extrapolated for each facility based on calendar information provided, with the number of prime hours booked per week for that month divided by total number of prime hours available for bookings (utilization percentage). Utilization percentages are presented as a range, as there are monthly/seasonal variabilities (e.g. greater booking of ice times in certain months). Categories based on work completed in previous communities have been developed to help compare utilization rates across facilities. These categories are outlined below.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Both arena facilities have increased their bookings in 2021-2022 from prior to the pandemic.
- Youth sport makes up 40% of the bookings at Westland Arena.
- The Westland Insurance Arena is booked very close to the total available hours during prime time (95%) while the Kinsmen Arena could be considered moderately booked during prime time (59%).
- Drop-in walking track passes are the most popular passes by far.
- Most ball diamonds in Yorkton are not well utilized.

Utilization Rate Categories

Level of Use	Description
Overused >100%	The amenity is used beyond recommended full capacity. Potential damage to the amenity is occurring or user safety issues exist due to overuse.
Fully Used 90-100%	The amenity is used to full capacity. There is no ability to increase utilization.
Well Used 70-89%	The amenity is well used and is nearing full capacity. The ability to increase utilization is limited.
Moderately Used 50-69%	The amenity is used but lots of capacity still exists to accommodate more usage.
Underused 1-49%	The amenity is not regularly used.
Not used 0%	The amenity is not currently being used.
Unknown	Utilization of the amenity is unknown. No potential indicators exist at this time.









8.1 Booking Analysis of Key Indoor Recreation Infrastructure

The following analysis looks at the use of key indoor recreation infrastructure in Yorkton including the arenas, community recreation centres, and the water park. The Yorkton Public Library and Godfrey Dean Cultural Centre are important pieces of the recreation infrastructure and play a role in supplying meeting and programming room space for the community. The primary uses of these spaces are not specifically to provide meeting rooms and as there is no indication of lack of meeting space in the community an analysis has not been included in this report on the percentage of use of these secondary spaces.

8.1.1 Arenas

There are two arenas in Yorkton, the Kinsmen Arena and the Westland Arena. The Westland Insurance Arena is located in the Gallagher Centre, while the Kinsmen Arena is a stand-alone facility. The two tables below indicate the hours booked at each facility for the last five years (2017 – 2022) by booking type. The 2019 -2020 season, was cut short due to the COVID-19 Pandemic (facility closures began on March 17, 2020), and the following 2020- 2021 season operated with COVID-19 restrictions on capacities, activities, and other public health safety precautions. Both facilities have increased their bookings in 2021-2022 from prior to the pandemic.

Westland Insurance Arena

Booking Types	2017-2018 Season	2018-2019 Season	2019-2020 Season	2020-2021 Season	2021-2022 Season	Trend Line
Jr. Hockey (Terriers)	515	500	405	145	475	
AAA Hockey (Maulers)*	0	0	175	150	215	
Minor Hockey	730	690	410	500	455	
Figure Skating	325	340	330	475	450	
School Use	0	0	0	0	9	
Other / Rec Hockey	385	405	310	275	380	
Public Skating	175	175	225	35	295	
Total Booked Hours	2,130	2,110	1,850	1,580	2,279	

*The AAA Hockey team booked with Minor Hockey prior to the 2019- 2020 season.

Kinsmen Arena

Booking Types	2017-2018 Season	2018-2019 Season	2019-2020 Season	2020-2021 Season	2021-2022 Season	Trend Line
Minor Hockey	1,115	1,120	1,090	770	1,105	
School Use	45	105	60	130	320	
Other / Rec Hockey	140	120	75	15	165	
Public Skating	130	195	80	0	0	
Total Booked Hours	1,470	1,540	1,305	915	1,590	

During the last full season of ice (2021-2022), the largest ice user group was the Junior Hockey Team (21% of booked time) at Westland Arena, and Minor Hockey at Kinsmen Arena (69% of booked time). Minor hockey is the largest user group in the community. Youth sport makes up 40% of the bookings at Westland Arena as well.

Booking Type	Westland Insurance Arena	Kinsmen Arena
Jr. Hockey (Terriers)	21%	0%
Minor Hockey	20%	69%
Figure Skating	20%	0%
Other/Rec Hockey	17%	10%
Public Skating	13%	0%
AAA Hockey (Maulers)*	9%	0%
School Use	0%	20%



Photo from City of Yorkton

Booked Capacity

The two tables below compare the hours booked at both arenas with the available ice time. The percentage of booked time was calculated for both total available ice time and the available prime ice time. Prime ice time is defined as ice time between 4:00 PM – 11:00 PM on week nights and 7:00 AM – 11:00 PM on weekends. Prime ice represents ice time that is the most desirable as it is when the most amount of people want and are available to use the ice. As was mentioned earlier in this section, the 2019 – 2020 season was cut short due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the subsequent season, 2020 - 2021, operated with capacity changes, and restrictions on activities as part of the public health measures associated with the ongoing pandemic. The 2021 – 2022 season saw an increase in booked hours at both facilities. The Westland Insurance Arena is booked very close to the total available hours during prime time (95%) while the Kinsmen Arena could be considered moderately booked during prime time (59%).

Westland Insurance Arena	2017-2018 Season	2018-2019 Season	2019-2020 Season	2020-2021 Season	2021-2022 Season
Total Hours Booked	2,130	2,110	1,850	1,580	2,279
Total Available Ice	4,368	4,368	4,368	4,368	4,368
% Booked of Total Available Ice	49%	48%	42%	36%	52%
Prime Hours Booked	1,878	1,860	1,562	1,451	1,909
Prime Hours Available	2,010	2,010	2,010	2,010	2,010
% Booked of Prime Hours	93%	93%	78%	72%	95%

Kinsmen Arena	2017-2018 Season	2018-2019 Season	2019-2020 Season	2020-2021 Season	2021-2022 Season
Total Booked Hours	1,470	1,540	1,305	915	1,590
Total Available Ice	3,136	3,136	3,136	3,136	3,136
% Booked of Total Available Ice	47%	49%	42%	29%	51%
Prime Hours Booked	1,155	1,120	1,090	770	1,105
Prime Hours Available	1,876	1,876	1,876	1,876	1,876
% Booked of Prime Hours	62%	60%	58%	41%	59%

8.1.2 The Gallagher Centre & The Gloria Hayden Community Centre

The Gallagher Centre is eastern Saskatchewan's sports, recreation, entertainment, and convention hub and the Gloria Hayden Community Centre is its sister facility. While the Gallagher Centre offers pickleball, soccer, tennis, and volleyball, the Gloria Hayden Community Centre offers racquetball, squash, basketball, volleyball, and pickleball. Admission to the facilities is tracked by the type of pass purchased; there are drop-in sports, drop-in walking track, racquetball, and squash passes. The table below indicates the number of passes sold of each type over the last 3 years. Drop-in walking track passes are the most popular passes by far. Historically, total pass sales increase during the winter months and decrease in the spring and summer as the weather improves outdoors.

Types of Pass	2019	2020	2021	Trend Line
Drop in Sports	79	80	50	
Drop in Walking Track	224	182	135	
Racquetball	9	7	2	
Squash	14	4	3	
Total	326	273	190	

8.1.3 Access Communications Water Park

The Access Communications Water Park is located within the Gallagher Centre and is the only indoor aquatic facility in East-Central Saskatchewan. Like the other sport amenities, passes are sold for the Water Park specifically. The table below lists the pass type and the amount sold from 2019 – 2021.

Types of Pass	2019	2020	2021	Trend Line
Water Park Student	254	80	50	
Water Park Adult Punch Pass	126	182	135	
Water Park Youth Punch Pass	6	7	19	
Water Park Child Punch Pass	2	4	4	
Water Park Combo Pass	1	2	3	
Water Park Adult Pass*	535	341	87	
Water Park Youth Pass*	35	21	6	
Water Park Family Pass*	35	13	1	
Total	994	540	553	

* These types of passes had been discontinued at the time this report was generated, however it is noted that monthly passes of each type have since been re-introduced.

The table below indicates the types of swim visits that occurred for 2019 – 2021 as well as the total swims per capita. Leisure swims make up an average of 49% of all swim visits, followed by private rentals at 16% and lessons at 12% of all visits. The average amount of swims per capita is approximately three swims.

Breakdown of Swim Visits	2019	2020	2021
Lessons	8,345	3,882	6,240
Recreational Aquatics Programming (e.g. aqua-fit)	4,795	4,456	7,225
Lane Swimming	4,795	4,456	7,225
Leisure (drop-in, casual)	31,341	20,255	20,909
Private Rentals (e.g. birthday parties)	9,860	7,747	6,582
Total Annual Swim Visits	59,136	40,796	48,181
Swim Visits Per Capita*	3.6	2.5	3.0

* Swim visits per capita was based on Stats Canada Census Profile information for the appropriate year. For 2019 & 2020 the population for Yorkton is listed as 16,343 and for 2021 is listed as 16,280.



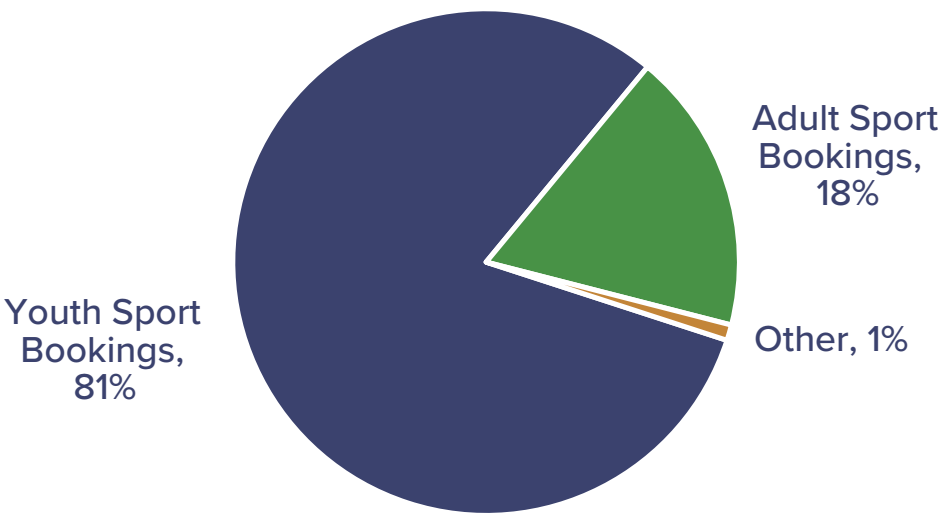
Photo from City of Yorkton

8.2 Booking Analysis of Key Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure

The following analysis looks at the use of key outdoor recreation infrastructure in Yorkton including ball diamonds, sport fields, and parks.

8.2.1 Ball Diamonds

Average Ball Diamond Use by Booking Types



There are nine ball diamonds in Yorkton located at three park locations. There are four diamonds located at Jubilee Park, four diamonds located at Jaycee Beach Ball Diamonds and one ball diamond located at Lion’s Ball Diamond. In the table below the number of hours booked from 2019 – 2022 are listed with the hours available. The percentage booked of capacity indicates how much the ball diamonds are used related to their availability. The Lion’s Ball Diamond was not included in the analysis as booking information was not provided for the diamond. Most ball diamonds in Yorkton are not well utilized. The industry standard for annual capacity of ball diamonds is approximately 600 hours per field before diamond deterioration begins to occur. The annual hours available for ball diamonds in Yorkton was calculated by multiplying the number of diamonds by the annual capacity per field.





Baseball Diamond Bookings	2019	2020	2021	2022	Trend Line
Hours Booked	1,066	366	930	952	
# of Diamonds	9	5	9	9	
Hours Available	4,800	3,000	4,800	4,800	
% Booked of Capacity	22%	12%	19%	20%	

The most common type of booking at ball diamonds in Yorkton was a youth sport group booking. The average breakdown of hours booked from 2019 – 2022 indicated that 81% of all bookings were made for youth sport groups, 18% for adult sport groups, and 1% for other types of user groups (private users or community organizations).

8.2.2 Rectangular Sport Field Bookings

Rectangular sport fields are broken down into two classifications: Level 1 and Level 2. The classifications help determine fees, level of maintenance required, and the level of play that can occur. The only fields that are booked and charged a fee for use are the fields located at Logan Green. These fields are classified as Level 1 fields. There are seven other spaces available for use that could be considered level 2 fields. These are located at Croswaithe Park, Drake Field, Heritage Heights, Park and Waterloo Park.

The Table below lists the number of hours booked at Logan Green fields from 2019 – 2022 with the hours available. The percentage booked of capacity indicates how much the fields are used related to their availability. The only user group that booked fields from 2019 – 2021 was the Yorkton United F.C. Soccer Club. In 2022, Yorkton United F.C. Soccer Club and the Yorkton Regional High School booked field time.

Rectangular Sport Fields Bookings	2019	2020	2021	2022	Trend Line
Hours Booked	354	258	754.5	658	
# of Fields	4	4	4	4	
Hours Available	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	
% Booked of Capacity	15%	11%	31%	27%	

*The industry standard for annual capacity of a sport fields is approximately 600 hours per field before field/turf deterioration begins to occur. The annual hours available for fields in Yorkton was calculated by multiplying the number of fields by the annual capacity per field.

8.2.3 Park and Outdoor Space Bookings

Parks, outdoor spaces, and walking trails are typically used for spontaneous activities and casual visits that are not booked. This makes actual utilization of these spaces hard to quantify, but they certainly provide value to the residents. The importance of these spaces was emphasized in many of the documents outlined in the Strategic Foundation section as many pointed to the importance of outdoor spaces and the creation of a continuous walking trail through the municipality. Some of these spaces also serve as part of the City's flood mitigation plan.

The quantifiable data for parks and outdoor spaces is in the form of contractual agreements. These spaces are booked <1% of the time, however, they are likely important spaces of gathering. The total number of hours booked each year has increased since the COVID-19 pandemic. For instance, in 2019 there were 389.75 booked hours, whereas more recently in 2021 there were 707.25 hours booked. This may highlight the important role that parks played throughout the COVID-19 pandemic as people tended to increase their usage of parks and outdoor spaces. It should be noted that the City Centre Park and the tennis courts are the most frequently booked spaces.

9.0 Comparative Benchmarking



9.0 Comparative Benchmarking

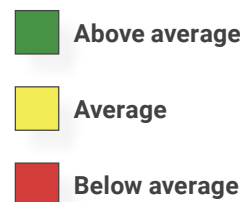
Benchmarking comparison research was conducted to compare infrastructure provision in Yorkton to other municipalities of similar size or context in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Additionally, some specific policies and practices were reviewed to provide some insight into how these other communities provide services. Comparing municipalities directly in this way must be done carefully, as all communities are unique. However, this comparison research does provide a general picture as to how Yorkton compares to other municipalities. Working with the Project Steering Committee, five different municipalities were selected for comparison. These included:¹²

- North Battleford SK (13,836)
- Swift Current SK (16,750)
- Brandon MB (51,313)
- Brooks AB (14,924)
- Cold Lake AB (15,661)

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Yorkton is above average for amenity provision for approximately one quarter of the amenities examined.
- Yorkton is below average in less than a quarter of the amenities examined.
- Yorkton is most deficient in outdoor recreation amenities, and this could be due to low demand for the spaces.

The accompanying table displays the number of similar indoor and outdoor amenities in other communities. The amenities and facilities presented in the following tables include the recreation services that are directly provided, or are supported, by the municipality. All data has been gathered from online public sources, with three of the municipalities confirming the data. It is important to note that Yorkton utilizes their wave pool as a teaching pool, however the facility does not physically have a teaching/tot pool, therefore it is not represented in the accompanying chart. The data highlighted in green represents Yorkton being above average, yellow represents average, and red represents below average.



9.1 Facility Benchmarking

Indoor Recreation Amenities and Facilities								Amenity Provision Breakdown
Municipality	North Battleford	Swift Current	Brandon	Brooks	Cold Lake	Average	Yorkton	
Population	13,836	16,750	51,313	14,924	15,661		16,280	
Indoor Facilities								
25m pools (# lanes)	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	16,280
50m pools (# lanes)	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
Arena sheets	2	3	4	2	3	3	2	8,140
Community gymnasiums (school)	0	0	22	5	4	6	12	1,356
Large multipurpose gymnasium space	3	1	3	3	3	3	2	8,140
Curling sheets	6	6	12	6	6	7	8	2,035
Dedicated seniors centre	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0
Dedicated youth centre	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0

¹² North Battleford, Swift Current, Brandon, Brooks, and Cold Lake population data is sourced from the most recent (2021) census.

Indoor Recreation Amenities and Facilities								Amenity Provision Breakdown
Municipality	North Battleford	Swift Current	Brandon	Brooks	Cold Lake	Average	Yorkton	
Population	13,836	16,750	51,313	14,924	15,661		16,280	
Fitness centre / weight room	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0
Gymnastics facilities	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16,280
Indoor climbing wall	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	16,280
Indoor walking track	1	0	1	1	1	1	2	8,140
Performing Arts Theatre	1	1	1	1	0	1	2	8,140
Leisure aquatics	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	16,280
# of water slides	2	1	1	1	0	1	1	16,280
# hotubs	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	16,280
Spray features	yes	n/a	yes	Yes	0		Yes	16,280
Wave pool	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	16,280
Tot pool	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0

*The amenity provision calculation is the population divided by the number of amenities in Yorkton to understand how many residents the amenity is serving in the community.

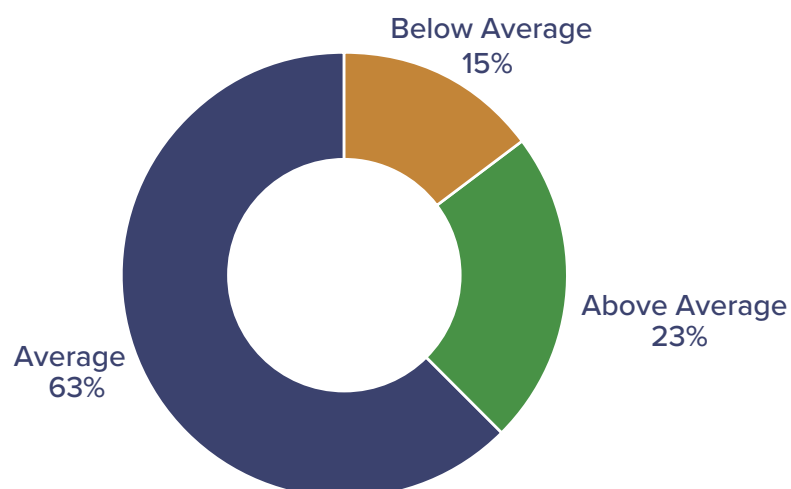
Outdoor Recreation Amenities and Facilities								Amenity Provision Breakdown
Municipality	North Battleford	Swift Current	Brandon	Brooks	Cold Lake	Average	Yorkton	
Population	13,836	16,750	51,313	14,924	15,661		16,280	
400m track	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16,280
Amphitheatres	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Ball diamonds	7	9	20	7	8	10	8	2,035
Beach volleyball courts	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Bike parks (BMX)	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	16,280
Bike parks (pump track)	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0
Disc golf	3	1	0	1	1	1	2	8,140
Golf courses	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	16,280
Multisport courts	2	6	0	1	2	2	5	3,256
Off leash parks / areas	1	1	3	3	1	2	1	16,280
Outdoor boarded rinks	2	6	2	1	2	3	5	3,256

Outdoor Recreation Amenities and Facilities								Amenity Provision Breakdown
Municipality	North Battleford	Swift Current	Brandon	Brooks	Cold Lake	Average	Yorkton	
Population	13,836	16,750	51,313	14,924	15,661		16,280	
Outdoor fitness equipment (# locations)	0	1	5	1	0	1	1	16,280
Outdoor pickleball courts – dedicated	0	3	6	2	8	4	0	0
Outdoor tennis courts – dedicated	3	8	4	6	2	5	4	4,070
Outdoor tennis / pickleball courts	8	11	10	4	10	9	4	4,070
Paved trail system (km)	52km	18km	20km	12km	22km	25km	10km	n/a
Pool	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Rectangular sport fields	4	7	16	2	7	7	4	4,070
Skate parks	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	16,280
Spray parks	3	4	5	1	2	3	3	5,426
Artificial Turf fields	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0

*The amenity provision calculation is the population divided by the number of amenities in Yorkton to understand how many residents the amenity is serving in the community.

As the tables above illustrate, Yorkton is above average or average for amenity provision 86% of the time (34 of 40 of the amenity categories researched). These assessments were based on the average facility provision in the above chart and how those averaged numbers compared to Yorkton's facilities and amenities.

Amenity Provision Breakdown



9.2 Policy Benchmarking

Benchmarking research also examined policies and procedures in place in other municipalities related to parks and recreation. Interviews were conducted with staff in three municipalities (North Battleford, Swift Current and Brooks). Responses were not received from the other two municipalities. The following table outlines the findings.

Policy Area	North Battleford	Swift Current	Brooks	Key Takeaway
What cost recovery targets are in place for parks and recreation programs?	The CUplex requires between 35-50% cost recovery and the parks department has no set requirement.	This varies based on the programs. Aquatic lessons and courses are run on a cost recovery. Most of our recreational programs are grant funded and are offered at minimal cost to the participant and tax payer. The City of SC often provides the facility, marketing as In Kind Contributions. Our programming budget for 2023 is a 49% recovery rate and includes 1.5 permanent full-time staff. The full-time staff are not grant funded. Each program varies between a 70-90% recovery rate.	Ensuring program fee's cover the overall cost of running the program (supplies, staff etc.). Utilizing grant opportunities to help with operating costs. Breaking even on programs is the goal (revenue is not the priority).	All municipalities have some targets set for cost recovery.
What cost recovery targets are in place for individual parks and recreation amenities and facilities (e.g. arenas)	There is no set requirement for parks and open spaces. The recreation centre (CUplex) requires between 35-50%.	We are required a 40% recovery rate but Council has asked us to aim for 50%.	30-50%	All municipalities have some targets set for cost recovery.
What is the cost recovery target for the overall parks and recreation portfolio?	38%	There is not one set in place at this time.	50%	Two of the three responding municipalities have cost recovery targets set for the overall parks and recreation portfolio.
What process is used to allocate time in parks and recreation facilities?	They have a central booking office for all facility bookings. Bookings are prioritized based on the type of booking. Contracts and leases are considered first, followed by usage level and history is considered last.	Booking and allocation policy.	Booking and allocation policy. Submissions must be into the administrative assistant before May. Conflicts in bookings are based on historical booking data.	All responding municipalities have a process in place when allocating facility space. Two of the three municipalities have a dedicated staff person to book facilities.
Do you have joint use agreements with your local school jurisdictions?	N/A	N/A	Yes - the schools have priority over day time bookings at the JBS Canada Centre. City events and or programs have priority of booking gym space at the schools.	One of three municipalities have a joint use agreement with the local school boards.
What process do you use to set user fees and facility admission fees.	Determine a break even point and also consider other similar facilities and what they are charging. All fees are approved by council during the budget process.	They do a complete rate review. This includes a comparison of costs of other cities, other competitors in the city and where our Recovery Rate projections are sitting.	Compare user fees and facility fees to communities that are similar in size. While also considering revenue generation and cost recovery.	All municipalities compare user and admission fees to surrounding and similar communities when setting new fees.

Policy Area	North Battleford	Swift Current	Brooks	Key Takeaway
Describe any sponsorship policies you have.	A naming rights policy as well as memorial policies. They all come with different conditions and all required are applied for consideration to council.	We have sponsorship agreements but no set policies at this time.	Tiered contractual system based on the sponsorship amount. Sponsorship opportunities include arena boards, fieldhouse boards, dressing room TVs, fitness room TVs. Event sponsorships.	Sponsorship policies vary depending on the group, amount of money and the type of business and or group that is providing sponsorship.
Do you publish (hard copy or online) a parks or leisure guide? Do organizations pay to be included in the guide?	PDF is available online. Organizations can pay to be included (charges vary). The guide can also be found at the CUplex.	Online community services guide done annually. Organizations can pay to be included in the guide for no charge for a simple add (org, name, programs and contact info) or can pay a fee of \$26 dollars for a more detailed add with picture and description.	E-newsletter goes out monthly. Organizations can not pay to be involved at the moment.	All municipalities have a parks and recreation leisure guide. They are mostly found online, one municipality emails a monthly newsletter out to recreation members.
What community grant programs are in place?	Saskatchewan Lotteries Community Grant Program - the goal is to get people involved in sport, culture and recreation activities by enabling communities to address the needs of the local residents. Portions of the grant must be used for programs aimed at increasing participation for underrepresented populations in the community. They also have a city grant process that has an application via the Finance Department. Groups can apply for assistance from the City in their operational/ capital costs on a yearly basis. The review and approval process is done by a committee of Council and approved at Council each year when the budget is approved.	Community Support Grant. The intent is to provide funds to local, non profit and volunteer based organizations whose purpose is to provide programs and services in the sport, culture or recreation sector.	Recreation user group grant. The intent is to support recreation user groups with facility enhancements, equipment purchases and support on capital projects. Arts culture and heritage board grant. The intent is to support individuals and or groups that offer events, programs and initiatives that relate to arts, culture and heritage.	All municipalities have a grant program in place to support community groups.
What non-financial supports do you offer to community organizations who deliver parks and recreation services?	Picnic tables, chairs, bleachers for special events. Expertise if needed, staffing if needed and can be accommodated.	This is based on the user agreements with each organization. Varies from meeting rooms, to extra amenities for tournaments and events.	Free meeting rooms for annual general meetings. Also based on user agreements with each organization.	The nonfinancial support for community organization varies based on each municipality. However, there is support for capacity building, equipment lending and support for meeting space.
Do you account for facility/capital replacement in operating budgets?	Yes		Yes - the capital budget is included in the operating budget.	Two of three municipalities include facility and capital replacement in their operating budgets.
How much do you set aside for facility / capital replacement?	Varies based on lifecycle and asset management information.	Varies on budget and the lifecycle of equipment each year.	Varies around 30,000 per year is allocated (depending on council and budget cuts etc.).	The amount set aside for facility and capital replacement depends on the lifecycle of equipment and budget deliberations.

10.0 Service Delivery of Parks and recreation



10.0 Service Delivery of Parks and Recreation

This section reviews how the City of Yorkton currently provides parks and recreation programs.

Service Delivery Roles

Parks and recreation opportunities are provided by several departments, boards, and organizations in Yorkton with the City taking a key leadership role. The City actively supports programs, activities, and events offered by community groups and nonprofits in the area.

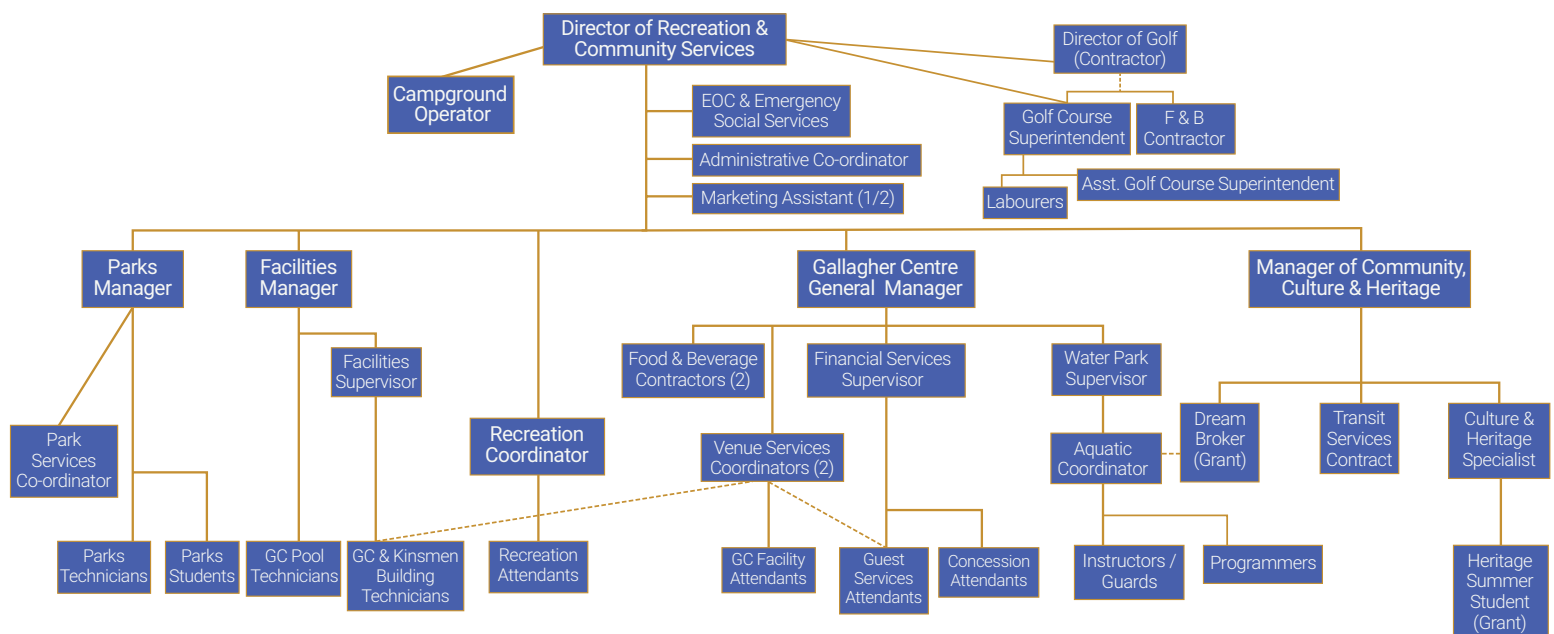
KEY TAKEAWAYS -

- The City of Yorkton has a good array of community groups providing a variety of activities to residents.
- The City provides a variety of swimming and pool programming to the community.

10.1 City of Yorkton Recreation & Community Services Department

The City of Yorkton's Recreation and Community Services Department works to promote health and well-being and assists in strengthening a sense of community pride. The department directly employs a variety of staff, including lifeguards, recreation attendants, guest services attendants, concession attendants, building technicians, and a heritage researcher. The department works with many local clubs and organizations to deliver programs and events in Yorkton. The Parks Department is responsible for the maintenance and safety of outdoor parks, fields, pathways, and greens spaces. The department directly employs a variety of staff including a park services coordinator, parks technicians, and many parks summer students during the summer months.

Recreation & Community Services



10.2 Expenditures and Revenue

The below charts outline the expenditures and revenues from 2022, along with the cost recovery figures for indoor and outdoor amenities in Yorkton. Notably, there was significant investment into the Gallagher Centre ice plant and the Kinsmen Arena in 2022. The City is still recovering from the COVID-19 Pandemic and applied \$265,000 of the Covid Safe Restart funds to cover revenue levels to match the targets from pre-pandemic.

Outdoor Facilities and Amenities	2022 Expenditures	2022 Revenue	Per Capita	Net Revenue	Cost Recovery
Deer Park Golf Course (Administration, Golf Course, Clubhouse, Fleet Equipment)	\$852,130	\$576,700	\$52.14	\$255,500	68%
Parks Maintenance (Grass Cutting, Forestry, Horticulture, Pest Control)	\$986,396	\$78,100	\$60.35	\$908,296	8%
Soccer Fields	\$33,325		\$2.03		
Ball Diamonds	\$138,901		\$8.49		
Outdoor Facilities	\$137,207		\$8.39		

- Loss of Cardinals rentals in 2021 and less overall diamond rentals
- Power for pathways, outdoor rink, and skate park, and tennis court lights

Gallagher Centre	2022 Expenditures	2022 Revenues	Per Capita	Net Revenue	Cost Recovery
General Fee's and Admission	N/A	\$362,000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Administration	\$527,942	N/A	\$32.30	N/A	N/A
Agri-Pavilion	\$54,626	\$15,500	\$3.34	\$39,126	28%
Arena	\$427,036	\$316,500	\$26.12	\$110,536	74%
Building Maintenance	\$723,818	N/A	\$44.28	N/A	N/A
Janitorial	\$337,922	N/A	\$20.67	N/A	N/A
Convention Centre and Concession	\$214,150	\$343,500	\$13.10	\$129,350	160%
Curling Rink	\$30,003	\$55,000	\$0.79	\$24,997	183%
Flexi-Hall	\$56,105	\$129,000	\$3.43	\$72,895	229%
Grounds and Parking Lot	\$131,457	\$12,000	\$8.04	\$119,457	9%
Waterpark	\$1,312,478	\$640,000	\$80.30	\$672,478	48%
Total Gallagher Centre	\$3,815,536	1,927,500	\$233.46	\$1,888,036	50%

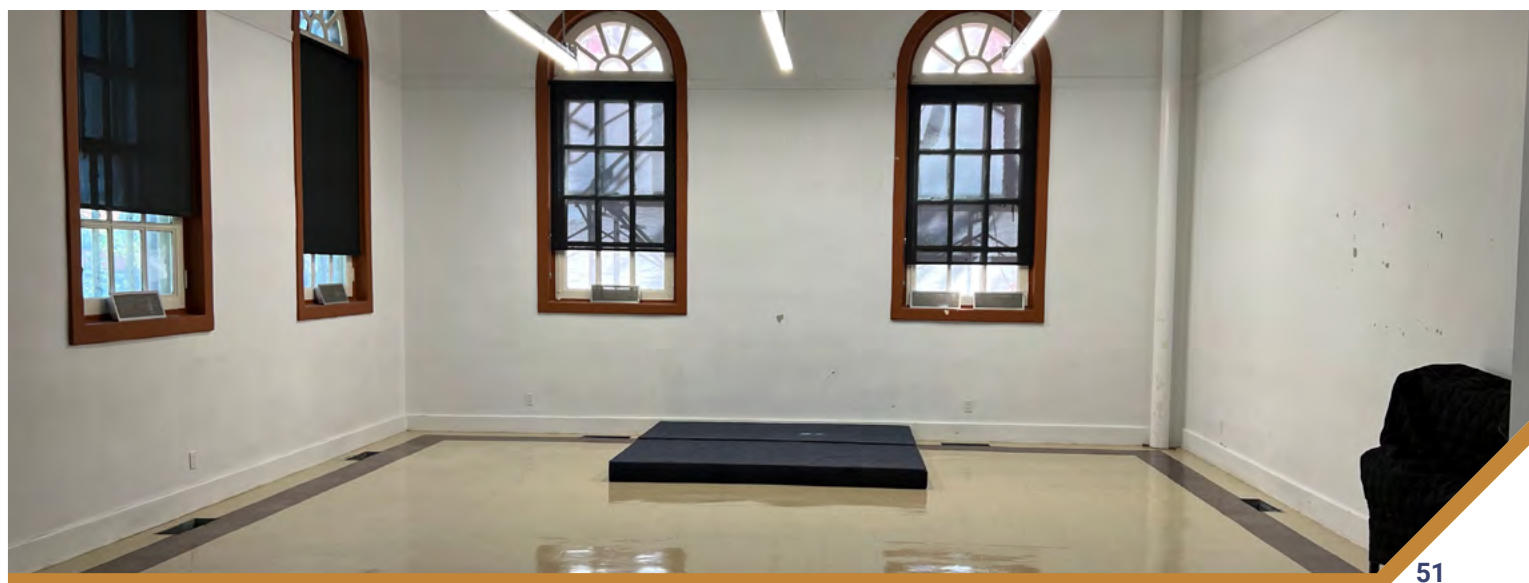
Other Indoor Facilities in Yorkton	2022 Expenditures	2022 Revenues	Per Capita	Net Revenue	Cost Recovery
Godfrey Dean	\$77,280	\$52,000	\$4.27	\$25,280	67%
Kinsmen Arena	\$316,245	\$218,500	\$19.35	\$97,745	69%
Gloria Hayden	\$116,650	\$48,000	\$7.13	\$68,650	41%
Facility Maintenance	\$240,542	N/A	\$14.71	N/A	N/A

10.3 Parks and Recreation Organizations

As the table below illustrates, there are an abundance of organizations, groups, and businesses in Yorkton that deliver parks and recreation opportunities for residents and visitors. These organizations are an important part of the overall system of provision.

Organization	Program/Services/Mandate
Dance Innovations	Provides dance classes to youth, children, teens, and adults. Also provides yoga, fitness, music, art, and drama programming.
Extravagance Studio	Offer registered dance classes for all ages. Some classes include tap and jazz, ballet, tiny dance, and hip hop.
Free My Muse Theatre Company	Provide drama and acting classes.
Godfrey Dean Art Gallery	Art gallery with exhibitions, workshops, classes, and events.
Kalya Ukrainian Dance School	Ukrainian organization established to promote and preserve Ukrainian heritage through dance.
Paper Bag Players	A local community theatre group, puts on different theatre events throughout the year.
Parkland Writers Alliance	Strives to encourage and promote the art of writing for both pleasure and publication.
Treasure Chest Toastmasters Club	An organization that aims to enhance leadership and communication skills for all ages to build self confidence and personal growth.
Yorkton Arts Council	Raise the community's interest in the arts, and establish a place where programs of music, art and craft demonstrations could be developed.
Yorkton Community Concert Band and All That Jazz	Provide an opportunity for the community to pursue musical interests.
Yorkton Troyanda Ukrainian Dance Ensemble	Providing an opportunity for young people to express themselves through dance and establish an appreciation for the Ukrainian tradition.
Yorkton Film Festival	Dedicated to the promotion of the best screen-based media content in Yorkton.
Recreation Groups	Programs/Services/Mandate
Parkland Association of Disc Golf	Dedicated to being a resource for Disc Golf in Yorkton, provide workshops on how to play and overall information about the sport.
Rolling Thunder Cruisers	Car collection group. Annual car rides and shows for antique cars.
Saskatchewan Senior Fitness Association – Parkland Valley District	Promote active living, wellness and participation for those over the age of 50.
Yellowhead Flyaway Birding Trail Association Inc	A group engaged in learning about and advocating for birds.
York Lake Golf and Country Club	12 hole golf course in Yorkton.
Yorkton and District Horticultural Society	A group of enthusiastic gardeners that are passionate about planting and horticulture.

Sports Groups	Programs/Services/Mandate
Raider Gridder Cheerleading	Provides a fun environment for kids to learn about cheerleading. Programs also focus on self esteem, participation, sportsmanship, and team building.
Special Olympics Saskatchewan – Yorkton and District	Works with children, youth, and adults with intellectual disabilities for over fifty years and encourage participation in sport as well as a healthy lifestyle.
Yorkton Aqaubatix Synchronized Swimming Club	Synchronized swimming club for all ages.
Yorkton Blitz Volleyball	Competitive volleyball club for females aged 12-18.
Yorkton Canoe Kayak Club	Nonprofit organization dedicated to introducing and developing the sport of sprint canoe and kayak.
Yorkton Crush Softball	Nonprofit youth softball association for ages 4-19.
Yorkton Curling Club	Local curling club for all ages and abilities. A variety of leagues range from men's league, women league, and family leagues.
Yorkton Lacrosse Association	Youth lacrosse association for kids aged 7-18.
Yorkton Martial Arts Training Centre	Offer different arts and styles such as kung fu, jiu-jitsu, kickboxing, and more!
Yorkton Minor Baseball	Youth baseball association for ages 4-17.
Yorkton Minor Football	Offers flag football and tackle football for both males and females.
Yorkton Minor Hockey	Youth hockey programming for those aged 4-17.
Yorkton Secon Maulers	AAA boys hockey team.
Yorkton Terriers Junior Hockey Club	Local Junior A Hockey Team
Yorkton United Soccer Club	Provides soccer programming for those aged 4-18.



10.4 Notable Programs and Events

The Recreation and Community Services Department provides a variety of programs and events to the community. The table below identifies recreation programs offered by the City of Yorkton.

City Programs

Program	Type	Cost	Notes
Aquatic Fitness Programs	All ages	Access Communications Water Park – Admission Fees (\$5.50-\$7.50)	A variety of aquacise programs are available.
Swimming Lessons	All ages	Variable - \$76.50-\$117.00	A variety of swimming lessons for all ages that are provided by the lifesaving society.
Fitness Classes	All ages	\$60.00	Yoga and fitness classes available.
Summer Programs	Youth	N/A	Summer youth programming.

City Events

Program	Cost	Notes
City Wide Registration Nights	N/A	Local community groups gather to inform residents about upcoming programs.
Holiday Decorating Contest	N/A	In collaboration with the Yorkton Business Improvement District, Yorkton Chamber of Commerce residents are encouraged to decorate their house with the brightest holiday lights.
Noon Years Eve at the Gallagher Centre	N/A	A free family event to celebrate the new year.
Canada Day Fireworks	N/A	A free family event to celebrate Canada Day.
National Indigenous Peoples Day and Urban Treaty Day Celebration	N/A	An event put on by the Yorkton Tribal Council to celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day and Urban Treaty Day.



10.5 User Fees

To recover some costs in parks and recreation delivery, the City of Yorkton charges user and facility rental fees. The City reviews its fees annually, with any changes to rates and fees listed below approved by City Council. Fee changes come into effect on September 1st each year for indoor facilities and amenities and January 1st for outdoor facilities and amenities. The following rates were in place beginning September 1st, 2022.

Indoor Recreation Fees

Item	Membership/Fee Type	Cost
Drop-in Sport Prices	Drop-in Fee	\$3.75
	10 pack	\$33.25
	25 pack	\$85.75
	50 pack	\$166.75
Court Fees	Youth	\$6.75
	Adult	\$10.50
	Other court rental	\$20.90
	Wallyball	\$30.40
	Equipment Rental	\$1.90
Court Memberships	Adult Monthly	\$62.00
	Adult Season	\$300.00
	Youth Monthly	\$38.00
	Youth Season	\$190.50
	Family Monthly	\$119.00
	Family Season	\$562.00
Walking Track Prices	Daily Drop-in	\$2.75
	25 Walk Pass	\$55.25
	100 Walk Pass	\$241.25
	200 Walk Pass	\$309.50
Access Communications Water Park	Child (age 3-6)	\$4.25
	Youth (age 7-17)	\$5.50
	Adult (age 18+)	\$7.50
	Combo Pack	\$19.00
	Mega Pack	\$24.75

Item	Membership/Fee Type	Cost
Access Communications Water Park Passes	10 passes	Child (3-6) \$38.00
		Youth (7-17) \$42.75
		Adult (18+) 68.50
	20 passes	Child (3-6) \$66.75
		Youth (7-17) \$81.00
		Adult (18+) \$122.50
	50 passes	Child (3-6) \$147.50
		Youth (7-17) \$171.50
		Adult (18+) \$266.75
	100 passes	Child (3-6) \$252.50
		Youth (7-17) \$295.25
		Adult (18+) \$457.25

Facility Rental Fees

Item	Membership/Fee Type	Cost
Westland Arena	Price Ice (Mon-Fri 4pm-Close)	\$215.00
	Nonprime Ice (Mon-Fri Open – 4pm)	\$110.00
	Rush Ice (ice that is booked and used within 24 hours)	\$110.00
	Spring/Summer Ice (April, July, August)	\$236.50
Kinsmen Arena	Price Ice (Mon-Fri 4pm-Close)	\$215.00
	Nonprime Ice (Mon-Fri Open – 4pm)	\$105.00
	Rush Ice (ice that is booked and used within 24 hours)	\$105.00
Godfrey Dean Cultural Centre – Land Title Building / Programming Room	Hourly (15% discount for rentals more than 5 but less than 8 hours in length)	\$25.00
	Day rate (rentals 8 hours or more)	\$200.00
	Security Deposit	\$250.00
Yorkton Public Library – Meeting Room / Programming Room	Hourly (15% discount for rentals more than 5 but less than 8 hours in length)	\$25.00
	Day rate (rentals 8 hours or more)	\$200.00
	Security Deposit	\$250.00
Kinsmen Arena – Blue Room	Hourly (15% discount for rentals more than 5 but less than 8 hours in length)	\$25.00
	Day rate (rentals 8 hours or more)	\$200.00
	Security Deposit	\$250.00
Gloria Hayden Gymnasium	Hourly	\$49.00
Gloria Hayden Community Centre – Birthday Party		\$135 (\$30.00 bouncy castle is optional)
National Bank Convention Rooms, Ravine Room, RE/MAX Sports Lounge, Youth Room	Different packages are available based on event needs.	
Grounds and Out Buildings (Agri-Pavilion, Ag arena, Industrial Building)	Different packages are available based on event needs.	

Outdoor Field Rates

Item	Membership/Fee type	Cost
Soccer Fields	Hourly	\$37.50
	Daily/Tournament Rate	\$175.00
	Level 1	\$190.00
	Level 2	\$125.00
Ball Diamonds	Dugout Cleanup	\$65.00
	Lights (Jubilee 1 and Lions)	\$95.00
	Mound Repair	\$115

*The above prices include taxes.



11.0 Key Findings



11.0 Key Findings

Having reviewed and examined several key areas of information that will factor into the development of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, this section concludes by presenting some key findings from our research. The key findings presented below are summaries, however, give some insight into the state of parks and recreation in Yorkton.

Community Profile

- Yorkton is the 6th largest City in Saskatchewan.
- Yorkton has a robust trading area which is estimated to service 113,000 people
- There is an abundance of education opportunities for Youth in Yorkton.
- The City has a strong network of indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities.
- The City is projecting a growth of 25,000 residents by 2040.
- Yorkton has the third highest Indigenous population in the province with a population of 1,935.
- The largest sector of employment within Yorkton is sales and service employing 30% of the workforce.

Trends and Leading Practices in Parks and Recreation

The trends outlined in this document are broadly affecting the parks and recreation sector and have been selected as they relate to the state of parks and recreation in Yorkton. These trends can help give direction to future planning of parks and recreation in Yorkton.

- Data Collection and the need to understand user behaviours, needs and preferences.
- A focus on equality and inclusion, with a focus on the continuing efforts of truth and reconciliation.
 - » There are a variety of studies and resources available to help with addressing equality and inclusion in the recreation sector. Some are outlined below:
 - viaSport
 - SPARC BC
 - SPRA – Parks and Recreation Create a Sense of Belonging and Connection
- The increase in older adult participation in recreation activities, specifically moving away from the traditional activities this population “normally” participated in previously and how municipalities can deal with this new demand.
 - » The uptake of participation in pickleball is a good example.
- The increased demand for spontaneous recreation postpandemic. People are seeking flexibility in their recreation involvement, but it may be suggested that planning for the general public may be as important as structured programs.

Policy and Planning Foundations

There is a strong planning and policy framework in place in Yorkton that supports the development of parks and recreation services, amenities, and future growth. Policies in Yorkton acknowledge the importance of fostering a healthy community.

Strategic Policy

- The Yorkton Strategic Plan (2020), City of Yorkton Official Community Plan Background Report (2012), and the City of Yorkton Master Plan (2014) provide high level direction and focus on the importance of a healthy city, population growth, and requirements of recreation service capacity.

Socio-Demographic and Housing Policy

- The Yorkton Municipal Culture Plan (2009), Yorkton Area Demographic Market Segments Supplement Report (2015), and the Yorkton Community Housing Plan outline population trends and identify some issues of those who live in Yorkton. These documents highlight aging population, the presence of Indigenous communities, and the need for housing.

Recreation Infrastructure

- The Yorkton Kinsmen Arena Facility Assessment and Feasibility Study (2019), Yorkton Recreation Planning Study City Council Presentation (2019), Gallagher Centre Renewal Project Council Presentation (2020), Pump Bike Park Development Review (2021), and the Community Development, Parks and Recreation Fees (2022) provide understanding of the current state of recreations service delivery and the state of some amenities in Yorkton.

Community Partner Reports

- A variety of reports from local, regional, and national partners were reviewed. The documents show the importance of nonprofits in the community delivering recreation services and programs in the community. Refer to section 6.4 for full detail on which reports were reviewed.

Transit and Transportation

- Transit and transportation refer to documents that support the planning of roads, highways, and cycling infrastructure. Along with roads that allow people to travel to and from recreation services, these documents also highlighted the importance of cycling to residents of Yorkton and the necessity to consider people who also live in the trade area surrounding Yorkton when developing the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Land Use, Buildings and Economic Development

- A variety of plans were examined that outlined policy requirements for new parks and recreation services as the population in Yorkton grows. The documents can help inform and support baselines for service delivery.

Municipal, Provincial and National Policy

- These documents capture framework and policies that are being developed on a municipal, provincial and national level to help move the parks and recreation sector forward. Reports examined include, SaskAbilities Annual Report (2021), Special Olympics Annual Report (2021), Parks for All (2017), and the Canada Sport Policy Review (ongoing).

Inventory and Utilization of Indoor and Outdoor Recreation Spaces

While Yorkton provides some programming, the majority is provided by local community groups who are booking time in City facilities. While there has been an increase in arena bookings postpandemic, there is still time available during prime-time hours at the Kinsmen Arena. The ball diamonds and rectangular sports fields are underutilized.

- Both arena facilities have increased their bookings in 2021-2022 from prior to the pandemic.
- Youth sport makes up 40% of the bookings at Westland Arena.
- The Westland Insurance Arena is booked very close to the total available hours during prime time (95%) while the Kinsmen Arena could be considered moderately booked during prime time (59%).
- Drop-in walking track passes are the most popular passes by far.
- Most ball diamonds in Yorkton are not well utilized.

Comparative Benchmarking

Yorkton provides its residents with an array of parks and recreation activities, amenities, and programs. However, compared to communities its size, it is behind in the number of amenities that are available in the community. Areas where Yorkton is above average, however, include community gymnasiums (schools), curling rinks, indoor track, spray features at the water park, golf courses, multisport courts (outdoor), outdoor boarded rinks, outdoor tennis courts, and combined outdoor tennis and pickleball courts.

- Yorkton is above average or average for amenity provision 73% of the time (29 of 40 of the amenity categories researched).
- Yorkton is below average in over half of the amenities analyzed.
- Yorkton is most deficient in outdoor recreation amenities, and this could be due to low demand for the spaces.

Service Delivery of Parks and Recreation

While the City of Yorkton provides some programming to the community (aquatics), the majority of programs are provided by an array of community groups. The City supports the role that these organizations play in providing parks and recreation activities to the community.

Conclusion

This research in many ways validates the excellent work the City of Yorkton has undertaken to date to achieve goals and objectives through a variety of planning tools. The City benefits from having a strong policy foundation, while focussing on a array of broad topics including recreation, parks, inclusion, and continuing to do their part regarding reconciliation efforts within the City.

There is good provision of parks and recreation in Yorkton, however there is room for improvement to stay current with communities that are similar in size. While every community is different, it is recognized that the City of Yorkton is making strides forward to ensure facilities, amenities, and programs are staying current with the trends in the sector.



