

# Community Halls Sustainability Strategy – General Public Survey

**Note – All comments are verbatim, with the exception of any personal / identifying information, or inappropriate content.**

## 1. Which hamlet do you live in?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Antler Lake		5.2%	12
Ardrossan		15.9%	37
Collingwood Cove		0.4%	1
Half Moon Lake		0.0%	0
Hastings Lake		2.6%	6
Josephburg		5.2%	12
North Cooking Lake		1.3%	3
Sherwood Park		62.9%	146
South Cooking Lake		6.5%	15
		<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>232</b>

## 2. Which community hall or senior centre facility have you used in the past year?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
A.J. Ottewell Centre (Red Barn)		15.6%	31
Antler Lake Uncas Hall		8.5%	17
Ardrossan 55-Plus Centre		9.0%	18
Ardrossan Memorial Hall		17.6%	35
Brookville Hall		24.1%	48
Colchester Hall		8.0%	16
Deville/North Cooking Lake Hall		11.1%	22

Good Hope Hall		11.1%	22
Hastings Lake Hall		7.0%	14
Josephburg Hall		12.1%	24
Josephburg Senior Citizens Centre		4.5%	9
Partridge Hill Hall		7.5%	15
Sherwood Park 55-Plus Centre		7.0%	14
Sherwood Park Community Hall (Log Cabin)		17.1%	34
South Cooking Lake Hall		16.1%	32
South Cooking Lake Seniors Centre		3.5%	7
Whitecroft Hall		8.5%	17
Wye Hall		19.1%	38
<b>Total Responses</b>			<b>199</b>

### 3. Are you a registered member of a community hall or senior centre association?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Yes		23.9%	60
No		76.1%	191
<b>Total Responses</b>			<b>251</b>

### 4. Do you volunteer for a community hall or senior centre association?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Yes, more than 10 hours per month		3.6%	9
Yes, between 5-9 hours per month		2.0%	5
Yes, between 1-4 hours per month		7.2%	18
No		87.3%	219
<b>Total Responses</b>			<b>251</b>

## 5. Are you a member of a community hall or senior centre executive?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Yes		7.6%	19
No		92.4%	230
		<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>249</b>

## 6. What do you feel are the biggest benefits of being a member of a community hall / senior centre association?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Supporting the work of the community hall or senior centre association		49.5%	105
Getting a discount on hall or centre rental		14.2%	30
Connection to volunteer opportunities		18.4%	39
Access to direct communication from the association for events and opportunities		29.2%	62
It connects me to other members of my community		63.2%	134
Other (please explain)		14.2%	30
		<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>212</b>

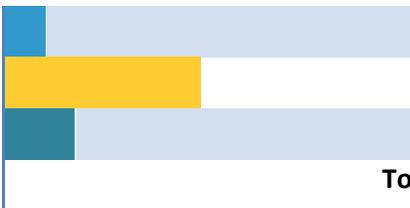
### (Other (please explain) )

#	Response
1.	None of the above, since I am not a member
2.	organise events
3.	Being involved in planning activities and classes for my kids
4.	funerals
5.	NON Member
6.	I do not see any benefits unless I spend money
7.	Not sure of benefits because I'm not a member
8.	I didn't know about them.
9.	
10.	I am not a member but could not find the link for non members as stated there was

11. I belong to Young At Heart Aquasize Group and have done so since 1991!
12. not a member
13. Allows seniors to connect with others and not feel so isolated.
14. not a member
15. Getting to know your neighbors ... creating lasting friendships. An extremely important source of connection with others - people helping people.
16. Supporting the work of the Ag Society that supports the hall.
17. ability to "drop in" at other senior centres
18. Your Questioner will not let me type in Whitecroft Communiyt
19. No real benefits
20. Don't know.
21. I feel like I am much more connected to people who live in my community. I feel safer and more a part of everything around me. I am much more informed about what is happening in my neighbourhood and I feel I have a say in what is happening.
22. I was a member of ARAS for years and enjoyed having a discount on hall rentals. Now that rates have gone up we don't use Ardrossan hall anymore.
23. we had a wake at the Wye Hall some years ago. It was short notice and great that it was available.
24. Not a member but I attend many of the events at Wye Hall
25. Not having to drive into Sherwood Park to attend events
26. During current economic downturns local gathering places will gain more importance to bring community members together. My work schedule has prevented me from participating in the community league but I look forward to having more time to do this within the next 5 years.
27. no benefit to me
28. It connects people to toher members of the community.
29. Social events/Frozen meal depot
30. A sense of community for seniors.

## 7. On average, how often do you visit community halls / senior centres in a given year?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Several times a week		2.4%	6
Weekly		8.4%	21

Monthly		12.0%	30
A few times a year		56.8%	142
Never		20.4%	51
<b>Total Responses</b>			<b>250</b>

## 8. What makes the community halls you use unique?

#	Response
1.	This is a lovely new facility that is very well equipped for people of all ages.
2.	Each has its own advantages based on size and layout.
3.	The proximity of the hall to our house
4.	The volunteers and the physical structure of each hall. The pride that the volunteers put into these old buildings.
5.	they have always been a part of the small communities
6.	they are within and part of the community
7.	Only Senior centre in the area
8.	the people!
9.	Character and the services offered.
10.	Location
11.	Pictures of our community members on the walls from over the years
12.	They are easily accesable.
13.	The bookmobile & the kids programs are great. The community league and Strathcona County make sure we have a few programs every week and that is amazing for our family.
14.	Ardrossan Memorial Hall is an historic site, not sure if it's designated formally that way, but I remember going to the hall for over 50 years
15.	Close to home Programs offered
16.	They are small and intimate - warm and cozy.
17.	we have an Art Gallery and Artisan boutique in our Red Barn. We have art shows and art classes that involve the community. Our community hall is restored barn that is totally unique along with lots of parking
18.	I like going to parent link stay and play. We usually have to drive into the city for everything so it's nice to have something local.
19.	A lifetime of memories
20.	Basement

21.	Just the proximity to my residence.
22.	I like that they're hear in the community and get used.
23.	I just use it for the wireless internet that's provided there.
24.	it is close to where I live
25.	It's location is in the middle of a walkable community, making it a very accessible space in a rural setting.
26.	Ardrossan 55 seniors, gathering and socializing of neighbours. Would like to see classes on computers.....e.g. Windows 10, saving photographs/disks. Partridge hill hall..... Great suppers, visit and socialize
27.	
28.	no comment
29.	They r close to home and easy access to connect with community
30.	I go when friends rent the hall for events... large equipped kitchens are wonderful! Lots of parking it great. Accessibility is awesome at the ones I have been to!
31.	That they provide an opportunity to be part of your community and to meet your neighbors and friends
32.	It was handy, clean, easy access, affordable.
33.	I usually just go when there are craft fairs
34.	The people, programs & unique opportunities
35.	We use Colchester as we play mixed slowpitch in the summer. We only use those Diamonds, as that is where our league runs out of. We have our yearend party there and use inside the hall. It also has a great playground for the kids to use.
36.	The similarities of services offered is what is a benefit of the community halls
37.	The history of the hall. The layouts are all unique.
38.	Community Halls can be used a hub for the community. Most times they are focused on renting the hall, whereas they can be used as a meeting/gathering place & can be welcoming.
39.	Both the Hall and Senior center are connected in 1 building making the area larger for larger events.
40.	Programs tailored to the community. Chance to get together with neighbours.
41.	Location is really important.
42.	Gathering place for community
43.	The size, parking
44.	Everybody knows each other, and if you don't, they all make sure you do soon enough!

45.	Location
46.	Friendly people and clean and spacious facilities
47.	The type of people the run the hall and events
48.	The people first and foremost. The opportunity to create 'community' is very important for people of all ages.
49.	I love that I can access activities and events right in my rural community. My family has met the most wonderful people and built lasting relationships with people who live nearby that we never would have met.
50.	Facilities for all types of use -- family gatherings, weddings, farmers markets, art shows, community functions -- for a wide range of ages, club gatherings. Where would these events be held if there weren't halls?
51.	Low cost, friendly atmosphere, small town feel.
52.	The ease of use. Timeframes aren't rigid. The fees don't go up yearly. They aren't overpriced and most don't piecemeal usage - one price covers the whole place. Nothing is locked up - everything is accessible. There isn't extra cost for cleaning staff or use of the kitchen.
53.	One of the oldest in Sherwood Park
54.	proximity
55.	Social activities
56.	When I want to organize an event in the rural area, this is the only option for a large gathering.
57.	To me its not so much the hall as the community of neighbours It gives me a real sense of Community
58.	Bookmobile stop, community garage sale, community market - summer Location & accessibility to our neighborhoods
59.	Classes
60.	Bus mobile
61.	Trade shows/events
62.	The small group of active members and community workers are always unique. Many concerns and issues are common to all groups.
63.	There is a uniqueness to a small country Hall. Good Hope is well run, offers various volunteer opportunities, and offers a close knit community atmosphere.
64.	The convenience and homey feel
65.	Very friendly and knowledgable persons who are willing to go the extra mile to help residents.

66.	They are close to our home and provide wonderful opportunities such as the bookmobile.
67.	?
68.	They have a community feel...a small town feeling where people gather for a combined interest.
69.	The people of the community and the activities sponsored throughout the year
70.	For the most part they are well equipped, clean and lots of free parking.
71.	Provides an opportunity for rural residences to part take in a variety of activities in the country.
72.	Can have private function in a building that everyone can access- rather than at a person's home
73.	The community members using it.
74.	Location close to home.
75.	These halls are flexible enough to accommodate most events within a community.
76.	In Brookville, it's the paintings on the walls.
77.	Warm friendly environment
78.	It's in my neighbourhood.
79.	It's a place to meet friends and neighbours, take interesting courses, have an opportunity to showcase your talents (teach a class), share travel experiences, have a nearby facility to take or give exercise classes, etc.
80.	There are so many different groups meeting at my community hall that I can participate in. The bookmobile comes once a week. I have gone to other community halls for specific purposes for example to vote.
81.	It is probably not unique. It is the one that caters to people in my subdivision.
82.	Local neighbors
83.	Easy access
84.	Feels like "our place" a neighbourhood friendly feeling. We are all part of the experience because on some level we all contribute. When we are in a "for profit" facility like a restaurant the "vibe" is different. Like meet, eat, pay and get out so others can have your spot.
85.	we enjoy the different events and programs Brookville offers.
86.	we are fairly new in the area and work full time. Once retired, we would enjoy activities at the community centres. Not enough time at the moment...
87.	Accessible by everyone in the community!! and allow one to cater their own event...
88.	Interesting, unique events and a strong sense of community Access to local talent, services and products

89.	Space for rentals-for meetings and activities of other groups I belong to. They are local, available and accessible for the rural community.
90.	They are offering children's programs close to my residence.
91.	the people
92.	They are close to our home and provide wonderful opportunities such as the bookmobile.
93.	I've gone to community halls in my area for Farmer's Market events, Parent Link events, as well as classes that are put on through the county or the hall.
94.	The offer different sizes, and conveniences, but they also bring together local people.
95.	They are a neutral space with a living eating set up and furniture which makes community gatherings possible at a neighbors casual level.
96.	It's close and when my kids were small we used it more and I was on the executive. I'm not quite at the senior level where I would use it more.
97.	I live just down the the road. My children love going to the hall for all activities. I go Tuesday morning now that I found out about the parent link goes there. Keeps everyone around close and meet neighbors
98.	It is in our subdivision (Baileys) My wife was a former member of the board and I know most of the people currently on the board. It makes all the functions very pleasant to attend
99.	close to where we live
100.	The accessibility of rental space. Connection to my neighbours
101.	Strong, involved Community with lots of active volunteers, offering a wide choice of events & activities to local residents. e.g. community dinners, family fun days, yoga, bookmobile, travel nights, ice rink, tennis court, nature trail, etc.
102.	I primarily use the locations for guide related uses and we love the associated outdoors areas - campfires pit(s), walking trails, field and park area. The girls really enjoy presenting from a small stage and leaders like that the stages aren't high enough to be a fall hazard.
103.	I know people who belong to the communities and can therefore rent the hall. Wonderful places for summer programs for kids and nonprofit group activities! It is even a good experience for the kids to help clean up after the event because the hall belongs to someone's community and needs to be cleaned up.
104.	The Wye Hall is a smaller venue which allows you to get to know other attendees of functions. Met a lot of great neighbors there.
105.	Convenient safe place to meet for activities, with lower rates of rent. Interesting events taking place.
106.	The events they hold.
107.	The ARAS group has ownership of the hall and has made it very hard to hold a non-ARAS event at it.

108.	The community hall is a place where people can get together in a safe atmosphere and socialize. This cannot be done at a restaurant nor any other facility due to the nature of the societal boundaries.
109.	It is part of our neighbourhood and helps bring us together. Acreage living can be a little isolating and community events keep us in touch.
110.	I love their family events.
111.	historical value, family events venue connect people. Theatre productions, music concerts, art shows allow talent to develop and be shared. Have also attended funeral gatherings, wedding receptions and birthday celebrations, personal milestones that allow friends and family to celebrate and commemorate together.
112.	Events
113.	It is used for a variety of things including a farmer's market which I purchase from on a regular basis. The seniors benefit the most from these types of community engagements.
114.	Probably not unique, but just a great place to meet up with neighbours and other community members!
115.	The ability of host events where food serving/warming can be facilitated.
116.	Country style
117.	Nothing at the moment.
118.	<p>Josephsburg has always had a very strong and unique community spirit. It was built around the families who immigrated from Josephsburg Austria . Today those families have faded and the limited new families in the area surrounding the hamlet do not have the connection to the community as it was.</p> <p>They are great places to hold family gatherings, birthdays, dinners and have a great space for area residents to do yoga, play cards, paint, for hall meetings for the Agricultural Society, Hockey families and other groups. The Seniors in our area play cards, play pool and have dinners every month. The biggest problem that our rural areas have is that there have been very limited new families move into the area to add to the communities growth. With out the new influx of people many things will be lost in the rural areas ,such as the Chicken Supper (gone), Ball Diamonds slow pitch tournaments(gone) there are only so many volunteers left to do the same work . Let the small communities grow again . Do whatever it takes to get the interest back in area's growth plan . Each one of the halls will be in trouble if we do not take action. Growth is the key.</p>
119.	I like the log cabin as it is close to home and noise doesn't seem to be an issue (as long as its reasonable).
120.	The variety of activities and events they offer and the bookmobile visits.
121.	Availability of some place close for events, meetings, bookmobile, exercise, farmers' markets, craft sales. Love the outdoor ice, even if I can't use it. All season, indoor and outdoor facility.
122.	the amenities the hall provides such as playgrounds fire pits etc

123.	Each has a different lay out and sound inside (which when giving open houses and presentations can make a huge difference. Some have more parking than others and that the ones I've been in have commercial kitchens is awesome!
124.	N/A
125.	Their amenities that we use if we are renting the location to have a private gathering ie: kitchen, skating rink, tables and chairs.
126.	Location for the most part. Partridge Hill is unique as it was rebuilt from the old Simmons Hall in Fort Saskatchewan (The first theatre of Fort Saskatchewan)
127.	Facilities: building and surrounding developed land. Summer (baseball diamond + other areas) & winter (ice rink) activities. Trails year round.
128.	Layout and wood walls.
129.	It is part of our neighbourhood and helps bring us together. Acreage living can be a little isolating and community events keep us in touch.
130.	Have events that are not usually found elsewhere.

### 9. How would you rate the impact community halls / senior centres have on your overall quality of life?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
High – they have a major impact		22.4%	56
Medium – they have some impact		39.6%	99
Low – they have little impact		18.0%	45
None – they have no impact		12.0%	30
Don't know		8.0%	20
		<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>250</b>

### 10. How would you rate the impact that community halls / senior centres have on the overall quality of life in your immediate community?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
High – they have a major impact		25.5%	64
Medium – they have some impact		45.8%	115
Low – they have little impact		11.6%	29

None – they have no impact		6.8%	17
Don't know		10.4%	26
		<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>251</b>

### 11. How would you rate the impact that community halls / senior centres have on the overall quality of life for all residents in Strathcona County?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
High – they have a major impact		35.5%	89
Medium – they have some impact		44.2%	111
Low – they have little impact		8.8%	22
None – they have no impact		2.0%	5
Don't know		9.6%	24
		<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>251</b>

### 12. Which specific activities do you typically use the community hall / senior centre for?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
I don't use my community hall or senior centre		15.9%	39
Fitness classes		18.3%	45
Learning opportunities / other classes		18.3%	45
Social group meeting space		37.4%	92
Pre-school		4.1%	10
Club meeting space		24.4%	60
Casual socialization space		19.9%	49
Food & drink related activities (for example, pot luck suppers)		37.8%	93
Performances		18.7%	46
Resources (for example, internet)		6.5%	16
Farmer's or craft markets		43.9%	108
Links to local businesses		3.7%	9

Special event opportunities		33.7%	83
Special event rentals (for example, rental for a wedding)		34.1%	84
Other activities (please explain)		15.4%	38
		<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>246</b>

**(Other activities (please explain))**

#	Response
1.	Voting, political/county events
2.	4H
3.	Voting
4.	Bookmobile access, multicultural activities, historical displays
5.	Bookmobile
6.	funerals, anniversaries
7.	Senior Dance
8.	Wireless Internet
9.	Children's activities
10.	As mentioned before I attend senior aquasizes three times a week which is very social
11.	Slowpitch games and tournaments
12.	Dances
13.	Dances
14.	Firesmart presentations
15.	Art Shows, Christmas in the Heartland
16.	sporting groups - meetings or activities
17.	Girl Guides
18.	Voting Station
19.	Kids classes
20.	Ball Hockey pictures
21.	4H activities
22.	in past, summer camps
23.	To vote
24.	Bookmobile
25.	Doing RPC surveys

26.	We used to use the Ardrossan Hall for registration nights for baseball, soccer and hockey. Unfortunately the hall raised its rental rates and because it is mostly run by volunteers was hard to get s hold of someone to book. Now all of those organizations use the Ardrossan rec center instead which is a lot more accessible for the groups in our community.
27.	Garage sales
28.	bookmobile & wifi
29.	Girl Guide meetings and sleepovers
30.	elections
31.	information evenings where decision makers from Strathcona County have met with residents to discuss concerns
32.	Minor Sports Teams gathers and uses
33.	Dancing
34.	Frozen meal depot
35.	Work related celebrations
36.	Horse shows
37.	meeting with the mayor, bookmobile
38.	Workshops: Emerg. Preparedness & safe place etc.; Fire Prevention; Public health (human & animal) IE. info about West Nile etc.. Election events + Voting Day Location (Federal & Provincial)

### 13. Thinking of the future, what types of opportunities do you believe community halls / senior centres may be able to play a role in providing for the community?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Fitness opportunities		75.2%	182
Learning opportunities /other classes		74.8%	181
Social group meeting space		76.4%	185
Pre-school		42.1%	102
Child care		38.0%	92
Resources (for example, Internet)		33.1%	80
Club meeting space		73.1%	177
Casual socialization space		66.1%	160
Farmer's or craft markets		80.6%	195

Food and drink related activities (for example, pot luck suppers)		71.1%	172
Special event rentals (for example, space for a wedding)		81.4%	197
Small business opportunities		33.9%	82
Providing linkages - for example - picnic space, ball diamond, soccer field, open / green space, basketball court, tennis / pickle ball court, gymkhana / riding ring, snowbank skating rink, horseshoe pits		71.1%	172
Community gardens		47.1%	114
Other opportunities (please explain)		9.5%	23
<b>Total Responses</b>			<b>242</b>

**(Other opportunities (please explain))**

#	Response
1.	Voting, political/county events
2.	linkage to community gardens would be awesome
3.	concerts
4.	Local environmental groups such as the Antler Lake Stewardship Committee
5.	none a waste of taxpayers money
6.	All of those are opportunities
7.	It is as unlimited as people's imaginations and needs.
8.	All the above are possibilities depending on staff, resources, etc.
9.	
10.	Election Candidate Forums
11.	Environmental impact groups, the bookmobile etc.
12.	community development opportunities, social enterprise, community renewable energy projects
13.	Community kitchens
14.	It would be nice to be able to use the hall and senior center for more things such as preschool, exercise classes etc... Since the new rec center in Ardrossan opened both the hall and senior citizen aren't used everyday. I think it costs a lot to maintain these buildings to have them sit empty.
15.	
16.	I think we should have a community horse back riding INDOOR ring and facility set up for shows and haul ins for the residents.

17.	bookmobile & ice rink
18.	elections, art shows
19.	Community Dances, Bingos etc.
20.	gathering people for information sharing regarding local issues, could also provide temporary housing in event of calamity when housing is destroyed
21.	Seasonal market or craft sales/events
22.	Not sure if this would fit under other headings: but having spaces available for individuals to do their fall canning (large areas and commercial kitchens make it easier)
23.	Workshops: Emerg. Preparedness & safe place etc.; Fire Prevention; Public health (human & animal) IE. info about West Nile etc.. Election events + Voting Day Location (Federal & Provincial)

#### 14. What do you consider a “community gathering space”?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Coffee shops		51.8%	129
Restaurants		23.3%	58
Libraries		67.9%	169
Schools		40.2%	100
Recreation centres		83.9%	209
Community halls		92.0%	229
Seniors centres		71.9%	179
Arts and cultural facilities		57.0%	142
Other		14.1%	35
		<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>249</b>

#### (Other)

#	Response
1.	Churches
2.	rural sport facilities ie gymkhana grounds, ball diamond
3.	PARKS AND PATHS
4.	athletic fields and rinks ie curling, soccer
5.	I am not into agathering space
6.	Neighborhood parks, front streets and back yards.

7.	Green spaces, playgrounds
8.	Ardrossan United church
9.	playground, ice rink, ball diamond, picnic areas
10.	County Hall
11.	The swimming pool. On fridays we have a social following the exersizes
12.	all of the above
13.	Sherwood Park Mall
14.	local parks and facilities
15.	parks
16.	Museums
17.	somewhere that people feel welcome, that it's easy to access, and free
18.	Outdoor Parks and playgrounds
19.	Churches
20.	Playgrounds
21.	schools if they were community schools <a href="http://www.acebc.org">http://www.acebc.org</a>
22.	Parks
23.	churches
24.	Neighbor hood homes (ie subdivisions, block party's,churches
25.	Any government supported space with free public access that you can spend time without fear of being accused of loitering
26.	Playgrounds and splash pads, food courts, skateboard parks, churches
27.	churches
28.	museums like the small one the County maintains, farmer's markets,
29.	playgrounds, parks with benches, places such as the bike park
30.	Dog walk parks, walking trails
31.	Online
32.	Festival Place
33.	Parks with a gazebo or other communal meeting area that does not require keys to access
34.	Parks/outdoor spaces
35.	Parks with facilities to accomodate groups of people.

## 15. Do you have any other comments about community halls or senior centres in Strathcona County?

#	Response
1.	no
2.	There is no information on the process (if there is a process) for when a community member runs into a problem with one of the board members of the hall or the treasurer. What is the county's involvement with how the hall is being operated? If there is concerns on the legitimacy of the halls operations who can they talk to, and why is it not common knowledge? There would be a lot more people involved with the community hall by our place if this process was known and followed. Most people come once, have a bad experience with one person on the board and refuse to come back. This one person hinders all events, and hides the books. The committee for the hall is so small now that she can't be voted out. Who provides the guidelines for board to follow? As the hall is owned by the Strathcona County, the halls operations are a direct reflection of the county, and its not a nice message being sent.
3.	Because some of the areas do not have businesses or coffee shops near them, I think it's important to keep the halls open and in good running order so that the small community volunteer associations can offer the community programs for all ages. The halls often act as the heart of the community and if closed, the hamlets would certainly suffer.
4.	I think the halls provide many small groups a place to gather for meetings..banquets etc. The halls maintain that rural like feeling. The halls are a great asset for Strathcona county ... It keeps everybody interacting with each other.
5.	need better parking and senior's access, upgrade of bathrooms
6.	You are doing a great job!
7.	No
8.	We should maintain as many as possible, they're a great addition to the community.
9.	They are the heart of a community and are extremely important. I am happy and proud to help support our community hall.
10.	They are very important especially in the rural areas especially when there is no other services.
11.	I appreciate that individuals volunteer. I was the secretary of my community league in Edmonton for 6 years, while my kids were preschool. I was appreciated for my time spent at meetings and working bingo's and casino's. It was mostly seniors working/running these events. In Edmonton major fundraising needs to be done to operate a hall. Our hall was nice, so used for weddings and monthly crib tournaments. It was becoming more difficult to recruit volunteers both young and retired. We had two outdoor rinks but could not find someone willing to work the crazy hours to flood and maintain the ice. When I was young, stores closed at 6 and on Sundays so there were no cell phones or cable tv. It seems community gatherings and events have gone to the way-side. Churches run their own successful events. There certainly is a need for rental space for funerals and weddings and for outdoor rinks and I'm glad that our County provides these spaces, even though I don't use them. My 13 year old son and his dad like to use the outdoor rinks but the ice

	surface is of poor quality. They go to MP.
12.	I hope as i age our community halls and senior centres become more and more part of my life. it is a connection to other people of my age and helps maintain mental and physical health and connections with other people that in ageing we often loose our loved ones and can suffer depression and loneliness.
13.	I think Community centres are vital to the community. Unfortunately, being left in the hands of local community leagues leaves the centres vulnerable to the whims of local residents. If the hall was managed by the County or some other professional organization this wouldn't be an issue
14.	Nope.
15.	I do not believe they serve the community the way they should for seniors Most seniors generally congregate at a fast food place like A&W for example
16.	It's too bad that people have busy lives now and community halls are not used as much anymore..or memberships are dwindling. I'm guilty of not participating in my local hall as well.
17.	not at this time
18.	I love our hall. It takes away a great deal of the alienation that accompanies living in a rural area.
19.	They should remain financially available to all seniors. Costs of attending events, etc. Should be kept to a minimum and grants provided to those who provide service to seniors.
20.	The halls should be run by the County. If the County ran the hall there would be no problems
21.	N/A
22.	no comment
23.	We have just gotten into retirement and Have not investigated these opportunities as yet. Perhaps knowing what is available will make a difference.
24.	The rural communities most defiantly need community halls to gather for many activities
25.	I think it is important that you focused on these places being accessible... with our aging community and people having health issues, it is important to keep them engaged in the community... so having this won't limit their ability to attend such places. Thanx.
26.	The Whitecroft Hall was ideal for our gathering as there was every age group. The children were happy to have the playground. The parking was excellent and we were very happy with the facility!
27.	The original Ministik Memorial Hall was created by the pioneers of the district in the early 1900's through the efforts of all members of the community and served everyone well in the district and the surrounding area. In an effort to provide for a more modern facility, the Ministik Community Hall was built in 1974 based on the specifications and one-third financial support of Strathcona County who then became owners of the facility. Due to the flawed engineering design of the structure, it became too costly to maintain and operate by a community group. The hall then became inactive for several years and finally was

	demolished by Strathcona County. Now we have no facility as a central focal point within the Ministik community, and the only active group remaining must resort to using the original Ministik Hall which was moved to a new location and converted to a church. As a result, there is no sense of community in the Ministik district anymore as the people who built and created this community either retired, moved away or became deceased and new people moved in to take their place. Without that sense of community they do not get the opportunity to meet their neighbors or to have a common goal which creates community.
28.	I am pleased with the quality and availability of the halls and senior centres.
29.	More local advertising of events would be beneficial.
30.	I think they are great for special events. They always seem to be busy and rented.
31.	Needs to be better communicated
32.	To rural residents these facilities anchor the community, and are much more accessible than facilities in Sherwood Park. We need to broaden the program activities without burning out the volunteers. We use taxpayer funding to have professionals manage our Sherwood Park facilities - why do we put so much on volunteers in the rural communities?
33.	I think community halls will become even more important in providing learning opportunities when all of them have Internet access. This will also support local businesses, etc.
34.	If people were more informed on the benefits of the community halls/senior halls then I believe they would be utilized more.
35.	I find it hard to get any information about my community hall in Antler Lake, it seems to be all word of mouth, and not public information. There are sometimes little bits of information on the board by the Esso station on Wye Rd but no contact info for anyone other than to say info can be found on Facebook. If you do not have Facebook, what's a person to do ?
36.	When we were involved with snowmobiling and the Ag Society we used Josephburg hall a lot. For meetings and get togethers. We even used a community hall for the reception for our wedding. The only reason we don't now is that we're in the in-between stage of not volunteering a lot, and not needing something to do.
37.	They are extremely important to our rural residents.  Services, and upkeep of current facilities should be a must for the current county council to embrace.  The library bookmobile does an excellent job of connecting their resources and programmes to the rural citizens.  All community halls should have internet services for the residents.
38.	Community Halls provide a much needed service to the community on the whole and I for one would be very saddened should a decision for closure be considered.
39.	Community halls are vital to rural living. They give residents an opportunity to connect with others in their community meet neighbors and build relationships. There are halls

	close to our home so we don't constantly have to drive into the city. They give our kids the opportunity to volunteer and give back to their community.
40.	Not that comes to mind at this time.
41.	Should bring in senior dance jamborees.
42.	I was disappointed to see that we had to take our waste home with us. I think these places should be encouraged to contact the Waste Diversion Program Liaison from Strathcona County and make events zero waste. Green carts could be provided and items could be composted instead of hauled home. A lot of waste came out of a simple over night trip that could have been avoided. It should be mandatory that they use compostable products supplied by the County (charged to the renter) and then green carts could be collected.
43.	Community halls are needed for clubs and associations to have a public spot to meet, free of charge. Seniors need their drop-in areas to have their shuffle board and keepsakes as they like and that might not be for public use - so be it, they've earned it. The existence of strathcona halls are likely more important to rural than urban. Although urban does look to rural community halls to rent when considering privacy, parking and public amenities (ball diamonds & playgrounds) for their events such as family reunions and wedding receptions. Rural halls offer a 'get-away' feeling without the travel. Urban halls can't offer that - they are usually land-locked. The rural halls we have serve a purpose to the entire community.
44.	Sometime booking community centres with what I assume are volunteers, is frustrating due to lack of customer service. A community centre is valuable to a community, but when you are left frustrated over the booking or using experience, it tarnishes the good feeling that should result from having an event or activity in your community.
45.	Spend some money on the halls to bring them up so they can be used for many functions far into the future
46.	Let's continue to support them.
47.	I would really like for the county to do a better job screening contracting companies before they award a simple renovation,,like the one going on at Brookville Hall,,so the job is done properly and with in the budget allowed,,If I ran my business like they run the county,,,I would have gone broke years ago,,get your act together,,PLEASE
48.	No
49.	We have connected very well with our neighbours (more than 80 came to one of our block parties -- we usually have about 45 every year). It's nice to meet on the street and not drive somewhere to meet.
50.	Would like to see more community gardens
51.	When we first moved here we had a community hall for Ministik and a senior activities building but the County torn down Ministik Hall and the senior Hall is now someone else's church. This took away local halls so now we only have South Cooking Lake to participate at. There is a real need of leadership to inject dollars to upgrade what is left to be attractive to the population for use. There also should be more offered and publicised so that new families in the rural areas know there are facilities hearing instead of everyone driving in to Ardrossan or Sherwood Park for fitness or other activities. Why can't there be an upgraded fitness centre in South Cooking Lake as there is in Ardrossan? This

	southeast corner of the County is neglected when it comes to recreation centres.
52.	Have only attended for special events so far.
53.	no
54.	Although not yet involved in much senior's activities, as I'm not a senior yet, I have friends here who are and they value the community halls and senior centres they are involved in.
55.	I appreciate very much the efforts made by the Whitecroft residents to have a meeting place and where we can get to know other residents. Growing old and increasingly alone is a problem for many. Meals put on do draw people together. I have only become a member recently and with I had been aware of these functions much earlier.
56.	I don't go to them, as we don't have any. We need community halls in every neighbourhood. We need the community connections Edmonton has.
57.	Update and modernize these facilities. Major promotion of their varied uses is needed prior to, during, and after improving the physical appearance and operation of halls. We need to "re-market" these valuable community spaces so that various generations of our citizens are drawn to them and feel interested in using them and welcomed when they do arrive.
58.	Even though I live in St Albert I attend and volunteer at different functions at Brookville. I look forward to seeing the renos being done there.
59.	These facilities are currently underutilized and expensive to operate. They need more financial support from the County for operating costs and to provide some staffing. Professional recreation programmers in the rural area could fill these halls with activities for seniors and the community but volunteers do not have the expertise or the time to sustain the programs and activities which could be possible in the future.
60.	Since the Hastings Lake Hall is my closest hall, I would love if there were more community events held there on a regular basis. Things like kids weekly activities (brownies, danc, indoor soccer, etc) and adult activities (paint nights, meal preps, crafting times, etc).
61.	They are a wonderful resource and when I lived in Sherwood Park, I was unaware of the wonderful things held at the rural community centre.
62.	I think they are community buildings and therefore community organizations should be able to use them but that's not what's happening. I work at a preschool in Ardrossan and we rent our space from the church in town. So does the Sparks, brownies and girl guides because it is less expensive then the hall or seniors center in town. It's too bad.
63.	I think the community halls have a lot to offer, I do feel that perhaps they events held should be better advertised. I typically only find out about a handful of events I'm certain there are a lot I'm not aware of.
64.	We need more community gatherings for neighbors hood unity
65.	It wi be a sad day if good hope hall closes its doors
66.	Community centres are important as it is hard to build "community" without a "place" to build around. It would be fantastic if there were more community halls in Sherwood Park neighbourhoods. As we grow we are losing that sense of community.

67.	My experiences with Wye Hall have always been very rewarding. I'm a senior this year and will be investigating more of the senior oriented activities and Centres.
68.	rural halls pretty much falling into disrepair. County would sooner spend their millions in the urban areas. most council has probably never taken the time to visit rural halls
69.	I think community halls help with a sense of community. Helps neighbours meet each other and help with a community watch and passing of information.
70.	They may not be big money makers, but they are critical for providing a space for community events and meetings!
71.	Rural Community Halls are an essential part of rural family life in Strathcona County. They must be supported and maintained to provide a local gathering place for rural residents for a myriad of activities and events.
72.	Rental costs are very high within Sherwood Park and there is low availability for rental areas which makes it really hard for non profit organizations to find a location for their activities. Community centres within Strathcona County help to alleviate this void.
73.	I think that it will become even more important to have low cost or no cost gathering spaces that are in walking distance of where people live as our seniors age so that they can stay home longer and still maintain community connections.
74.	Halls connect community for a deeper connection to your neighbourhood.
75.	they are valuable and the tax base show maintain them well. all should be kept to a minimum standard. Extra amenities may be purchased by the local association. And advertise about that so we can all choose to help. Why don't they post items in the Sh Park Newspaper. Maybe the (Sherwood Park News) can set aside (their) personal agenda against two elected officials and write positively about our community and its many assets and strength. Wouldn't that be a delightful change? Community building form the newspaper we the taxpayers subsidize. HmMMM ????
76.	They are used and fulfill a need particularly in smaller communities.
77.	I would like it if Brookville Hall was larger.
78.	I live in Sherwood Park but there are no community halls within the urban area. So an organization I belong to rents rural community halls for large meetings bease the facilities intown are expensive for our purposes. For smaller functions we use one of the coffee shops in Sherwood Park or Fort Saskatchewan. Unfortunately there are no rural coffees shops and almost no restaurants with suitable meeting space.
79.	It would be nice to have more fitness opportunities locally.
80.	The value placed on a space depends on the person using the space. Many of the activities listed in this survey could be hosted in various locations. I believe the activity levels of the local group determine to a large part whether or not there is community interest. The responsibility for looking after older buildings places a burden on volunteer groups. Is there a way the County could make it easier for groups to run their activities and programs? Could groups share spaces or use meeting spaces like the County's Community Centre so people could focus more energy on community activities and events? Seems like a lot of people don't volunteer for fear of being pulled into added responsibility. Like most

	organizations, its usually the same handful of people who do the work. Maybe that would make it more appealing for people to volunteer and help out.
81.	I'm glad we have them. An old fashion idea, but community spirit is alive and well. We take our children to dances and events they have. Where else can you find good wholesome family entertainment like that?
82.	Circumstances trend in cycles. A couple decades ago the halls had thriving memberships, families were involved in community leagues, just like children attending neighbourhood schools . People drifted apart with changes in lifestyle and increased prosperity. Now that economics are on downturn people may feel the need to connect more with neighbours and participate in activities that require smaller financial investment. I think in tough times people will be drawn together and these public spaces will be important. Churches used to draw many more people to support each other. Now they have lost some influence community halls may be more acceptable for gatherings if people do not want the influence of an organized religion.
83.	I think the halls are under utilized and under promoted as a resource.
84.	I don't believe all tax payers should subsidize the cost of maintaining community halls. Like many other things at the County, the people who use it should pay for it. My tax dollars could be better directed elsewhere (police, emergency services, road maintenance).
85.	Two or Three bigger more up-kept halls should be sufficient. The cost to run and maintain all of the little old high up keep buildings must be tremendous.
86.	Maintenance and up-keep of community halls has been a challenge at various facilities. These facilities are often under utilized due to their condition/state of repair.
87.	no
88.	No, other than I think that once we've decided to keep a Community Hall in service, they should not be allowed to fall into disrepair. Strathcona County should have the resources to maintain them.
89.	They could be better landscaped, dark sky lighting, rain barrels, community in bloom planters, community gardens, garage sale centres.
90.	Our small hamlet has been very active over the last 50 years bringing you the chicken supper, snow sleds clubs, minor hockey, agricultural events, Gymkhana, Horse and cattle showing, dog shows, Christmas in the Heartland, the Train ,senior suppers, scouts, guides, groups, Josephburg Senior Men's Choir, Josephburg Presents, Bells in Harmony, Ball Slow Pitch Tournaments . The large hall and small halls have held weddings, funerals, birthday celebrations and all kinds of fitness activities over the years. We need more youth and young people interested again in bringing back the community spirit and the only way this is going to be achieved is to open up new lots for growth and those young people who are living in the community an ability to own their own homes and stay and start their own families .Maybe on family land (let families subdivide for kids to stay on the farms) to regenerate the community spirit. Sometimes we have to change our hardened ways and look at why the young people have to move to the cities away from the land that they have grown up on . Many of the farm families that I know would love that their kids could build on their land, but with the rules now it makes it very hard to do. There are no lots available to build on, the water and sewage systems are out of date and just barely supports the

	residents who live there. Sometimes you have to change things so that growth is possible and with it comes regeneration of new interest in the surrounding community.
91.	It would be a shame to see them go as when you are planning an event, (almost) no matter where you live there is a facility nearby.
92.	I think community associations would benefit from Facebook groups centred around their community so people could meet online and greet offline. I've seen a great deal of community and camaraderie and even security and policing take place on groups such as Tofield Today. Groups can't be left without being monitored and need to be closed with an admin or two in charge of accepting members, etc. It would strengthen the bonds for those who are not able to make it to meetings and make them feel comfortable about attending events in-person.
93.	Over the years I have visited the majority of the halls. Each one is unique, very nice people at every one. Only a couple were rentals.
94.	they seem a little small. (cant house that many people) could use an update. there really old looking
95.	I like how they are spread out into the rural area and have an individual feel to each community hall. It would be nice if all of them had external washroom facilities as well (some of them have porta-potties, they all should).
96.	N/A
97.	Community halls have faded from use, I think in part to the development of a electronic presence. However; I think they are an important tool for developing community that could be modernized to be more frequently used by all the generations and just the older generations that likely use them much more often currently.
98.	Appreciate the investment of the county in the halls & centres and all the volunteers who work hard to keep things going.
99.	It would be nice to have more fitness opportunities locally.
100.	While these facilities are used by a smaller segment of the population (I'm guess here), I think it's well worth it to keep these facilities running. It's like not everyone uses Millenium Place or Festival Place etc.