Enclosure 3

STRATHCONA COUNTY RECREATION AND CULTURE STRATEGY

WHAT WE HEARD PUBLIC REPORT

PREPARED BY: RC STRATEGIES+PERC DRAFT – FEBRUARY 2019

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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This project would not have been successful without the commitment from the many Strathcona County residents, community groups and stakeholders who took the time to complete the surveys and attend small group meetings. Thank you for sharing your thoughts and feedback as they related to recreation and culture opportunities in Strathcona County.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Public and stakeholder engagement is vitally important to Strathcona County and extremely relevant to future planning for recreation and culture services and the development of the Recreation and Culture Strategy. It is important to note that the Strategy is developed with a number of inputs in addition to the engagement findings. An examination of the community context, County policies and plans for example, are just some of the other inputs that contribute to the Strategy's development.



A program of engagement was employed to gather preliminary input that will be instrumental in the development of draft strategic direction. The engagement tactics utilized included the following surveys.



The table on the following page identifies the number of responses collected through each survey as well as the number of perspectives represented. For example the Intercept Survey captured the responses of 535 people who answered on their own behalf. Three hundred eighty-eight (388) households participated in the Coded Access-Household Survey providing responses on behalf of the 991 people living in those households¹. The 2,727 households responding to the open access survey represented 7,663 people². The open access survey findings included 293 participants of SCOOP (Strathcona County Online Opinion Panel)

Considering the Community Group and Stakeholder Survey, 87 organizations provided a response on behalf of their 24,678 members and participants. Finally, 957 youth participated in their own survey.

- 1 On average 2.55 people live in each of these residences.
- 2 On average 2.81 people live in each of these residences.

Note: According to the Strathcona County Census 2018 Report, the average household size in the Urban Service Area is 2.61 people and 2.82 in the Rural Service Area.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Survey	Number of Responses	Perspectives Represented
Intercept	535	535
Household - Coded Access	388	991
Household - Open Access*	2,727	7,663
Community Group and Stakeholder	87	24,678
Youth	957	957

* Includes 293 SCOOP (Strathcona County Online Opinion Panel) participants

In addition to the multiple surveys a series of meetings were convened with a variety of recreation and cultural community groups to more fully discuss service provision. In total fourteen meetings took place that included representatives from 30 organizations.

The primary findings from each of these engagement mechanisms are presented in this report. A separate report will include a more fulsome presentation of the findings for readers desiring more detail.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following summary statements have been developed based on the engagement findings presented herein. They **represent overall findings** reflecting the feedback from individuals, households, community groups and stakeholders.

- Recreation and culture are important elements of people's lives and to the community.
 - » Benefits accrued include health, stress reduction, enjoyment and fun, and involvement with the outdoors.
- There is a broad array of (indoor and outdoor) opportunities for people in Strathcona County including parks, facilities, programs and events.
- People are quite satisfied with the recreation and culture opportunities currently available to them.
- Recreation generally has a higher profile and is seen as being more established and broadly supported than is culture.
- While not everyone experiences barriers to participation, there is a sizeable proportion that do. Barriers include cost, awareness of the opportunities, program availability, and physical accessibility.
- Facility & space priorities.
 - » Indoors: Indoor field spaces / field houses, fitness / wellness spaces, gymnasiums, ice arenas, swimming pools
 - » Outdoors: Trails (non-mechanized), dog off-leash park and areas, campgrounds, swimming pool, natural areas

- There is limited support for people and groups to pay more in order to enhance the provision of recreation and cultural opportunities.
 - » There is a sizeable proportion who are unsure about their willingness to pay additional property taxes. A significant minority does exist who would support an increase in property taxes.
 - » There is a greater acceptance of paying increased user fees to support enhanced opportunities than increased property taxes.
- Various community groups and stakeholders expressed concerns related to:
 - » The provision of services in rural areas
 - » Having sufficient access to facilities and spaces to adequately provide programming and address demands
 - » The recruitment and retention of volunteers
 - Partnering and coordinating efforts of organizations, particularly volunteer groups, and especially cultural organizations.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents

Introduction	1
Engagement Activities	2
Findings	4
Intercept Survey (Online and SCOOP)	4
Household Resident Survey	7
Community Group and Stakeholder Survey	18
Community Group Meetings	24
Cultural Groups	24
Recreation Groups	26
Youth Survey (Online and SCOOP)	29
	Engagement Activities Findings Intercept Survey (Online and SCOOP) Household Resident Survey Community Group and Stakeholder Survey Community Group Meetings Cultural Groups Recreation Groups

Appendices	36
Household Resident Survey	37
Community Group and Stakeholder Survey	47
Youth Survey	53



Youth Leaders in Training

INTRODUCTION

Strathcona County is in the process of developing a Recreation and Culture Strategy. This twelve year strategy will replace the existing Open Space and Recreation Facility Strategy (OSFRS) which has guided the County's provision of recreation facilities over the previous 10 to 15 years. This new Recreation and Culture Strategy will extend its attention beyond facility development and enhancement and will consider all aspects of service delivery including partnerships and community development.

A variety of inputs will inform the strategy's development including the following:

- Community engagement;
- Trends in the provision of recreation and culture services;
- Benchmarking comparisons with other communities; and
- The current and future context in Strathcona County within which services are delivered.

This "What We Heard" report presents the primary findings from the engagement tactics that comprised the broad program of community engagement.



RE/MAX Spray Park at Broadmoor Lake Park

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

A diverse program of engagement was implemented to gather input. The specific tactics are identified below.

INTERCEPT SURVEY

Intercept surveys were fielded at various locations to learn people's early thoughts about recreation and culture in Strathcona County. Survey locations included the Ardrossan Picnic and Parade on June 16th, PlayDay on June 18th, the Canada Day Festival, as well as at:

- Millennium Place Seniors' Fitness Days
- Community Centre Agora Blood Donor Clinic
- Festival Place Patio Series
- Gallery @ 501
- Glen Allan Recreation Complex
- Ardrossan Recreation Complex
- Sherwood Park Library Bookmobile Ministik
- Millennium Place
- Strathcona Wilderness Centre Fall Open House

In total 535 responses were gathered.



RESIDENT HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

The resident household survey was fielded using two different methodologies. A **coded survey** was used in which a unique access code was provided to individual households. This

code allowed each household to participate in an online survey. The access codes were mailed out to a random sample of 10,000 households in Strathcona County replicating the urban (Sherwood Park) and rural distribution (74:26). The survey ran from September 4th through to October 15th. These survey findings are considered statistically representative of County residents because a random sample of households was invited to participate. In total 388 responses were collected.

An **open version** of the household survey was also available for completion. This version of the questionnaire was very similar¹ to one used in the coded survey – however no code was needed to access it. In total 2,727 responses were collected. This total includes 293 responses from participants of SCOOP (Strathcona County Online Opinion Panel).² The open survey was available for responses from October 1st to November 9th.

¹ Revisions were made to the open questionnaire in an effort to encourage a higher completion rate.

² SCOOP is an opt-in online survey community where members are regularly invited to provide feedback on County initiatives and issues. This type of community is also known as an Online Research Panel (ORP). ORP's are interactive tools that have been used successfully in industry, business, and municipal government. www.strathcona.ca/scoop

Aside from social media, TV's in facilities and other assorted media, staff provided opportunities to complete the survey by iPad or paper copies at the following locations:

- Strathcona Olympiette Centre
- Millennium Place
- Strathcona County Hospital
- Community Centre Blood Donor Clinic
- Glen Allan Recreation Complex
- Strathcona County Health Centre Flu Clinics
- Sherwood Park Log Cabin Seniors Dance
- Strathcona County Library Community Centre
- Moyer Recreation Centre
- Sherwood Park Farmer's Market
- Ardrossan Recreation Complex Halloween Skate



COMMUNITY GROUP AND STAKEHOLDER SURVEY

Community groups and stakeholders were invited to participate in a survey, with a focus on their organization and their thoughts about the delivery of recreation

and cultural services in Strathcona County. The survey ran from October 17th through to December 10th, 2018. In total 87 organizations provided a response; and over 400 organizations were invited to participate.



COMMUNITY GROUP MEETINGS

Community organizations were invited to discussion sessions to gather additional insight into the provision of services from a range of perspectives. The feedback gathered through this means provides a greater understanding of the circumstances of organizations than can be learned through the findings from the group survey. Groups were invited to sessions in which attendees would have some commonality; often these groupings were based on types of facilities used, but could be based on type of participant served. In total, fourteen meetings and conversations took place representing 30 different organizations.



YOUTH SURVEY

A youth questionnaire was developed to capture the perspectives of the community's youth (ages 11-19 years). While the household survey does capture the needs of everyone in the household including the youth, this survey was a direct means of learning

the youth perspective. There was a variety of tactics used to encourage participation from the community's youth including connecting with the Elk Island Catholic and Public School Divisions. In addition, contact was made directly with youth and youth organizations to encourage participation in the survey outside of the school setting. The survey was open from November 1st through to December 10th. In total 957 responses were gathered.



Snowshoe Path at Strathcona Wilderness Centre

FINDINGS

The main findings from each of the different engagement tactics is presented below in the following order.¹



Intercept Survey

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⊠ ≡	

Household Resident Survey



Community Group and Stakeholder Surveys

Community Group Meetings

- Cultural Groups
- Recreation Groups



Youth Survey





The findings from the 535 people who participated in the intercept survey are presented in this section. The questions were intended to gather thoughts about recreation and culture provision in Strathcona County. The responses are numbered to represent rankings; those numbered 1 were the most frequently mentioned responses.



Clay Hut @ Smeltzer House

INTERCEPT SURVEY

FAVOURITE PLACES IN STRATHCONA COUNTY TO ENJOY CULTURE OR RECREATION ACTIVITIES.



THE PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED LOCATIONS WERE SELECTED AS FAVOURITE PLACES FOR SEVERAL REASONS.



ACTIONS THAT COULD MAXIMIZE PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION IN RECREATION AND CULTURE ACTIVITIES.



RECREATION AND CULTURE EXPERIENCES THAT HELPED PEOPLE TO CONNECT TO OTHERS IN THE COMMUNITY.





Emerald Hills Leisure Centre

HOUSEHOLD RESIDENT SURVEY (ONLINE AND SCOOP)

The findings of the coded access household survey (388 responses) is considered to be statistically representative of County households.² These findings are presented in graphical format below. Some findings from the open resident survey are noted alongside the graphics from the coded survey. The following charts explain how the responses to the public surveys align with 2018 Strathcona County Census data.



The following graph illustrates

Age Breakdown



2 The findings have a margin of error of + 5.0% nineteen times out of twenty. Meaning if the survey was fielded again twenty times, the responses would be within 5% on nineteen occasions.

3 Strathcona County Census 2018 www.strathcona.ca/census

IMPORTANCE OF RECREATION AND CULTURE

Approximately two-thirds (65%) of households consider recreation and culture opportunities very important to their quality of life. Another third (33%) said these opportunities are somewhat important. See the accompanying graph.

OPEN SURVEY FINDINGS

Importance of recreation and culture opportunities to household's quality of life



- 80% very important
- 19% somewhat important
- 1% not important.

LEVEL OF AGREEMENT STATEMENTS

As illustrated in the accompanying graph, eighty-two percent (82%) of household respondents strongly agreed that recreation and culture opportunities contribute to personal health and wellness. Approximately three-quarters (74%) strongly agreed that recreation and culture are "must have" services. A similar proportion (73%) strongly agreed that community events can help foster a sense of community.

OPEN SURVEY FINDINGS

- Recreation and culture opportunities contribute to personal health and wellness (90% strongly agree)
- Recreation and culture are "must have" municipal services (83% strongly agree)

Proportion who strongly agree

Recreation and culture opportunities contribute to personal health and wellness.



Recreation and culture are "must have" municipal services.

88888674%

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

Favourite household recreation and culture activities



Social activities

(e.g. get together with

family/friends)

RECREATION AND CULTURE ACTIVITIES

The favourite recreation and culture activity of households is outdoor physical activity like walking and gardening. Over three-quarters (81%) of respondents identified it. Indoor physical activity was the second most popular activity (77%). See the accompanying graph for other favourites.

OPEN SURVEY FINDINGS

- Indoor physical activity (73%)
- Outdoor physical activity (68%)
- Social activities (62%)
- Outdoor sports (68%)
- Indoor sports (56%)
- Outdoor water activities (54%)

<image>

Nature oriented activities

e.g. birdwatching, picnicing,

Adult Fitness Class at Millennium Place



Facilities and spaces used by the largest proportion of households

Almost all households (94%) use parks and open spaces in Strathcona County.

Trails (83%) and indoor swimming pools (75%) were the next most utilized facilities and spaces by households.

MOTIVATION FOR PARTICIPATION

Health and wellness top the list of motivating factors for people's participation in recreation and culture activities. Approximately three-quarters participate for health and fitness reasons (79%) or to relax and relieve stress (74%). See the graph for the other main reasons for participation.

OPEN SURVEY FINDINGS

- For health reasons / fitness (75%)
- For fun (71%)
- To relax / relieve stress (65%)
- To enjoy the outdoors (61%) •

Main reasons for participating in recreation and culture activities



BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION

Approximately one-third (35%) of households have experienced barriers to their participation in recreation and culture activities to the desired degree. The top three barriers are: admission costs, being busy with other activities, and program scheduling.



- Experiencing barriers: yes (39%); no (55%); unsure (6%)
 - The top three barriers are admission costs, program scheduling; and overcrowded facilities



COMMUNITY EVENTS

As illustrated in the graph, threequarters (75%) of households attended an event (indoor or outdoor) in Strathcona County in the past year.

OPEN SURVEY FINDINGS

 Attended an event: yes (82%), no (16%), unsure (2%)

Proportion of households that attended an event in Strathcona County



SATISFACTION: RECREATION

Overwhelmingly, households are satisfied (93%) with the availability of recreation opportunities currently offered in the County. Approximately half (54%) are very satisfied. See the graph.



- Very satisfied (44%)
- Somewhat satisfied (49%)
- Somewhat and very dissatisfied (5%)
- Don't know (2%)

Satisfaction with the availability of recreation opportunities currently offered in the county

Very Satisfied

9999(54%)

Somewhat Satisfied

Somewhat Dissatisfied **3%** Very Dissatisfied **1%** Don't Know **3%**



Broadmoor Lake Park Accessible Playground

SATISFACTION: CULTURE

Considering the availability of culture opportunities currently offered in the County, over three-quarters (83%) of respondents expressed satisfaction. Over one-third (38%) are very satisfied. Twelve percent (12%) are unsure.

OPEN SURVEY FINDINGS

- Very satisfied (33%)
- Somewhat satisfied (45%)
- Somewhat and very dissatisfied (5%)
- Don't know (17%)

Satisfaction with the availability of culture opportunities currently offered in Strathcona County

Very Satisfied

eeee38%

Somewhat Satisfied



Somewhat Dissatisfied **4%** Very Dissatisfied **0%** Don't Know **9112%**



Cherished Memories Mural, Art Society of Strathcona County, Ardrossan Recreation Complex

FACILITY AND SPACE PRIORITIES: INDOOR SPACES

Considering indoor recreation and culture spaces and amenities, fitness / wellness spaces were identified by 28% as one of their top five priorities for enhancement or for the development of additional spaces. As noted in the graph, fitness tracks, swimming pools, and playgrounds were the next most frequently identified spaces in need of attention.

OPEN SURVEY FINDINGS

- Indoor field spaces (31%)
- Ice arenas (24%)
- Fitness / wellness spaces (24%)
- Gymnasiums (24%)
- Swimming pools (23%)

Top priorities for INDOOR recreation and culture spaces and amenities to be enhanced or more readily available

(e.	Fitness / Wellness Spaces g. Fitness Classes / Weight Training)	☆ ☆ ふ 28%
	Fitness Tracks (e.g. Walking, Jogging)	た * 23%
	Swimming Pools	ž 🔉 🛓 22%
	Indoor Playgrounds	<u> 徐</u> /町 19%
	Ice Arenas	<u>*</u> 18%
<	Indoor Field Spaces / Fieldhouse (e.g. Soccer, Football, Baseball)	<u>Å</u> 3 18%
	Performing Arts Theatres	× 16%
	Museum and Archives Spaces	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Leisure ice areas (non-boarded)	15%
	Gymnasiums (e.g. badminton)	15%
	No enhancements or additions are needed	15%
	Archery range	14%
	Public art	13%
	Multi-purpose sport surfaces (e.g. roller/ball hockey)	13%
	Visual arts program spaces	12%
S	ocial / banquet facilities (e.g. Community Halls)	12%
	Meeting spaces and multi-use program spaces	10%
	Combative sports areas (e.g. wrestling)	10%
	Curling rink and lounge	9%
	Courts (e.g. racquetball, squash etc.)	8%
	Community group offices / storage	7%

FACILITY AND SPACE PRIORITIES: OUTDOOR SPACES

Considering outdoor recreation and culture spaces and amenities, non-mechanized trails (29%) and campgrounds (26%) were identified as priorities by the largest proportion of respondents. See the graph for other priorities.

OPEN SURVEY FINDINGS

- Campgrounds (22%)
- Trails non mechanized (22%)
- Outdoor swimming pool (21%)
- Dog off-leash park and areas (20%)
- Ice skating trails (20%)

Top priorities for OUTDOOR recreation and culture spaces and amenities to be enhanced or more readily available

Trails (Non Mechanized)	<u>* * * * * * * 29%</u>
Campgrounds	🦗 🍋 🦗 🔺 26%
Swimming Pool	* 🚣 🗻 🏖 21%
Natural Areas	*** ** * *** 20%
Dog Off-Leash Park and Areas	<u>† – † – – – 20%</u>
Toboggan Hills	\$ 18%
Amphitheatres/Bandstands	<u> </u>
Mountain Bike Trails	16%
Picnic areas / shelters	15%
Event grounds for special events and festivals	14%
Ice skating trails	13%
Skating rinks (non-hockey)	13%
Cross country ski / snowshoe trails	13%
History/Museum	12%
Playgrounds	11%
No enhancements or additions are needed	11%
Spray parks/spray decks	10%
Rinks (boarded with hard surface)	10%
Archery range	10%
BMX bicycle parks	10%
Golf courses	8% 7%
Trails (mechanized) Ornamental parks (e.g. botanical garden)	7%
Public art	6%
Disc golf	6%
Ball diamonds	6%
Sports fields: for soccer	
Courts - pickleball	4%
Skateboard parks	4%
Courts - tennis	4%
Courts: basketball	4%
Athletic grounds (track and field)	3%
Courts - sand volleyball	2%
Sports fields: for artificial turf	2%
Sports fields: for cricket pitch	1%
Sports fields: for football	1%

INDOOR CULTURAL FACILITY AND SPACE PRIORITIES

Respondents were asked to only consider four different cultural spaces and amenities and rank them in order of importance as priorities for enhancement or for more spaces to be provided in Strathcona County. The four spaces in order of priority are noted below.



OPEN SURVEY FINDINGS

- 1. Performing arts theatre
- 2. Historical / heritage interpretive areas / museums and archives
- 3. Visual arts spaces (e.g. Smeltzer House, Gallery@501)
- 4. Public art (e.g. murals, sculptures, statues)



Art Gallery @ 501

FINANCIAL SUPPORT: PROPERTY TAXES

Respondents were asked if they would be willing to pay additional property taxes if that money was used to support enhancements to recreation and culture opportunities in Strathcona County. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, approximately one-quarter (27%) of respondents would support an increase in taxes. Approximately one-third (35%) were unsure, while 38% would not support an increase in property taxes.

OPEN SURVEY FINDINGS

Yes (41%) No (29%)

Unsure (31%)

Would your household be willing to pay additional property taxes to support enhancements to recreation and culture opportunities?



FINANCIAL SUPPORT: USER FEES

Over half (54%) of respondents said they would be willing to pay increased user fees to support enhancements to recreation and culture opportunities in Strathcona County. Approximately onethird (30%) were not in support of an increase in user fees.



- Yes (48%)
- No (34%)
- Unsure (18%)

Would your household be willing to pay increased user fees to support enhancements to recreation and culture opportunities?



COMMUNITY GROUP AND STAKEHOLDER SURVEY

GROUP AND STAKEHOLDER SURVEY

Organizations participating in the survey spanned a spectrum of involvement in recreation and cultural provision. Some organizations directly deliver services to participants while others fill a sponsorship or supporter role. In total 87 organizations shared their thoughts.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Approximately half (48%) of the respondent organizations have a strategic plan or strategies in place. Over one-third (36%) are working on developing a plan.

ISSUES AND TRENDS IDENTIFIED BY GRAPHS

The most important issues, opportunities and / or trends related to recreation and culture as identified by the groups are noted below.

- There is a need for facility enhancement and development to address unmet demand for both indoor and outdoor spaces.
- Costs to organizations to get program space and the costs for people to participate are increasing and is a concern.
- Organizations need to work together with other organizations including the municipality, the private sector, facility user groups, and others to best accomplish their missions.
- The demographic profile of the County is changing. Its population is becoming more diverse from all aspects (including age, ethnicity). Rural is growing just not as fast as urban.¹

FACTORS AFFECTING PARTICIPATION

The main factors affecting participant / membership numbers:

- Cost of participation is increasing and may deter people. The cost for groups to get programming space is a hurdle and is something that contributes to the cost of participation.
- Organizations find promotion to be challenging.
- The inability to get sufficient access to facilities (available times and amount of space) has impacted participation rates they are able to accommodate only so many participants conversely. Some groups indicated that because they have sufficient facility access that it has enabled positive levels of participation.
- Volunteerism was identified as having a positive impact and also as a struggle. Some groups indicated that their volunteers have made a significant positive impact on their participation levels. Others have experienced challenges with the number and energy of volunteers which has limited participation.
- Some activities and programs have an expected volunteer commitment from participants. This commitment has served as a deterrent for some possible participants.





¹ Stathcona County Census 2018 www.strathcona.ca/census

FACILITY AND SPACE NEEDS

As illustrated in the graph, approximately two-thirds (64%) agree that County facilities currently meet the needs of their organizations.

Current county facilities and spaces meet organizational needs

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree



Somewhat Dissagree

Strongly Dissagree

Is there a need to enhance or create new INDOOR facilities?



Almost three-quarters (73%) of organizations think there is a need for Strathcona County to enhance its indoor recreation and culture facilities or create additional ones.



INDOOR



*Common spaces that apply to all groups

COMMUNITY GROUP AND STAKEHOLDER SURVEY

NEED FOR NEW SPACES: OUTDOOR

While over one-third (39%) felt there is a need to enhance existing or create new outdoor facilities or amenities, forty one percent (41%) were unsure as illustrated in the accompanying graph.





Pickleball at Kinsmen / Westboro Park

OUTDOOR

Organizations were asked to identify five outdoor facilities and amenities that should be more readily available or enhanced. The graph shows the spaces that were identified most often.



USER FEES

Less than half (45%) would be willing to pay increased user fees to support enhancements to recreation and culture opportunities in Strathcona County.

MAIN CHALLENGES

Issues with volunteers – including recruitment and retention – and a lack of financial resources were the two most commonly identified challenges organizations are facing. See the graph

for other main challenges.

Would your group pay increased user fees?



COMMUNITY GROUP MEETINGS

A synopsis of the discussions with recreation and culture groups is presented below. It is important to note that the presentation of the themes does not mean that there was unanimity within the discussion participants. Rather the points represent an overview of the discussion wherein main themes emerged that represent trends in the discussion.

CULTURAL GROUPS

SUCCESSES OF THE CULTURAL SECTOR

- Strathcona County wants to see a successful arts and culture community. Its funding process is relatively easy to navigate and Council and staff are open to collaboration.
- The local community is very supportive of the local arts and culture scene.
 - » The programming, generally, at Festival Place is highly subscribed.
- There is a good collection of arts and culture facilities including Smeltzer House, Gallery@501, Clay Hut, and Festival Place.
- The County is increasingly becoming more diverse in its demographic profile, thereby strengthening the audience base for a broader array of services.

CHALLENGES FACED BY CULTURAL SECTOR

- County's grant funding can prove difficult for some to access.
- Groups are experiencing issues securing sufficient funds and staffing can be a problem.
- The amount and quality of the space is lacking. It is costly as well.
- The coordination of the many small groups is lacking.
- Marketing and promotions of groups and programs is weak. It needs to be stronger to overcome the prominence of sports in the community.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CULTURAL SECTOR

- A successful arts and culture scene can help raise the profile of the County. A strong scene can be significant in attracting professionals and enhancing the image of the community.
- Increased awareness of the sector to the public will in turn result in a stronger sector. Residents are looking for local opportunities.
- Bremner House is an underutilized resource.
- Individual Organizations would benefit from assistance with planning, organizational development, advocacy and marketing.
- Individual Organizations could benefit by providing arts and cultural programming in the rural areas.



Josephburg Mural, Bi Yuan Cheng, Moyer Recreation Centre

THREATS FOR CULTURAL SECTOR

- There is little collaboration and connection within the arts and culture sector in Strathcona County.
- There is a disconnect between the arts and culture sector and Strathcona County. The County has a greater understanding and sense of comfort with sports organizations. The sector has been asked to illustrate its impact through numbers, which misses the mark.
- There is inconsistency in the County's approach to groups. It varies due to the individuals involved; a consistent approach is needed.
- Some organizations have declining memberships.
- The limitations of good space along with the cost of space is a threat to groups.
- Some groups are financially challenged.
- There may be overlapping mandates amongst some organizations that creates a competitive environment for groups that may be struggling.
- Strathcona County has provided assistance in a number of areas to groups in efforts to assist them. On occasion this assistance has been accompanied by the County's involvement in the organization's business, which can seem like meddling.

NEEDS IN CULTURAL SECTOR

- Facilities / space improved quality of space, additional space for groups, funding to help maintain current spaces.
- Assistance with marketing and promotion of organizations and their programming including signage.
- Flexibility when booking space that recognizes the various and differing needs for space from organizations.
- Arts and culture sector leadership advocacy, capacity building, planning, marketing, collaboration and leadership.
- Skill development in the arts that would be similar to the model used in sports.
- The overall profile of culture needs to be raised in the community.
- Appropriate metrics to show the impact of the sector in the community are needed.

PRIORITIES FOR CULTURAL SECTOR

- Facilities and space
- Collaboration within the sector
- Marketing and promotion of the sector generally and the individual groups and their programs
- Capacity building within the sector



Festival Place

RECREATION GROUPS

SUCCESSES OF THE ORGANIZATIONS

- The executives of the groups are re-energized and the groups are functioning better
- Increased participation
- Interaction / relationship with schools
- Access to grant monies and other fundraising
- High levels of athletic achievement from participants
- Enhanced community awareness and profile
- Have successfully hosted tournaments and events
- Strong group of volunteers; some success in attracting new volunteers
- Strathcona County has provided welcome support and services

CHALLENGES FACING THE ORGANIZATIONS

- Working with the school groups can present challenges with equipment, and monitoring the youth.
- The facilities are not all equipped to accommodate events; some have "dryland" space limitations.
- Volunteer recruitment, retention, and succession planning particularly at the leadership level.
- Facility care and maintenance can bring challenges particularly in County owned and maintained facilities. Responsiveness is lacking at times.
- Participant and membership levels may be stagnating or declining.
- The availability of facility space is limited which has impacted the ability of some organizations to grow.
 - » Some frustration was expressed when times for public drop-in activities are not used very well when the organizations are strapped for facility time.
 - » Some organizations expressed a need for office and storage space.
- Some groups feel that the County does not respect them to the degree that it should. Examples include little flexibility, slow response, the ability to promote their activities, and the sharing of information.
- The County can seem like a confusing labyrinth; knowing the appropriate contact is challenging particularly with a broad array of questions / concerns / issues.



Indoor Playground at Ardrossan Recreation Complex

BROAD TRENDS IMPACTING ORGANIZATIONS

- Tournaments are considered fundraising opportunities.
 - » Tournament play can extend the season which can interfere with other activities, can be costly, and can require a lot of facility time, sufficient seating, and parking.
- In swimming, there is greater recognition and accommodation for the 25m pool which has been appropriate for competitions at certain levels.
- Multi-use courts limit the ability to serve as competition venues.
- Long Term Athlete Development plan is a structured approach to the development of athletes coupling activities and skills with age, skill level, and goals. This can impact how groups deliver their programs.

STRENGTHS OF RECREATION PROVISION IN STRATHCONA COUNTY

- There is something for all people including diverse groups (all ages, abilities, and ethnicities).
- Residents are well served by many well maintained recreation facilities.
 - » Strathcona County is a leader in the provision of multiuse facilities.
- There are many well attended quality events in the County.
- There is a strong sense of community in Strathcona County; the community organizations provide a community for their members.
- The variety of programs, classes, and the clubs providing them are really strong.
- In terms of drop-in fitness opportunities, Strathcona County is a leader.
- The County is good to deal with. Groups and individuals in the community have opportunities to provide their input and the County listens to them. The design of Millennium Place demonstrates that the input from user groups was listened to.

WEAKNESSES OF RECREATION PROVISION IN STRATHCONA COUNTY

- The rural area in general is not as well serviced as the urban area. Trails are needed and the south portion of Strathcona County is lacking facilities.
- To access recreation services the ability to drive is critical. There are minimal other options.
- While the indoor facilities are at capacity, some outdoor facilities (i.e. Emerald Hills turf field and Strathcona Athletic Park) are not as used as well as they could be.
- The needs of competitive and "elite" athletes seem to be secondary to the recreational participant.
- Scheduling of facilities favours established groups with an emphasis on historical use.
- Accessibility to outdoor facilities and spaces is challenging for people experiencing mobility issues.
- Support amenities for outdoor facilities are lacking (such as washrooms).
- At times the County seems to put up "road blocks" impeding organizations from progressing with ideas – including alternative revenue generation.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR RECREATION PROVISION IN STRATHCONA COUNTY

- There were numerous requests for more facilities including an indoor training facility and a facility in the south.
- Establish criteria to rank potential projects to include: multi-use and participant numbers and growth.
- Space allocation could use improvement.

ROLES IN RECREATION PROVISION

- Strathcona County
 - Take a community development role and provide support to groups to help them be sustainable.
 Some funding would help this. This support could also include planning, volunteer management, and promotions.
 - » Community groups should have a designated County liaison with whom groups could connect with the County on a variety of issues.
 - » Facilitate the groups coming together in order to learn from each other and share resources.
 - » Engage with groups more to inform decisions and even involve the groups in decision making itself.
 - » Recognize the value groups contribute to the County and communicate this to them.
 - » Develop plans for recreation and communicate these plans to the community.
- Community Groups
 - » Directly deliver the programs.
 - » Identify program needs.

OTHER COMMENTS

- Groups are looking for equitable not equal treatment.
- A greater customer service ethos is needed within a sometimes bureaucratic staff.
- Interactions with County personnel should be standardized across facilities and departments. There should be a standard level of service that is not dependent upon personalities.
- As decisions are made about recreation opportunities, some thought needs to be given about transportation to them.



Strathcona Wilderness Centre

YOUTH SURVEY

YOUTH SURVEY (ONLINE AND SCOOP)

The findings from the 957 responses are presented below.

RECREATION AND CULTURE ACTIVITIES

Indoor sports (59%) and social activities (58%) are the favourite types of recreation and culture activities of over half of the student respondents. Refer to the graph for other favourite activities.

Most popular types of recreation and culture activities **58%** 59% **Indoor Sports** (e.g. basketball, soccer, hockey) **Social Activities** 8% (e.g. get together with friends / family, going for lunch or coffee) **Outdoor Physical Activity** (e.g. walking, biking, **51%** × **51%** Leisure Activities (e.g. gaming, reading, social media)



Youth Kickboxing Class at Millennium Place
BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION

Less than half (43%) of respondents indicated that they experience barriers that prevents them from participating in recreation and culture activities or programs. Does anything prevent you from participating in any recreation / culture activities or programs?



PREVALENT BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION

Of those experiencing barriers, approximately half (52%) said being busy with other activities prevents their participation in some activities. Admission costs was the next most cited barrier. Most common barriers to recreation / culture activities

Busy with Other Activities 52%

Price of Admission

Timing of Activities

Too Far / Lack of Transportation

Overcrowded Facilities

ACTIVITY FEE PAYMENT

Approximately three quarters (77%) of respondents said their parents generally pay for them to participate.

77% ← My Parents Generally Pay for Program / Activity Fees

Who typically pays for your activity fees

• 6% I Generally Pay

for Program / Activity Fees

—•16%

Both My Parents and I Generally Pay for Program / Activity Fees

-• 1%

My Fees are Subsidized Through the Recreation Access Program

FACILITY AND SPACE NEEDS: INDOOR

Two-thirds (66%) of respondents think that there are some indoor facilities or spaces that need improvement or that more of those facilities or spaces are needed.

Are there any INDOOR facilities to improve or increase numbers?





FACILITY AND SPACE NEEDS: OUTDOOR

Over half (56%) think that there is a need to enhance outdoor facilities or spaces or to increase the number of these spaces.





Strathcona County Bike Skills Park

OUTDOOR PRIORITIES

Dog off-leash areas (28%), campgrounds (27%), and bike parks (25%) were the most frequently identified facilities and spaces that require enhancement or that more of them are needed. See the graph for other mentions.



RESIDENCY

Over three-quarters (83%) of the respondents live in Sherwood Park. See the graph.





Basketball at Millennium Place

APPENDICES

Household Resident Survey	37
Community Group and Stakeholder Survey	47
Youth Survey	53



Emerald Hills Leisure Centre

HOUSEHOLD RESIDENT SURVEY

Resident Survey–Strathcona County

(Recreation and Culture Strategy)



Access Code (Please write in your access code that was provided on the card you received in the mail.)

Strathcona County is widely known for its excellent recreation programming, facilities and cultural treasures, such as Festival Place, Millennium Place, and its extensive trail system and park spaces. What's next? It's now time to check in with our community to listen for ideas on how our recreation and culture services can best meet our citizens' needs over the next 12 years.

You're invited to answer the following questions on behalf of all members of your household; your responses will be anonymous and will be very important to shaping the future of recreation and culture in Strathcona County. This survey may take up to 20 minutes to complete. The survey will remain open until October 15, 2018. Survey responses will be summarized, shared with the community, and included in a report to Council. As we begin the project we are interested in hearing a little from you.

If you were not provided with a code or are looking for other ways to share your feedback, please check strathcona.ca/ recreationculture to learn about other opportunities.

Draw Entry Form

As a token of thanks for completing this questionnaire, a draw for prizes including the early bird prize of a \$500 recreation gift card (if you complete this questionnaire before September 23), a grand prize of a one night accommodation at a designated Mountain Park Lodge Hotel in Jasper including two single lift tickets at Marmot Basin and a chance to win one of ten \$50 recreation gift cards will be made. Please fill out this form to enter the draw.

Name (First Name Only):

Phone Number:

Personal information is protected under authority of section 33 (c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used in the management and administration of Strathcona County's Recreation and Culture Strategy. Your name and address are not linked to your survey responses. If you opt in to receive further contact from Strathcona County, your contact information will be used to send you future communications. If you have any questions regarding the collection or use of your personal information by Strathcona County, please contact the Recreation Analyst at 780-467-2211.

Please review the definitions of recreation and culture provided below. We will be using these words as defined throughout the survey.

Recreation and Culture activities can occur in both indoor and outdoor spaces.

Recreation:

(source: A Framework for Recreation in Canada 2015: Pathways to Wellbeing)

Recreation is the experience that results from freely chosen participation in physical, social, intellectual, creative and spiritual pursuits that enhance individual and community wellbeing.

Culture:

(source: Conceptual Framework for Cultural Statistics 2011)

Culture is creative artistic activity and the goods and services produced by it, and the preservation of heritage.

Section 1: Values

For the purpose of this survey, unless instructed otherwise, please answer the questions broadly thinking about recreation and culture. Also please answer the questions on behalf of everyone in your household.

- 1. How important are recreation and cultural opportunities to your household's quality of life?
 - □ Very important □ Somewhat important □ Not important □ Unsure

2. How important are recreation and cultural opportunities to the community in which you live?

	Very important		Somewhat important		Not important	Unsure
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3. For each statement in this section, please indicate your level of agreement that relates to the development and delivery of recreation and culture opportunities.

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	I don't know
Residents can benefit even if they do not use recreation and culture services directly.					
Recreation and culture are "must have" municipal services.					
Recreation and culture opportunities make me proud of my community.					
Recreation and culture contributes to the local economy by attracting new residents and visitors and retaining existing ones.					
Community events can help people to develop a sense of community and connection with each other.					
Recreation and Culture opportunities contribute to personal health and wellness					
Recreation and culture activities lead to stronger social connections among residents.					
It is important to maintain or upgrade our existing recreation and culture facilities before we consider developing new ones.					
Strathcona County should explore partnerships with other volunteers and community groups to provide recreation and culture services.					
Strathcona County should motivate and encourage people to participate in recreation and cultural activities.					

Section 2: Current Participation

- 4. What are the favourite types of recreation and cultural activities for members of your household? (Please select all that apply.)
 - □ Nature oriented activities (e.g. fishing, nature appreciation, picnicing, bird watching)
 - □ Visual arts (e.g. painting, photography, pottery, crafts)
 - □ Performing arts (e.g. singing, dancing, drama)
 - Outdoor water activities (e.g. canoeing, spray parks, swimming)
 - □ Outdoor court activities (tennis, pickleball)
 - □ Outdoor sports (e.g. soccer, softball, golf, bmx biking)
 - □ Outdoor winter activities (snowshoeing, outdoor skating)
 - □ Outdoor physical activity (e.g. walking, cycling, gardening)
 - □ Indoor sports (e.g. basketball, curling, hockey)
 - □ Indoor physical activity (e.g. working out in a gym, swimming, yoga)
 - □ Attending spectator activities / special events (e.g. concerts, sports events, festivals)
 - □ Leisure activities (e.g. games, reading, computers)
 - □ Social activities (e.g. get together with friends / family)
 - □ Volunteering
 - □ Other (please specify):_
- 5. Thinking of the past 12 months, please indicate how often members of your households used the following types of recreation and culture facilities and spaces in Strathcona County (as an active participant, not a spectator)

	1 - 9 uses	10 - 20 uses	21+ uses	Did not use
Indoor ice arenas				
Indoor swimming pools				
Fitness centres / classes				
Indoor playgrounds				
Gymnasiums (badminton, basketball, floor hockey, volleyball)				
Racquet courts (e.g. squash, racquetball)				
Parks and open spaces				
Spray parks / spray decks				
Ball diamonds				
Dog off-leash park and areas				
Trails				
Natural areas (e.g. Strathcona Wilderness Centre, Heritage Hills wetlands, Sherwood Park Natural Area)				
Outdoor sports fields				
Outdoor playgrounds				
Outdoor courts - basketball				
Outdoor courts - one-wall handball				
Outdoor courts - pickleball				
Outdoor rinks				
Outdoor courts - sand volleyball				
Outdoor courts - tennis				
Cross country skiing and snowshoeing				
Golf courses				
Visual arts spaces (e.g. Smeltzer House, Art Gallery @501)				
Performing art spaces (e.g. Festival Place)				
Historical/museum and archives				
Other (please specify):				

6.	Do members of your household use any recreation or culture facilities outside of Strathcona County? (e.g. in Edmonton or
	other communities)

□ Yes

🗆 No

□ Unsure

If yes, why?

7. What are the favourite places in Strathcona County that household members visit to enjoy recreation or culture activities?

List the two favourite recreation spaces or places.

1:	
2:	

Why those places?

List the two favourite culture spaces or places.

1:		
2:		

Why those places?

8.	What are the main reasons that household members	participate in recreation and culture activities? Select all that apply	٧.

To enjoy a challenge	For health reasons/fitness
To relax/relieve stress	For something different than work
To be creative	To improve skills or knowledge
For family time together	To improve the community
To satisfy curiosity	To "get away"/escape
To enjoy the outdoors/get fresh air	To make a difference
For fun	To get out of the house
To socialize	Other (please specify):
To learn new things	

- 9. Does anything prevent your household members from participating in recreation and cultural activities to the degree that they would like?
 - □ Yes
 - □ No (Skip to Q11)
 - □ Unsure
- 10. What prevents or limits the participation of household members in recreation and culture activities? Please select all that apply.
 - □ Busy with other activities
 - □ Lack of facilities
 - Poor facilities
 - □ Cost of admission
 - □ Cost of equipment
 - □ Lack of motivation
 - □ Lack of transportation
 - Overcrowded facilities
 - Don't have the physical ability

- □ Quality of programs
- Opportunities are not physically accessible
- □ Timing of programs
- □ Interests and programs don't match
- □ Unaware of some opportunities
- □ Lack of skills / don't feel comfortable
- Health issues
- □ Other (please specify):_____
- 11. Are you aware of any financial assistance programs offered by Strathcona County or other organizations in the community to help those who cannot afford to participate in recreation or culture activities?
 - □ Yes
 - □ No
 - □ Unsure

Section 3: Programming

- 12. A wide variety of recreation and cultural programs currently exist in Strathcona County. What improvements or changes, if any, are needed to recreation and cultural programs here? Please check all that apply.
 - □ Nothing is needed (Go to Q13)
 - □ I don't know
 - Provide more information about what programs are available
 - \Box More convenient schedule
 - □ Lower cost
 - □ Programs offered more often
 - □ Need to accommodate more
 - participants
 - □ Better instruction

- □ More indoor programming
- □ More outdoor programming
- □ Greater variety
- Better program registration processes
- More flexibility within a scheduled program (e.g. the ability to make up for classes missed)
- Better equipment available for programs

- □ Make programs more relevant to current trends
- More options for length of programs
- Offer programs related to skill progression
- □ More location choices
- More programming options available with paid drop-in or monthly fee
- □ Other (please specify):_____

13. Please identify specific types of indoor/outdoor RECREATION programs you would like to see or see more of.

14. Please identify specific types of indoor/outdoor CULTURAL programs you would like to see or see more of.

Section 4: Community Events

- 15. Did anyone in your household attend an indoor or outdoor event in Strathcona County in the past year? (e.g. Canada Day, block party, Josephburg Presents, sport competitions)
 - □ Yes
 - □ No (skip to question 17)
 - □ Unsure (skip to question 17)

16. Which of the following event(s) did household members attend?

- County festivals (Canada Day, PlayDays, Celebration of Lights, New Year's)
- Community gatherings or events (block party, Trail Days, Ardrossan Parade & Picnic)
- □ Sports tournaments/competitions
- Arts and cultural events/performances (Patio Series, Josephburg Presents)
- □ Other (please specify):_
- 17. Overall how satisfied are you with the special events (large and small) currently offered in Strathcona County?
 - □ Very Satisfied
 - Somewhat Satisfied
 - □ Neither agree nor disagree
 - Somewhat Dissatisfied
 - Very Dissatisfied
- 18. Please explain why you feel this way.

Section 5: Overall Satisfaction

19. Overall, how satisfied is your household with the availability of RECREATION opportunities currently offered in Strathcona County?

- □ Very Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- Somewhat Dissatisfied
- □ Very Dissatisfied
- I don't know

20. Overall, how satisfied is your household with the availability of CULTURAL opportunities currently offered in Strathcona County?

- Very Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- □ Somewhat Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied
- I don't know

Section 6: Future Planning and Priorities

Since time and money are limited, priorities need to be determined when decisions about the provision of facilities, spaces, and amenities for recreation and cultural activities. For each of the criteria below, please indicate the extent to which you agree it should be used when prioritizing one recreation and culture facility, space or amenity over another.

21. A new or enhanced facility, space or amenity should be a priority over others if...

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	I don't know
it replaces an existing one that is outdated and/or at the end of its remaining lifespan.					
it is not readily available in Strathcona County.					
the cost to build it are lower than others.					
the cost to run it are lower than others.					
funding and grants are available that would lower the costs.					
it responds to demands/ requests from the community.					
it has potential for bringing visitors from outside of Strathcona County into the community.					
it improves the geographic balance of recreation and culture opportunities in Strathcona County					
it targets under-served population segments of our community.					
it is multi-purpose and meets the needs of many different activities, programs and users.					
a project partner has been identified that can contribute significant funds towards building it.					

22. Is there other criteria that should be considered when thinking about a new or enhanced facility, space or amenity?

Section 7: New and/or Revitalized Facilities and Spaces

23. Please select up to five (5) INDOOR recreation and culture facilities and amenities that should be more readily available or enhanced in Strathcona County.

A couple of things to consider:

- There are costs to building and operating recreation and culture facilities and amenities.
- Your responses will be used to help determine priorities for planning purposes. This may not lead to changes in an existing facility or to building a new facility.
- □ No enhancements or additions □ Fitness tracks (jogging, walking etc.) are needed (Go to Q24) Gymnasiums (e.g. pickleball, badminton, floor hockey, □ Archery range basketball, volleyball, etc.) Combative sports areas (e.g. judo, karate, tae kwon do, wrestling etc.) Ice arenas □ Community group offices / □ Indoor playgrounds
 - □ Leisure ice areas (non-boarded)
- □ Courts (e.g. racquetball, squash etc.)
- □ Curling rink and lounge

storage

- Indoor field spaces/Fieldhouse (e.g. soccer, football, baseball, etc.)
- Fitness / wellness spaces (e.g. fitness classes/strength training) Museum and archives spaces

- Meeting spaces and multi-use program spaces
- Multi-purpose sport surfaces (e.g. roller/ball hockey, roller derby, lacrosse etc.)

- □ Performing arts theatres
- Public art (e.g. murals, sculptures, statues etc.)
- □ Social / banquet facilities (e.g. Community Halls)
- □ Swimming pools
- □ Visual arts program spaces (e.g. Smeltzer House, Clay Hut Pottery Studio, Gallery @501 etc.)
- Other (please specify): _
- 24. Please select up to five (5) OUTDOOR recreation and culture spaces and amenities that should be more readily available or enhanced in Strathcona County.

A couple of things to consider:

- There are costs to building and operating recreation and culture spaces and amenities.
- Your responses will be used to help determine priorities for planning purposes. This may not lead to changes in an existing facility or to building a new facility.
- No enhancements or additions are needed (Go to Q25)
- □ Archery range
- □ Athletic grounds (track and field)
- □ Ball diamonds
- □ Amphitheatres/Bandstands
- □ BMX bicycle parks
- □ Campgrounds
- Cross country ski / snowshoe trails
- Courts basketball
- □ Courts one-wall handball
- □ Courts pickleball
- □ Courts sand volleyball
- □ Courts tennis
- □ Disc golf
- Dog off-leash park and areas

- Event grounds for special events and festivals
- □ Golf courses
- □ History/Museum
- Rinks (boarded with ice in winter, hard surface in spring/summer/fall)
- Skating rinks (non-hockey)
- □ Ice skating trails
- Mechanized use trails (e.g. ATVs, skidoos etc.)
- Mountain bike trails
- Trails (non-mechanized for biking, walking, jogging, etc.)
- □ Natural areas
- Ornamental parks (e.g. Centennial Park Pollinator Habitat, Smeltzer House Botanical Garden)
- □ Picnic areas / shelters

- □ Playgrounds
- □ Public art (e.g. murals, sculptures, statues)
- □ Skateboard parks
- □ Sports fields: for artificial turf
- □ Sports fields: for cricket pitch
- □ Sports fields: for field hockey or lacrosse
- □ Sports fields: for football
- Sports fields: for soccer
- Sports fields: for rugby
- □ Spray parks/spray decks
- □ Swimming pool (outdoor)
- □ Toboggan hills
- □ Other (please specify):_

- 25. Consider only the following CULTURE spaces and amenities. Please rank them in order of importance. A rank of 1 means it is a top priority for Strathcona County to enhance or be more readily available. A rank of 4 means that the other culture spaces and amenities are a greater priority for the County. (Use the numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4. Use each number only once.)
 - ____ Historical/heritage interpretive areas/museum and archives
 - ____ Performing arts theatre
 - ____ Public art (e.g. murals, sculptures, statues)
 - ____ Visual arts spaces (e.g. Smeltzer House, Gallery @501)

Section 8: Willingness to Pay

- 26. Would your household be willing to pay additional property taxes if that money was used to support enhancements to recreation and culture opportunities Strathcona County?
 - □ Yes
 - □ No (Skip to Q28)
 - □ Unsure (Skip to Q28)
- 27. How much more would your household be willing to pay in annual property taxes to support enhancements to recreation opportunities in Strathcona County?
 - □ Up to \$50 per year
 - □ \$51 \$100 per year
 - □ \$101 \$150 per year
 - □ \$151 + per year
- 28. Would you be willing pay increased user fees to support enhancements to recreation and culture opportunities in Strathcona County? (User fees would include the entrance fees at a facility, the cost of a registered program, or cost to rent space such as an arena or field).
 - □ Yes
 - 🗆 No
 - □ Unsure

29. In your opinion, how should public recreation and culture opportunities be funded?

- □ Entirely through tax supported funding and whatever grants the community is eligible to receive.
- □ Through user fees and grant support (not taxpayer funded).
- □ Through a combination of the above.

Section 9: Final Comments

30. Please use the space below for any other comments you have about recreation and cultural opportunities in Strathcona County.

Section 10: Respondent Profile

31. Where do you live?

- Sherwood Park
- Rural Strathcona County
- Do not live in Strathcona County
- 32. Please identify the number of people in your household that fall into each of the following age categories. Don't forget to count yourself!

0 – 4 yrs	25 – 34 yrs	65 - 74 yrs
5 - 9 yrs	35 – 44 yrs	75 - 84 yrs
10 – 14 yrs	45 - 54 yrs	85 yrs and older
15 – 24 yrs	55 - 64 yrs	Prefer not to answer

33. Please indicate what best describes your household income before taxes for the 2017 taxation year.

- Under \$5,000
- □ \$100,000-\$119,999
- □ \$5,000-\$19,999
- □ \$120,000-\$139,999
- □ \$20,000-\$39,999 □ \$140,000 to \$159,999
- □ \$40,000-\$59,999
 - □ \$160,000 and over
- □ \$60,000-\$79,999
- □ I prefer not to answer/I don't know
- □ \$80,000-\$99,999

34. Do any members of your household have a Millennium Card?

- □ Yes
- 🗆 No
- □ Unsure

Thank you for sharing your feedback.

COMMUNITY GROUP AND STAKEHOLDER SURVEY

Community Group Survey– Strathcona County (Recreation and Culture Strategy)



Strathcona County is widely known for its excellent recreation programming, facilities and cultural treasures, such as Festival Place, Millennium Place, as well as its extensive trail system and park spaces. It's now time to check in with our community to listen for ideas on how our recreation and culture services can best meet our community's needs over the next 12 years. Your feedback will be very important to shaping the future of recreation and culture in Strathcona County.

You're invited to answer the following questions on behalf of your organization. Please consider your organization's leadership group, as well as the general membership and end users in your responses. Participation is voluntary and all information will be kept confidential. Responses will be combined with responses received by other groups and will not be reported separately.

This survey may take up to 15 minutes to complete and is open until November 25, 2018.

Personal information is protected under authority of section 33 (c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used in the management and administration of Strathcona County's Recreation and Culture Strategy. Your name and address are not linked to your survey responses. If you opt in to receive further contact from Strathcona County, your contact information will be used to send you future communications. If you have any questions regarding the collection or use of your personal information by Strathcona County, please contact the Recreation Analyst at 780-467-2211.

Section 1: About Your Organization

- 1. Please provide the name of your organization.
- 2. Contact name (OPTIONAL):
- 3. What best describes your role in the organization?
 - President
 - □ Other executive / board member
 - □ Paid staff
 - □ Volunteer
 - □ Other
- 4. Briefly explain the purpose of your organization and its primary activities.

5. Visioning

Briefly explain your group's aspirations and vision for the future.

a. Do you have a strategic plan or strategies in place to help achieve your vision?

Yes
No

- □ This is something we are working on.
- 6. Considering the work of your organization, what do you consider to be the three most important issues, opportunities and / or trends as they relate to recreation and culture in the future?
- 7. The County and Your Organization

Does the County's delivery of recreation and culture services impact your organization's ability to meet its goals or vision?

- □ Yes
- 🗆 No
- □ Not sure
 - a. Please use the space below to provide any comments.

Section 2: About Your Participants and the Activities you Provide

8. Which categories best describe the age group(s) that your organization serves? Select all that apply.

- □ Preschool (under 6 years old)
- □ Children (6 12 years old)
- □ Youth (13 17 years old)
- □ Adult (18 59 years old)
- □ Older adult (60 years and older)
- 9. How many participants / members do you serve? If you have historical data, please provide it.

2018 / 2019: ______ 2017 / 2018: ______ 2016 / 2017: ______ 2015 / 2016: _____ 10. Over the next five years what are your expectations for participant / member numbers?

- □ Grow
- □ Remain stable
- □ Decline
 - a. What is the main factor affecting your participant / member numbers?

11. What, if anything, prevents potential participants / members from participating in your organization's activities / programs?

12. Please estimate the residency of your organization's participants / members. Your response should add to 100%.

	Percentage
Strathcona County - Sherwood Park	
Strathcona County - Rural	
Edmonton	
Fort Saskatchewan	
Other (please specify):	

13. To what extent do you agree with the following statement?

"The current Strathcona County recreation, parks and culture facilities and spaces meet the needs of our organization."

- □ Strongly agree
- □ Somewhat agree
- □ Somewhat disagree
- □ Strangly disagree
- I don't know

14. Does your organization use spaces or facilities outside of Strathcona County as a regular part of your activities / programs?

- □ Yes
- \Box Not sure (skip to question 15)
- 🗆 No

a. Why does your organization use spaces or facilities outside Strathcona County?

15. What spaces or facilities outside of Strathcona County does your organization use?

16. I	Please identify any enhancements to Strathcona County recreati	on, parks and culture facilities or spaces that your
0	organization currently uses that would improve your organizatio	n's satisfaction with them.

(If appropriate, please identify the specific sites / locations that correspond with the specific improvements.)

Section 3: About the Need for New and / or Upgraded Facilities and Spaces

- 17. In your opinion, is there a need for Strathcona County to enhance its current INDOOR recreation/culture facilities and amenities or create additional ones?
 - □ Yes
 - □ No (skip to question 19)
 - Don't know
- 18. Please select up to five (5) **INDOOR** recreation and culture facilities and amenities that should be more readily available or enhanced in Strathcona County from the perspective of your group. A couple of things to consider:
 - There are costs to building and operating recreation and culture facilities and amenities.
 - Your responses will be used to help determine priorities for planning purposes. This may not lead to changes in an existing facility or to building a new facility.
 - □ Archery range
 - Combative sports areas (e.g. judo, karate, tae kwon do, wrestling, etc.)
 - □ Community group offices / storage
 - Courts (e.g. raquetball, squash, etc.)
 - □ Curling rink and lounge
 - □ Indoor fields (e.g. soccer, football, baseball, etc.)
 - □ Fitness / wellness spaces (e.g. fitness classes / strength training)
 - □ Fitness track (e.g. jogging, walking, etc.)

- Gymnasiums (e.g. pickleball, badminton, floor hockey, basketball, volleyball, etc.)
- Ice arenas
- □ Indoor playgrounds
- □ Leisure ice arenas (e.g. Leisure pond at Millenium Place)
- Meeting spaces and multi-use program spaces
- Multi-purpose sport surfaces (e.g. roller / ball hockey, roller derby, lacrosse)

- □ Museum and archive spaces
- □ Performing arts theatres
- Public art (e.g. murals, sculptures, statues)
- □ Social / banquet facilities (e.g. community halls)
- □ Swimming pools
- Visual arts program spaces (e.g. Smeltzer House, Clay Hut Pottery Studio, Gallery @501)
- □ Other (please specify):_____
- 19. In your opinion, is there a need for Strathcona County to enhance its current OUTDOOR recreation/culture facilities and amenities or create additional ones?

□ Yes

- □ No (skip to question 21)
- Don't know

- 20. Please select up to five (5) OUTDOOR recreation and culture spaces and amenities that should be more readily available or enhanced in Strathcona County from the perspective of your group. A couple of things to consider:
 - There are costs to building and operating recreation and culture spaces and amenities.
 - Your responses will be used to help determine priorities for planning purposes. This may not lead to changes in an existing facility or to building a new facility.
 - □ Amphitheatres / bandstands
 - □ Archery range
 - □ Athletic grounds (track and field)
 - □ Ball diamonds
 - □ BMX bicycle parks
 - □ Campgrounds
 - □ Cross country ski / snowshoe trails
 - □ Courts basketball
 - □ Courts one-wall handball
 - □ Courts pickleball
 - □ Courts sand volleyball
 - □ Courts tennis

and festivals

- □ Disc golf
- □ Dog off-leash park and areas
- □ Event grounds for special events

- □ Golf courses
- □ History / museum
- □ Rinks (boarded with ice in winter, hard surface in spring / summer / fall)

- skidoos etc.)
- □ Mountain bike trails
- □ Trails (non-mechanized for biking,
- □ Natural areas
- Park Pollinator Habitat, Smeltzer
- □ Picnic areas / shelters

- □ Playgrounds
- □ Public art (e.g. murals, sculptures, statues)
- □ Skateboard parks
- □ Sports fields artificial turf
- □ Sports fields cricket pitch
- Sports fields field hockey or lacrosse
- □ Sports fields football
- □ Sports fields soccer
- □ Sports fields rugby
- □ Spray parks / spray decks
- □ Swimming pool (outdoor)
- □ Toboggan hills
- □ Other (please specify):_

Section 4: Willingness to Pay

- 21. User fees include the entrance fees at a facility or cost to rent space such as an arena or field. Would your group be willing pay increased user fees to support enhancements to recreation and culture opportunities in Strathcona County?
 - □ Yes
 - 🗆 No
 - □ Not sure

Section 5: Partnerships

22. Partnering

Does your organization partner with the other organizations / groups / entities within Strathcona County to provide recreation and cultural opportunities?

- □ Yes
- □ No (skip to question 23)
- □ Not sure (skip to question 23)
 - a. If "yes", please briefly describe the partnership(s).

- □ Skating rinks (non-hockey)
- □ Ice skating trails
- □ Mechanized use trails (i.e. ATVs,

 - walking, jogging, etc.)

 - □ Ornamental parks (e.g. Centennial House Botanical Garden)

23. Partnering outside of Strathcona County

Does your organization partner with the other organizations / groups / entities outside of Strathcona County to provide recreation and cultural opportunities?

- □ Yes
- □ No (skip to question 24)
- □ Not sure (skip to question 24)
 - a. If "yes", please briefly describe the partnership(s).

24. Aside from what you may have described in the previous question, what opportunities are there (if any) for organizations in Strathcona County to work together to enhance the delivery of recreation and cultural services?

Section 6: Challenges and County Support

25. What are the challenges facing your organization? Select all that apply.

- □ Lack of financial resources
- □ Lack of volunteers / volunteer burn out
- □ Finding coaches or instructors
- □ Inability to reach target market
- □ Other (please specify):___
- 26. Considering the challenges indicated, what is the **single most important action** that Strathcona County could do to help your organization?
- 27. Please use the space below to provide any additional comments regarding recreation and culture in Strathcona County specific to your group's needs.

Thank you for sharing your feedback.

Youth Survey–Strathcona County

STRATHCONA COUNTY

(Recreation and Culture Strategy)

Open Survey

Strathcona County is taking a look at recreation, parks and culture in our community. We want to know what is important to you, but if you do not want to complete the survey, that is ok. Your answers and ideas will help us plan for the future. This survey will take about 5 minutes to complete and is anonymous. Do not put your name or personal information anywhere in the survey. Your answers will be confidential as the final report will only have summary information. You can find the results of this survey on the County's website at www.strathcona.ca/recreationculture.

Personal information is protected under authority of section 33 (c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used in the management and administration of Strathcona County's Recreation and Culture Strategy. Your name and address are not linked to your survey responses. If you opt in to receive further contact from Strathcona County, your contact information will be used to send you future communications. If you have any questions regarding the collection or use of your personal information by Strathcona County, please contact the Recreation Analyst at 780-467-2211.

- 1. What are your favourite types of recreation and cultural activities? (Select all that apply.)
 - □ 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)
 - Dutdoor water activities (e.g. non-motorized activities such as canoeing, spray parks, swimming)
 - □ 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 recreation/cultural activities or programs?
 - □ Yes
 - □ No (skip to question 3)

a. What is stopping you from participating in one or more recreation/cultural activities or programs? Select all that apply.

- Busy with other activities
- □ Lack of facilities
- □ Poor / lower quality facilities
- □ Price of admission
- Price of equipment
- Don't feel like participating / lack of motivation
- □ Too far / lack of transportation

- Overcrowded facilities
- I am not physically able to
- └└ participate
- $\hfill\square$ Quality of programs
- Activities are in places that □ are not physically accessible
- for me
- □ Timing of activities
- My interests don't match available programs

- Don't know what's available
- Intimidated (e.g. don't know □ rules of the game; don't feel
- comfortable)
- □ Health issues
- My friends don't like the same activities I do / no one to participate with
- Other (please specify):_____

- 3. Think about all of the recreation and cultural programs and activities that you have participated in over the last couple of years. When there are fees, who typically pays for you to participate?
 - □ My parents generally pay for program / activity fees.
 - □ I generally pay for program / activity fees.
 - □ Both my parents and I pay for program / activity fees.
 - □ My fees are subsidized through the Recreation Access Program.
 - □ Other (please specify):_
- 4. 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 5)
 - a. Of the following **INDOOR** facilities and spaces, pick up to 5 you feel are important to offer in our community.
 - □ Archery range
 - □ Combative sports areas (e.g. judo, karate, tae kwon do, wrestling, etc.)
 - □ Courts (e.g. raquetball, squash, etc.)
 - □ Curling rink
 - □ Indoor fields (e.g. soccer, football, baseball, etc.)
 - Fitness / wellness spaces (e.g. spin class / strength training)
 - □ Fitness tracks for fitness / jogging / walking

- Gymnasiums (e.g. badminton, floor hockey, basketball, volleyball)
- Ice arenas
- □ Indoor playgrounds
- □ Leisure ice arenas (e.g. Leisure pond at Millenium Place)
- Multi-use program spaces (e.g. youth lounge, study space)
- Multi-purpose sport surfaces (e.g. roller / ball hockey, roller derby, lacrosse)
- □ Museum

- □ Performing arts theatres (e.g. Festival Place)
- □ Public art (e.g. murals, sculptures, statues)
- □ Social facilities (e.g. community hall)
- □ Swimming pools
- □ Visual arts program spaces (e.g. Smeltzer House, Clay Hut, Gallery @501)
- □ Other (please specify):___
- 5. 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 6)
 - a. Of the following **OUTDOOR** facilities and spaces, pick up to 5 you feel are important to offer in our community.
 - □ Amphitheatres (e.g. outdoor stage)
 - □ Archery range
 - □ Athletic grounds (track and field)
 - □ Ball diamonds
 - □ Bike parks
 - □ Campgrounds
 - Cricket pitches
 - □ Cross country ski / snowshoe trails
 - □ Courts basketball
 - Courts one-wall handball
 - □ Courts pickleball
 - □ Courts sand volleyball
 - □ Courts tennis
 - □ Disc golf
 - Dog off-leash park and areas

- Event grounds for special events and festivals
- □ Golf courses
- □ History / heritage interpretive areas
- □ Ice rinks (boarded with ice in winter, hard surface in spring / summer / fall)
- □ Ice skating trails
- □ Motorized trails (i.e. ATVs, skidoos etc.)
- □ Mountain bike trails
- □ Multi-use trails (nonmechanized for biking, walking, jogging, etc.)
- □ Natural areas (e.g. tree stands, ponds
- Ornamental parks (e.g. flower gardens, Smeltzer House Botanical Garden)

- □ Public art (e.g. murals, sculptures, statues)
- □ Skateboard parks
- □ Skating rinks (non-hockey)
- □ Sports fields field hockey or lacrosse
- □ Sports fields football
- □ Sports fields soccer
- □ Sports fields rugby
- □ Spray parks
- □ Swimming pool (outdoor)
- Toboggan hills
- □ Other (please specify):_

- □ Picnic areas / shelters
- □ Playgrounds

6. Think about only the following culture facilities and spaces. Please rank them in order of importance from 1 to 4. A rank of 1 means that you think it's important to offer in our community. A ranking of 4 means you think it is not as important.

	1	2	3	4
Historical / heritage interpretive areas / museums				
Performing arts theatre (e.g. Festival Place for dance, music, acting)				
Public art (e.g. murals, sculptures, statues)				
Visual arts spaces (e.g. Smeltzer House, Clay Hut, Gallery@501				

a. Please list any recreation, parks or cultural programs that you don't participate in now but would like to. *Please do not include any personally identifying information in your responses*

- b. Is there anything els you would like to tell us as we plan for the future of recreation , parks and culture in Strathcona County? Please do not include any personally identifying information in your responses
- 7. Where do you live?
 - □ Sherwood Park
 - Rural Strathcona County
 - Do not live in Strathcona County
- 8. What is your age range?
 - □ 11 12 years old
 - □ 13 14 years old
 - 15 16 years old
 - 17 18 years old
 - □ 19+ years old

Thank you for sharing your feedback.









