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1 Introduction

The provision of recreation and parks experiences and opportunities is a highly valued and important public service that Leduc County provides to its residents. These experiences and opportunities are important contributors to creating a physically and socially healthy community. To better understand the current and future needs for parks and recreation facilities and services, Leduc County is undertaking the development of a Recreation and Parks Master Plan. The Master Plan is a roadmap to guide the delivery of parks and recreation experiences and opportunities. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan will be a guiding document for the County, its partners, and residents for the next 10 to 15 years.

The Master Plan will be developed based on a thorough research program, including a comprehensive engagement component. Understanding the perspectives of the community is critical in this development. While the decisions the County makes regarding recreation and parks provision cannot be based entirely on the opinions of the community, the input gathered from the public, community groups, and community stakeholders is a significant contributor.

This document presents the findings gathered through the multi-pronged engagement strategy. Each tactic employed is described with the findings presented. It is important to note that the findings are a direct reflection of the information gathered. This information then serves as an input, along with other research (and presented under a separate cover), as the Recreation and Parks Master Plan is completed.

2 Engagement Findings

The engagement plan included a variety of tactics aimed at gathering a breadth of community input related to recreation and parks provision. The tactics are noted in the following table along with the levels of participation.

Engagement Tactic	Participation
Community Events – Sounding Boards	100+
Resident Survey	181 responses ¹
Community Group Survey	29 responses
Operator Survey	3 responses
Community & Stakeholder Discussions	14 meetings with 15 different entities

For each of the tactics identified in the table, a description of the fielding process and the findings gathered is presented below.

^{1 4,693} postcards were distributed. The 181 responses equates to approximately a 3.8% response rate. If the survey was fielded randomly the findings would be considered accurate to within +/- 7.3% 19 times out of 20.

2.1 Community Events – Sounding Boards

The engagement kicked out through "pop-up" events. County staff attended several community events that had been planned to inform attendees about the Recreation and Parks Master Plan and the opportunities for public engagement that will be part of the Master Plan's development. At the same time, to get people thinking about recreation provision in Leduc County, a few questions were posed to attendees. In total, County staff attended three events and interacted with over 100 attendees. The events attended included:

- Telford Ice Cream Social
- Looma Hall Seniors Concert
- · East Vistas Ice Cream Social



Sessions Synopsis

Three primary questions were posed. A compilation of the responses is presented below for each question.

Activities In Which People Participate

- · Indoor activities
 - » Ice activities (e.g. hockey, skating)
 - » Gymnasium sports (e.g. floor hockey, gymnastics, badminton, pickleball)
 - » Aquatic activities (e.g. swimming, aerobics)
 - » Fitness (e.g. walking)
 - » Cultural activities (e.g. art)
- · Outdoor activities
 - » Field sports (e.g. soccer)
 - » Court sports (e.g. pickleball
 - » Walking / hiking
 - » Non motorized snow sports (e.g. nordic skiing)
 - » Ice activities (e.g. skating)
 - » Equestrian activities
 - » Nature activities (e.g. fishing)

What Is Missing in Recreation Provision

- Programs for "tots"
- Programs during "normal" work hours
- Programs and events for teens / youth (e.g. floor hockey, sledding, skating)
- Open gym times
- · Non motorized trails walking, equestrian, skiing
- Seniors events / programs

What People Value About Recreation

- Bring people together
- · Community engagement
- · Affordable programs and activities
- The New Sarepta Agriplex



Resident Survey 2.2

The resident survey was intended to gather feedback from households and individuals living in Leduc County. An online survey was fielded (a hard copy of the questionnaire was available) with the link hosted on the County's website. Using Canada Post's neighbourhood mail process, postcards were sent to each household in Leduc County. The postcard promoted the Master Plan and the survey; it also included a unique code that households would use to access the survey.

The survey was promoted by Leduc County in a variety of ways, including through:

- newspaper advertisements in the County Market, Devon Dispatch, Beaumont News, Thorsby Target and Warburg Bugle
- · roadside signs
- social media posts on Leduc County's Facebook and Twitter accounts
- paid social media advertisements on Leduc County's Facebook account
- · Leduc County's website
- · email newsletters through the County's public participation e-newsletter
- · community events

An open version of the questionnaire was also available for County residents. In total 181 responses were collected across the two versions of the survey. The findings from the surveys are combined and presented below. They follow the order that the questions were asked in the survey. Not all respondents answered all questions, the percentages shown represent those who answered the questions. Some graphs may not add to 100% due to rounding.

HOW WE COMMUNICATED













HOW YOU PARTICIPATED





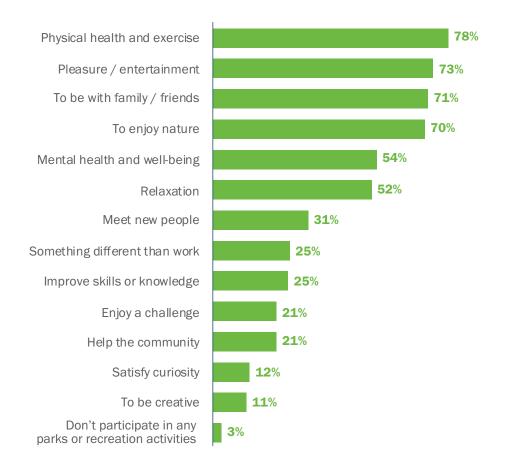




Section One: Current Activities and Participation

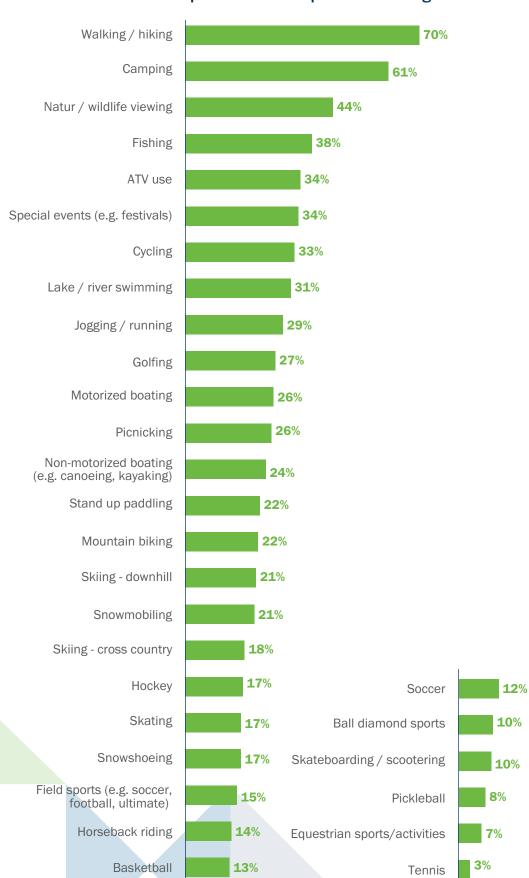
To begin the survey, respondents were asked to identify what motivates them or household members to participate in parks and recreation activities. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, approximately three quarters of respondents said their motivations are: physical health and exercise (78%); pleasure / entertainment (73%); to be with family and friends (71%); and to enjoy nature (70%).

What Motivates Participation in Recreation and Parks Activities?



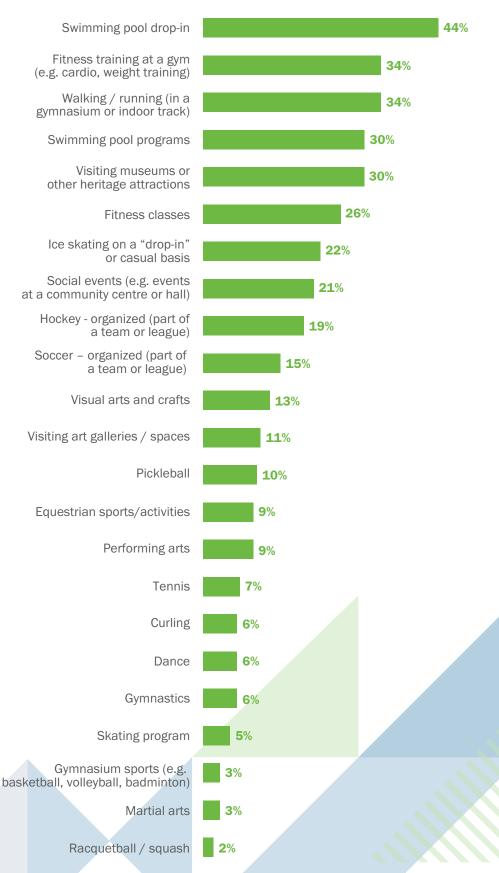
Next, respondents were asked to identify the indoor and outdoor activities they and members of their households participate in on a regular basis (at least twice per month). The most common indoor activities includes: swimming (drop-in), fitness training at the gym, walking / running at the gym, programs at swimming pools, and visiting museums and other heritage attractions. Refer to the graph for other indoor activities that are regularly participated in.

Indoor Activities Respondents Participate in on a Regular Basis



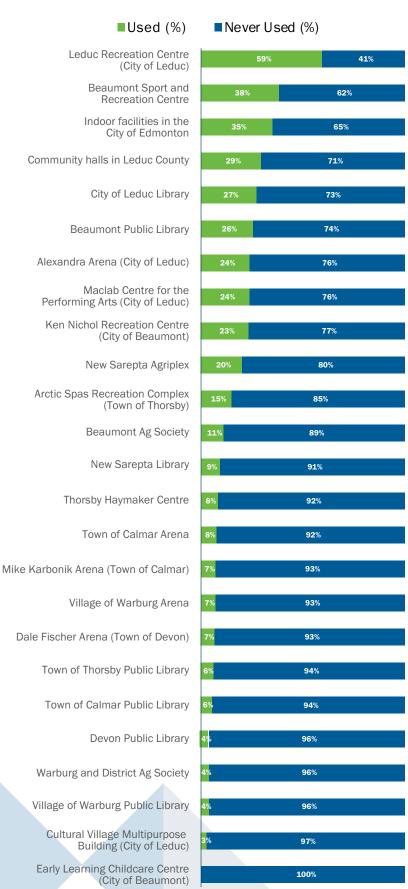
Considering outdoor activities, walking / hiking (70%) and camping (61%) were the most common activities in which people regularly participate in. Refer to the following graph for other activities.

Outdoor Activities Respondents Participate in on a Regular Basis



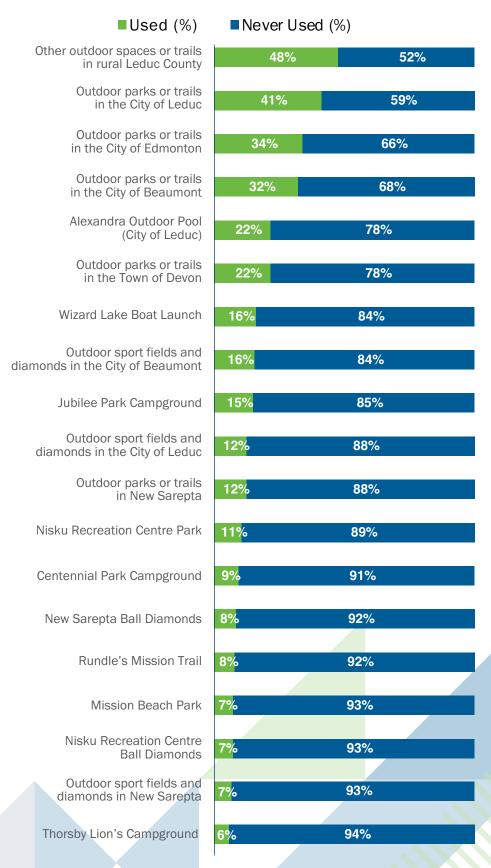
There are many indoor and outdoor recreation and parks facilities and spaces that Leduc County residents can use or visit. Given a list of these, respondents were asked to indicate whether a household member used or visited each within the previous three years. Considering indoor facilities, over half (59%) of respondents used the Leduc Recreation Centre in the previous 3 years. Beaumont Sport and Recreation Centre (38%) and indoor facilities in Edmonton (35%) were the facilities visited by the next largest segment of respondent households. Refer to the graph for additional responses.

Usage of Indoor Facilities and Spaces by Respondents

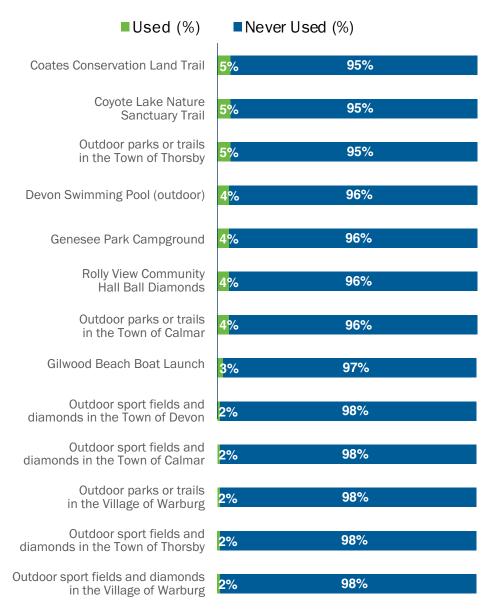


Considering outdoor facilities and spaces, almost half (48%) used or visited outdoor spaces and trails in rural Leduc County beyond those specific ones asked about in the question. Outdoor parks or trails in Leduc, Edmonton, and Beaumont were visited by the next largest segment of respondent households. Refer to the graph for additional answers.

Usage of Outdoor Facilities and Spaces by Respondents



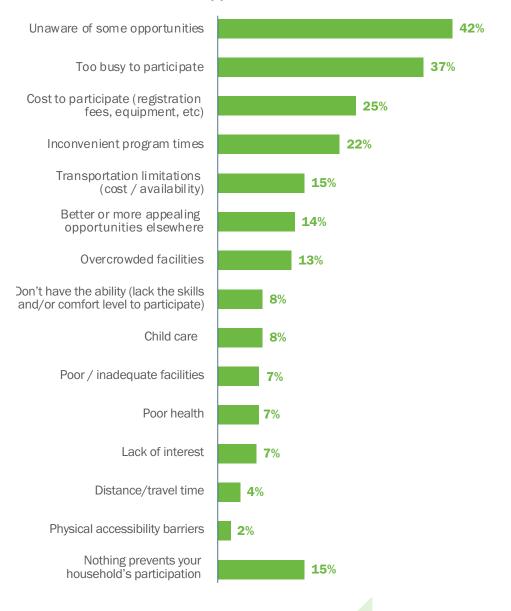
Usage of Outdoor Facilities and Spaces by Respondents (Continued)



Finally in this section, respondents were asked to identify barriers that prevent household members from participation in recreation and parks services and opportunities in the Leduc Region. A lack of awareness (42%) and being too busy (37%) are the most cited barriers. As illustrated in the graph, four percent (4%) said distance / travel time is a barrier.

There were a few comments provided that said programs fill up very quickly and that has impacted people's participation.

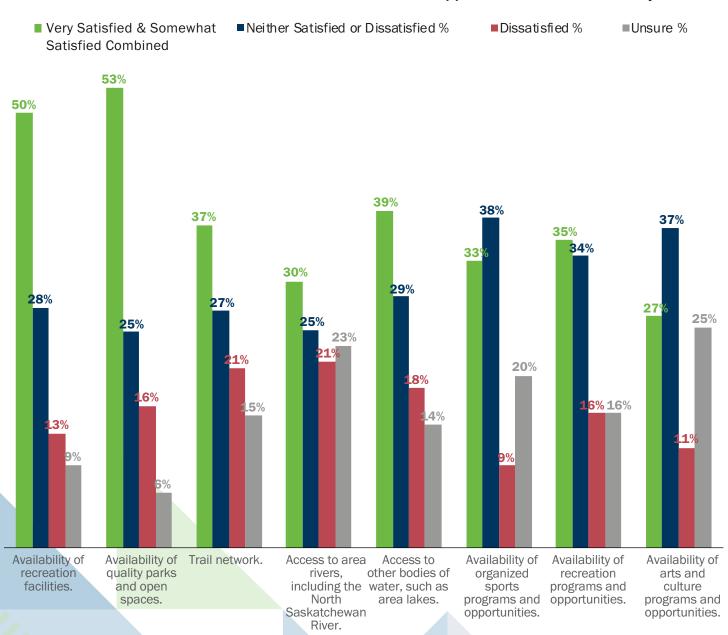
Barriers to Participating in Recreation & Parks Services & Opportunities



Section Two: Satisfaction

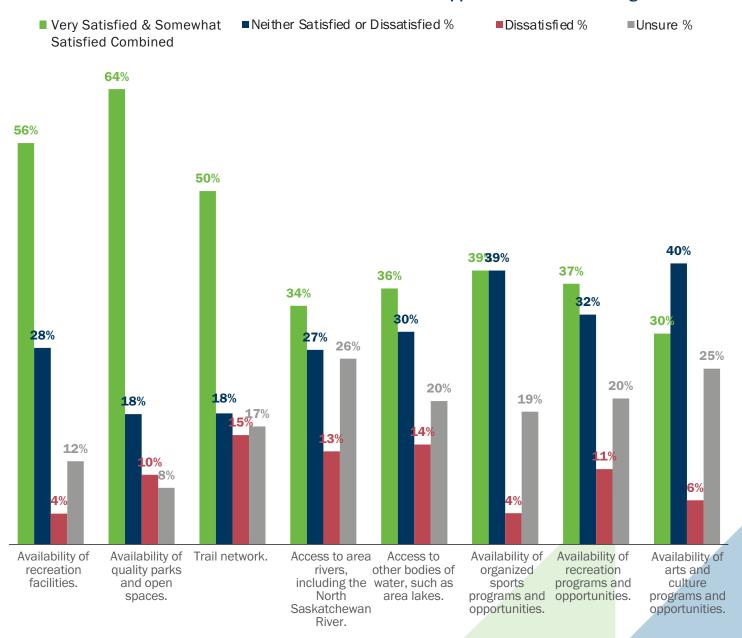
In this section respondents were asked to rate their level of satisfaction with different aspects of recreation and parks services and opportunities in Leduc County itself and then in the Leduc Region. As illustrated in the following graph, about half (53%) of respondents are satisfied with the availability of quality parks and open spaces in Leduc County while 16% are dissatisfied. Half (50%) are satisfied with the availability of recreation facilities. Approximately one-third (30%) are satisfied with access to area rivers while 21% are dissatisfied.

Satisfaction With Recreation & Parks Services & Opportunities in Leduc County



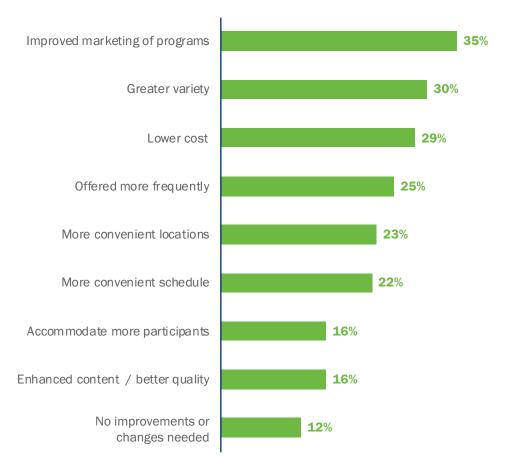
When rating their levels of satisfaction regarding recreation and parks services and opportunities in the Leduc region, the levels of satisfaction are higher than the ratings for Leduc County except for access to bodies of water such as area lakes. Thirty-nine percent (39%) are satisfied with access in Leduc County while 36% are satisfied in the Leduc region. Satisfaction with the availability of quality parks and open spaces (64% vs 53%) and the trail network (50% vs 37%) is higher considering the Leduc region than considering Leduc County. See the following graph for satisfaction levels for opportunities in the Leduc region.

Satisfaction With Recreation & Parks Services & Opportunities in Leduc Region



When asked about improvements or changes needed regarding recreation and parks programs and opportunities, approximately one-third (35%) said there is a need for improved marketing of programs. Greater variety (30%) and lower cost (29%) were the next most commonly mentioned improvements. See the graph.

Usage of Indoor Facilities and Spaces by Respondents



Respondents offered a number of comments related to their satisfaction with recreation and parks programs and opportunities. The most commonly mentioned include the following:

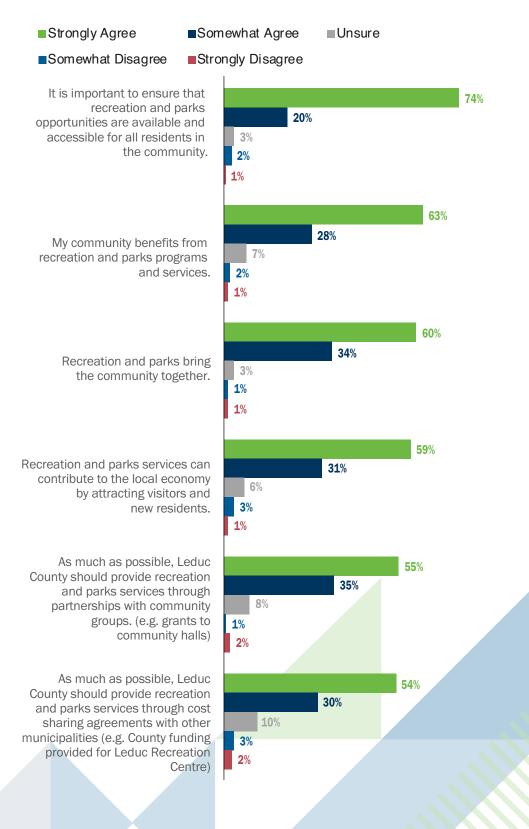
- Additional trails are needed, particularly connecting subdivisions and communities within the County.
 Ensuring that they are accessible for people with mobility issues and separate from motorized use is desirable.
- Programs, especially swimming lessons, fill up very quickly. More opportunities should be available.
- There is a lack of awareness of the opportunities available. Information sharing for new residents would be helpful as would regular messaging.

- Country residential subdivisions should have fully developed parks including playgrounds. Royal Oaks / Diamond Estates was cited as an example.
- Boat launches need some attention. Those available need to be better maintained and cheaper to use. Additional launches (for non motorized as well) would help provide access to the area's lakes.
- High fees impact people's ability to access facilities and programs.

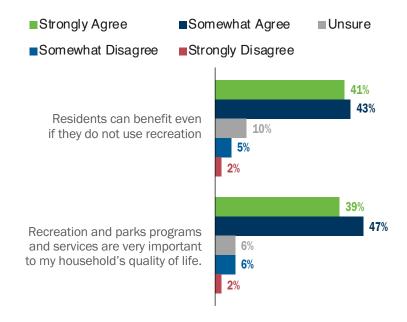
Section Three: Values and Considerations

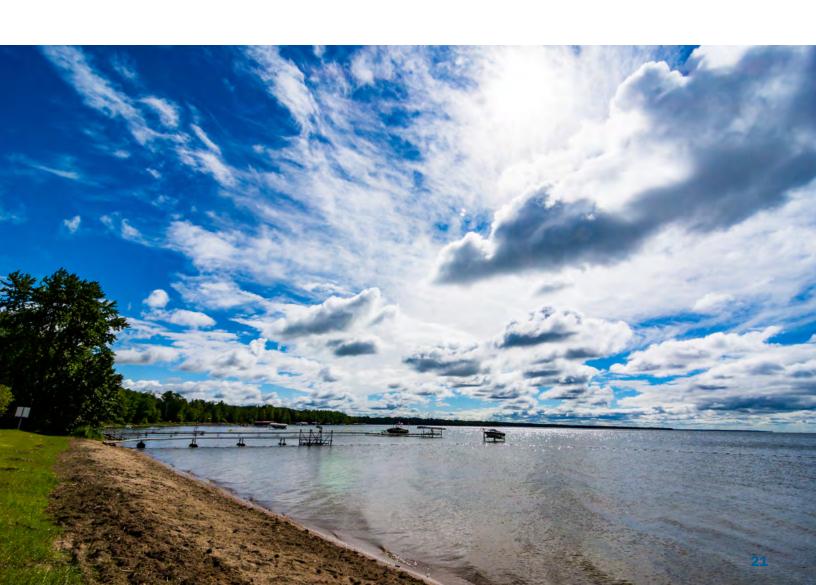
Respondents were presented with a series of value statements about recreation and parks and asked the extent to which they agreed with each. As can be seen in the graph, while there were large majorities that agreed (strongly and somewhat agreed) with each value, almost three-quarters (74%) strongly agreed that it is important to ensure recreation and parks opportunities are available and accessible for all residents in the community.

Values & Considerations



Values & Considerations (Continued)



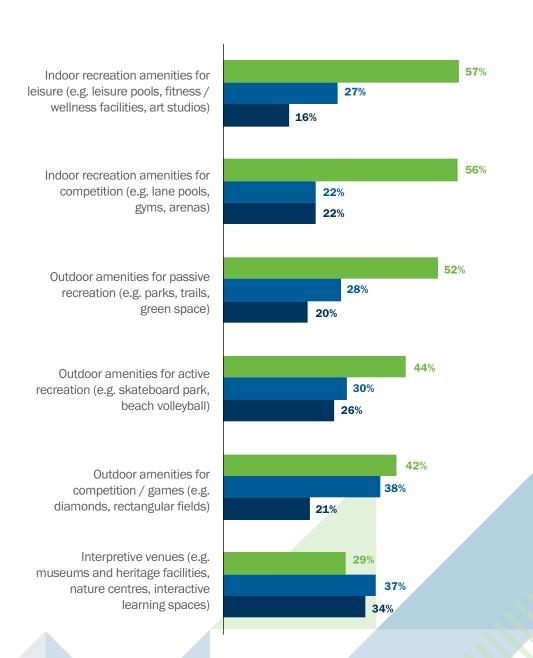


Section Four: Willingness to Travel

For residents living in a rural municipality, there can be a need to travel to access recreation and parks opportunities. Respondents were asked about their willingness to travel to different recreation and parks amenities to the point that travel becomes a barrier to participation. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, approximately one-third of respondents (34%) said travel time is not a barrier when visiting interpretive venues. Respondents are less willing to travel for indoor recreation amenities.

Respondents' Willingness to Travel (one way) to Use Recreation and Parks Facilities

- willing to travel up to 20 min (one way)
- willing to travel up to 21 40 min (one way)
- travel time is not a barrier



Section Five: Future Priorities and Focus Areas

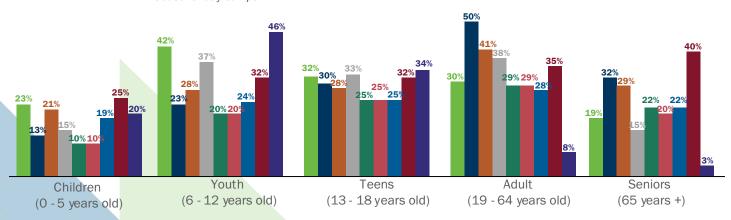
This section asks respondents to identify programs that should be more readily available in the Leduc region as well as future investment in facilities and amenities. To begin, however, respondents were provided with a list of program types and asked if each of them should be more readily available in the Leduc region for different age groups. The most commonly identified program type by age group includes the following:

- Young children (0-5 yrs) one-quarter (25%) of respondents said there is a need for programs that encourage socialization.
- Youth (6-12 yrs) 46% identified seasonal day camps as a need and 42% said nature / outdoor education programming is needed.

- Teens (13-18 yrs) 34% identified seasonal day camps as a need and 32% said nature / outdoor education programming is needed.
- Adult (19-64 yrs) half (50%) said fitness and wellness programming should be more readily available.
- Seniors (65 years+) 40% said programs that encourage socialization should be more readily available.

Additional Programming by Age

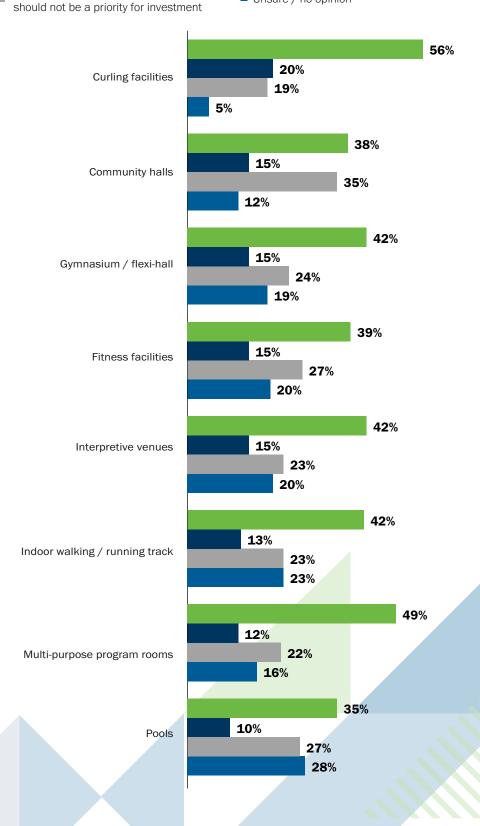
- Nature / outdoor education programming
- Fitness and wellness programming
- Casual recreation programming (drop-in and unstructured types of programs)
- Organized sports teams, leagues, and clubs
- Visual arts and culture programming
- Performing arts and culture programming
- Programs for individuals facing social, physical, or cognitive barriers to participation
- Programs that encourage socialization
- Seasonal day camps



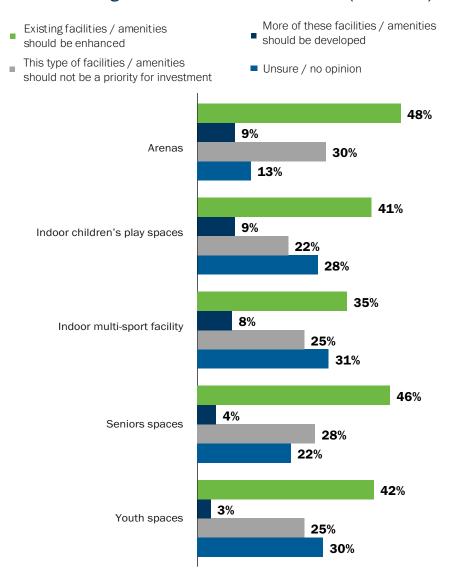
Given a list of facilities and amenities, respondents were asked whether the facility / amenity should be enhanced (if they already exist), if more of them should be developed, if the facility / amenity should not be a priority for investment, or if they are unsure or have no opinion. Respondents were informed that the Master Plan will provide direction for investment and that the County has limited resources for investment. Given a list of indoor facilities and amenities, the following graph illustrates that the greatest proportion of respondents is unsure or has no opinion. Considering the facilities and amenities that the respondents think should be developed, the largest proportion identified: indoor multi-sport facility (31%); youth spaces (30%); indoor children's play spaces (28%); and pools (28%). Considering enhancements to existing, the largest proportion were for community halls (35%); seniors spaces (28%); pools (27%); and fitness facilities (27%).

Prioritizing Investment in Indoor Facilities





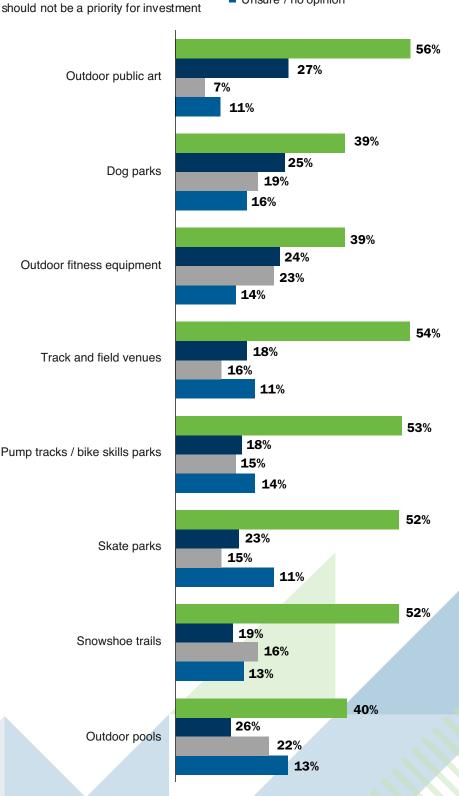
Prioritizing Investment in Indoor Facilities (Continued)



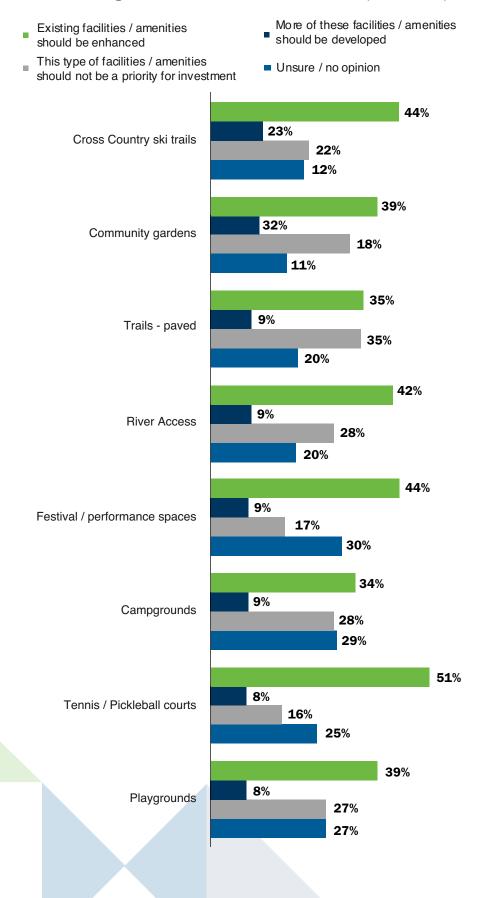
Given a list of outdoor facilities and amenities, the following graph illustrates that the greatest proportion of respondents is unsure or has no opinion except in two instances. For trails - natural surface 42% of respondents think that more should be developed compared to 32% who are unsure. For BBQ / picnic areas and park shelters, 33% said the existing facilities and amenities should be enhanced compared to 31% who are unsure or have no opinion. Paved trails (35%), community gardens (32%), spray parks (32%), all were identified by a sizeable proportion as the County needing more of them. BBQ / picnic areas / park shelters (33%), festival / community performance spaces (30%), campgrounds (29%) were all identified as in need of enhancement by the largest pool of respondents.

Prioritizing Investment in Outdoor Facilities

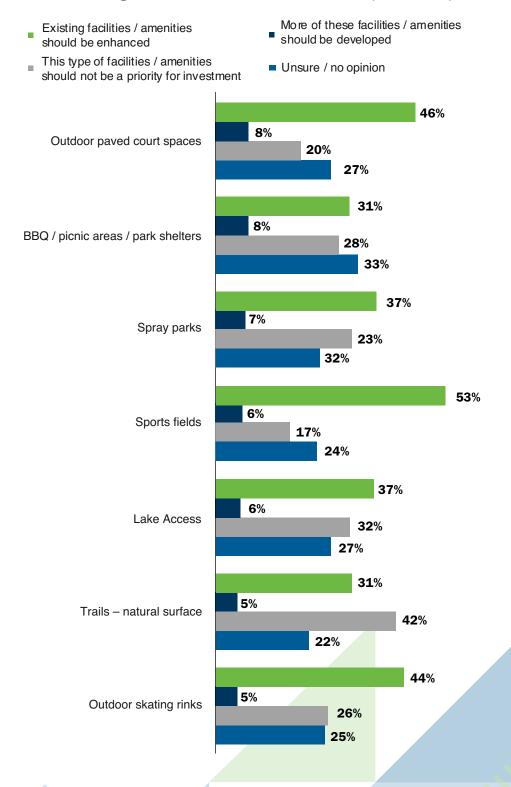
- Existing facilities / amenities should be enhanced
- This type of facilities / amenities should not be a priority for investment
- More of these facilities / amenities should be developed
- Unsure / no opinion



Prioritizing Investment in Outdoor Facilities (Continued)

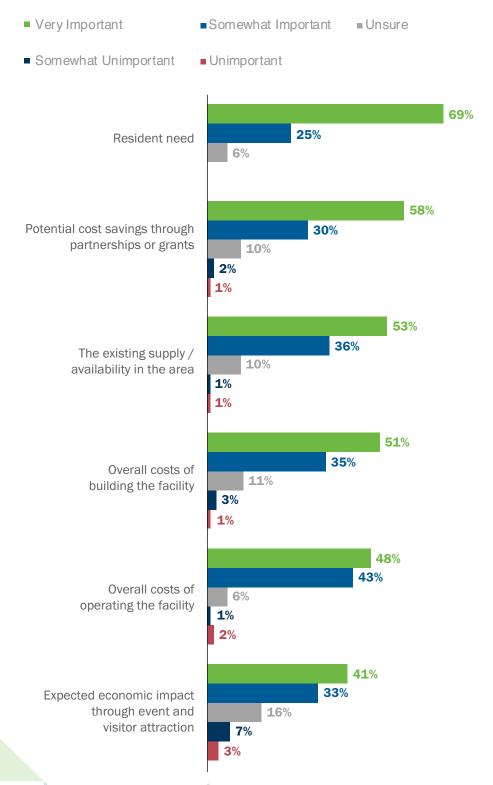


Prioritizing Investment in Outdoor Facilities (Continued)



Finally in this section, respondents were given with a list of criteria that the County could use when prioritizing one facility or amenity over another. There are limited resources so priorities need to be set. For each criteria, respondents were asked to indicate how important it should be when facility or amenity projects are prioritized. As illustrated in the graph, approximately two-thirds (69%) said resident need is a very important criteria. All criteria were considered very or somewhat important however. Expected economic impact was considered, relatively speaking, the least important of the listed criteria.

Factors for Prioritizing Facilities and Amenities in Leduc County



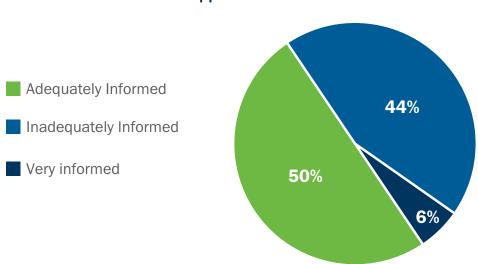
Section Six: Communications

While over half (56%) said they are adequately or very informed about recreation and parks opportunities in Leduc County, almost half (44%) said they are inadequately informed.

Given a list of communications mechanisms, respondents were able to rank their top preferences to learn about recreation and parks opportunities in Leduc County. The top ranked channels are:

- Leduc County website,
- County Chronicle quarterly newsletter, and
- Leduc County Facebook page.

How Informed Are You About Recreation and Parks
Opportunities?



Secondary channels identified include roadside signs, newsletters, posters in facilities, and Leduc County Recreation and Parks Facebook page.

Section Seven: Other Comments

Respondents were provided with the opportunity to comment on any aspect of recreation and parks opportunities in Leduc County. A variety of comments were received with many reiterating points made previously in the survey responses. The most frequently stated comments included the following:

- Promotion of recreation and parks opportunities needs to improve. The information is difficult to find on the County's website and unless one is conducting a focussed search, general information is a challenge to locate. Learning about opportunities can be particularly challenging as well if online information sources are not preferred.
 - » Utilizing community newspapers and local libraries could help when promoting opportunities.
- Rural subdivisions are not all being serviced to the necessary levels as it relates to parks, trails, playgrounds, and other recreation and parks amenities. The development of these subdivisions is encouraged by Leduc County so the services should be provided.
- There is an interest in cycling around and between communities however more infrastructure is needed to provide safe cycling.
- The rural areas are underserved when it comes to recreation and parks provision. The County should be working to ensure there are adequate opportunities in communities throughout Leduc County to enhance everyone's health and wellness.

Section Eight: Household Profile

Residency	
Leduc County	96%
Outside the County	4%

Recreation District				
Beaumont	28%			
Calmar	5%			
Devon	1%			
Leduc	34%			
New Sarepta	20%			
Thorsby	13%			

Tenure in Leduc County				
< 1yr	10%			
1 - 5 years	17%			
6 - 10 years	18%			
11 - 15 years	8%			
16 - 20 years	3%			
21 - 25	7%			
More than 25 years	37%			

Household Composition	
0-4 yrs	7%
5-9 yrs	7%
10-14 yrs	10%
15-19 yrs	5%
20-29 yrs	7%
30-39 yrs	15%
40-49 yrs	14%
50-59 yrs	13%
60-69 yrs	14%
70-79 yrs	7%
80+ yrs	-

Household Composition			
Couple with children	62%		
One-parent (lone) family	3%		
One-person household	2%		
Multigenerational household (at least 3)	9%		
Two or more adults not a couple	9%		
Prefer not to answer	14%		

2.3 Community Group Survey

A survey was fielded with a variety of organizations in Leduc County in September 2022. These organizations included recreation and parks groups but also included a series of others who may use the facilities in Leduc County for recreation related purposes and or work with community members who use these facilities.

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

Invitations were sent in August 2022 with reminders sent to groups throughout the fielding window; responses were gathered from early August through to mid September. In total **29 responses** were gathered; these findings are not representative of all groups in Leduc County. The findings provide insight into the perspectives of the organizations as they relate to Recreation and Culture in Leduc County. Refer to the Appendix for the list of groups.

Throughout the survey, there are references to both Leduc County and the greater Leduc region. References to Leduc County, such as Leduc County parks, recreation and services, refer to services or programs that are provided directly by Leduc County. References to the Leduc region refer to programs and services that Leduc County supports in the region, such as cost-sharing to support facilities, but does not directly provide. The Leduc region includes all of the municipalities found within Leduc County, including the cities of Leduc and Beaumont, towns of Calmar, Devon and Thorsby and the Village of Warburg.

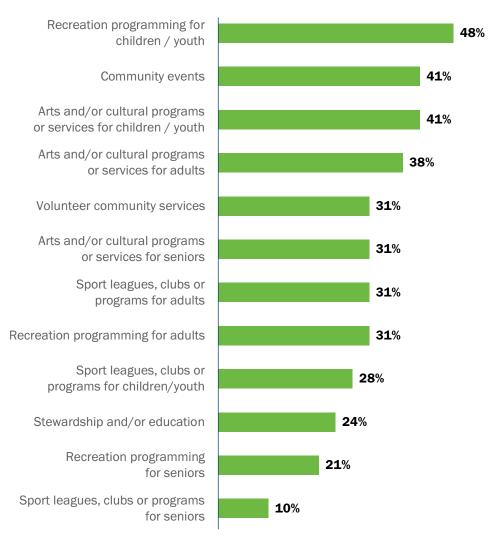
The findings presented below are in the order they were asked in the questionnaire. Because of the size of the participating sample, when examined in subsegments, some findings are presented using raw numbers. The findings are presented using percentages when overall findings are noted.

Section One: About Your Organization and Members/ Participants

The survey began by gathering information about the organizations. There was a broad array of responses from indoor groups, outdoor groups, sports organizations, arts and cultural groups, and others with relation to recreation, community service and stewardship in Leduc County.

As illustrated in the accompanying graph, the respondents provide a range of types of programs and services, some of which are focused on specific age groups, and some of which are available to people of all ages. About half (48%) of respondents provide recreation programming for children / youth. Community events (41%) and arts / cultural activities for children and youth (41%) were the next most offered services. It is important to note that respondents were able to select more than one response.

Activities or Services Delivered



Further analysis yielded additional insights. Over half of the organizations (17 respondents) see their mandate as including more than one type of activity or service. Of the 29 organizations operating in Leduc County there are:

- 5 organizations offer ice-sports. This includes

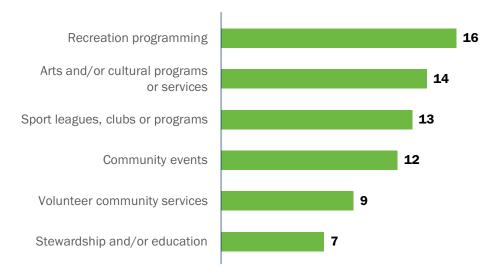
 (ladies) ringette organization and 4 hockey
 organizations (including one ladies hockey
 organization). The hockey organizations range from
 training and development, recreational and shinny
 leagues, to Junior B.
- 5 organizations focus on Arts and Culture, which includes performing arts, choir, dance and multidisciplinary/community arts.
- 5 organizations whose primary purpose is to maintain a multi-use community facility as a public amenity, and offering programming to a diversity of audiences, including 2 libraries, 2 cultural and/ or historical societies, and 1 community hall. 2 of these organizations offer facility rentals.

- 2 are martial arts organizations (taekwon-do and karate)
- 2 organizations have an agricultural focus (1 agricultural society and 1 grain elevator historic site)
- 2 libraries
- 2 offer outdoor ball sports, football and slo-pitch
- 3 are water-based organizations, including 1 indoor (artistic swimming), and 2 outdoor (boating and stewardship).
- 1 cadet group and 1 Girl Guides group.



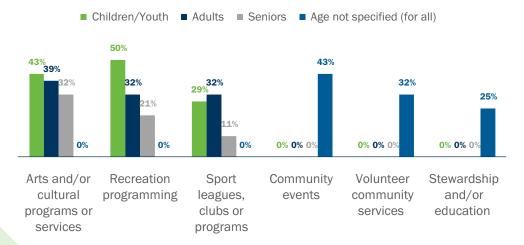
As illustrated in the accompanying graph, the respondents provide a range of types of programs and services, some of which are focused on specific age groups. and some of which are available to people of all ages. In broad strokes, 12 organizations offer more than two types of activities or services, with arts and cultural and recreation programming being the most offered, followed by sports leagues, clubs or programs. There are fewer activities and programs available for seniors than for children/youth and adults. Less than half of the organizations (12 organizations) identified seniors activities as part of their purpose or main activities, with one organization (a seniors club) solely focused on seniors.

of organizations offering each type of activity or service



The respondents provide programs and services to a wide array of ages, with the majority being children, youth and adults. Seniors have the fewest activities available to them. 20 organizations offered activities for children and youth, 21 organizations offered activities and services for adults, 12 organizations included activities for seniors, with 1 organization (a seniors club) solely focused on seniors, 2 organizations focus on women and girls (ringette, hockey and Girl Guides).

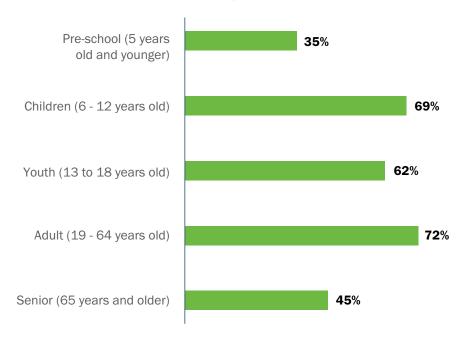
Activities or Services Offered by Age Group



Section Two: About Your Members / Participants

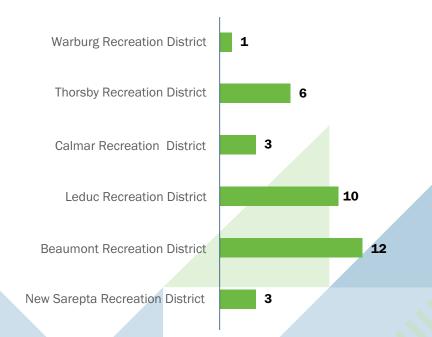
When asked to identify the general age group of the respondents' participants, approximately three-quarters (72%) indicated their participants are adults. Approximately two-thirds serve children. See the graph.

General Participant Age (% of Respondents)



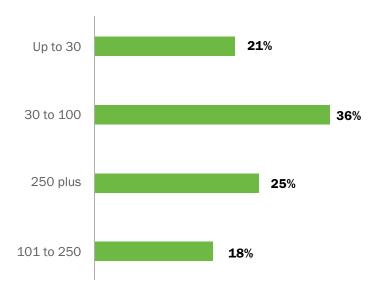
The respondent organizations operate or deliver services across Leduc County, with the majority centred in the Leduc and Beaumont Recreation Districts.

Areas where groups primarily operate or deliver services



In terms of active participants or members, the respondent organizations range from small to large groups. COVID had an impact on many organizations' participation levels. To account for this, rather than looking at participation numbers for one year, the number of active participants represented in the chart below is an average of 2019-2022 of participation numbers.

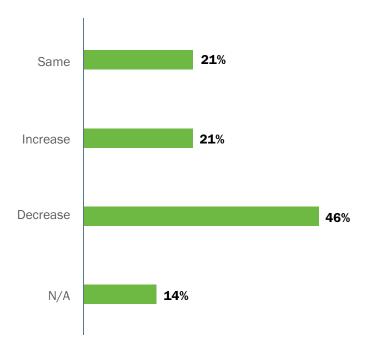
Number of Active Participants in Organization (Average Across 2019-2022)



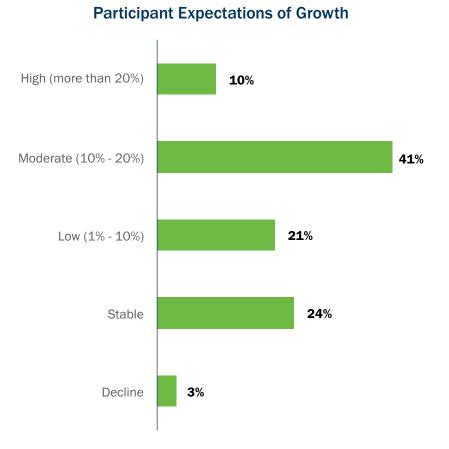
Roughly the same number of organizations saw no change or an increase in participation levels, as those who saw a decrease.

Data limitations: A number of organizations did not provide numbers for all years, their responses are indicated as N/A.

Change in Number of Active Participants Between 2019-2022



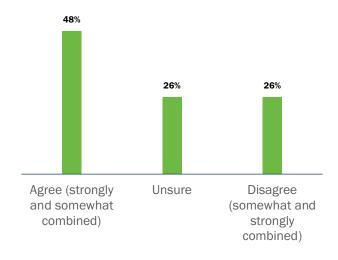
Respondents were asked to identify their expectations for growth in terms of number of participants or members over the next five years. Over 80% of the respondents expect to see an increase, with only 3% anticipating a decline.



Section 3: Current Facilities and Spaces

When asked if the current facilities and spaces meet the needs of the organization, approximately one-quarter (26%) of the respondents stated that the current facilities do not meet the needs of their group, while nearly half (48%) somewhat (26%) or strongly (22%) agreed that the facilities some meet their needs.

Do current facilities & spaces meet your organization's needs?



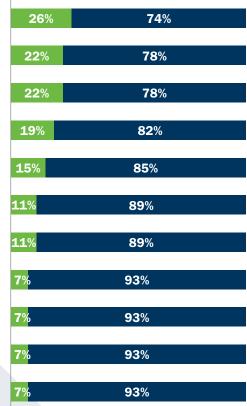
Respondents were provided with a list of recreation and culture facilities and spaces and asked to indicate whether they used each for their programming.

As illustrated in the following graph, the Beaumont Sport and Recreation Centre is used by the largest segment of respondents. Approximately one third (26%) of respondents use the Beaumont Sport and Recreation Centre.²

Indoor Facilities Used by (2) or More Respondents

■% (Total Used) ■% (Never Used)



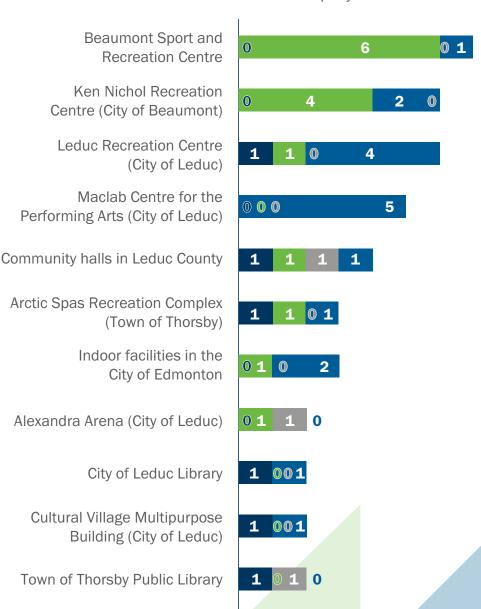


² The facilities that were not used by any respondents (and not included in the graph) were: Beaumont Ag Society. Town, the Calmar Arena, Town of Calmar Public Library, Dale Fischer Arena (Town of Devon), Devon Public Library, Mike Karbonik Arena (Town of Calmar), Thorsby Haymaker Centre, Village of Warburg Arena, Village of Warburg Public Library. Those used by only one respondent were: Beaumont Public Library, Early Learning Childcare Centre (City of Beaumont), New Sarepta Agriplex, New Sarepta Library, Warburg and District Ag Society, and the Beaumont Ag Society. However both the New Sarepta Agriplex and the New Sarpeta Library were each used daily by the one (1) respondent who used them.

For those respondents who had used the facilities, the following graph shows the frequency of that use. Because of the smaller number of respondent organizations using the facilities, this more in-depth look at frequency of use presents the results as raw numbers. The most utilized indoor facilities are recreation centres, used weekly and monthly, with seven (7) groups using the Beaumont Sport and Recreation Centre, and six (6) using the Ken Nichol Recreation Centre. The Leduc Recreation Centre is not used as frequently, but is used several times a year by four (4) groups. While only used by one user group each, the facilities that are used daily in the County are: the Leduc Recreation Centre. Community halls in the Leduc County, the Arctic Spas Recreation Complex, Leduc and Thorsby libraries, and the Cultural Village. The Maclab Centre for Performing Arts, while only used by five (5) respondents, was used a few times a year by those respondents.

Indoor Facility Usage

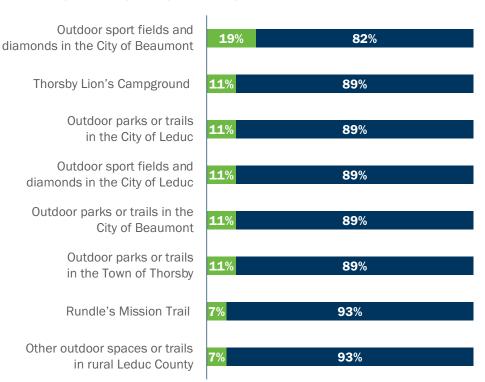
- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly (1 or 2 visits per month)
- A few times per year



Regarding outdoor amenities and spaces, outdoor facilities were less utilized than indoor facilities by respondents over the last three years. Eight of the 32 outdoor amenities listed in the survey were used by respondents. Refer to the graph, which illustrates the outdoor amenities used by two or more respondents.³

Outdoor Amenities and Spaces Used by Two (2) or More Respondents

■% (Total Used) ■% (Never Used)

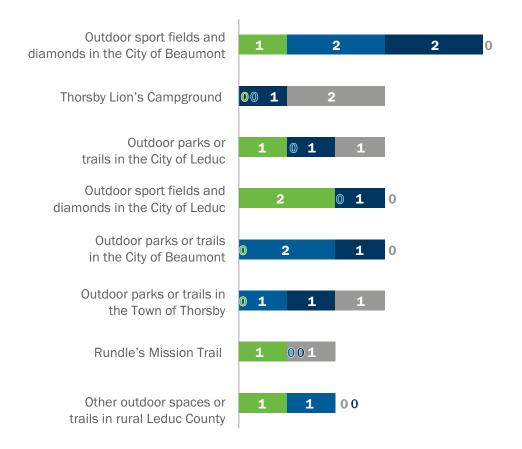


³ The amenities not used by any respondents were: Centennial Park Campground, Coates Conservation Land Trail, Devon Swimming Pool (outdoor). Nisku Recreation Centre Park, New Sarepta Ball Diamonds, Rolly View Community Hall Ball Diamonds, Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in New Sarepta, Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in the Town of Thorsby, Outdoor parks or trails in the Town of Calmar, Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in the Town of Calmar, Outdoor parks or trails in the Village of Warburg, Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in the Village of Warburg. Amenities used by only one respondent each were: Alexandra Outdoor Pool (City of Leduc), Coyote Lake Nature Sanctuary Trail, Genesee Park Campground, Gilwood Beach Boat Launch, Jubilee Park Campground, Mission Beach Park, Nisku Recreation Centre Ball Diamonds, Wizard Lake Boat Launch, Outdoor parks or trails in the City of Edmonton, Outdoor parks or trails in New Sarepta, Outdoor parks or trails in the Town of Devon, Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in the Town of Devon.

Outdoor sports fields and diamonds in the City of Beaumont were the most frequently used, with daily, weekly and monthly use by 5 groups. Outdoor parks, trails and sports fields and diamonds in the City of Leduc were also among the top outdoor amenities used.

Outdoor Facility Usage

- Daily or almost daily (5 or more visits per week)
- Weekly (1 or 2 times per week)
- Monthly (1 or 2 visits per month)
- A few times per year

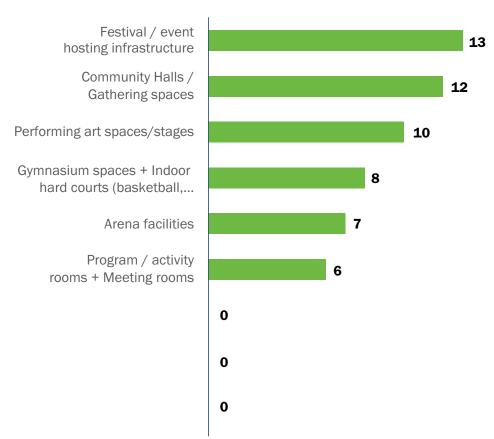


Section Four: Investment Priorities

Respondents were asked to select up to three (3) **indoor** recreation facilities and spaces that Leduc County should focus investment on as a future priority. Facilities for festivals/events, gathering and performing arts were the top types of facilities selected by respondents, with over 50% of respondents selected festival/ event hosting infrastructure, and half (50%) selecting community halls/gathering spaces.

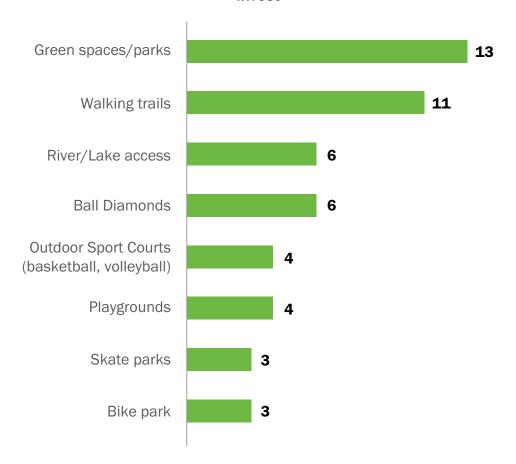
Other indoor facilities and spaces that were identified by multiple respondents included: fitness facilities, children play areas, meeting rooms, an arts centre, pools, a turf field with indoor capabilities either temporary or permanent, that could be used for tournaments and winter football camps, and spaces that feature accessibility for all types of learners and doers.

Priority Indoor Recreation Facilities and Spaces



Considering **outdoor** recreation facilities and spaces that Leduc County should focus investment on, the most frequently identified spaces were green spaces/parks (13 respondents) and walking trails (11 respondents).

Outdoor Facilities & Spaces in Which Leduc County Should Invest



Section 5: Organizational Challenges

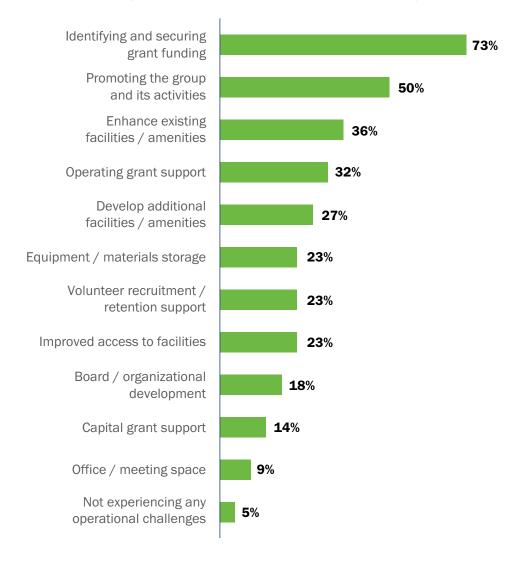
Respondents were asked to identify any operational challenges they are facing. Over half of the organizations (57%) are experiencing challenges related to funding and costs. Approximately one-third (39%) identified sufficient access to facilities / spaces for programming as a challenge faced. Only one respondent (4%) is not experiencing any challenges.

Operational Challenges Experienced



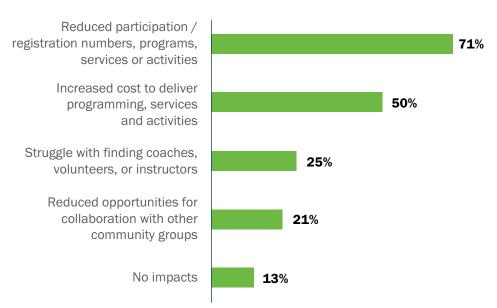
When asked to identify supports that the County could provide to help them address their greatest challenges, help with identifying and securing grant funding was the most frequently identified support needed (73% identified it). Half (50%) said the County could support groups by promoting them and their activities. Refer to the graph.

County Supports that Could Address Challenges



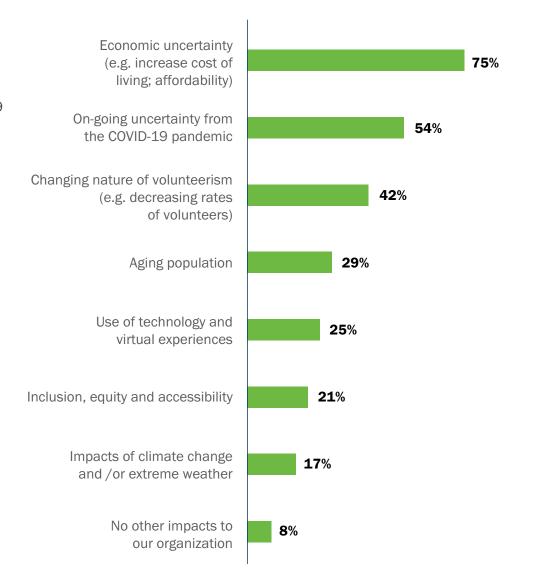
The COVID-19 pandemic has had impacts on community organizations. Respondents were asked to identify any long term impacts and challenges that they anticipate the pandemic will have on their organizations. Almost three-quarters (71%) of respondents said they expect reduced participation / registration numbers, programs, services or activites due to the pandemic. Half (50%) think the costs to deliver programming and services will increase because of the pandemic. Thirteen percent (13%) believe the pandemic will have no long term impacts on them. Refer to the graph for additional responses.

Long term organizational impacts and challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic



When asked what broader community trends will impact their organization over the next 5 years, three-quarters of respondents (75%) were most concerned about economic uncertainty. About half (54%) think that ongoing uncertainty related to the COVID-19 pandemic will impact their organization. Refer to the graph.

Community Trends that May Impact Organizations



Section 6: General Comments

The survey ended with the opportunity for respondents to share any additional comments regarding the recreation and parks in Leduc County. Organizations are relatively happy with the facilities in Leduc County. Areas of growth include: supporting arts and cultural facilities; appreciating, enhancing and promoting the natural amenities that exist; and targeted updates to specific facilities within the county.

Some of the key themes among responses included:

- Several respondents were happy with the level of support from Leduc County, and appreciative of the parks and facilities that exist.
- More support for arts and cultural events is necessary.
- Some facilities need updates, including Beaumont (Ken Nichol), where teams lack direct access to bathrooms and showers.
- Lack of pool access is a challenge to growth for some aquatic organizations.
- Respondents would like to see better development of, access to, and maintenance of outdoor amenities including: walking trails in Warburg, a nature place for students/educational opportunities within the County so that residents do not need to travel into Edmonton, maintaining Tedford lake as a focal point for parks and recreation and sport tourism for the city.

- Attracting and retaining volunteers and residents in the smaller and rural communities.
- Several respondents highlighted the intersection between sports, tourism and economic development for the region. References were made to recreation tournaments including those targeted to adults. The ability to camp in conjunction with tournament play was seen as an important contributor to attracting play and bringing funds into the region.
- Some are appreciative of the facilities that exist, and suggested that increasing awareness about them could be beneficial.
- Regional collaboration amongst organizations with similar mandates would help with programming and a sharing of expertise.

2.4 Operator Survey

There are numerous facilities throughout Leduc County that are operated by community organizations. These facilities are varied and include community halls, arenas, amongst others. While many of these facility operators are the same groups who deliver recreation programming in their communities, their perspectives are slightly different from an operators' perspective. Because of this, a survey was fielded with facility operators. Using email, invitations were extended to those groups who operate facilities. Invitations were first extended in early August with reminders later in the month. In total there were three responses; respondents include the Rolly View Community Association, Genesee Ag Society, and Glen Park Community Association.

Synopsis of Findings

The three respondents all operate community halls and offer a variety of activities at the halls (including events and recreation programming). While all ages receive programming, most is aimed to adults and seniors. Each of the organizations receives an operating grant from Leduc County.

While the use of the halls for rentals remained steady from pre-COVID times, each organization is expecting some level of growth in facility utilization over the next five years. Most expect that there will be no impact on activity demand and facility usage across Leduc County believing that people are eager to return to prepandemic activities. While all organizations somewhat agree that their facilities meet the needs of community members and user groups, a number of facility improvements were suggested including: enhanced support amenities, improved physical accessibility, enhanced technology, and more multi-purpose space.

Operators have seen some changes over the last 5 to 10 years, most notably changes in who is using their facilities and changes in how people would like to receive information (e.g. shifting from community newspapers to social media).

Leduc County has limits to its resources meaning that recreation and parks facility and amenity projects will need to be prioritized. The most important factors respondents identified to use when prioritizing the projects are facility operating costs; potential cost savings through partnerships or grants; and expected economic impact.

Respondents identified their main challenges as attracting and retaining volunteers; facility maintenance; and equipment storage. When asked what the County could do to help them address these challenges, all respondents identified facility enhancements. A variety of other assistance was identified ranging from promotion, organizational development, volunteer support, and funding support.

2.5 Community & Stakeholder Discussions

A series of meetings were convened with a disparate group of community organizations and entities to discuss recreation and parks provision in Leduc County. These conversations enabled a more fulsome exploration of issues and topics. Additionally, the meetings brought entities beyond those providing recreation and parks programs and services to County residents. The meetings were convened from late August into early October.

Leduc County extended invitations to these organizations and the meetings were convened by the consulting team. In total 14 meetings were convened including a larger session with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee and a session with Community Associations. (The larger sessions were convened in-person and were hosted by Leduc County but facilitated by the consultant.) Organizations represented included the following (all virtual meetings or phone calls):

- · Village of Warburg
- · Town of Thorsby
- City of Leduc
- · City of Beaumont
- Calmar & District Ag Society and Curling Club
- North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance
- Wizard Lake Watershed Lake Stewardship Association
- · Beaver Hills Biosphere
- Tri County Snowmobile Club
- Pigeon Lake Watershet Alliance
- New Sarepta Ag Society
- Capital Power

Meetings Synopsis

Participants were appreciative of the opportunity the County afforded them to discussion recreation and parks provision. The discussions were insightful and while there was a variety of perspectives included in the meetings several themes and items rose to the top and warranted inclusion herein. The order of mention below should not be construed as level of importance.

- Participants spoke about equity in service
 provision. It was recognized that equal service
 would be difficult to achieve, participants also
 indicated that equality is not something that should
 be strived for. Consideration does need to be given
 to ensure that people in the more rural areas of
 the County are able to access recreation and parks
 services. Regarding facilities, an examination of
 market catchment areas may a suitable way to
 consider services.
- There is a variety of opportunities available
 to Leduc County residents. Promoting these
 opportunities is occurring by those providing the
 services often community organizations. Some
 assistance from the County with communication
 efforts was desired. A customer perspective
 should be taken when considering promotion
 as well. Recognizing the broad benefits people
 and communities can accrue from people's
 participation in recreation and parks opportunities,
 there should be promotion of available
 opportunities even if those opportunities are
 located outside the County.

- Additional opportunities that could be considered includes:
 - » Programs and activities that are tailored to specific audiences such as youth, working adults, those not interested in "traditional" sports, etc
 - » Providing recreation and parks services and opportunities in new subdivisions throughout the County. These are essential services and should be in place at the early stages of subdivision development. This may suggest that there is a minimal level of service delivery.
- Aside from promotional support, community organizations would benefit from assistance from Leduc County with volunteer recruitment and retention, the identification of available grants and some assistance with application, funding. Leduc County does offer support to organizations organizations look for that to continue and be augmented as needed.
- Enhanced collaboration between organizations providing recreation and parks services would be beneficial. The organizations could learn from each other, share resources and ideas, and even offer complementary services. There may be a role for the County to foster this collaboration due to its role interacting and working with so many of them. The County itself could work with these groups even more than it does now recognizing that all of them are concerned with enhancing community wellness.
- Recreation and parks provide great value to individual participants but also to families, groups, and even the broader community. While much of Leduc County (as an organization) does recognize this, it is not apparent to all session participants that the benefits of recreation and parks are recognized by all in the County. Session participants consider recreation and parks critically important services and the resources dedicated to these services is necessary. Cost sharing with other municipalities is an important means to provide opportunities to County residents while leveraging the services of others and stretching the impact of County resources.

- Recreation and conservation can be complementary. Leduc County has a lot of outdoor spaces in which conservation can occur as well as recreation. There are opportunities for the County to educate its residents about the impacts of activities (including recreation) on the environment. Specific areas in which recreation and conservation can intersect includes:
 - » Recreation development e.g. trails, parks, camping as well as amenities to support these activities and development
 - » Connectivity of natural corridors
- The County could be a leader in environmental standards and share what this means and how to support environmental and conservation efforts with its residents. Conservation should be considered on a broader scale and not solely on a site-by-site basis.
- As with more general recreation groups operating in the County, those with more environmental and conservation leanings could be leveraged by the County in their program delivery. This would mean that the **County would provide the same support** to these community organizations as it does to others.
- Trails are desired throughout the County as a means to connect activity centres and communities but also as a recreation asset. The County should take a focussed approach to trail planning and development.
- The delivery and support of recreation and parks services has implications for Leduc County beyond the recreation and parks areas. Consideration for the roles of other County operations in the provision of recreation and parks services is needed as is an understanding of the impacts of recreation and parks delivery on all functional areas of the County.

3

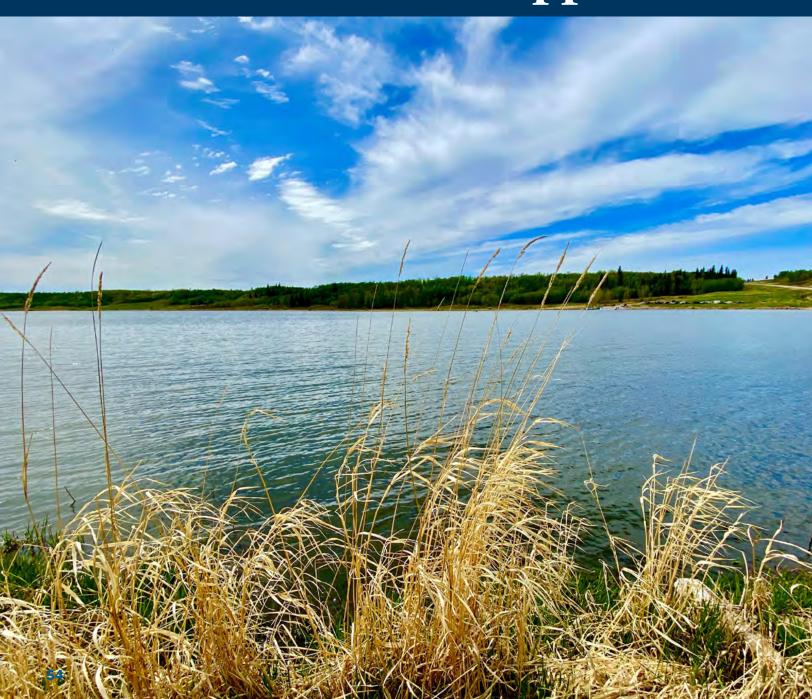
Conclusions

While the specific detail presented in the findings from the individual engagement tactics is important and should be considered in planning efforts, there are some broader conclusions that can be drawn from the program of engagement the County implemented.

- Recreation and parks services are important.
 These services contribute to individual health and well being and they help strengthen communities.
- Regarding infrastructure, the further development of trails and the trail network is a top demand.
 These serve as both recreation amenities but also as transportation corridors.
 - » Other calls for infrastructure investment include:
 - Indoor: multisport / gymnasium areas, event hosting / performance spaces, youth and seniors spaces, community halls, pools, fitness
 - Outdoor: park shelters / picnic areas, performance / festival space, spray parks
- Recreation facilities in neighbouring municipalities are important to residents and groups. They are well used and valued.
- In terms of programming needs some further attention is needed for youth and seniors programming as well as additional swimming lesson spaces. Other programming concerns relates to accessibility due to scheduling / timing and cost.

- While some are very aware of the recreation and parks opportunities, additional efforts around the promotion of opportunities is called for. Organizations and groups would benefit from some assistance from the County with this. The County's website and Facebook page are effective channels as is the County Chronicle. A variety of tactics is needed.
- Community organizations would like to receive assistance from the County with promotion, volunteer challenges, and grant identification and funding.
 Assisting the groups with efforts to collaborate is also something the County could be involved in.
- Organizations are concerned about their long term sustainability due to volunteer challenges, their ability to promote their services, financial struggles, and the long term impacts of COVID on participation and volunteerism.
- The identification of service baselines is needed.
 While equality of services is not an expectation generally, the provision of a determined program of recreation and parks services (particularly infrastructure) in County subdivisions is called for.
- The County has a role in conservation and environmental protection. This is related to recreation provision and some education of the public should be a role of the County. Recreation and parks provision and the use of these services by the public and organizations does impact the environment; these impacts should be considered as the County plans for and delivers these services.

Appendices



A.1 Postcard







Recreation and Parks Master Plan Household Survey.

Leduc County is dedicated to parks and recreation opportunities, and supports these opportunities in various ways. We offer recreation programs, work with our local societies and volunteers, and partner with municipalities in recreation cost sharing.

We value the benefits that recreation opportunities, parks and cultural activities provide to our residents. To help us understand the current and future needs for parks and recreation services, we are undertaking a **Recreation and Parks Master Plan**. The Plan will help guide investment in active living, healthy environments and increased social connections for residents of all ages.

We want to hear from you!

Online survey open for your feedback

Your input is important and will help us better understand local needs, trends and perspectives.

If you haven't completed the survey yet, please do so by visiting: **leduc-county.com/recreation-parks-master-plan** to access the survey.

For more information, or if you'd prefer to receive a paper copy of the survey, please contact Rob Parks, RC Strategies at 780-691-8486 or parks@rcstrategies.ca.

A.2 Household Questionnaire



Leduc County Recreation and Parks Master Plan

Household Survey

Access	Code:	

Leduc County is proud to provide a variety of parks and recreation opportunities to our residents. We offer recreation programs, partner with local halls and societies on community-led events, take care of a number of parks, campgrounds and open spaces and maintain cost-sharing agreements with neighbouring municipalities.

Services funded through cost-share agreements include arenas, pools, athletic fields, recreation programs and libraries. We maintain cost-sharing agreements with the following five municipalities:

- · City of Beaumont
- City of Leduc
- · Town of Calmar
- Town of Thorsby
- Village of Warburg

Leduc County is developing a **Recreation and Parks Master Plan** that will help guide investment in recreation and parks services over the next 10 to 15 years.

In addition to the above overarching master plan objective, this important planning project will:

- Set a long-term vision and goals for Leduc County recreation and parks services.
- Identify potential capital project priorities for the County.
- Review and enhance the County's delivery approach to recreation and parks services.
- Provide Council and administration with a point of reference that can help inform decision making.

Your input is important!

The County needs your input to help determine its recreation and parks priorities. Please have an adult in your household complete the survey considering the perspectives, preferences and needs of all members of the household.

The survey will take approximately **15 to 20 minutes** to complete. The deadline to **complete the survey is Aug. 19, 2022**. Please note, you **must complete the survey in one session**. You will not be able to save your responses and re-enter at a later time.

Leduc County and the Leduc region

Throughout the survey, there are references to both *Leduc County* and the greater *Leduc region*. References to *Leduc County*, such as Leduc County parks, recreation and services, refer to services or programs that are provided directly by Leduc County. References to the *Leduc region* refer to programs and services that Leduc County supports in the region, such as cost-sharing to support facilities, but does not directly provide. The Leduc region includes all of the municipalities found within Leduc County, including the cities of Leduc and Beaumont, towns of Calmar, Devon and Thorsby and the Village of Warburg.

If you have any questions on this survey or the project, please contact Rob Parks, RC Strategies at 780.691.8486 or parks@rcstrategies.ca.

How your feedback will be used

Your feedback will inform the development of the Recreation and Parks Master Plan and will be shared with Council to inform their decision-making. There will be future opportunities to shape the Master Plan – learn more at www.leduc-county.com/recreation-parks-master-plan.

Your personal information is collected by Leduc County under the authority of section 33(c) of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. It will be used for the purposes for which it is collected. Questions concerning the collection and use of this information can be directed to Leduc County FOIP Coordinator at 780-955-3555.

Section one: current activities and participation

SC	Ctioi	ii one. cui rent activities and pa	ai ti	Cip	acton
1.	What r	motivates members of your household to particip	ate ir	recre	eation and parks activities? Select all that apply
		Physical health and exercise			Help the community
		Enjoy a challenge			Mental health and well-being
		To be with family / friends			Satisfy curiosity
		Meet new people			To enjoy nature
		Relaxation			Something different than work
		Pleasure / entertainment			Other (please specify):
		To be creative			Don't participate in any parks or recreation activities
		Improve skills or knowledge			
	month	activities do members of your household parti a) during their normal seasons of availability? S r activities			on a regular basis (at least two or more times per hat apply.
		Curling			Racquetball / squash
		Dance			Skating program (e.g. figure skating, learn to skate)
		Equestrian sports/activities			Soccer - organized (part of a team or league)
		Fitness classes (e.g. spin, yoga, boot camp)			Social events (e.g. events at a community centre or hall)
		Fitness training at a gym (e.g. cardio, weight training)			Swimming pool drop-in (e.g. lane swimming, family drop-in swimming)
		Gymnastics			Swimming pool programs (e.g. lessons, swim club, aquasize)
		Gymnasium sports (e.g. basketball, volleyball, badminton)			Tennis
		Hockey - organized (part of a team or league)			Visiting museums or other heritage attractions
		Ice skating on a "drop-in" or casual basis (e.g. public skating or shinny)			Visiting art galleries / spaces
		Martial arts			Visual arts and crafts (pottery, weaving / knitting, painting, print making, scrapbooking, photography)
		Performing arts (e.g. participation in a theatre, musical or other type of performing arts program or activity)			Walking / running (in a gymnasium or indoor track)
		Pickleball			Other (please specify):

Outdoor activities

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

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

Please consider your normal participation / visitation outside of COVID related disruptions.

Facility / Space	Daily or almost daily (5 or more visits per week)	Weekly (1 or 2 times per week)	Monthly (1 or 2 visits per month)	A few times per year	Never
Indoor amenities and spaces					
Alexandra Arena (City of Leduc)					
Arctic Spas Recreation Complex (Town of Thorsby)					
Beaumont Ag Society					
Beaumont Public Library					
Beaumont Sport and Recreation Centre					
Town of Calmar Arena					
Town of Calmar Public Library					
City of Leduc Library					
Cultural Village Multipurpose Building (City of Leduc)					
Dale Fischer Arena (Town of Devon)					

Facility / Space	Daily or almost daily (5 or more visits per week)	Weekly (1 or 2 times per week)	Monthly (1 or 2 visits per month)	A few times per year	Never
Devon Public Library					
Early Learning Childcare Centre (City of Beaumont)					
Ken Nichol Recreation Centre (City of Beaumont)					
Leduc Recreation Centre (City of Leduc)					
Maclab Centre for the Performing Arts (City of Leduc)					
Mike Karbonik Arena (Town of Calmar)					
New Sarepta Agriplex					
New Sarepta Library					
Thorsby Haymaker Centre					
Town of Thorsby Public Library					
Warburg and District Ag Society					
Village of Warburg Arena					
Village of Warburg Public Library					
Community halls in Leduc County					
Indoor facilities in the City of Edmonton					
Outdoor Amenities Spaces					
Alexandra Outdoor Pool (City of Leduc)					
Centennial Park Campground					
Coates Conservation Land Trail					
Coyote Lake Nature Sanctuary Trail					
Devon Swimming Pool (outdoor)					
Genesee Park Campground					
Gilwood Beach Boat Launch					
Jubilee Park Campground					
Mission Beach Park					
Nisku Recreation Centre Park					
Nisku Recreation Centre Ball Diamonds					
New Sarepta Ball Diamonds					
Rolly View Community Hall Ball Diamonds					
Rundle's Mission Trail					
Thorsby Lion's Campground					
Wizard Lake Boat Launch					

Facility / Space	Daily or almost daily (5 or more visits per week)	Weekly (1 or 2 times per week)	Monthly (1 or 2 visits per month)	A few times per year	Never
Other outdoor spaces or trails in rural Leduc County					
Outdoor parks or trails in the City of Edmonton					
Outdoor parks or trails in the City of Leduc					
Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in the City of Leduc					
Outdoor parks or trails in the City of Beaumont					
Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in the City of Beaumont					
Outdoor parks or trails in New Sarepta					
Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in New Sarepta					
Outdoor parks or trails in the Town of Thorsby					
Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in the Town of Thorsby					
Outdoor parks or trails in the Town of Devon					
Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in the Town of Devon					
Outdoor parks or trails in the Town of Calmar					
Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in the Town of Calmar					
Outdoor parks or trails in the Village of Warburg					
Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in the Village of Warburg					

4.	If you, or anyone in your household, regularly uses recreation facilities or spaces (indoor o	r outdoo	or) in the Leduc
	region that are not listed in question 3, please use the space below to specify which other	r facilitie	es you use.

5.	5. What prevents you or someone in your household from participating in recreation and parks services and opportunities in the Leduc region? Select all that apply.							
		Poor health	[Child care			
		Cost to participate (registration fees, equipment, etc.)	[Better or more appealing opportunities elsewhere			
		Transportation limitations (cost / availability)	[Physical accessibility barriers			
		Overcrowded facilities	[Unaware of some opportunities			
		Poor / inadequate facilities	[Lack of interest			
		Too busy to participate	[Other (please specify):			
		Inconvenient program times	[Nothing prevents your household's participation			
		Don't have the ability (lack the skills and/or comfort level to participate)						

Section two: satisfaction

6. How satisfied are you with the following aspects of recreation and parks services and opportunities in **Leduc County**?

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Unsure
Availability of recreation facilities.					
Availability of quality parks and open spaces.					
Trail network.					
Access to area rivers, including the North Saskatchewan River.					
Access to other bodies of water, such as area lakes.					
Availability of organized sports programs and opportunities.					
Availability of recreation programs and opportunities.					
Availability of arts and culture programs and opportunities.					

		Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Unsure
Avai	lability of recreation facilities.					
Avail	ability of quality parks and open spaces.					
Trail	network.					
	ess to area rivers, including the North katchewan River.					
Acce	ess to other bodies of water, such as area s.					
	lability of organized sports programs and ortunities.					
	lability of recreation programs and ortunities.					
	lability of arts and culture programs and ortunities.					
	improvements or changes are needed reg k all that apply.	arding recre	ation and par	ks programs a	nd opportuniti	es?
	No improvements or changes needed		Lower cos	t		
	Accommodate more participants		Greater va	ariety		
	More convenient schedule		More con	venient locatio	ns	
	Enhanced content / better quality		Improved	marketing of p	orograms	
	Offered more frequently		Other (ple	ease specify): _		
-	ou have any additional comments regarding ces and opportunities in Leduc County?	gyour house	hold's satisfa	ction with recr	eation and par	·ks

Section three: values and considerations

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

Statement	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Unsure	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Recreation and parks programs and services are very important to my household's quality of life.					
My community benefits from recreation and parks programs and services.					
Residents can benefit even if they do not use recreation and parks services directly.					
Recreation and parks bring the community together.					
It is important to ensure that recreation and parks opportunities are available and accessible for all residents in the community.					
Recreation and parks services can contribute to the local economy by attracting visitors and new residents.					
As much as possible, Leduc County should provide recreation and parks services through cost sharing agreements with other municipalities (e.g. County funding provided for the Leduc Recreation Centre).					
As much as possible, Leduc County should provide recreation and parks services through partnerships with community groups (e.g. grants to community halls).					

Section four: willingness to travel

11. How far are you willing to travel (one way) to use the following recreation and parks facilities and spaces before travel becomes a barrier to participation?

Facility / Space	I/we are willing to travel up to 20 min (one way) to participate at these spaces	I/we are willing to travel 21 - 40 min (one way) to participate at these spaces	I / we do not think travel time is a barrier to participate at these spaces
Indoor recreation amenities for leisure (e.g. leisure pools, fitness / wellness facilities, art studios)			
Indoor recreation amenities for competition (e.g. lane pools, gyms, arenas)			
Outdoor amenities for passive recreation (e.g. parks, trails, green space)			
Outdoor amenities for active recreation (e.g. skateboard park, beach volleyball)			
Outdoor amenities for competition / games (e.g. diamonds, rectangular fields)			
Interpretive venues (e.g. museums and heritage facilities, nature centres, interactive learning spaces)			

Section five: future priorities and focus areas

12. If additional programming was offered, please identify what types of recreation and parks opportunities should be more readily available in the Leduc region for each of the different age groups.

Program Type	Children (0 – 5 years)	Youth (6 - 12 years)	Teens (13 -18 years)	Adults (19-64 years)	Seniors (65 years +)	Current programming is sufficient	Unsure
Nature / outdoor education programming							
Fitness and wellness programming							
Casual recreation programming (drop-in and unstructured types of programs)							
Organized sports teams, leagues, and clubs							
Visual arts and culture programming							
Performing arts and culture programming							
Programs for individuals facing social, physical, or cognitive barriers to participation							
Programs that encourage socialization							
Seasonal day camps							

The Master Plan will provide direction of future investment strategies and priorities for recreation and parks facilities, spaces and services. Realizing the County has limited resources, the following questions are intended to gauge your perspectives on where the limited resources should be focused.

- 13. From the following lists of indoor and outdoor facilities and amenities, please identify if:
 - » Existing facilities / amenities should be enhanced (if applicable)
 - » More of these facilities / amenities should be developed
 - » This type of facility / amenity should not be a priority for investment

When providing your responses, please consider the perspectives of your household, overall benefits to your community, and the potential financial impacts (some facilities have higher development and/or operating costs).

Indoor facilities and amenities

	Existing facilities / amenities should be enhanced (if applicable)	More of these facilities / amenities should be developed	This type of facility / amenity should not be a priority for investment	Not sure / no opinion
Arts and crafts creative spaces (e.g. studios and collaborative workspaces)				
Arenas				
Community halls and social gathering type spaces				
Curling facilities				
Fitness facilities				
Gymnasium / flexi-hall				
Interpretive venues (e.g. museums and heritage facilities, nature centres, interactive learning spaces)				
Indoor multi-sport facility (e.g. field house with large multi-use surface(s) that can accommodate a variety of activity types)				
Indoor children's play spaces				
Indoor walking / running track				
Multi-purpose program rooms				
Pools				
Seniors spaces				
Youth spaces				

Outdoor facilities and amenities

	Existing facilities / amenities should be enhanced (if applicable)	More of these facilities / amenities should be developed	This type of facility / amenity should not be a priority for investment	Not sure / no opinion
Ball diamonds				
BBQ and picnic areas / park shelters				
Campgrounds				
Community gardens				
Cross Country ski trails				
Dog parks				
Lake Access				
River Access				
Outdoor fitness equipment				
Outdoor pools				
Outdoor festival and community performance spaces				
Outdoor paved court spaces (i.e. for basketball, ball hockey, etc.)				
Outdoor public art				
Outdoor skating rinks				
Playgrounds				
Pump tracks / bike skills parks				
Skate parks				
Snowshoe trails				
Sports fields (rectangular sports fields for soccer, football, rugby, etc.)				
Spray parks				
Tennis / Pickleball courts				
Track and field venues				
Trails - paved				
Trails - natural surface				

		ns, some recreation now important eacl				•	
	ty over another.	ow important each	i lactor siloulu be	e when the count	y prioritizes	one facility o	1

	Very important	Somewhat important	Unsure	Somewhat unimportant	Very unimportant
Resident need					
Overall costs of operating the facility					
Overall costs of building the facility					
The existing supply / availability in the area					
Potential cost savings through partnerships or grants					
Expected economic impact through event and visitor attraction					
Other (please specify):					
Other (please specify):					

Section six: communications

15. I	How ir	nformed are you about recreation and parks op	port	unitie	es in Leduc County?
		Very informed			
		Adequately informed			
		Inadequately informed			
		o you prefer to learn about recreation and park) preferences.	(s op	portu	unities in Leduc County? Please rank your top
		Leduc County website			Radio stations
		Leduc County Facebook page			Communication through schools
		Leduc County Recreation and Parks Facebook page			Community events
		Leduc County Twitter account			Word of mouth
		County Chronicle quarterly newsletter			Community groups, organizations, clubs communications
		Posters in community facilities / spaces			Roadside signs
		Newsletters			Other (please specify):

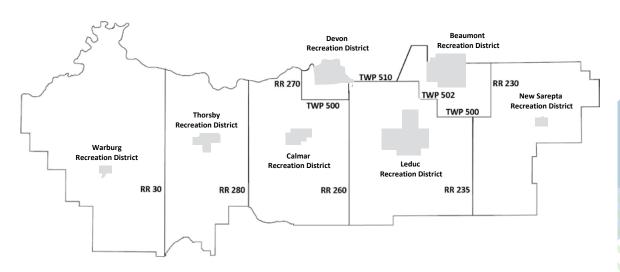
Section seven: other comments

Did we miss anything? Please use the following space to provide any other comments you have about recreation and parks opportunities in Leduc County.

Section eight: household profile

- 18. Do you live in Leduc County? Please note, Leduc County **does not include** the municipalities that fall within its borders, including the cities of Beaumont and Leduc, the towns of Devon, Calmar and Thorsby and the Village of Warburg. If you live in one of those municipalities, please select no.
 - ☐ Yes (go to 18a)
 - ☐ No (go to 18b, skip 19)

Leduc County Recreation Districts



	a.	Hsing	the above recreation dis	trict man	nlease se	elect w	hich r	recreation district you live in.
	a.		Beaumont Recreation [-	prodoc oc	31000	П	Leduc Recreation District
								New Sarepta Recreation District
			Devon Recreation Distri	ct				Thorsby Recreation District
	h	Whore	o do vou livo?					
	υ.	_	e do you live?					Town of Thoroby
			City of Beaumont City of Leduc					Town of Thorsby
			Town of Calmar					Village of Warburg Other (please specify):
			Town of Devon					Other (please specify).
			TOWIT OF DEVOIT					
19. H	How I	ong ha	ve you lived in Leduc Cou	unty?				
		Less	than one year				16 to	o 20 years
		1 to	5 years				21 to	25 years
		6 to :	10 years				More	e than 25 years
		11 to	15 years				Prefe	er not to answer
		e desc ding you	•	lentifying	the numb	er of r	membe	ers in each of the following age groups –
		0 -	4 yrs	5 - 9 yrs	3		1	10 - 14 yrs 15 - 19 yrs
		20	- 29 yrs	30 - 39	yrs		4	40 - 49 yrs 50 - 59 yrs
		60	- 69 yrs	70 - 79	yrs		8	 30+ yrs
21.\	Which	n best o	describes your household	d compos	ition?			
		Coup	le with children		Multigen	eratio	nal ho	usehold (at least 3 generations)
		One-	parent (lone) family		Two or m together)		ults no	ot a couple (e.g., roommates, siblings living
		One-	person household		Prefer no	ot to a	nswer	

nk you very much for taking th	ne time	e to participate in the survey!
Leduc County website		Roadside signage
Newspaper advertisement		Leduc County public participation opportunities e-newsletter
Facebook		Community event (please specify):
Twitter		Other (please specify):
Postcard		

Survey draw prize!

Phone Number: __

As a token of our appreciation for filling out the survey, you can choose to enter into a prize draw for a camping package at Jubilee Park Campground on Wizard Lake. The package includes two nights in a comfort cabin or at a site of your choice. If you would like to enter the draw, please provide your name and phone number below.

Name (first name only please): _____

The information collected for the draw will only be used for the purposes of this draw and will not be shared with any other external parties.

A.3 Community Group Questionnaire



Leduc County Recreation and Parks Master Plan

Community Group Survey

Leduc County is proud to provide a variety of parks and recreation opportunities to our residents. We offer recreation programs, partner with local halls and societies on community-led events, take care of a number of parks, campgrounds and open spaces and maintain cost-sharing agreements with neighbouring municipalities.

Services funded through cost-share agreements include arenas, pools, athletic fields, recreation programs and libraries. We maintain cost-sharing agreements with the following five municipalities:

- · City of Beaumont
- · City of Leduc
- · Town of Calmar
- Town of Thorsby
- Village of Warburg

Leduc County is developing a **Recreation and Parks Master Plan** that will help guide investment in recreation and parks services over the next 10 to 15 years.

In addition to the above overarching master plan objective, this important planning project will:

- Set a long-term vision and goals for Leduc County recreation and parks services.
- Identify potential capital project priorities for the County.
- Review and enhance the County's delivery approach to recreation and parks services.
- Provide Council and administration with a point of reference that can help inform decision making.

Your input is important!

Because of the importance of this Master Plan and its direct connection to the community, it is important to engage with **organized groups who are delivering recreation opportunities to residents of Leduc County.**

We Want to Hear From You!

Please answer the following questions considering the perspective of your organization. Only **one response** will be accepted from each group / organization. Please submit your response by September 9, 2022. Thank you very much! Please note, you **must complete the survey in one session.** You will not be able to save your responses and re-enter later.

What is Recreation?

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

Leduc County and the Leduc region

Throughout the survey, there are references to both *Leduc County* and the greater *Leduc region*. References to *Leduc County*, such as Leduc County parks, recreation and services, refer to services or programs that are provided directly by Leduc County. References to the *Leduc region* refer to programs and services that Leduc County supports in the region, such as cost-sharing to support facilities, but does not directly provide. The Leduc region includes all of the municipalities found within Leduc County, including the cities of Leduc and Beaumont, towns of Calmar, Devon and Thorsby and the Village of Warburg.

If you have any questions on this survey or the project, please contact Rob Parks, RC Strategies at 780.691.8486 or parks@rcstrategies.ca.

How your feedback will be used

Your feedback will inform the development of the Recreation and Parks Master Plan and will be shared with Council to inform their decision-making. There will be future opportunities to shape the Master Plan – learn more at www.leduc-county.com/recreation-parks-master-plan.

Your personal information is collected by Leduc County under the authority of section 33(c) of the Alberta

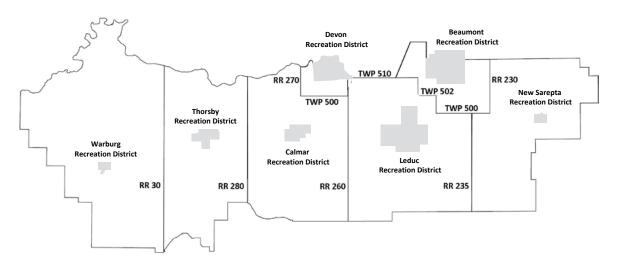
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. It will be used for the purposes for which it is collected.

Questions concerning the collection and use of this information can be directed to Leduc County FOIP Coordinator at 780-955-3555.

Section one: About Your Organization

1.	Please	provide the following information about your org	aniz	ation.	
	Orgar	nization Name:			
	Conta	act Person Name and Position:			
2.	What 1	types of activities or services are part of your	orga	nizatio	ons mandate? (please select all that apply)
		Recreation programming for children/youth			Arts and/or cultural programs or services for adults
		Recreation programming for adults			Arts and/or cultural programs or services for seniors
		Recreation programming for seniors			Volunteer community services
		Sport leagues, clubs or programs for adults			Community events
		Sport leagues, clubs or programs for seniors			Other (please specify):
		Arts and/or cultural programs or services for children / youth			
2b.	Please	e use the space below to further explain the po	urpo	se of y	our organization and its main activities.

Leduc County Recreation Districts



- 3. In which area of the County do you primarily operate/deliver services (check all that apply):
 - ☐ Beaumont Recreation District
 - □ Calmar Recreation District
 - □ Devon Recreation District
 - □ Leduc Recreation District
 - New Sarepta Recreation District
 - ☐ Thorsby Recreation District
 - Other (please specify): _

Section two: About Your Members/Participants

- 4. What is the general age group of your participants? Select all that apply.
 - ☐ Pre-school (5 years old and younger)
 - ☐ Children (6 12 years old)
 - ☐ Youth (13 to 18 years old)
 - ☐ Adult (19 64 years old)
 - ☐ Senior (65 years and older)
- 5. Please provide an estimate of the number of active participants, which belong to your organization in each of the following years.

	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total number of active participants (members / athletes / registrants)				
Percentage of active participants that are County residents				

6.	Over t	r the next five years, what is the expected level of growth in participation for your organization	?
		High Level of Growth (more than 20%)	
		Moderate Level of Growth (10% – 20%)	
		Low Level of Growth (1% – 10%)	
] Stable	
] Decline	
S	ectio	on 3: Current Facilities and Spaces	
7	Tala	what autout do you agree with the fallowing statement?	
7.	10 WII	vhat extent do you agree with the following statement?	
	"The	e current facilities and spaces in the Leduc region meet the needs of our organization."	
		Strongly agree	
		Somewhat agree	
] Unsure	
		Somewhat disagree	
		Strongly disagree	
8.	space for yo	re are a variety of spaces that are used to provide programs and events. For each of the facilities listed, please indicate how frequently your group has used the facility in season in the preyour programming. It is never will be preselected)	

Facilities and Spaces

Facility / Space	Daily or almost daily (5 or more visits per week)	Weekly (1 or 2 times per week)	Monthly (1 or 2 visits per month)	A few times per year	Never
Indoor amenities and spaces					
Alexandra Arena (City of Leduc)					
Arctic Spas Recreation Complex (Town of Thorsby)					
Beaumont Ag Society					
Beaumont Public Library					
Beaumont Sport and Recreation Centre					
Town of Calmar Arena					

Facility / Space	Daily or almost daily (5 or more visits per week)	Weekly (1 or 2 times per week)	Monthly (1 or 2 visits per month)	A few times per year	Never
Town of Calmar Public Library					
City of Leduc Library					
Cultural Village Multipurpose Building (City of Leduc)					
Dale Fischer Arena (Town of Devon)					
Devon Public Library					
Early Learning Childcare Centre (City of Beaumont)					
Ken Nichol Recreation Centre (City of Beaumont)					
Leduc Recreation Centre (City of Leduc)					
Maclab Centre for the Performing Arts (City of Leduc)					
Mike Karbonik Arena (Town of Calmar)					
New Sarepta Agriplex					
New Sarepta Library					
Thorsby Haymaker Centre					
Town of Thorsby Public Library					
Warburg and District Ag Society					
Village of Warburg Arena					
Village of Warburg Public Library					
Community halls in Leduc County					
Indoor facilities in the City of Edmonton					
Outdoor Amenities Spaces					
Alexandra Outdoor Pool (City of Leduc)					
Centennial Park Campground					
Coates Conservation Land Trail					
Coyote Lake Nature Sanctuary Trail					
Devon Swimming Pool (outdoor)					
Genesee Park Campground					
Gilwood Beach Boat Launch					
Jubilee Park Campground					
Mission Beach Park					
Nisku Recreation Centre Park					

Facility / Space	Daily or almost daily (5 or more visits per week)	Weekly (1 or 2 times per week)	Monthly (1 or 2 visits per month)	A few times per year	Never
Nisku Recreation Centre Ball Diamonds					
New Sarepta Ball Diamonds					
Rolly View Community Hall Ball Diamonds					
Rundle's Mission Trail					
Thorsby Lion's Campground					
Wizard Lake Boat Launch					
Other outdoor spaces or trails in rural Leduc County					
Outdoor parks or trails in the City of Edmonton					
Outdoor parks or trails in the City of Leduc					
Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in the City of Leduc					
Outdoor parks or trails in the City of Beaumont					
Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in the City of Beaumont					
Outdoor parks or trails in New Sarepta					
Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in New Sarepta					
Outdoor parks or trails in the Town of Thorsby					
Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in the Town of Thorsby					
Outdoor parks or trails in the Town of Devon					
Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in the Town of Devon					
Outdoor parks or trails in the Town of Calmar					
Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in the Town of Calmar					
Outdoor parks or trails in the Village of Warburg					
Outdoor sport fields and diamonds in the Village of Warburg					

Section 4: Investment Priorities

	
9.	e select up to three (3) indoor recreation facilities and spaces that Leduc County should focus ment on as a future priority.
	Festival / event hosting infrastructure
	Community Halls / Gathering spaces
	Arena facilities
	Fitness facilities
	Gymnasium spaces
	Indoor hard courts (basketball, volleyball)
	Program / activity rooms
	Children play areas
	Performing art spaces/stages
	Meeting rooms
	Other (please specify):
10.	e select up to three (3) outdoor recreation facilities and spaces that Leduc County should focus ment on as a future priority.
	Green spaces/parks
	Walking trails
	Splash pad
	Skate parks
	Bike park
	ATV trails
	River/Lake access
	Rectangular sports fields
	Ball Diamonds
	Outdoor Sport Courts (basketball, volleyball)
	Golf course
	Playgrounds
	Other (please specify):

Section 5: Organizational Challenges

	What that a	operational challenges, if any, is your organization facing? (Check all pply.)	A couple of things to consider:
		Getting sufficient access to facilities and spaces for programming	There are costs to building and operating recreation
		Inadequate facilities and spaces (e.g. amenity and support spaces are lacking, poor quality; aging infrastructure)	facilities and spaces. Your responses will be used
		Attracting and maintaining coaches/instructors	to help determine facility
		Attracting and retaining volunteers	priorities for planning
		Equipment storage	purposes. They may not lead to changes in a facility or new
		Funding/keeping user costs low	facilities being built.
		Organizational management and operations (e.g. board training, grant writing, accounting)	
		Promotions and marketing (e.g. social media, communications)	
		Declining participation	
		Other (please specify):	
		Not experiencing any operational challenges	
12.	What	might the County do to help your organization address its challenges	?
		Promoting the group and its activities	
		Equipment / materials storage	
		Office / meeting space	
		Board / organizational development	
		Volunteer recruitment / retention support	
		Identifying and securing grant funding	
		Operating grant support	
		Capital grant support	
		Enhance existing facilities / amenities	
		Develop additional facilities / amenities	
		Improved access to facilities	
		Other (please specify):	
		Not experiencing any operational challenges	

	Reduced participation / registration numbers, programs, services or activities
	Struggle with finding coaches, volunteers, or instructors
	Reduced opportunities for collaboration with other community groups
	Increased cost to deliver programming, services and activities
	No impacts
	Other (please specify):
	Use of technology and virtual experiences On-going uncertainty from the COVID-19 pandemic
_	
	Economic uncertainty (e.g. increase cost of living; affordability) Inclusion, equity and accessibility
	Changing nature of volunteerism (e.g. decreasing rates of volunteers)
	Aging population
	Impacts of climate change and /or extreme weather
	Other (please specify):
П	No other impacts to our organization

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

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

A.4 Community Group Survey Respondents

- 1. FastEdge
- 2. Beavers HC
- 3. Leduc Arts Foundry
- 4. Phoenix Taekwon-Do Club of Beaumont
- 5. New Sarepta Ag Society
- 6. Beaumont Chiefs Junior Hockey Club
- 7. Beaumont Adrenaline
- 8. Leduc Ladies Shinny
- 9. Leduc Synhro Silhouettes
- 10. 287 Beaumont RCACS
- 11. Thorsby seniors citizens club
- 12. Warburg Cultural Society
- 13. Girl Guides
- 14. Leduc Boat Club
- 15. Willow Creek Community Hall

- 16. Leduc and District Minor Football
- 17. Beaumont Society for the Arts
- 18. Rundels Mission Society
- 19. Stageworks
- 20. Beaumont Karate-Do
- 21. Wizard Lake Watershed and Lake Stewardship Association
- 22. Beaumont School of Highland Dance
- 23. Thorsby & District Cultural & Historical Society
- 24. Alberta Legacy Development Society/Leduc Heritage Grain Elevator
- 25. Piatta Forma Singers Society
- 26. Town of Thorsby Library Board
- 27. Beaumont Skating Club
- 28. Beaumont Adult Slo-Pitch Association
- 29. New Sarepta Library





