



A COMMUNITY RECREATION CAMPUS THE HEART OF NELSON, AREAS F & DEFINED E

PHASE 2: INFORMATION SEEKING

WHAT WE HEARD REPORT

MARCH 2025



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1.0 Introduction

Recreation services (including facilities, programs, and events) provide a broad array of benefits. These benefits are received by the direct users of facilities, program participants, and event attendees. The greater community benefits as well from the provision of recreation services.

Here are some primary benefits from recreation as presented in the “Nelson & District Parks & Recreation Master Plan 2014”.

The Community Recreation Campus is an important regional hub for indoor recreation for residents in the Nelson & District area. Yet, there is not a collective vision, between the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) and City of Nelson, for this campus.

The Community Recreation Campus is composed of both City of Nelson owned facilities and amenities and those owned by the RDCK.



Recreation and active living are essential to personal health, a key determinant of health status.



Recreation is key to balanced human development and helps individuals reach their potential.



Recreation and parks are essential to quality of life.



Recreation reduces self-destructive and anti-social behaviour.



Recreation and parks build strong families and healthy communities.



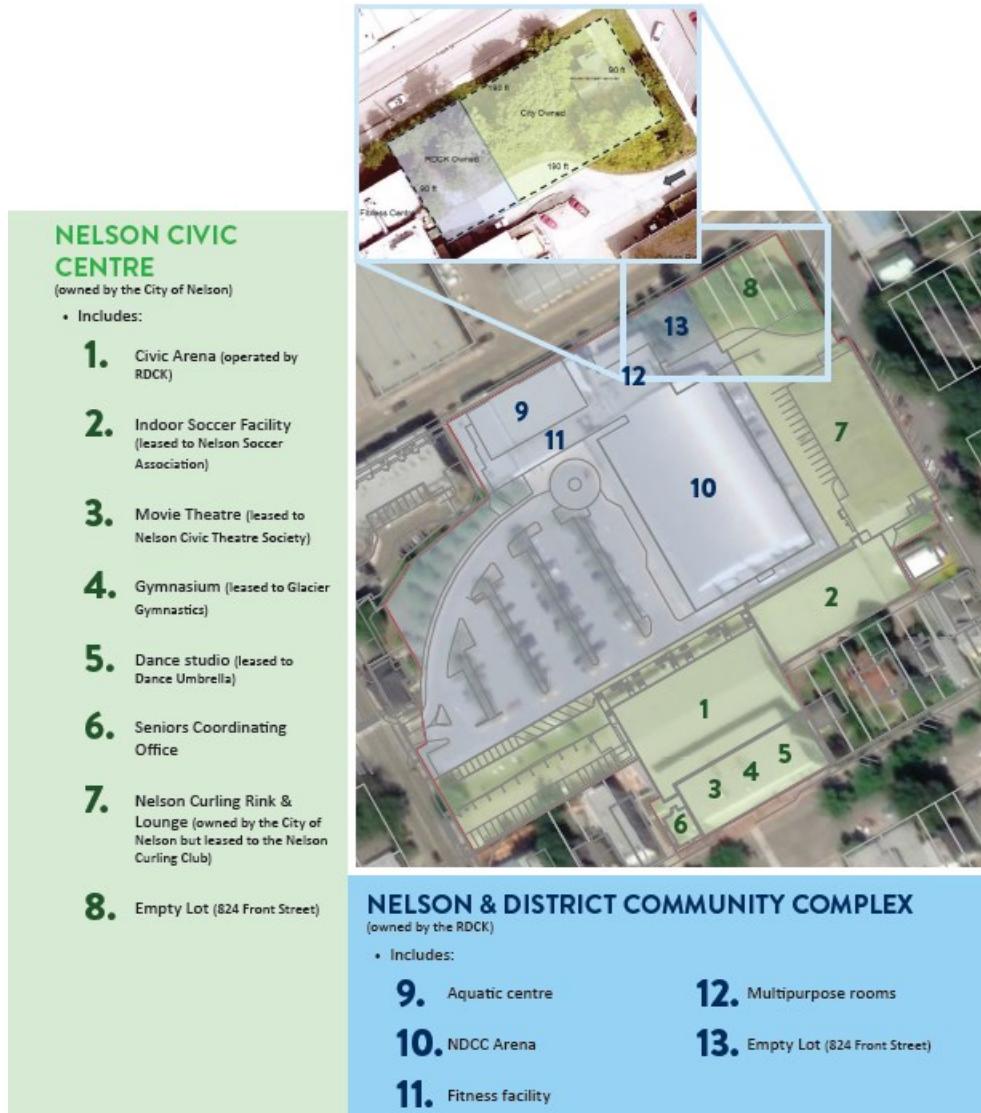
Recreation reduces health care, social service, and police/justice costs.



Recreation and parks are economic generators for communities.



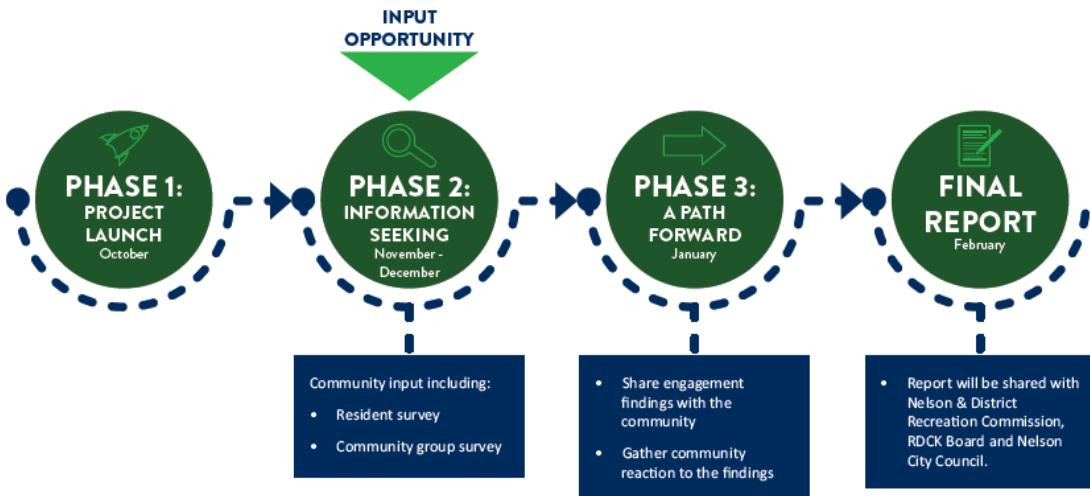
Parks, open spaces, and natural areas are essential to ecological survival.



With the aging of its facilities, the RDCK and City of Nelson need the community's input on the best recreational uses for the Community Recreation Campus considering its current facilities and any future ones. Ultimately, this engagement project will provide information to be used in the development of a shared vision for the Community Recreation Campus.

With this need for community input, the RDCK commissioned a program of engagement to capture the community's perspectives on the Community Recreation Campus. The information gathered through this process will be used ultimately by the Nelson & District Recreation Commission in its decision making about the Campus.

The program of engagement consists of three phases as illustrated below. This report includes the detailed findings from the Phase 2: Information Seeking engagement components.



Phase 2: Information Seeking including two separate engagement tactics. A survey was fielded with residents in the Nelson & District area between November 27, 2024 and January 8, 2025. In total, 2,035 responses were gathered from residents of Nelson, Electoral Area F, Defined Area E, and Other¹. A community group survey was fielded between December 12, 2025 and January 15, 2025. A total of 35 organizations provided a response.

| Engagement Tactic | Fielding Window | Responses |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Resident survey | Nov. 27, 2024 – Jan. 8, 2025 | 2,035 |
| Community group survey | Dec. 12, 2025 – Jan. 15, 2025 | 37 |

The findings from each of these surveys is presented below.

2.0 Resident Survey

The survey was fielded with residents in the Nelson & District area. The survey was promoted through a variety of means. Phase 1: Project Launch included a series of community meetings in November 2024. Convened at the Taghum Hall, the School Des Seniers-alphins, and at the Prestige Lakeside Resort in Nelson (2 meetings), these sessions included notice of the survey. Other promotional efforts included:

- Printing and distribution of 1,500 promotional postcards (see Appendix A).
- The Regional District of Central Kootenay engagement project page (rdck.engage.ca).
- Word of mouth from Nelson & District Recreation Commission members.
- Email messages to community organizations.
- Digital and print advertisements.
- News releases.

¹ Seventy-six respondents from Other Area E participated in the survey. Because the survey was open, people outside the study area could participate. A total of 74 people living outside Area E, Area F, and Nelson submitted a response. One written submission was collected that spoke broadly about the recreation campus and the process to determine its future. The comments provided are reflected in the coded responses reported herein.

- Sandwich boards and information displayed around the community and posted at City Hall and the NDCC.

2.1 About the Survey

From November 27, 2024 through to January 8, 2025 the survey collected 2,035 responses from residents living in Nelson, Area F, Defined Area E, and Other (which includes Other Area E and other communities). The survey was primarily fielded online, a hard copy version was also available. A single completed hard copy questionnaire was received and its responses were manually entered into the online survey for inclusion in the overall analysis. The total number of responses includes both the hardcopy and online submissions².

The findings from each of the questions are examined by the residency of the respondents which are grouped into the following areas:

- **City of Nelson** – taxation supports RDCK and City of Nelson owned and operated recreation facilities in the Community Recreation Campus.
- **Defined Area E** – portions of Area E that pay into RDCK taxation for RDCK owned and operated facilities in the Community Recreation Campus. This includes the communities of Bealby / Horlicks, Blewett, Granite Road, Mountain Station, and rural Nelson as far as Cottonwood Lake.
- **Area F** – taxation supports the RDCK owned and operated facilities in the Community Recreation Campus. This includes the communities of Beasley, Bonnington Falls, Crescent Bay, North Shore to Kokanee Creek, Taghum, and Willow Point.
- **Other** – portions of Area E that do not pay into RDCK taxation for RDCK owned and operated facilities in the Community Recreation Campus. This includes the communities of Balfour, Harrop, Longbeach, Procter, Queens Bay, and Sunshine Bay. As well some respondents indicated that they live outside Area E, Area F, and Nelson.

The survey findings are presented below in the order the questions were posed. Not all respondents answered all questions. The percentages reported represent the findings for each question based on the number of respondents to that question. The totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Some subsegment analysis is presented as well (i.e. children in the household and active member of recreation club or organized group). This subsegment analysis has been completed considering the entire pool of respondents in the study area. These findings are only mentioned if differences are noteworthy.

² Two written submissions, aside from the questionnaire, were received. The perspectives offered through these submissions is reflected in the survey findings.

2.2 Findings

Section A: About You

This first section of the survey asked respondents to describe themselves and their households. The breakdown in the following table represents the entire survey sample including all respondents.

| Where do you live? | |
|---|-----|
| City of Nelson | 65% |
| Defined Area E | 10% |
| Area F | 17% |
| Other | 7% |
| In which age category do you fall? | |
| 17 yrs and younger | 1% |
| 18-29 years | 7% |
| 30-39 years | 24% |
| 40-49 years | 26% |
| 50-59 years | 16% |
| 60-69 years | 15% |
| 70-79 years | 10% |
| 80 years and older | 1% |
| Prefer not to answer | 1% |
| Which of the following best represents your household income before tax? | |
| Prefer not to answer | 11% |
| Under \$50,000 | 15% |
| \$50,000 to less than \$75,000 | 16% |
| \$75,000 to less than \$100,000 | 17% |
| \$100,000 to less than \$125,000 | 14% |
| \$125,000 to less than \$150,000 | 10% |
| More than \$150,000 | 18% |
| What best describes your household's composition? | |
| Couple with child / children | 36% |
| Couple without children | 34% |
| Multi-generational household (at least three generations) | 2% |
| One person household | 14% |
| Single parent with child / children (full time) | 3% |
| Single parent with child / children (part time) | 2% |
| Two or more adults who are not a couple (e.g. roommates, siblings living together) | 6% |
| Prefer not to answer | 2% |
| Of households with children, proportion of households with children in the following age groups. | |
| 0-4 years | 22% |
| 5-9 years | 40% |
| 10-14 years | 45% |
| 15-19 years | 34% |
| Are you an active member or volunteer of a recreation club or organized group? | |
| Yes | 52% |
| No | 44% |
| Unsure | 4% |

Those respondents who indicated they are active members or volunteers of a recreation club or organized group (and those who are unsure) were then asked to identify the **club or group with which they are affiliated**. The most frequently identified clubs / groups are noted in the following table.

| Nelson | Defined Area E | Area F | Other |
|--|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soccer (151 mentions) • Hockey (89) • Pickleball / tennis (75) • Gymnastics / circus (73) • Skiing / snowboarding (65) • Curling (43) • Cycling / running (43) • Basketball / volleyball (41) • Squash / badminton (28) • Dance (26) • Swimming (25) • Theatre (20) • Baseball / softball (18) • Ultimate / golf frisbee (18) • Skating (14) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gymnastics / circus (18 mentions) • Soccer (16) • Hockey (15) • Squash (8) • Pickleball / tennis (6) • Skiing (6) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soccer (45 mentions) • Hockey (31) • Pickleball / tennis (22) • Skiing (22) • Gymnastics / circus (18) • Curling (13) • Squash / badminton (10) • Basketball / volleyball (10) • Swimming (8) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soccer (16 mentions) • Curling (8) • Pickleball / tennis (7) • Hockey (6) |

Section B: Your Community Recreation Campus Utilization

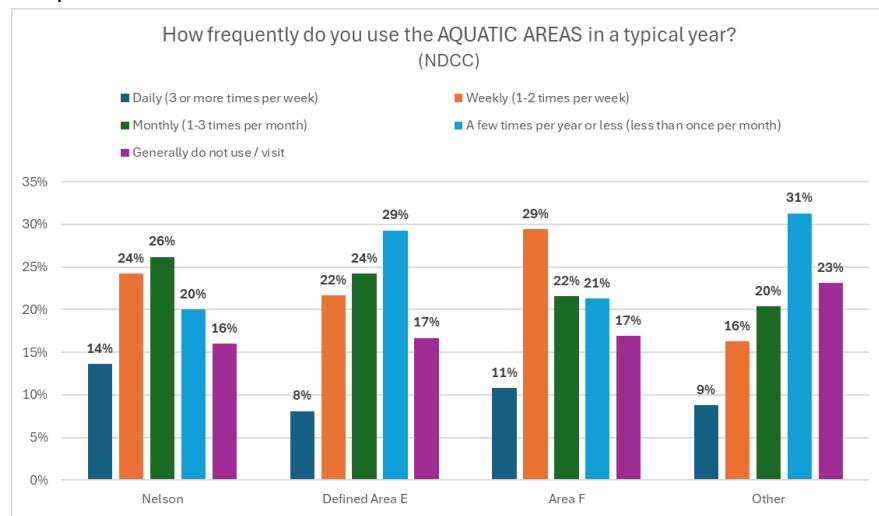
Nelson & District Community Complex (NDCC)

Respondents were asked to identify the frequency of which they use or visit each of the different amenity within the Nelson & District Community Complex in a typical year. If their use is seasonal, they were to indicate their usage considering the season in which they participate. Finally, their usage or visitation response should reflect any children they have in their home. Their responses are presented in the following graphs with each graph presenting the utilization for a different amenity.

Aquatic Areas

As illustrated in Graph 1, over three-quarters of respondents in each of the areas typically uses the aquatic areas in a typical year. Forty percent (40%) of respondents from Area F typically use the aquatic areas at least weekly.

Graph 1



Subsegment Analysis

- Respondents with children in the home are more likely to use the aquatic areas than those without children (95% vs 74%).
- Respondents with children in the home are more likely to use the aquatic areas frequently (daily or weekly) than those without children in the home (46% vs 30%).

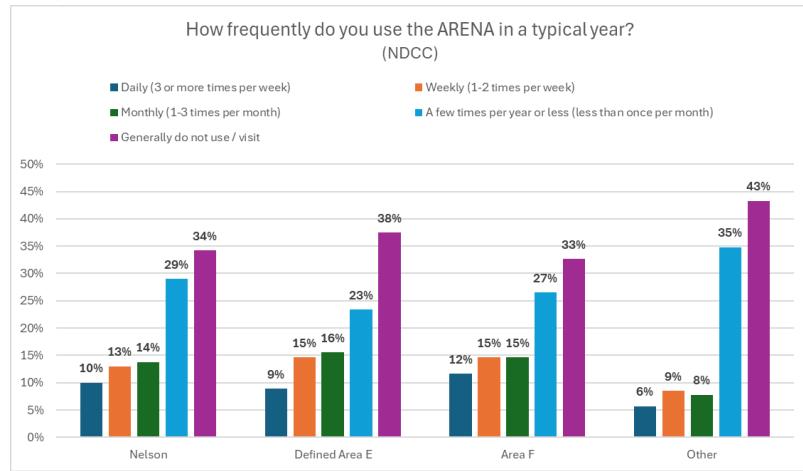
Respondents also identified the activities in which they participate in the aquatic areas – see below.

| Nelson | Defined Area E | Area F | Other Area E |
|--|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swim (762 mentions) • Sauna (369) • Hot tub (340) • Steam (191) • Lessons (115) • Aquafit (31) • Club (23) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swim (91 mentions) • Sauna (54) • Hot tub (44) • Steam (27) • Lessons (22) • Club (13) • Aquafit (8) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swim (267 mentions) • Sauna (83) • Hot tub (80) • Steam (40) • Lessons (36) • Club (15) • Aquafit (7) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swim (81 mentions) • Hot tub (35) • Sauna (27) • Lessons (8) |

Arena

Considering the arena, approximately two-thirds of respondents in each of the areas utilizes it. Considering “regular” use (at least weekly) utilization ranges from 27% for Area F respondents to 15% of Other respondents. Refer to Graph 2 for more information.

Graph 2



Subsegment Analysis

- Group member respondents are more likely to use the Arena regularly (daily or weekly) than respondents not members of groups (30% vs 16%).
- Respondents with children in the home are more likely to use the arena than those without children in the home (79% vs 55%).
- Respondents with children in the home are more likely to use the arena frequently (daily or weekly) than those without children in the home (34% vs 15%).

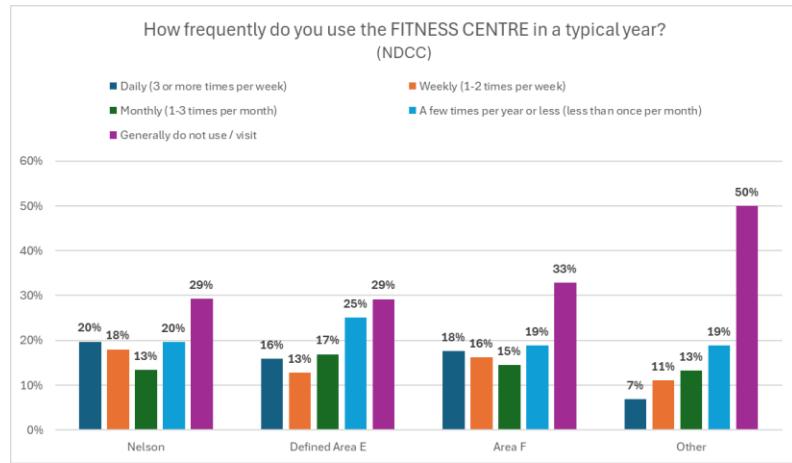
Respondents also identified the activities in which they participate in the area. See the table below.

| Nelson | Defined Area E | Area F | Other Area E |
|---|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hockey (369 mentions) Skating (335) Spectating (86) Walking (56) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skating (77 mentions) Hockey (45) Spectating (18) Walking (9) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skating (122 mentions) Hockey (105) Walking (16) Spectating (14) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skating (40 mentions) Hockey (20) Spectating (11) |

Fitness Centre

Utilization is relatively consistent amongst respondents from Nelson, Defined Area E, and Area F with 67% to 71% using it compared with 50% of respondents from Other. One-fifth (20%) of respondents from Nelson use it daily.

Graph 3



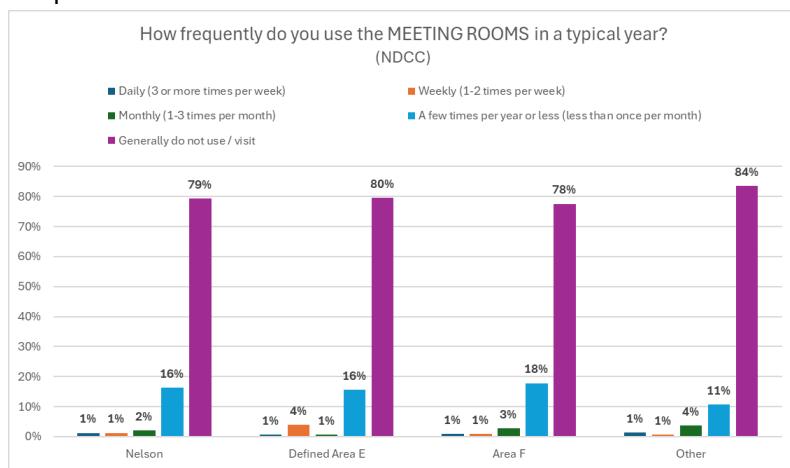
Respondents also identified the activities in which they participate in the fitness centre (below).

| Nelson | Defined Area E | Area F | Other Area E |
|---|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weightlifting (329) • Classes (229) • Cardio (127) • Yoga (53) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weightlifting (54 mentions) • Classes (46) • Cardio (12) • Yoga (9) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classes (74 mentions) • Weightlifting (53) • Cardio (46) • Yoga (15) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classes (22 mentions) • Weights (21) • Gym (19) • Cardio (15) |

Multipurpose Rooms

Utilization of the multipurpose rooms is much lower than for the other amenities in the NDCC. Respondents from Area F indicated the most use with 22% of respondents saying they used it. Looking at the usage itself (Graph 4), most of it is limited to a few times per year or less.

Graph 4



Subsegment Analysis

- Respondents with children in the home are more likely to use the meeting rooms than those without children in the home (30% vs 13%).

Respondents also identified the activities in which they participate in the multipurpose rooms. See the table.

| Nelson | Defined Area E | Area F | Other Area E |
|---|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birthday parties (119) • Meetings (40) • Classes (28) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birthday parties (11 mentions) • Classes (10) • Meetings (8) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birthday parties (31 mentions) • Meetings (27) • Classes (8) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birthday parties (11 mentions) • Meetings (3) |

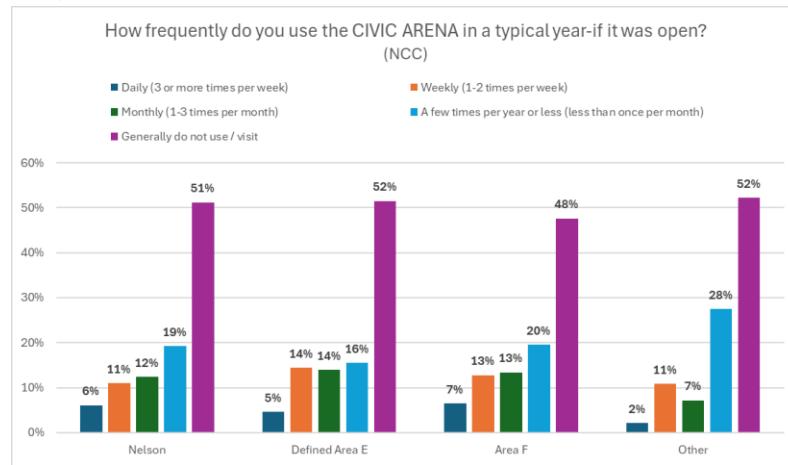
Nelson Civic Centre (NCC)

Respondents were asked to identify the frequency of which they use or visit each of the different amenity within the Nelson Civic Centre in a typical year – if it was open (the amenities were closed in the fall of 2024 and remained closed through the time of the survey). If their use is seasonal, they were to indicate their usage considering the season in which they participate. Finally, their usage or visitation response should reflect any children they have in their home. Their responses are presented in the following graphs with each graph presenting the utilization for a different amenity.

Civic Arena

As illustrated in Graph 5, approximately half of the respondents in each of the areas use the Civic Arena. A slightly larger proportion of respondents from Area F use the arena and they also use it more frequently with 20% using it at least weekly.

Graph 5



Subsegment Analysis

- Respondents with children in the home are more likely to use the Civic Arena frequently (daily or weekly) than those without children in the home (27% vs 10%).

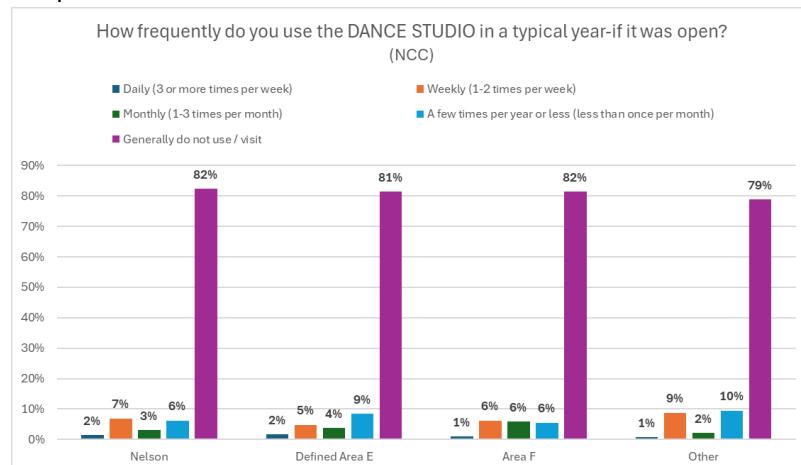
Respondents also identified the activities in which they participate in the Civic Arena (below).

| Nelson | Defined Area E | Area F | Other Area E |
|--|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hockey (206 mentions) Spectating (51) Skating (50) Events (26) Fitness / walking (11) Private rental (10) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hockey (34 mentions) Skating (15) Spectating (5) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hockey (79 mentions) Skating (22) Spectating (9) Private rentals (5) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hockey (12 mentions) Skating (9) Spectating (8) |

Dance Studio

The Dance Studio is leased to Dance Umbrella. As illustrated in Graph 6, less than one-quarter of respondents use the Dance Studio at all. Weekly use is 10% or less.

Graph 6



Subsegment Analysis

- Respondents with children in the home are more likely to use the Dance Studio than those without children in the home (29% vs 9%).
- Respondents with children in the home are more likely to use the Dance Studio frequently (daily or weekly) than those without children in the home (16% vs 2%).

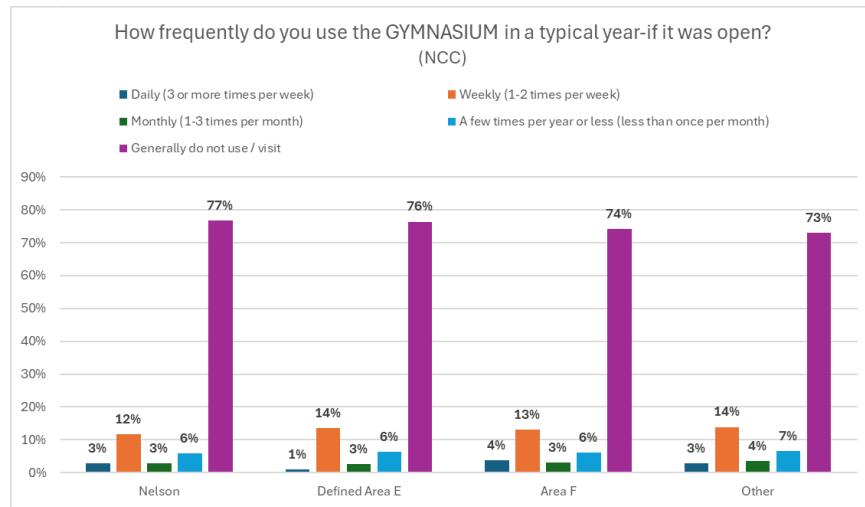
Respondents also identified the activities in which they participate in the Dance Studio. Refer to the table.

| Nelson | Defined Area E | Area F | Other Area E |
|---|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dance classes (65 mentions) Children's classes (61) Events / spectate (15) Ballet / jazz / tap / etc (7) Exercise (7) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dance classes (13 mentions) Children's classes (9) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dance classes / lessons (27 mentions) Children's classes (10) Ballet / jazz/ tap / etc (4) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dance classes (9 mentions) Children's classes (6) |

Gymnasium

The Gymnasium is leased to Glacier Gymnastics. Approximately one-quarter of respondents from each of the areas use the Gymnasium yearly. Fifteen to seventeen percent of respondents use the amenity at least weekly. Refer to Graph 7 for more information.

Graph 7



Subsegment Analysis

- Respondents with children in the home are more likely to use the gymnasium than those without children in the home (41% vs 10%).
- Respondents with children in the home are more likely to use the gymnasium frequently (daily or weekly) than those without children in the home (30% vs 3%).

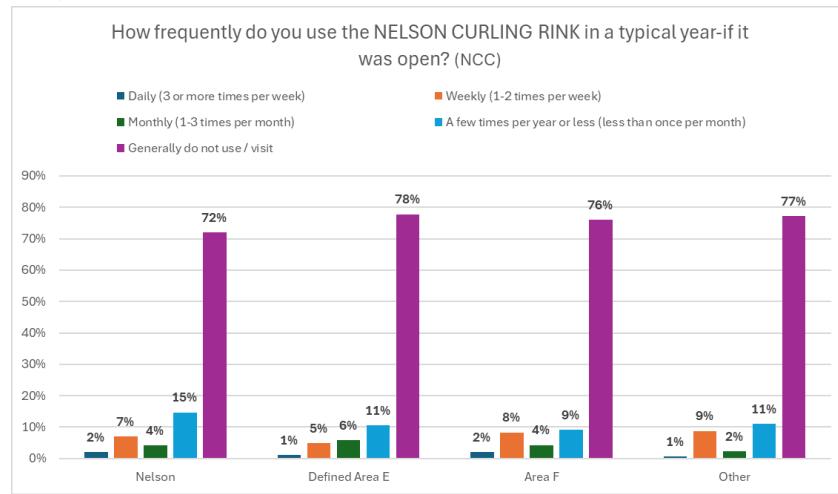
Respondents also identified the activities in which they participate in the gymnasium – refer to the following table.

| Nelson | Defined Area E | Area F | Other Area E |
|--|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gymnastics (115 mentions) Children / youth gymnastics (78) Exercise / workouts (20) Adult gymnastics (20) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children / youth gymnastics (16 mentions) Gymnastics (15) Adult gymnastics (5) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gymnastics (35 mentions) Children / youth gymnastics (22) Exercise / workouts (7) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gymnastics (14 mentions) Children / youth gymnastics (12) |

Nelson Curling Rink

As illustrated in Graph 8, approximately one-quarter of respondents (23-29%) use the Curling Rink (leased to the Nelson Curling Club). At 2%, Nelson and Area F respondents use the facility daily to a greater extent than do respondents from the other areas.

Graph 8



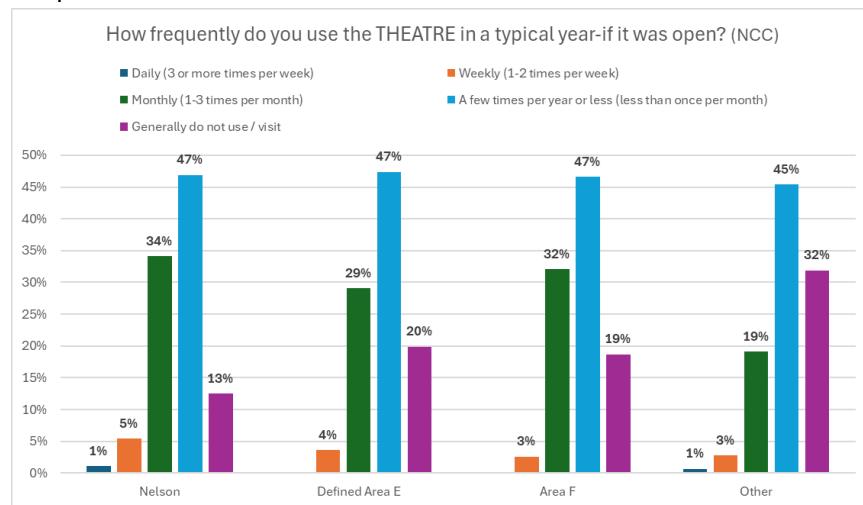
Respondents also identified the activities in which they participate in the Nelson Curling Rink. The following table includes the list.

| Nelson | Defined Area E | Area F | Other Area E |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Curling (204 mentions) | • Curling (31 mentions) | • Curling (53 mentions) | • Curling (21 mentions) |

Theatre

Leased to the Nelson Civic Theatre Society, a greater proportion of Nelson respondents use the Theatre (87%) than do respondents from the other areas. Approximately two-thirds (68%) of respondents from Other use it in a typical year. A small proportion of Nelson and Other respondents (1%) use the Theatre daily. See Graph 9.

Graph 9



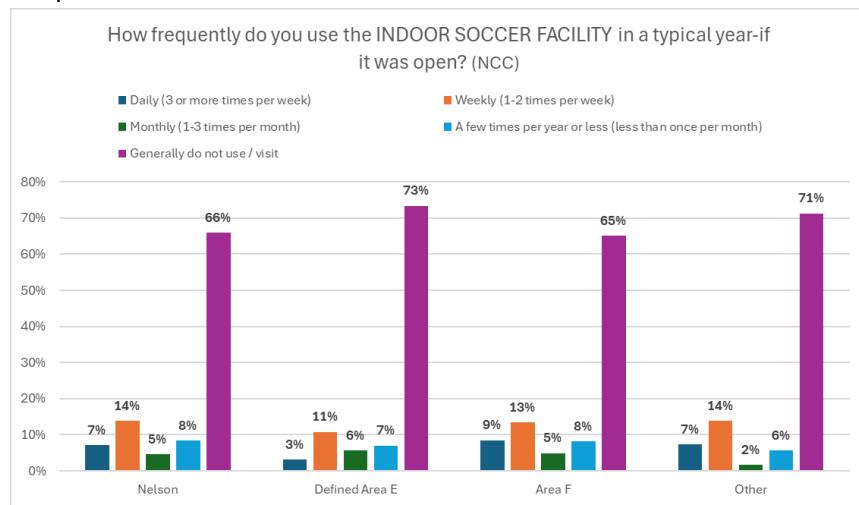
Respondents also identified the activities for which they use the Theatre (table).

| Nelson | Defined Area E | Area F | Other Area E |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| • Movies (799 mentions) | • Movies (124 mentions) | • Movies (107 mentions) | • Movies (66 mentions) |

Indoor Soccer Facility

Leased to the Nelson Soccer Association, the Indoor Soccer Facility received more daily use from respondents than do any other amenity in the Civic Centre (27%-35% of respondents from each area uses it). Nine percent of Area F respondents use it daily. Refer to Graph 10 for more information.

Graph 10



Subsegment Analysis

- Group member respondents are more likely to use the Indoor Soccer Facility regularly (daily or weekly) than respondents not members of groups (28% vs 12%).
- Respondents with children in the home are more likely to use the Indoor Soccer Facility than those without children in the home (51% vs 22%).
- Respondents with children in the home are more likely to use the Indoor Soccer Facility frequently (daily or weekly) than those without children in the home (37% vs 7%).

Respondents also identified the activities in which they participate in the Indoor Soccer Facility. See the table below.

| Nelson | Defined Area E | Area F | Other Area E |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| • Soccer (239 mentions) • Ultimate frisbee (21) | • Soccer (26 mentions) | • Soccer (81 mentions) | • Soccer (25 mentions) |

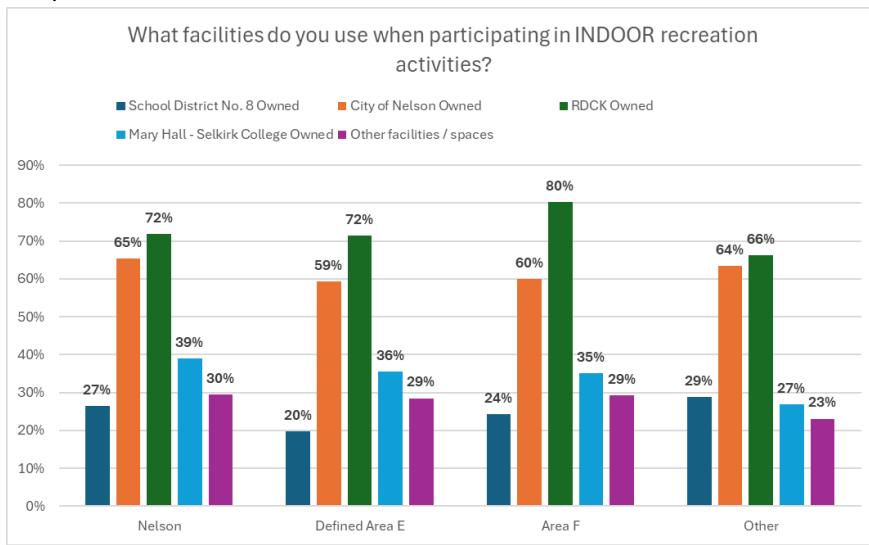
Section C: A Future For the Community Recreation Campus

This section seeks to learn the activities that respondents would like to participate in at the Community Recreation Campus. To begin, respondents were asked to identify the **indoor recreation activities in which they currently participate in the Nelson area** at least a few times per year. They may participate in some of these activities at the Community Recreation Campus already, for others they may be participating elsewhere in the Nelson area. See the following table for responses by area.

| Nelson | Defined Area E | Area F | Other Area E |
|--|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming (321 mentions) • Soccer (254) • Hockey (210) • Gym (201) • Fitness Classes (200) • Yoga (158) • Dance Classes (155) • Skating (143) • Climbing (131) • Gymnastics (96) • Basketball (92) • Curling (83) • Pickleball (77) • Squash (74) • Badminton (51) • Walking (41) • Ultimate frisbee (34) • Pilates (21) • Tennis (14) • Golf (11) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming (48 mentions) • Fitness Classes (33) • Climbing (32) • Soccer (29) • Gym (28) • Dance Classes (27) • Hockey (25) • Yoga (23) • Squash (14) • Basketball (13) • Curling (13) • Badminton (9) • Pickleball (7) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming (103 mentions) • Soccer (83) • Hockey (76) • Gym (63) • Fitness Classes (57) • Dance Classes (52) • Skating (50) • Yoga (50) • Basketball (26) • Pickleball (24) • Curling (22) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming (35 mentions) • Soccer (26) • Skating (21) • Gym (16) • Hockey (11) • Curling (11) • Fitness Classes (9) • Yoga (9) • Basketball (8) • Gymnastics (8) • Music / dance (8) • Pickleball (7) |

Next, respondents indicated whose facilities / amenities they use when participating in the activities they identified in the previous question. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, the majority of respondents use RDCK and City of Nelson owned facilities.

Graph 11



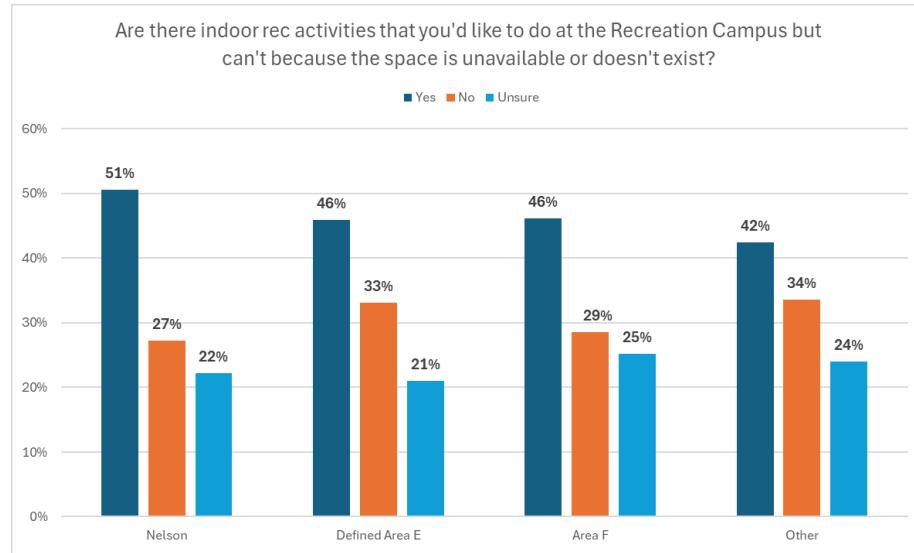
Subsegment Analysis

- Group member respondents are more likely to use Mary Hall-Selkirk College than respondents not members of groups (44% vs 29%).
- Respondents with children in the home are more likely to use the School District facilities than those without children in the home (40% vs 14%).
- Respondents with children in the home are more likely to use the City of Nelson facilities than those without children in the home (77% vs 53%).
- Respondents with children in the home are more likely to use the RDCK facilities than those without children in the home (80% vs 67%).

In an effort to determine the unmet need of respondents for participating in activities at the Community Recreation Campus, respondents were asked if there are indoor recreation activities that they would like to participate in at the Community Recreation Campus but are unable to. They may be unable to because the space to accommodate the activity does not exist on the Campus or if it does exist it is not available. As illustrated in Graph 12, approximately half of respondents from Nelson (51%) said they would like to participate at the Campus. Less than half of

respondents from the other areas said they would like to participate at the Recreation Campus but are unable to due to lack of available time in existing spaces or lack of spaces at all.

Graph 12



Subsegment Analysis

- Group member respondents are more likely say they would like to participate at the Recreation Campus but cannot than non member respondents (72% vs 58%)

Respondents who want to participate at the Community Recreation Campus (or who are unsure) identified the activities in which they **would like to participate on Campus but are unable** to due to lack of availability of an existing space or because the facility or space does not exist.

| Nelson | Defined Area E | Area F | Other |
|---|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curling (106 mentions) Pickleball (93) Climbing (69) Tennis (62) Basketball (60) Dance (45) Soccer (42) Bowling (34) Squash (33) Hockey (33) Badminton (26) Volleyball (25) Gymnastics (24) Skating (23) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climbing (11 mentions) Dance (7) Pickleball (7) Curling (6) Skating (6) Hockey (5) Basketball (4) Squash (4) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pickleball (27 mentions) Curling (25) Soccer (19) Basketball (16) Climbing (15) Hockey (12) Tennis (12) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curling (12 mentions) Gymnastics (7) Pickleball (6) Concert / music venue (6) Soccer (6) Gym / fitness (5) Basketball (4) Hockey (3) Climbing (3) Yoga (2) |

Section D: Potential Costing and Taxation Impacts

To begin this section, a table was presented that identified the annual taxation (2024) households in Nelson, Area F, Defined Area E, and Other Area E pay to support the facilities / amenities on the Community Recreation Campus (below).

2024 ANNUAL TAXATION FOR THE FACILITIES / AMENITIES ON THE COMMUNITY RECREATION CAMPUS FOR HOUSEHOLDS IN NELSON, ELECTORAL AREA E AND AREA F

(This is current taxation – these figures are not new rates of taxation.)

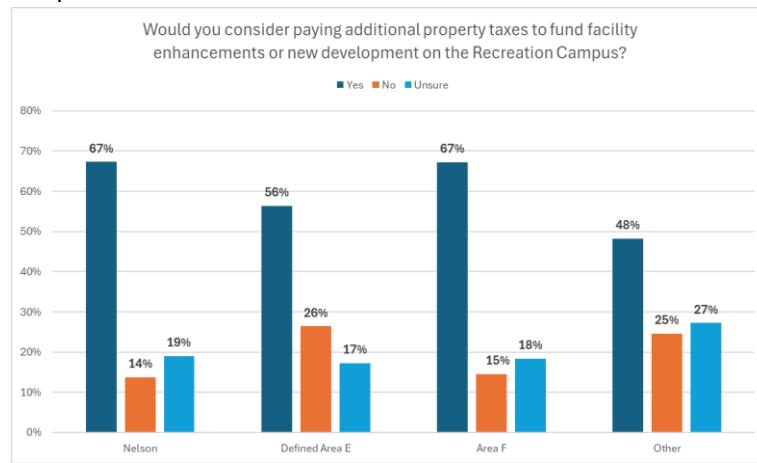
| Community Recreation Campus Facilities / Amenities | 2024 Annual Taxation for residents with a property assessed at \$500,000 who live in: | 2024 Annual Taxation for residents with a property assessed at \$500,000 who live in: | 2024 Annual Taxation for residents with a property assessed at \$500,000 who live in: |
|--|---|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other Area E <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Harrop » Longbeach » Balfour » Queens Bay » Procter » Sunshine Bay | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area F • Defined Area E <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Mountain Station » Granite Road » Blewett » Bealby / Horkicks » Rural Nelson as far south as Cottonwood Lake | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nelson. |
| Nelson & District Community Complex | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatic centre • Arena • Fitness facility • Multipurpose rooms | \$0* (do not pay for these services) | \$268.10 | \$268.10 |
| Nelson Civic Centre | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civic Arena • Indoor Soccer Facility • Movie Theatre • Gymnasium • Dance Studio • Nelson Curling Rink | \$0** (do not pay for these services) | \$0** (do not pay for these services) | \$37.00 |
| Total (Annual) Taxation For Community Recreation Campus Facilities | \$0 | \$268.10 | \$305.10 |

**This portion of Area E is not part of Service S226 so does not pay for these services as part of their taxes. Any user fees however are paid for by all users regardless of where they live.*

***Only City of Nelson households pay for Nelson Civic Centre spaces, curling rink and indoor soccer facility as part of their taxation. Any user fees however are paid for by all users regardless of where they live.*

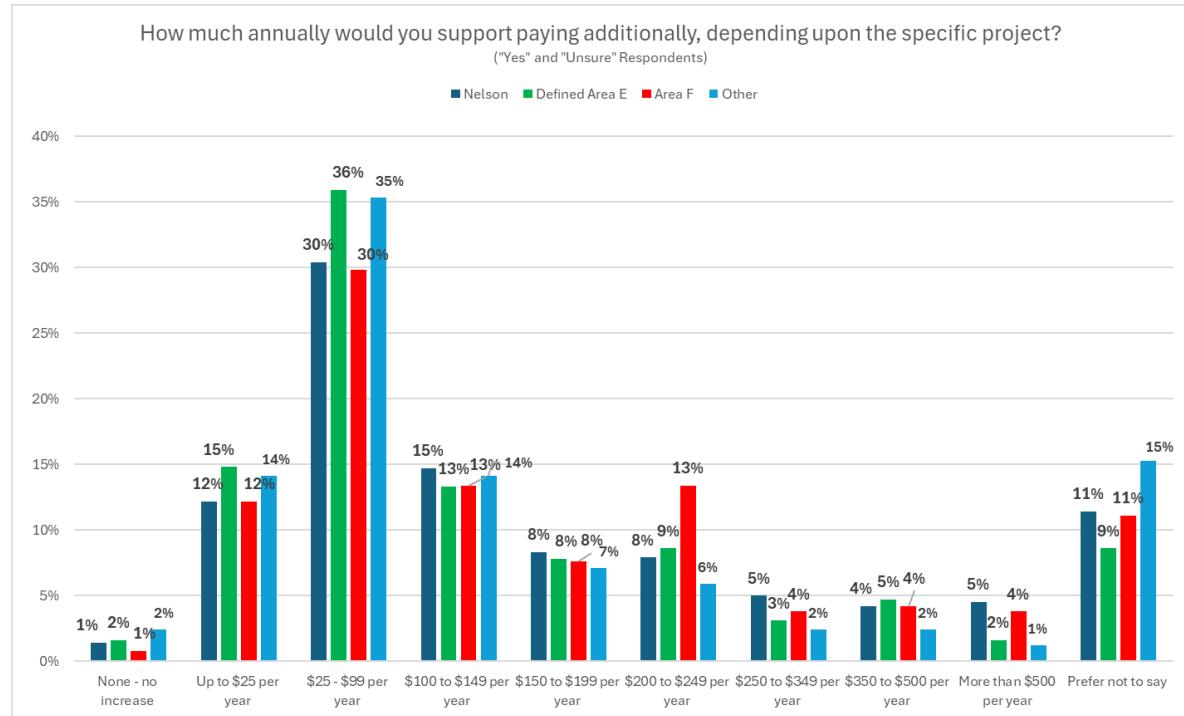
Depending on decisions that get made related to the Community Recreation Campus, there **may** be a need to fund borrowing for enhancements or new amenities. While specific decisions about borrowing will be determined at a later point as decisions are made about the Community Recreation Campus, respondents provided insight into their willingness to pay additional property taxes to fund facility enhancements or new development. As illustrated in Graph 13, two-thirds of respondents from Nelson (67%) and Area F (67%) said they would consider paying additional property taxes. Over half (56%) of respondents from Defined Area E said they would consider paying additional taxes. Less than half (48%) of Other respondents said they would consider it. Approximately one-quarter or less said they would not consider paying additional taxes.

Graph 13



Respondents who said they would consider paying more and those who were unsure were then asked how much they would support paying annually (depending on the project). As illustrated in the accompanying graph, respondents in Nelson and Area F are more willing to pay higher amounts. Three-quarters of respondents from Nelson and Defined Area E said they would be willing to pay at least 25-\$99 in additional property taxes per year³ to fund facility enhancements or new developments on the Recreation Campus. Similarly, 76% of Area F respondents said the same thing. Considering respondents from Other, 68% said they would be willing to pay at least \$25-\$99 additionally per year.

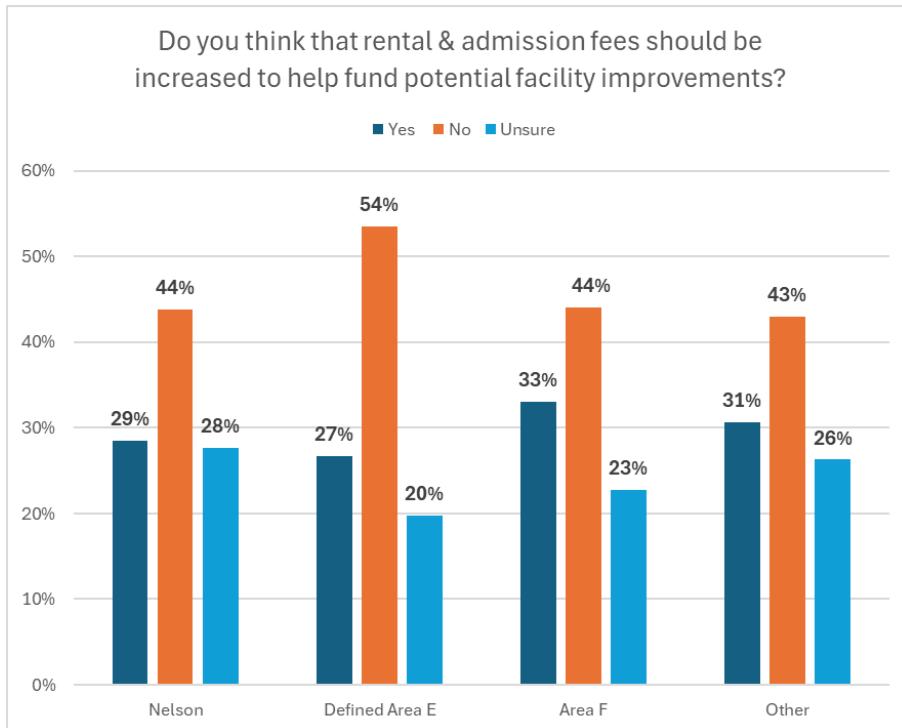
Graph 14



³ Add the proportion of respondents who selected the categories \$25-\$99 and higher to arrive at the total. A respondent who indicated they would be willing to pay more than \$500 per year would be willing to pay \$25-\$99.

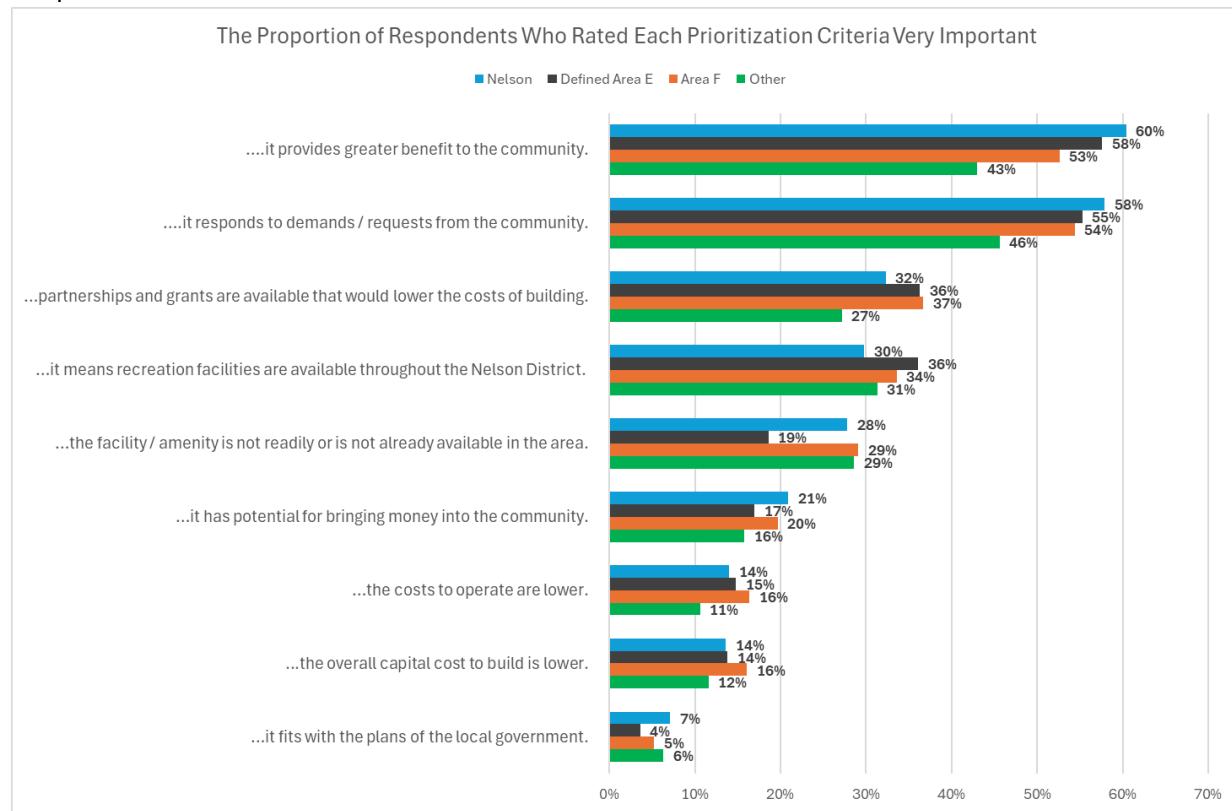
While approximately half (54%) of Defined Area E respondents said they do not think that rental and admission fees should be increased to help fund potential facility improvements, there was not a clear position from respondents. For Nelson respondents, the proportion who said that fees should be increased (29%) was very similar to those who were unsure (28%). Refer to Graph 15 for more information

Graph 15



Finally, respondents were asked about criteria that could be used by the RDCK and City of Nelson when making decisions about prioritizing recreation projects. There are limited resources and capital-intensive projects need to be prioritized. While many projects may be important or worthwhile but they still need to be prioritized. Respondents were presented with a list of potential decision-making criteria and asked to indicate the importance that should be placed on each when making decisions about prioritizing recreation facility projects. As illustrated in Graph 16, the two most important criteria are “providing greater benefit to the community” and “responds to demands / requests from the community”.

Graph 16



Section E: Other Thoughts – Community Recreation Campus

Respondents were provided with the opportunity to share any comments related to the future of the Community Recreation Campus.

Nelson

Respondents are generally in support of the development and enhancement of recreational facilities to cater to the diverse needs of residents across all age groups. Suggestions include expanding indoor spaces for popular sports (142) like soccer and pickleball, prioritizing community health and well-being (83), and leveraging partnerships for funding (56). Comments include concerns about balancing the allocation of tax dollars between housing and recreational projects (151), affordable access to facilities (74), and the need for more parking (58). Overall, a key theme within the comments was the need to create inclusive, accessible, and engaging recreational spaces that contribute to a vibrant and healthy community in Nelson.

Defined Area E

Respondents' have noted the need for improvements in recreational facilities (37) in Nelson, focusing on expanding space for activities like racket sports (12) and fitness (13), and addressing the high demand for indoor recreation facilities (19), particularly for community use. Maintenance

of current facilities is also important, as well as providing affordable access (10) to all residents. Suggestions include utilizing available land for recreation purposes, improving accessibility for community groups, and ensuring a variety of activities for all residents. Concerns about tax increases (11) and proper financial management of facilities (10) were also highlighted.

Area F

Feedback highlights the respondents' perceptions that the community needs a new or improved recreation facility (105) to allow for participation in various sport and recreation opportunities. Responses emphasize the need for more affordable options (29) and ability to accommodate all age groups and abilities (23). The community values accessible, safe, and inclusive recreational spaces that prioritize well-being and building connections. Specific suggestions include a multi-purpose recreation facility, that allows for different activities to occur in one location (37). Responses also note the importance of and need for affordable housing (49) in Nelson.

Other

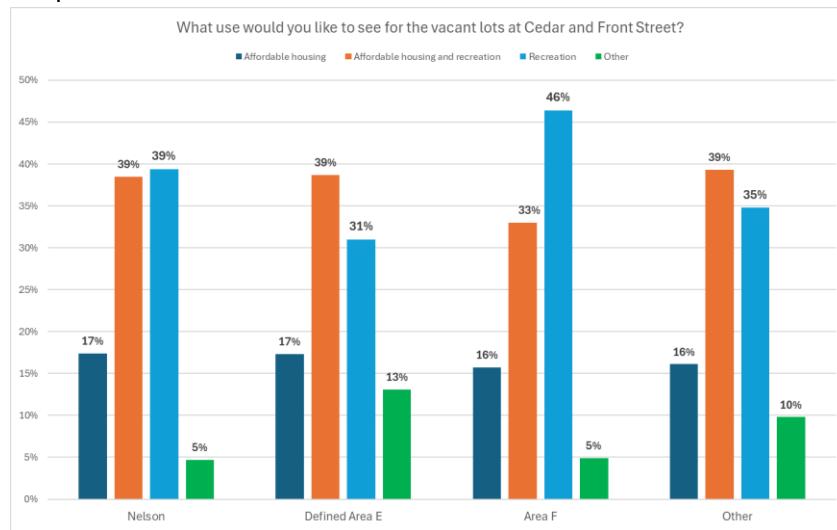
While affordable housing is needed, respondents focussed their discussion on support for recreation (including music and the arts) provision. Comments include building a Community Recreation campus with various indoor sports options, including a renovated curling rink (10), indoor soccer pitch (8), multi-use spaces (8), as well as more attention to ongoing maintenance. Regional provision and expansion of the service area were also suggested.

Section F: The Affordable Housing Project

The final section of the questionnaire focussed on the affordable housing project that was proposed by Nelson Cares for the vacant lots at the corner of Cedar and Front Street. The RDCK Board, with direction from the Nelson Recreation Commission and the City of Nelson, offered letters of support for Nelson Cares to explore the option of an affordable housing project with the inclusion of 5,000 - 7,000 square feet of recreation. The RDCK committed to hearing from the community on what it would like to see in this space before fully committing the RDCK's portion of land to the project.

Respondents were asked what use(s) they would like to see for the vacant lots at the corner of Cedar and Front Streets. As illustrated in the accompanying graph, the majority of respondents from all areas want the site used for recreation. Adding those who said "Recreation" and "Affordable Housing and Recreation", recreation uses for the site were supported by between 70% and 78% of respondents. Adding "Affordable Housing" and "Affordable Housing and Recreation", affordable housing uses for the site was supported by between 49% and 56% of respondents. See Graph 17.

Graph 17



Subsegment Analysis

- Group member respondents are more likely to say recreation only than respondents not members of groups (46% vs 33%).
- Respondents with children in the home are more likely to say recreation only than those without children in the home (47% vs 34%).

Respondents were then asked to explain their answers. A synopsis of the comments related to each option is noted below (considering all respondents). For an overview of the comments for each option by area, please refer to Appendix C.

Affordable Housing

There is a need for affordable housing in Nelson. Homelessness is a problem and finding affordable housing is challenging for many people including those with employment. There are recreation opportunities already provided therefore providing affordable housing is a greater need. Housing is a need and is a defense against some of the social issues impacting the community.

Recreation

Respondents indicated that there are affordable housing options already in Nelson. If more is needed, consideration of another site should be given. The current recreation facilities on the campus are highly used and there is a need, in a growing community, to enhance the provision of recreation. Maintaining the campus as focussed on recreation makes sense. A central location for recreation is logical and recreation provision is a contributor to resident attraction and retention.

Affordable Housing and Recreation

In a growing community, respondents spoke about the need for additional affordable housing and for enhanced recreation. An approach to provide both is a good solution. Additional recreation opportunities can benefit residents and support those living in the affordable housing.

Other

Acknowledgement of the need for additional affordable housing units and enhanced recreation was offered by respondents. Concerns were raised about the current challenges with parking on the site as was the need for other services at the campus facilities such as childcare.

3.0 Community Group Survey

A survey was fielded with organized community groups who deliver recreation programs and services to residents in the Nelson district and those who may use or want to use recreation facilities in Nelson and on the Recreation Campus to deliver their programs and services. Using a list compiled by the RDCK and City of Nelson, an email invitation was sent to a representative of the various groups encouraging participation. Included in the email was the link to the online version of the questionnaire; a hard copy of the questionnaire was also attached to the email.

3.1 About the Survey

The survey collected responses from groups from December 12, 2024 through to January 15, 2025. In total thirty-seven (37) responses were gathered. The findings are presented below in the order the questions were asked. Not all respondents answered all questions. As such the findings are based on the number of respondents for each question.

3.2 Findings

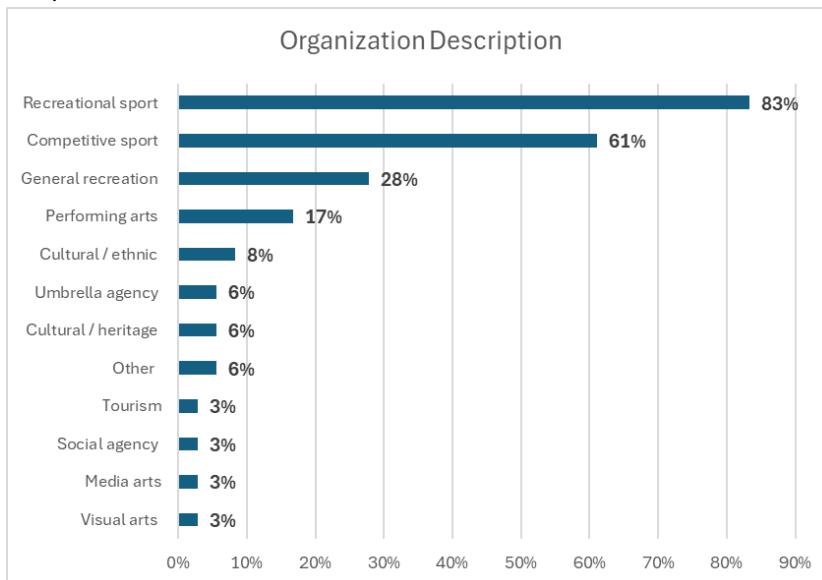
About Your Organization / Group

To begin the survey, respondents were asked several questions about their organizations. The thirty-seven respondents represent an array of organizations including sport, tourism, general recreation, and so on. In terms of facilities used for programming, respondents represent ice users; field users; aquatic users; court, studio, and gymnasium users; educational and student programmers; and other organizations in the community. See the list of respondents below.

1. BC Senior Games Society aka 55 BC Games
2. Discover Circus
3. Glacier Gymnastics
4. Granite Pointe Golf and Recreation Society
5. Kootenay Chaos Track and Field
6. Kootenay lake rec hockey league
7. Kootenay Swim Club
8. Lunch Bucket Hockey
9. LV Rogers Secondary Athletics
10. Nelson Badminton Club
11. Nelson Boxing and Athletics Club
12. Nelson Civic Theatre Society
13. Nelson Curling Club
14. Nelson Hoops Association
15. Nelson Kootenay Lake Tourism
16. Nelson Leafs Hockey Society
17. Nelson Men's Hockey
18. Nelson Minor Hockey Association
19. Nelson Neptune Swim Club
20. Nelson Pickleball Club
21. Nelson Roller Sports
22. Nelson Skating Club
23. Nelson Soccer Association
24. Nelson Tennis Club
25. Nelson Ultimate Frisbee Association
26. Nelson Volleyball Club
27. Nelson Women Hockey
28. Nocturne Sound System
29. Performa Dance Co.
30. Selkirk College Athletic and Recreation
31. TGIF Hockey Group
32. The Dance Umbrella Society
33. Trafalgar Hockey Lle
34. Tuesday noon hockey
35. Whitewater Ski Resort
36. Zone 6 - 55 BC Senior Games Society
37. Kootenay Climbing Association

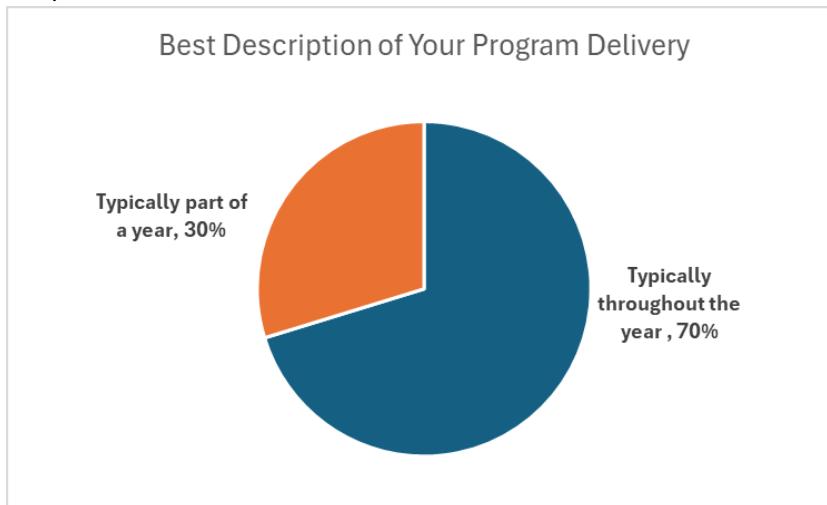
As illustrated in the accompanying graph, a large majority (83%) of groups consider themselves recreation sport groups, with about two-thirds (61%) also considering themselves competitive sport.

Graph 18



Approximately two-thirds (70%) of respondents typically delivery their programming throughout the year while the remaining are more seasonal. Some described some nuance, indicating limitations to facility space has impacted their ability to deliver year-round programming.

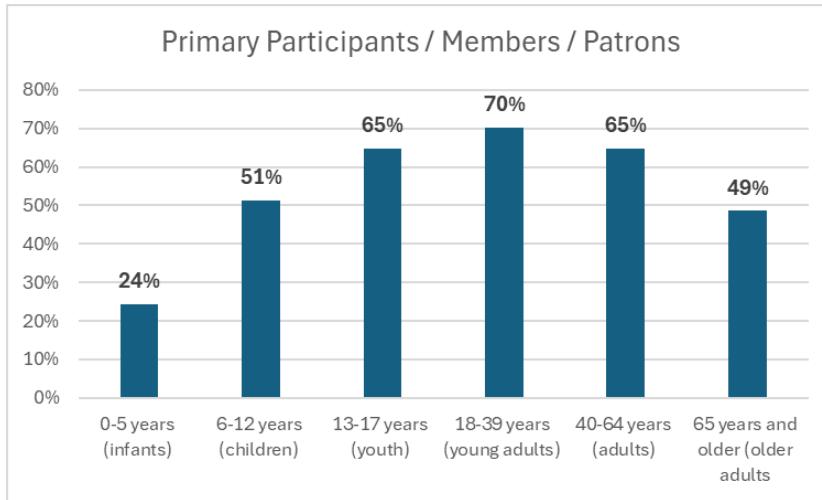
Graph 19



Considering the recipient of their services, the respondents deliver services to all age ranges as shown in the graph. The largest age segments served (by approximately two-thirds of respondents) are youth aged 13-17 years (24 of 37), young adults 18-39 years (26 respondents), and adults aged

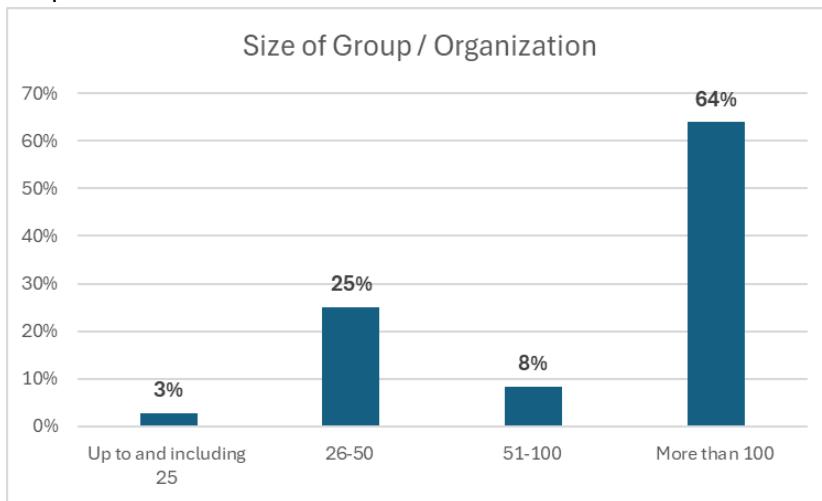
40-64 years (24 respondents). Five respondents only cater to youth and/ or younger, while seven do not offer services to youth and younger.

Graph 20



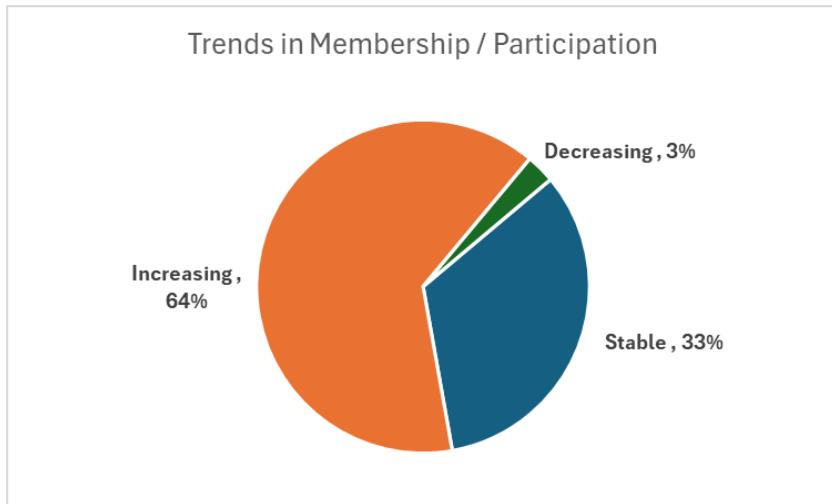
Approximately two-thirds (23 out of 36) have more than 100 members / participants as shown in the graph. Some of the figures from respondents included full and part time members (or core and casual participants). There were two comments that said their participant numbers have been affected by insufficient facility space.

Graph 21



Considering trends in participation, only one respondent group identified a decline with one-third (33%) indicating stable participation. As illustrated in the accompanying graph (Graph 22), approximately two-thirds of respondents (64%) are seeing increasing participation.

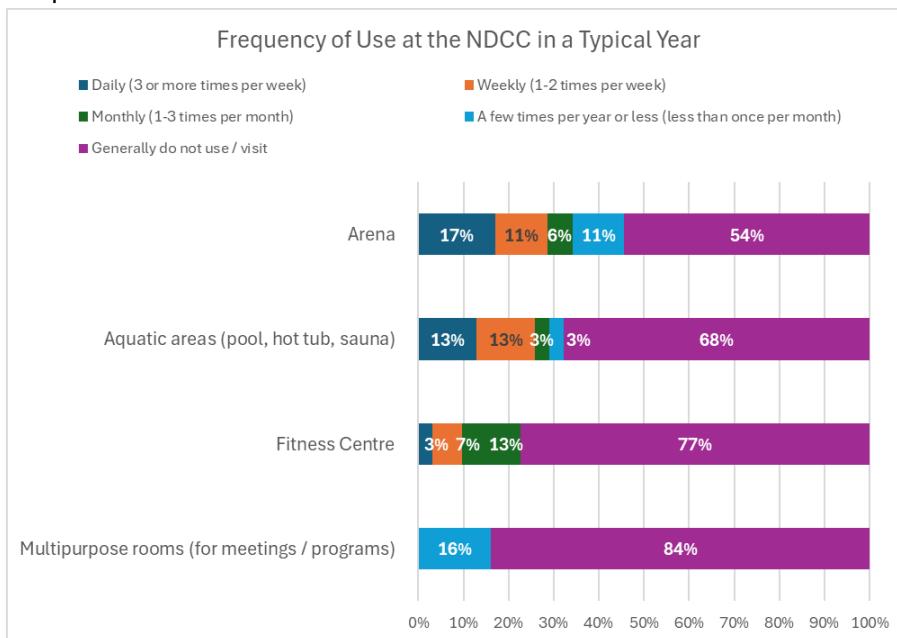
Graph 22



Your Community Recreation Campus Utilization

Respondents were asked to identify their frequency of use for the different amenities in the Nelson & District Community Complex (NDCC) during a typical year. As can be seen in the accompanying graph, approximately half (46%) use the arena in a typical year. Considering those who do use the arena, over one-third (38%) use it daily⁴. The multipurpose rooms are used by the smaller proportion of respondents – only 16% use it. All those who do use the multipurpose rooms only use them a few times per year or less.

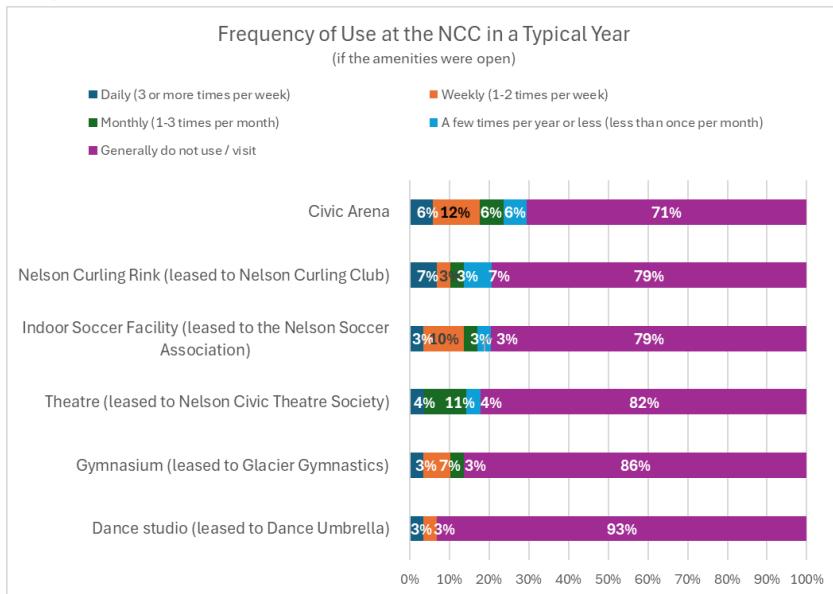
Graph 23



⁴ 46% of respondents use the Arena and 17% use the Arena daily. 17 out of 46 is 38%.

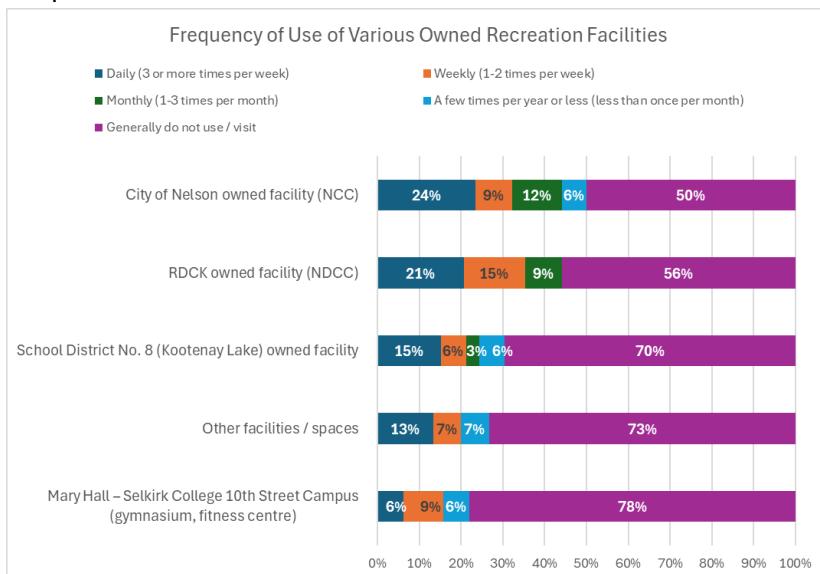
While the Nelson Civic Centre (NCC) is closed, respondents were asked to indicate the frequency they would use each amenity in a typical year (if the amenities were open). As illustrated, only a minority of respondents utilize any of the amenities in the NCC. The Civic Arena is used by over one-quarter of respondents (29%).

Graph 24



There are several different recreation facilities owned by a number of different entities. As illustrated in Graph 25, approximately half (51%) of respondents use City of Nelson owned facilities like the NCC with the arena, theatre, dance studio, gymnasium, indoor soccer facility, and curling rink. Just under half (45%) use amenities at the NDCC including the pool, fitness centre, arena, and multipurpose rooms.

Graph 25



Next, the respondents were asked to identify the proportion of their indoor programming that takes place in each of the different facility ownership groupings. Nineteen of the thirty-three respondents deliver all their programming in a single facility ownership category according to the following breakdown:

- City of Nelson – six respondents use the NCC for all their indoor programming
- RDCK – four respondents use the NDCC for all their indoor programming
- School District No. 8 – one respondent exclusively uses these amenities for all its programming.
- Mary Hall – Selkirk College – five respondents use these amenities for all their programming.
- Other facilities – four respondents use other facilities for all their indoor programming.

| Facility Ownership | Use for Indoor Programming | Significant Use for Indoor Programming |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| City of Nelson (NCC) | 14 respondents use the NCC for their indoor programming | 10 respondents use the NCC for at least half (50%) of their indoor programming |
| RDCK (NDCC) | 14 respondents use the NDCC for their indoor programming | 10 respondents use the NDCC for at least half (50%) of their indoor programming |
| School District No. 8 | Only 6 respondents use these spaces for their indoor programming | 3 of the 6 use these spaces for at least 90% of their indoor programming |
| Mary Hall-Selkirk College | 10 respondents use these spaces for their indoor programming | 7 respondents use these spaces for at least 60% of their programming. |
| Other facilities | 11 respondents use other facilities for their indoor programming | 6 respondents use other spaces for at least 80% of their indoor programming. |

Challenges

Next, respondents were asked to identify **the facility space challenges they are currently facing** when providing their programs or services. The closure of the Civic Centre has had a significant impact on groups as, for many, there are no other spaces that can be used. The closure as well has exacerbated the lack of availability for programming space. There are more groups vying for space and for the most appropriate times. As well, with the growth that some organizations are facing, the demand for space is increasing.

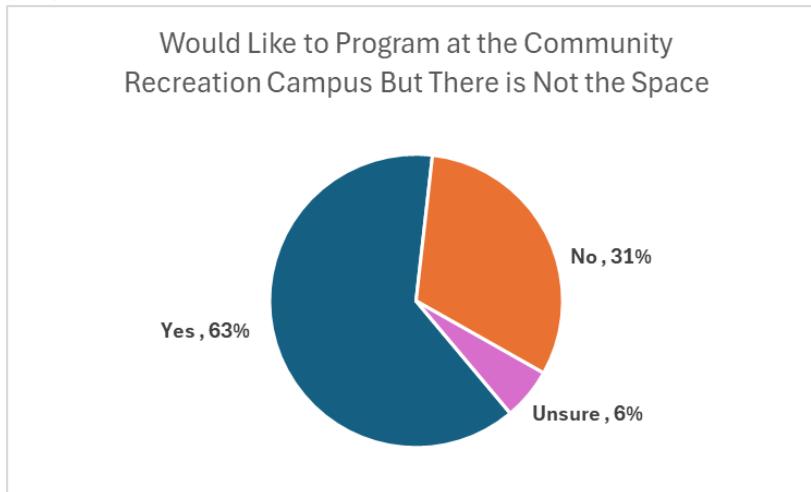
Respondents spoke about the general lack of indoor dryland space in Nelson to accommodate a variety of activities. The space that does exist can be challenging to access, particularly as it relates to school gymnasiums. School uses takes precedence and these spaces are not available during the summer months. Some respondents spoke about the challenges of providing facility time and balancing the demands of groups and offering public drop-in programming. Some respondents went further stating that not only getting time can be difficult but that the space that is used not completely accommodate the activity. For example court sizes or surfaces does not enable the full or complete activity.

A few comments were also offered regarding deficiencies with support spaces like dressing rooms, administrative spaces, parking, and loading areas. Spaces specifically cited as lacking including ice, aquatics, gymnasium and field house space, arts performance spaces.

When asked to identify other **challenges beyond those related to space** challenges, many respondents reiterated the difficulties of securing facility time generally and getting it at appropriate times. Some questioned the allocation process suggesting that the current process has “unfairly” impacted them. Financial challenges were raised as well. The increasing costs of space was mentioned as was the negative impact on some respondents’ revenues due to the Civic Centre closure. Difficulties in securing coaches and referees were also mentioned.

Approximately two-thirds (63%) of respondents said they would like to deliver their programming at the Community Recreation Campus but are unable to because indoor facility or space does not currently exist or is not available. See Graph 26.

Graph 26



Respondents offered several explanations for their responses. Respondents who would **like to deliver programs there** mentioned the ability of freeing up time at other facilities in Nelson as a benefit of having additional facility time available at the Community Recreation Campus. The difficulties getting access to the Civic gymnasium and school gyms would be remediated through having additional gymnasium space at the Campus. Others suggested having a large indoor activity space designed to accommodate many activities would enable respondents to be able to better address limitations in programming to different age groups and abilities and throughout the year. A new space would provide appropriate space for activities and being part of the recreation campus is appealing to groups. Respondents who **said, “No”**, were more likely to indicate they already have space that they appreciate (some closed currently at the Civic Centre).

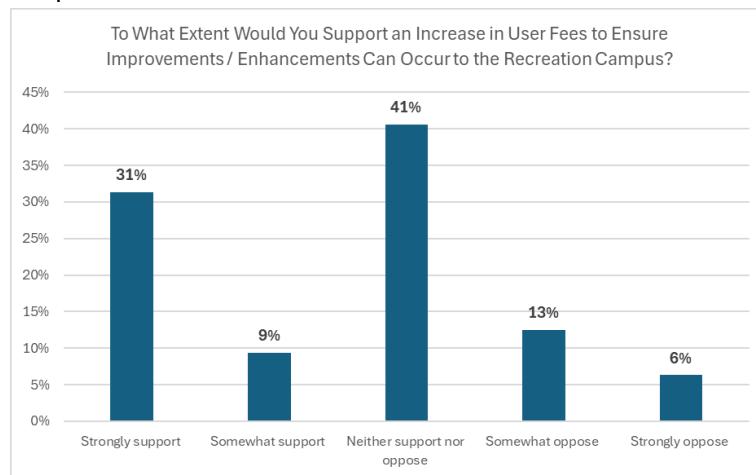
Finally in this section, respondents were asked to identify the **indoor facility or space** that they would like better access to or would like it to be added to the Community Recreation Campus. The most frequently cited space is a gymnasium to accommodate a variety of activities including court sports. Other spaces mentioned by multiple respondents include: larger pool, curling sheets, more ice availability (even longer ice season), dryland training and workout space available to groups using the NDCC, an indoor turf field, and a large indoor space that can accommodate community events.

Partnerships and Cost

Twenty-five respondents shared the cost information to book spaces in order to delivery their programs. Seven of the respondents lease their space while seventeen pay for their space by the hour. Only a single group uses a daily rate (it also secured space hourly). Aside from the cost of space, there are other costs as identified by some respondents including utilities, insurance, and building maintenance. There was mention of some subsidies offered by the City to assist groups by keeping cost impacts lower.

As illustrated in the accompanying graph, less than half (40%) would support an increase in user / rental fees to ensure improvements or enhancements to the Campus can occur. A similar figure (41%) neither supported or opposed. One-fifth opposed an increase in costs.

Graph 27



Respondents then provided an explanation for their level of support. Those who said they would **support** an increase in user fees offered a range of explanation. Some increases in cost to facilities that address the needs of the groups without negatively impacting participation is reasonable. These needs include enhancements to support spaces and greater access to activity areas at suitable times. Rate increases should not be beyond that required to provide the necessary spaces.

Respondents who **opposed a user fee increase** to ensure improvements can occur offered their own comments. The current costs are sufficiently high commented some groups who oppose an increase. A concern about cost increases excluding people from participating was also mentioned.

Considering respondents who **neither support nor oppose increased user fees**, there were two primary explanations. The most common was a concern about increased fees impacting the ability of people to participate. Cost of living is high already and an increase in fees may result in excluding people from participating. Some respondents also commented that they may support an increase if the enhancements directly addressed the needs of their groups.

The final question in this section asked respondents to describe any **partnership opportunities** they see between their organization and others in order to support potential improvements or

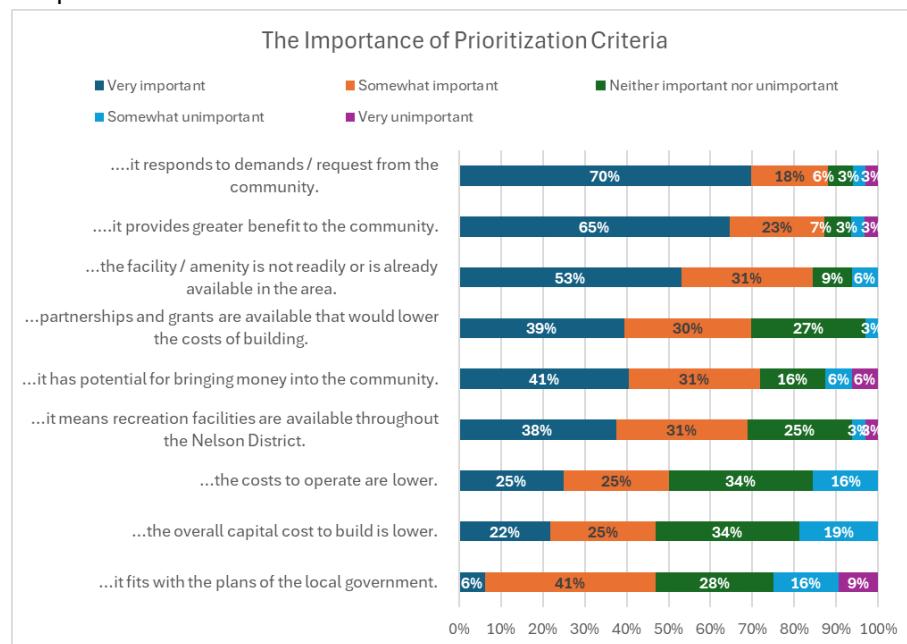
enhancements at the Community Recreation Campus that would create opportunities for as many interests as reasonable. Respondents expressed a strong interest in partnering. The shared use of a multipurpose space was mentioned frequently. Organizations do and are willing to work with other groups (particularly youth focussed organizations) to try and ensure that participation in one activity does not eliminate the ability to participate in another. Support of others' activities was mentioned. Fundraising and the pursuit of grants was mentioned by several respondents as was partnering on the delivery of programs and events. Cross promoting the different recreation and sport facilities in the community would be beneficial and may result in increased use in the spaces. Offering discounts for those using multiple facilities may result in greater use of the facilities.

Prioritization Criteria

The RDCK and City of Nelson have limited funds to allocate to infrastructure projects. To assist them in making decisions, the consideration of different infrastructure projects through the use of criteria can be helpful. Respondents were provided with a series of potential criteria that the RDCK and City of Nelson could use. For each of the criteria listed, respondents were asked to rate its importance as a filter to inform decision making.

As illustrated in the accompanying graph, approximately three-quarters (70%) of respondents said that it is very important that a potential project responds to demands / requests from the community. The other criteria to comprise the top three includes providing greater community benefit (65% said this is very important); and that whether the facility / amenity is readily available in the area (53% said this is very important). The costs (capital and operating) were rated as less important.

Graph 28



Final Thoughts

Finally, respondents were able to share any other comments they had related to the Nelson and District Community Recreation Campus. Several groups spoke about the lack of a multipurpose facility in the Nelson area. This type of facility would address the space needs of many different organizations as there is a significant lack of space for the programming by respondents. The programs offered by respondents supports a healthy community and the healthy development of youth; a multipurpose space can also serve as a place for the community to use in the event of fires or extreme heat. A number of respondents spoke about the need to use the space on the campus for recreation purposes saying that any housing should go elsewhere (particularly when there is a need for recreation development) or that the RDCK and City are not responsible for housing. There were some specific mention of the need for daycare, a track facility, curling, and arenas. Enhancing the provision of recreation spaces can not only assist groups in delivering their programs but can also help in the hosting of events which can bring revenue into the community.

Appendices

Appendix A: Postcard



The postcard features the logos of the Regional District of Central Kootenay and the City of Nelson. The text "Community Recreation Campus" and "The Heart of Nelson, Areas F & Defined E" are displayed. The main heading "BE PART OF THE CONVERSATION" is prominently displayed in large white letters. Below it, a call to action reads: "Share your thoughts on what you want the future of the Community Recreation Campus to look like." A description of the campus facilities is provided: "The Community Recreation Campus includes the Nelson & District Community Complex, Civic Centre and Arena, Curling Rink, Indoor Soccer Facility, and the empty lot at 824 Front Street." To the right, a photograph shows the exterior of the Nelson & District Community Complex (NDCC) building, which is made of red brick and features a large circular window and the NDCC logo.



The postcard features a large "TAKE THE SURVEY" heading. Below it is a list of three survey participation methods: "Scan the QR Code", "Visit engage.rdk.ca", and "Request a paper copy by visiting the Nelson & District Community Complex or call 250.354.4386". To the right is a QR code. To the right of the QR code is a photograph of the Nelson Civic Centre, a large concrete building with a prominent "CIVIC CENTRE" sign on its facade. The entrance features a set of stairs with red and white railings, flanked by hanging flower baskets. The text "WHY PARTICIPATE?" is displayed, followed by the subtext "Your input is essential as it will be used to...". A list of four reasons to participate is provided.

Appendix B: Resident Questionnaire



A COMMUNITY RECREATION CAMPUS THE HEART OF NELSON, AREAS F & DEFINED E

**PLEASE HELP US PLAN FOR THE FUTURE OF
THE COMMUNITY RECREATION CAMPUS IN
THE HEART OF NELSON!**

WHAT IS THE COMMUNITY RECREATION CAMPUS?

The Community Recreation Campus includes the Nelson & District Community Complex (NDCC), the Civic Centre and Arena, indoor soccer facility, Nelson Curling Rink and the vacant lots at the corner of Cedar and Front Street. The NDCC is owned by the Regional District. The Civic Centre and Arena, indoor soccer facility, and Nelson Curling Rink are owned by the City of Nelson.

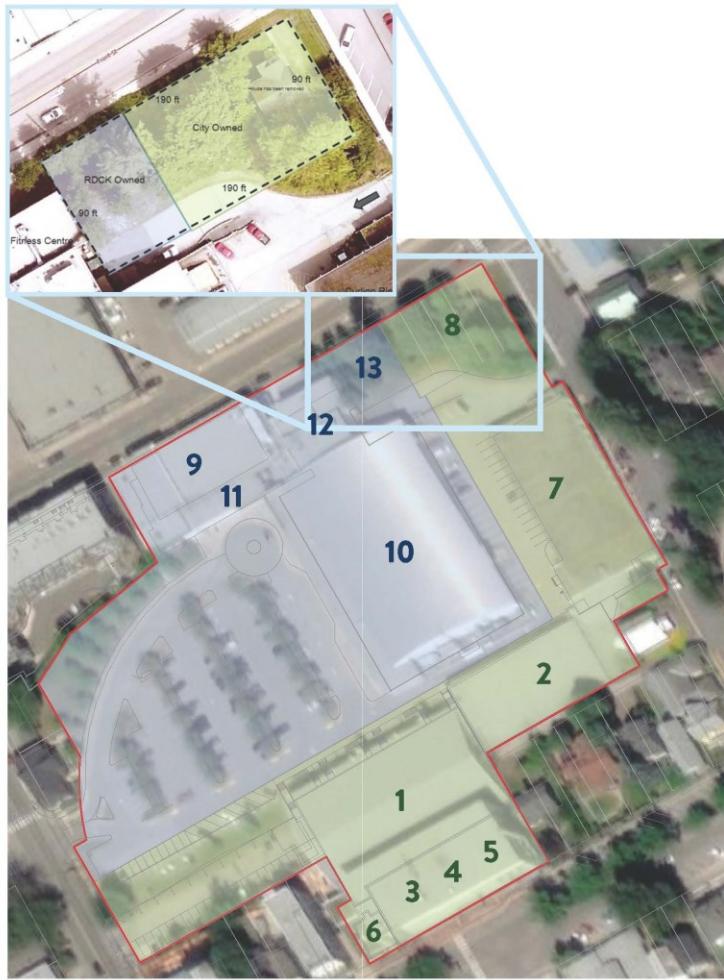
The vacant lots at the corner of Cedar and Front Street (currently being considered as a joint recreation and affordable housing project) are owned by both the City of Nelson and RDCK.

NELSON CIVIC CENTRE

(owned by the City of Nelson)

- Includes:

1. Civic Arena (operated by RDCK)
2. Indoor Soccer Facility (leased to Nelson Soccer Association)
3. Movie Theatre (leased to Nelson Civic Theatre Society)
4. Gymnasium (leased to Glacier Gymnastics)
5. Dance studio (leased to Dance Umbrella)
6. Seniors Coordinating Office
7. Nelson Curling Rink & Lounge (owned by the City of Nelson but leased to the Nelson Curling Club)
8. Empty Lot (824 Front Street)



NELSON & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COMPLEX

(owned by the RDCK)

- Includes:

9. Aquatic centre
10. NDCC Arena
11. Fitness facility
12. Multipurpose rooms
13. Empty Lot (824 Front Street)

WHY ARE WE FIELDING A SURVEY?

The Community Recreation Campus is an important regional hub for indoor recreation for residents in the Nelson & District area. Yet, there is not a collective vision, between the RDCK and City of Nelson, for the community recreation campus. With the aging of the facilities on the community recreation campus, the RDCK and City of Nelson need the community's input on the best recreational uses for current and future facilities.

WHY IS YOUR INPUT ESSENTIAL? IT WILL BE USED TO...

- Develop a shared vision for the Community Recreation Campus. This will be done by identifying the recreation activities that could be accommodated on the campus.
- Understand the current utilization of the existing facilities and amenities.
- Understand your willingness to support any increase in taxation to provide facilities and amenities on the Recreation Campus.

The information gathered will be used as input towards facility planning.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY?

It should take you approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.

HOW MANY TIMES CAN I COMPLETE THE SURVEY?

Please only participate in the survey once.

Please use this survey to discuss your activities – do not respond on behalf of an organization. A separate survey will be sent to sport and recreation groups.

DEFINITIONS

Recreation

Activities that people do to improve their physical, social, intellectual, creative, and spiritual well being. They can be for fun or can be competitive. There is a wide range of examples including the following activities: swimming, frisbee, hockey, walking, reading, painting, or yoga. Activities that people willingly do in their spare time to improve themselves are recreation.

Allocation

This refers to how access to a space in a facility is portioned out. With only so many hours available for use, rules around allocation of those hours helps determine who gets first choice of time. Think about an arena. Typically, for example, youth users get access before adult users; not for profit groups get access before the private sector.

WHEN DO I NEED TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY BY?

You have until December 20, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. PST to submit your thoughts.

WHO DO I CONTACT IF I HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ENGAGEMENT PROCESS?

For further information or questions regarding this survey, please contact us at communications@rdck.bc.ca.

WHERE ELSE CAN I GO FOR MORE INFORMATION?

Visit engage.rdck.ca.

INFORMED CONSENT & PRIVACY STATEMENT

Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary. You may choose not to participate or end your participation at any time. The information you provide through this survey is collected under the authority of, and managed in accordance with, the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The information you provide will be used by the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) and the City of Nelson to inform planning related to the Community Recreation Campus. Survey data will be stored electronically on the contractor's secure server and deleted one year after the completion of the project.

Your responses will be combined with all other responses received and summarized anonymously. For analysis purposes, the responses may be examined by groupings of respondents including residency. At no time will any specific comments be attributed to a specific survey respondent. Any personal information you provide will not be disclosed for any other purpose than stated without your specific written consent or unless required by law to do so.

Upon completion of the survey, respondents are eligible to enter a draw for one of three \$100 Grocery Store Gift Cards. The draw is voluntary, and the contact information provided will not be connected to the responses you have provided in the survey. All contact information will only be used to contact the gift card winners.

SURVEY DRAW

If you would like to enter into the draw for one of three \$100 Grocery Store Gift Cards, please provide the information below. The draw is voluntary, and the contact information provided will not be connected to the responses you have provided in the survey. The contact information will only be used to contact the gift card winners. Once the winners have been contacted all information will be deleted.

Name: _____

Contact Information (phone or email address): _____

This survey is asking questions about your recreation activities at the Community Recreation Campus and beyond. It is NOT about the allocation of the available time at the Community Recreation Campus.

If you have a child or children in the home, please consider their activities and reflect that in your responses. (Please ensure that only one parent in the household is including your child(ren)'s activities in their survey response.)

SECTION A: ABOUT YOU

The questions below describe the survey participants. The responses to the survey questions may be examined using the responses below. For example, analysis can show how respondents who live in Nelson answer the other questions.

1) Where do you live?

- City of Nelson.** Taxation supports RDCK (NDCC and Civic Arena operations) and City of Nelson owned and operated recreation facilities (Civic Arena capital costs, Civic Centre, Soccer Facility, Curling Club).
- Defined Area E.** These areas pay into RDCK taxation for RDCK owned and operated facilities (NDCC and Civic Arena operations). This portion of Area E includes:
 - Mountain Station
 - Granite Road
 - Blewett
 - Bealby / Horlicks
 - Rural Nelson as far as Cottonwood Lake
- Other Area E.** These areas do not pay into RDCK taxation for RDCK owned and operated facilities (NDCC or Civic Arena operations). This portion of Area E includes:
 - Harrop
 - Longbeach
 - Balfour
 - Queens Bay
 - Procter
 - Sunshine Bay
- Area F.** Taxation supports the RDCK owned and operated facilities (NDCC and Civic Arena operations). Area F includes:
 - North Shore to Kokanee Creek
 - Bonnington Falls
 - Beasley
 - Willow Point
 - Crescent Bay
 - Taghum
- Other (please specify): _____

2) In which age category do you fall?

17 yrs and younger 40-49 yrs 70-79 yrs
 18-29 yrs 50-59 yrs 80yrs and older
 30-39 yrs 60-69 yrs Prefer not to answer

3) Which of the following best represents your household income before tax?

| | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000 to less than \$125,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under \$50,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$125,000 to less than \$150,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000 to less than \$75,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> More than \$150,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$75,000 to less than \$100,000 | |

4) What best describes your household's composition?

- Couple with child / children
- Couple without children
- Multi-generational household (at least three generations)
- One person household
- Single parent with child / children (full-time)
- Single parent with child / children (part-time)
- Two or more adults who are not a couple (e.g., roommates, siblings living together)
- Prefer not to answer

i. If you have a child or children in your household, please indicate how many in each age group.

0-4 years 5-9 years 10-14 years 15-19 years

5) Are you an active member or volunteer of a recreation club or organized group?

Yes No Unsure

i. If Yes or Unsure, what is the name(s) of the club or organized group?

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SECTION B: YOUR COMMUNITY RECREATION CAMPUS UTILIZATION

This section focusses on your use of the different facilities and amenities on the Community Recreation Campus.

As a reminder, the accompanying graphic identifies the different components of the Campus.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE COMMUNITY RECREATION CAMPUS?

NELSON CIVIC CENTRE

(owned by the City of Nelson)

• Includes:

- 1.** Civic Arena (operated by RDCK)
- 2.** Indoor Soccer Facility (leased to Nelson Soccer Association)
- 3.** Movie Theatre (leased to Nelson Civic Theatre Society)
- 4.** Gymnasium (leased to Glacier Gymnastics)
- 5.** Dance studio (leased to Dance Umbrella)
- 6.** Seniors Coordinating Office
- 7.** Nelson Curling Rink & Lounge (owned by the City of Nelson but leased to the Nelson Curling Club)
- 8.** Empty Lot (824 Front Street)



NELSON & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COMPLEX

(owned by the RDCK)

• Includes:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 9. Aquatic centre | 12. Multipurpose rooms |
| 10. NDCC Arena | 13. Empty Lot (824 Front Street) |
| 11. Fitness facility | |

If you have a child or children in your home, please include their use with your own as you answer the questions.

6) Please indicate how frequently you use or visit each amenity in a typical year. If there is seasonality to the use, please consider how frequently each is used or visited during the particular season of play.

| Nelson & District Community Complex (NDCC) | | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| | Daily (3 or more times per week) | Weekly (1-2 times per week) | Monthly (1-3 times per month) | A few times per year or less (less than once per month) | Generally do not use / visit |
| Aquatic areas (pool, hot tub, sauna) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Arena | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fitness centre | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Multipurpose rooms (for meetings / programs) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

i. For each of the different areas within the Nelson & District Community Complex (NDCC), please identify the activities in which you participate. (If no one uses the area, leave the space blank.)

| Nelson & District Community Complex (NDCC) | |
|---|------------|
| Activity Area | Activities |
| Aquatic areas (pool, hot tub, sauna) | |
| Arena | |
| Fitness centre | |
| Multipurpose rooms (for meetings / programs) | |

7) The facilities in the Nelson Civic Centre are currently closed. Please indicate how frequently you would use or visit each amenity in a typical year - **if it was currently open**. If there is seasonality to the use, please consider how frequently each is used or visited during the particular season of play.

| Nelson Civic Centre | | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| | Daily (3 or more times per week) | Weekly (1-2 times per week) | Monthly (1-3 times per month) | A few times per year or less (less than once per month) | Generally do not use / visit |
| Civic Arena | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Dance studio (leased to Dance Umbrella) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Indoor Soccer Facility | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Gymnasium (leased to Glacier Gymnastics) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Nelson Curling Rink (leased to Nelson Curling Club) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Theatre (leased to Nelson Civic Theatre Society) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

i. For each of the different areas within the Nelson Civic Centre, please identify the activities in which **you** participate - **if it was currently open**. (If the area is not used, leave the space blank.)

| Nelson Civic Centre | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Activity Area | Activities |
| Civic Arena | |
| Dance studio | |
| Indoor Soccer Facility | |
| Gymnasium | |
| Nelson Curling Rink | |
| Theatre | |

SECTION C: A FUTURE FOR THE COMMUNITY RECREATION CAMPUS

This section asks about activities that you would like to participate in at the Community Recreation Campus. (Remember, if you have children, please include their participation with your answers.)

8) Think about all the INDOOR recreation activities in which you participate in the Nelson area. Some activities may utilize the facilities at the Community Recreation Campus, others may use different facilities.

Please list the INDOOR recreation activities in which you currently participate in the Nelson area at least a few times per year.

9) Consider the activities you identified in Question 8. Please indicate, from the list below, what facilities you use when participating in those activities. (Please select all that apply.)

- School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) owned facility (e.g. gymnasium, theatre space)
- City of Nelson owned facility (Civic Centre and Arena, theatre, dance studio, gymnasium, Indoor Soccer Facility, Curling Rink)
- RDCK owned facility (Nelson & District Community Complex pool, fitness centre, arena, multipurpose rooms)
- Mary Hall – Selkirk College 10th Street Campus (gymnasium, fitness centre)
- Other facilities / spaces (please specify):

10) Are there indoor recreation activities that you would like to participate in at the Community Recreation Campus but are unable to because the **needed facility or space does not currently exist or is not available**? (The activity in which you participate in or would participate in cannot be accommodated at any of the facilities / amenities on the Campus even if time was available.)

Yes No (Go to Section D) Unsure

11) What activity(ies) are you currently unable to participate in because that facility or space does not currently exist or is unavailable on the Community Recreation Campus?

SECTION D: POTENTIAL COSTING AND TAXATION IMPACTS

This section is focussed on the current taxation support for the Community Recreation Campus and your willingness to pay any additional amounts for potential enhancements to the Campus.

2024 ANNUAL TAXATION FOR THE FACILITIES / AMENITIES ON THE COMMUNITY RECREATION CAMPUS FOR HOUSEHOLDS IN NELSON, ELECTORAL AREA E AND AREA F

(This is current taxation – these figures are not new rates of taxation.)

| Community Recreation Campus Facilities / Amenities | 2024 Annual Taxation for residents with a property assessed at \$500,000 who live in: | 2024 Annual Taxation for residents with a property assessed at \$500,000 who live in: | 2024 Annual Taxation for residents with a property assessed at \$500,000 who live in: |
|--|---|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other Area E <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Harrop » Longbeach » Balfour » Queens Bay » Procter » Sunshine Bay | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area F • Defined Area E <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Mountain Station » Granite Road » Blewett » Bealby / Horkicks » Rural Nelson | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> as far south as Cottonwood Lake • Nelson. |

| Nelson & District Community Complex | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| • Aquatic centre | \$0* | | |
| • Arena | (do not pay for these services) | \$268.10 | \$268.10 |
| • Fitness facility | | | |
| • Multipurpose rooms | | | |
| Nelson Civic Centre | | | |
| • Civic Arena | \$0** | \$0** | |
| • Indoor Soccer Facility | (do not pay for these services) | (do not pay for these services) | \$37.00 |
| • Movie Theatre | | | |
| • Gymnasium | | | |
| • Dance Studio | | | |
| • Nelson Curling Rink | | | |
| Total (Annual) Taxation For Community Recreation Campus Facilities | | \$0 | \$268.10 |
| | | | \$305.10 |

**This portion of Area E is not part of Service S226 so does not pay for these services as part of their taxes. Any user fees however are paid for by all users regardless of where they live.*

**Only City of Nelson households pay for Nelson Civic Centre spaces, curling rink and indoor soccer facility as part of their taxation. Any user fees however are paid for by all users regardless of where they live.

12) Depending on the decisions that get made related to the Community Recreation Campus, there **may** be a need to fund borrowing for enhancements or new amenities.

Would you **consider** paying additional property taxes to fund facility enhancements or new facility development on the Community Recreation Campus?

(Note: specific decisions about borrowing will be determined at a later point as decisions are made about the Community Recreation Campus. Resident approval is needed for significant borrowing of five (5) or more years. This question is simply seeing if there is any willingness to consider addition taxes.)

Yes No (Go to Q14) Unsure

13) Depending upon the specific project, how much would you support paying annually?

| | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None – no increase | <input type="checkbox"/> \$200-\$249 per year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Up to \$25 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250-\$349 per year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25-\$99 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> \$350-\$500 per year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 - \$149 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> More than \$500 per year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$150-\$199 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say. |

14) Do you think that rentals and admission fees should be increased to help fund potential facility improvements?

Yes No Unsure

15) The following list includes possible criteria that could be used by the RDCK and City of Nelson in decision making related to prioritizing recreation projects. **To you, how important should each criteria be to the RDCK and City of Nelson to inform decision making?**

When the RDCK or City of Nelson has to decide between Project A or Project B, the criteria below can be helping in determining which one should be the top priority. For example, if Project A is a completely new facility on the Community Recreation Campus and Project B is an enhancement to an existing facility, Project A would become the priority if the first criteria in the table below was considered very important.

A recreation facility project should be a higher priority over another if.....

| Criteria | Very unimportant | Somewhat Unimportant | Neutral | Somewhat important | Very important |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| ...the facility / amenity is not readily or is not already available in the area. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ...partnerships and grants are available that would lower the costs of building. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|it responds to demands / request from the community. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ...it has potential for bringing money into the community. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ...it means recreation facilities are available throughout the Nelson District. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ...the costs to operate are lower. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ...it fits with the plans of the local government. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ...the overall capital cost to build is lower. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|it provides greater benefit to the community. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

SECTION E: OTHER THOUGHTS – COMMUNITY RECREATION CAMPUS

16) Please use the space provided to share any other comments related to the future of the Community Recreation Campus.

SECTION F: THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT

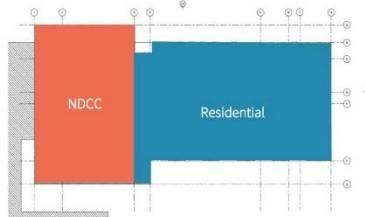
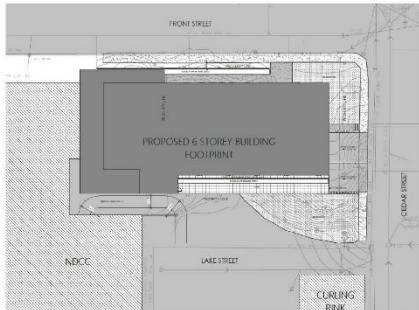
Housing is considered affordable when 30% or less of a person's household gross income goes towards paying for their housing costs.

This section is focused on the potential affordable housing project proposed by Nelson Cares for the vacant lots at the corner of Cedar and Front Street. The City of Nelson and RDCK both own pieces of land at this location.

The RDCK Board, with direction from the Nelson Recreation Commission and the City of Nelson, offered letters of support for Nelson Cares to explore the option of an affordable housing project with the inclusion of 5,000 - 7,000 square feet of recreation. The RDCK committed to hearing from the community on what it would like to see in this space before fully committing the RDCK's portion of land to the project.



PROPOSED AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT SITE PLAN



NDCC space is one storey with double-height ceilings totalling approximately 5,000 square feet

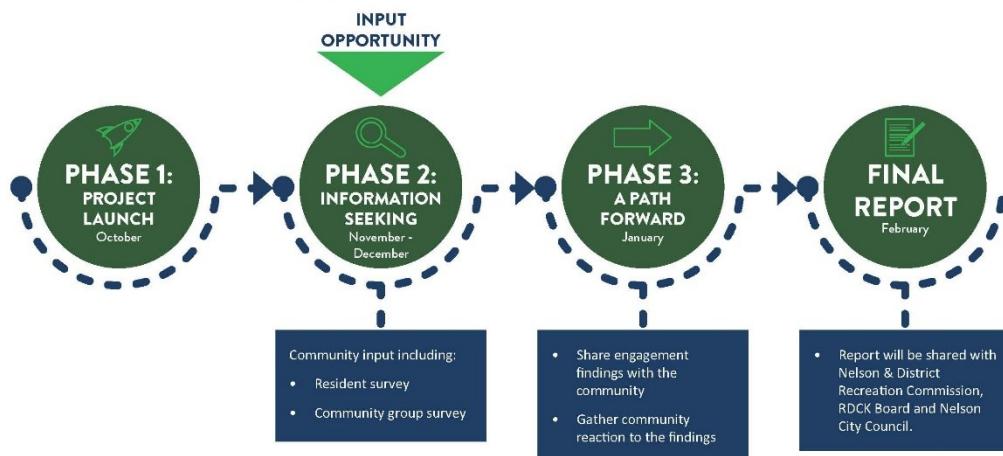
17) What would you like to see the vacant lots at the corner of Cedar and Front Street used for?

Affordable housing
 Recreation

Affordable housing and recreation
 Other (please specify): _____

i. Please explain your answer.

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts about the future of the Nelson & District Community Recreation Campus. The information you have provided is important as next steps are considered by the Nelson & District Recreation Commission. In the project process we are currently in Phase 2.



Appendix C: Resident Survey Open Ended Responses

Use for vacant lots (Cedar and Front Street)?

Affordable Housing

Nelson (153 comments)

The lack of affordable housing is impacting various aspects of the community, such as the increased unhoused population (23), housing insecurity (18), high rental costs (10), and difficulty finding affordable options for families and the middle class (24). Responses emphasize the urgent need to address affordable housing (42). Overall, the key theme is that affordable housing is a fundamental necessity that should be a top priority in Nelson to create a diverse and resilient community and improving living conditions for residents.

Defined Area E (16 comments)

Responses highlight the need for affordable housing in Nelson to address homelessness and existing financial barriers residents may be experiencing. Comments note that there are existing recreational facilities, therefore the focus should be on improving affordable housing options rather than expanding recreational amenities. The community supports initiatives that provide quality, affordable housing especially for low-income seniors and families.

Area F (38 comments)

Responses indicate a pressing need for affordable housing, which should be prioritized over recreational facilities. There is a housing crisis, specifically for middle-income workers and young people who cannot afford homes in the area. There is some openness to mixed-use developments (residential / recreation), but the consensus is that the primary focus should be on addressing the lack of affordable housing. There are concerns about the impact on taxes and the allocation of resources between housing and recreation.

Other (12 comments)

Responses indicate a pressing need for affordable housing, which should be prioritized over recreational facilities noting that outdoor opportunities are available and that individuals who are employed are unable to afford housing. The lack of housing impacts a broad width of the community including families and working professionals.

Recreation

Nelson (354 comments)

Responses highlight the preference of expanding recreational facilities over investing in housing projects due to the high usage of existing facilities (139), importance of access for community activities (64), and to accommodate the growing population (48). A common suggestion is to develop affordable housing in other areas while keeping the Nelson Recreation Centre land

focused on recreation (56). The community prioritizes providing recreation options for all ages (39), providing different activities (31) and to build community connections (46).

Defined Area E (45 comments)

Responses express a preference for prioritizing recreational facilities over affordable housing at a proposed location in Nelson. Key themes note that there are already affordable housing options (16) in the area and the importance of keeping sports and recreational spaces safe and accessible for families (5) and children (6). There is a concern about potential overcrowding, lack of parking (9), and the general impact on recreational activities (22) if housing is built on the designated site.

Area F (113 comments)

The respondents are advocating for the focus to be on recreation and wellness rather than affordable housing in the development of a new facility. They feel that the city already has adequate affordable housing projects and believe that tax dollars should be allocated towards building a recreation complex (53). There are concerns about housing projects in the specific proposed location due to congestion and traffic (24) and lack of parking (11). Suggestions include expanding recreation spaces, such as building a gymnasium (9), and considering other locations for affordable housing developments (18). Responses emphasize the importance of the separate consideration of recreation needs and housing needs.

Other (33 comments)

The responses note that the site is best situated for recreation purposes (8) where it serves as a hub. Any additional space would be best used for complementary services and additional parking (4). Population growth (3) and the need to invest in community recreation spaces to maintain a high quality of life (5) are key themes in support of community recreation facilities.

Affordable Housing and Recreation

Nelson (307 comments)

Responses highlight that both affordable housing and recreation facilities are important for the community of Nelson (167); there is general support for the proposed area development plan (78). There are several key themes in the responses including to combine both elements in a mixed-use development (98), concerns about access and parking (41), building height (28), and the need for both affordable housing and recreation facilities to support the growing population (19) in Nelson.

Defined Area E (7 comments)

The key theme of comments is that the population is growing and therefore so is the need for additional affordable housing and recreation facilities in Nelson. Both should be a priority and are needed to support community well-being.

Area F (68 comments)

The responses indicate support for a combination of housing and recreation that would best serve the community. Comments highlight affordable housing as the priority, with recreation as a bonus (38). While noting concerns with parking issues at the NDCC (11) along with placing housing too close to high-traffic recreation areas especially for seniors (8), there is general support for a mixed-

use approach. This mixed use approach is an opportunity to address housing needs while improving recreation for all ages. There is a strong push for swift action, given the housing crisis and current available funding (14).

Other (25 comments)

The responses indicate support for a combination of housing and recreation that would best serve the community. The blend would provide many benefits to the community as both are needed. Ensuring access to the recreation facilities by those living in the affordable housing is important.

Other

Nelson (46 comments)

A key theme in the responses is the need to balance the demand for affordable housing with maintaining recreational spaces in Nelson (24). Comments note the lack of secure rental housing for all income levels in Nelson, leading to instability and potential homelessness (20). Responses identify opportunities for creating revenue through parking fees (10) at the recreation center and ability to provide needed community services at the facility, such as childcare (8). There are concerns expressed about the need for better transparency from the City regarding its facility plan and allocation of land.

Defined Area E (19 comments)

Respondents' noted several concerns with the proposed project including the lack of parking at the NDCC (4), impacts to the tax base / financial implications (8), and the need for other community services (3).

Area F (14 comments)

The survey respondents are concerned about the infrastructure upgrades needed to address affordable housing and recreation concerns. Some feel that parking is a barrier to using the existing recreational facilities. There are mixed opinions on combining affordable housing into existing recreation areas. Concerns are raised about overdevelopment, lack of green spaces, parking shortages, and the need for childcare facilities.

Other Area E (11 comments)

Respondents note that parking is currently a problem and the importance of investing in both recreation and affordable housing. As housing is not in the mandate of RDCK, selling the property and using the proceeds for recreation makes sense (2).