



Indoor Recreation Service Level Review

WHAT WE HEARD REPORT

April 2023



CITY OF
FORT SASKATCHEWAN
ALBERTA





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Fort Saskatchewan provides a diverse portfolio of indoor recreation facilities and amenities to service the needs of its approximately 27,000 residents. The community is growing (12% since 2016), with residents continually expressing a growing needs for recreation infrastructure to support a growing appetite for programmed and unstructured recreation.

The Indoor Recreation Infrastructure Service Level Review project will identify service levels for indoor recreation infrastructure in Fort Saskatchewan. A key component necessary to identify the service levels is community engagement. This “What We Heard Report” presents the findings from the different engagement tactics employed. As illustrated below, the program of engagement consisted of three tactics: a household survey; community group survey; and community contributor meetings.



Household Survey

1,506 responses



Community Group Survey

9 responses



Community Contributor Meetings

4 meetings / 5 organizations

There can be a self selection bias whereby households with a particular interest in the survey were more likely to participate. To mitigate this, all households in Fort Saskatchewan were encouraged to participate. The sample is reflective of the community composition by age segments but has a larger proportion of households with children as compared to the census figures.



The engagement findings provide insight into the respondents' perspective on indoor recreation facility provision in Fort Saskatchewan. The following bullets present findings considering all three elements of the engagement.

- Recreation activities provide the following benefits: physical health / exercise; pleasure / entertainment; and mental health and wellbeing.
- Recreation facilities / amenities provided by the City should deliver benefits to all members of the community.
- A majority of respondent households (79%) use indoor recreation facilities / amenities in Fort Saskatchewan.
- Three-quarters (75%) of respondent households who utilize indoor recreation facilities / amenities (or are unsure) use the Harbour Pool with the greatest use from households with children 19 years of age and younger. (60% of all respondent households use the Harbour Pool.)
 - » Over half of use (55%) at the Harbour Pool is for drop-in recreation & sport / fun and drop-in fitness.
- Approximately two-thirds (60%) of respondent households who use indoor recreation facilities / amenities (or are unsure) use the walking track at the Dow Centennial Centre. (48% of all respondent households use the walking track.)
- Over half of respondent households do use facilities outside of Fort Saskatchewan. These are primarily in Sherwood Park including Millennium Place. Facilities in Edmonton and St. Albert are also visited.
- The majority of users (respondent households and groups) are satisfied to some degree with the facilities / amenities in Fort Saskatchewan. However, there is a higher level of dissatisfaction than satisfaction in respondent households that use the Harbour Pool.
- Enhancements identified for the Harbour Pool include: additional adventure amenities (e.g. bigger slides, lazy river, waves, diving boards); a larger tank; change room improvements; and improving tank access for those with mobility challenges.
 - » Approximately three-quarters (78%) of respondent households said if their improvements were made they would be likely (to some extent) to visit the Harbour Pool more.
- In terms of new indoor recreation facilities sought, a new pool was at the top of respondent households' list.
- Approximately three-quarters (72%) of respondent households, and a majority of groups, said it is important to maintain or upkeep existing indoor recreation facilities before developing new ones.
- Three-quarters (75%) of respondent households said it is important that indoor recreation facilities are developed with multiple activity spaces in one building.
 - » Challenges exist for some users in accessing a facility that requires crossing the highway.





TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1 Introduction 1**
- 2 Community Engagement. 2**
 - 2.1 Household Survey. 3
 - 2.2 Community Group Survey 22
 - 2.3 Community Contributors Meetings 32
- 3 Conclusions 33**
- Appendices 34**
 - Appendix A: Postcard 34
 - Appendix B: Household Questionnaire 35
 - Appendix C: Community Group Questionnaire. 48
 - Appendix D: Community Group Survey Participants 58



1 INTRODUCTION

The City of Fort Saskatchewan provides a diverse portfolio of indoor recreation facilities and amenities to service the needs of its approximately 27,000 residents. The community is growing (12% since 2016), with residents continually expressing their needs for recreation infrastructure to support their appetite for programmed and unstructured recreation.

The City's facility portfolio includes the Dow Centennial Centre, the Jubilee Recreation Centre, the Sportsplex arena, and the Harbour Pool. The City has undertaken several studies that have examined the community's perspective on the future of recreation infrastructure, as well as the potential for expansion at both the Dow Centennial Centre and Harbour Pool. Included in these studies are assessments of the Harbour Pool physical condition.

The Indoor Recreation Facility Planning project will help bring the previous studies together and, enhanced with updated research, will identify service levels for indoor recreation infrastructure in Fort Saskatchewan. A key component of this updated research is community engagement. This "What We Heard Report" presents the findings from the different engagement tactics employed. While the findings presented herein is intended to support the objectives of this recreation infrastructure planning project, the information can be used by the City for other purposes.

Recreation services are subjective. There is no official and definitive source that dictates the types of facilities and services a community must provide to its residents and groups. As such, service delivery becomes a product and balance of both community and political will. While some may look to a guide book for a definition of recreation provision, appropriate provision is a product of the individual circumstances of each community. The determination of community need for recreation facilities is a decision for community leaders.

2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The program of community engagement for this project included three tactics. A survey was fielded with households in Fort Saskatchewan, organized community groups were surveyed, and meetings were convened with community contributors.



Household Survey

1,506 responses



Community Group Survey

9 responses



Community Contributor Meetings

4 meetings / 5 organizations

The findings from each of the engagement tactics is presented below. It is important to note that the findings presented represent the input gathered and responses to questions posed.



2.1 Household Survey

All households in Fort Saskatchewan were invited to participate in a survey, responding to questions in a manner that reflected the opinions of all household members. Fielded from January 9, 2023 through to January 31, 2023, the survey was accessible on the City's website. Households were directly invited to participate in the survey by a postcard¹ that was sent to households in Fort Saskatchewan. Utilizing Canada Post's neighbourhood mail service, postcards were delivered to mailboxes encouraging participation. As well an incentive² was provided to those who completed or submitted a response. The City promoted the survey via social media, its website, media availabilities, and raising awareness through local businesses.

Postcard recipients were encouraged to provide answers to questions that help set the future of indoor recreation facilities. Each postcard also included an access code that was required to be entered to participate in the survey. A hard copy version of the questionnaire was also available for those who preferred that means of participating in the survey. Interested parties were able to contact the City to have a hard copy questionnaire mailed to them. Each paper copy³ provided to households was accompanied by a postage paid return envelope. Additionally, households that required an access code (e.g. could not find or did not receive a postcard) were able to contact the City and request a code⁴. In total, 1,506 responses were gathered from households in Fort Saskatchewan⁵.



¹ 11,912 postcards were mailed.

² A draw for a \$250 grocery gift card was available for respondents who submitted their responses. 1,014 respondents entered this draw.

³ Three paper copies were completed.

⁴ One hundred twenty-one codes were provided and used to participate in the survey.

⁵ There can be a self selection bias whereby households with a particular interest in the survey were more likely to participate. The sample is reflective of the community composition by age segments but has a larger proportion of households with children as compared to the census figures.

2.1.1 Findings

The findings are presented in the order the questions were asked in the survey. Not all respondent households answered all questions; the percentages are based on the number of answers to a specific question. Due to rounding, the figures may not total 100%. Some subsegment analyses were undertaken that examined the findings according to household composition. One subsegment analysis included respondents with children 0-9 years of age in the home; children 10-19 years of age in the home; and no children 0-19 in the home. The second subsegment analysis examined responses of homes with someone 60 years of age or older versus households with no one 60 years of age or older. For the subsegment analyses, relevant findings are presented alongside the overall findings. *Note: some questions were asked of respondents depending upon their response to previous questions. Additionally, the questions were not compulsory - as such not all respondents answered all questions asked of them. As such the sample size (n) varies for many of the survey findings.*

Top of Mind Thoughts

To begin the survey, respondent households were asked to identify the main reasons that household members participate in indoor recreation activities. As illustrated in Graph 1, over four-fifths (85%) of respondents said household members participate for physical health / exercise purposes. Approximately two-thirds (62%) participate for pleasure / entertainment.

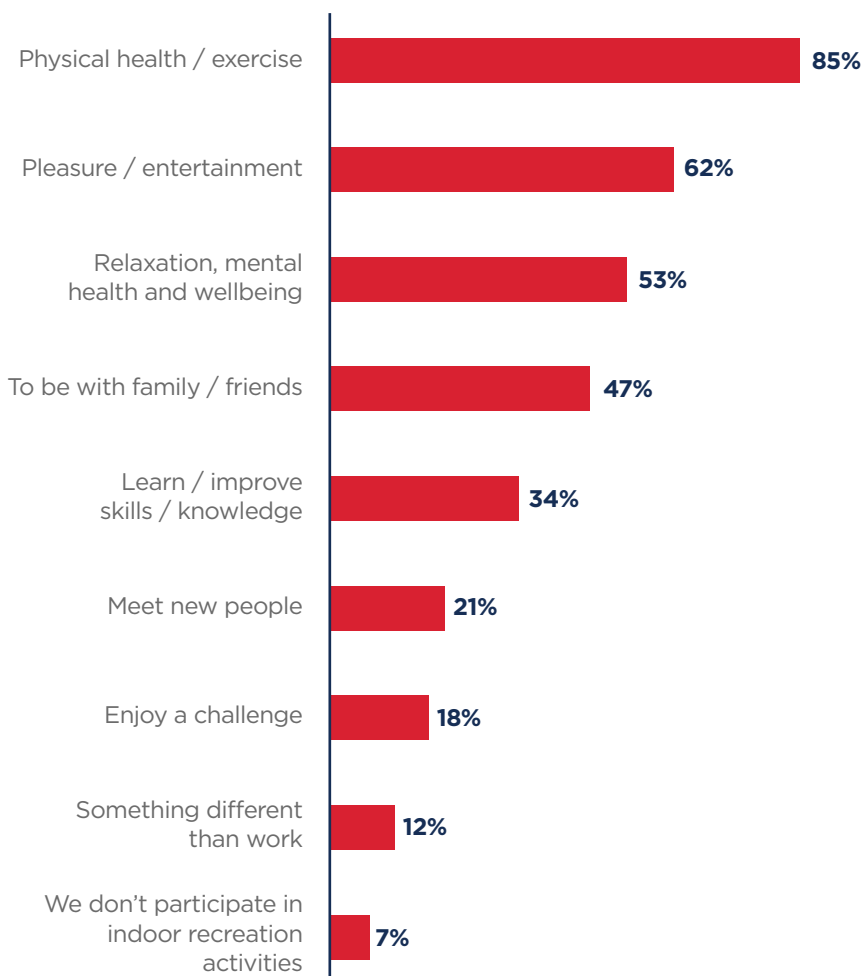
Subsegment Analysis

- Respondent households with children 0-9 years of age (69%) and those with children 10-19 years (60%) are more likely to participate to be with family and friends than households with no children 0-19 years (34%)
- Respondent households with children 0-9 years of age (80%) and those with children 10-19 years (71%) are more likely to participate for pleasure / entertainment than households with no children 0-19 years (53%)

Seven percent (7%) of respondent households said their household members do not participate in indoor recreation activities. When asked to explain why they do not participate, the most common reasons mentioned included personal factors such as age and health; lack of time; preference for outdoor activities; cost; and health and safety concerns related to the pandemic.

Graph 1: Main Reasons to Participate in Indoor Recreation Activities

(n=1,505)



Next, respondent households were asked if members of their households use any indoor recreation facilities / amenities in Fort Saskatchewan. Approximately three-quarters (79%) of respondents said they do. Refer to Graph 2.

Subsegment Analysis

- Respondent households with children 0-9 years of age (89%) and those with children 10-19 years (94%) are more likely to use indoor recreation and fitness facilities / amenities in Fort Saskatchewan than households with no children 0-19 years (71%)

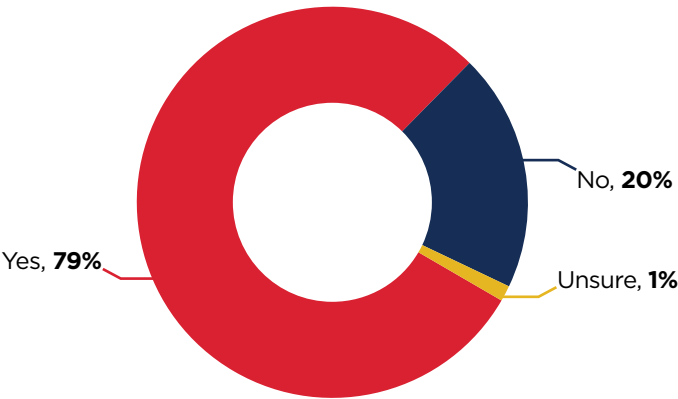
Respondent households were then asked how they become informed of indoor recreation programs / opportunities in Fort Saskatchewan. As shown in the accompanying graph (Graph 3), the City’s website (44%), print version of the Leisure Guide (42%), and digital version of the Leisure Guide (42%) were all cited by a similar proportion of respondents. One-third (33%) said they learned of programs / opportunities from community groups themselves.

Other ways respondent households are informed about programs and opportunities include Facebook, other social media, and word of mouth.

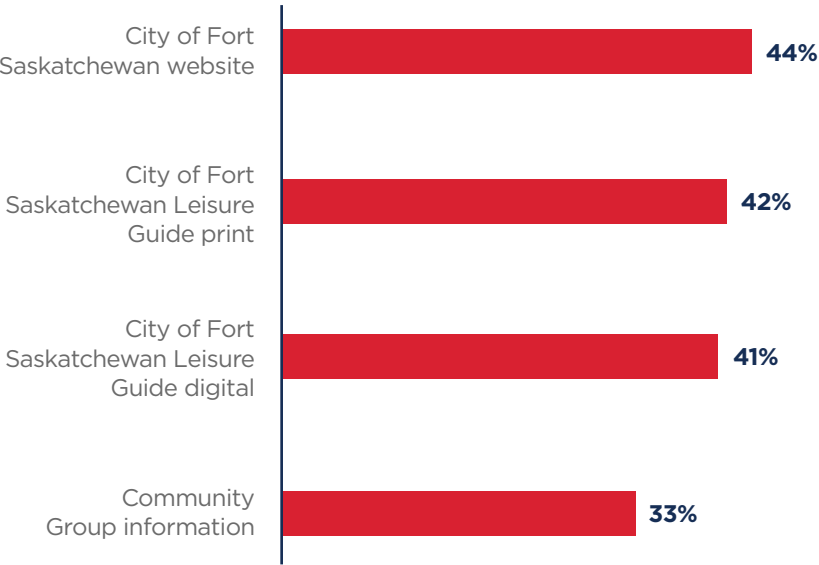
Subsegment Analysis

- Respondent households with children 0-9 years of age (47%) and those with children 10-19 years (40%) are more likely to become informed about programs / opportunities through community group information than households with no children 0-19 years (25%)

Graph 2: Do Household Members Use Indoor Recreation Facilities / Amenities in Fort Saskatchewan?
(n=1,505)



Graph 3: Information Sources for Indoor Recreation Programs / Opportunities in Fort Saskatchewan
(n=1,492)



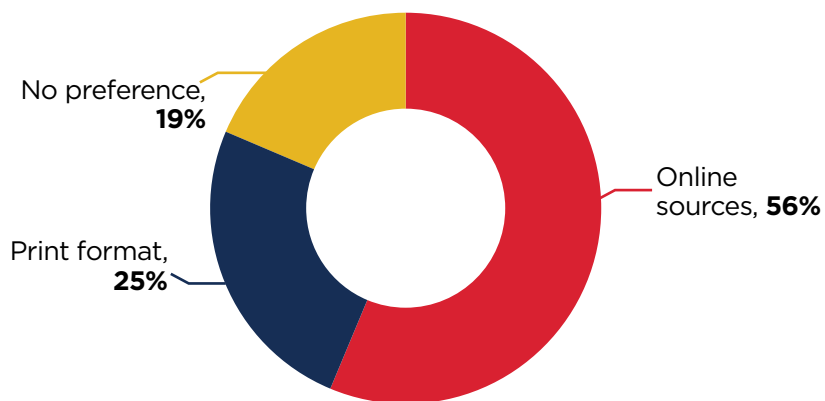
Over half (56%) of respondent households said they prefer to find information about indoor recreation programs / opportunities through online sources. One-quarter (25%) said they prefer a print format. See Graph 4.

Subsegment Analysis

- Respondent households with people age 60 or older are more likely to prefer print format (41%) than households with no one 60 years or older (24%)
- Respondent households with people age 60 or older are less likely to prefer online format (34%) than households with no one 60 years or older (57%)

Graph 4: Format Preference for Information About Indoor Recreation Programs / Opportunities

(n=1,505)



Current Utilization of City Indoor Recreation Facilities

Note: Only respondent households who said "Yes" or "Unsure" when asked if household members use indoor recreation facilities / amenities in Fort Saskatchewan were asked this question.

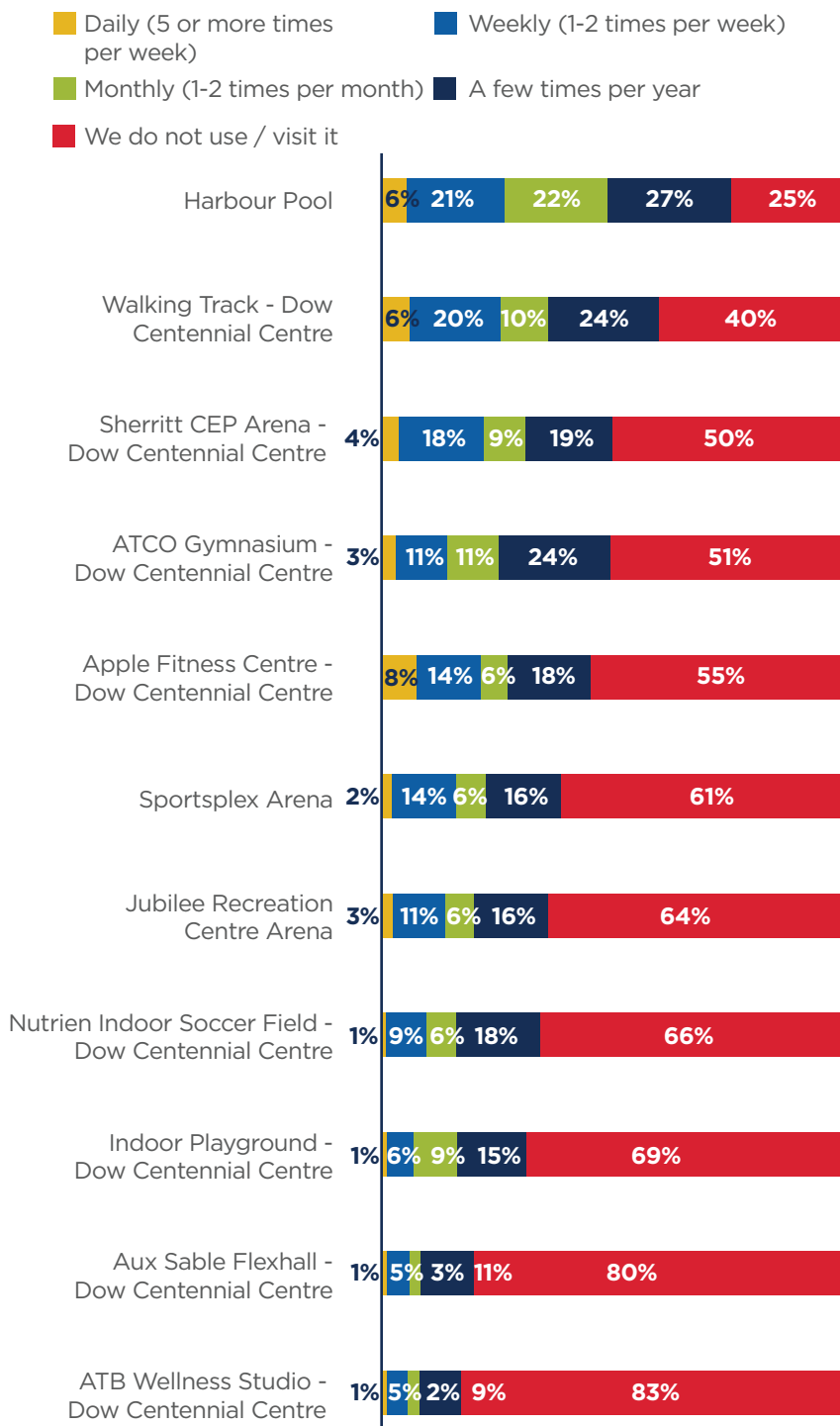
Given a list of City indoor recreation facilities / amenities, respondent households were asked how frequently household members typically use or visit each. As illustrated in Graph 5, three-quarters (75%) of respondent households said they use the Harbour Pool making it the facility used by the greatest proportion of households. The walking track at the Dow Centennial Centre was the next most used recreation facility / amenity. Of those who do use the Harbour Pool, approximately one-third (36%) use it at least weekly⁶. The Apple Fitness Centre has the largest proportion of daily users (8%) out of any of the facilities / amenities.

Subsegment Analysis

- Respondent households with children 0-9 years of age and those with children 10-19 years are more likely to use most indoor recreation facilities / amenities than households with no children 0-19 years. The use of the walking track at the Dow Centennial Centre however is more likely used by households with no children 19 years of age or younger.

Graph 5: Frequency of Use / Visitation by House Members

(Subset - includes respondent households whose members use (or are unsure) indoor recreation facilities / amenities in Fort Saskatchewan)
(n=1,139)



⁶ 27% of respondent households said their household uses the Harbour Pool daily (6%) or weekly (21%). Out of the 75% of households who said they use the Harbour Pool, 27% of all respondents equates to 36% of those who do use it (27%/75%).

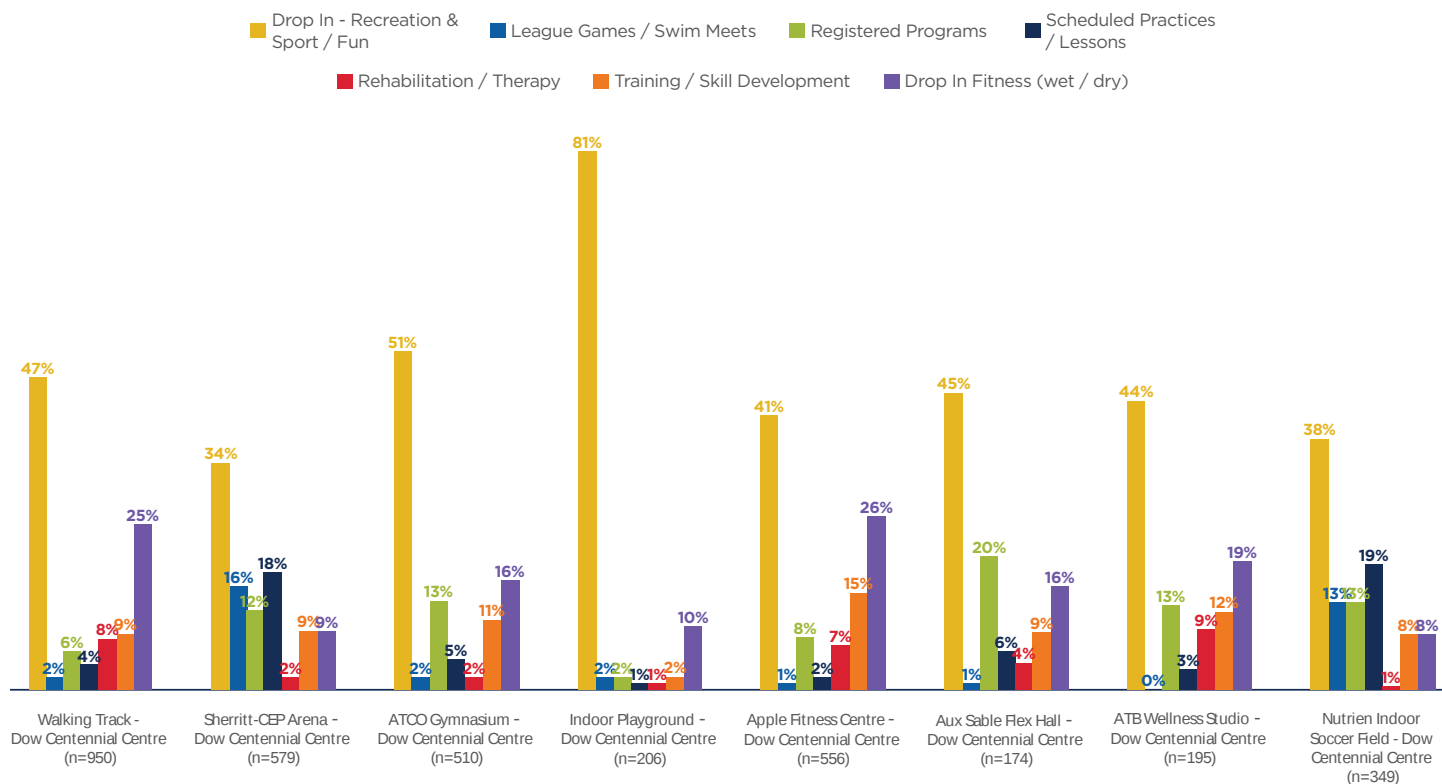
- Considering all respondent households, the proportion of those using / visiting the City's indoor recreation facilities / amenities is noted below.
 - » Harbour Pool - 60%
 - » Walking Track (DCC) - 48%
 - » Sherritt CEP Arena (DCC) - 40%
 - » ATCO Gymnasium (DCC) - 39%
 - » Apple Fitness Centre (DCC) - 36%
 - » Sportsplex Arena - 31%
 - » Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena - 29%
 - » Nutrien Indoor Soccer Field (DCC) - 27%
 - » Indoor Playground (DCC) - 25%
 - » Aux Sable Flexhall (DCC) - 16%
 - » ATB Wellness Studio (DCC) - 14%



Facility / Amenity	Proportion of the Segment that Use or Visit the Facility / Amenity		
	Children 0-9 years in household (n=396)	Children 10-19 years in household (n=304)	No children 0-19 years in household (n=574)
Harbour Pool	90%	88%	62%
Walking track – Dow Centennial Centre	48%	57%	67%
Sherritt-CEP Arena – Dow Centennial Centre	66%	66%	36%
ATCO Gymnasium – Dow Centennial Centre	60%	68%	37%
Indoor Playground – Dow Centennial Centre	69%	29%	12%
Sportsplex Arena	56%	55%	25%
Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena	44%	52%	27%
Nutrien Indoor Soccer Field – Dow Centennial Centre	52%	52%	19%

Considering the same list of City facilities / amenities, respondent households were asked to identify the primary purpose for their facility uses. The following graph includes the amenities within the Dow Centennial Centre⁷. The largest proportion of use for each amenity is for “drop in – recreation & sport / fun”; for the Indoor Playground “drop in – recreation & sport / fun” comprises over three-quarters (81%) of use. The walking track (47%) and Apple Fitness Centre (41%) both have less than half of their uses for “drop in – recreation & sport / fun”. Refer to Graph 6 for more information. *Note: only respondent households who said “Yes” or “Unsure” when asked if household members use indoor recreation facilities / amenities in Fort Saskatchewan were asked this question.*

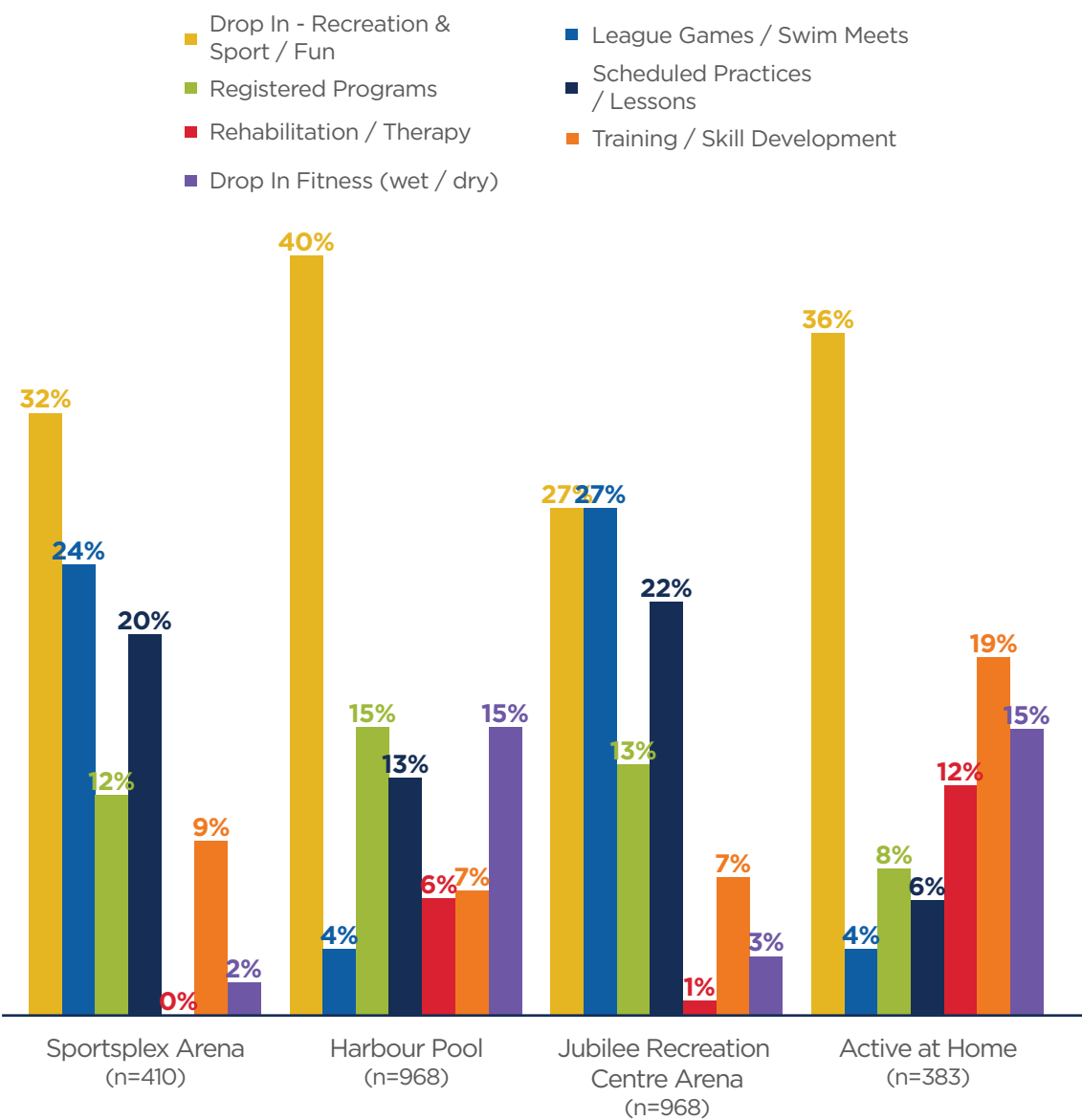
Graph 6: Type of Use For Each Facility / Amenity in DCC



⁷ The percentages are based the proportion of all use made up by each specific type. In other words, 47% of all use of the Walking Track is for Drop-In - Recreation & Sport / Fun

An examination for the other indoor recreation facilities / amenities show a diversity of uses. “Drop in – recreation & sport / fun” comprises the largest proportion of uses. The Sportsplex Arena and Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena both have sizeable proportions who use if for “league games” and “scheduled practices”. *Note: only respondent households who said “Yes” or “Unsure” when asked if household members use indoor recreation facilities / amenities in Fort Saskatchewan were asked this question.*

Graph 7: Type of Use For Each Facility / Amenity



When asked if household members use indoor recreation facilities / amenities outside of Fort Saskatchewan, over half (59%) of respondent households said they do.

Subsegment Analysis

- Respondent households with children 0-9 years of age (82%) and those with children 10-19 years (76%) are more likely to use indoor recreation facilities / amenities outside of Fort Saskatchewan than households with no children 0-19 years (42%).
- Respondent households with people age 60 or older are less likely to use indoor recreation facilities / amenities outside Fort Saskatchewan (35%) than households with no one 60 years or older (59%).

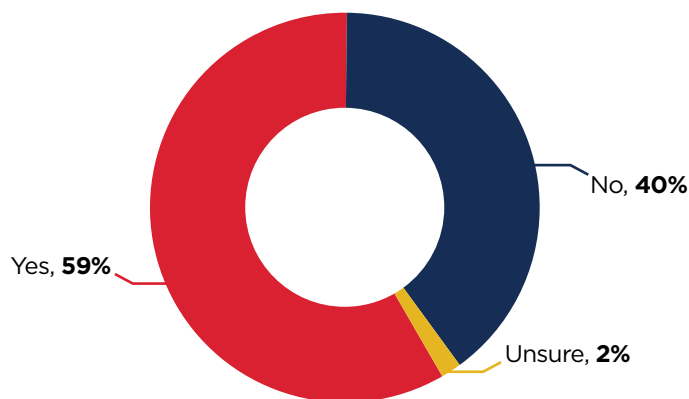
Those who use facilities outside Fort Saskatchewan were asked to identify the specific facilities / amenities. Most common facilities identified were:

- Millennium Place in Sherwood Park (38%);
- Non specified Sherwood Park facilities (25%);
- Non specified Edmonton facilities (19%);
- Kinsmen Leisure Centre in Sherwood Park (12%);
- Servus Place in St. Albert (10%); and
- Private sector providers - e.g. Goodlife (10%).

Accessing an aquatic facility was commonly mentioned as a reason for using indoor recreation facilities / amenities outside of Fort Saskatchewan.

Graph 8: Do Household Members Use Indoor Recreation Facilities Beyond Fort Saskatchewan?

(n=1,414)



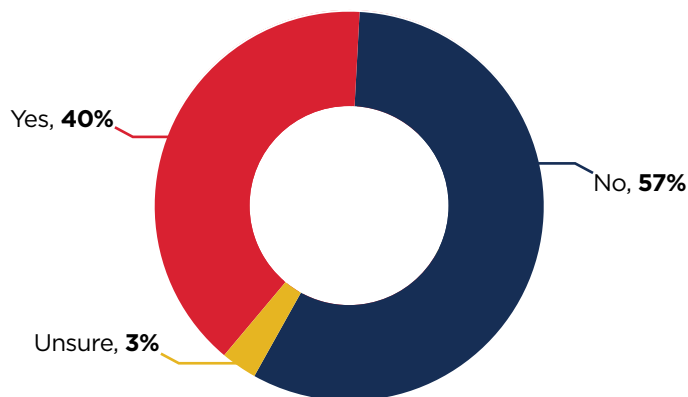
Over one-third (40%) said that, aside from factors related to COVID-19, there have been some factors that have limited the use of the City's indoor recreation facilities / amenities by respondent household members.

Subsegment Analysis

- Respondent households with children 0-9 years of age (59%) and those with children 10-19 years (53%) are more likely to say that they have experienced barriers that limited their use of City indoor facilities than respondent households with no children 0-19 years (27%).

Graph 9: Has Anything Limited Your Household's Use of the City's Indoor Recreation Facilities / Amenities (aside from COVID-19)?

(n=1,414)



Those who have experienced barriers to using the City's indoor recreation facilities / amenities then identified the barriers. In the adjacent graph, barriers experienced at the Harbour Pool and Dow Centennial Centre amenities are identified. About half (51%) of respondent households experiencing barriers indicated that the timing of activities and programs limited their use of the Harbour Pool. The Harbour Pool's lack of features / amenities was cited as a barrier by half (50%) of those who experienced barriers. Considering Dow Centennial Centre amenities, timing of activities and programs (35%) and lack of features / amenities (35%) were the most frequently mentioned barriers. Refer to Graph 10 for additional barriers for the Harbour Pool and the Dow Centennial Centre amenities.

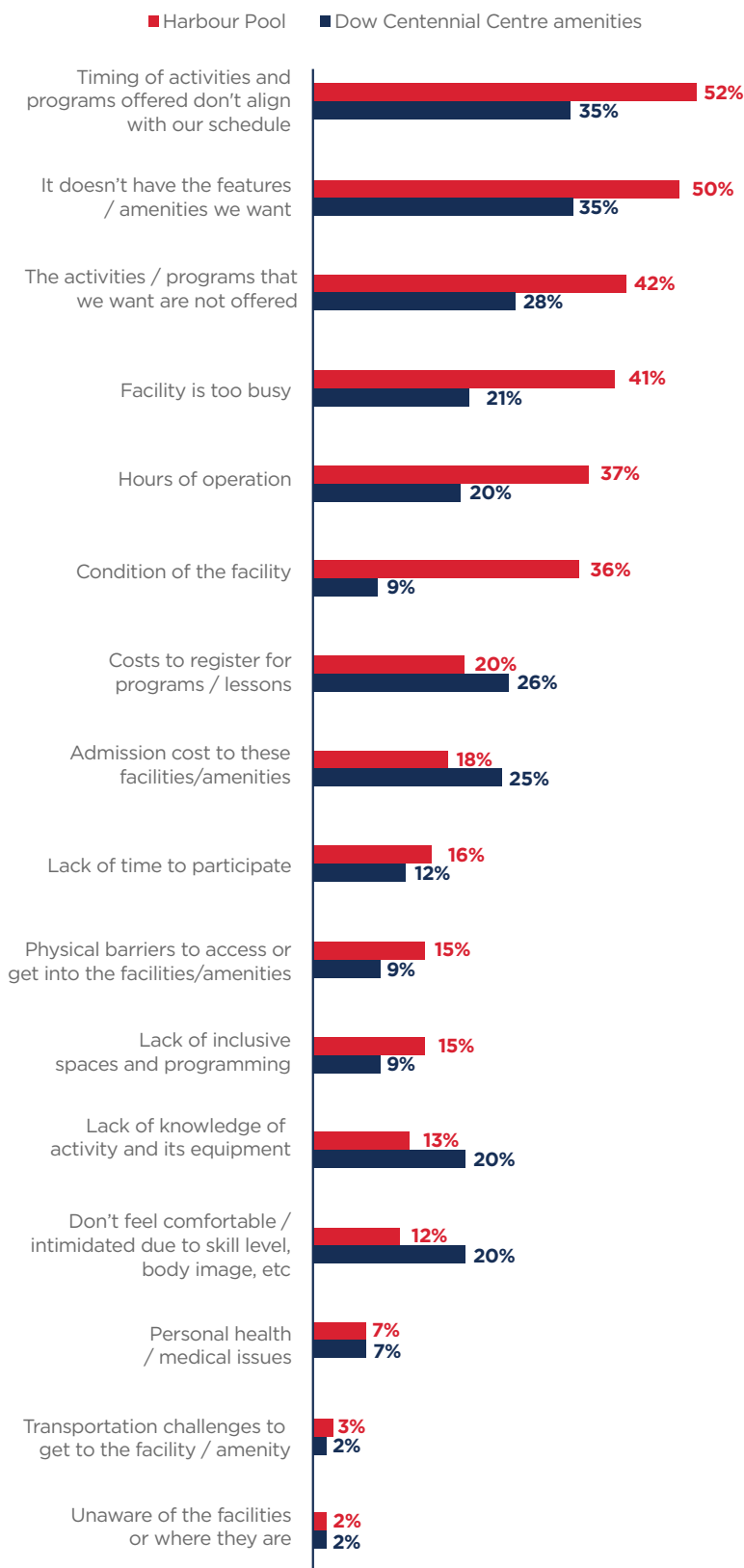
Subsegment Analysis

- Respondent households with children 0-9 years and 10-19 years were more likely to identify the following barriers to the Harbour Pool than households with no children 0-19 years:
 - » Hours of operation (46% and 42% vs 28%);
 - » Facility is too busy (57% and 47% vs 24%);
 - » It doesn't have the features / amenities we want (65% and 57% vs 30%);
 - » Condition of the facility (49% and 44% vs 20%);
 - » Activities / programs we want are not offered (62% and 54% vs 21%).
- Respondent households without people age 60 or older are less likely to identify the following as barriers compared with households with someone 60 years or older:
 - » Timing of activities and programs don't align with our schedule (57% vs 31%);
 - » Activities / programs that we want are not offered (48% vs 18%);
 - » Condition of the facility (41% vs 17%);
 - » It doesn't have the features / amenities we want (55% vs 26%);
 - » Facility is too busy (45% vs 24%);
 - » Hours of operation (41% vs 22%).

Graph 10: Barriers That Exist at Harbour Pool & DCC Amenities

(Subset - Includes respondent households whose members said something has limited (or unsure) their use of the City's indoor recreation facilities / amenities)

(n=605)



Considering the City's arenas, the most frequently identified barriers are timing of activities and programs; and lack of knowledge of activity and its equipment. Refer to Graph 11 for additional barriers.

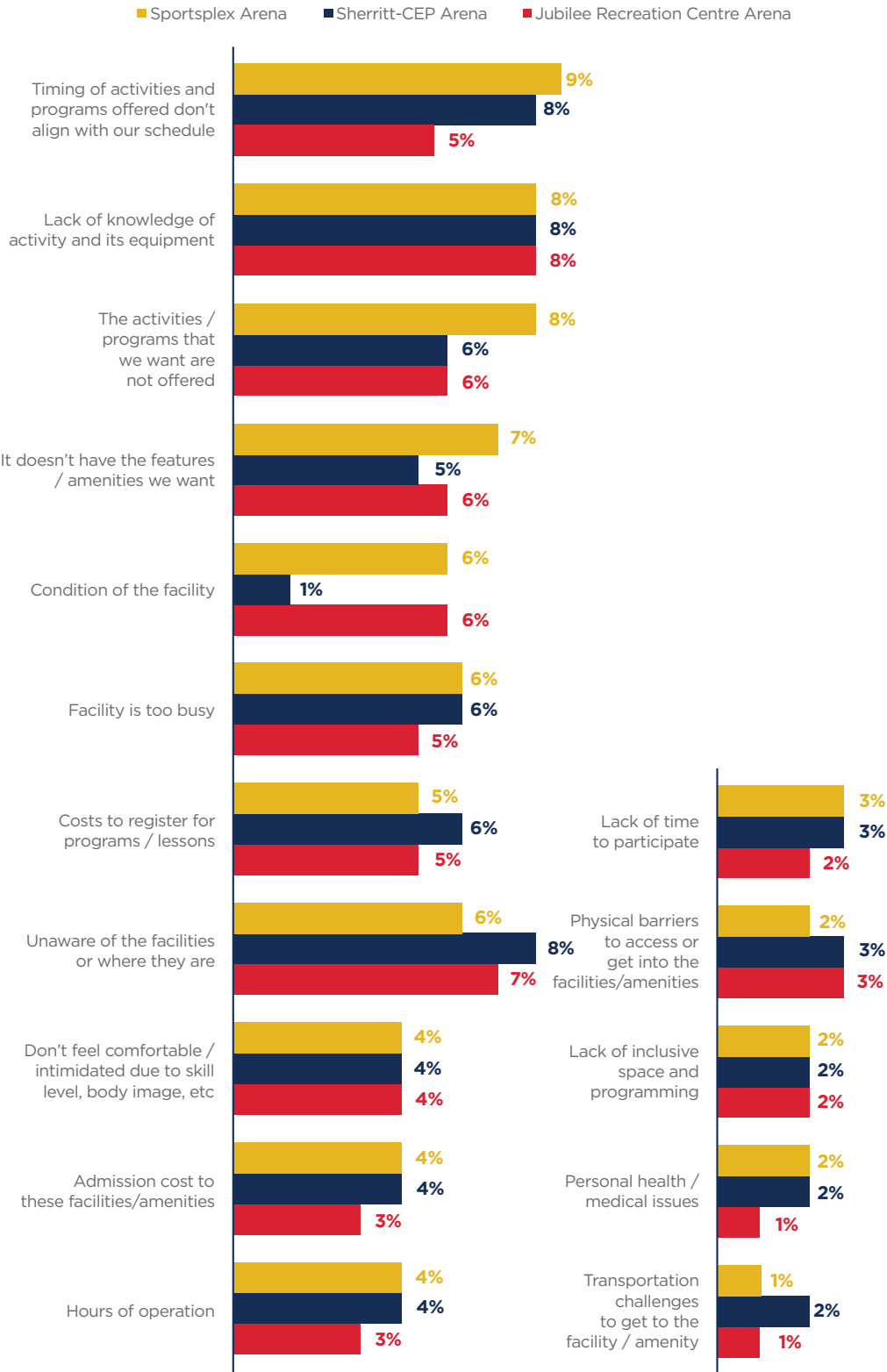
Respondent households offered some explanation or description to the factors impacting their households' use of the City's indoor recreation facilities / amenities. The most commonly cited factors included: lack of swim lessons, desired programming not offered, facility hours, lack of ice time, and cost. There were some comments that the Dow Centennial Centre should accommodate a greater range of activities including aquatics.

Respondent households were next asked to identify indoor recreation programs or activities that are **not currently offered** but ones they would like to see offered. Approximately one-quarter of those offering suggestions said they would like to see additional water based / swimming activities and programs. Other suggestions included: child / youth-based activities; and fitness classes like spin and yoga.

Some City recreation programs or activities are **limited** because of a **lack of facility space or suitable amenities and equipment**. Respondent households were asked to identify these programs or activities and, if possible, indicate the limiting barriers. The most common responses are noted below.

- Swim lessons – inability to register with programs filling up quickly; not enough programs offered for resident demand. (approximately two-thirds of respondents to this question identified this)
- Swimming– lack of open pool / lane swimming time; facilities not meeting modern expectations.
- Skating – lack of open ice time to accommodate public skating.
- Hockey – lack of available ice times to recreation hockey; challenges with scheduling of ice time.

Graph 11: Barriers That Exist at City Arenas
(Subset: Includes respondent households whose members said something has limited (or unsure) their use of the City's indoor recreation facilities / amenities)
(n=605)

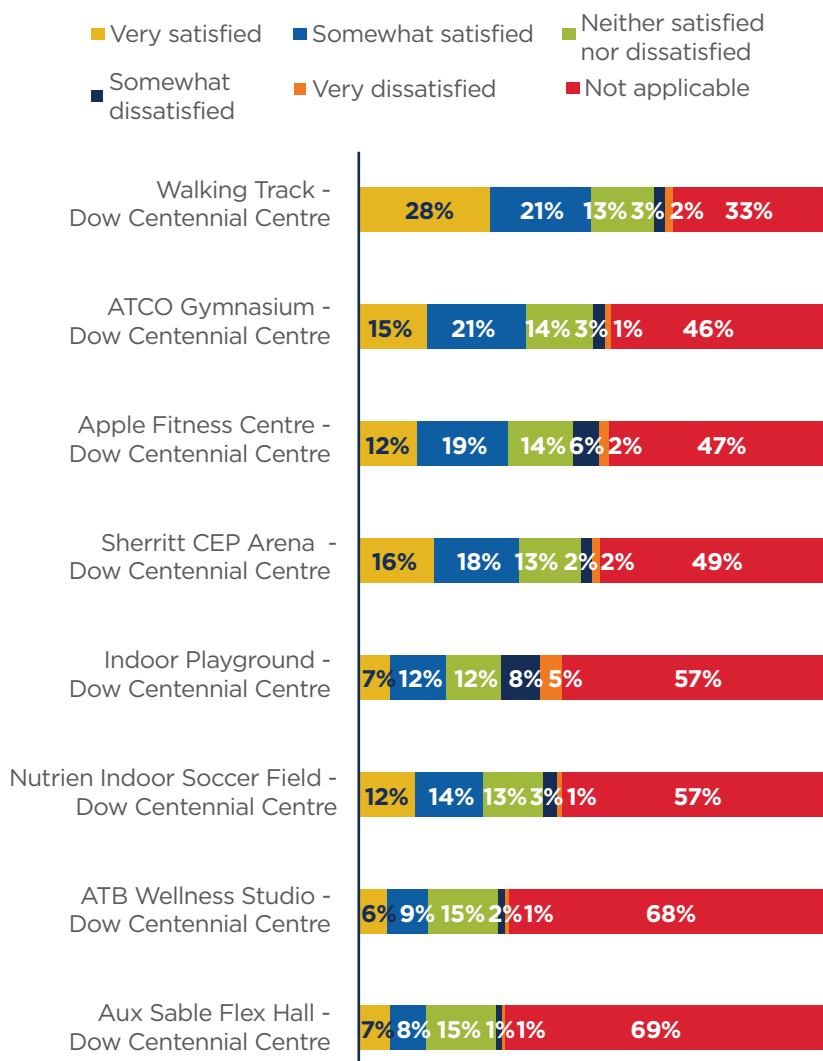


Indoor Recreation Facility Assessment

Satisfaction levels exceeded dissatisfaction levels for all of the City's indoor recreation facilities / amenities at the Dow Centennial Centre. Approximately two-thirds (67%) of respondent households rated their satisfaction with the walking track – Dow Centennial Centre (33% said it was not applicable for them to provide a satisfaction rating). Forty-nine percent (49%) of all respondent households are very or somewhat satisfied with the walking track. Considering only those who provided a satisfaction rating, approximately three-quarters (74%) are very or somewhat satisfied (49% out of 67%).

Graph 12: Satisfaction With City Indoor Recreation Facilities / Amenities at DCC

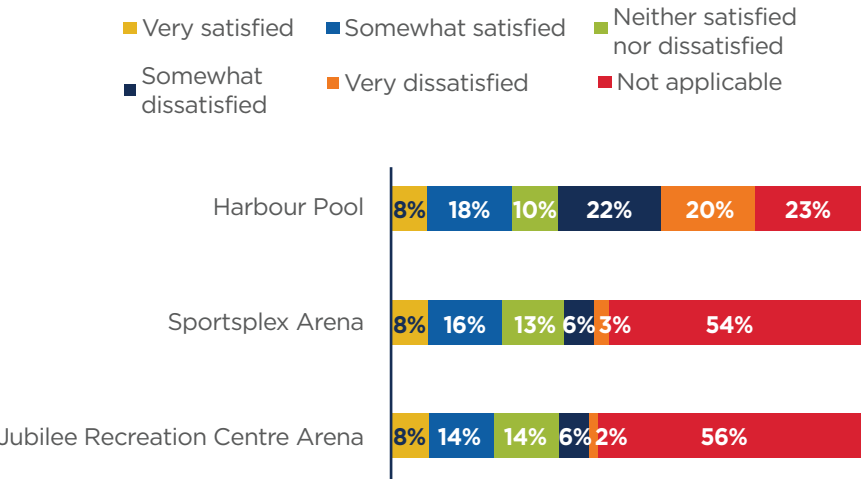
(n=1,402)



The Harbour Pool is the only City indoor recreation facility / amenity for which the levels of dissatisfaction (42% somewhat or very dissatisfied) exceed the levels of satisfaction (26% somewhat or very satisfied). Considering only those respondent households who provided a satisfaction rating for the Harbour Pool (77%), over half (42% out of 77%) expressed some level of dissatisfaction. Less than half of respondent households felt it appropriate to provide a satisfaction rating for the Sportsplex Arena and the Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena. In both arena instances, satisfaction levels exceeded dissatisfaction levels.

Respondent households were asked to provide an explanation for the satisfaction ratings. Approximately three-quarters of comments related to dissatisfaction with the pool or water activity including a lack of access to public swim times; lack of swimming lessons; poor quality of existing amenities; lack of modern experiences. Some comments were provided related to challenges with the arenas including accessing time and limited spectator viewing.

Graph 13: Satisfaction With City Indoor Recreation Facilities / Amenities
(n=1,402)



Future Considerations for City Indoor Recreation Facilities

Respondent households were able to identify specific improvements or enhancements for each City facility / amenity that would improve their user experiences or would entice them to use those facilities / amenities more. The most commonly mentioned improvements are noted in the table.

Facility / Amenity	Improvement / Enhancement
Walking Track – Dow Centennial Centre (n=297)	Wider and longer track; remove the sharp corner; move away from fitness equipment; improved change rooms.
Sherritt-CEP Arena – Dow Centennial Centre (n=250)	Add an additional ice surface; improve spectator seating area; provide opportunities for leisure ice use; increased arena temperature; improved change rooms; additional concession options.
ATCO Gymnasium – Dow Centennial Centre (n=193)	Additional / new equipment; additional multipurpose space / gymnasiums; improved change rooms; increased drop-in times; child / youth play spaces.
Indoor Playground – Dow Centennial Centre (n=320)	Large space; age-appropriate play opportunities; play for older children; increase accessibility and inclusivity.
Apple Fitness Centre – Dow Centennial Centre (n=265)	Larger space; new / increased variety of equipment; increased hours.
Aux Sable Flex Hall – Dow Centennial Centre (n=134)	Increased public access.
ATB Wellness Studio – Dow Centennial Centre (n=137)	Improved communication on the facility; awareness when available.
Nutrien Indoor Soccer Field – Dow Centennial Centre (n=175)	New flooring to accommodate more sports; upgrades to seating area; improved maintenance.
Sportsplex Arena (n=282)	More public skate times / access; increase the arena temperature; improve spectator seating; improved maintenance.
Harbour Pool (n=783)	Larger pool; enhance leisure amenities; increased water temperature; improved change rooms; increased access and offering of swim lessons.
Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena (n=247)	General renovation required; improved change rooms; increased temperature; improved concessions.

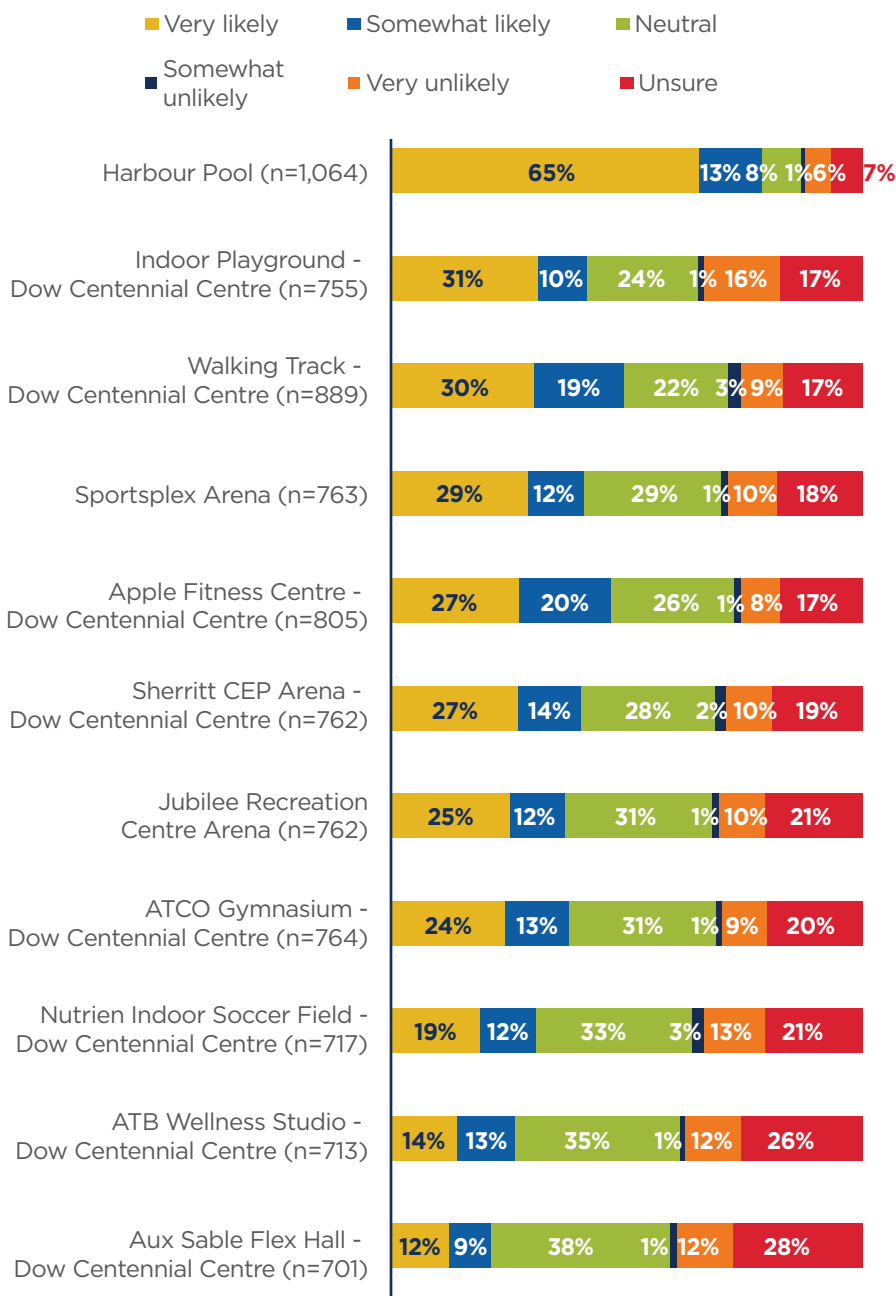
When asked what other indoor recreation facilities / amenities the City should consider developing or changing the most commonly mentioned facility / amenity is a pool (approximately two-thirds of respondent households said this).

After having identified improvements at each City indoor recreation facility / amenity, respondent households were asked how likely it would be for household members to use or visit each facility / amenity more. As illustrated in Graph 14, approximately two-thirds (65%) of respondent households would be very likely to use or visit the Harbour Pool more than they currently do if the improvements they suggested were made.

Subsegment Analysis

- Respondent households with children 0-9 years of age (93%) and those with children 10-19 years (84%) are very or somewhat likely to use or visit the Harbour Pool more if their improvements were completed than households with no children 0-19 years (67%).
- Respondent households with children 0-9 years of age (70%) are very or somewhat likely to use or visit the Indoor Playground more if their improvements were completed than households with children 10-19 years (30%) and households with no children (18%).
- Respondent households with children 0-19 years are very or somewhat more likely to use or visit the following facilities / amenities than households without children 0-19 years.
 - » Sherritt-CEP Arena (51% vs 30%)
 - » Nutrien Indoor Soccer Field (40-41% vs 20%)
 - » Sportsplex Arena (54-55% vs 27%)
 - » Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena (43-50% vs 28%)

Graph 14: Likelihood of Increased Visitation if Your Improvements Were Made



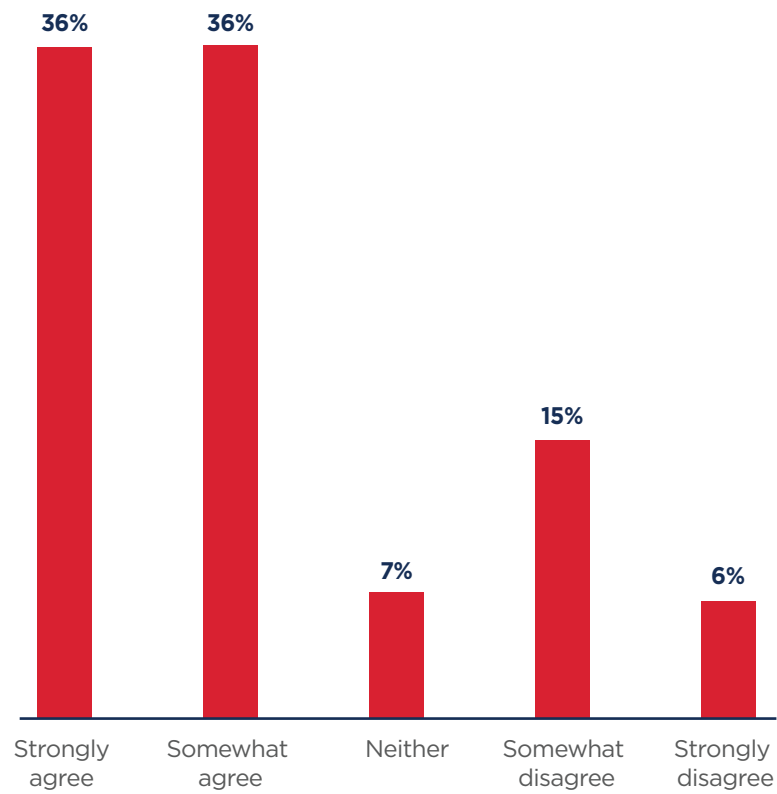
Considerations

Approximately three-quarters (72%) of respondent households strongly or somewhat agreed that, when it makes financial sense, it is important to maintain or upkeep existing indoor facilities before considering developing new ones. Less than one-quarter (21%) disagreed.

Subsegment Analysis

- Respondent households with people aged 60 or older are more likely to strongly agree that it is important to maintain or upkeep existing indoor facilities before considering new ones (52%) than households with no one 60 years or older (35%)

Graph 15: Agreement with “When It Makes Financial Sense, It Is Important to Maintain or Upkeep Our Existing Indoor Facilities Before We Consider Developing New Ones”
(n=1,323)



Three-quarters (75%) of respondent households said it is very or somewhat important that indoor recreation facilities are developed with multiple activity spaces together in one building. See Graph 16.

Some explanations were offered by respondent households for their ratings. The most common sentiments are noted below. Having multiple activity spaces together in one building:

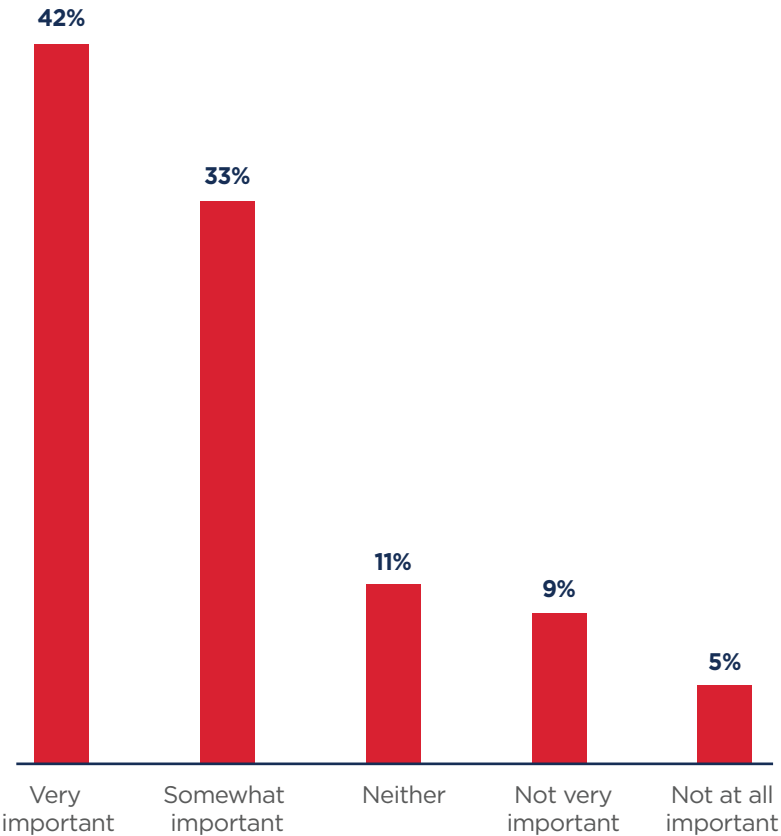
- is easier for families, especially those with young children.
- is cost effective.
- enhances a sense of community and provides a gathering space.
- brings Fort Saskatchewan more in line with regional cities and can help attract new residents and visitors.
- is more convenient from time, transportation, and program access perspectives.

There were some concerns expressed, mostly related to parking and increases to taxes.

Finally, respondent households were able to provide any other comments about the City of Fort Saskatchewan's provision of indoor recreation facilities. Primary themes included:

- The need for additional swim opportunities / water access.
- The need for multipurpose facilities.
- The need for additional ice times / access.
- The need for additional family friendly and youth focused opportunities.
- Concerns related to the cost of recreation facilities.

Graph 16: Importance of Developing Indoor Recreation Facilities With Multiple Activity Spaces Together in One Building
(n=1,328)



About Your Household

The table describes the households of the respondents.

Resident of the City of Fort Saskatchewan	
Yes	99%
No	1%

Tenure in the Fort Saskatchewan Area	
Less than 5 years	15%
6 to 10 years	17%
11 to 20 years	22%
21 years or longer	45%
Prefer not to answer	1%

Any Household Members moved to Canada in Last 5 Years	
Yes	1%
No	98%
Unsure	<1%
Prefer not to answer	1%

Household Description (figures in the parentheses are from the 2021 Federal Census)	
Couple with children	46% (31%)
Couple without children	32% (27%)
Single parent family	5% (8%)
One-person household	9% (23%)
Multigenerational household (at least 3 generations)	2% (2%)
Two or more adults not a couple	3% (4%)
Prefer not to answer	4%

Household Composition – Population Distribution (figures in the parentheses are from the 2021 Federal Census)	
0 – 4 years	8.3% (6.8%)
5 – 9 years	10.6% (7.3%)
10 – 14 years	8.1% (6.6%)
15 – 19 years	5.3% (5.6%)
20 – 29 years	7.7% (13.0%)
30 – 39 years	17.3% (17.9%)
40 – 49 years	13.6% (13.2%)
50 – 59 years	9.9% (11.2%)
60 – 69 years	11.6% (9.6%)
70 years and older	7.6% (8.8%)



2.2 Community Group Survey

A survey was fielded with a variety of user groups in Fort Saskatchewan who use indoor recreation facilities in the city. An email introducing the project and inviting participation in the survey was sent, by the City, to a representative from each organization. The email included a hyperlink to an online version of the questionnaire. A pdf version of the questionnaire was attached to the email as well. This allowed the group representatives to see the line of questioning and to prepare any responses collectively before a single response was submitted. Groups were able to submit their answers by completing the pdf although an online submission was preferred. Each group was asked to provide one response. Refer to Appendix C for a copy of the questionnaire.

Responses were gathered from January 18 to February 12, 2023. In total nine responses were received. These findings are not representative of all groups in Fort Saskatchewan, however they do provide insight into the perspectives of the organizations responding. Refer to Appendix D for a list of groups who participated in the survey.

2.2.1 Findings

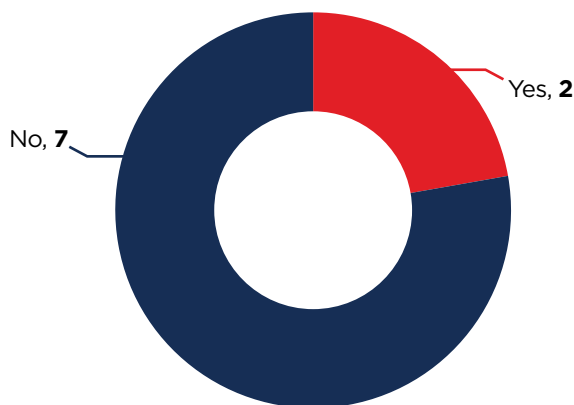
The findings below are presented in the order they were asked in the survey. The results are presented in raw numbers to better reflect the findings. Not all questions were answered by all respondents.

About Your Organization

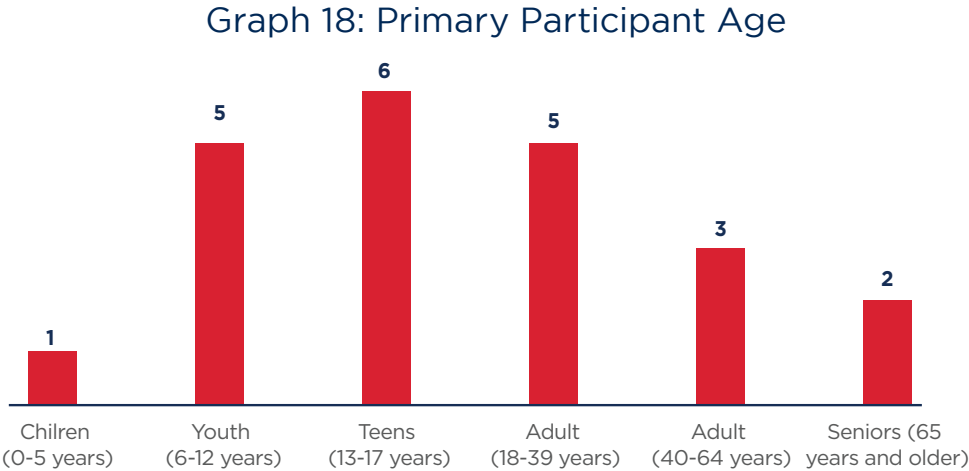
The survey began by gathering information about the organizations. Responses were received from a variety of organizations including ice users, indoor field users, social agencies and others that use indoor recreation facilities in Fort Saskatchewan.

To begin, respondents were asked if their organizations are governed by a provincial or national body that sets criteria around facility usage. As illustrated in the accompanying graph (Graph 17), approximately three quarters of groups (7 of 9) do not have criteria to follow regarding facility usage from their governing body. The minority, (2 of 9) groups do have criteria they have to abide by.

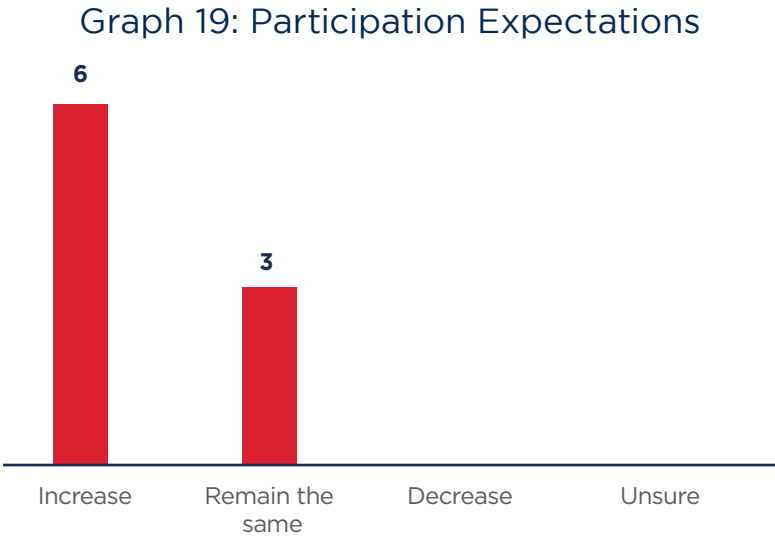
Graph 17: Is Your Organization Governed by a Provincial / National Body That Sets Criteria Around Facility Usage



Next, respondents were asked to identify the age group(s) that best describe their primary participants or members. As illustrated in Graph 18, respondents provide programs and services to a variety of ages with the majority being teens aged 13-17 years (6 of 9 groups), youth aged 6-12 years (5 of 9 groups) and adults aged 18-39 years (5 of 9 groups).



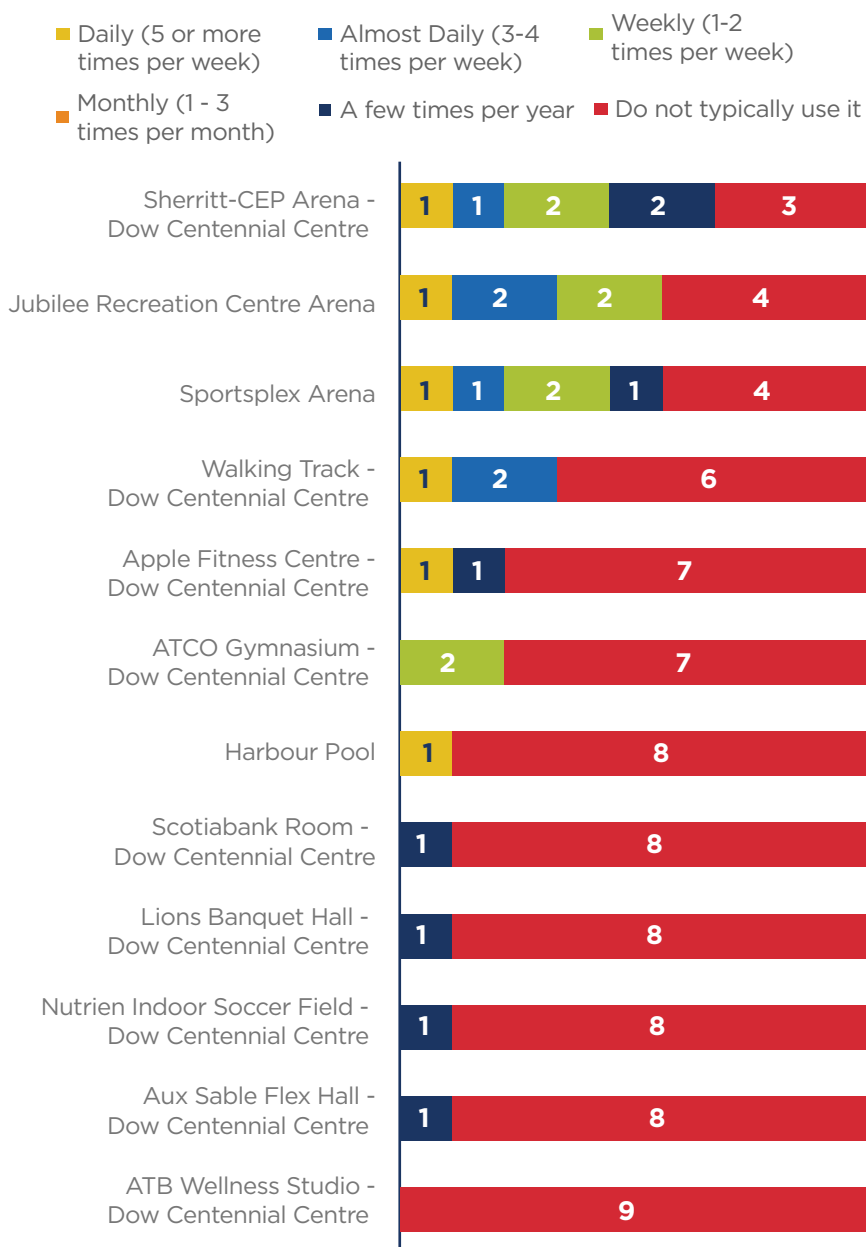
Respondents were then asked to identify their expectation for participation over the next few years. Two thirds of respondents (6 of 9) said they expect an increase while one third expect to remain the same (3 of 9). Notably, no groups said they expect a decrease.



Current Utilization of City Indoor Recreation Facilities

There is a variety of facilities and spaces that are used by groups as they provide programs and events. Respondents were asked to identify how frequently their groups would typically use City of Fort Saskatchewan indoor recreation facilities and spaces in their primary season of play. As illustrated in Graph 20, two thirds (6 of 9) of respondents use the Sherritt-CEP Arena at the Dow Centennial Centre. Of the six groups that use the Sherritt-CEP Arena, two do so weekly and a few times per year while one of six groups use the arena on a daily basis. The Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena and Sportsplex Arena are also utilized by a majority of groups during their primary season of play. Notably, only one group indicated use of the Harbour Pool.

Graph 20: Frequency of Use - Primary Season of Play

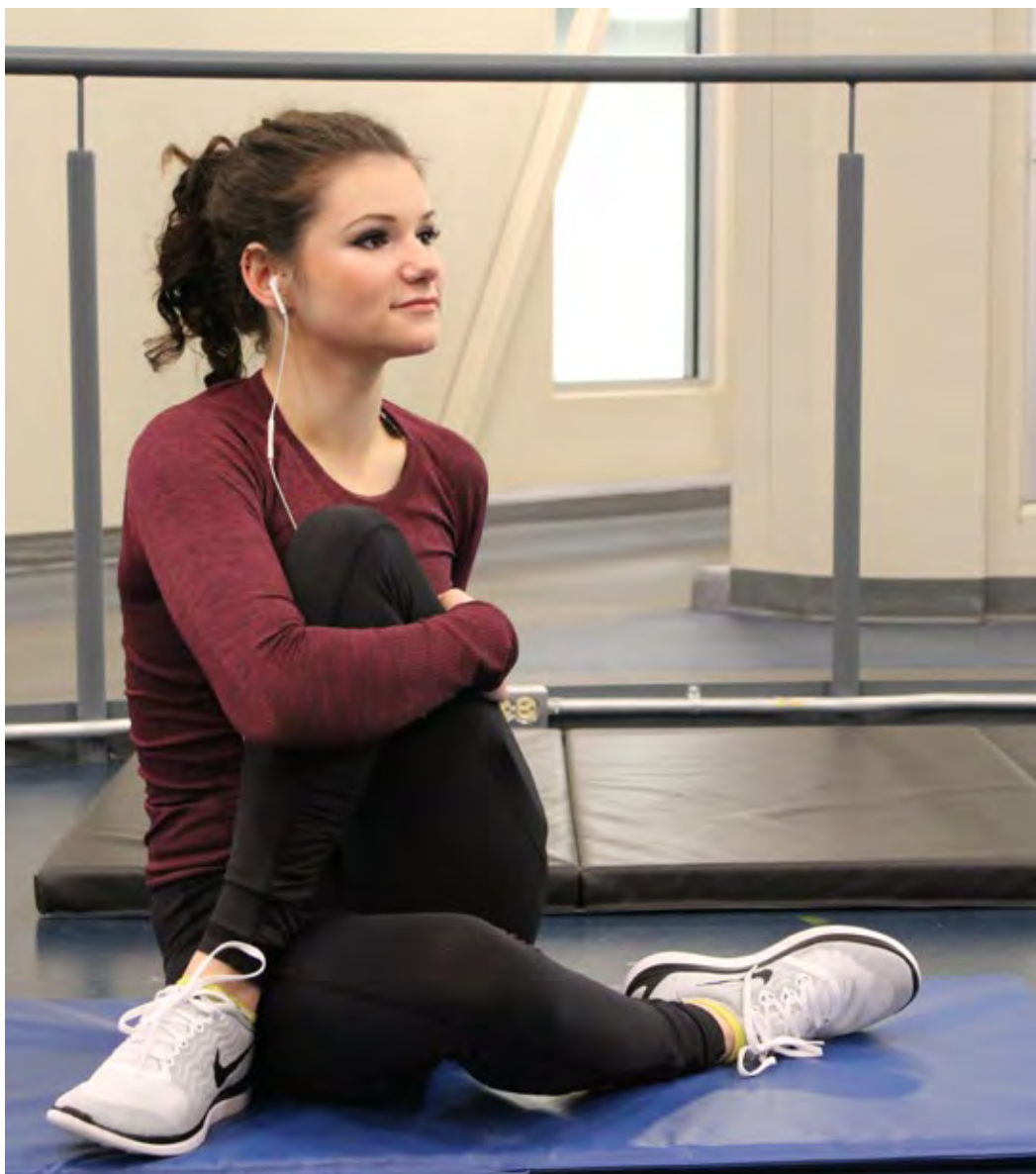
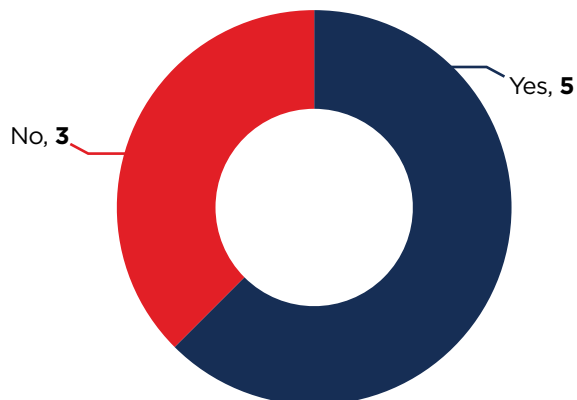


Respondents were then asked if they use other indoor recreation facilities or amenities in Fort Saskatchewan or elsewhere. Approximately two thirds (5 of 8) respondents said they do use other indoor facilities, while three of eight said they do not.

Those who said that they do use other facilities (beyond the City ones included in the questionnaire) were asked to identify the indoor facility and its location. Other facilities identified include the following:

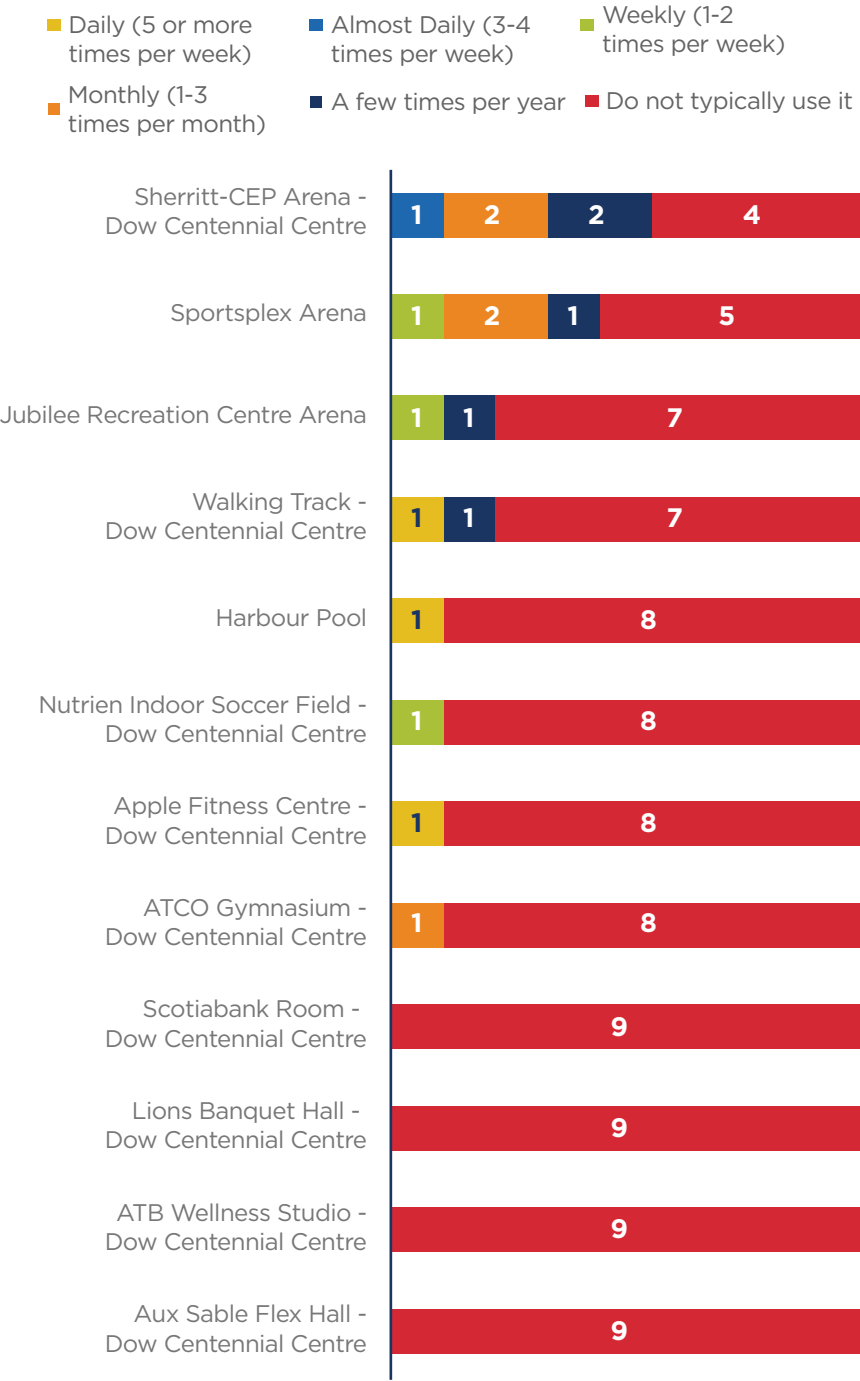
- Moyer Arena (Josephburg)
- Mark Messier and Servus Arena (St. Albert)
- Androssen Arena (Ardrossan)
- Glen Allen Recreation Centre (Sherwood Park)
- Sherwood Park Arena
- Lamont Arena
- West Rivers Edge Chalet (Fort Saskatchewan)
- Riverside Hall / Scout Hall (Fort Saskatchewan)

Graph 21: Does Your Group Use Other Facilities / Amenities in Fort Saskatchewan or Elsewhere?



Regarding the use of facilities in the off season, over half (5 out of 9) use the Sherritt CEP Arena – Dow Centennial Centre. The Sportsplex Arena is used by less than half (4 of 9). Only one group indicated use of the Harbour Pool. Refer to Graph 22 for other findings.

Graph 22: Frequency of Use - Off Season



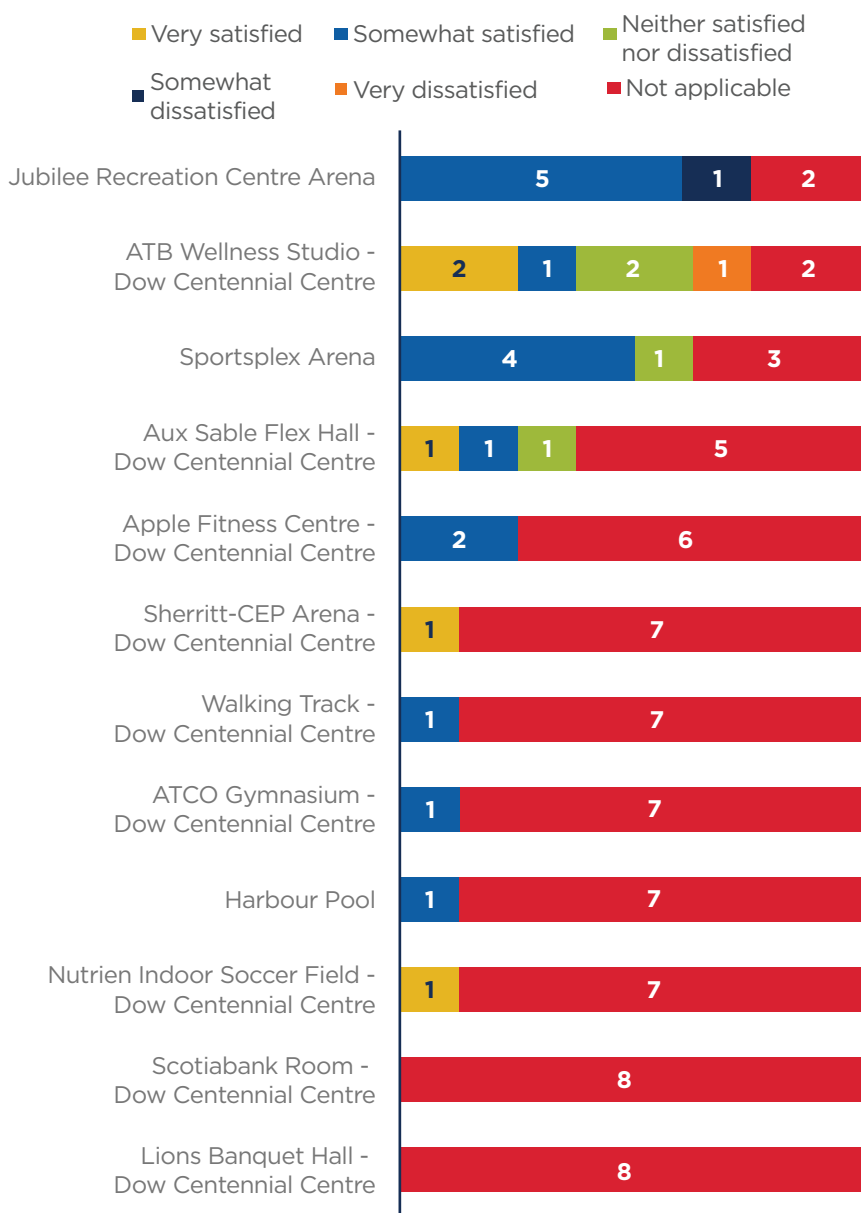
Indoor Recreation Facility Assessment

Respondents were then asked to identify their levels of satisfaction with the recreation facilities and amenities they use for their programming. As illustrated in Graph 23, approximately two thirds (5 of 8) of groups are somewhat satisfied with the Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena. Notably, half of respondents (4 of 8) are somewhat satisfied with the Sportsplex Arena, while one quarter of respondents (2 of 8) are very satisfied with the ATB Wellness Studio. The only dissatisfaction stated was for the Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena.

Respondent were able to share some comments to explain their satisfaction ratings. Some comments are noted below:

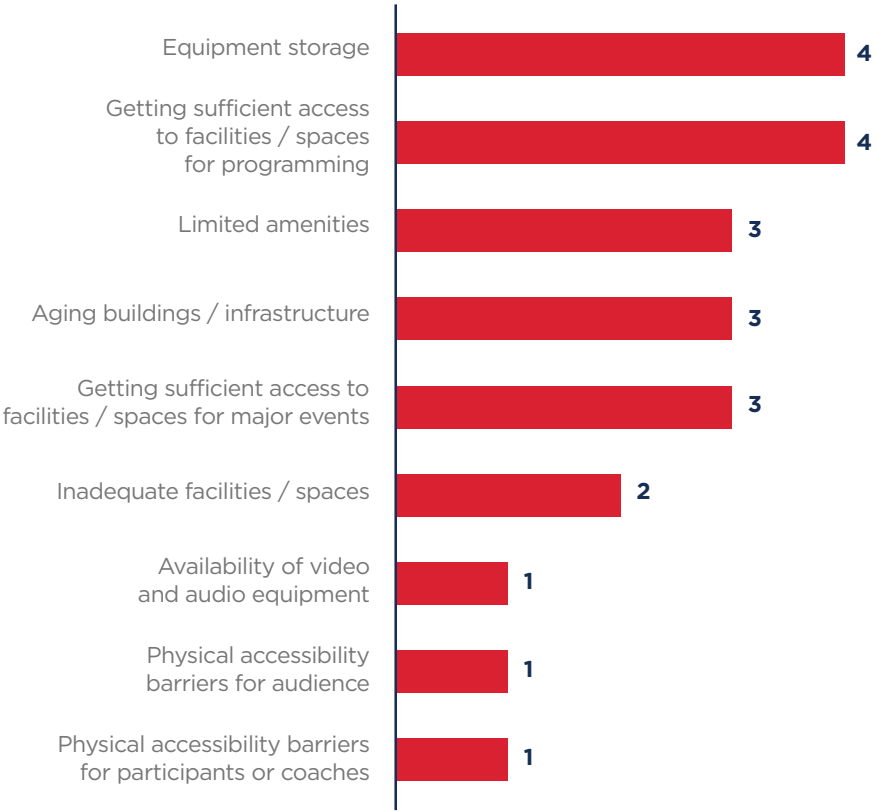
- The Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena needs upgrade such as: improved washrooms, upgraded change rooms, the upstairs area is not accessible for all due to no elevator.
- The Sherriitt-CEP Arena has limited spectator seating.
- The Nutrien Field's netting can be a hazard for some sports.

Graph 23: Satisfaction Levels with Recreation Facilities and Amenities



Next, respondents were asked to identify challenges their organization may be facing as they deliver their programs or events in City facilities. As illustrated in Graph 24, half of respondents (4 of 8) identified equipment storage and getting sufficient access to facilities as the challenges they are facing.

Graph 24: Challenges



Respondents were then asked if the current sport and recreation facilities and spaces in Fort Saskatchewan meet the needs of their organization. Three quarters (6 of 8) of respondents said that the facilities and spaces in Fort Saskatchewan somewhat meet the needs of their organization. Notably, one of eight groups said that the facilities and spaces do not meet the needs of their organization. See Graph 25.

Some explanation for groups' assessment are noted below.

- There are challenges in accessing activity space in the City's recreation facilities. This is resulting in groups looking for space outside the community.
- Upgrades are needed at the Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena including storage, bathrooms, group administration areas and dressing rooms.
- Expansion of the West River's Edge is needed to address challenges with group storage.

Graph 25: Do The Current Indoor Recreation Facilities and Spaces Meet the Needs of Your Organization?



Future Considerations for City Indoor Recreation Facilities

Respondents were next asked to identify any improvements or enhancements that are necessary at each of the City facilities and amenities the organizations use for their programming. Not all facilities listed had comments, the ones that did are noted below.

- Sherritt-CEP Arena - Dow Centennial Centre
 - » Another ice sheet that can accommodate 1500-2000 spectators
 - » Easier access onto the ice for sledge hockey participants
- Nutrien Indoor Soccer Field
 - » Replace the netting with plexiglass to increase safety.
- Sportsplex Arena
 - » Upgrade the spectator area to accommodate more people.
- Harbour Pool
 - » Increase wheelchair accessibility with adjustable pool floor
- Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena
 - » Upgrades to make the change rooms larger including home and visitors.
 - » Upgrades to the bathrooms are needed.
 - » Increased storage for user groups.

Respondents were then asked if there are any other indoor recreation facilities or amenities the City should consider developing. Suggestions include the following:

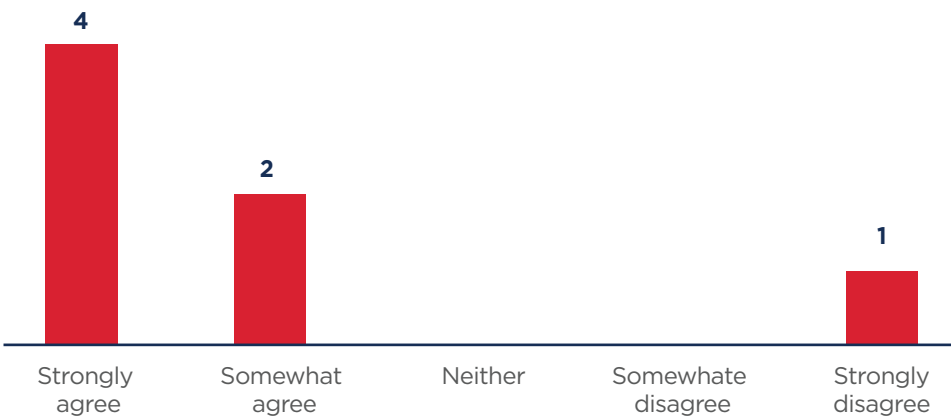
- A twin rink.
- An area for sports groups to have social gatherings.
- Indoor space to better accommodate dryland sporting activities.
- Outdoor rinks with rubber flooring for outdoor ball hockey.
- Enhanced storage for groups at indoor and outdoor facilities.



Considerations

The City of Fort Saskatchewan facilities and amenities are paid for by a combination of taxes and user fees. Respondents were asked to identify their level of agreement with the following statement, “*When it makes financial sense, it is important to maintain or upkeep our existing indoor facilities before we consider developing new ones*”. As illustrated in Graph 26, over three-quarters of respondents (6 of 7) agree to some extent while one respondent strongly disagrees.

Graph 26: Agreement with “When It Makes Financial Sense, It Is Important to Maintain or Upkeep Our Existing Indoor Facilities Before We Consider Developing New Ones”



Next, respondents were asked how important it is to their groups that indoor recreation facilities are developed with multiple activity spaces together in one building. Almost all groups (7 of 8) agree that it is important (strongly important and somewhat important) to have multiple activity spaces in one facility.

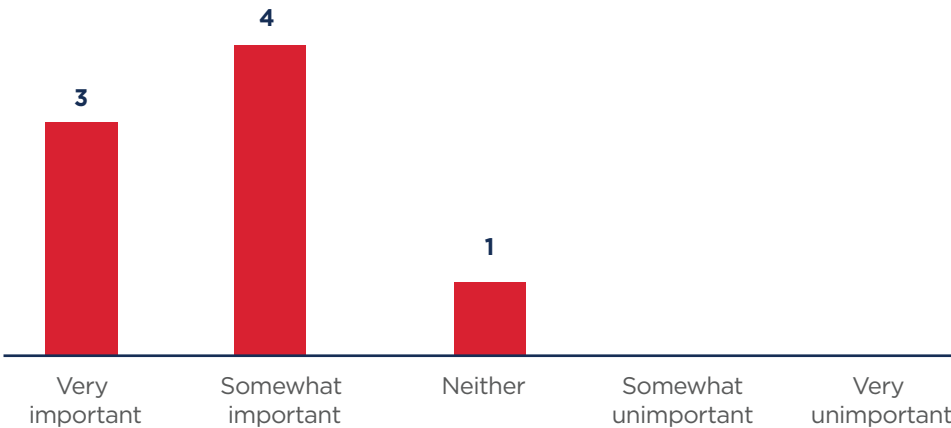
Respondents were able to explain their answers.

- Large multiplexes are great community centres.
- Facilities should be built for multi-use groups to get the best use year-round.
- Having multiple spaces in one facility would make logistics easier for organizations' delivery of their full programming.
- Grouping multiple activity spaces in one building provides options to the community.

Finally, groups were able to share any other comments they had about the provision of indoor recreation facilities in Fort Saskatchewan.

- There is not a lot of support for organizations outside of minor sports in the City.
- Proposed Jubilee Recreation Centre upgrades will meet the needs of user groups.

Graph 27: Importance of Facilities Being Developed With Multiple Activity Spaces



2.3 Community Contributors Meetings

A series of meetings were convened with Community Contributors to gather different perspectives on the provision of indoor recreation facilities in Fort Saskatchewan. In total four meetings were held with representatives from five different organizations: Indigenous Society; Youth Action Club / Youth Council; Rainbow Alliance; Live North (Apple Fitness); and Dow. Key findings from these meetings are noted below.

- As the City does its planning, it needs to consider overall community benefit. What facilities and amenities would offer services to the greatest number of people in the community?
- Enhancements to the recreation opportunities in Fort Saskatchewan make the community more desirable to residents and future / potential residents, and can contribute to economic development.
- City facilities need to be welcoming to all people in the community. Efforts need to be undertaken to understand, from members of the community, what welcoming looks like. This can be reflected in amenities, signage, advertisements, hours of operation, etc.
 - » Community segments are varied and include: Indigenous community; newcomers, and youth.
- Aquatic enhancements need to include more adventure amenities such as: slides, diving boards, rope swings, lazy river, waves. Harbour Pool does not offer much for the community's youth. As well, due to its size and configuration, it can be difficult to offer multiple activities at a single time at Harbour Pool.
- Developing a new aquatic facility at the Dow Centennial Centre (DCC):
 - » Can strengthen the hub concept that exists there.
 - » May result in enhanced use of the DCC.
 - » Would support residential growth happening on that side of the highway.
 - » There are concerns however about the location across the highway that can be a barrier for those who would have to cross it to access the DCC and its amenities.
- Improvements to public transportation are needed to support full utilization of City facilities currently. Improvements would be particularly important if a new aquatics facility was developed at the DCC.





3 CONCLUSIONS

The engagement findings provide insight into the respondents' perspective on indoor recreation facility provision in Fort Saskatchewan. The following bullets present findings considering all three elements of the engagement¹.

- Recreation activities provide the following benefits: physical health / exercise; pleasure / entertainment; and mental health and wellbeing.
- Recreation facilities / amenities provided by the City should deliver benefits to all members of the community.
- A majority of respondent households (79%) use indoor recreation facilities / amenities in Fort Saskatchewan.
- Three-quarters (75%) of respondent households who utilize indoor recreation facilities / amenities (or are unsure) use the Harbour Pool with the greatest use from households with children 19 years of age and younger. (60% of all respondent households use the Harbour Pool.)
 - » Over half of use (55%) at the Harbour Pool is for drop-in recreation & sport / fun and drop-in fitness.
- Approximately two-thirds (60%) of respondent households who use indoor recreation facilities / amenities (or are unsure) use the walking track at the Dow Centennial Centre. (48% of all respondent households use the walking track.)
- Over half of respondent households do use facilities outside of Fort Saskatchewan. These are primarily in Sherwood Park including Millennium Place. Facilities in Edmonton and St. Albert are also visited.
- The majority of users (respondent households and groups) are satisfied to some degree with the facilities / amenities in Fort Saskatchewan. However, there is a higher level of dissatisfaction than satisfaction in respondent households that use the Harbour Pool.
- Enhancements identified for the Harbour Pool include: additional adventure amenities (e.g. bigger slides, lazy river, waves, diving boards); a larger tank; change room improvements; and improving tank access for those with mobility challenges.
 - » Approximately three-quarters (78%) of respondent households said if their improvements were made they would be likely (to some extent) to visit the Harbour Pool more.
- In terms of new indoor recreation facilities sought, a new pool was at the top of respondent households' list.
- Approximately three-quarters (72%) of respondent households, and a majority of groups, said it is important to maintain or upkeep existing indoor recreation facilities before developing new ones.
- Three-quarters (75%) of respondent households said it is important that indoor recreation facilities are developed with multiple activity spaces in one building.
 - » Challenges exist for some users in accessing a facility that requires crossing the highway.

¹ There can be a self selection bias whereby households with a particular interest in the survey were more likely to participate. The sample is reflective of the community composition by age segments but has a larger proportion of households with children as compared to the census figures.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Postcard



CITY OF
FORT SASKATCHEWAN
ALBERTA

myFORT
MY CITY. MY SAY.

Indoor Recreation Facility Planning

“

**WE HAVE QUESTIONS AND
YOU HAVE ANSWERS. WE'RE
LOOKING FORWARD TO
GETTING YOUR THOUGHTS!**

”

What is the future of
indoor recreation facilities
in Fort Saskatchewan?



Fill out the online questionnaire with
thoughts of household members on
indoor recreation facilities.

See survey for more details.

myFORT
MY CITY. MY SAY

**Indoor Recreation
Facility Planning**

All participating households will be entered
into a draw for a \$250 grocery certificate!



**Household
Questionnaire**

Visit fortsask.ca/RecFacilities and click on the survey
link. You will need to have your ACCESS CODE to
participate in the survey.

ACCESS CODE

If you would rather complete a paper copy of the questionnaire please
contact recinfo@fortsask.ca. You will need your ACCESS CODE for the
paper copy.

**The deadline to share your thoughts is
January 31, 2023.**

fortsask.ca/RecFacilities



CITY OF
FORT SASKATCHEWAN
ALBERTA

Appendix B: Household Questionnaire

myFORT
MY CITY. MY SAY.



CITY OF
FORT SASKATCHEWAN
ALBERTA



INDOOR RECREATION FACILITY PLANNING SURVEY

About the Survey

Existing recreation use from residents and visitors requires the City to think strategically about what demands there may be on the City's recreation facilities moving forward. The City of Fort Saskatchewan has completed several studies related to recreation over the past number of years. This Indoor Recreation Facility Planning project will examine the structural and functional assessment of the Harbour Pool and identify potential concepts for new indoor recreation facilities at the Dow Centennial Centre.

Please take some time to complete the following survey. Using the responses gathered from this survey, along with other research, will inform considerations for indoor recreation facility provision in Fort Saskatchewan.

Please have an adult complete the following survey considering the thoughts of every member of your household. Your responses will be compiled with all others. **Please submit your responses by January 31, 2023. It should take you about 15 minutes.** Thank you!

A1. Where do you live?

- ☐ Fort Saskatchewan
☐ Other (please specify) _____

A2. What is your postal code? _____

Access Code

Note: You can find your unique Access Code on the postcard mailed to your home.

Draw Entry Form

By completing the survey, you can be entered to win a \$250 grocery gift card. To participate in this optional draw please provide your first name and phone number below.

Name (first name only): _____

Phone Number: _____

We respect your privacy

Your personal information is being collected for the purpose of awarding a draw prize. It will not be used for any other purpose, and it will not be associated with the answers you provide to the survey questions. This draw is part of a survey by the City of Fort Saskatchewan related to indoor recreation facility planning.

Any personal information received is being collected and used pursuant to section 33(c) and section 39(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and your personal information will be managed in accordance with the FOIP Act. If you have questions about the collection, use and disclosure of information, please contact the City of Fort Saskatchewan at 780.992.6200.



Section 1: Top of Mind Thoughts

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

- ☐ Physical health / exercise
- ☒ Enjoy a challenge
- ☐ To be with family / friends
- ☒ Meet new people
- ☐ Pleasure / entertainment
- ☒ Learn / Improve skills / knowledge
- ☐ Relaxation, mental health and wellbeing
- ☒ Something different than work
- ☐ Other, please specify _____
- ☒ We don't participate in indoor recreation activities (Please explain why below.)

- a. Why don't household members participate in indoor recreation activities?

2. Do members of your household use any indoor recreation and fitness facilities / amenities in Fort Saskatchewan?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No
- ☐ Unsure

3. How does your household become informed of indoor recreation programs / opportunities in Fort Saskatchewan? (Check all that apply.)

- ☐ Community Group information
- ☒ City of Fort Saskatchewan website
- ☐ City of Fort Saskatchewan Leisure Guide print
- ☒ City of Fort Saskatchewan Leisure Guide digital
- ☐ Other, please specify _____

4. What is the preference of your household members for finding information about indoor recreation programs / opportunities?

- ☐ Online sources
- ☒ Print format
- ☐ No preference

Section 2: Current Utilization of City Indoor Recreation Facilities

5. If answered "Yes" or "Unsure" to Q2. For each of the City of Fort Saskatchewan indoor recreation facilities / amenities listed below, please indicate how frequently any members of your household would typically use or visit it. (Note – if multiple household members use or visit a facility at the same time, that would count as one use / visit.)

Facility / Amenity	Daily (5 or more times per week)	Weekly (1-2 times per week)	Monthly (1-2 times per month)	A few times per year	We do not use / visit it
Walking Track – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sherritt-CEP Arena – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ATCO Gymnasium – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Indoor Playground – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Apple Fitness Centre – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Aux Sable Flex Hall – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ATB Wellness Studio – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Nutrien Indoor Soccer Field – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sportsplex Arena	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Harbour Pool	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

- a. What best describes the use of each facility / amenity by members of your household? (Check all that apply.)

Facility / Amenity	Drop In – Recreation & Sport / Fun	League Games / Swim Meets	Registered Programs	Scheduled Practices / Lessons	Rehabilitation / Therapy	Training / Skill Development	Drop-in Fitness (wet / dry)
Walking Track – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sherritt – CEP Arena – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ATCO Gymnasium – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Indoor Playground – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Apple Fitness Centre – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Aux Sable Flex Hall – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ATB Wellness Studio – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Nutrien Indoor Soccer Field – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sportsplex Arena	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Harbour Pool	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Active at Home	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

6. Aside from facilities / amenities in Fort Saskatchewan, do household members use indoor recreation facilities / amenities elsewhere?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No (go to Q7)
- ☐ Unsure

a. Please list the facility / amenity and its location.

7. Aside from factors related to COVID-19, has anything limited your household's use of the City's indoor recreation facilities / amenities?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No (go to Q9)
- ☐ Unsure

8. From the following list of potential barriers, please:

- i. Check (✓) which ones have limited members of your household from using the City's indoor recreation facilities / amenities.
- ii. Check if that potential barrier applies to the **Dow Centennial Centre amenities**, the **Harbour Pool**, or one of the **City's arenas**. You can check (✓) more than one.

	i. Has limited household member's use of City facilities / amenities	ii. Barrier exists at the Dow Centennial Centre amenities	ii. Barrier exists at the Harbour Pool	ii. Barrier exists at the Sportsplex Arena	ii. Barrier exists at the Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena	ii. Barrier exists at the Sherritt-CEP Arena
Physical barriers to access or get into the facilities / amenities	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Personal health / medical issues	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Lack of knowledge of activity and its equipment	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



	i. Has limited household member's use of City facilities / amenities	ii. Barrier exists at the Dow Centennial Centre amenities	ii. Barrier exists at the Harbour Pool	ii. Barrier exists at the Sportsplex Arena	ii. Barrier exists at the Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena	ii. Barrier exists at the Sherritt-CEP Arena
Don't feel comfortable / intimidated due to skill level, body image, etc	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Costs to register for programs / lessons	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Admission cost to these facilities / amenities	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Hours of operation	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Facility is too busy	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
It doesn't have the features / amenities we want	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Condition of the facility	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
The activities / programs that we want are not offered	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Unaware of the facilities or where they are	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Transportation challenges to get to the facility / amenity	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Lack of inclusive spaces and programming	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Timing of activities and programs offered doesn't align with our schedule	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Lack of time to participate	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

a. Use the space below to explain or provide description of the barriers impacting your household's use of the City's indoor recreation facilities / amenities

9. What indoor recreation **programs or activities** are **not currently offered** in Fort Saskatchewan that **you would like to see?**

10. What current City indoor **recreation programs or activities** are **limited because of a lack of facility space, your schedule, or lack of suitable amenities / equipment** in the facility? (Please indicate the barrier(s) that are limiting each of the programs or activities.)

Section 3: Indoor Recreation Facility Assessment

11. On behalf of your household, how satisfied are household members with each of the following City indoor recreation facilities / amenities?

Facility / Amenity	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Not applicable
Walking Track – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sherritt-CEP Arena – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ATCO Gymnasium – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Indoor Playground – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Apple Fitness Centre – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Aux Sable Flex Hall – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ATB Wellness Studio – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Nutrien Indoor Soccer Field – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



Facility / Amenity	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Not applicable
Sportsplex Arena	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Harbour Pool	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

a. Please explain your answers.

Section 4: Future Considerations for City Indoor Recreation Facilities

12. Please identify any improvements or enhancements that are necessary at each of the following City facilities / amenities to improve your user experience or to entice you to use it more. (The improvements or enhancements could be improved support amenities like change rooms, warm-up space, storage, additional features, and others.)

Facility / Amenity	Improvement / Enhancement
Walking Track – Dow Centennial Centre	
Sherritt-CEP Arena – Dow Centennial Centre	
ATCO Gymnasium – Dow Centennial Centre	
Indoor Playground – Dow Centennial Centre	
Apple Fitness Centre – Dow Centennial Centre	
Aux Sable Flex Hall – Dow Centennial Centre	
ATB Wellness Studio – Dow Centennial Centre	

Facility / Amenity	Improvement / Enhancement
Nutrien Indoor Soccer Field – Dow Centennial Centre	
Sportsplex Arena	
Harbour Pool	
Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena	

a. Are there any other indoor recreation facilities / amenities you think the City should consider developing or changing? If so, list them here.

13. If all the improvements you identified for each facility / amenity above were completed, how likely would household members use / visit it more?

Facility / Amenity	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Neutral	Somewhat unlikely	Very unlikely	Unsure
Walking Track – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sherritt-CEP Arena – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ATCO Gymnasium – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Indoor Playground – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Apple Fitness Centre – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



Facility / Amenity	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Neutral	Somewhat unlikely	Very unlikely	Unsure
Aux Sable Flex Hall – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ATB Wellness Studio – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Nutrien Indoor Soccer Field – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sportsplex Arena	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Harbour Pool	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Section 5: Considerations

14. To what extent do you agree that when it makes financial sense, “it is important to maintain or upkeep our existing indoor facilities before we consider developing new ones”.

- ☐ Strongly agree
☒ Somewhat agree
☐ Neither
☒ Somewhat disagree
☐ Strongly disagree

15. How important is it to your household that indoor recreation facilities are developed with multiple activity spaces together in one building?

- ☐ Very important
☒ Somewhat important
☐ Neither
☒ Not very important
☐ Not at all important



a. Please use the space to explain your answer to the question.

16. Please use the following space to provide any additional comments about the City of Fort Saskatchewan's provision of indoor recreation facilities.

Section 6: About Your Household

This information helps us understand the diversity of citizens participating in the survey and how the responses will impact future indoor recreation in Fort Saskatchewan.

17. What best describes how long have household members lived in the Fort Saskatchewan area?

- ☐ Less than 5 years
- ☒ 6 to 10 years
- ☐ 11 to 20 years
- ☒ 21 years or longer
- ☐ I prefer not to answer

18. Have any members of your household moved to Canada in the last 5 years?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No (go to Q19)
- ☐ Unsure (go to Q19)
- ☒ I prefer not to answer (go to Q19)

a. If Yes, from what country did household members move from? _____



19. What best describes your household composition?

- ☐ Couple with children
- ☐ Couple without children
- ☐ Single parent family
- ☐ One-person household
- ☐ Multigenerational household (at least 3 generations)
- ☐ Two or more adults not a couple (e.g. roommates, siblings living together)
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

20. Please indicate the age range of each member in your household including yourself. (Identify the number of people in your household in each age range.)

- _____ 0 - 4 yrs.
- _____ 5 - 9 yrs.
- _____ 10 - 14 yrs.
- _____ 15 - 19 yrs.
- _____ 20 - 29 yrs.
- _____ 30 - 39 yrs.
- _____ 40 - 49 yrs.
- _____ 50 - 59 yrs.
- _____ 60 - 69 yrs.
- _____ 70 years and older
- _____ I prefer not to answer



21. What best describes your total household income for 2021?

- ☐ Less than \$25,000
- ☒ \$25,000 to \$34,999
- ☐ \$35,000 to \$44,999
- ☒ \$45,000 to \$59,999
- ☐ \$60,000 to \$79,999
- ☒ \$80,000 to \$99,999
- ☐ \$100,000 to \$149,999
- ☒ \$150,000 and over
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

We appreciate your time in completing the Indoor Recreation Facility Planning questionnaire.
Updates will be posted online as they become available at FortSask.ca/RecSurvey

You can also find more information about previous recreation studies and this Indoor Facility Planning Project.

Appendix C: Community Group Questionnaire



myFORT
MY CITY. MY SAY.



CITY OF
FORT SASKATCHEWAN
ALBERTA



INDOOR RECREATION FACILITY PLANNING GROUP SURVEY

About the Survey

Existing recreation use from residents and visitors requires the City to think strategically about what demands there may be on the City's recreation facilities moving forward. The City of Fort Saskatchewan has completed several studies related to recreation over the past number of years. This Indoor Recreation Facility Planning project will examine the structural and functional functionality of the Harbour Pool and identify potential concepts for new indoor recreation facilities at the Dow Centennial Centre.

As a community group or organization that may utilize these facilities, please take some time to answer the following survey on behalf of your organization. Using the responses gathered from this survey along with other research, the City will consider a path forward for indoor recreation facility provision in Fort Saskatchewan.

**Please submit the questionnaire by February 12, 2023.
Only one response per group / organization is requested.**

We Want to Hear From You!

Gathering input from community groups and organizations who are delivering recreation programs and events to the residents of Fort Saskatchewan is critical. Using the responses gathered along with other research will inform considerations for indoor recreation in Fort Saskatchewan.

Section 1: About Your Organization

1. What is the name of your group / organization?

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

3. Is your organization governed by a provincial / national body that sets criteria around facility usage (e.g., scheduling, facility criteria)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No (go to Q4)
- ☐ Unsure

a. If Yes or Unsure, please explain the criteria.

b. If you have some documents that explains the criteria, please attach them.

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

- ☐ Children (0-5 years)
- ☐ Youth (6-12 years)
- ☐ Teens (13-17 years)
- ☐ Adult (18-39 years)
- ☐ Adult (40-64 years)
- ☐ Seniors (65 years and older)

5. How many participants typically belong to your organization?

- ☐ 0-25
- ☒ 26-50
- ☐ 51-100
- ☒ 101-250
- ☐ 251-499
- ☒ 500 or more

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

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

Section 2: Current Utilization of City Indoor Recreation Facilities

7. There are a variety of facilities and spaces that are used by groups as they provide programs (skill development, fitness training, practice, and league play), and events. For each of the City of Fort Saskatchewan indoor recreation facilities and spaces listed, please indicate how frequently your group would typically use it during **your PRIMARY season of play**.

Facility / Space	Daily (5 or more times per week)	Almost Daily (3-4 times per week)	Weekly (1-2 times per week)	Monthly (1-3 times per month)	A few times per year	Do not typically use it
Walking Track – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sherritt-CEP Arena – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ATCO Gymnasium – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Indoor Playground – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Apple Fitness Centre – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Aux Sable Flex Hall – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ATB Wellness Studio – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



Facility / Space	Daily (5 or more times per week)	Almost Daily (3-4 times per week)	Weekly (1-2 times per week)	Monthly (1-3 times per month)	A few times per year	Do not typically use it
Nutrien Indoor Soccer Field – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Lions Banquet Hall – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Scotiabank Room – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sportsplex Arena	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Harbour Pool	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

a. What is the start and end date of your PRIMARY season of play?

b. Do you use other indoor recreation facilities / amenities in Fort Saskatchewan or elsewhere not listed above?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No (go to Q8)
- ☐ Unsure

i. Please identify the indoor facility / amenity and its location.

8. For each of the City of Fort Saskatchewan indoor recreation facilities and spaces listed, please indicate how frequently your group would typically use it during **your OFF season of play**.

Facility / Space	Daily (5 or more times per week)	Almost Daily (3-4 times per week)	Weekly (1-2 times per week)	Monthly (1-3 times per month)	A few times per year	Do not typically use it
Walking Track – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sherritt-CEP Arena – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ATCO Gymnasium – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Apple Fitness Centre – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Aux Sable Flex Hall – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ATB Wellness Studio – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Nutrien Indoor Soccer Field – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Lions Banquet Hall – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Scotiabank Room – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sportsplex Arena	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Harbour Pool	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

- a. What is the start and end date of your OFF season of play?

Section 3: Indoor Recreation Facility Assessment

9. How satisfied is your group with the recreation facilities and amenities you use for your programming in Fort Saskatchewan?

Facility / Amenity	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Not applicable
Walking Track – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sherritt-CEP Arena – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ATCO Gymnasium – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Apple Fitness Centre – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Aux Sable Flex Hall – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ATB Wellness Studio – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Nutrien Indoor Soccer Field – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Lions Banquet Hall – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Scotiabank Room – Dow Centennial Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sportsplex Arena	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Harbour Pool	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

a. Please explain your answers. If appropriate, identify the specific facility / amenity to which you are referring.

10. What challenges, if any, is your organization facing to delivering its programs or events given the City's facilities? Check all that apply.

- ☐ Getting sufficient access to facilities / spaces for programming
- ☐ Getting sufficient access to facilities / spaces for major events (e.g., tournaments, competitions)
- ☐ Inadequate facilities / spaces (e.g., amenity and support spaces are lacking)
- ☐ Physical accessibility barriers for participants or coaches
- ☐ Physical accessibility barriers for audience
- ☐ Aging buildings / infrastructure
- ☐ Seating capacity
- ☐ Limited amenities
- ☐ Equipment storage
- ☐ Availability of video and audio equipment
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

a. Please explain your answer.

11. Overall, to what degree do the current indoor recreation facilities and spaces in Fort Saskatchewan meet the needs of your organization?

- ☐ Completely meet the needs of our organization
- ☐ Somewhat meet the needs of our organization
- ☐ Do not adequately meet the needs of our organization
- ☐ My organization does not use recreation facilities in Fort Saskatchewan

a. Please explain your answer.

Section 4: Future Considerations for City Indoor Recreation Facilities

12. Please identify any improvements or enhancements that are necessary at each of the City facilities / amenities that your organization uses for your programming. (The improvements or enhancements could be improved support amenities like change rooms, warm-up space, storage, additional features, and others.)

Facility / Amenity	Improvement / Enhancement
Walking Track – Dow Centennial Centre	
Sherritt-CEP Arena – Dow Centennial Centre	
ATCO Gymnasium – Dow Centennial Centre	
Apple Fitness Centre – Dow Centennial Centre	
Aux Sable Flex Hall – Dow Centennial Centre	
ATB Wellness Studio – Dow Centennial Centre	
Nutrien Indoor Soccer Field – Dow Centennial Centre	
Lions Banquet Hall – Dow Centennial Centre	
Scotiabank Room – Dow Centennial Centre	
Sportsplex Arena	
Harbour Pool	
Jubilee Recreation Centre Arena	

- 
- a. Are there any other indoor recreation facilities / amenities that you think the City should consider developing? If so, list them here.

Section 5: Considerations

13. To what extent do you agree that “when it makes financial sense, it is important to maintain or upkeep our existing indoor facilities before we consider developing new ones”.

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☒ Somewhat agree
- ☐ Neither
- ☒ Somewhat disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

14. How important is it to your group that indoor recreation facilities are developed with multiple activity spaces together in one building?

- ☐ Very important
- ☒ Somewhat important
- ☐ Neither
- ☒ Not very important
- ☐ Not at all important

- a. Please explain your answer.



Section 6: Other Comments

15. Please use the following space to provide any other comments you have about the provision of indoor recreation facilities in Fort Saskatchewan.

Your investment in our community’s health and well-being is greatly appreciated. Thank you for taking the time to participate in the City’s Indoor Recreation Facility Planning survey. We will post updates online as they become available. Visit FortSask.ca/RecSurvey to learn more.

Appendix D: Community Group Survey Participants

1. Vikings Hockey
2. Fort Saskatchewan Skating Club
3. Silverbacks
4. Fort Saskatchewan Chiefs
5. Fort Saskatchewan Nordic Ski Club
6. Rebels Major Lacrosse
7. Robin Hood Association
8. Encounter Sports (operated by Heartland Alliance Church)
9. Fort Saskatchewan Exercise Groups



