



2022

Recreation Parks & Facilities Overview

Table of Contents

1.0	Executive Summary	3
2.0	Current Inventory	3
3.0	Current Usage	5
4.0	Future Usage	7
5.0	Conclusion	9
6.0	Appendix A – Town Owned Parks and Facility Directory	10
7.0	Appendix B – Survey Results	21

1.0 Executive Summary

The Town of Deep River is home to an extensive network of indoor and outdoor recreational parks and facilities, offered through both the private and public sector. Over many decades, the Town of Deep River, along with partnering community groups, has invested in recreation and culture throughout the Town to evolve, expand and improve recreational parks, facilities and services. However, recent public engagement suggests that there is a demand for future expansion and a need for investment to further evolve recreation and culture as well as maintain, renovate, or redevelop current recreational parks and facilities throughout the Town.

The focus of this document is to provide an overview of Recreational Parks and Facilities owned and operated by the Town of Deep River, and the initial community consultation which has resulted in a number of recommended possible actions. Staff will continue to engage the community to develop a Recreation and Culture Plan for potential adoption by Council. This plan could be used to assist staff and Council with future budgetary processes.

It should be noted that the survey and this overview are primarily focused on Town-owned “recreation”. The strategy going forward will be to broaden the scope to include a focus on recreation and culture within the community while ensuring engagement with and representation of community recreation and culture facilities, events and programming that are not Town-owned or operated.

2.0 Current Inventory

As outlined below in Table 1, there are currently nine Recreational Parks and five Recreational Facilities operated and/or maintained by staff to provide recreational services to the community.

Table 1: Summary of Recreational Parks and Facilities

Recreational Park	Recreational Facility
Grouse Park	Deep River Arena
Huron Park	Deep River Community Pool
Pier Park	Deep River Marina
Hill Park	Lamure Beach
Unity Park	Community Center
Silvie Park	
Bill Rounding Park	
Pine Point Beach	
Riverbank Park	

Table 2 below is a detailed breakdown of the different assets located at the nine Recreational Parks and five Recreational Facilities. See Appendix A for Town-owned Parks and Facility Directory.

Table 2: Summary of Recreational Parks and Facility Assets

Park/Facility	Assets/Description
Grouse Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play Structure (Ages 5-12yrs) • Swing Set • Heated structure with canteen availability, washroom facilities, and storage • Ball Diamond

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Youth Soccer Fields • 2 Adult Soccer Fields • Underground Sprinkler System • Community Gardens • Skating Trail • Outdoor Rink • Crokicurl Pads • Shuffleboard Pads • Parking Area
Huron Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play Structure (Ages 2-5yrs) • Swing Set
Pier Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play Structure (Ages 5-12yrs) • Swing Set • Gazebo • Community Barbeque • Parking Area
Hill Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play Structure (Ages 2-12yrs) • Swing Set • Outdoor Rink • Sliding Hill • Parking Area
Unity Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessible Play Structure (Ages 5-12yrs) • Outdoor Fitness Section • Sensory Garden • Mini Amphitheatre
Silvie Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play Structure (Ages 5-12yrs) • Swing Set • Outdoor Rink
Bill Rounding Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Gardens • Open Green Space
Pine Point Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unsupervised beach • Port-A-Potty • Parking Area
River Bank Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gazebo • Maintained waterfront trail • Parking Area
Deep River Arena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community/Banquet Hall • 192"x87" Ice Surface/Slab • Canteen • 6 Change Rooms • Sprinkler System • Outdoor Basketball Court • Parking Area

Deep River Community Pool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Space and Viewing Area • Change Rooms • Natatorium (25m pool with 6 lanes) • Sauna • Parking Area
Deep River Marina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canteen/Kiosk with Patio • Fuel Pumps and Storage Tank • Sewage Pump and Holding Tank • Port-A-Potty • 99 boat slips including 4 visitor Slips • Boat Launch Capabilities • Break Wall and Pavilion • Parking Area
Lamure Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play Structure (Ages 5-12yrs) • Swing Set • Gazebo • Community Barbeque • Non-heated Structure with Washroom Facilities and Storage • Lifeguarded Beach • Offshore Swim Platform • Stand-up Paddle Board and Kayak Rental • Volley Ball Nets • Parking Area
Community Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bowling Alley • Whistle Stop • Potters Guild • Parking Area

3.0 Current Usage

The initial consultations and survey with the public demonstrate that the nine Recreational Parks and five Recreational Facilities are important assets to the community and are well utilized; with a large number of participants enjoying parks and open spaces, walking or hiking trails, going to the beach, hockey, figure skating, ice skating and soccer. Table 3 below summarizes the different usages (recreation programs vs informal recreation activities) that occur at the parks and facilities throughout the Town of Deep River.

Table 3: Summary of Recreational Parks and Facility Usage

Park/Facility	Usage
Grouse Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soccer • Baseball • Informal recreation activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor skating and hockey • Open space: walking, running, cycling • Crokicurl and Shuffleboard

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play structure usage • Gardening
Huron Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal recreation activity • Play structure usage
Pier Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal recreation activity • Play structure usage • Community barbeque usage
Hill Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal recreation activity • Play structure usage • Sliding • Skating and hockey
Unity Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal recreation activity • Play and fitness structure usage
Silvie Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal recreation activity • Play structure usage • Skating and hockey
Bill Rounding Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal recreation activity • Gardening • Open space – walking
Pine Point Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal recreation activity • Unsupervised recreational swimming • Leisure activities
Riverbank Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal recreation activity • Walking, running, cycling • Picnic and waterfront lookout
Deep River Arena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hockey • Figure skating • Ball hockey • Dodge ball • Basketball • Summer Student Camp Programs • Informal recreation activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreational skating • Community Events: slab and community/banquet hall
Deep River Community Pool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competitive and non-competitive swimming • Swimming Lessons • Aquatic Programming • CPR and First Aid • Leadership Programs • Informal recreation activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreational swimming • Birthday Party Packages

Deep River Marina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal recreation activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal leisure craft activities
Lamure Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal recreation activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreational swimming • Play structure usage • Stand-up paddleboarding and kayaking • Volleyball • Community Barbeque
Community Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private/informal recreational activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bowling Alley • Pottery • Retail Shopping

4.0 Future Usage

The initial consultation and survey results identify that there is a demand for investment in both existing and new Town Parks and Facilities and provides suggestions for areas of improvement as well as possible future usage (See Appendix B – Survey Results). This identified demand for investment aligns with projects staff have already begun to implement through the capital and operating budgets. For example, staff are making improvements to facilities and are currently in year two of a proposed five-year Arena improvement plan, are currently undertaking a structural and mechanical audit of the swimming pool, will be implementing accessibility mats at Lamure Beach, and have completed the Grouse Park Improvements Project. Also, by the end of 2022 all parks and play structures within the Town will align with the CSA Z614:20 – Children’s Playground Equipment and Surfacing Standard, which is a National Standard of Canada that provides requirements for public-use playground equipment. Furthermore, the survey results indicated a need for a children’s dance program which was implemented in the winter of 2021 with great success and has expanded to include a dance class for older adults.

The survey results and public engagement also suggest that there is a high demand for:

- More recreational opportunities for teens (13-18 years)
- Splash Pad
- Camping Grounds/Site
- Bike and/or Skate Park
- Mini Putt
- Dog Park

Staff, utilizing the recommendations from the survey, have begun and will continue to explore the feasibility of the possible options for both new and existing Town Parks and Facilities. However, initial improvements and possibilities include the following;

Grouse Park

- Splash Pad location with gray water holding tank to be utilized as sprinkler system water
- Outdoor rink: one year trial (COVID free) with a review period
- Bike and/or Skate Park

- Mini Putt
- Horticultural Society Tree Nursery – additional garden plot at community gardens
- Utilization of structure with canteen availability

Huron Park

- CSA Z614:20 – Children’s Playground Equipment and Surfacing Standard

Pier Park and Marina

- CSA Z614:20 – Children’s Playground Equipment and Surfacing Standard
- Waterfront Secondary Plan – Marina Expansion

Hill Park

- CSA Z614:20 – Children’s Playground Equipment and Surfacing Standard

Unity Park

- Gazebo Installation – Rotary Club
- Tree Planting

Silvie Park

- Installation of Toddler Play Structure – wooden toddler structure was removed due to health and safety concerns

Bill Rounding Park

- Dog Park
- Horticultural Society Tree Nursery – additional garden plot at community gardens

Deep River Arena

- 5-year capital improvement plan
- Utilization of facility year-round – summer program development
- Utilization of Community Hall/Banquet

Deep River Community Pool

- Pool Roof and Dectron Project
- Utilization of community space

Lamure Beach

- Camping Grounds/Site

5.0 Conclusion

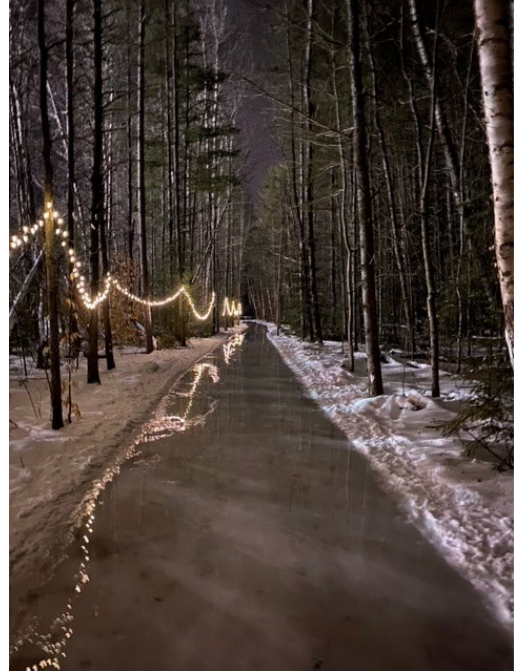
The intention of this document is to provide the results of the initial public engagement and survey as well as background information on the Town's Parks and Facilities. Staff will continue to engage the community to gather information and develop a draft Recreation & Culture Plan for Council consideration. Community engagement, park and facility reviews, and Municipal plans (such as the Asset Management Plan, Strategic Plan and Master Financial Plan) will form the foundation of our strategy to develop this draft plan. During this time this overview will be utilized for short-term budgeting and programming recommendations. The Recreation department will continue to provide the following;

- Deliver quality services
- Maintain a high level of maintenance on Parks and Facilities
- Monitor community needs, evaluate current programs, and research and recommend new programming aligned with community needs
- Plan, develop, recommend and implement recreation programs and facility upgrades
- Find innovative ideas for reducing costs and improving functionality

6.0 Appendix A – Town Owned Parks and Facility Directory

Grouse Park: Property Parcels – 479600005504710





Huron Park: Property Parcels - 479600002505100



Pier Park and Deep River Marina: Property Parcels - 479600002000900



Hill Park: Property Parcels - 479600002011500



Deep River Community Center and Unity Park: Property Parcels – 479600002001900





Silvie Park: Property Parcels - 479600004512700



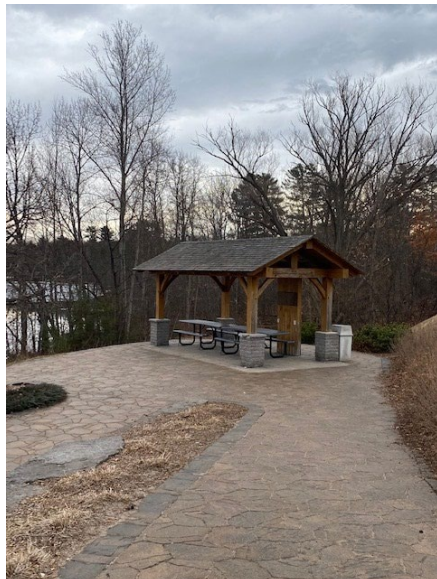
Bill Rounding Park: Property Parcels - 479600004000600



Pine Point Beach: Property Parcels - 479600005515700



Riverbank Park: Property Parcels - 479600002001700



Deep River Arena: Property Parcels – 479600005008900



Deep River Community Pool: Property Parcels – 479600002001500



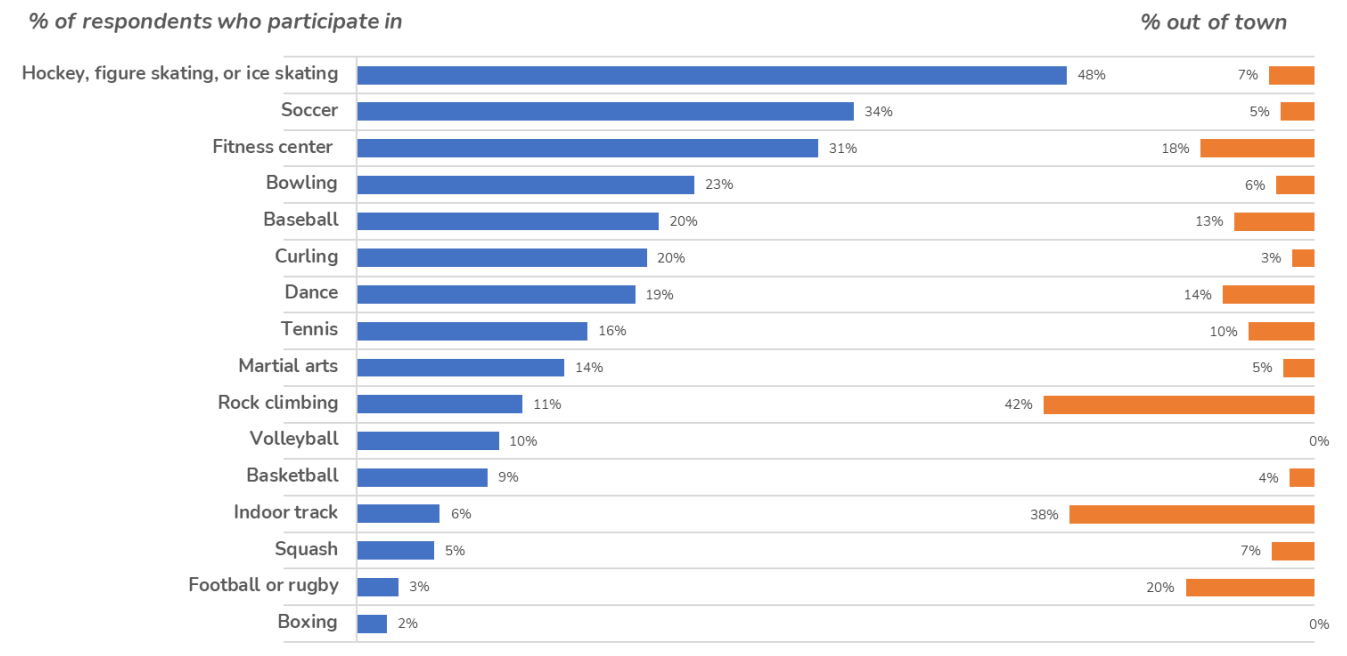
Lamure Beach: Property Parcels – 479600004000400



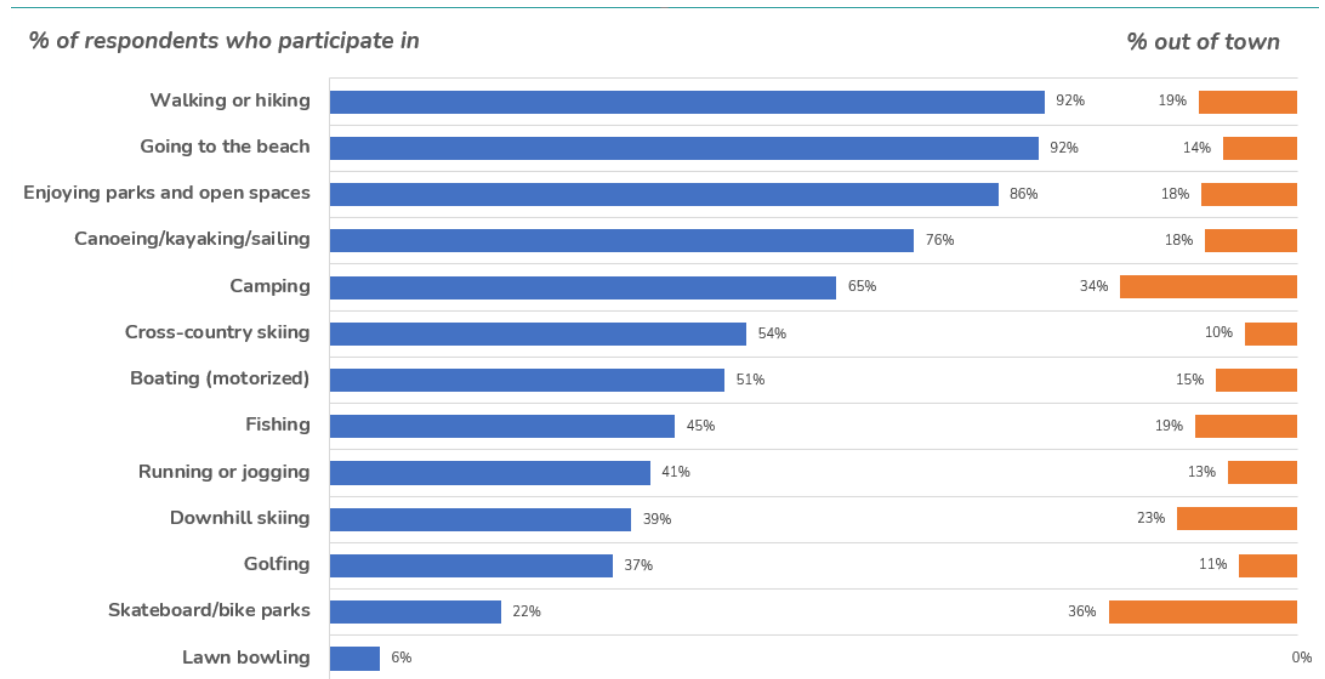
7.0 Appendix B – Survey Results

The Recreation Department was tasked with reviewing recreational programming including identifying high potential/high interest new programming or pilot programs to engage the public. The Recreation Department selected to survey members of the community by providing links on social media and personal emails to individual clients. The town received 249 responses, shown below, for an effectiveness rate of 13.6%.

Question 1: Please select any of the following activities that you or anyone in your household have participated in during the past 24 months or plan to participate in over the next 12 months.

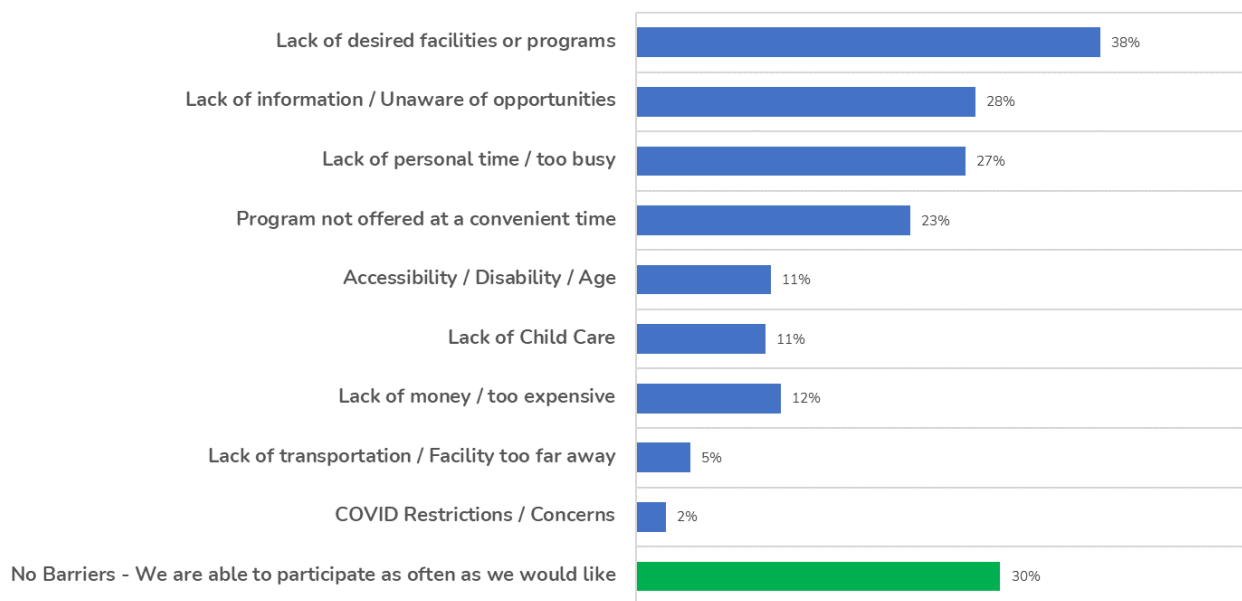


Question 2: Please select any of the following leisure activities that you or anyone in your household have participated in during the past 24 months or plan to participate in over the next 12 months.



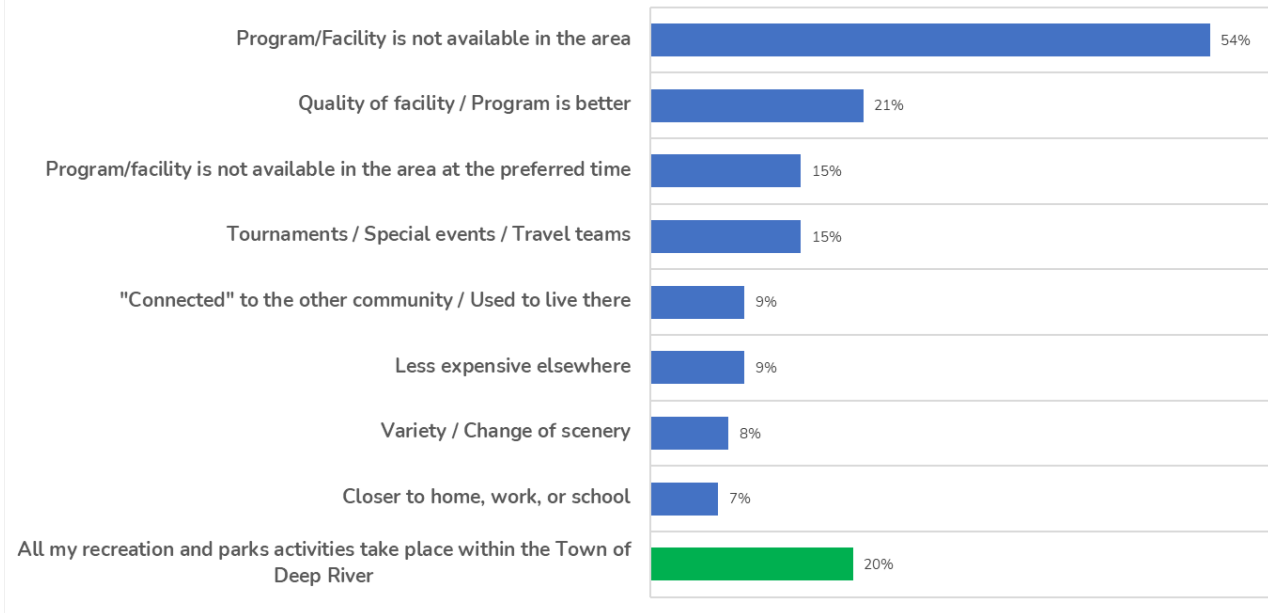
Question 3: If you and/or members of your household are not able to participate in recreation and parks activities as often as you would like, please indicate why.

We did not participate as often as they would like because:



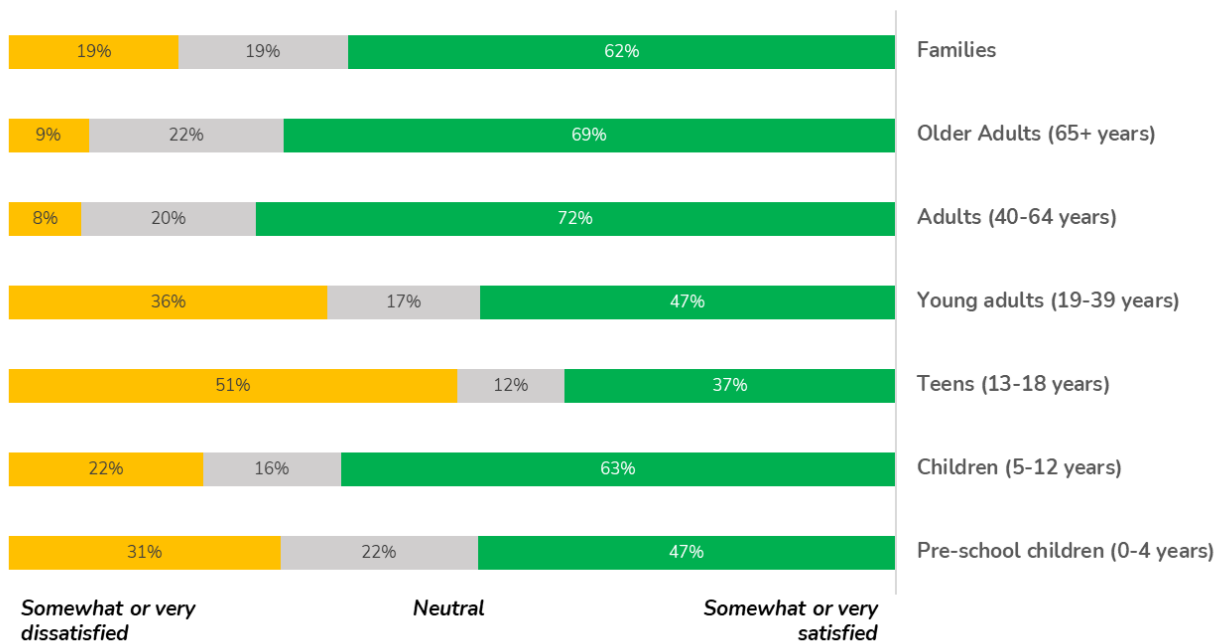
Question 4: If your household participates in recreation and parks activities outside of Deep River, please indicate why

We travel out of Deep River because:



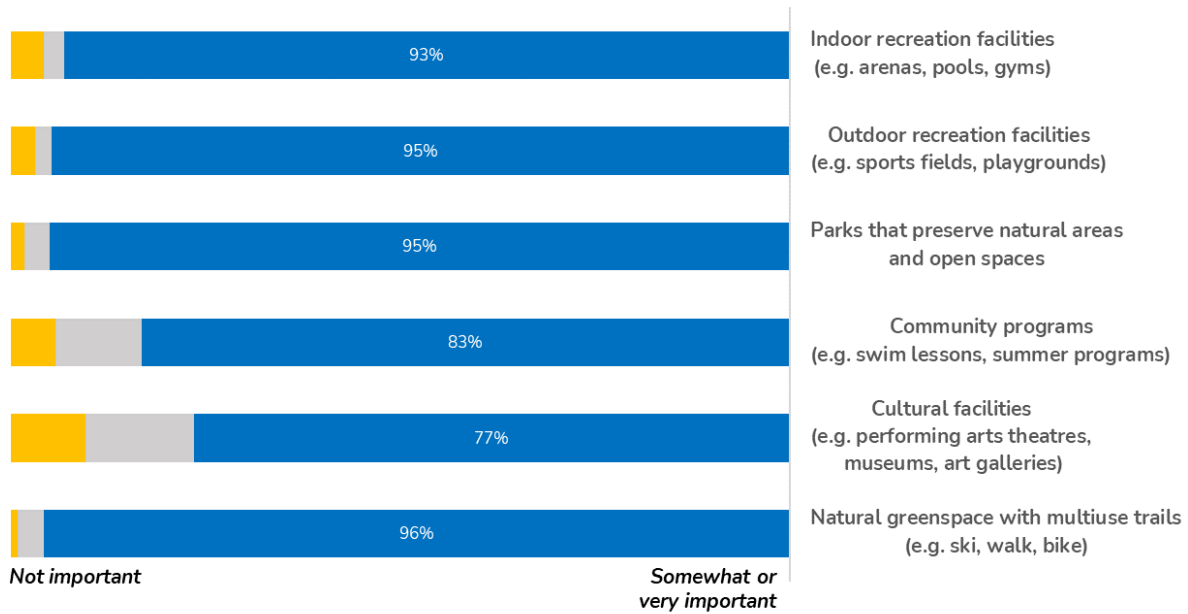
Question 5: Please indicate your level of satisfaction with the recreation and parks opportunities in Deep River for the following age groups.

How satisfied are with recreation and parks opportunities for:



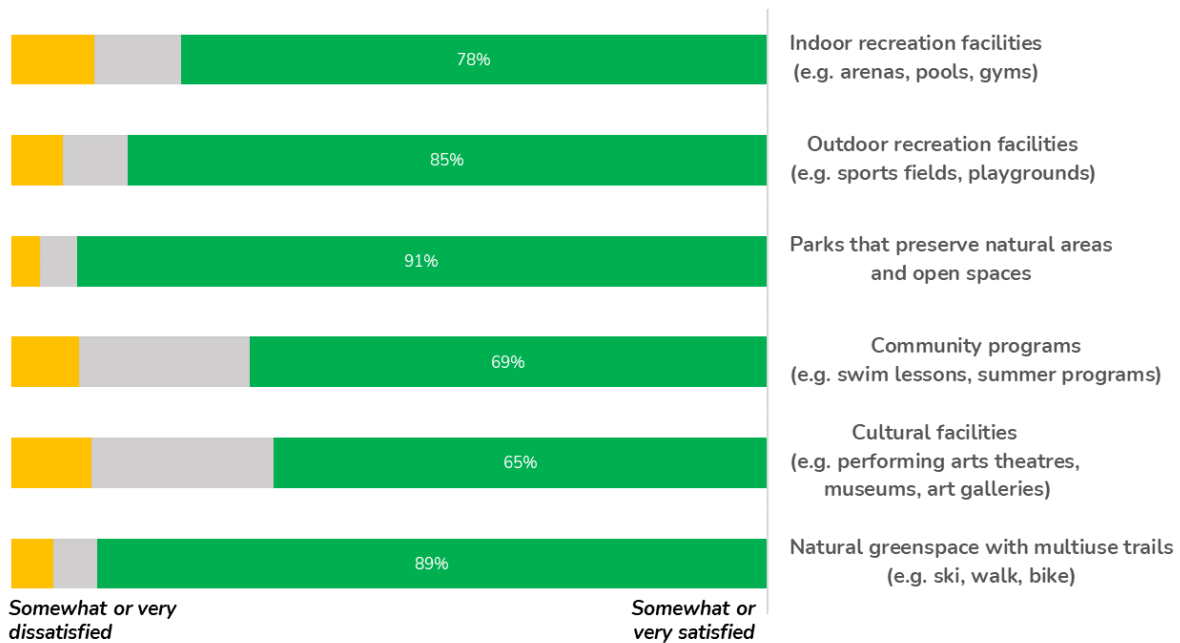
Question 6: In general, how important are the following recreation and parks facilities to your household?

How important are these recreation and parks facilities to you?



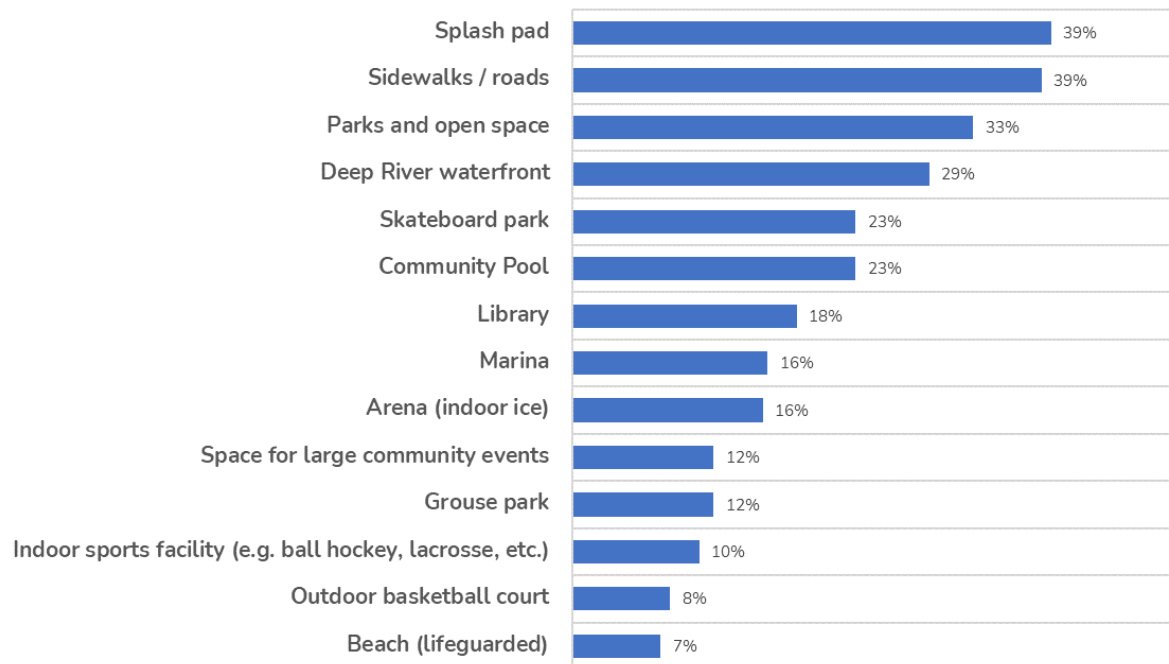
Question 7: What is your level of satisfaction with the following recreation and parks facilities within Deep River?

How satisfied are you with these recreation and parks facilities?



Question 8: What are the top three (3) new or existing facilities you think the Town should invest in?

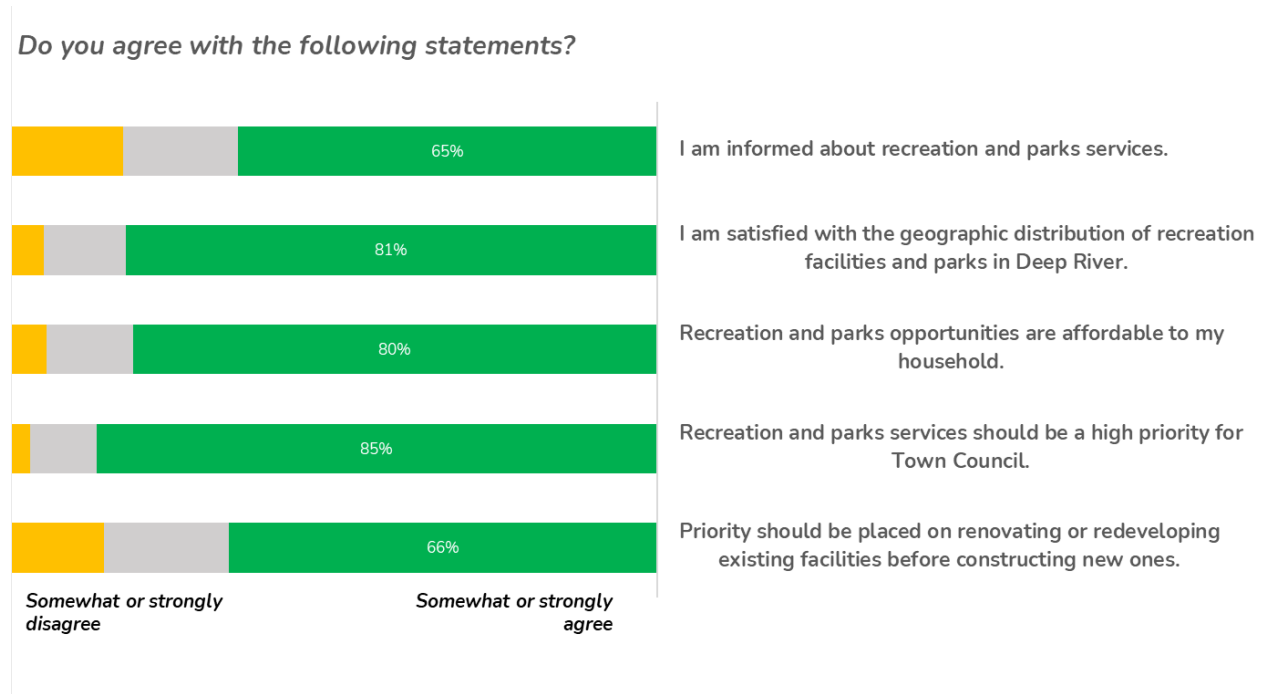
Top three facilities the Town should invest in:



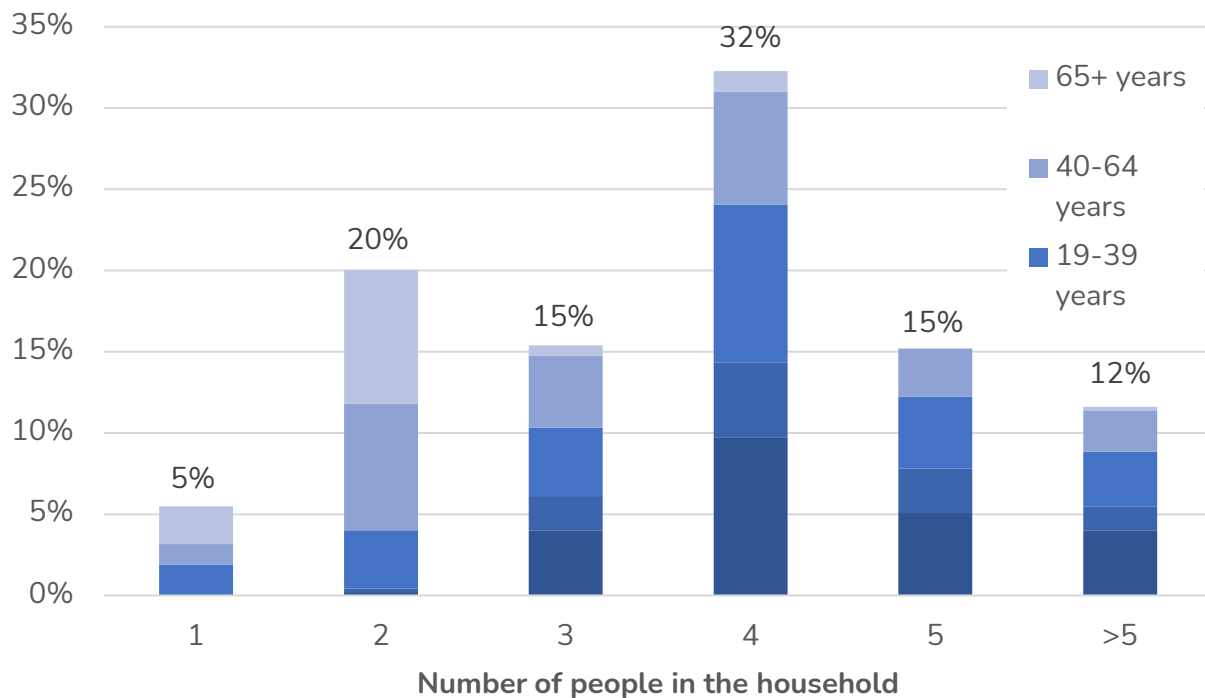
Comments: In addition to the above, many responses included suggestions to invest in the following:

- Bike and Skateboard park
- Dog park
- Camping facilities
- Improved accessibility at current facilities
- Improvements at Bill Rounding Park
- Skating trail and outdoor ice at Grouse Park
- Community gym, including indoor walking track
- Community centre (multi-purpose use)
- Walking trails (4-season)
- Cultural centre, including dance facilities
- Links to the Algonquin Trail
- Meeting room facilities
- Rock climbing facilities

Question 9: Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about recreation and parks in Deep River.

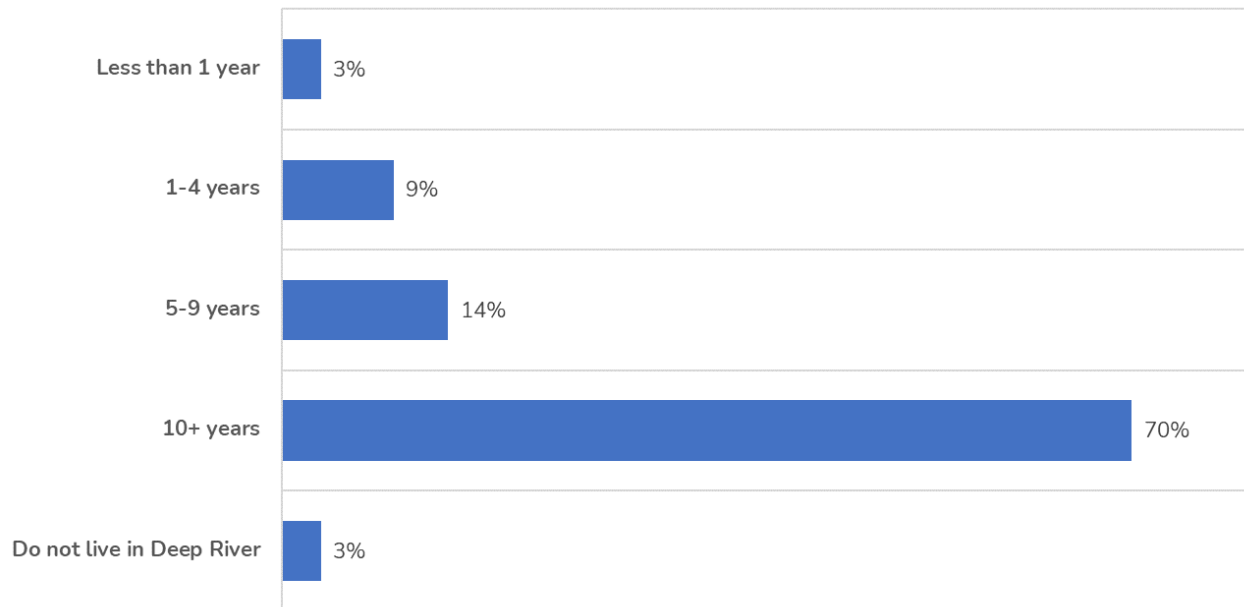


Question 10 and 11: How many people, including yourself, live in your household? Please indicate the total number of persons within your household that fall into the following age categories.



Question 12: How many years have you lived in Deep River?

We have lived in Deep River for:



Question 13: Please let us know if you have any additional feedback or comments.

Summary of additional feedback

- Formalize "informal" camping grounds
- Mini-putt
- Toddler-aged programming
- Arts and cultural programming for younger children
- Accessibility
- Importance of other activities (golf, SUP / kayaks / cycling)
- Tree planting
- Importance of ATV / snowmobiling
- Importance of activities / facilities / gathering areas for teenagers
- Shaded areas at sports fields / playgrounds
- Better use of existing areas (Library basement)
- Importance of working together with community organizations
- Triathlon and other community events (cross-river swim, etc.)
- Timing of children's programs to accommodate parent's working hours
- Importance of east-end and west-end lands for passive recreation
- Paved trails for walking / running / biking / roller-blading
- Dance / gymnastic programming
- Better information (maps, schedules, calendar etc.)