

CITIZEN BUDGET RESULTS

Yellowknife, Northwest Territories

August 2, 2019

Online Budget Consultation Report

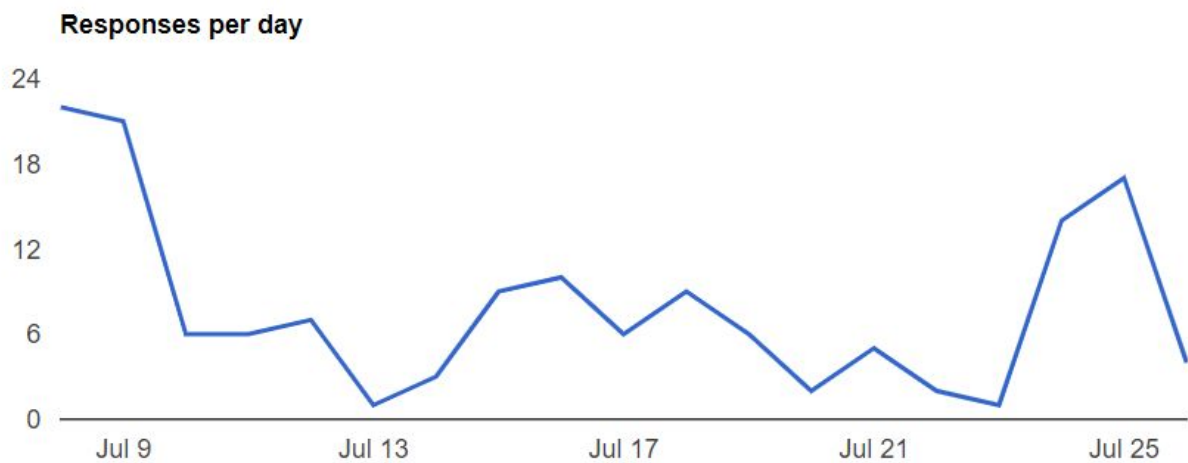
For the period July 8 to July 26, 2019

151

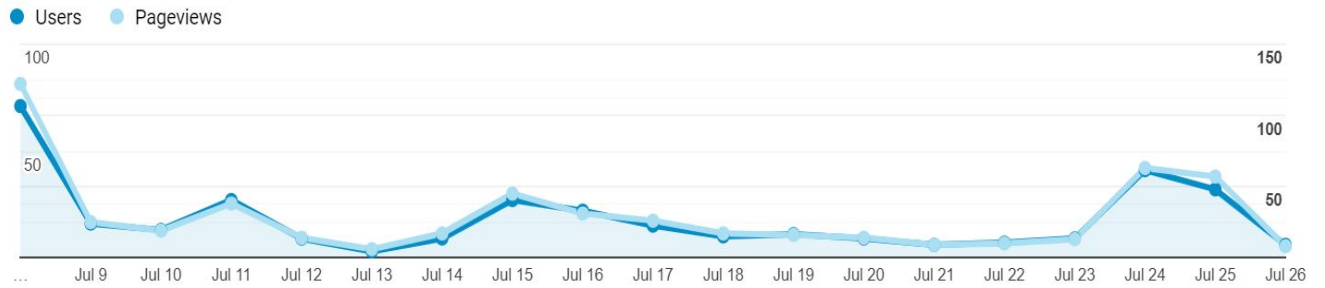
Responses

6 minutes

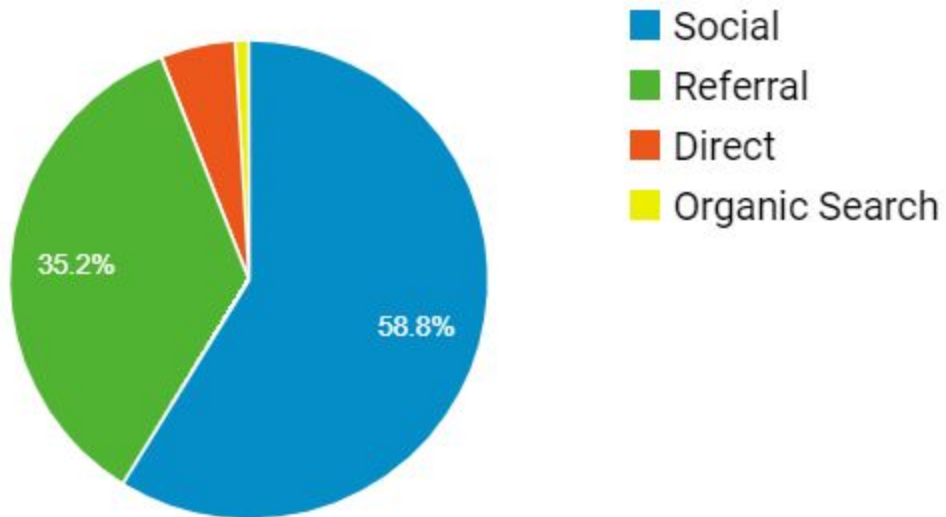
Median time to complete



Total Web visits: 314



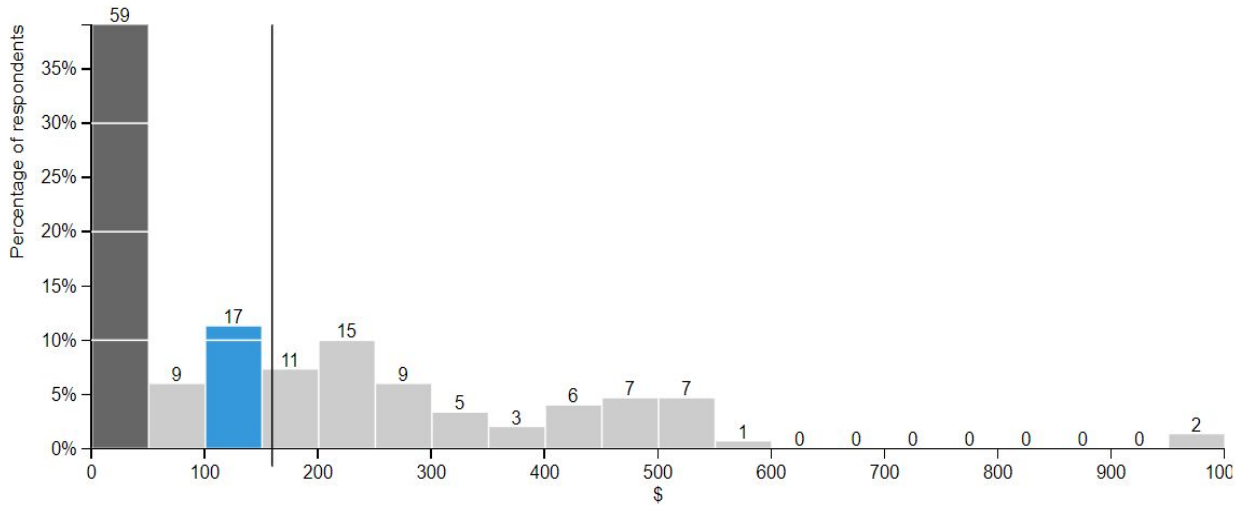
Web Traffic Sources



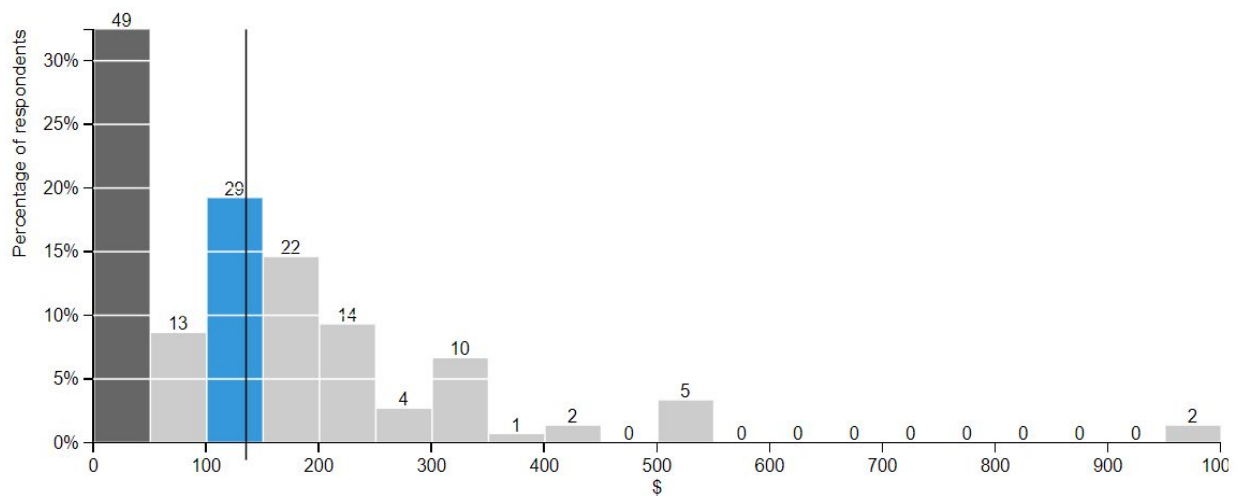
Questions

Funds Allocation

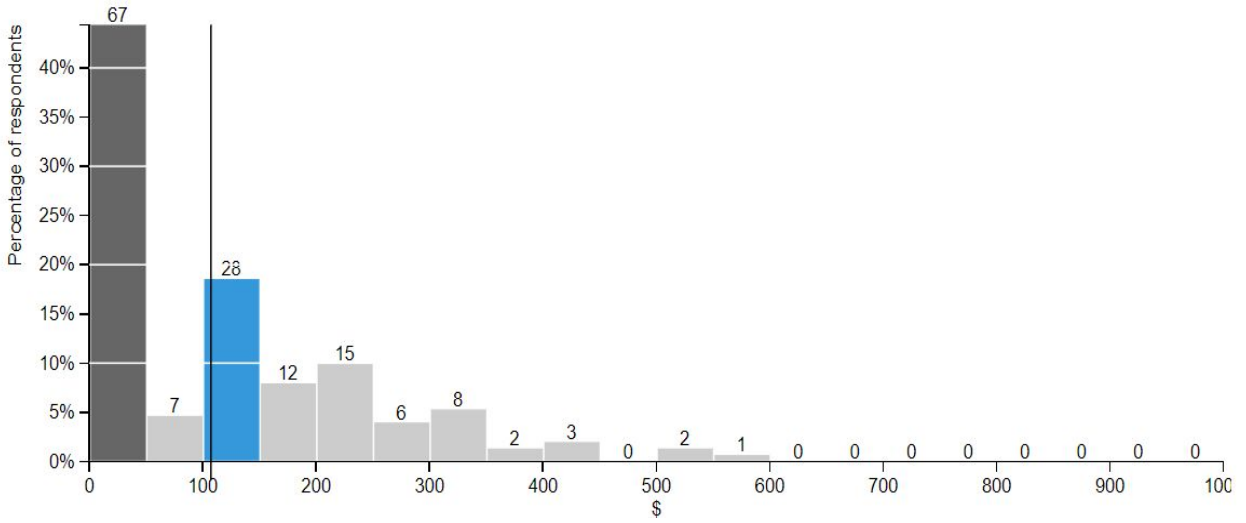
Facilities, Recreation and Special Events



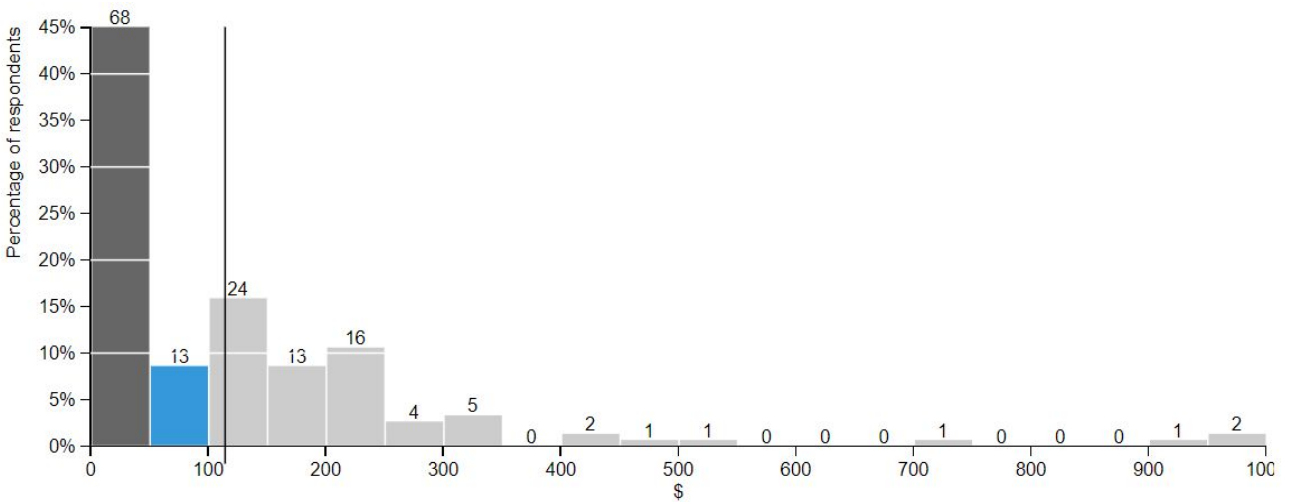
Parks, Trails & Litter



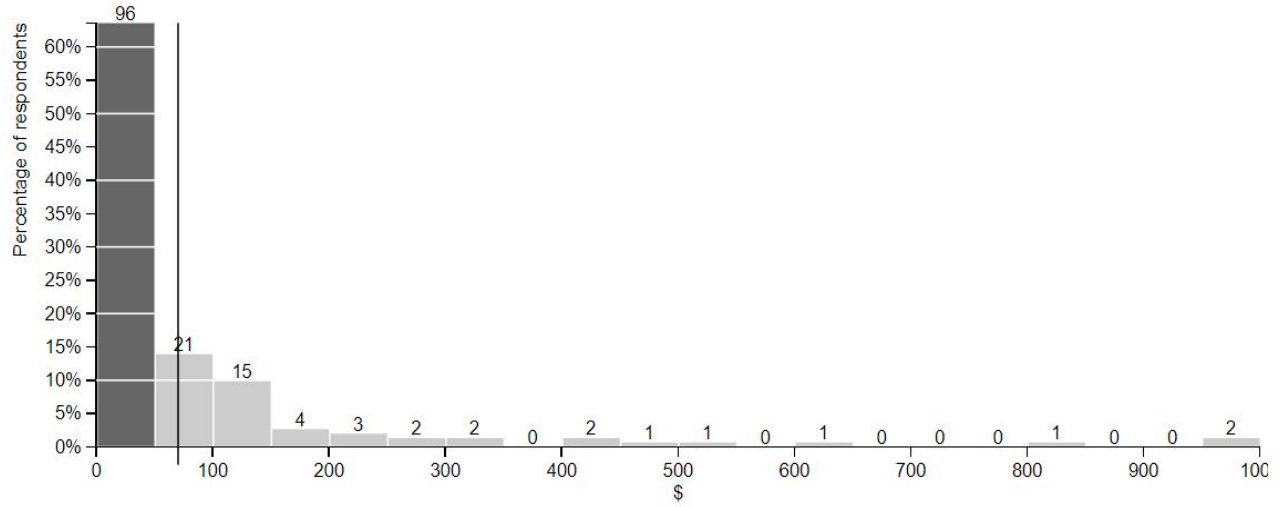
Public Safety



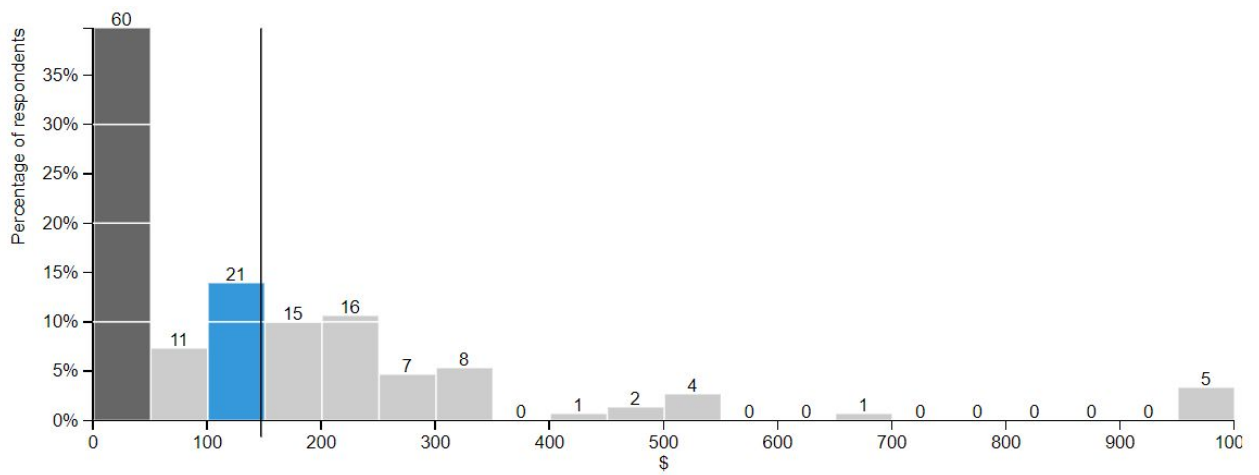
Solid Waste Management



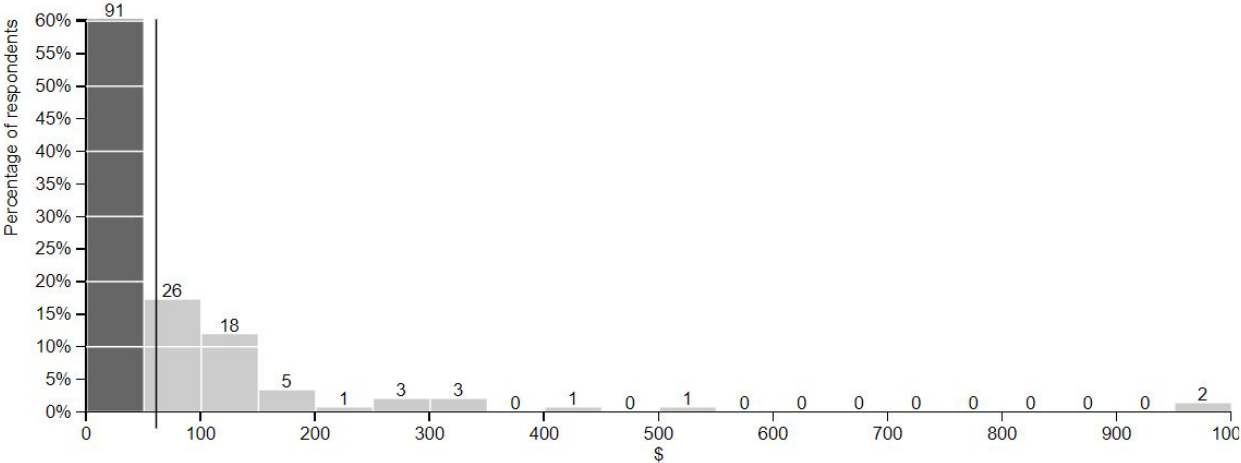
Reconciliation



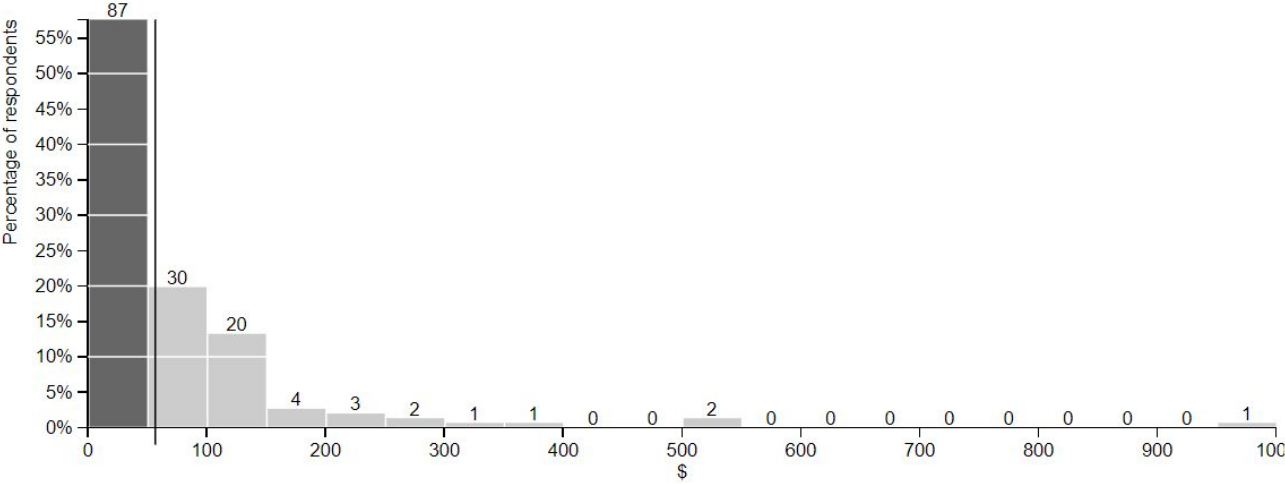
Economic Development



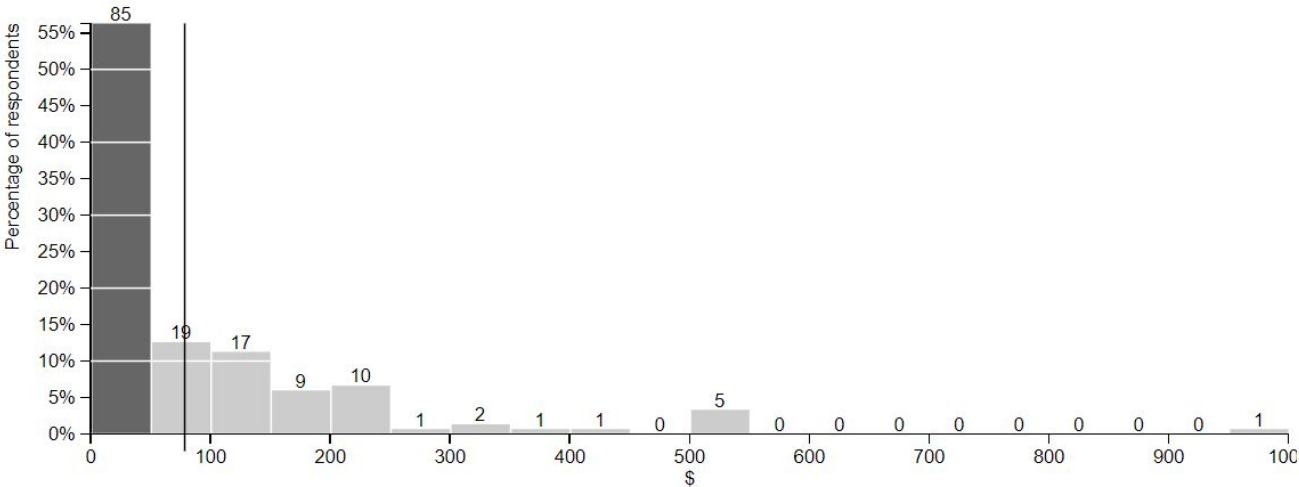
Public Transit



Community Grant Program

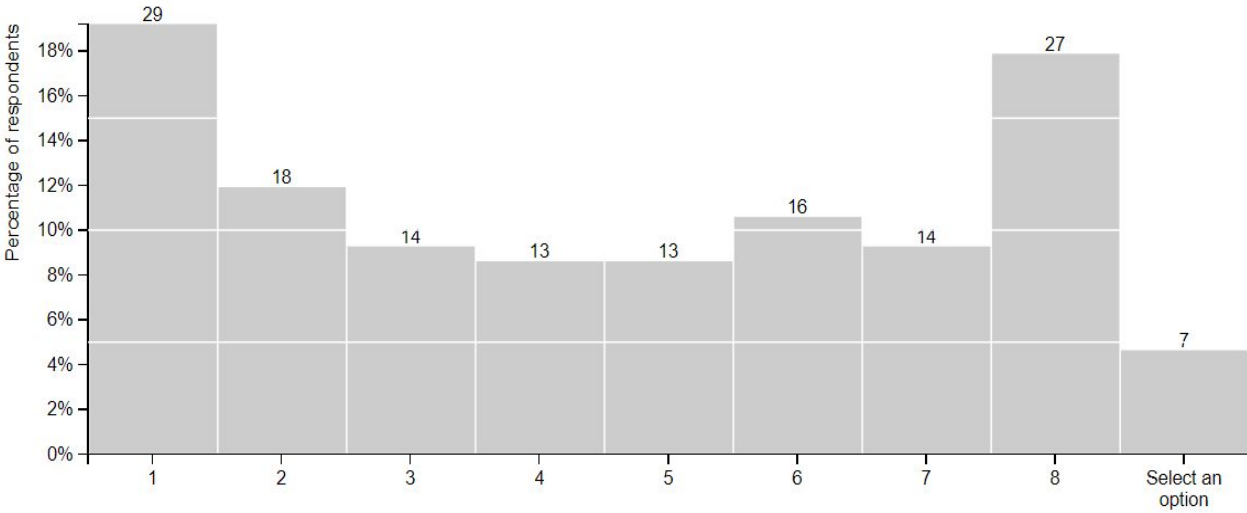


Energy Efficiency Requirements

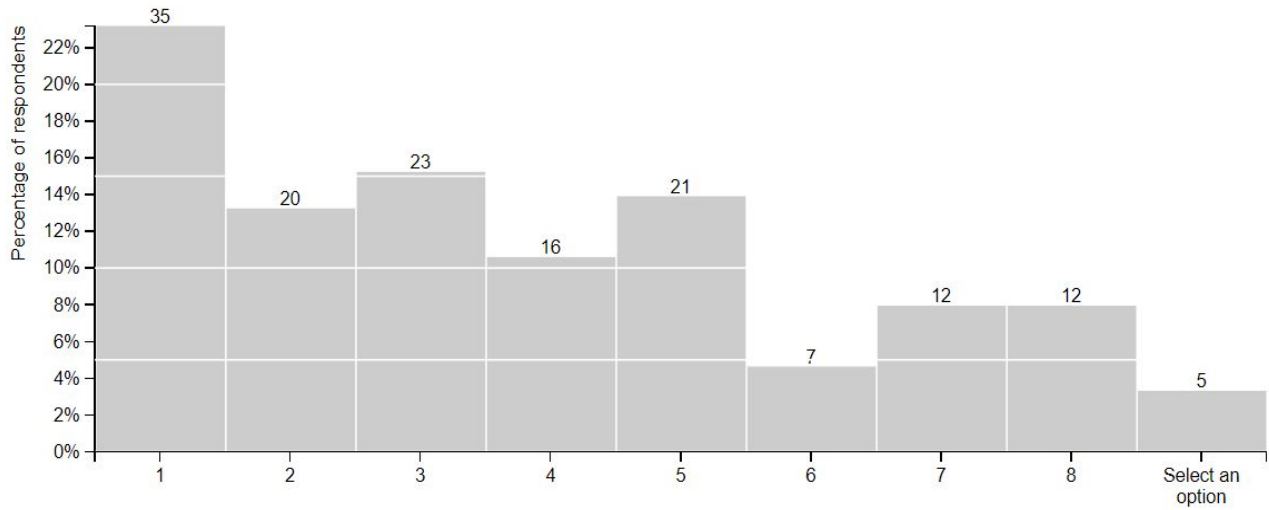


Prioritization of Projects

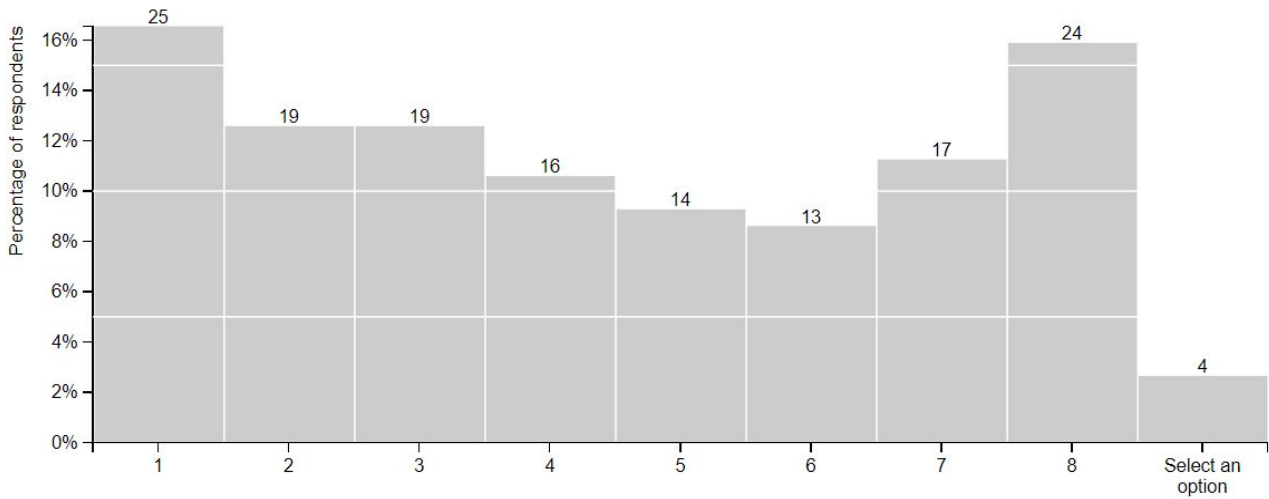
Develop an aquatic center



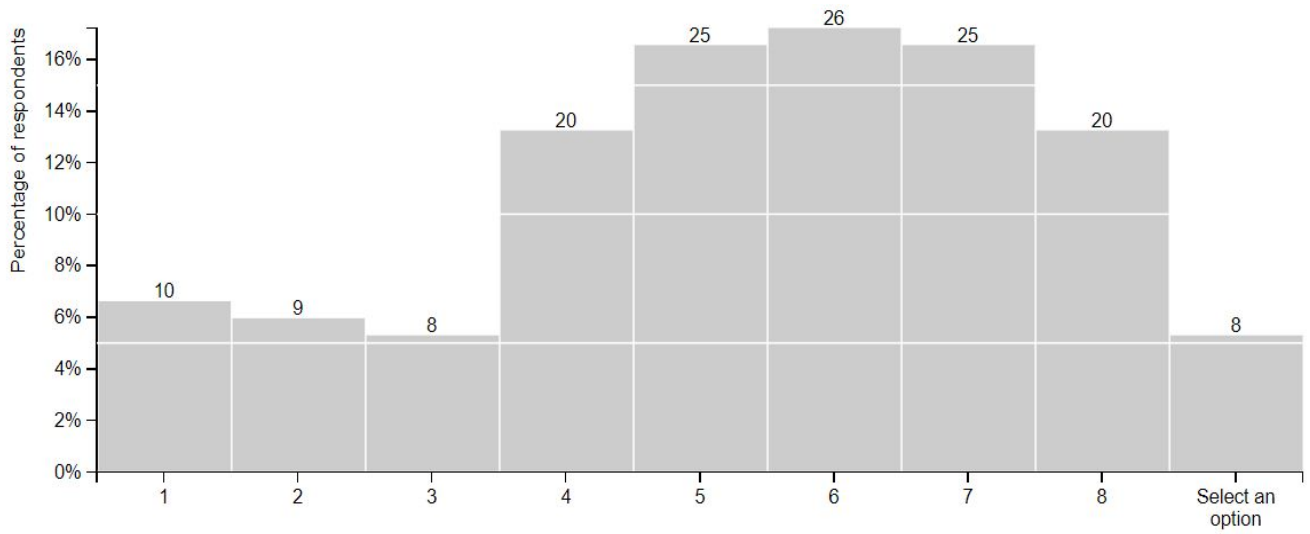
Revitalize downtown



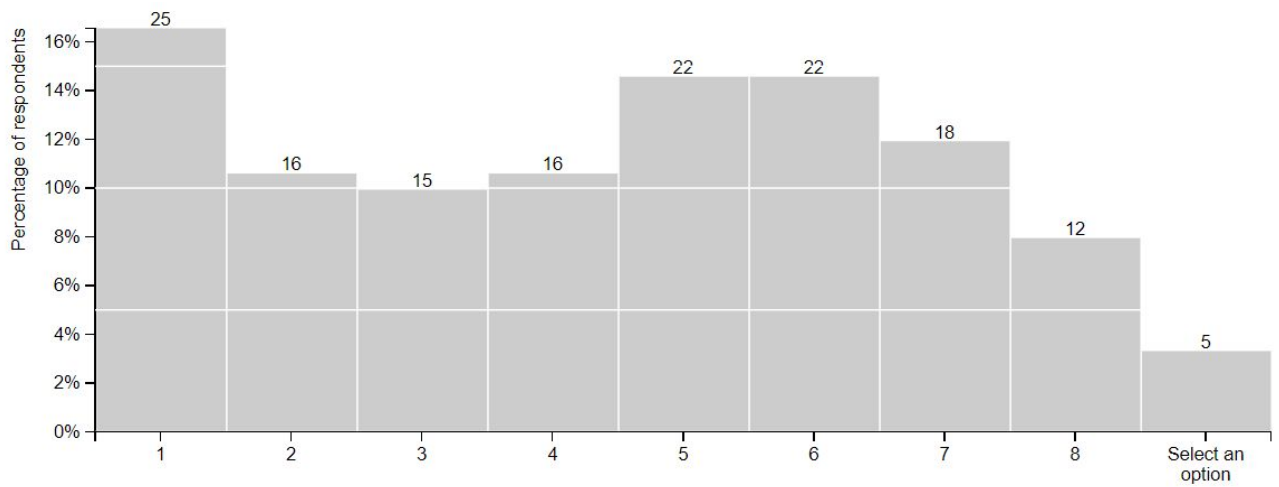
Advocate for a university / post-secondary institution in Yellowknife



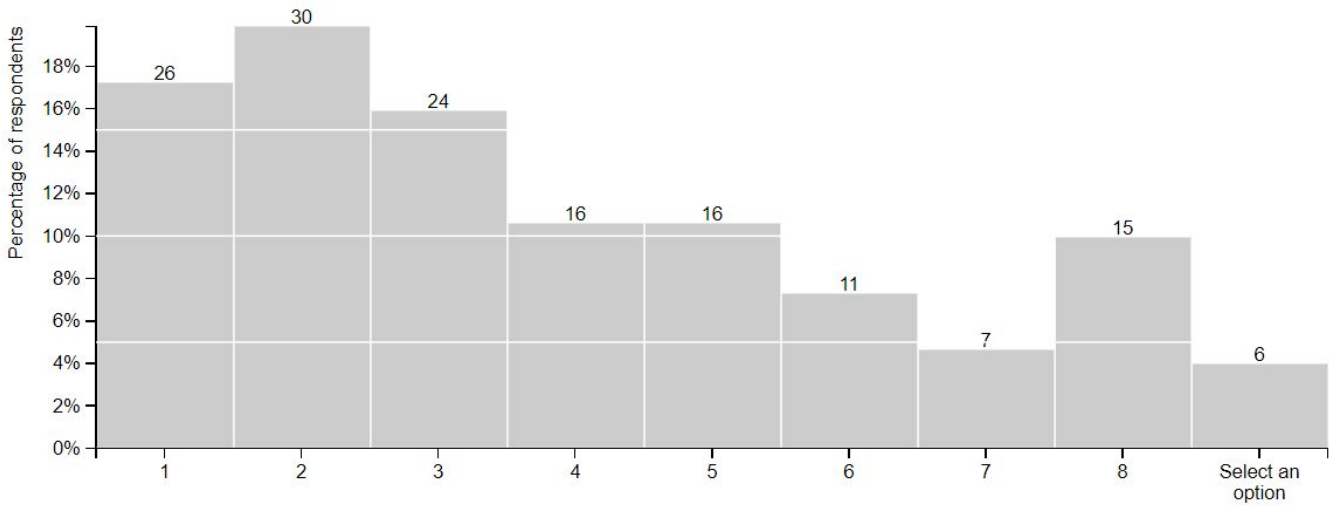
Develop a City of Yellowknife Arts and Culture master plan



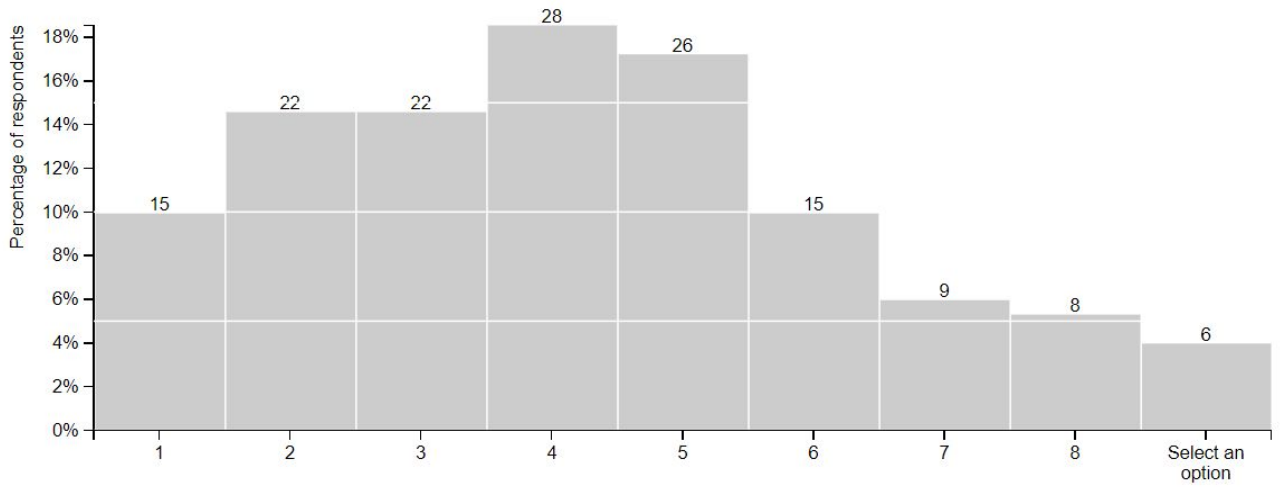
Prepare for climate change adaptation and mitigation



Work with partners to address social issues

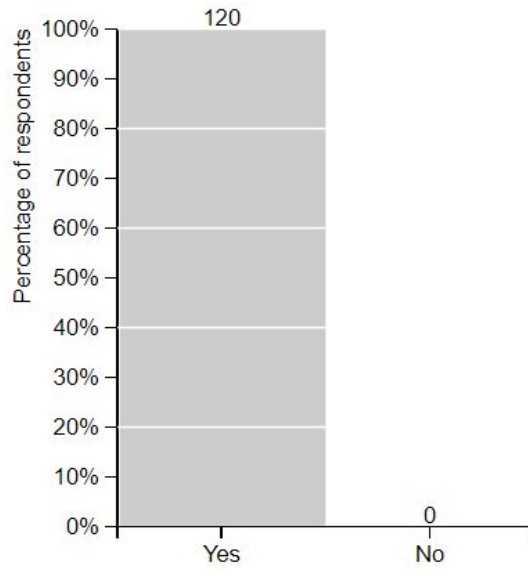


Enhance emergency preparedness (for events such as wildfires, major storms, and power outages)

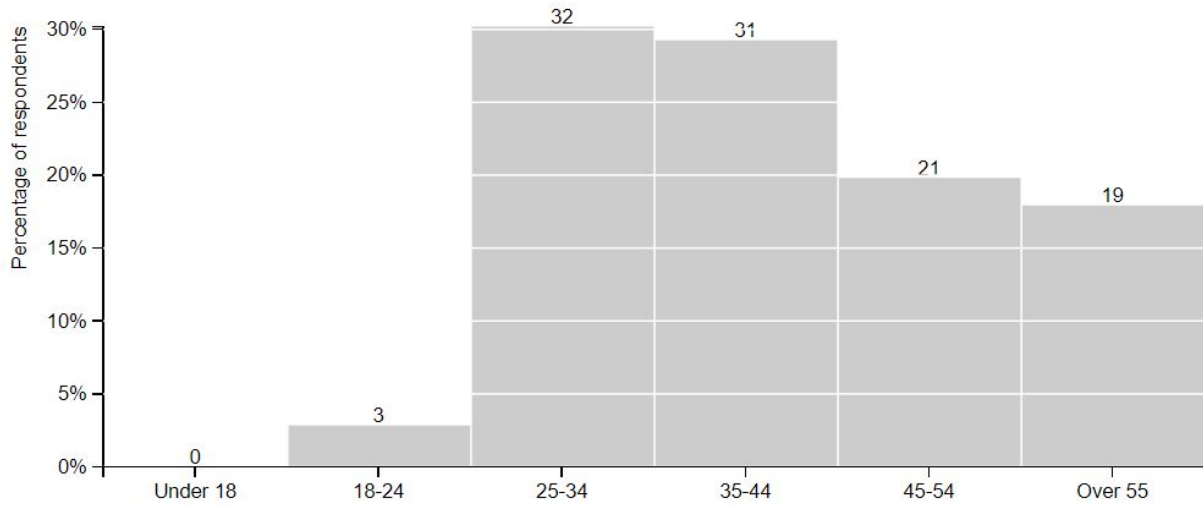


Tell us about yourself (Optional to answer)

Are you a resident of Yellowknife?



Age



Comments:

Funds Allocation-Other:

Is there another initiative you would like the City to allocate more or fewer resources to? If so, please describe it.

New library!
The money allocated to Parks, Trails and Litter - I would like to see more trails and off-leash areas.
Affordable Housing, Attainable Housing & Homelessness
Pool. We need a new pool
Snow clearing
Landscaping and trimming brush and trees. The trees that were planted a few years ago now look overgrown, dead or sloppy. It also acts a a hiding spot for mosquitoes. Also, please plant trees in a straight line. They look like they've been plopped down any where, too close together, under power lines, too close to poles. No thought in how the tree will look when it grows. Also, too many birch trees that aggravate my allergies. Please plant evergreens instead.
More resources allocated to becoming a sustainable city a minimizing our carbon emissions, energy efficiency and public transit are a good start to this but moving off of fossil fuels is important in all areas.
More resources for Access to Alternative energy for all residents
More money for Homelessness and Outreach Programs!
Immediate reduction of plastic waste into Yellowknife
More on snow cleaning, every winter month
Give the 1,000 to the SPCA
Where the city has street scaping there should be maintenance. Many areas have dead bushes and weeds for example 52nd Street by the movie theatre and down to city hall on both sides of the street. Also with regard to Parks Trails and Litter - there is mention of 30 butt bins. It is hard to imagine that there are 30 of these left. I would spend the extra \$500 that I have to allocate to the butt bins and tree grates. Most of the butt bins have been removed all up and down Franklin in the downtown. I would like to see funding going to hiring or training current staff in horticulture. Also, the tree grates were to be replaced in the downtown to be the ones with the much smaller holes so that trash and butts can be minimized. New ones were promised by Mr. Hurley on more than one occasion.
How about you spend those resources on getting the GNWT (not the city) to address the problem of homelessness, drunkenness, drug addition and other social issues affecting the city. I feel this is the biggest problem that faces Yellowknife today and simply have to be addressed before you consider throwing away more of the taxpayers money on these side issues.
I have money left to spend. I'm not spending it, and I wish the City would consider not spending money either. Unless it was for a tourism centre so that the poor tourists who spend a lot of money to come here dont have to wander aimlessly around downtown

Sell surplus land and do not purchase anymore useless land. Build a standalone library. Do not help the GNWT create non sensical solutions to the addiction epidemic plaguing this city, force their hand to build a proper treatment centre. Lower property taxes for businesses downtown, especially those in hospitality and tourism. Implement a vacancy tax on multi unit landlords

New accessible trails

-52nd St to School Draw

-Legislative Assembly to Co-op corner

I'm disappointed not seeing public drunkenness, harassment or violence mentioned in the Public Safety portion. I would allocate my full \$1000 to making downtown safe again.

Support for vulnerable populations, including: increase in support for shelters; safe drinking and injection sites; counselling and support programs.

I feel like a certain percentage of the budget should always be automatically set aside for essential services - water/sewer/winter road maintenance/emergency services.

And then the rest of your budget is what you have to work with for everything else

children need an indoor park to play, not just for tots. for winter season. they only offer sports programs and swimming.

Climate action through Innovation - 50

Roads sewer water

Reduce user fees

cut city hall staff number

reduce the size of council

make the mayor position part time 20K people don't need a full time mayor

- extend bus routes to include Con Place and Rycon Place

- expand garbage pickup to include recycling pick up days for box board, plastics, tins, glass

- reduce overall trucked water and sewer with more piped services

- commercial and public boat marina

Re:roads. Pay a bit of attention to very busy Range Lk Rd. with 2 schools. 1) Intersection at OAR has worsening dips 2) signs both sides Monkey Tree to Woolgar need to be moved away from road to allow ploughing in winter. People must walk on the road now. 3) missing 200m of sidewalk on N side from Williams Ave to across from NJ School. 4) fix buttons on crosswalk signal at Woolgar at St. Joe's. Must be pushed precisely or they don't work or shut off. Hard for young students to get them to work consistently. Did I mention the 2 schools?

Climate change should be a top priority, because without a safe place to live, nothing else matters.

Climate change adaption and resilience. Arts and theater There should be an art gallery in Yellowknife. And the visitor centre should be re-built.

Prioritization of Projects-Other:

New library
Invest in a city wide recycling system. Lack of recycling in yellowknife is shameful. Apartment and condo buildings shoul have mandatory recycling bins and residents should have recycling pick up.
public transit
dangerous dogs/pets
Cut red tape and waste
Begin to retrofit current buildings with sustainable energy resources for heating and power. Organize tree planting campaigns and green up communities and their surroundings
Access to alternative energy
Enhance water access for residents
Improved public transit service
Snow cleaning every winter month
need a rehab center.
Enhance the clean sweep program
Very few of the options are important to me. I'd like a great tourism centre that's easily accessible for visitors and support for tour operators. I'd like to see the City support Snowking and Long John Jamboree more and build tourism. I'd like our downtown and Walmart area kept clean. I'd like the City to plants more trees and help homeowners plant trees, with a minor focus in the "new" trailer subdivision beside the jail. I'd like to feel safe walking my little dog and not fear unleashed bigger dogs attacking us.
advance tourism Opportunities
Downtown core realignment
Extend multi-use trail network
Marina/GSL Access for boats
Hybrid Vehicles
Climate ACTION to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
Reconciliation
Downtown again
Get on with fixing the waterline to the river
Run/improve municipal services. Small things go unfixed forever.
Look at more efficient ways to direct the flow of traffic in the city of Yellowknife (roundabouts, relief road for old airport...))

Additional Comments/Suggestions:

Use the space below to provide any feedback not previously mentioned that you have on the City budget or the simulated budget exercise.

waterfront parks for public use is really lacking in Yellowknife knowing how much potential Yellowknife has.

Under Prioritization of Projects section, I selected work with partners to address social issues #1; however, I understand social issues are not under the City's mandate and are a responsibility of the GNWT. I think it is important to keep pressuring the GNWT to address social issues.

Yellowknife residents are feeling unsafe downtown. More should be done to monitor and keep drunk people off the streets.

Pool, please a new pool!!! And our sidewalks are pretty bad

This sliding bar total of 1k is not the most intuitive and doesn't show you a running total on a cell phone. I would suggest a more approachable and simplified approach.

The city needs to address violence and general discomfort for downtown residents. Personal safety and property damage are major concerns. I'd like to see the city making downtown more pleasant and safe. Please budget for additional enforcement support.

I couldn't provide an other option for priority. My priority would be to start planning for a new public library in conjunction with downtown revitalization and a post secondary institute.

More emphasis on safe walking and cycling infrastructure in the city. Safer pedestrian crossings and separated bicycle lanes on main roads such as Franklin Avenue.

Immediately reduce plastic intake by creating bylaws to address ALL businesses, specifically food services

Make the fieldhouse free with unlimited access

Have direct access doors from outside

Members to insulate

The City already has several features that could be part of an Anti-poverty strategy. This should be added to the budget.

The clean sweep program is excellent. This program should be maintained and enhanced so that more persons who are wanting to participate could do so. Replacement of the butt bins. The downtown kiosks as of July 12th had the old posters removed but no one bothered to remove the old staples and bits of paper. They also need to be repainted. Bylaw need to be more proactive in dealing with downtown messes. These sorts of things should not have to be reported all the time on Click and Fix in order to get any action. Some sort of emergency life saving equipment should be available at the city hall park. There are many small children who frequent the park and there is water that is deep enough for a small child to run into problems if they fell in. I would like to see the washroom at the park open for longer hours both winter and summer.

I wish the city would really look into a better plan for a new pool, the current pool is cold the hours aren't great and there are ants every where. The change rooms smell and we really need a family change room. I'm disappointed as a born and raised Yellowknife as are my kids that they ask to go to Hay River and further south to go swimming when as a capital city we could have a beautiful facility if things were planned out better ! I don't know why we don't have a combined multi use building that could contain a new pool and even another ice surface

I would love to see a new library.

Develop trail systems

Nothing more just use most of the money to clean up the city and roads, fix the roads, clean up garbage. Climate change is going to take over our world, it already has we as a community can help to stop it! Let's make this our biggest priority. We also need to fix our roads which will not only make our own citizens happy that they don't have to always get their vehicles suspension and other parts fixed but also tourists who bring their own vehicles or rent. Let's show them that we are a clean well taken care of city!

A university should not be a priority for a city of 20,000 with a service area of under 40,000. We have a downtown that needs help. Our focus should be both the people that spend their time there as well as the physical spaces. I want my tax dollars to go to "downtown" as well as recreation facilities and parks/trails as it is challenging to be active at times in Yellowknife. I do not want any of my tax dollars to go to a university in Yellowknife, I think it is a bad idea and will be a money pit.(and I have 4 children who I hope all attend university)

The city needs to refocus on its core business, sewer water garbage, roads and the dump
The city should be ashamed of itself for being dishonest to its residents putting fake buttons on crosswalks, pretending to recycle. Driving empty garbage trucks around town while residents waste gas and time taking recycling to the bins around town so that the city can drive another truck to take it and dump it in the dump it is shameful. What other lies are going on? Are you really treating the drinking water is it actually safe? are the radar guns at bylaw calibrated high so that they can trap and tax more residents? Is an hour at the parking meters really an hour or is it calibrated to 55 minutes.....are the property assessments and mill rate calculations a scam too? If you cant trust city hall who can you trust. Should shut the whole place down and turn it over to the GNWT to run.

Ignore the United Nations, they are a group of un-elected, elitist, globalists and should have absolutely no say at all how our local governments operate. NONE! Identity politics needs to end immediately.

Do not cheep out on the pool spend now and do it right the first time. This facility will be all we have for the next 50 years so spend to do it right.

We need a Green New Deal at the city level in Yellowknife. 85 Yellowknifers attended a citizen-led Green New Deal town hall in May 2019 and generated excellent ideas that will be published in a report. Learn more about what people across Canada said about a Green New Deal: <https://act.greennewdealcanada.ca/what-we-heard/>

The downtown core is an unusable wasteland that needs to be taken back for the citizens of this city. Deal with the homeless, the intoxicated and the violence that occurs daily there so normal citizens can feel comfortable in their own city

I do not like that Facilities & Recreation is lumped in with Special Events. I'd like to see the facilities maintained and upgraded but I have no time for funds being wasted on special events.

We need a Green New Deal at the municipal level in accordance with this document:
<https://canadians.org/sites/default/files/publications/greennewdeal-guide.pdf>

Need green new deal at city level