



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

FACILITIES STRATEGIC USE STUDY

ENGAGEMENT ROUND 1

ENGAGEMENT REPORT

CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

July 8, 2026

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Executive Summary

The City of Yellowknife engaged Stantec Architecture Ltd. to complete a Facilities Strategic Use Study for six City facilities: City Hall, the Public Library, the Visitor Centre, the Mine Rescue Building, the Wildcat Café, and the Ruth Inch Memorial Pool. Engagement Round 1 gathered input from City staff, interested and impacted parties, and community members to understand current facility use, key challenges, and opportunities to better support community needs over the long term.

Engagement included targeted one-on-one meetings, a public open house, a booth at the Yellowknife Spring Tradeshaw, and an online survey that received 551 responses. Across these activities, participants emphasized that future facility decisions should prioritize safety, comfort, accessibility, affordability, flexibility, and long-term sustainability. Safety, parking, visibility, wayfinding, and ease of access were recurring considerations, particularly for the Public Library and Visitor Centre.

Much of the feedback received related to the Public Library and Ruth Inch Memorial Pool. While the library's staff, programs, and services are highly valued, participants identified the current location as a barrier to use due to safety, parking and accessibility constraints. The Ruth Inch Memorial Pool was identified as a potential reuse opportunity because of its central location, parking, trail connections, visibility, and proximity to other recreation facilities.

Participants also expressed interest in flexible, multi-use facilities that can support arts and culture, youth and family programming, intergenerational activities, community gathering, and low-cost public access. Facility-specific feedback supported the need to balance community priorities with operational realities, including facility conditions, service delivery needs, cost, maintenance, and long-term sustainability. Findings from Engagement Round 1 will inform draft future-use concepts, which will be shared for review and feedback during Engagement Round 2 before options are refined for City Council consideration.

Introduction

In early 2026, the City of Yellowknife (City) engaged Stantec Architecture Ltd. (Stantec) to undertake a Facilities Strategic Use Study for six City facilities. The study explores how these facilities are used today and how they could better serve the community in the future.

This document is the Engagement Round 1 Report. Its purpose is to summarize what was heard through early engagement with City staff, interested and impacted parties, and community members. The feedback captured here will inform the development of draft future-use concepts in the next phase of the study.

STUDY CONTEXT AND FACILITIES

The Facilities Strategic Use Study includes the following City facilities:



The City owns City Hall, the Public Library space, the Mine Rescue Building, the Wildcat Café, and the Ruth Inch Memorial Pool. The Visitor Centre operates in leased space within Centre Square Mall.

ENGAGEMENT ROUND 1

Purpose

Engagement Round 1 focused on listening. The City and project team gathered community input to better understand:

- How the six facilities are used today
- What is working well
- Where challenges and opportunities exist

The intent of this project is to learn how City-owned facilities can better support Yellowknife's current and future community needs. Engagement was designed to support the City's Public Engagement Framework. Engagement Round 1 aligns with the "Consult" level of the IAP2 Spectrum which seeks community feedback to help inform the next phase of the study.

Who was engaged



- City of Yellowknife staff
- Interested and impacted parties identified by the City
- Community members

How engagement was carried out



- **City staff**
 - Engaged through 1-on-1 meetings
 - Focused on operations, service delivery, and facility needs
- **Interested and impacted parties**
 - Engaged through 1-on-1 meetings
 - Focused on space needs, access, safety, and booking challenges
- **Community members**
 - Engaged through an online survey, public open house, and tradeshow booth
 - Focused on current use, future needs, and community priorities

Work completed to date

Engagement Round 1 was informed by earlier technical work, including:

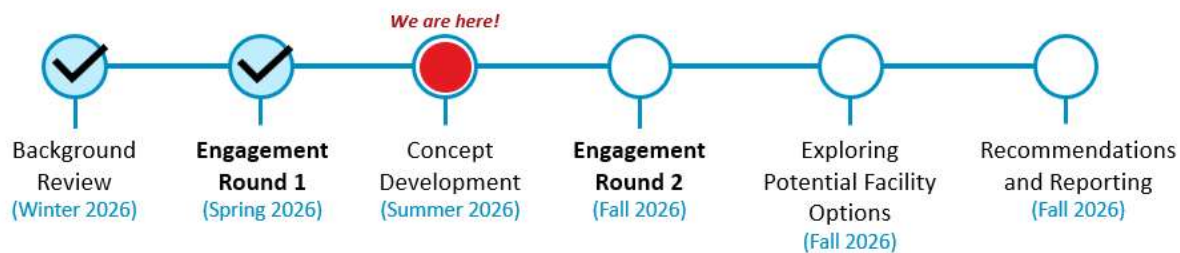
- Functional Assessment and Space Optimization Study for City Hall (2024)
- Building Condition Assessment for the Ruth Inch Memorial Pool (2024)

This background work helped frame discussions during engagement and provided context for understanding opportunities and constraints.

Engagement Overview

TIMELINE

The Facilities Strategic Use Study is being completed in 6 phases.



Phase 1: Background Review (Winter 2026)

- Reviewed relevant documents and completed preliminary site visits
- Assessed the current physical condition and operations of the six facilities

Phase 2: Engagement Round 1 (Spring 2026)

- Gathered input from City staff, interested and impacted parties, and the public
- Focused on current use, what is working well, and future needs
- Findings from this phase are summarized in this What We Heard report

Phase 3: Concept Development (Summer 2026)

- Feedback from City staff, interested and impacted parties, and community members will be reviewed and considered as draft concepts are developed

Phase 4: Engagement Round 2 (Fall 2026)

- Engagement Round 2 is anticipated for fall 2026
- Format and intent of this phase is currently being developed and will be refined and shared as the project progresses

Phase 5: Exploring Potential Facility Options (Fall 2026)

- Refine and compare options for how facilities could be used, shared, consolidated, or adapted

Phase 6: Recommendations and Reporting (Fall 2026)

- Finalize preferred concepts
- Prepare a report and presentation for City Council

Engagement Activity Details

Engagement Round 1 gathered input from City staff, stakeholders, and community members to understand how the City's six facilities are used today and how they could better serve the community in the future. The engagement approach combined targeted discussions with those who manage and use the facilities with opportunities for broad public participation.

Across all activities, input focused on:

- How facilities are currently used
- Operational and service needs
- Community priorities
- Opportunities and constraints that may shape future use

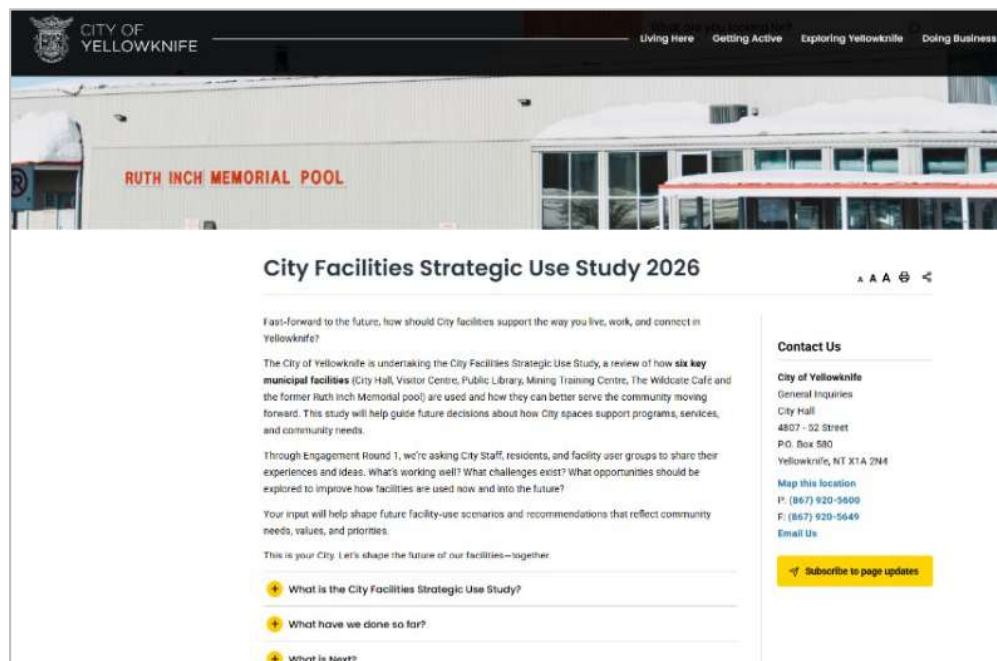
The following sections describe each engagement activity in detail.

Project Website

A project website was launched on the City's online platform to provide information about the project and engagement opportunities. The site included:

- Background information on the Facilities Strategic Use Study
- Details about in-person engagement events
- A link to the public survey

Community members could also subscribe to the website to receive project updates. Subscribers are notified by email when new information is posted.



City Staff Meetings

Targeted one-on-one meetings were held with City staff to understand operational needs, service delivery requirements, and facility-related challenges and opportunities.

- 7 one-on-one meetings with City department leads
- 2 one-on-one meetings with the Public Library and Visitor Centre service leads

City departments engaged included:

- Community Services
- Economic Opportunities, Investments and Partnerships
- Finance
- Governance and Corporate Services
- Planning and Development
- Protective Services
- Public Works and Engineering
- Library Services
- Visitor Centre Services

Interested and Impacted Party Meetings

One-on-one meetings were also held with identified interested and impacted parties to understand organizational space needs, access and booking challenges, and future opportunities. The presentation accompanied with these meetings can be found in Appendix E.

- 9 one-on-one meetings in total
- 6 meetings held in person at the ATCO Aquatic Centre
- 3 meetings held virtually using Microsoft Teams

Organizations invited to participate included:

- City of Yellowknife Heritage Committee
- Holloway Lodging Corporation (Upper Mall Owners)
- HomeBase Yellowknife
- Northern Arts and Cultural Centre (NACC)
- NWT Art Centre Initiative
- NWT Literacy Council
- NWT Tourism
- Yellowknife Centre for The Performing Arts (YKCPA) Working Group
- Yellowknife Community Foundation
- Western Arctic Moving Pictures*
- Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce*
- NWT and Nunavut Chamber of Mines*

*Organizations marked with an asterisk were identified by the City but were not able to be reached or were unable to participate in this round of engagement.

Open House and Tradeshow Booth

In-person engagement events provided opportunities for community members to learn about the project, ask questions, and share feedback directly with City staff and the project team. Notice of Engagement PDFs were available at these events and it can be found in Appendix A.

Project Open House

- Hosted by Stantec and City staff at the Multiplex DND Gym, 41 Kam Lake Road
- April 30, 2026, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
- 24 attendees, including youth, residents, business owners, and community organization representatives
- Paper copies of the survey were available

Yellowknife Spring Tradeshow Booth

- City booth at the Multiplex, 41 Kam Lake Road
- May 9, 2026 (10:00 am to 5:00 pm) and May 10, 2026 (10:00 am to 4:00 pm)
- Shared project information and directed participants to the public survey
- Paper copies of the survey were available



Images shown above were taken at the project open house held on April 30th, 2026.

Project Survey

The project survey provided an additional way for community members to share feedback on current and future use of the City's six facilities. The project survey results can be found in Appendix B. The survey PDF can be found in Appendix C.

Survey details

- Open from April 27 to May 11, 2026
- 551 responses received
- 21 questions, including multiple-choice, ranking, and open-comment formats
- Available online through the City of Yellowknife website
- Promoted in person through QR codes and paper copies at engagement events

City of Yellowknife Facility Strategic Use Study Survey

Project Background

How do you use City facilities—and how could they work better for you?

The City of Yellowknife is taking a closer look at how some of its most familiar public buildings are used today and how they can best support residents into the future. This City Facilities Strategic Use Study focuses on understanding what's working well, what challenges people experience, and where there may be opportunities to improve services, programs, and long-term sustainability.

This survey is the first step in gathering community input. Your responses will help the City understand how these facilities fit into day-to-day life and will directly inform future options and recommendations.

 **Estimated time to complete:** 6 minutes

 **Survey closes:** May 11th, 2026

Why is the City doing this study?

The City is undertaking this study to:

- Better understand how public facilities are currently used by the community
- Identify challenges, gaps, and opportunities for improvement
- Plan for changing community needs and future growth
- Support long-term financial and operational sustainability
- Use public input to guide future decisions about City facilities
- Explore opportunities to improve, re-program, or repurpose existing buildings where appropriate

What facilities are included in this study?

This project will focus on six facilities included in the City Facilities Strategic Use Study, including:



What We Heard

This section summarizes feedback from Engagement Round 1 of the Facility Strategic Use Study. Input was gathered through one-on-one meetings, the public open house and trade show booth conversations, and the online survey.

- Themes are influenced by all engagement input, including written and verbal feedback
- Key themes highlight common perspectives and do not represent every individual view or the view of the City

KEY THEMES

Feedback from Engagement Round 1 highlighted several consistent key themes related to how City facilities are used today and how they can better support the community in the future. The key themes include:

Safety and Comfort Drive Use

- Safety and comfort influence whether people use City facilities
- Safety concerns were raised most often for the Public Library and Visitor Centre
- Families, children, and staff safety were frequently emphasized
- Participants said they avoid facilities that feel unsafe, regardless of programming quality

Support for Relocating the Library

- 82% of survey respondents supported considering relocation of the Public Library
- Key issues with the current location include:
 - Safety and comfort
 - Limited parking
 - Accessibility constraints
- Participants noted that programming and staff are welcoming and helpful, but the location and the above listed issues tend to limit use

Ruth Inch Memorial Pool presents an opportunity for facility reuse

- Participants view the pool as a potential site for reuse
- The most supported future uses were:
 - A new home for the Public Library
 - Arts and culture space
 - Community and / or recreation uses
- The site's central location, parking, trail access, and proximity to other recreation facilities were repeatedly highlighted as an opportunity
- There is interest in timely reuse and frustration with ongoing vacancy

Demand for arts, culture, and gathering space

- A lack of dedicated arts and cultural space was raised across engagement activities
- Participants identified a need for:
 - Performing arts and rehearsal space
 - Flexible community gathering and event space
 - Office or shared spaces for non-profits
- Participants noted that existing indoor space options are limited, costly, or difficult to book

Preference for multi-use, flexible facilities

- Participants supported multi-use and co-located facilities
- Flexibility was seen as key to:
 - Serving multiple age groups
 - Supporting diverse programs
 - Improving efficiency and access
- Participants expressed interest in facilities that function as community hubs rather than single-purpose buildings

Parking, access, and visibility matter

- Parking was frequently cited as a challenge for those accessing the Library and Visitor Centre
- Participants also noted:
 - The importance of clear wayfinding and signage
 - The need for facilities to be visible, welcoming, and easy to find

Affordability and long-term costs are top of mind

- Participants suggested the City to be mindful of long-term operating and maintenance costs
- Affordability and low-cost public access ranked as a top future priority in the survey
- Participants wondered about City ownership of certain facilities long-term, particularly where use is seasonal or limited
- Overall, feedback emphasized doing more with existing assets rather than creating new facilities

FACILITY-SPECIFIC FEEDBACK

City Hall



How it is used today

- Access City services and transactions (e.g., paying bills, purchasing transit passes, submitting forms, and attending meetings)
- Use Somba K'e Park for daily and seasonal activities (e.g., walking, lunch breaks, markets, skating, and holiday events)

What is working well

- Somba K'e Park is widely used as a flexible public space
- The park supports informal gathering and community events throughout the year

Key themes

- City Hall is seen more as a service destination than a community gathering place
- Better connections between the building and park could support markets, events, and year-round use
- The building is perceived as outdated and may benefit from upgrades

Public Library



How it is used today

- Borrow books and media and access information resources
- Study, read, and use computers and the internet
- Participate in community programs (e.g., children's story times, family programming, and newcomer supports)

What is working well

- The library is valued as an important place for learning and gathering
- Programs for children, families, and newcomers are highly appreciated
- Staff are described as welcoming, and the art displayed in the space is well liked

Key themes

- The current location presents challenges related to parking and visibility
- Accessibility is limited due to the small elevator
- Concerns were raised about safety, comfort, and washroom conditions
- Space constraints limit those meeting room use and limit event opportunities
- Participants support a safer, more accessible, and potentially larger library

Visitor Centre



How it is used today

- Experience arts and culture (e.g., gallery visits, exhibitions, and art shows)
- Attend events and activities (e.g., presentations, workshops, climate talks, and social gatherings)
- Access visitor information for residents and tourists

What is working well

- The gallery and arts programming are valued by the community
- The Visitor Centre is seen as an important cultural and informational space
- Staff are appreciated for being welcoming and knowledgeable about the community

Key themes

- Awareness and visibility of the Visitor Centre are limited
- Participants have never visited or were unaware of its role
- Safety concerns outside the building and limited parking affect comfort and access
- There is support for retaining arts and event functions while improving visibility, safety, and accessibility

Mine Rescue Building



How it is used today

- Host youth-focused programs and activities
- Provide space for informal community connection

What is working well

- The building is valued for supporting youth-oriented and community-serving uses
- Participants see it as a flexible asset
- The outdoor garden is appreciated as a community feature

Key themes

- Public awareness of the building's role is low
- Participants are unsure about its current purpose or future direction
- Feedback reflects mixed views, including interest in selling the building or continuing youth-focused uses
- There is an opportunity to clarify the building's role and long-term function

The Wildcat Café



How it is used today

- Food and hospitality destination (e.g., lunch, brunch, ice cream, and patio dining)
- Social and cultural gathering place (e.g., music events, drag shows, sketching sessions, and meetings)
- Seasonal destination for sunset viewing and tourism

What is working well

- The Wildcat is valued as a heritage building and part of the city's character
- It is seen as a popular summer destination
- Community and cultural uses add to its appeal

Key themes

- Use is limited outside the summer season
- Ongoing maintenance and investment are needed to support long-term use
- Participants questioned City ownership of the building
- Feedback from participants suggest winterizing the space, improving tourist promotion, and supporting continued community use while preserving its heritage

Ruth Inch Memorial Pool



How it is used today

- No longer in operation, but remembered for past use (e.g., swimming, lessons, family activities, and childhood experiences)

What is working well

- The site is valued for its central location and visibility
- Participants noted lake views, trail connections, nearby recreation, and available parking
- The building is seen as a local landmark

Key themes

- Frustration with uncertainty following the opening of the new pool
- Concerns about vacancy and ongoing maintenance
- Interest in reusing the site for community-serving purposes

Project Next Steps

Engagement Round 1 gathered input from City staff, interested and impacted parties, and community members. Engagement participants shared how the City's six facilities are used today, what is working well, and where challenges and opportunities exist.

Overall, feedback highlighted an interest in facilities that are:

- Safe and welcoming
- Accessible and flexible
- Affordable and community-serving
- Sustainable over the long term

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Feedback from City staff, interested and impacted parties, and community members, along with operational and technical considerations, will inform the development of draft concepts.

A second round of engagement is anticipated for fall 2026 to gather public feedback on the draft concepts before recommendations are finalized. The format and intent of Engagement Round 2 is currently being developed and will be refined and shared as the project progresses.

For more information about this project, please contact: communications@yellowknife.ca

Appendix A Notice of Engagement

CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

Facility Strategic Use Study



NOTICE OF ENGAGEMENT

The City of Yellowknife invites you to participate in Engagement Round 1 for the City Facilities Strategic Use Study.

The project looks at how **six municipal facilities** are used today, and how they could better serve the community in the future.

City Hall, Public Library, Visitor Centre, Mining Training Centre, The Wildcat, and former Ruth Inch Memorial Pool

Join us to learn more, share input about how the facilities are used, and provide ideas about how they could better meet community needs.

PROJECT TIMELINE

1. Project Kick-Off
2. Background / Information Gathering
3. **Engagement Round #1**
(APRIL 2026)
4. Develop Facility Scenarios
5. **Engagement Round #2**
Review of the potential scenarios
(JUNE 2026)
6. Preferred Scenario
7. Final City Strategic Facilities Use Study
(SEPTEMBER 2026)

PROJECT OPEN HOUSE

Thurs April 30

6:30 - 8:30pm

Yellowknife Multiplex - DND Gym
41 Kam Lake Road

SPRING TRADE SHOW

Sat May 9 and Sun May 10

10am – 4pm

Yellowknife Multiplex
41 Kam Lake Road



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

LEARN MORE AND SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK AT

<https://www.yellowknife.ca/en/doing-business/city-facilities-strategic-use-study-2026.aspx>

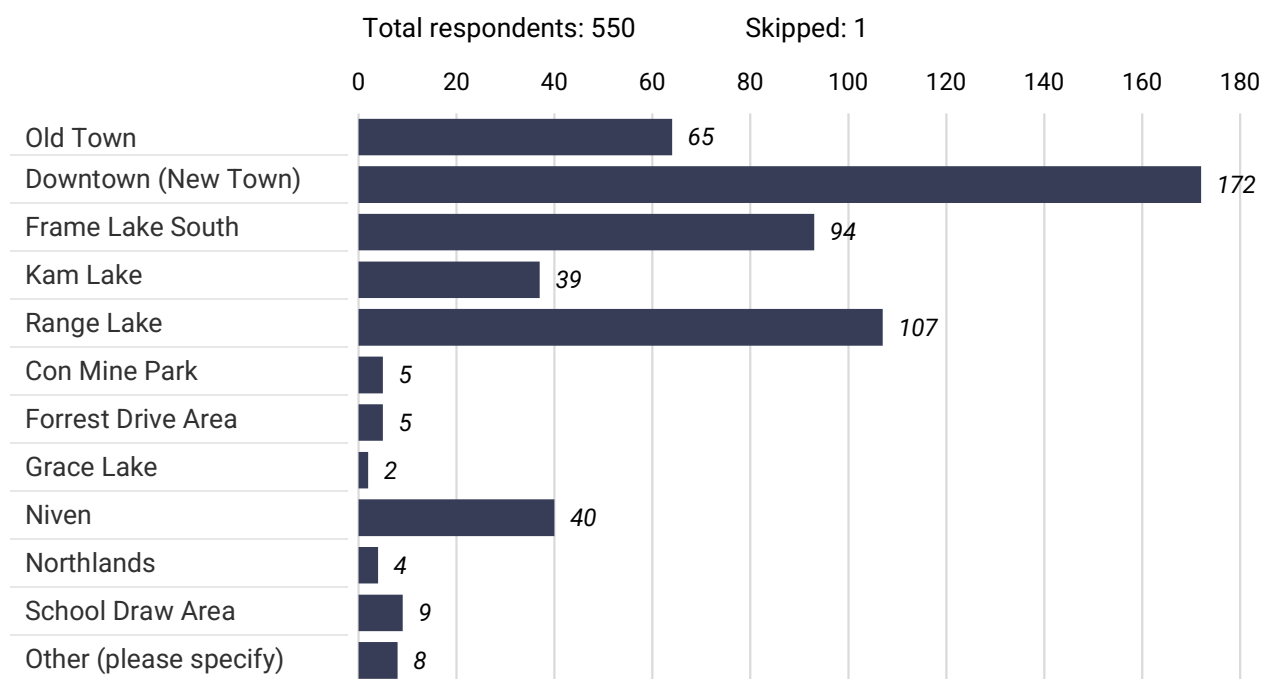


Appendix B Survey Results

Survey Results

The following are the results of the survey. All respondents are transcribed exactly as written with only minor redactions included where necessary.

1. Where do you live?

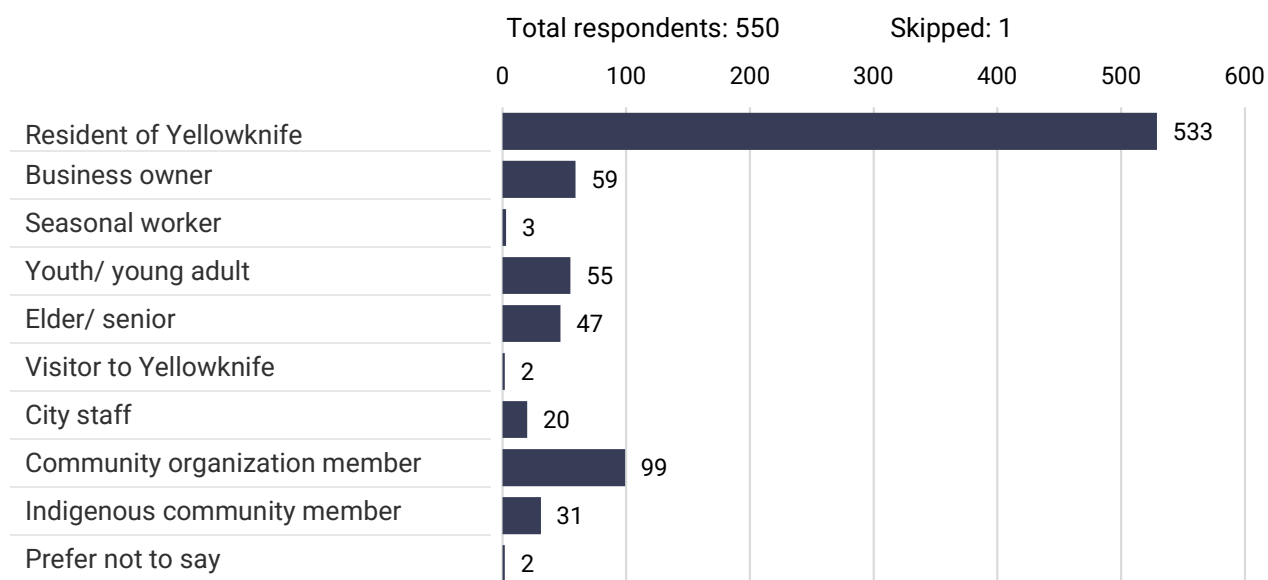


Other:

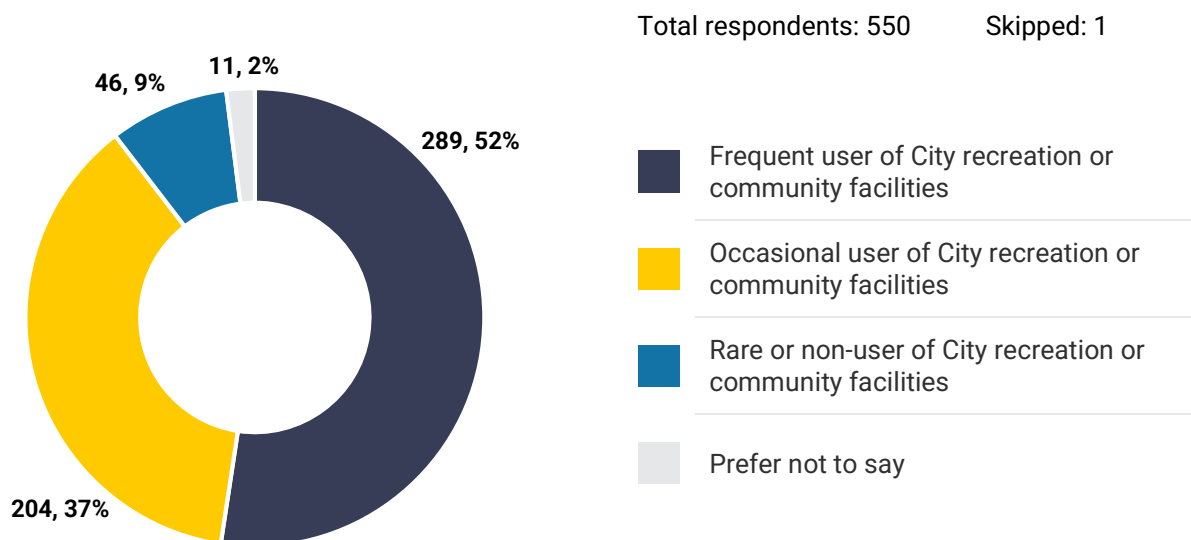
<i>Great Slave Lake</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Yellowknife South</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Ingraham Trail</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Whitehorse</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Lakeshore</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>1</i>



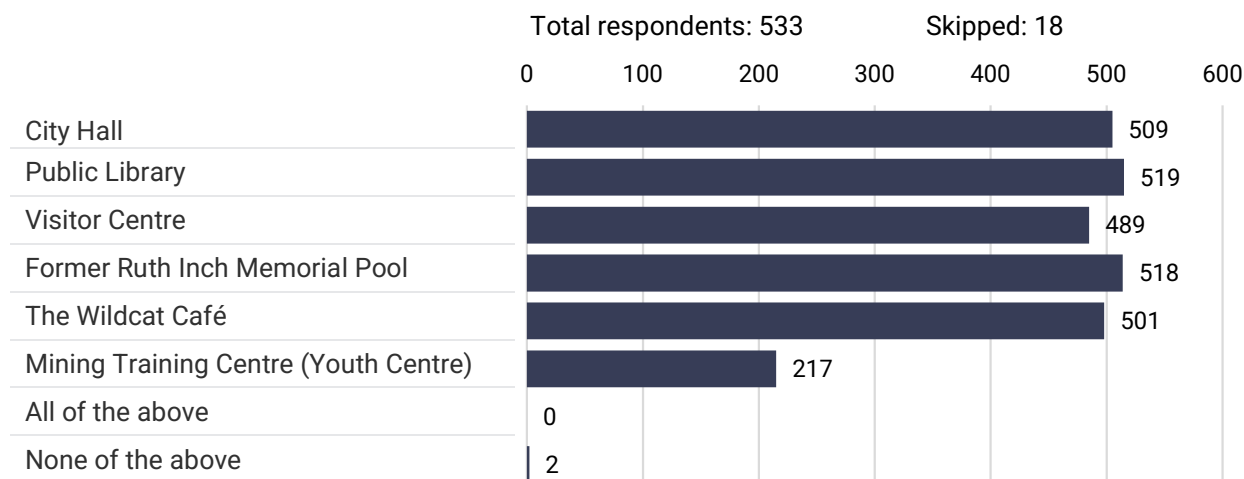
2. Which best describes you? (Select all that apply)



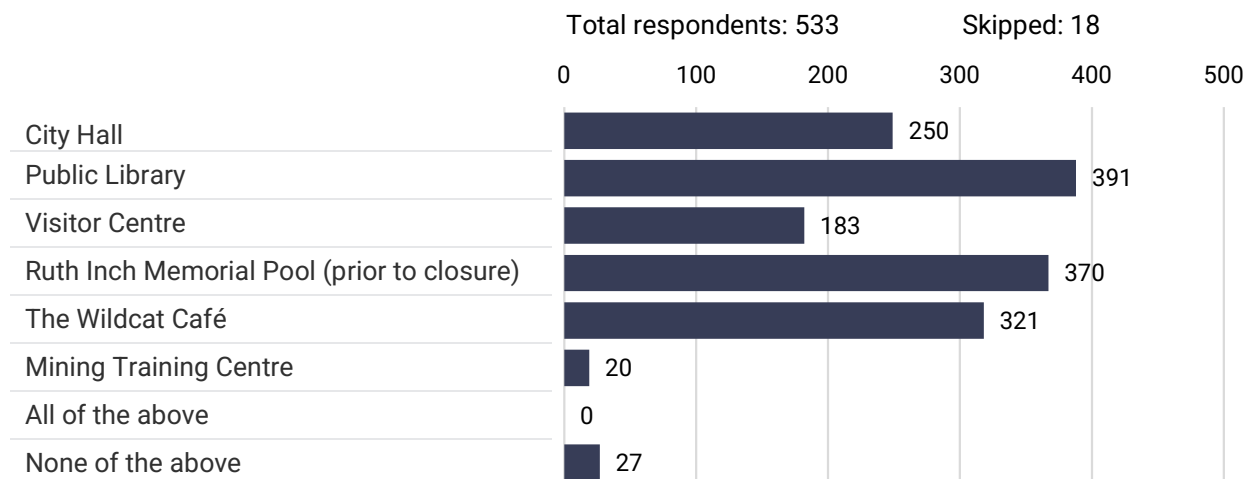
3. Which best describes you? (Select all that apply)



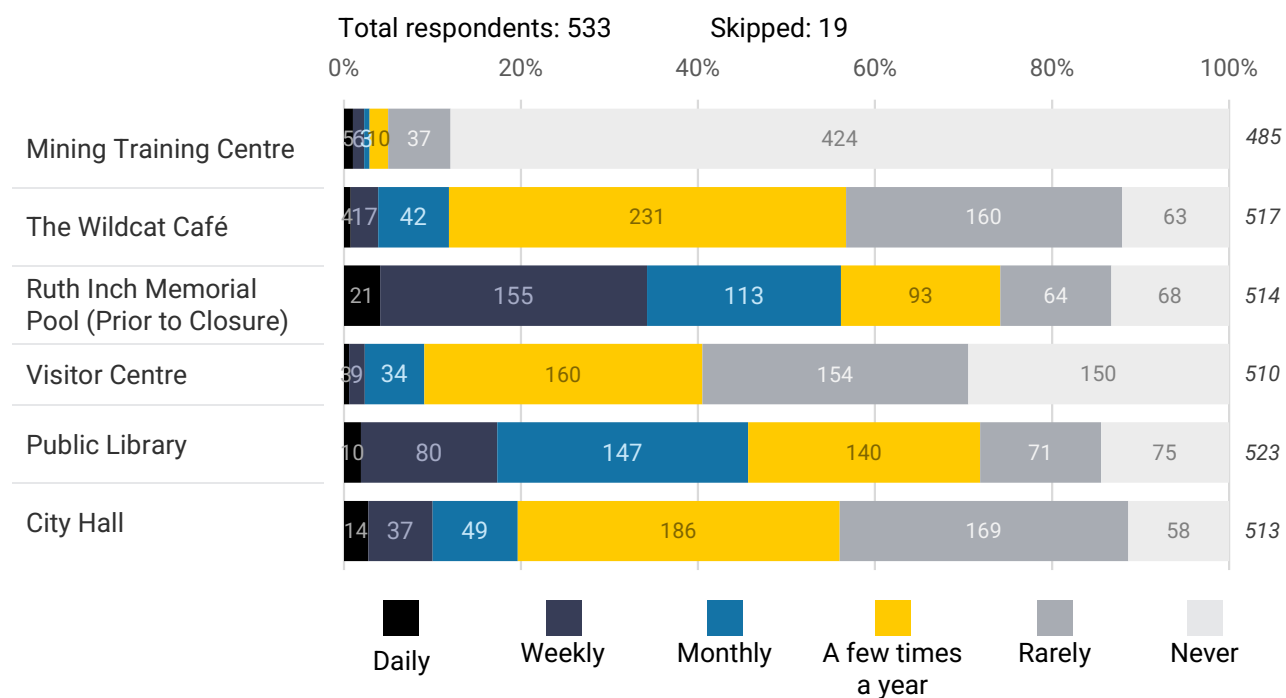
4. Which of the following City facilities are you aware of? (Select all that apply)



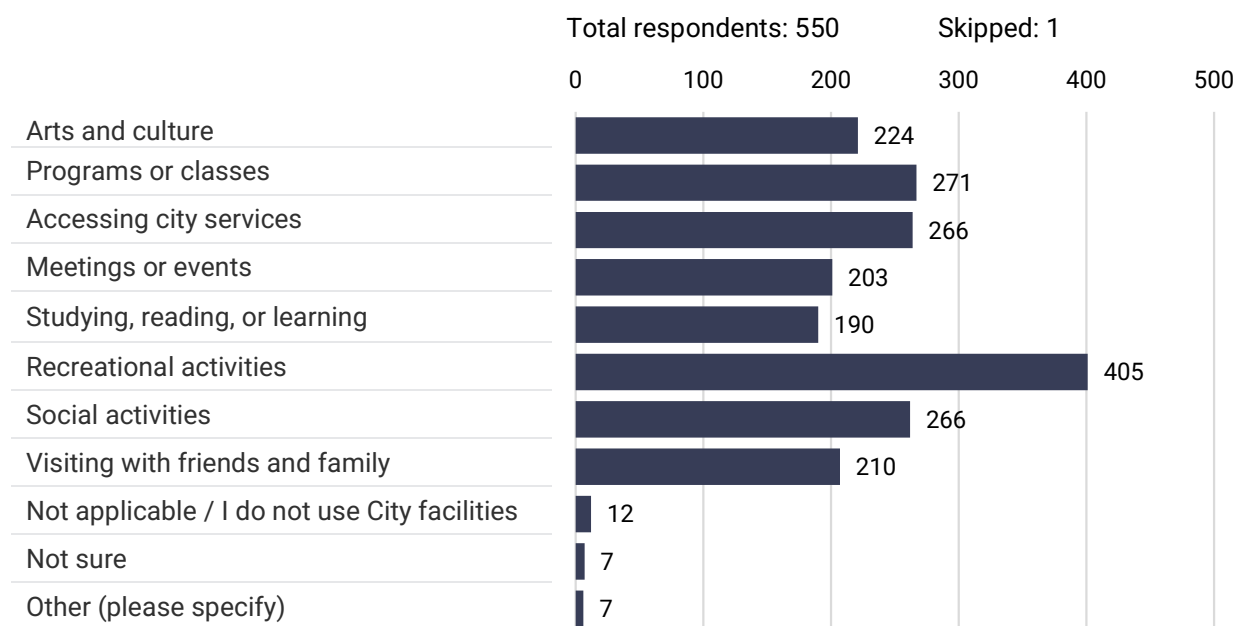
5. Which of the following six facilities does your household currently use? (Select all that apply)



6. How often do you use the following City facilities?



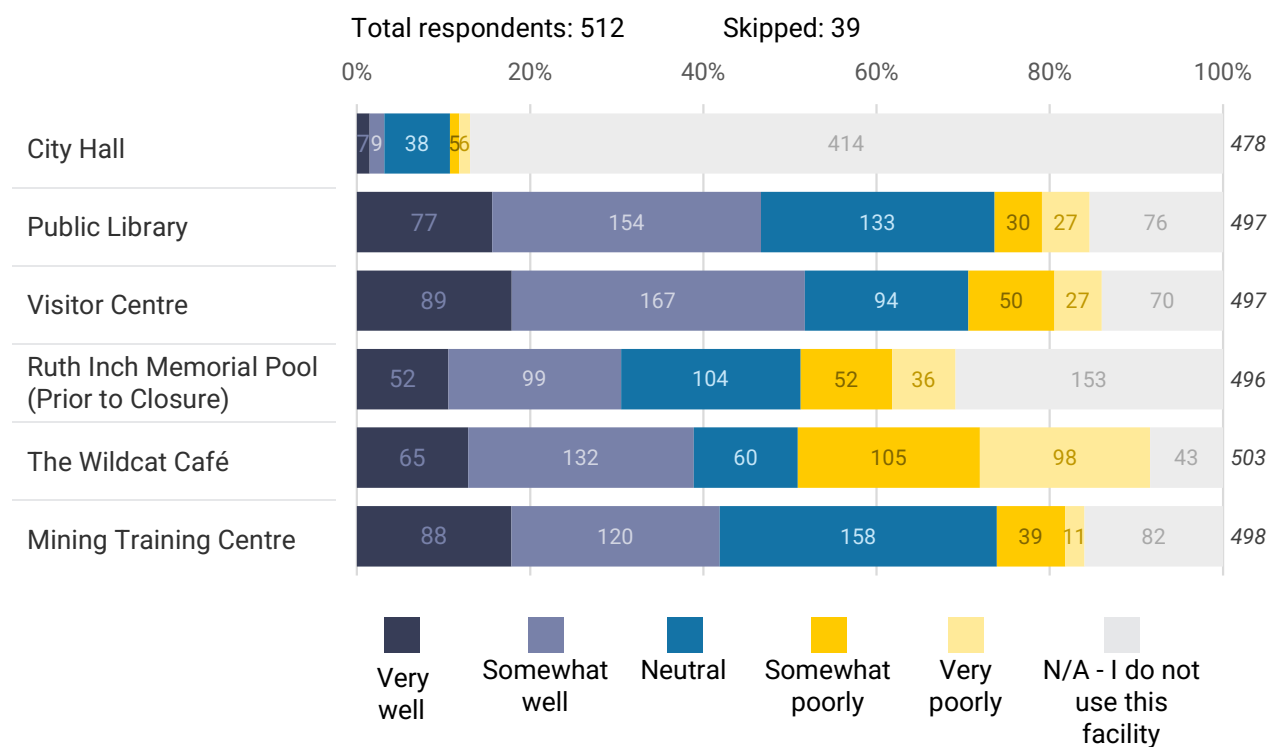
7. What do you mainly use the City facilities for? (Select all that apply)



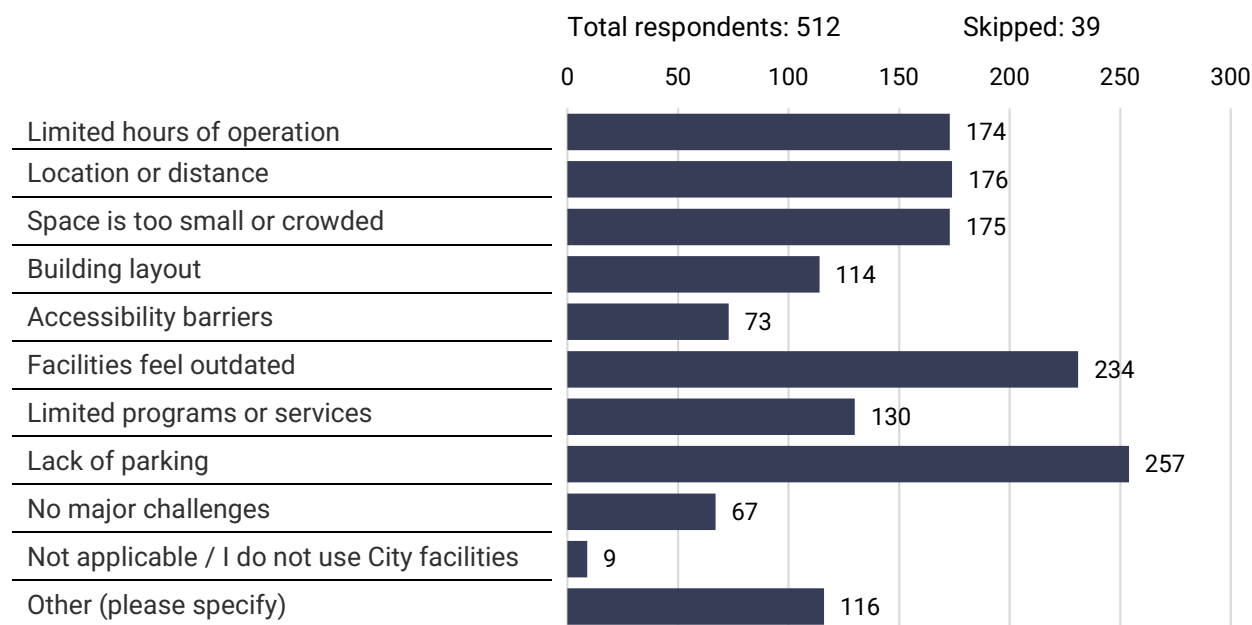
Other:

Washroom	1	Programs for Kids	1
Work	6		
Question	1		

8. Overall, how well do the existing City facilities meet your needs?



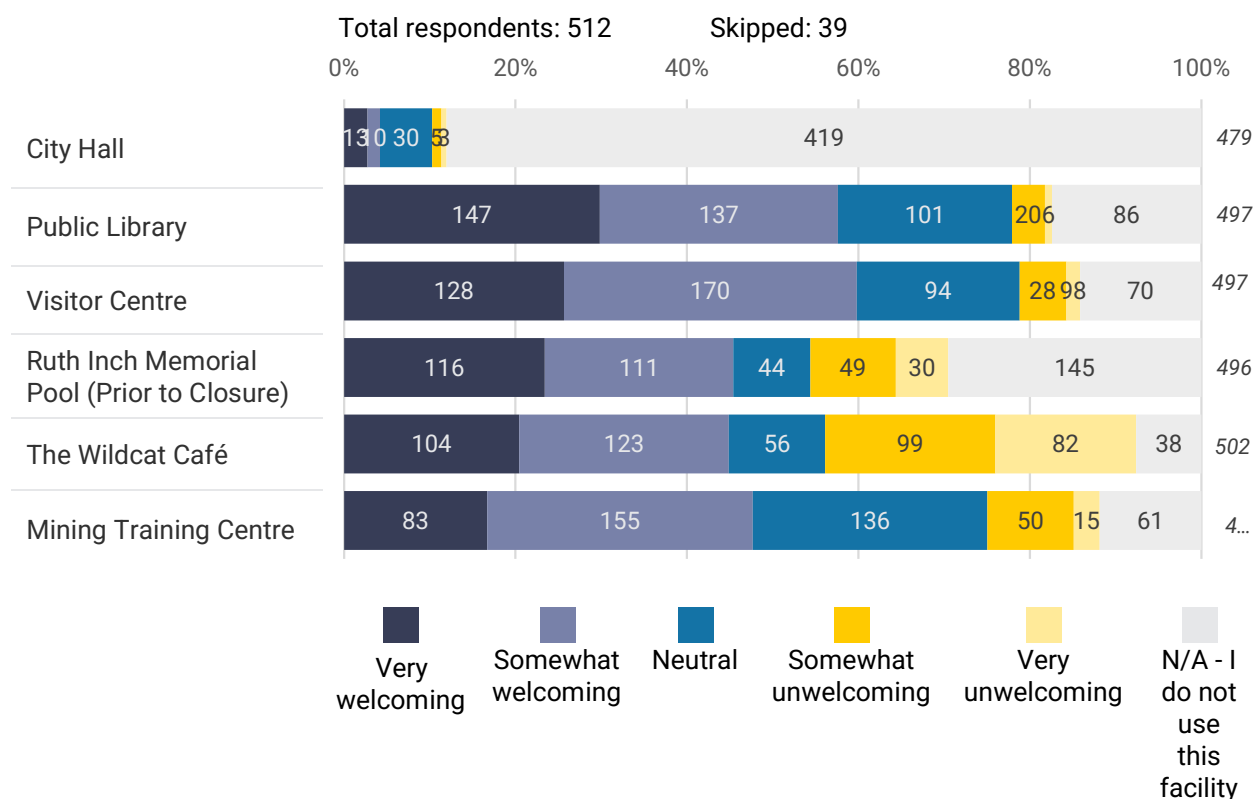
9. What types of challenges have you experienced with the existing City facilities? (Select all that apply)



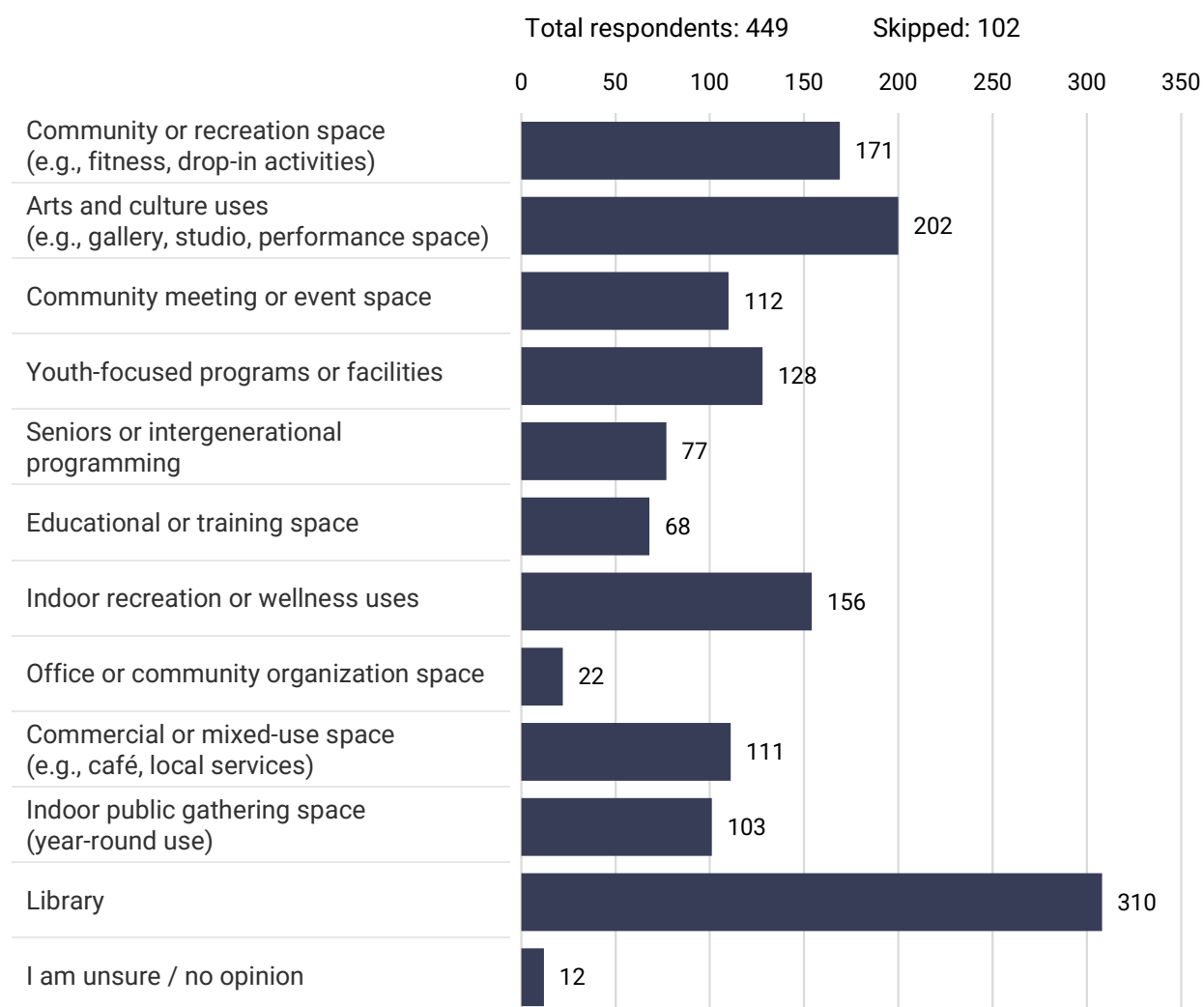
Other:

<i>Bike Rack</i>	3	<i>EV Charging</i>	1	<i>Food/vendor offerings</i>	6
<i>Cleanliness</i>	2	<i>Maintenance</i>	3	<i>Information clarity</i>	3
<i>Cost</i>	3	<i>Cold showers</i>	3	<i>Location</i>	8
<i>Safety/ security</i>	83	<i>Seasonal availability of facilities</i>	1		

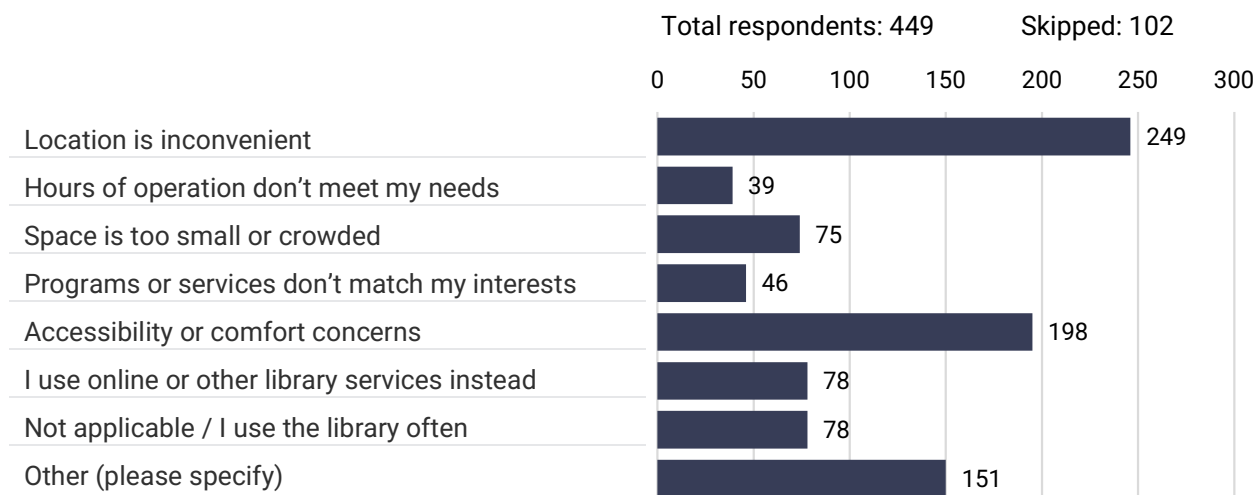
10. How welcoming do you feel City facilities are?



11. From the list of options below, which future activities or uses do you think could be a good fit for the former Ruth Inch Memorial Pool building?



12. If you use the Public Library rarely or never, what are the main reasons? (Select all that apply)



Other:

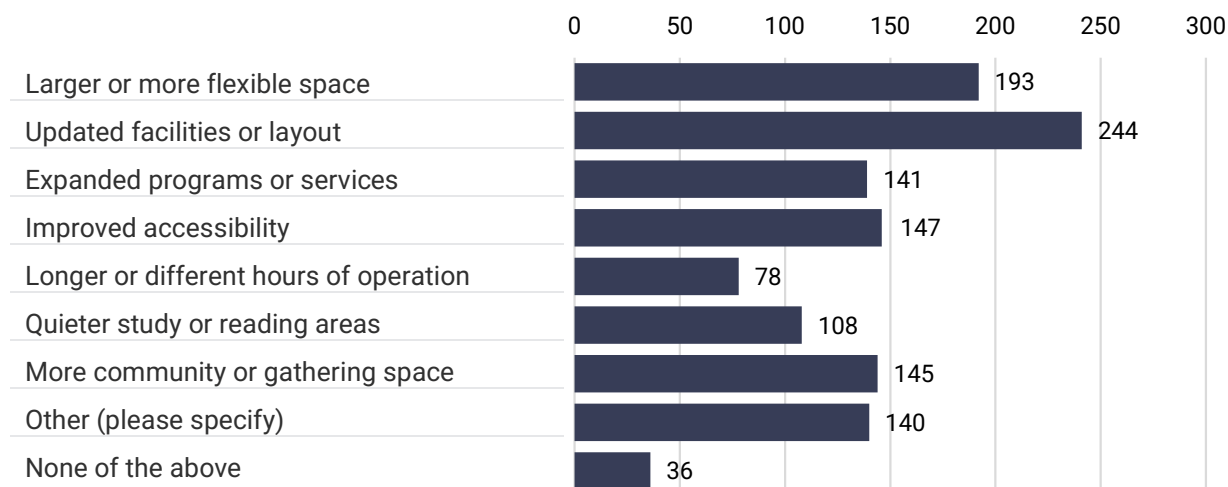
<i>Building layout</i>	1	<i>Information clarity</i>	2	<i>Personal habits / not reading regularly</i>	8
<i>Cost</i>	2	<i>Location</i>	18	<i>Safety/ security</i>	101
<i>Facilities feel outdated</i>	1	<i>Parking</i>	29		



13. Which of the following improvements would most encourage you to use the Public Library more often? (Select all that apply)

Total respondents: 449

Skipped: 102



Other:

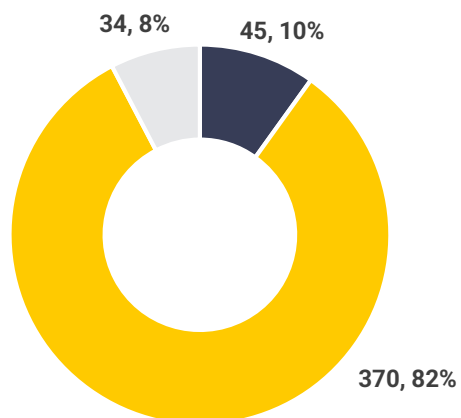
<i>Bike rack</i>	3	<i>Parking</i>	23	<i>Maintenance</i>	1
<i>Cleanliness</i>	4	<i>Safety/ security</i>	57	<i>Not applicable</i>	1
<i>Food/vendor offerings</i>	1	<i>Location</i>	78		



14. Thinking about the future of the Public Library, which statement best reflects your view?

Total respondents: 550

Skipped: 1



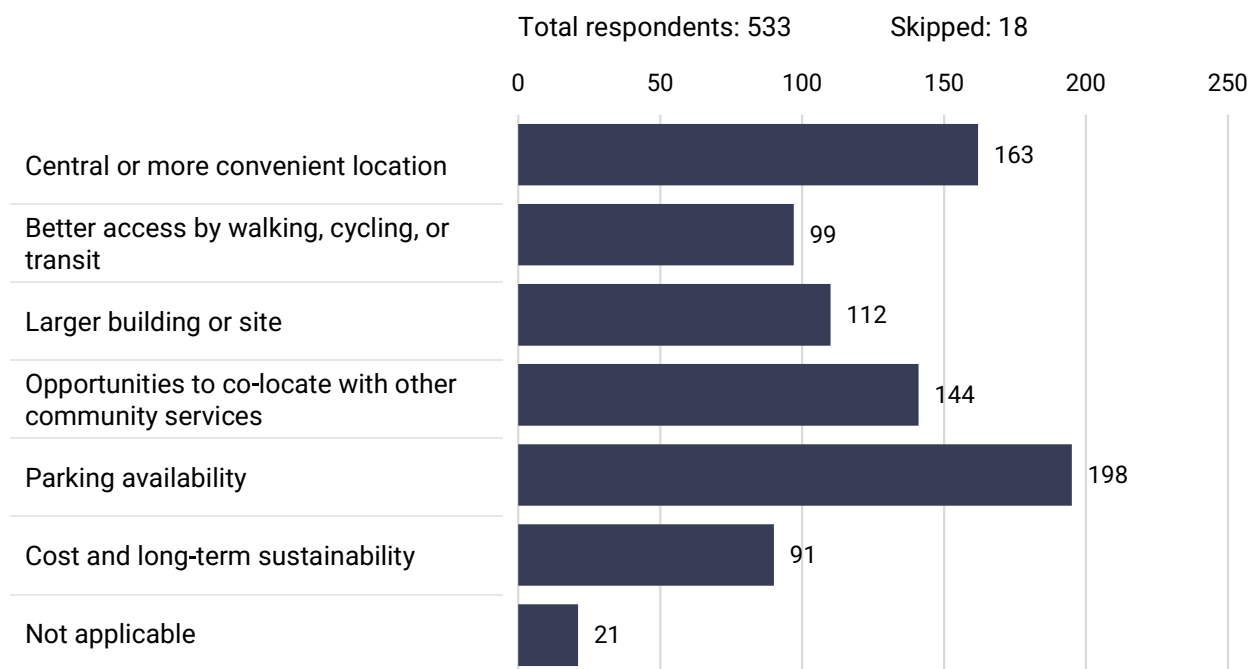
■ The library should remain in its current location with improvements

■ The library should be considered for relocation to a more suitable location

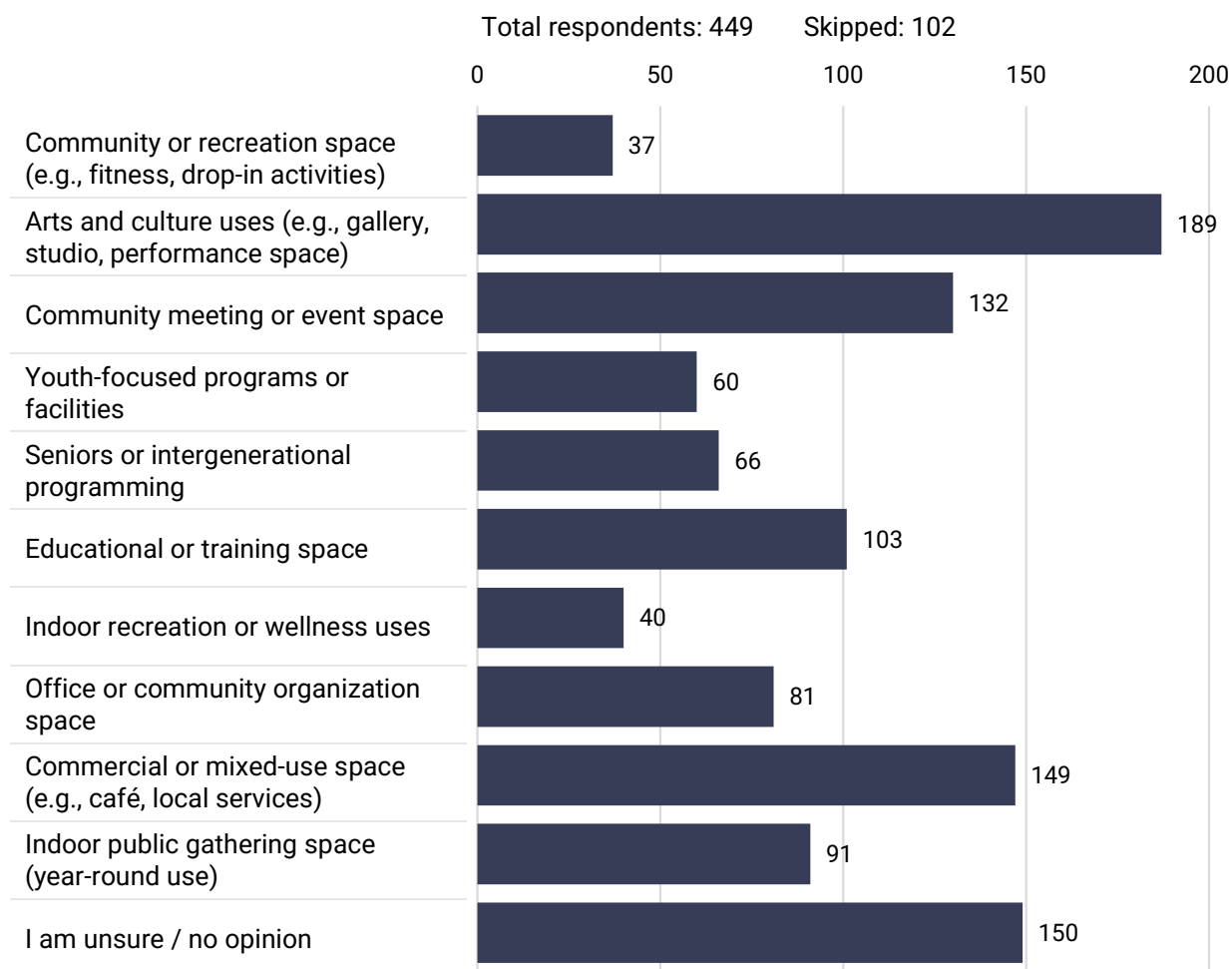
■ No opinion / unsure



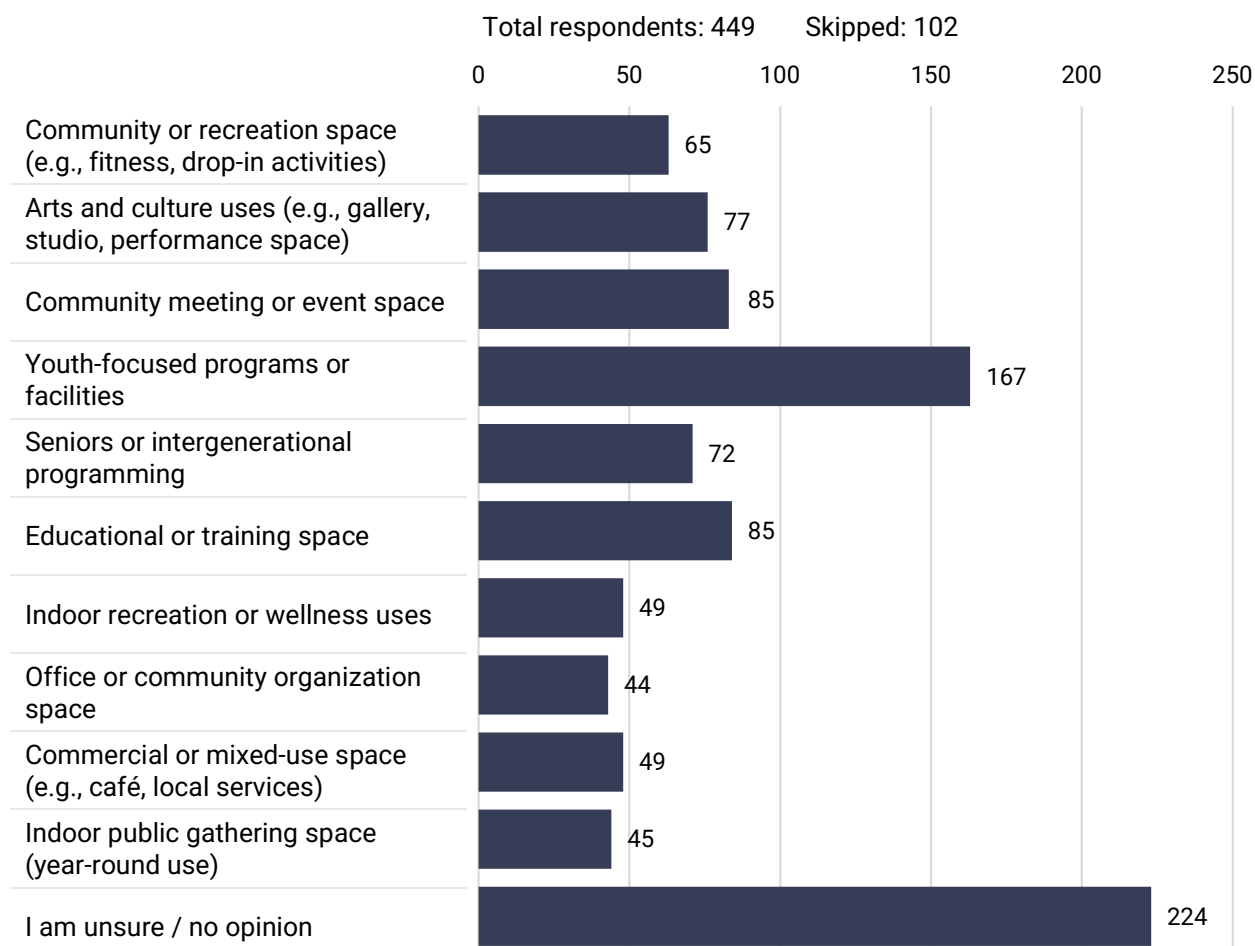
15. If relocation were considered for the Public Library, what factors would be most important? (Select up to two)



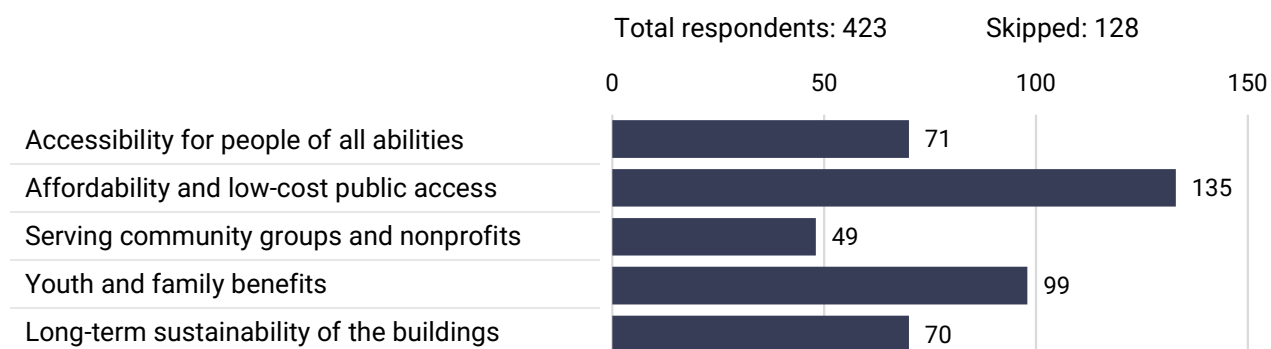
16. From the list below, which activities or uses do you think could be a good fit for the existing Visitor Centre space?



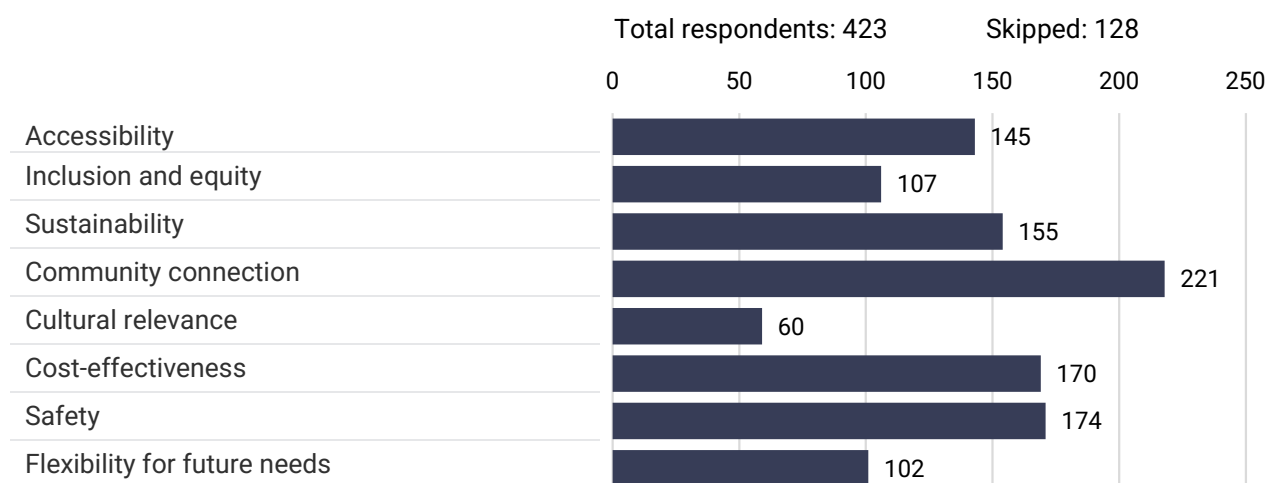
17. From the list of options below, which activities or uses do you think could be a good fit for the Mining Training Centre building (when not in use by the youth centre during the day)?



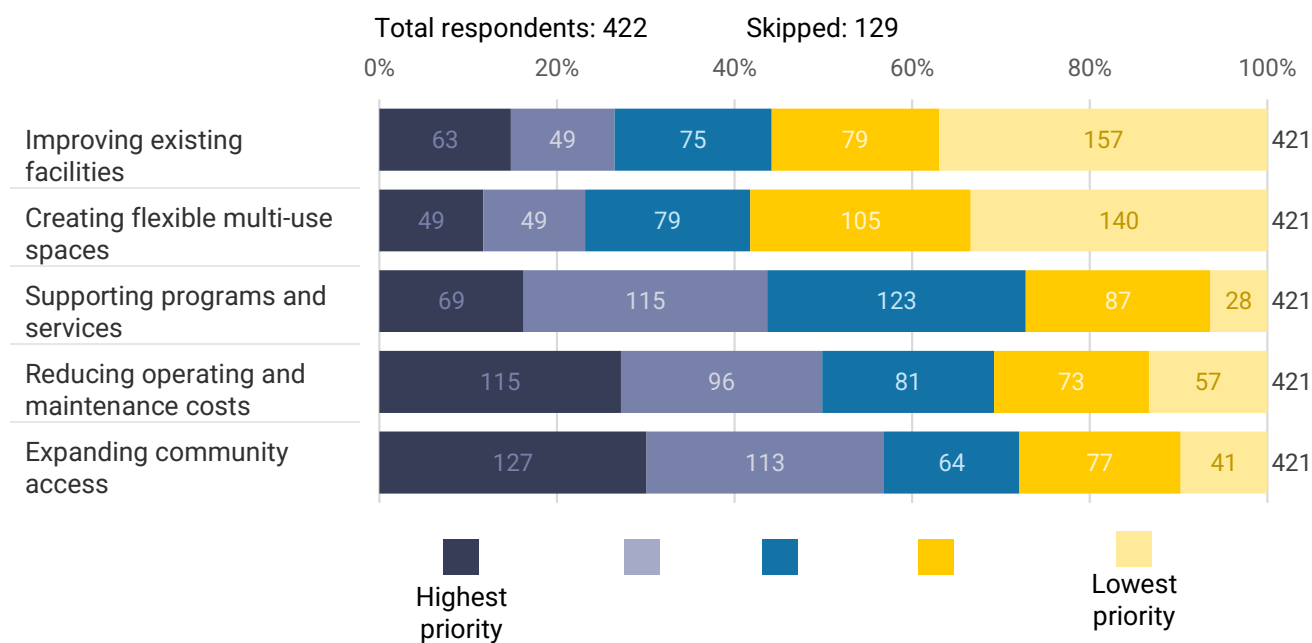
18. Which priority is most important for the future use of City-owned facilities?



19. Which values should guide decisions about future City facilities? (Select up to three)



20. If the City needed to make trade-offs, which should be the highest priority?



21. Is there anything else you think should be considered?

Key theme	Comment Count	Key theme	Comment Count
Accessibility	5	Food/vendor offerings	4
Affordability	5	Intergenerational	6
Community gathering space/ programs	6	Location	11
Community hub	3	Parking	11
Culture spaces/programs	18	Safety/ security	43
Expanding Programs	17	Seasonal availability of facilities	6
Fiscal responsibility	8	Updated facilities or layout	4

Comments

All respondents are transcribed exactly as written with only minor redactions included where necessary.

The City's 2022 Arts and Culture Master Plan especially the challenges that arts and culture organizations in the lack of formal creative spaces.

* 15. Relocating the Public Library, most important factors would be ALL of the available options to answer that question! Central or more convenient location Better access by walking, cycling, or transit Larger building or site Opportunities to co-locate with other community services Parking availability

1. There is no need for the City to own a seasonal restaurant. The Wildcat cafe should be sold to a restauranter or gifted to a non-profit. Heritage bylaws can protect the building. Also if we are going to keep it, winterize it, it is ridiculous it is seasonal. 2. Why do own a mine training building to lease to a youth group? We should sell it. It makes no sense, and we no use for it. 3. Please don't create a large ridiculous expensive idea for the pool. The lot and building should be sold, it would be a great location for housing. Or gift it to a non-profit who has the operations money. Just don't own it. 4. The library needs to be on the ground floor. Work with the visitors center and Aurora College to solve this, this is the main problem. 5. City hall renovation is not needed, if they allowed remote work they could reduce half the offices needed. 6. We can't afford nor do we need some shiny new facility, if that is what this study recommends it is typical out of touch consultant nonsense. It will never get funded or approved by council so know the reality you operate in. 7. This survey failed to address any of the real options or questions.

A space is not inclusive if it is unsafe. The library is currently unsafe. Harassment and poor hygiene are a guaranteed part of patronage if you visit. That is not inclusive, that is perpetuating harm. It is also seriously impacting the success of private businesses. I am concerned for the future of Yellowknife because of where the library is located. The programming there was foundational to my upbringing but I do not believe that it is contributing to young people's lives effectively in the current state. A library is an essential piece of a thriving community and we have the components of that but it is mismanaged and I would honestly call it an urgent issue that should be addressed with a temporary solution until a beautiful, worthy space can be offered to the community. We have a lot of bright youth who will not get the opportunities they could if we had a successful and safe library. Loitering cannot be tolerated. I have a care and compassion for my community and the members that are experiencing homelessness but I am confident that by allowing the library to serve as a de facto day shelter, we are exposing youth to the wrong lifestyles and perpetuating cycles of harm.



Comments
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Any consideration of space in Centre Square Mall i.e. existing visitors centre and library ... I'm waiting to see what the new owner might do. It used to be a nice space to visit. I'm curious what is being considered about the Mine Training Building. I thought Home Base and the Y had programs running there full time. I would like to see the outside of the building be spruced up. The frames on the windows are looking very shabby as is much of the exterior and grounds.
As a lifelong Yellowknifer, my main concern is the public library's current location. I believe being located in center square mall makes it unappealing and therefore less accessible to the public. Aside from parking being a barrier, I don't feel (and haven't ever) that the current location is very family (or individual) friendly due to the existing social issues in the downtown core, and particularly surrounding and within the mall. Being such a great facility with regards to staff and programs, I think a different and more welcoming location could revitalize the volume of residents taking advantage of a public library.
As a person with young children I cannot stress enough how much we value the library and the programming that they offer, but also how challenging it is to go to the library in that space. I think turning RIMP into a library with an event space would make it way more accessible and safer for all community members.
As an artist and engage cultural worker in the city, I use the gallery space in the Visitor Centre actively. I attend all their art openings and strongly believe that the gallery space should be considered if the Viz Centre were to relocate. It is a huge asset to have a non-commercial gallery in the city (it is actually currently the only one in the whole NWT.) Plus it is one of the only actioned items in the City's Arts and Culture master plan - it would embarrassing to move backwards. So please consider the gallery space in your future planning! The City could do more to promote it, it an incredible space that is elevating the profile of NWT Arts.
Better snow maintenance would increase accessibility. Better signage as well.
Both the current library and the Visitors centre are located in the worst possible locations. These should be showcases for the city, instead it make Yellowknife look like a horrible place to visit or live. Library programs for young and old are avoided, simply because of the locations.
Cement floor in the curling rink so it has use all year round
Center mall is a disaster. Lease it to Aurora college and get outta there.
City Hall is a beautiful building with a great park that is well utilized year round. It would be great to have the City Hall building have more spaces that are open to the public and can be a community gathering space that compliments the park. As City Hall, I have rarely gone inside because there aren't really spaces for the public to use.
Consider demolition if is a tax savings, but would like to see more of an indoor farm market
Consider including a non-commercial gallery space in the plans for the future spaces.
Consideration of removal of City programs from leased spaces - using facilities or assets that are city owned before renting spaces. Determine long term use for old pool location / new location for city library Addressing concerns relating to homelessness and encampments throughout the city limits regardless if they are included on commissioners land or not.
Cost of living is already too high. My family and many others are considering leaving. We can't afford what we already have so please don't add to the cost.
Creating a new community space for Arts, both performing and visual, equal to the facilities already serving fitness and sport. I would make this the #1 priority at this time.
Creating safe and flexible use community facilities that are also affordable for organizations to rent when they need a meeting space. Intergenerational use of space (seniors to daycare age). The old Ruth Inch puts families right next to the pool the arena and curling, creating an active community hub. It would be

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an expensive but visionary proposition, if Yellowknifers want it and would use it. It doesn't help the lack of curb appeal to Yellowknife's downtown, although I love the summer flower boxes!
Current safety concerns need to be prioritized and addressed, more specifically around facilities located in the downtown area. We can have the most spacious, beautiful and appealing spaces but if they are not safe to access then this whole exercise would have been pointless and improving the facilities/esthetics would have put tax payer dollars to waste.
Design with children and elders in mind... then everyone wins. Why not do a workshop with kids from all of the schools as well!
Develop a holistic perspective on what Third Spaces are and how they foster and cultivate healthy community structures.
Develop the RIMP into library. Accommodates parking, accessible by bus, trail, vehicle
Developing more programs promoting community connection and creativity for all ages would be a source of joy in Yellowknife
Expanding options available. Let's think beyond sports!
Families with kids. Location is everything! Accessibility with strollers, unhoused folks, parking... downtown is far from ideal.
For mixed use space: Yellowknife needs a coworking space, a place where students and self employed people can work in a safe and clean environment and also eat food
for question 20. In order to reduce operating and maintenance costs, you need to improve existing facilities.
For the former Ruth Inch Memorial pool building, please consider moving the library here and having a portion of the space for a cafe and/or a space for Indigenous cultural activities. OT would be so amazing if the future library had a cultural play area similar to what the museum has. I have walked through full blown fist fights when my kids were toddlers to go to the library, they are now 10 and 8 and the issues are so much worse. It is so important to make this a space that everyone in the community can enjoy, not niche user groups. Having the library next to the pool is too logical to ignore. Both facilities would be in constant use!
Have city trained engineers do the design or work with GNWT INF Facilities & Properties - we can't keep paying firms millions of dollars to pitch "what if someone built ____?" Prepare scalable options and engage industry EARLY to see what we can afford to do.
Highest priority would be to move the library and visitor centre to the former pool site, with adequate parking existing!
Homeless people should be placed in programs to either get off the streets or held accountable for their actions. We aren't living in a lawless society where the homeless get away with anything because they're 'unfortunate'. Addictions can be overcome (currently 5yrs sober), people can get jobs, people can get housing, people should be contributing members to society or not allowed access to these facilities to run rampant and scare off the people that could actually benefit.
I am largely in favour of the old Pool being converted into a rehearsal/recording studio, combined with an all-ages venue where standing room performances can be put on for young people.
I am very hopeful the facilities along the frame lake trail remain public spaces. As the city is looking to grow housing along the other side I hope the trail network is maintained and that the old pool is a mixed use space of meeting rooms and the library. If we ever do get a university the mall is the ideal space and they could take over the library space.
i appreciate this survey and truly want to reiterate that the library NEEDS to be relocated. it is in an inconvenient location, limited parking, smaller space, and unfortunately many are uncomfortable going to



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the library due to the unhoused population that frequents the mall. relocating it to beside the new aquatic centre (which is more central yellowknife now) or elsewhere i think would increase library traffic, espeically if it was a bigger space.
I do believe the library and visitors centre would be used more if it was in a better location such as the old pool building. Children are missing out on these experiences because the current locations are not welcoming for families. In addition, the city hosts camps for children and one of the days was scheduled for the library. I know families who opted to not send their child to camp that day because of that location for activities.
I don't think the city's current plan for existing facilities reflects the biggest issue our community is facing right now. Housing should be the priority, and it's concerning that it wasn't even included as a major focus. Too many people are struggling to find stable, affordable housing while public buildings continue to be repurposed for lower-impact projects. Taxpayer money should also be used more responsibly. A lot of residents feel frustrated seeing resources repeatedly go toward programs where there's little accountability or measurable results. Support should go toward people who genuinely want to improve their situation and contribute positively to the community, not toward systems that allow ongoing dependence without progress. Existing facilities could be better used for transitional housing, affordable rentals, trade training spaces, or support programs tied to employment and personal responsibility. That would create long-term benefits for both individuals and the city as a whole, instead of continuing to spend money in ways many residents feel are ineffective.
I feel that the Visitor Centre and the Library can be co-located in the Ruth Inch Pool to leverage parking and the lake view. This will allow for tourists to have room to park as well as tour buses. The increase in parking availability may encourage utilization of the Library. If City Hall needs to increase office space, one option would be to campus with the Mine Training Centre. As for the Wildcat, the City should encourage the seasonal vendor to offer a diverse menu to attract both locals and tourists. Recent years had a very limited menus choices. This is feedback I have heard from both tourists and locals
I highly encourage the City to repurpose the old pool and change that space to the library - which could also have some community space. With it being close to the new pool, this would be a great opportunity to have these facilities in close proximity for families and residents in general. The City needs to really step back from the perspective of having the library located downtown - it's not practical or appealing for most people in this city.
I love having the library downtown as I prefer to walk, but it would be nice if it was in a safer and more accessible location.
I love the public library but don't enjoy bringing my two young boys with me. There are always people fighting in the lobby and being loud and rude. the library is wonderful and I wish we could go more often but I just don't love driving around to find parking and then taking my kids in and dealing with the patrons who frequent the mall.
I personally think that you should be looking at what services are already available both as public and private venues. For example, we have numerous performance spaces both public and private and those spaces aren't as flexible for incorporating other community activities. A large, accessible, public library building (with parking) in a safe location could also support an art gallery, educational spaces, community gathering space, and youth, senior or multigenerational activities. The city has previously mentioned that they prefer to own land so why not also move facilities out of high cost, sketchy, downtown, rental spaces into City-owned buildings?
I really appreciate the city supporting the art gallery in the visitor centre. A lot of city funds are spent on sports. It's time to increase support for art and culture. The mall is not a safe or appealing place for the library or visitor centre. It's embarrassing to send tourists there.



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I strongly believe that the city should incorporate a space for performing artists similarly to current recreational facilities. The arts add just as much enjoyment and value to a community as physical recreation. Yellowknife benefits from the strong performing arts community while not directly supporting them in any way. There is an opportunity to show the arts community that the city values their contributions and wants to make a serious commitment to improving access to space for performing artists.
I strongly feel that the Visitors Centre should be moved to the Ruth Inch pool. The current location is not conducive to welcoming visitors. They are nervous to enter the building because of the people harassing them at the doors, not a good impression if you want to build the tourism market.
i strongly suggest making the library a library and not a hangout space for homeless people, if they had a safe, more appropriate place to be during the day, I think the library would be a wonderful place for the entire community
I support converting the former pool into a public space, the building should not be sold or leased, it would make a great library and cultural space, given the new pool and arena nearby, it makes sense to group these services there. The visitors centre does not belong in the mall, it really needs a better space, a stand-alone space that is friendlier for visitors, downtown with displays, much like the old centre that had to be torn down. There is space in the YK Centre at the corner near the entrance to the Independent, big windows and good access, would be much better than the current location, or near city hall - I'm sure there is funding or grants available for this sort of thing. Bottom line, the current visitors centre stinks and does not show well for visitors.
I think having a stand-alone building for the library would be a welcome addition to the community. It would be fantastic if it were a multi-purpose building with other recreational programs as well.
I think if any of these services get moved from their current locations, some consideration should be put into a revamping a space into an indoor market space for small artisan businesses. We have so many of those in Yellowknife. It could also be utilized by the YK Farmers Market outside of the summer months or by Christmas Markets. Similar to a space like the Strathcona Farmer's Market in Edmonton.
I think it is great that the City of Yellowknife is asking residents for their input on these issues and I appreciate being able to give my input. Thank you.
I think parking spaces should always be considered as it's took cold to walk with little kids in the winter.
I think renovating the Ruth Inch Memorial Pool into a full community centre like you would see in southern centres is the way to go. Put the library and visitors centre there as well as some rentable studio/jam space and a small (50 seat) performance room. This fills a huge gap in available amenities in the city. There are already many meeting rooms etc that are rentable in the city so I think a focus should be on sound transfer between rooms and flexibility of use. Short term storage rooms would be helpful too, like if a band was rehearsing in the week leading up to a performance and they could store their equipment and leave the rehearsal room empty for other users when not in use.
I think that the use of the Mine Training Building as a whole should be available for consideration, not just after hours of the current tenants. Why are those tenants assumed to be permanent? The family centre of the second floor is not addressing any City municipal responsibility, nor is the youth centre on the main floor. Residents should be able to provide feedback on that space's overall use, and the relationship of those tenants and the City should be transparent. What happened to the last RFP to rent that space? It seems to have just ended and gone back to the same people.
I think the City has gone too far in accommodating and (by extension) encouraging bad (even criminal) behaviour, while placing two of its key facilities in the heart of the worst of what Yellowknife has to offer. The location of the visitors center, while it's a lovely facility, makes zero sense, and the same goes for the library. It's embarrassing and both do very little for the residents of our community, other than the very



Comments
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small group of regular users. They both have so much more potential. The staff are great. But great staff and expanded programming won't accomplish anything in those spaces. The City should consider moving both of these, somewhere that makes sense, which wouldn't necessarily be together, given their very different target user groups. However, I do like that the visitors center can host events. We don't have enough beautiful spaces to host events, and this is certainly one of them.
I think the city places far too many resources on family's and children, which while are important there are severe gaps with helping addiction and homeless people. Adults matter too and as a city we seem to have no real appetite to focus on the people who need help. It's left to non profits or some GNWT services like the homeless shelter which has been plagued with problems finding spaces, the homeless encampment is not helped much. It's not only kids and families that the city should strive to provide for. The survey doesn't even have any questions that really speak to this which just further highlights how not on the table these issues are.
i think the pool would be an ideal location for both the library and visitors center. it is in a scenic location and would provide ample parking for community members and visitors alike. It showcases the beautiful aspects of Yellowknife unlike the current location of both of these facilities, which are unsafe especially at night, and provide very limited parking.
I think the Ruth Inch building should be something this town needs.. namely an arts space. I think the library should move out of that friggen mall. It's embarassing and a family can't enjoy it without being accosted.
I think the Ruth Inch Memorial Pool would be an excellent location for a library. It is well located for community access, and would give greater visibility to the library and its importance in our community.
I think the Wildcat could be better operated. Something more mainstream. The menu should be normal fast food. I strongly believe the Library should be moved to the old Pool. The street people would not congregate there and it would be much safer for children and families.
I think there's a distinction to be made about level of welcome within a service space, and the overall welcome of the site. I visit the library and the visitor centre (specifically, the art gallery) frequently and believe those internal spaces are perfectly functional in their presentation and operations. The access through the mall reduces their welcome significantly. I don't that's not necessarily something that can be solved, but whatever services are offered through these spaces in future are going to have to contend with the same issue.
I think this is the perfect opportunity to move the library from its current location as the Ruth Inch would be the perfect site. It would allow the library to be closer to other facilities, access to outdoor programming in the summer by the lake, free parking, if designed right allow for more natural light, allow for programming space dedicated to children as the meeting room space in the existing library is not design with children in mind. Either have a separate floor for the children's collection or more space between them an the adult area. This would allow the families to feel more comfortable and a larger space so that play can be encouraged. (see Halifax Central Library). Allow for Indigenous space - many options for how it may look - see other libraries or consult our local Indigenous people, quiet study rooms, enclosed room for public computers, space for cooking classes.
I would like to see more investment in the library. Whether it is moved to a bigger space or not. The computers and catalog system is incredibly outdated. The collection could be expanded. And more academics books for students returning from down south to do classes online. The staff do an excellent job delivering programming.
If commercial co-ventures, they should have to keep hours more consistent to the facilities. The poor (short) hours of the canteens at the new Aquatic Centre and the Fieldhouse are examples of this. Great idea, great food, but so rarely open that you can't count in them so end up being outside food and drink



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when would like to have supported local/small/emerging businesses. And they're missing out on sales. Perhaps two mini spaces/or co shared spaces so more variety to public and not burning out one proprietor. Same for Wildcat. Why not shared or alternating so open longer/later to maximize tourist and local visitability.
In planning, figuring out whether we modify or just build for what we need. For example, instead of retrofit to the old pool demo it and build something that meets the needs of the community for the long term like a new library that can could include multituse spaces.
in the mall is a terrible location for city facilities. more multiuse spaces needed and more strategic and connected spaces.- less stand alone building requiring dedicated staff... at least the field hose has the field the track and the climbing wall...
It feels very unsafe to be downtown and on trails in the evenings especially when dark which is the reason why we don't use the Library or City Hall (Somba Ke park) very often. No parking is usually near library entrance.
It would be nice if the recreation facilities were together so parents could take kids to swimming lessons or enjoy the pool themselves while another child is at hockey (for example). Having the library attached to or close to recreation facilities would also be a bonus (opportunity to do homework or browse for a book while waiting for kids to finish their sport activity. There are good examples in other cities that YK can learn from. Cross country skiing is a popular recreational activity. It would be great if the city Managed the x-skiing facility like Whitehorse ☺.
It would be so great to see more options of things to do for children and families in Yellowknife. This is especially apparent given the long winter we just had. We are always looking for more indoor places to take our children to. Therefore, another indoor play space, an indoor play park/ facility, and/ an indoor arena children could ride their bikes or rollerblade would be a fabulous addition to the community. Thank you so very much.
It's too uncomfortable taking my children downtown to the library. I don't want them seeing what's down there. So we don't go. We need to tighten up downtown because we have contributing member of society leaving Yellowknife.
It's important that the library remains downtown (whether in the same or a different location) in order to draw people to the downtown core, and to be accessible to the most residents. The current perceived social issues should not force the City into making the mistake of removing a key service for residents from downtown.
Its sigueting that the old pool is sittind empty costing money. It took 7 years or more to build the new pool and could not come up with a plan for the old building. Administration should be fired over this costly mistake. Its unfortunate that council misappropriated the water line funding to build a new pool. Safe drinking water is not a priority for this council.
I've never understood why the wildcat is closed in the winter during high tourist season. Even if there was no food (or just tea/hot chocolate & baked goods) it's a perfect setting for a "Christmas store" market to sell locally made crafts and take selfies with Santa. Tourists are already at pilot's monument, so operate it as a "warm up shack" seasonally in winter. Why keep one of the best tourist attractions closed for more than half the year??
Library should feel safer for families.
Location is everything..you have to make it a location are willing to go to or its a waste of money.
Looking forward to seeing what comes next!
Maintenance and up keep on the trails, Some of them really needs major attention.
Make it something cool and people will come

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Making safe areas for children to access community resources.
Mini golf, cinema, extra curricular activities for families and kids to improve community wellness. Location for existing buildings/programs to better suited and family friendly locations
More collaboration with existing non-profit and community organizations to support program diversity.
More focus needs to be given to the homeless folks that are living in our community. It would be ideal to see unused city facilities, such as the old pool, converted into resources for our people living on the streets, instead of adding another amenity for the 'average family'. As a Yellowknifer of 25 years, I cant think of one City program that specifically serves our homeless people.
More security and less tolerance for social issues.
Move the Library to the Ruth Inch Memorial Pool.
Move the visitors centre and library out of the most dangerous area of town.
Moving the library to the Ruth Inch Site and expanding the building to include other recreational activities would create a really great 'hub' for family-friendly resources. This space has abundant parking, easy access to the Frame Lake Trail and transit stops. It is also relatively central to all neighbourhoods in Yellowknife with proximity to most schools.
Nikki does a great job with wildcat in the summer. Would be nice if it was insulated so she doesn't have to shut down in winter. Not really sure that owning this building should really be a priority for the city anymore.
No one will care how nice it is if you're just going to let homeless people ruin it/put tent cities outside it. It doesn't feel safe for youth or families.
Note that question 15 in this survey is malfunctioning. The only answer that was permitted in the form (to allow me to move the survey forward) was n/a. Beyond this, I don't have any fixed preference for how these buildings are used in the future. My inclination is to say that taking on large operating costs in support of community (private) organizations wishing to pursue programming isn't appropriate for a community government. I'd love to see these things pursued outside of large operating subsidies. However, I'm also aware that the cost of renting or buying space for small organizations is often unattainable. Addressing general cost of doing business here seems like an important priority. For example, a music space is desired because there are few spaces affordable for musicians in town (NACC is \$1000/day to rent) almost no spaces to use for rehearsal.
Old pool should be a multi use facility such as the library, visitors center, gallery for local artists, RV pull in's utilize the parking space,
Our community desperately needs a space for concerts, lectures and lessons. We have many arts groups that operate without a home and are tossed around the city depending on the rent price and available space. We need to support our Arts and Culture sector more. A full community space is needed that is flexible and serves the needs of many groups. Dedicated office and rehearsal space is in dire need as NACC is only available for short periods of time and has a territorial mandate.
Pairing up services for better access and use. We have a lot of single use buildings rarer than larger multiple use spaces. This means businesses in those spaces don't have large enough draw. Love the free walking track at field house. More free or very low costs is good for building community.
Parking. Town is too congested and not welcoming to go out.
Perhaps in the future the City should consider what to do with a existing facility before borrowing millions of dollars for a replacement. The City of Yellowknife has for my 50 years living here always tried to be a bigger city than it is which we cannot afford. Yes, we need things to attract newcomers but we are not Edmonton. We don't need water slides in a facility that historically cannot be appropriately staffed with fewer services then. Poor planning with pie in the sky focus is the City of Yellowknife. Financially the City



Comments
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has proven to me they choose big splashy things over prudent decision making. I have no faith this survey will have impact, more likely the people in authority pushing through their own priorities. Remeber ripping up 52nd Avenue to create all those bike lanes that would be and so clearly unsafe? I do. But the City council members at the time who were loud about bike lanes got them,paid for by our taxes that go up while our drinking water source is at issue the traffic lights are dangerous the roads are in horrible shape. Sure we need two water slides.
Pertaining to the library, this survey skirts around one of the main issues residents have with the current location: the growing homeless population in the area. I'm firmly in favour of moving the library's location but there needs to be thought given to addressing homelessness more broadly downtown.
Picture of the mining training building could have been on the first question, not the last! I thought it was a different building. Used to be they'd renting evenings to the fiddle society once a week for jams which worked well. Ultimately, unless there's another option for a youth space, I hope that would stay a priority. Evening programming for youth is so important, sorry to read here (I think) that it's only offering day time drop in spaces.
please consider moving the library to the old pool. Not only it will save rental cost but will provide a bigger area for the residents to enjoy reading and other amenities of the library.
Please do something about the homeless people making the library feel unsafe. I have on multiple occasions had them negatively impact the use of the library by myself and children.
Please don't waste the Ruth inch in a skate park that would provide services to like 20 people
Please move the library
Please please please don't let the Wildcat sit closed. Businesses can have a hard time with volatility and I would just hate for the location not to managed by an organization or a board that has keeping the tradition alive as its best value. A historic society or YK foundation or something needs to ensure that year round that place is usable and visitable. It's my favorite place to go in the summer.
Please turn Ruth Inch Pool into the New Library
Please turn the old pool into a new library and arts centre. It's the perfect location for it. The community needs a safe and more accessible library. Plus right on the lake would be an amazing view.
Please use the old pool as a public library!
Preservation of historic buildings Moving the Visitor's Centre Securing a plan for old pool instead of letting it decay
Putting the library by the new pool could mean some creative scheduling for both that would benefit families: story/craft time at the library 30 min before/after swimming lessons means finding parking once, going out once, getting there once, but getting to have two great experiences for families.
Questions 11, 16, 17 were somewhat confusing and overwhelming to answer because of too much wording
Regarding the library- this type of facility in other cities is commonly a more grandiose stand alone building with lots of natural light. I feel like the City could do something really special by relocating the library to the current Ruth Inch pool building. It's located on the lake and walking trail as well s a main throughfare, plus it has a large amount of parking space. Maybe a cafe could even be considered and the pre existing patio utilized. Thanks for your time!
Regardless of what you do, there needs to be more space/rooms for community groups to gather. The Arts community has no suitable locations to rehearse and currently are having to use schools and dance studios to practice which is non a suitable long-term solution. Dedicated studio space to play music and rehearse performing arts is desperately needed in this City.

Comments
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Relocating the library to the Ruth Inch Memorial Pool/ Old Pool. Adding a space for an art gallery/arts space for programming
Rely on in-person engagement, review social impact reports - include residents, not solely on this survey. Leverage multi-level government funding, including legacy or corporate entities.
retrofitting the Ruth Inch site for the Library makes a lot of sense.
Ruth Inch could be used for so many different services/programs (I wanted to select all options). The library should be moved to somewhere safer with more accessibility. The visitor centre is nice but also too small and not in a good location especially with the ongoing issues downtown. Activities need to continue to stay affordable and accessible - like keeping the walking track open for free.
Ruth Inch Memorial should be an indoor skate/bike park! Would be awesome!
Ruth Inch Old Pool should be torn down and or sold to someone to develop. We have been paying too much for its upkeep and by the sounds of this these costs will continue for this building that the city tax payers can not afford. With the mines closing the City should take these costs into consideration. The city should have had a plan on what to do with the Ruth Inch pool before it went to plebiscite. The Wildcat hours are not suitable, they should be open at 7 am. The city hall has too many staff if they are now taking over space in other buildings - what is the cost of that? The visitors centre is located in such a poor location - not big enough to host events celebrating Yellowknife - such as movies on the north, presentations, etc. Besides uncomfortable seating. Move the tennis court in front of the pool to another location.
Ruth Inch would be ideal for the library, but it should be exclusive to a library space
Safe, accessible facilities that all can enjoy
safety is the biggest issue for all ages. downtown is not safe, people need a safe place to go; library supports all ages and variety of inclusive programs and should be prioritized to relocate.
Safety of users. We avoid using the library because of homelessness issues downtown.
Safety. I do not find it safe to walk down town any longer. Have felt this way for several years.
Secure bike parking
Seek a corporate investor or philanthropic investor to sponsor the library moving to RIMP site. And offset ongoing costs. Or look at models where the library, visitor center, and a ServiceNWT/ServiceCanada kiosk/site are integrated with a small commercial venue (like a cafe onsite) to attract ppl. An example like this one in NZ - https://www.southtaranaki.com/our-facilities/te-ramanui
Shout out to Library staff, I participate in two lunchtime activities per week and staff is always supportive and helpful
Showers at the rink are often cold.
Sustainability is about more than GHG emissions and recycling, true sustainability is about those issues and cost to operate. To be truly sustainable encompasses an entire building's lifecycle. It could be cheap to run and produce low emissions, however if it's not used, it's not sustainable
The Centre Square Mall is an absolute horror show. It is not a safe environment for the public or workers. Both the Visitors Center and the Library should be relocated together at the old pool. The constant verbal attacks are not acceptable. Security guards are helpful but not the answer at all. It is not a safe place to visit.
The city could have built a true multiplex holding ice sheets, fields, a pool and a library. This building could have created a community hub and saved millions in building construction costs, and operational costs over all these individual buildings. Creating a vibrant place for families to spend the winter months indoors, being active. It seems the city is closing the barn door after the horses have bolted.



Comments
All respondents are transcribed exactly as written with only minor redactions included where necessary.
The City has a skewed priority focus....it's all about sports, all the time. There are many other options, for both children and adults, besides athletics. Let's welcome everyone, even those whose interests lie outside rinks and arenas and gyms.
The city is slow to react and even slower to accomplish tasks that would bring meaningful change to the city and its residents. The library is a good example. Other examples are access to Great Slave lake for recreational boaters.
The city needs a movie theatre
The City needs to continue to develop and maintain a wide variety of spaces to improve quality of life for existing residents and at the same time creates an attraction for new residents.
The city ought to avoid taking the seemingly convenient but long term expensive route of renting space from large commercial landlords. The owners of the mall ought not to be subsidized by Yellowknife tax payers, especially not when the city already owns great buildings, such as RIMP and City Hall.
The City should not be investing in any new infrastructure, we have way more than what we need for our population. Focus on offering more programs for adults and seniors on evenings and weekends.
The city should not sell off old properties, even if it does not want to use them at this moment, but should look at leasing the properties so that the city can use them again in the future if needed. RIM Pool would be a great location for a new library, perhaps with spaces for youth to hang out after school as there are few free places for youth in the winter.
The City should prioritize good design with flexible spaces, and with youth in mind for their civic facilities. These are places that retain residents especially in a winter city such as ours.
The current library location is terrible for families and children. I haven't taken my daughter there in over a year and rarely take books out for her as parking and access is difficult even to just return books as the mall needs to be open. I would take her more often if there was parking and there were not a mall full of intoxicated people hanging around to pass through.
The current library location is underused and many often intimidated to go there. Having the library at a more central location like the Ruth Inch site would allow greater accessibility and without a doubt increase use of the facility.
The current visitors centre location is a disaster because of all of the intoxicated people blocking the entrance. It should not be used for a public space.
The library and Visitor Centre should both go in the old pool building. There's access from the Frame Lake trail, parking for library users (especially needed by families in the winter) and for visitors, and a view of Frame Lake which should be made use of.
The library has lost significant patronage - especially families and children- due to safety issues of the location. I've heard countless residents express that they will ever come to the library again because it is unsafe. Moving the library to the RIMP would be a perfect solution to the perfect location to centralize our most attended city Facilities. it would allow for a new design and restructuring that better suits a capital city library: more natural lighting, access to nature and outdoor space for programming, free parking, more separation between adult and children spaces so families feel safer and children are encouraged to explore play more without disturbing other library patrons, a dedicate indigenous space, meeting room space that would be beneficial to the entire community (current meeting room is very limiting and windowless) - there has been talk about making a multi use arts facility here that would include a library and this sounds like a beautiful idea as well! A new space would allow for more far reaching programs (as well as collaborations if it were a multiuse arts space) that we currently can't accommodate at our limited library- especially outdoor programming.



Comments
All respondents are transcribed exactly as written with only minor redactions included where necessary.
The library is a huge community resource that puts on a number of programs for children and families but the location makes it feel unsafe and there is very limited parking. The staff are incredibly creative and they should be working in a safer and more welcoming space to better serve the community.
The library should be a bustling place for children and youth to hang out in, safely. I've seen libraries in other cities that even provide gaming systems for kids to play video games. I personally think a new library location and the proposed idea of an indoor skate park at the Ruth Inch Memorial Pool site would be wonderful additions to Yellowknife. Reviving downtown should be focussed more on tourism, and cleaning up the streets.
The library should be moved to a already existing facility such as the new pool, or a area at the multiplex. That way it's one stop for families.
The library should be moved to RIMP. It is a challenge to access for safety reasons with blocked access. I never feel safe going to the library alone all because of the unacceptable access issues.
The library staff and programming are excellent, the location is difficult at times to access and the parking is non-existent. The location leaves a lot to be desired.
The library would be great at the old pool - think of the natural light and architecture to inspire creativity!
The locations of the current library and visitors center are absolutely criminal. Modern libraries have the opportunity to be/do so many things. I grew up in Yellowknife, at our current library. I still use the library services however that space saddens me, its just such a small fraction of what I know it could be if it were given the chance to move into a new building / space. I think there is a lot of opportunity to integrate library spaces with arts spaces and arts spaces with a visitor center space. The current optics of some of these spaces for visitors and locals are embarrassing. Everyone deserves better, we can make that happen.
The mine rescue building is used daily by many children and youth in our community. They need these spaces and they are utilized to their full potential.
The need to ensure there are adequate day use centres/programming available for vulnerable populations so that city facilities are not the only spaces available for them when it is cold. All residents need to feel safe and comfortable in spaces so future city facilities need to consider how they can address multiple needs.
The old pool should be renovated into a new library and/or visitors centre space! It's a good building that can still serve a useful public service.
The old pool should become a library with a cafe that has spaces for community programs to function, for students to study, and for social meetings
The old RIMP as an indoor tennis courts, not enough sport access through the winter and that program always has wait lists and not enough room
The public library is an extremely important resource in our community!
The Ruth Inch pool should be sold to a private company or organization or torn down. City told the residents it would be too costly to renovate and maintain it a few years ago before building the new pool. So now I think it would be more expensive to renovate and maintain it. The city has really not grown in the past few years to support all the facilities and staffing which have been added so much that now city hall is overflowing and staff must be accommodated elsewhere. City residents are facing high taxes, food, fuel, housing etc , also diamond mines are closing , creating economic uncertainty.
The Ruth Inch Pool would be a great Visitors Centre. Parking, setting, accessibility, away from downtown hangout
The safety issues of downtown need to be addressed. It won't surprise me if you hear people wanting to move services and locations out of the core due to safety issues. We need to keep our downtown vital,

Comments
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active and populated. Also - can someone in City Hall answer their phones? I often end up going to the building as it is impossible to get anyone on a phone line.
The staff at these places are fantastic. None of my critiques are about the staff, they are all friendly and welcoming and make these spaces so wonderful.
The visitor centre and library location is convenient and accessible since it is centrally located. However, a major concern is the frequent presence of intoxicated individuals and people struggling with addiction in the area, which can make it feel unsafe. There are often incidents involving shouting, disturbances, and fights nearby. Even Centre Square Mall has security in place, which highlights the need for better safety measures. The city should take stronger action to address these issues and create a safer environment for residents, visitors, and staff.
The visitor centre is a key point in our city to welcome the tens of thousands of visitors we get every year. It's location is not great in the Secure feeling our guests want in the surrounding area has also not been good.
The wildcat cafe should remain with City. The library should move to old RIMP and city divests of that space
The wildcat is the one property not really discussed. The wildcat doesn't need to be owned by the City to maintain it's heritage status. The City could also lease the space for more than 2 summers at a time, and allow someone to truly invest their time and efforts to the space, creating a long-term space. If possible, the Wildcast should also be converted to an all year round property and not just a summer only property. For the Mine Training Building, the city shouldn't continue owning a building that is not a heritage facility but that it rents at a loss each year. If it isn't used by the City this facility should be sold, even for a small amount, to reduce its over all annual operating budget.
The Wildcat should be preserved due to historical significance. It is a tourist attraction and part of the unique charm of Yellowknife. Yellowknife is a city with many young families and facilities should support that. The programming at the library is excellent. The staff are excellent. We love everything that they do. Please thank them for the great work and provide safer conditions for the staff and people visiting the facilities. The staff shouldn't have to deal with the city's social issues. Please support the staff so that they continue to pass along their joy of reading to kids.
The youth centre use of the mine training building needs to be more transparent. There was an RFP to use the space, which was canceled and given to Home base without any review of other proposals. This was done under the guise of it being to support homelessness, but the family centre above it is doing nothing about homelessness. Instead, it was given to two orgs with high advocacy power and no transparency about why. This space use needs review.
the youth. my 14 year old only goes to swimming now and the track at the fieldhouse. she is not into sports. we need more places for our youth to go where she can stay away from "boredom" tendencies and end up with the wrong crowd. the movie theater taken away and the swimming closure right now. feels sad for our youth. their too big for my world and bowling is expensive for her and friends. they hang out at wal mart and tim hortons. i don't mind because i prefer that than downtown. my teenager is bored. and i don't want her looking elsewhere for entertainment.
There are very few locations to hold a theatrical arts rehearsals. Even a black-box theatre would work (for now). The costs for local groups to rent monthly rehearsal space, force higher box office prices. An affordable theatre space would be an asset. If you do go ahead with improving YKPL, be sure there's a Writer's Room access. Tremendous addition to the YKPL list of excellent amenities.
There's a serious lack of culture and performing arts rehearsal spaces in Yellowknife. We're not able to properly support the performing arts sector's expansion which directly feeds into the overall health, wellness, and retention of our community.

Comments All respondents are transcribed exactly as written with only minor redactions included where necessary.
These facilities need to come with the resources for programming. We need youth and recreation workers. Also, the old pool would make a great indoor skate park.
Think about how the cold affects the form accessibility both physically and timewise to and from facilities and does the programming make sense from the foundation or are programs band-aids. Are facilities building capacity and redundencies to account for shortages that are cyclical etc than unexpected.
This facility review presents an opportunity to shape the cultural, creative, social, and relational fabric of our town - at the day-to-day engagement level for the next generation. Strong investment in these spaces and services at this time will have positive impacts for years to come!
This survey is being completed on behalf of the Northern Arts and Cultural center. Factors in developing options for updating the use of existing/new spaces should involve organizations and the GNWT who may have capacity or options to contribute to long-term financial stability of these facilities.
Tourists (including family and friends) do not feel safe going to the visitor centre because of the intoxicated people that hang around the doors to the building. If the City is going to invest in space to promote Yellowknife to visitors, it should be a space where visitors feel safe and we can show off the great things that Yellowknife has to offer.
turn off the holiday lights at city hall
Unfortunately, my comfort levels in spaces like the library and visitor centre have a lot to do with the homeless population in the mall. Once I am inside the public spaces it is okay but the entrance ways and mall are uncomfortable for me to walk through. I often see drug use, yelling, violence and once, even human defecation inside the mall entrances. This obviously speaks to wider community issues, and I am not sure if these services moved that it would solve it. I am an active user of the library (I take out books every two weeks) but I dread going there. I would like to see the library at the old Ruth Inch pool (though the issues will likely follow there.)
Using city facilities to generate revenue by renting out spaces for commercial use and events. Explore ways to attract MICE activity by positioning facilities to accommodate large-scale meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions, where capacity allows.
Visitor Centre and library should move to the old pool. Add a nice playground outside and the pool and trail near by makes it a perfect location for families and visitors. Close the downtown Visitor Centre space- it's a terrible location for anything!
Warm up the hockey rink showers
We are a large family , and my Kids won't Go To the library often because they are afraid of being harassed
We need a more centralized community centre. Build it downtown. Also keep the library downtown.
We need more performing arts space before another athletics space
We need usable public facilities. Kids literally cant access outside for a majority of the year
What about new fire hall in Ruth Inch Pool location. And, eventually library could then go where old hall is. Library, gymnastics, field house, all near eachother. Nice central location to build a better firehall.
when public spaces become gathering points for the unhoused, intoxicated and rowdy crowd, they no longer become gathering spaces for young families that need nice places to spend time and learn in the winter. Whatever or wherever your space is, you have to manage the unhoused or families wont go. the currently library and visitors center would be fine if it were not for that issue. So whatever you do, figure that part out so it is a welcoming space for visitors.
Why are we even talking about the wild cat...? It is used by a private company for 4 months of the year? Why should tax dollars be invested there? what's the ROI for the taxpayers? And why is the city

Comments
All respondents are transcribed exactly as written with only minor redactions included where necessary.
considering upgrades to city hall? I've not heard of any shortcomings to the delivery of services at city hall.... If there are why hasn't the city made the tax payers aware of the challenges with city hall?
Wildcat Cafe is lovely and part of Yellowknife's history but not open enough. Location of library and visitor centre are not attractive to residents nor visitors due to how rough downtown is, which is only going to get worse with new centre across from hardware store. Ruth Inch Memorial Centre would be a great location for the library and visitor centre - accessible parking, close to the walking trail, and away from street people hang-outs.
Windows.
With the obvious increase in the failures of the underground infrastructure, the city must take the future of these services seriously. After all, what would be the point of having these lovely new facilities if they can't be properly maintained due to aging water and sewer lines.
Would love to see bookable rooms for multimedia and music use in a public library setting. Much like the City of Vancouver does with bookable podcast studios etc.
Yellowknife desperately needs a all ages, free to rent, performing Arts space. Venues for live music are mostly 19+, if they're all ages they are quite small like coffeeshops, or they are cost prohibitive for most performers, like NACC. The museum auditorium is an option, but lots of people don't know about it or consider it, also it's hours of operation, no food, and no ability to charge for tickets are factors. Increasing awareness of the museum auditorium is also an option.
Yellowknife needs more facilities dedicated to the display and support of non-commercial art. The art gallery in the visitor's centre is a start, but it is small.
Yes I know we want to revitalize downtown spaces but putting a visitor center in the worst place wasn't effective
Yes, turn up the hot water at the multiplex for people that use the facilities. Also increase the water pressure in the taps in the changerooms. Clean the mold in the showers during the summer months
Young families and youth need to have access to books in a safe place. The library has amazing programming, but my three children are scared of the downtown location that they have witnessed unsafe behaviour at.
Your survey glitched out on my and even though I had provided an answer, it wouldn't let me advance until I provided the exact response it wanted. In addition, it was unclear - did you mean the new Visitors' Centre in the Mall, or the former site that was demolished? But the end of the survey, it really wasn't clear to me...
Programming space for young families + children. MTS was changes to homebase so YWCA Family Centre is now in an unsafe space. Library in mall is also unsafe/inaccessible for young kiddos. Coffee shop space is always a good idea.
Please move the visitor centre to a safe, clean location. The walking track being free is awesome!! Facilities and jobs for youth should be a priority to keep them off the streets.
I think the old pool would be perfect for the visitor centre and library, good parking, nice trails.

Appendix C Project Survey PDF



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

City of Yellowknife Facility Strategic Use Study Survey

Project Background

How do you use City facilities—and how could they work better for you?

The City of Yellowknife is taking a closer look at how some of its most familiar public buildings are used today and how they can best support residents into the future. This City Facilities Strategic Use Study focuses on understanding what's working well, what challenges people experience, and where there may be opportunities to improve services, programs, and long-term sustainability.

This survey is the first step in gathering community input. Your responses will help the City understand how these facilities fit into day-to-day life and will directly inform future options and recommendations.

▢ **Estimated time to complete:** 6 minutes

▢ **Survey closes:** May 11th, 2026

Why is the City doing this study?

The City is undertaking this study to:

- Better understand how public facilities are currently used by the community
- Identify challenges, gaps, and opportunities for improvement
- Plan for changing community needs and future growth
- Support long-term financial and operational sustainability
- Use public input to guide future decisions about City facilities
- Explore opportunities to improve, re-program, or repurpose existing buildings where appropriate

What facilities are included in this study?

This project will focus on six facilities included in the City Facilities Strategic Use Study, including:



CITY HALL



PUBLIC LIBRARY



VISITOR CENTRE



MINING TRAINING
CENTRE



THE WILDCAT



Former RUTH INCH
MEMORIAL POOL

We want to hear from you!

We appreciate you taking the time to complete this survey. Your responses will help the City better understand community vision for the existing six facilities.



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

City of Yellowknife Facility Strategic Use Study Survey

Demographics

We want to ask a little bit about you!

*** 1. Where do you live?**

- ☐ Old town
- ☐ Downtown (New Town)
- ☐ Frame Lake South
- ☐ Kam Lake
- ☐ Range Lake
- ☐ Other (please specify)

2. Which best describes you? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Resident of Yellowknife
- ☐ Business Owner
- ☐ Seasonal Worker
- ☐ Youth / young adult
- ☐ Elder / senior
- ☐ Visitor to Yellowknife
- ☐ City Staff
- ☐ Community organization member
- ☐ Indigenous community member
- ☐ Prefer not to say

*** 3. Which best describes you?**

- ☐ Frequent user of City recreation or community facilities
- ☐ Occasional user of City recreation or community facilities
- ☐ Rare or non-user of City recreation or community facilities
- ☐ Prefer not to say



Awareness and Use of City Facilities

☐ City Hall

☐ Public Library

☐ Visitor Centre

☐ Former Ruth Inch Memorial Pool

☐ The Wildcat Café

☐ Mining Training Centre (Youth Centre)

☐ None of the above

☐ City Hall

☐ Public Library

☐ Visitor Centre

☐ Ruth Inch Memorial Pool (prior to closure)

☐ The Wildcat Café

☐ Mining Training Centre

☐ None of the above

[illegible]

* 7. What do you mainly use the City Facilities for? (select all that apply)

- ☐ Arts and culture
- ☐ Programs or classes
- ☐ Accessing city services
- ☐ Meetings or events
- ☐ Studying, reading, or learning
- ☐ Recreational activities
- ☐ Social activities
- ☐ Visiting with friends and family
- ☐ Not applicable / I do not use City facilities
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ Other (please specify)



City of Yellowknife Facility Strategic Use Study Survey

How facilities are working today

Now we want to hear from you about how you feel the existing six facilities are working to meet, or not meet your needs.

* 8. Overall, how well do the existing City facilities meet your needs?

	Very well	Somewhat well	Neutral	Somewhat poorly	Very poorly	Not applicable / I do not use this facility
City Hall	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Public Library	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Visitor Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Ruth Inch Memorial Pool (prior to closure)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
The Wildcat Café	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Mining Training Centre	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

* 9. What types of challenges have you experienced with the existing City facilities? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Limited hours of operation
- ☐ Location or distance
- ☐ Space is too small or crowded
- ☐ Building layout
- ☐ Accessibility barriers
- ☐ Facilities feel outdated
- ☐ Limited programs or services
- ☐ Lack of parking
- ☐ No major challenges
- ☐ Not applicable / I do not use City facilities
- ☐ Other (please specify)

* 10. How welcoming do you feel City facilities are?

[illegible]



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

City of Yellowknife Facility Strategic Use Study Survey

Specific Facility Related Questions

The next questions are specific to existing municipally-owned facilities.



**Former RUTH INCH
MEMORIAL POOL**

* 11. From the list of options below, which future activities or uses do you think could be a good fit for the former Ruth Inch Memorial Pool building?

- ☐ Community or recreation space (e.g., fitness, drop-in activities)
- ☐ Arts and culture uses (e.g., gallery, studio, performance space)
- ☐ Community meeting or event space
- ☐ Youth-focused programs or facilities
- ☐ Seniors or intergenerational programming
- ☐ Educational or training space
- ☐ Indoor recreation or wellness uses
- ☐ Office or community organization space
- ☐ Commercial or mixed-use space (e.g., café, local services)
- ☐ Indoor public gathering space (year-round use)
- ☐ Library
- ☐ I am unsure / no opinion



PUBLIC LIBRARY

* 12. If you use the Public Library rarely or never, what are the main reasons? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Location is inconvenient
- ☐ Hours of operation don't meet my needs
- ☐ Space is too small or crowded
- ☐ Programs or services don't match my interests
- ☐ Accessibility or comfort concerns
- ☐ I use online or other library services instead
- ☐ Not applicable / I use the library often
- ☐ Other (please specify)

* 13. Which of the following improvements would most encourage you to use the Public Library more often? (select all that apply)

- ☐ Larger or more flexible space
- ☐ Updated facilities or layout
- ☐ Expanded programs or services
- ☐ Improved accessibility
- ☐ Longer or different hours of operation
- ☐ Quieter study or reading areas
- ☐ More community or gathering space
- ☐ Other (please specify)

- ☐ None of the above

* 14. Thinking about the future of the Public Library, which statement best reflects your view?

- ☐ The library should remain in its current location with improvements
- ☐ The library should be considered for relocation to a more suitable location
- ☐ No opinion / unsure

* 15. If relocation were considered for the Public Library, what factors would be most important? (Select up to two)

- ☐ Central or more convenient location
- ☐ Better access by walking, cycling, or transit
- ☐ Larger building or site
- ☐ Opportunities to co-locate with other community services
- ☐ Parking availability
- ☐ Cost and long-term sustainability
- ☐ Not applicable



VISITOR CENTRE

* 16. From the list below, which activities or uses do you think could be a good fit for the existing Visitor Centre space?

- ☐ Community or recreation space (e.g., fitness, drop-in activities)
- ☐ Arts and culture uses (e.g., gallery, studio, performance space)
- ☐ Community meeting or event space
- ☐ Youth-focused programs or facilities
- ☐ Seniors or intergenerational programming
- ☐ Educational or training space
- ☐ Indoor recreation or wellness uses
- ☐ Office or community organization space
- ☐ Commercial or mixed-use space (e.g., café, local services)
- ☐ Indoor public gathering space (year-round use)
- ☐ I am unsure / no opinion



**MINING TRAINING
CENTRE**

* 17. From the list of options below, which activities or uses do you think could be a good fit for the Mining Training Centre building (when not in use by the youth centre during the day)?

- ☐ Community or recreation space (e.g., fitness, drop-in activities)
- ☐ Arts and culture uses (e.g., gallery, studio, performance space)
- ☐ Community meeting or event space
- ☐ Youth-focused programs or facilities
- ☐ Seniors or intergenerational programming
- ☐ Educational or training space
- ☐ Indoor recreation or wellness uses
- ☐ Office or community organization space
- ☐ Commercial or mixed-use space (e.g., café, local services)
- ☐ Indoor public gathering space (year-round use)
- ☐ I am unsure / no opinion



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

City of Yellowknife Facility Strategic Use Study Survey

Values and Priorities

Lastly, we would like to gauge your values and priorities for these facilities.

* 18. Which priority is most important for the future use of City-owned facilities?

- ☐ Accessibility for people of all abilities
- ☐ Affordability and low-cost public access
- ☐ Serving community groups and nonprofits
- ☐ Youth and family benefits
- ☐ Long-term sustainability of the buildings

* 19. Which values should guide decisions about future City facilities? (Select up to three)

- ☐ Accessibility
- ☐ Inclusion and equity
- ☐ Sustainability
- ☐ Community connection
- ☐ Cultural relevance
- ☐ Cost-effectiveness
- ☐ Safety
- ☐ Flexibility for future needs

* 20. If the City needed to make trade-offs, which should be the highest priority?

- ☐ Improving existing facilities
- ☐ Creating flexible multi-use spaces
- ☐ Supporting programs and services
- ☐ Reducing operating and maintenance costs
- ☐ Expanding community access

21. Is there anything else you think should be considered?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey!

Your feedback is valuable and will help inform future decisions about City facilities.

Appendix D Project Display Boards, with Comments

Project Background

CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE Strategic Facility Use Study

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The City of Yellowknife is undertaking a Facilities Strategic Use Study of **six municipally-owned buildings** including:



CITY HALL**PUBLIC LIBRARY****VISITOR CENTRE****MINING TRAINING CENTRE****THE WILDCAT****RUTH INCH MEMORIAL POOL**

The study, being carried by Stantec Architecture, is assessing existing facility conditions, current and future operations. The City wants to hear from you regarding the facility's future uses and community needs.

PROJECT TIMELINE



Project Kick-Off (February) Background/Information Gathering **Engagement Round 1 (April)** Develop Facility Scenarios Engagement Round 2 (June) Preferred Scenario Final City Facilities Strategic Use Study (September)

**LEARN MORE AND SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK AT**
<https://www.yellowknife.ca/en/doing-business/city-facilities-strategic-use-study-2026.aspx>

CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

No comments were collected as part of this display board.

Current Facility Use



HOW DO YOU CURRENTLY USE, OR HOW HAVE YOU USED, THE FACILITIES SHOWN BELOW?

City Hall

- Attend council + committee
- Buy transit tickets
- City business farmers market in park
- City Hall Meeting
- Farmers market (4)
- Gatherings
- Go to markets
- Have dropped things off
- Information
- Lots of outside use
- lunch breaks, walks
- Meetings (3)
- Park (5)
- Park my bike in winter
- Pay bills (2)
- Pay lottery licenses
- Presentations on active mobility and community spaces/infrastructure
- Skating
- Submit paperwork
- Talk to people
- Visit canal, meetings and buy bus passes
- Washroom
- Winter lights

Public Library



- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audio books • Book readings • Borrow books and e-books (6) • Central • Don't use often • Dvd borrow • Everyday at lunch I eat here • Information • Like it • Love the library | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music borrow • Online access • Open space • Programs • Range of books • Read, relax, meet with others • Take kids during holidays • The library is a really good place for quiet and to study | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They have great programs for kids • Tried to go...love the space. Hate the wifi/washroom stick • Use bathroom • Use internet • Weekly user online and in-person • Writer room |
|--|--|--|

Visitor Centre

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After going to Tims • Art shows • Attend presentations • Attended • Been once and it's beautiful • Climate talks • Direct visitors here | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events – book fair, women's gathering, composting workshop • Gallery (3) • Get informed • Love it (2) • Meetings/ presentation • Out of town visitors bring | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social events • Staff welcoming • Taking friends here • Talk with presenters • Visit the gallery/art space • Welcoming |
|---|--|---|

Mining Training Centre

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bike parking • Borrow toys • Connect with youth for programs • Good/Great location (2) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Haven't used (2) • Lots of possible uses including assembly, performing, retail and residential nearby • Moms + babies meet up | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Say hi to students youth • Walk past regularly...love the raised garden beds! • Watch gardens |
|---|--|---|

Wildcat Café

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best patio • Bike parking • Brunch • Café • Current operator • Drag show | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Haven't been in years • Ice cream • Love it + employed by them • Lunch in summer • Lunch! | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manager of WCC currently • Meeting spot • Old town ramble/music • Restaurant • Sketching spot • Sunset watching |
|---|---|--|

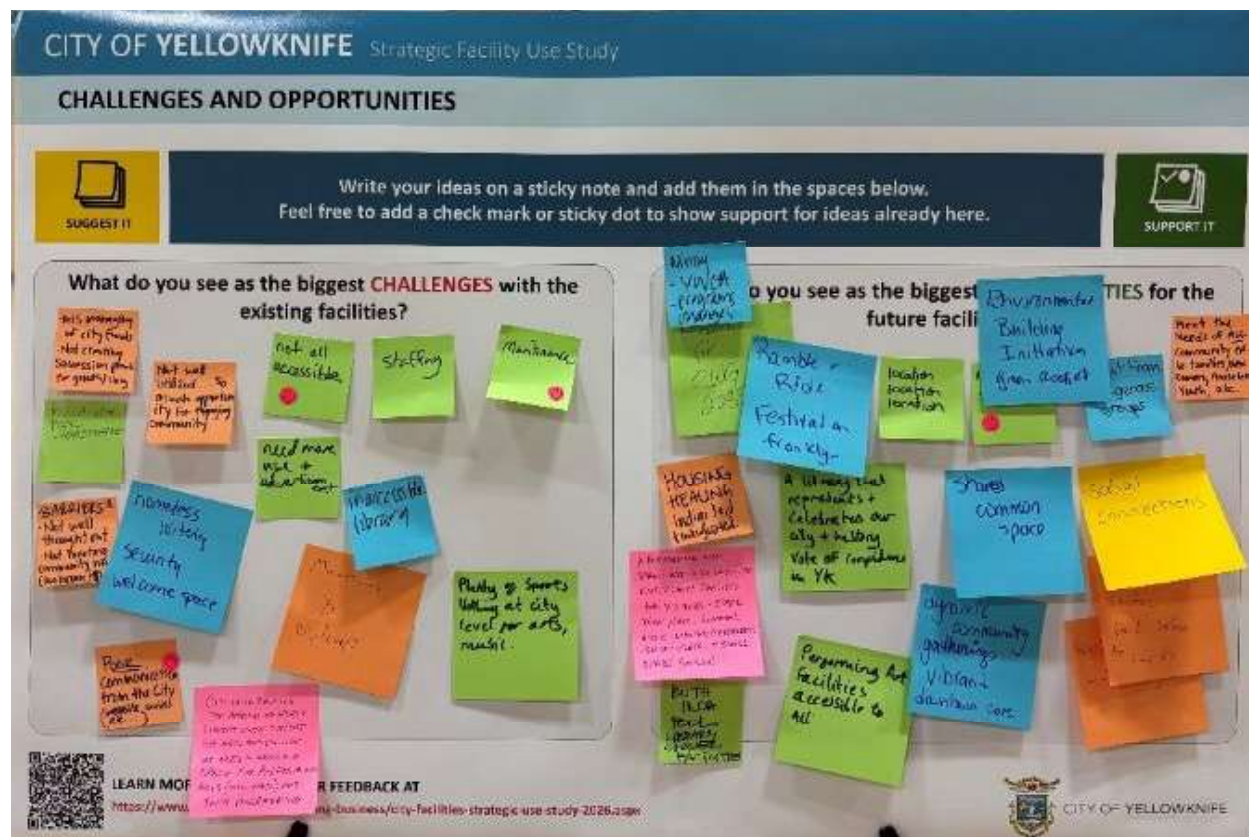
Ruth Inch Memorial Pool

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amazing view and connection to trails great for events + community • Beacon/hub for directions • Bike parking • Can't speak to it • Central | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great hours • Great space • I loved as a kid I was 6 • I loved the pool as a kid • Kayak workshop • Kids playing on the rocks • Kids swimming lessons | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skate • Swim (3) • Swim team parent • Used it in the past and put my recycling there • Washroom • Went all the time |
|---|---|--|

- Connection to trails (2)
- Future use should have been determined before new pool was built



Challenges and Opportunities



*Please note the image above is taken mid-event, all feedback is captured in the text below

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES WITH THE EXISTING FACILITIES?

- Barriers
- City could balance the amount of sports with support for arts and culture
- Homelessness
- Inaccessible library
- Loitering
- Maintenance
- Maintenance and upkeep
- Mis managing of city funds
- Need more use/advertisement
- Not all accessible
- Not creating succession plans for growth/change
- Not meeting community needs (low income)
- Not well thought out
- Nothing at city level for arts, music.
- Plenty of sports
- Poor communication from the City (website, socials etc.)
- Ruth Inch Pool – maintenance
- Security
- Staffing
- We need a working space for performing arts (non-NACC) and youth programming

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE BIGGEST OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE EXISTING FACILITIES?

- A library at old pool might attract greater use because of the parking lot
- A library that represents and celebrates our city + history. Vote of confidence in YK
- A performing arts space would do well to entertain tourists and visitors. Other than NACC Summer Stock-Winter Afternoons. Short plays (a small space – 100 seats) (1)
- Connection to green spaces
- Connection to multi-use paths
- Decisions should be made in the context of goals for downtown Yellowknife
- Dynamic community gatherings
- Environmental building initiative green roof etc. (1)
- Healing
- Housing
- Indigi(enous) led and integrated
- Input from Indigenous groups
- Location, location, location
- Meet the needs of ALL community ppl. i.e families, new comers, houseless, youth, etc.,(1)
- Mining (training centre) YWCA and program changes
- More 3rd spaces (1)
- Performing art facilities accessible to all (1)
- Prepare for CWG 2035
- Ramble and ride Festival on Franklin (2)
- Ruth Inch Pool, Library, Shower Facilities (1)
- Shared common space (1)
- Social connections (1)
- Vibrant downtown core (1)
- Visitor Centre lend bikes to tourists (1)
- Well located in the City (1)
- Welcome space

Future Uses



WHAT FUTURE USES COULD YOU ENVISION FOR THESE FACILITIES?

City Hall

- A better hub: A better thought out market, better winter events
 - City admin
 - Compost and recycling bins throughout the park
 - Concert hall
 - In farmers market more than 2x per week
 - Less water consumption for lawn maintenance
 - Library or conference centre or indoor farmers market
 - Rehearsal space
- (1)

Public Library

- A new library location will increase the overall use of programming
- Class rooms
- Co-working space
- End lease + walk away
- Move down, make housing
- Move it to Ruth Inch pool
- Sell seek funding for purpose built library City deserves it
- Store featuring local vendors
- Street accessible
- Unsafe
- Working space (needs good wifi)

Visitor Centre

- Accessible public washrooms
- Bike lending for visitors (1)
- Bike parking
- Conferences
- More stores
- Not inviting. Make it inviting!
- O.K where it is
- Resource Centre
- Wellness room
- Would be great to see evening events
- Would like to see it advertised more ... I've never been – Why?!

Mining Training Centre

- (more) support for youth programs (1)
- Art Centre
- Art studio rental space
- Art studio space (not a gallery)
- Continue HomeBase use for youth
- Keep!! Grow!! Engage (1)
- More training
- Move library here (1)
- Rehearsal flex programming space rentable
- Sell
- Visitors Centre (1)

The Wildcat Café

- Architectural assessment, re-design the space
- Café in winter
- Craft
- Keep! Make it year round (3)
- Longer contacts for vendors(1)
- More music and arts events (1)
- Needs regular maintenance to succeed (1)
- Programming for moms and babies, seniors and youth drop in
- Ski stop hub
- We need to keep investing in old town. It's dying ... (3)
- Year round (2)

Ruth Inch Memorial Pool

- "Farmers" indoor market (1)
- 3rd space for youth + all ages events - activities
- All ages performing space + rehearsal space
- Botanical Garden. Involves agriculture into community events
- Conference centre
- Library!! Schools can walk + parking
- Lounge w gardens (botanical)
- Maker market – selling art, crafts, earrings, etc.
- Mini golf or arcade
- Performing arts (2)
- Performing arts + library or both
- Shower facility for homeless
- Skate park (2)
- Skate park + trampoline centre (2)
- Sleeping (break) centre
- Some music studio space at least!
- Tea house café
- Teaching kitchen?

- I always vision the old pool as a skate pool
- Indoor event + hangout space (1)
- Library
- Library + arts (2)
- Restaurant
- Safe space for youth (fun activities)
- Shared studio space
- Y.R. hub in pool



Community Values

CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE Strategic Facility Use Study

COMMUNITY VALUES

Add dots to the top 3 **VALUES** that you feel are the most important to be reflected in the future six facilities.

Universal accessibility	Family friendly	Shared spaces	Welcoming spaces	Indigenous reconciliation	Climate resilient
This is a requirement not a value Indeed					
Energy Efficient	Cultural spaces	Youth spaces	Safety and comfort	Fill missing program/service needs	Year-round useability
		How we plan for and support our youth is telling of how we invest in our city's future /where we are going Youth can't go see live music in bars music space for the youth!		Performing arts space + especially for youth performance space rehearsal space	

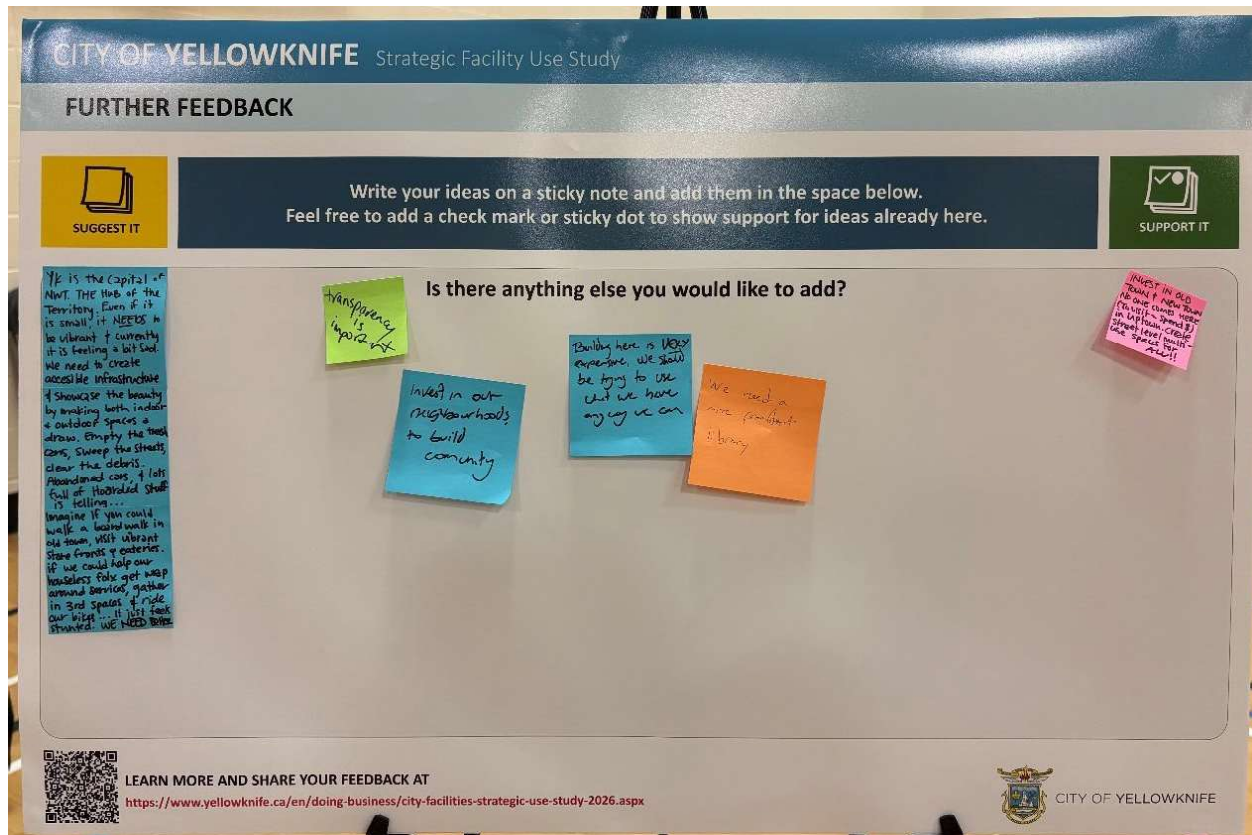
LEARN MORE AND SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK AT <https://www.yellowknife.ca/en/doing-business/city-fa>

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ADD DOTS TO THE TOP 3 VALUES THAT YOU FEEL ARE MOST IMPORTANT TO BE REFLECTED IN THE FUTURE SIX FACILITIES.

- Shared spaces (7)
- Welcoming spaces (6)
- Climate resilient (6)
- Indigenous reconciliation (5)
- Year round useability (5)
- Fill missing program/service needs (4)
 - Performing arts space + especially for youth performance space rehearsal space (1)
- Cultural spaces (3)
- Universal accessibility (3)
 - This is a requirement not a value
 - Indeed
- Family friendly (2)
- Energy efficient (2)
- Safety and comfort (2)
- Youth spaces (1)
 - How we plan for and support our youth is telling of how we invest in our city's future /where we are going
 - Youth can't go see live music in bars. Music space for youth (2)

Further Feedback



*Please note the image above is taken mid-event, all feedback is captured in the text below

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD?

- A purpose built performing arts space/s would transform the city. Especially for the youth!
- Activate government dock better (2)
- All we do it talk about Indigenous consultation. Get on with it. (1)
- Building here is very expensive we should be trying to use what we have anyway we can
- Connect all facilities via multi-use paths and transit. Not just by vehicles. Do not over emphasize vehicular use. Make sure every place is designed with youngest + oldest
- Fix things
- Help makers space so they can do more!
- How about we ask kids of all ages what they are missing. Intense facilities. Their input might surprise you!
- Incentivize landlords to rent out their spaces to businesses
- Invest in old town & new town Noe one comes here (to visit = send \$) in uptown. Create street level multi-use spaces for all
- Invest in our neighborhoods, to build community (1)
- Involve youth & homeless on community initiatives

- Is there anything else you would like to add?
- Lending library
- Library is a gem staff are amazing. I would love to let them loose in a beautiful purpose-built facility that can accommodate a range of modern library programming. (2)
- Like makerspace?
- Make spaces work with community involvement. Take an example of how to build it – via OODI library – itelsink. Multi-purpose space library. Ask residents
- Make YK fun to walk/bike/ski around – all year
- Mom + pop storefronts
- More resources in neighborhoods
- Resource centre
- Sell the library space
- The pool area has great potential as a multi-use, multi-building community hub
- Transparency is important (1)
- Use 50/50 lot to create the new library + cultural center + performing space + meeting spaces, lounge spaces. Youth spaces. Bathrooms + outdoor seating/green
- Warming sports, near skating + trails, between all facilities AND schools!
- We need a more prominent library
- We need to also consider active connections in winter
- YK is the capital of NWT. The HUB of the territory. Even if it is small, it needs to be vibrant & currently it is feeling a bit sad. We need to create accessible infrastructure & showcase the beauty by making both indoor & outdoor spaces a draw. Empty the trash cans, sweep the streets, clear the debris. Abandoned cars & lots full of hoarded stuff is telling... Imagine if you could walk in old town, visit vibrant store fronts & eateries. If we could help our houseless folx get wrap around services, gather in 3rd spaces & ride our bikes...it just feels stunted. We need better. (1)



Appendix E Interested and Impacted Parties Project Presentation

Facility Strategic Use Study

Interested and Impacted
Parties

Engagement Round 1



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Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Project Overview and Background
- Engagement Timeline
- Project Next Steps
- Facilitated Discussions



Welcome and Introductions

Strategic Facility Use Study

Project Overview

What is the City Facilities Strategic Use Study?

Looks at 6 City facilities to consider:

- How they are currently used,
- How well they meet community needs,
- How they could be better used in the future to support services, programs, space and community needs.

Why is the study happening?

- Make sure public facilities are used efficiently and effectively
- Support financial and operational sustainability
- Respond to changing community needs and growth
- Explore opportunities to re-imagine or repurpose existing buildings rather than build new ones where possible

Project Background

Facilities included in the project:



CITY HALL



PUBLIC LIBRARY



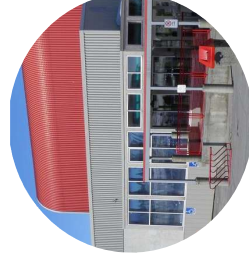
VISITOR CENTRE



MINING TRAINING CENTRE



THE WILDCAT CAFE



RUTH INCH MEMORIAL POOL
Closed

This study will help guide decisions about:

Service delivery – ensuring programs and services are supported by the right spaces

Efficiency – making smarter use of existing facilities and resources

Accessibility – improving how residents experience and access City facilities

Sustainability – supporting long term, cost effective, and adaptable facility use

Community well being – creating spaces that support connection, activity, and everyday community needs



Engagement Process

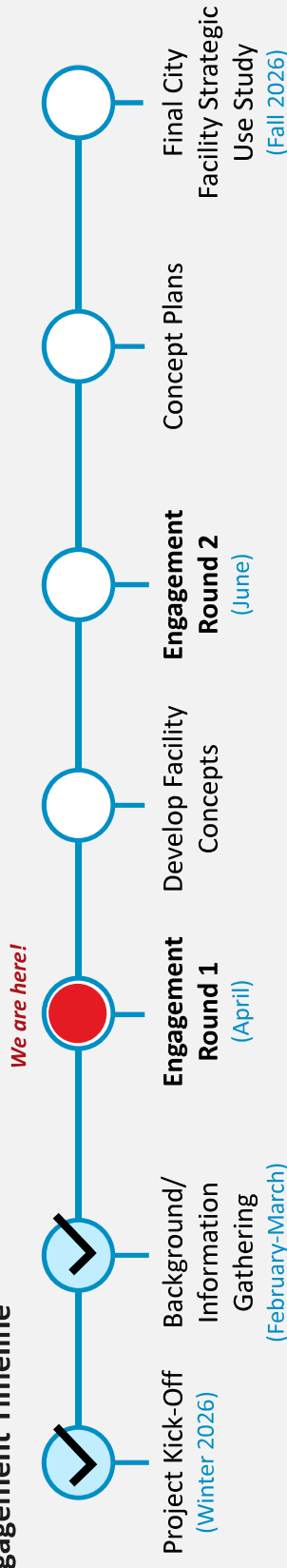
Who is being engaged?

- City Departments
- Interested and impacted parties
- Community members

Why are they being engaged?

- Share their experiences and ideas about the six City facilities
- Figure out what is working well
- Determine what challenges exist
- Inform draft scenarios for improved future facilities

Engagement Timeline



Engagement Events

Engagement Round 1

- City Department Meetings
- Interested and Impacted Parties Meetings
- Public Open House
 - April 30th, 6:30-8:30pm, Multiplex DND Gym
- Yellowknife Chamber Trade Show
 - May 9th and 10th, Yellowknife Multiplex
- Online and Paper Survey
 - April 27th – May 11th
- What We Heard Report

Engagement Round 2

- Staff Workshops
- Interested and Impacted Parties Workshops
- Public Open House
 - Open House #1 TBD
- What We Heard Report



What We Need

Your Feedback

- How do you use or interact with the facilities?
- What are challenges, gaps, and opportunities your organization has with the facilities?
- Highlight priorities, values, or needs that the project team may want to consider
- Be candid—there are no “right” answers

How Feedback Will be Captured and Used

- Notes taken by the project team
- Feedback summarized
- Input reported in a What We Heard Report



THANK YOU

Facilities Strategic Use Study



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