

SURVEY SAYS



In 2018, the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George invited residents in Valemount and area to tell us what the Canoe Valley Community Centre means to them, what they like and what they don't like and what they'd like to see in the future. We had over 130 responses. This is what we heard.

Facility Usage

The majority of respondents (30%) indicated they access the Canoe Valley Recreation Centre less than 10 times per year and use it most often as a spectator for activities. The most popular non-spectator use is the fitness facilities, followed closely by skating. Hockey was the next highest rated activity.



Spectator - 66.4%



Fitness - 50.4%



Skating - 49.6%



Hockey - 33.6%



Meetings & Lounge - 22.7%

Future Services

When asked what facilities or services they would like to see that are not currently provided at the Canoe Valley Recreation Centre, users responded with:

- improved hours of operation for the fitness facility
- better fitness equipment and increased space
- aquatic services including a pool, sauna and/or hot tub
- more services and programming for children and youth
- the addition of squash or racquetball, more concerts, curling facilities and a climbing wall

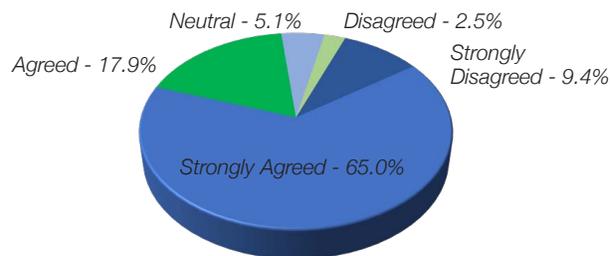


REGIONAL DISTRICT
of Fraser-Fort George



Community Support & Value

When asked if the Canoe Valley Recreation Centre is an important asset, 65.0% strongly agreed with the statement, 17.9% agreed, 5.1% were neutral, 2.5% disagreed and 9.4% strongly disagreed.



When asked about the fair value for the cost of services 35.0% agreed, 30.8% strongly agreed, 22.2% were neutral, 9.4% disagreed and 2.6% strongly disagreed.

Not many residents were in favour of a balance of reduced hours and increased taxes to maintain the facility as 34.2% were neutral, 23.1% disagreed, 21.4% strongly disagreed, 13.7% agreed and 7.7% strongly agreed.

On the question of increased taxes alone to ensure the viability of the facility, 10.3% strongly agreed, 28.2% agreed, 26.5% were neutral, 13.7% disagreed and 10.3% strongly disagreed.

Final Comments

Survey respondents were asked in an open-ended question if they had any general comments to make. Comments centered around the following themes:

- **larger fitness facility with longer hours and better equipment**
- **the important role a recreational facility plays within a small community, especially for the community's youth**
- **taxes should be increased to help better run the facility** and some suggested **increasing user fees**
- **questions about operating expenses for the facility**, including staffing and availability of grants

Next Steps

The survey marked the first step in what will be an ongoing community engagement process as we continue to balance evolving community needs, operational standards and facility upgrade requirements and future funding priorities.