

Village of Radium Hot Springs

Community Recreation Facilities Study

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Executive Summary

Project Overview

The Village of Radium Hot Springs is a community that is undergoing change, and as a result municipal staff and council are seeking to better understand community member's needs and preferences. While overall development strategies and updates to the Official Community Plan (OCP) have been undertaken, the objective of the Community Recreation Facilities Study needs assessment is to understand the community's physical space needs in relation to the development of recreational, social and cultural activities and events over the next 5-10 years. As the Village of Radium commences strategic planning to determine a 20-year community vision, this research will help inform development and operational strategies for its publicly owned spaces. Specifically, the Village of Radium seeks to understand community interests, support and projected use of current facilities and programs to help determine if current infrastructure meets today and tomorrow's demands. The results will inform decisions around upgrades and future development of existing facilities such as the community hall, baseball diamond, ice skating rink, parks and trail networks as well as identify opportunities for new indoor and outdoor facility developments.

Through the Community Recreation Facilities Study, the Village seeks to understand and explore:

- values and attitudes towards current community spaces including, facility use patterns, accessibility, community hall expansion and opportunities for future indoor and outdoor developments;
- recreation, arts and leisure activity, programming and event needs and staffing;
- opportunities to enhance communication with residents;
- opportunities for partnerships and program development;
- recreation infrastructure development and its influence on second homeowner conversion.

Research Strategy

A review of literature discussing current trends in recreation and an analysis of relevant documents provided support for the goals and objectives of the Radium Community Recreation Facilities Study. Documents examined included the 2010 Comprehensive Community Survey, Village of Radium Hot Spring's Official Community Plan and the Radium Adventure Park and Multi-Use Facility Vision. This section was concluded by an overview of the 14 facilities explored in this study.

The Village of Radium Community Recreation Facilities Study used a structured survey and focus group as means of data collection. This research strategy was chosen to best obtain input from a broad cross-section of the community including full and part-time residents. The online survey was accessible from July – September 2013 with 103 surveys at least partially or entirely completed. A World Café style focus group was conducted September 24, 2013 and held at the Radium Community Hall. Four questions were designed and participants were given 15 minutes to discuss each question. In total eight participants attended the World Café event and were divided to two groups:

- Young adults (18-39)/Families with young children
- Seniors/Retirees/Recent second homeowner converters

Findings and Discussion

Response from residents conveyed overall satisfaction with the level of facilities and services for a community of its size. Use patterns, and open feedback received throughout the community consultation process suggests improvements to current indoor infrastructure, an increase in programming and greater promotion of activities and events is required to maximize overall facility use within the Village. Desire for an increase in the number of trails and parks ranked high amongst all users and demand for an increase in programs would support the need to improve the community hall space and increase overall use of gym and meeting space facilities.

In addition, communication, second homeowner engagement and partnership strategies were examined as they relate to overall opportunities to participate in recreation and leisure activities. Respondents acknowledge the accessibility of mayor, council and staff through formal and informal channels but also noted a need for increased communication strategies and avenues when it comes to promoting activities and events within the community. Increasing the frequency of the village newsletter, development of an online calendar of events, expanding the Village's social media presence and installing new signage and poster boards were all seen as means to improve access to information regarding activities and events. By engaging and developing partnerships, the Village will better serve residents and support capacity building initiatives as well as reduce service costs.

Recommendations

Based upon feedback received throughout the consultation process and supporting where applicable the goals, strategies and policies found within the Official Community Plan, this section provides a series of recommendation to support recreation, arts, culture and leisure infrastructure and program development. It is important to recognize that partnerships with a number of organizations, public, private and non-profit are critical in supporting many of these recommendations. Each of the recommendations takes into account the needs of each subgroup in the community and provides a balanced approach to facility and program development over the next 10 years. Short-term (1-4years) and long-term (5+years) recommendations are provided in the following areas:

- Outdoor facilities
- Indoor facilities
- Programs, Activities and Staffing
- Communication

Outdoor Facilities

Municipal outdoor facilities and amenities had the highest level of satisfaction and use with part-time residents providing the strongest support for the continued development of outdoor spaces. With the highest frequency of use, an expanded trail network was a high priority for all residents (families, seniors, full-time, part-time). As such, numerous recommendations support the continued development and expansion of these facilities and amenities.

Short-Term:

- *Pursue the continue development of trail and pathway strategy as per strategies and policies outlined in Policy 3.5.3 of the Official Community Plan. Use established partnerships to expand trail network and work with business and residential landowners to increase accessibility and movement throughout neighborhoods and business zones.*
- *Develop a Village specific walk/bike map.*
- *Continue to develop bike park and pump track area to increase use, access and safety.*

- *Develop a park maintenance and priority strategy and continue to upgrade aging outdoor infrastructure, as funding is made available.*
- *Seek funding and partnership opportunities to upgrade ice-skating rink, basketball court and improve lighting in central park area.*
- *Evaluate opportunities and options to repurpose baseball diamond.*

Long-Term:

- *Explore and proceed if feasible with OCP Goal 3.4.1 to acquire lands adjacent to the Columbia River Wetlands and develop river access.*
- *Assess the potential for new outdoor public washrooms located near the Stanley Street playground and Legend's Field.*
- *Monitor activity trends, demand and explore the development opportunities for tennis courts, dog park and outdoor amphitheatre.*

Indoor Facilities

Low use patterns of indoor facilities has resulted from poor awareness of community meeting spaces and limited programming in venues such as the community hall and school gym. In order to begin to maximize indoor space use and supported through staffing and communication initiatives, the Village should strive to increase community programming as well as rentals by public, private and non-profit community groups. As the Radium Community Hall approaches a critical point in its building lifecycle, short-term and long-term strategies will need to be considered as activity and facility use patterns evolve.

Short Term:

- *Increase awareness of the availability of municipal facility rentals for community meetings, activities and events for meeting and small group activities and can be promoted through the Village of Radium Website, word of mouth and village to business networking*
- *Pursue partnership opportunities to develop new and enhance existing indoor arts, culture and leisure program spaces.*
- *Community/Senior's Hall*
 - *Pursue cosmetic upgrades to current facility, which includes paint, flooring, HVAC system and overall décor.*
 - *Rename current community hall facility or standardize name use to Radium Community Hall.*
 - *Increase revenue generating activities and ventures to help offset costs associated with operations and maintenance.*

Long Term:

- *Pursue partnership opportunities to develop new indoor arts, culture and leisure program spaces.*
- *Community/Senior's Hall*
 - *Continue to explore the long-term vision and expansion as discussed in Phase 2 of the Adventure Radium Park and referenced in the Official Community Plan.*
- *Library*
 - *Monitor use pattern, promote an increase in programming and continue to include library in future multi-use facility discussions and developments concepts.*

Programs, Activities and Staffing

A need for expanded recreation, arts, culture and leisure programs, activities and events was clearly communicated throughout the Community Recreation Facilities Survey. Required to support Village run programs as well as develop private and non-profit community activities, events and programs, the Village of Radium should explore and update job description and duties for Village Event Coordinator position to include community activity and recreation programming. Provision of youth and teen specific spaces and programs was an important theme throughout the community consultation process. While outdoor play spaces exist, and need for safe indoor spaces and programmed activities was deemed very important.

Short Term

- *Develop Event Coordinator position to be responsible for researching community activity trends and programming new weekly and monthly adult recreation, arts, culture and leisure programs.*
- *Seek partnership and staffing opportunities to support and provide an increase in programs and activities occurring within the current Community Hall and School Gym.*
- *Explore and develop youth/teen coordinated drop in activities and events within current local facilities and amenities as well as exploring opportunities to partner with the Invermere Youth Center.*

Long Term:

- *Develop and expand partnerships with local private and public organizations and educational institutions to increase community activities, program availability and facility use and bookings.*
- *Explore opportunities to develop a staffed, youth specific facility.*
- *Increase staff funding opportunities and structure to support year-round student leadership position.*

Communication

Civic and community engagements are supported through strong municipal communication strategies. While current communication rebranding and strategy efforts are underway, the Village of Radium should continue to build and focus on the following:

Short-Term:

- *A communication plan, which includes local and part-time resident engagement strategies.*
- *Develop new online/print activities and event calendar.*
- *Increase the frequency of Village Newsletter to a minimum of 4-6 issues per year.*
- *Explore opportunities to purchase and install electronic signboard and/or permanent poster board located near the Visitor Information Center.*
- *Explore opportunities to increase visibility through paid advertisements and monthly news articles in local newspapers and magazines including the Columbia Valley Pioneer, Invermere Valley Echo and Valley Peak.*

The Village of Radium Hot Springs provides numerous facilities and amenities for residents and visitors alike to enjoy. Building upon the input provided and creating a balanced approach between available funding and desired development, the Village of Radium will continue to meet community service needs and build the infrastructure and program needed to support community growth and sustainability.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Project Overview & Objectives

The Village of Radium Hot Springs is a community that is undergoing change, and as a result municipal staff and council are seeking to better understand community member's needs and preferences. In their drive to be an inclusive community, the Village faces three complimentary opportunities that include the creation of more local employment, a higher ratio of permanent residents as well as "the infrastructure and facilities present to provide the highest quality of life" (Village of Radium Hot Springs, 2013, p. 4). Supporting this drive, the Community Recreation Facilities Study, allows the municipality to further their understanding of the community's current and future space and facility requirements for recreational, social and cultural activities and events.

Community preferences, needs and attitudes were first examined in 2010 through a comprehensive community survey executed by Twist Marketing (Fields, 2010). This survey related to a preferred development vision for the community and provided a foundation for long-term goals and strategies developed within the 2013 Official Community Plan (OCP). This survey also provided support and rationale for economic development and community rebranding strategies executed in 2012 (Fields, 2010). While overall development strategies and updates to the OCP have been undertaken, the objective of the Community Recreation Facilities Study needs assessment is to understand the community's physical space needs in relation to the development of recreational, social and cultural activities and events over the next 5-10 years. As the Village of Radium commences strategic planning to determine a 20-year community vision, this research will help inform development and operational strategies for its publicly owned spaces. Specifically, the Village of Radium seeks to understand community interests, support and projected use of current facilities and programs to help determine if current infrastructure meets today and tomorrow's demands. The results will inform decisions around upgrades and future development of existing facilities such as the community hall, baseball diamond, ice skating rink, parks and trail networks as well as identify opportunities for new indoor and outdoor facility developments.

1.2 Rationale & Purpose

The goal of a needs assessment is to identify the assets of a community and allow community members to provide their opinion about "the development of services within the community, their satisfaction with services, and what particular services are needed" (Sharma et al. 2000, pg. 1). The Village of Radium Hot Springs is undertaking this research to understand the strengths and limitations of current community gathering, activity and event spaces. It seeks to ensure that current community spaces are the correct size and have the necessary amenities, features and services community members seek without duplicating other venues and community commercial spaces. Current facilities are dated or lack accessibility and the Village envisions a multi-purpose space for leisure activities such as dance, yoga, children/senior craft and recreation programs as well as space large enough to hold community dances, banquets and celebrations (Personal Communication – Village of Radium Hot Springs). This project aims to support goals and strategies under Section 3.5 - Parks, Recreation and Culture, currently outlined in the 2013 Official Community Plan (OCP), Radium 2030, adopted July 10, 2013 and explored in section 2.4 of this report.

1.3 Outcomes and Understanding

By further understanding which individuals and groups are using and accessing municipal community spaces, the Village of Radium Hot Springs can begin to plan and budget for future expansion and possible redevelopment of existing community spaces.

Through the Community Recreation Facilities Study, the Village seeks to understand and explore:

- values and attitudes towards current community spaces including, facility use patterns, accessibility, community hall expansion and opportunities for future indoor and outdoor developments;
- recreation, arts and leisure activity, programming and event needs and staffing;
- opportunities to enhance communication with residents;
- opportunities for partnerships and program development;
- recreation infrastructure development and its influence on second homeowner conversion.

With this information, the Village of Radium Hot Springs can begin to further adopt strategies, policies and programs to support overall community health and engagement for permanent and part-time residents as well as tourists.

1.4 Report Organization

This report is divided in 8 sections including this introduction. Section 2 delivers a background and document review providing an understanding of the community, previous research and official documents supporting the need to undertake this research. Section 3 is a review of literature examining key topics related to project goals and objectives. Section 4 presents the research strategy. Section 5 delivers an analysis of the findings from the community consultation process, and Section 6 provides a discussion of these findings based on the key research questions. Section 7 offers recommendations for community infrastructure and program development and Section 8 concludes this report.

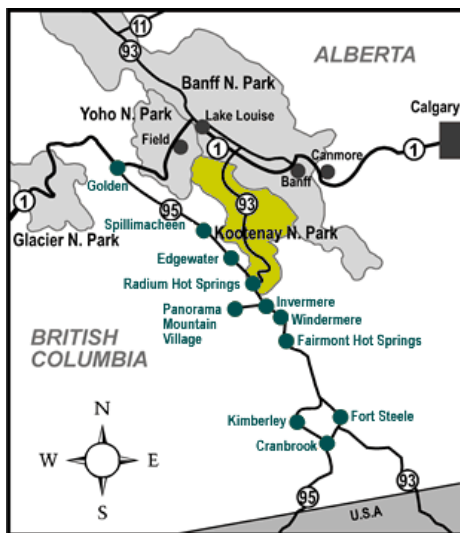
2. Background and Document Review

This section is designed to review municipal documents and previous research which support the need to further engage residents with regards to their current and future recreation, arts and culture facility needs. This section will provide a review of the 2010 comprehensive community survey, Twist Marketing’s strategic marketing recommendations, the 2013 Official Community Plan, the Radium Adventure Park and Multi-Use Facility funding application and conclude with an overview of current community arts, culture, recreation and leisure facilities.

2.1 Community and Client Profile

Since the early 1920’s, the Village of Radium Hot Springs has welcomed visitors to enjoy its hot springs and outdoor recreational pursuits. Located at the junction of Highway 95 & 93, the Village of Radium Hot Springs draws its name from the mineral hot springs located 2 kilometers away within the adjacent Kootenay National Park. First discovered in the 1800’s and developed in the 1920’s, visitors flocked to the hot springs for their healing powers (Dickerson et al., 2010). Today visitors from all over the world come to enjoy its outdoor recreational opportunities, which include ski, golf, hiking, biking and small-town community lifestyle. Located 136 kilometers from Banff, Alberta, 263 kilometers from Calgary, Alberta, and 103 kilometers from Golden, BC (See Figure 1.1 – Regional Map), Radium Hot Springs is one of 8 communities, which comprise the region known as the Columbia Valley.

Figure 1.1 – Regional Map



BC Rockies Information Portal (2012)

Since its incorporation on December 10th, 1990, the Village has seen a boom in recreational property investors from Alberta. Today, the Village of Radium Hot Springs is home to 777 full time residents in 343 occupied private dwellings (Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute, 2013). The mean age of population is 47.5 with an average of 2.2 persons per household (Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute, 2013). Of the 343 households, over 140 are comprised of couple families without children (Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute, 2013).

In addition, the Village of Radium is host to an additional 900 part-time/visitor dwellings within the municipal boundary (Personal Communication, Village of Radium Hot Springs, 2013). With a large part-time

population, the municipality faces challenges as they attempt to “balance the interests of recreational property owners, retirees and visitors while providing a spectrum of local employment for a stable full-time population” (Village of Radium, 2013). Differing values and attitudes towards community development exist between full and part-time residents requiring the village to manage policies and strategies to support the varying needs of residents (McNicol & Buxton, ND, p .3).

In 2012 over 53,000 visitors passed through Radium Hot Springs while exploring the East Kootenay Region of British Columbia (Personal Communication, Tourism Radium, 2013). As such, tourism is the largest industry for the community with roughly 900 visitor beds (Personal Communication, Tourism Radium, 2013). The second largest industry within the community is forestry supported through the recent re-opening of the Canfor Saw Mill, which was previously closed in 2009 (Personal Communication, Tourism Radium, 2013).

The community provides a variety of services for tourist and residents, which include financial institutions, distance learning center, library, grocery and liquor stores, restaurants, pubs, cafes and a variety of retail stores. Although the community is a hub for visitors to the Columbia Valley, residents are required to travel to the community of Invermere, BC, 15 kilometers away for medical services which includes a regional hospital, health and dental clinics, pharmacies as well as educational facilities consisting of primary, secondary and post-secondary schools.

2.2 2010 Community Survey

In October 2010, The Village of Radium Hot Spring hired Twist Marketing to undertake a comprehensive community survey. This survey's goals were to explore a preferred development vision for the community and to support the Village of Radium Hot Spring's Official Community Plan update. Supporting the understanding of a preferred development vision, this comprehensive survey explored the areas of housing, economic development, employment, recreational property ownership, sustainable development and smart growth principles, recreational & municipal facilities as well as overall perceived quality of life in the Village of Radium. The survey provided two perceived pathways for Radium's evolution as a community with 69% supporting Vision #2.

- Vision 1 – a recreational ‘playground,’ largely exclusive resort community with majority part-time (mostly summer) residency; or
- Vision 2 – A more self-sufficient, sustainable resort community with a full range of services and amenities, and a breadth of demographic/income/housing.

(Fields, 2010, p. 2)

This vision acknowledges the requirement to balance development and community members' needs to achieve economic, social and environmental sustainability. Challenges exist within the Village where 55% of dwellings are occupied by second homeowners who are often pursuing a quiet and slow retreat, versus a full-time population seeking a more self-sustainable and economically diverse community (Fields, 2010, p. 3). This vision recognizes that “recreational property owners will continue to be attracted to Radium, but there is a desire to balance that dynamic out with more local employment and more full-time residency” (Fields, 2010, pg. 3). Ensuring balance provides a greater ability to attract new residents, provide long-term sustainability for current residents and supports conversion of part-time homeowners to full-time residents. As presented in Twist's survey results, part-time residents themselves are the pathways to an increase in full-time residency and development of a more sustainable community in which people reside (Fields, 2010, p. 2).

From this report, a number of findings lead to and support the need for the Village of Radium to undertake the Community Recreation Facilities Study. Two questions, #28 & #29 in Twist's 2010 Community Survey related directly to the development of recreation and municipal facilities. Question #28 (Appendix L) asked respondents to prioritize a list of recreational facilities perceived to be most urgently needed. Hiking/biking trails were considered most important by

59%, while fitness centre, community centre and multipurpose facility were found to be moderately important while additional outdoor facilities and amenities were seen as less important. When asked in Question 29 to prioritize a list of municipal facilities felt to be most urgently needed in Radium over the next 5 years, respondents felt that enhancing/renovating/rebuilding the community hall was modestly important while development of a community cultural centre, conference/distance education meeting room and expanded library were not very important. From the responses to these questions, Twist recommended the development of a recreation facilities plan and suggested “a mix of municipal and recreational facilities should be considered in the context of municipal financial management/investment/site location within an Official Community Plan” (Fields, 2010, p. 25).

The Official Community Plan was adopted July 10, 2013 and, as discussed in section 2.4, it provides goals and strategies to support parks, recreation and culture within the Village of Radium Hot Springs and was based on the community consultation conducted throughout the 2010 community survey process. Prior to developing strategies and allocating funds to facility development, programs and services, the Community Recreation Facilities Study allows the Village of Radium Hot Springs to further investigate facility and services needs supporting implementation of OCP strategies.

2.3 Strategic Marketing Plan

As a follow up to the 2010 Community Survey, Twist Marketing was hired to develop branding and marketing initiatives for the Village of Radium Hot Spring. In September 2013, Twist provided the Village with their 2013 Tactical Marketing Recommendations, which provides a strategic economic development framework to support the village’s current and upcoming marketing initiatives. Based on a larger economic development agenda to increase the permanent population base, Twist’s strategy focuses on the conversion of “part-time to more part-time or full-time residency – because that process creates greater community self-sufficiency, and drives demand for amenities and services residents feel are deficient” (Twist, 2013, p. 2). The outlined marketing initiatives would support and “illuminate pathways for conversion of PT to FT residency” (Twist, 2013, p. 2) and provided numerous tools to create demand and support relocation decisions. This included a redesign of the Village of Radium’s web site with a two-fold approach using an “Invest Tab”, acting as a lead generating tool, with support documents such as fact sheets, relocation packages, entrepreneurial success stories, labour marketing information, business and professional services as well as investment and development advantages. The second approach being the “Living Tab”, supporting services and programs within the community and would include transportation, housing, jobs, education as well as recreational and social services. This website would be a comprehensive communication tools between the Village of Radium and its current full-time, part-time and future residents. Feedback developed throughout the community consultation phase of the Community Recreation Facilities Study may further provide insight and support to the website and communications strategy as proposed by Twist.

2.4 Official Community Plan

Adopted July 10, 2013 after public review, the Village of Radium Hot Springs presented their Radium 2030 Official Community Plan (OCP). Official community plans provide municipalities with a long-term vision as well as goals and strategies to support that vision (Village of Radium, 2013). Planning principles outlined in the Village of Radium Hot Spring’s Official Community Plan were derived through a comprehensive community survey and through meetings with residents and business stakeholders (Village of Radium, 2013). Twist Marketing executed this

public consultation process and their findings examined a preferred development vision for the community as discussed in section 2.2 of this report. The intent of the planning principles is to reflect a long-term vision of the community. “Key planning initiatives include nurturing a strong functional and visual village centre, providing functional recreational facilities, maintaining architectural design standards, and expanding our off-street pathway system” (Radium Hot Springs, 2013, p. 4). While strategies outlined in the Official Community Plan document support numerous areas such as residential/commercial development, public safety, housing, economic development and the environment, the intent of this review is to explore goals set by the municipality supporting recreation development and an examination of OCP Section 3.5 titled Parks, Recreation and Culture.

2.4.1 Municipal goals which support recreational development

The Official Community Plan provides a set of broad goals, which support social, economic and environmental sustainability within the community. A total of 12 goals are included in the document and provide direction for achieving the desired long-term community vision. A number of goals support the enhancement and further development of recreation, arts and culture facilities and programs within the community. Outcomes, recommendations and actions found within the Community Recreation Facilities Study should complement and support OCP goals.

Goals supporting recreation development include:

- Goal #4: Further develop our sidewalks and pathway networks to connect natural amenities, and commercial and residential areas to each other, as well as to adjacent communities.
- Goal #7: Develop additional recreational, park and cultural facilities for the Village.
- Goal #9: Continue to develop partnerships with the private sector, non-profit organizations and neighboring jurisdictions that will assist the Village in achieving cooperative and community goals.
- Goals #11: Acquire lands, as funding and opportunities allow, for a broad spectrum of municipal uses, including but not limited to park, institutional (i.e.: library), recreational (i.e. trails), and community gatherings.

(Village of Radium Hot Springs, 2013, p. 6-7)

2.4.2 OCP Section 3.5

Section 3.5 of the OCP titled Parks, Recreation and Culture provides the goals, policies and strategies used to guide planning decisions around facilities and services investigated within the Village of Radium Hot Springs Community Recreation Survey. This section states, “the Village is committed to enhancing the quality of life and leisure by providing cost effective programs and facilities for recreation and culture throughout the community. As Radium Hot Springs becomes increasingly developed, it is important to ensure that the village parks, open space and recreational facilities meet the needs of its growing population as well as support local tourism” (Village of Radium Hot Springs, 2013, p. 12). A broad set of goals is defined within this section and include:

- Provide a diverse range of recreational and cultural services, facilities and amenities that cater to a wide range of age groups.
- Plan and build the financial resources to renovate or construct a modern facility that serves multiple purposes.
- Conserve and promote our natural heritage, arts and culture.

(Village of Radium Hot Springs, 2013, pg. 12)

While goals under Section 3.5, Parks, Recreation and Culture are very broad, a number of strategies are outlined within the OCP to provide direction on future initiative and activities. Strategies supporting outdoor recreational initiatives, specifically land, park and trail

developments are well stated and focus on acquisition and expansion. Indoor facility strategies are much less defined and focus on partnerships to increase opportunities for future development.

The strategies outlined by the municipality to support 3.5 goals include:

- Support the protection of environmentally significant areas when considering the acquisition and development of parks and open space.
- Require developers to provide neighborhood parks that are within reasonable distance for pedestrian access.
- Work with the community, non-profit societies, developers, First Nations, other levels of government, and Parks Canada in acquiring and maintaining parks, recreational trails and publicly accessible open spaces.
- Develop partnerships for the promotion and development of arts and culture related programs and assets.
- Encourage the donation or bequest of privately owned lands which support the objectives of the Village's park, open spaces and pathway systems and assists prospective donors in determining eligibility for tax deductions.
- Pursue opportunities for partnerships and cooperative construction and operation of recreational and cultural facilities with the private sector, and non-profit and community organizations.
- Encourage private sector developments to include recreational amenities that are available to the public.
- Consider including library, museum, interpretive and cultural components as part of the proposed community facility project.

(Village of Radium Hot Springs, 2013, p. 13)

2.5 Radium Adventure Park and Multi-Use Facility Vision

In 2011, the Village of Radium Hot Springs applied for funding from the Community Recreation Program to support the development of the Radium Adventure Park. Seeking to expand public recreation and support community health, this two-phase project explored the need to develop and improve outdoor parks and playgrounds as well expand and enhance the current community hall facility. Phase 1 focused on new developments and improvements to outdoor fitness and recreation amenities found in the community's central park area. The proposal outlined and envisioned amenities to include summer and winter water/snow slides, waterpark, upgrades to dated play structures and improvements to the outdoor skating rink. Phase 2 focused on the need to upgrade and expand the current community hall. These improvements included the ability to accommodate groups up to 400, develop a ground level access to provide space for the library, youth center, fitness studio, offices and ice rink change rooms on the lower floor. Partial funding was received in 2012 and allowed the Village to undertake upgrades to dated play structures at the Stanley and Kirk Street playgrounds. Still supporting the Radium Adventure Park concept and by engaging in the Community Recreation Facilities Study, the Village is able to parallel this vision with community members' recreational needs to prioritize funding and development strategies.

2.6 Municipal Structure & Recreation Services in the Village of Radium Hot Springs

Currently, the municipality supports arts, culture, recreation and leisure through the coordination and development of parks, green spaces and community facilities. At this time the Village of Radium does not provide any coordinated leisure services such as dance, arts or personal learning opportunities beyond event facilitation and Adventure Radium youth summer day camps. Community recreation and leisure activities are self-organized by individuals, non-profit and private businesses using municipal or private facilities.

2.7 Facilities Listing

The Village of Radium Hot Springs supports and maintains a variety of public community spaces. As research goals include understanding the strengths and limitations of current community activity and gathering spaces, village staff and council have identified 14 facilities for evaluation and are identified in Figure 2.2, Radium Facilities Map. Community satisfaction, use patterns and awareness of each facility are reviewed within the community survey findings and discussion sections of this report. The following table, Figure 2.1, Community Facilities Listing provides an overview and grouping of the 14 facilities discussed within this report.

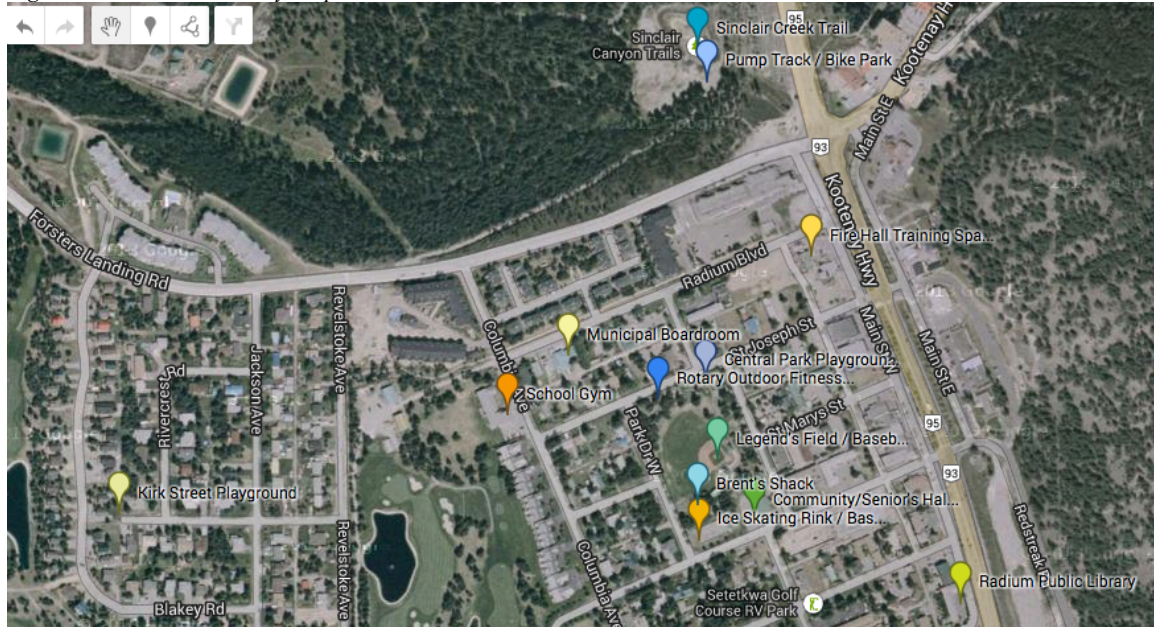
Figure 2.1 – Community Facility Listing

Municipal Facilities within the Village of Radium Hot Springs	
Outdoor Trails & Pathways	
Sinclair Creek Trail & Picnic Area	A 2.5km loop interpretive trail located along the Sinclair Creek
Community Walking/Hiking Trails	Pedestrian pathways and connectors located throughout the community
Pump Track/Bike Park	A trail system consisting of jumps and corners
Outdoor Parks & Playgrounds	
Stanley Street Playground	Community youth playground structure, upgraded and re-opened Fall 2013
Kirk Street Tot Lot Playground	Community youth playground structure, upgraded and re-opened Fall 2013
Rotary Outdoor Fitness Equipment	Adult and youth outdoor body weight fitness structures built in 2010
Legend's Field/Baseball Diamond	Maintained baseball diamond in summer and sliding hill in winter. Currently no league-play but used by individuals and Adventure Radium programs
Outdoor Ice Skating Rink	Current ice rink has squared corners creating obstacles for hockey play and snow clearance. No change rooms facilities
Brent's Shack	A concession facility opened in 2011 and upgraded in 2012
Indoor Community Activity Facilities	
Radium Community/Senior's Hall	Large single room facility with the capacity of 200 people Can only support one user group at a time and has limitations for certain recreational and leisure activities
Library	Established in 1994 and currently located on Main Street
School Gym	Use is currently limited by non-portable large gymnastics equipment. Other groups/activities are limited
Indoor Meeting Space	

Municipal Boardroom	Large meeting room available for public and private bookings through the Village Office.
Fire Hall Training Space	Newly constructed and opened in November 2010, the Radium Fire Hall provides a large training room available for private and public meetings and programs.

Facilities included in the listing were identified for study by Village of Radium staff and council and details were compiled from the Village of Radium Hot Springs website www.radiumhotsprings.ca.

Figure 2.2 – Radium Facility Map



Google Map (2013), Village of Radium Hot Spring

2.8 Background Summary

This section provided a review of The Village of Radium Hot Spring's community profile, municipal services and documents supporting the rationale for this Community Recreation Facilities Study. By reviewing previous community preferences, the Village's guiding policies, strategies and big vision plans, further links between planned and desired recreation and community facility development can be drawn. The subsequent section will further support the discussion and recommendations through a review of literature regarding trends in recreation, recreation service delivery and second homeowner literature.

3. Literature Review

3.1 Overview

Through a review of literature and key topics related to the goals and objective of this research, context and perspective for situational factors impacting the reasons to further investigate community recreation facility needs within the Village of Radium Hot Springs are highlighted. This section includes an overview of current national recreation trends, challenges of aging community infrastructure and tensions in communities with large second homeowner populations.

3.2 Current National Trends in Recreation

Observing trends can assist communities to identify future opportunities as “understanding and forecasting trends including economic, social, environment trends and changing consumer behaviours is important in responding with an appropriate strategic approach” (Sustainable Tourism Online, 2010). Leisure, recreation and physical activity have numerous benefits for individuals and communities alike. “Recreation is about activities, pastimes and experiences which are freely chosen. They are usually undertaken in free time and produce feelings of wellbeing, fulfillment, enjoyment, relaxation and satisfaction” (Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association, 2012, p. 1). It can be said to improve quality of life, raise self-esteem and confidence, engage individuals with their community, allow individuals to develop new friendships and experience new things (Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association, 2012). Although many opportunities exist to participate in recreation and leisure activities, Health Canada estimates that over 6.8 million Canadian are overweight and participation in sport is on the decline (Brown & Moneith, 2008). In 2001 Human Resources and Skills Development Canada found that only 54% of Canadians were considered moderately active meaning they participated in physical activity 1-3 times per week (Brown & Moneith, 2008). This section will review current trends in recreation and leisure participation as well as service delivery models.

3.2.1 Shift towards informal and individual activities, free time and an aging population

Canadians are currently leaving structured activities such as sports and league programs in search of more flexible individual activities (Brown & Moneith, 2008, Department of Canadian Heritage, 2010). A 2002 study by Environmental Recreation Consultants cited that 86% of Canadians are moving towards individual fitness activities (Economic Research Associates, 2004, p.4-1). Department of Heritage Canada (2010) found that in 2005, more Canadians were participating in walking and jogging than any other leisure category and, between 1992 and 2005, participation in organized sports had declined from 45% to 25% (Department of Heritage Canada, 2010, p.16). In addition to walking, the Canadian Community Health Survey found the top five leisure activities for adults to include gardening, home exercise, swimming and bicycling and noted favorite youth activities to include walking, bicycling, swimming, running/jogging and basketball (Stantec, 2013, p.7).

The largest contributor of this shift towards informal and individual activity is lack of free time (Brown & Moneith, 2008, Karlis, 2006, Department of Canadian Heritage, 2010). With longer working hours and added family pressures (Department of Heritage Canada, 2010) combined with an aging population (Karlis, 2006), individuals are searching leisure activities that require smaller slices of time and are easier to access or “get to” (Department of Canadian Heritage,

2010). Brown & Moneith (2008) note that today's individuals are searching for more informal, casual and self-scheduled leisure pursuits with "higher expectations in terms of quality and service delivery" (p.26). This shift will create challenges for service providers as demand for services during non-traditional hours and drop-in style activities will increase (Brown & Moneith, 2008, p.6).

3.2.2 Municipal facilities and service delivery

Historically, municipal recreation service delivery was primarily devoted to the creation and care of parks and later moved into the development and operation of built facilities and secondary facilities such as libraries and museums (Reid, 2008 p.32). Community halls, ice rinks and baseball diamonds are often fondly regarded for their "creation of sense of place in many rural communities" (Reid, 2008 p.32). As discussed in papers by both Reid (2008) and Frittenburg (2011), Canada's recreation infrastructure is in a state of crisis. Both argue that the vast majority of facilities are reaching the end of their functional lives requiring large investments to repair or replace. Often, these facilities no longer meet community needs as a shift to more multi-purpose facilities are replacing traditional community halls. Municipalities, especially those operating in smaller rural communities, are home to the most aged facilities and face increasing pressures and expectations to provide multi-generational facilities (Frittenburg, 2011). He suggests that communities need to look at partnership development to fill funding and operational gaps, which may exist to update and renovate community spaces. These include P3 (public, private partnerships) joint capital venture partnerships with the private sector along with public, charitable and nonprofit organizations.

3.2.3 Role of partnerships in service delivery and facility operations

Along with aging facilities, municipalities face operational challenges, in their roles as rural service delivery agents. Municipal services in rural communities often "operate in one or two person departments, serve a large area, deal with over a hundred community groups" (Markham, 1991, p. 13), acting as either community developers by assisting groups or as direct providers when gaps exist in the system (Markham, 1991, p. 13). Developing partnerships and "creating community links is essential to developing long-term, quality programs" (Saskatchewan Parks & Recreation Association, 2012, p. 3). Through partnership development, municipal recreation services are able to provide programming and "leverage community resources, facilities, equipment and funding" (Saskatchewan Parks & Recreation Association, 2012, p. 3) to better serve residents. Municipalities provide infrastructure and in turn build community capacity and engage groups in the planning process (Markham, 1991, p. 13). Programming and facility development/operation partnerships can include volunteer sport organizations, cultural groups, commercial operations, school boards, corporations, colleges and non-profit societies (Markham, 1991, p. 13).

3.2.4 Second homeowners in rural recreational communities

Numerous challenges and opportunities exist for rural communities that play host to large second homeowner populations. A variety of literature exists on the subject and focuses on the folklore of cottaging, the rural idyll, exploring reasons for cottage converters (seasonal to year-round), implications to the local community, development and zoning issues and engaging second homeowners. Research has posed such questions as "how communities are managing this phenomenon (e.g. strategies, governance and policies, planning methods and tools)" (McNicol & Buxton, ND, p. 3). As discussed by Fields (2010) and Halseth (1998), second homeowners themselves are the pathways to more full-time residents and have become a "source of pressure behind community change" (Halseth, 1998 p. 26). Tensions exist as the reasons for being in a

rural recreational community differ as part-time residents seek a slow retreat whereas full-time residents desire a more self-sustainable and economically diverse community (Fields, 2010).

Halseth (1998) discusses much of the relationship that second homeowners have with the folklore of cottaging and the status symbols attached to those relationships. Second homeowners want to recreate, relax and enjoy nature (McNicol & Buxton, ND). Individuals taking up residency in rural recreational communities are often individuals who gain familiarity with a region, generally through cottage ownership, and are in the retirement planning phase (Halseth, 1998, p. 26). Retirement living “at the lake” is sought in the early fit period of the elderly years (Halseth, 1998, p. 26). As these individuals age, property maintenance, access to services and isolation often drive a return away from “living at the lake”. Properties return to seasonal use and young families begin a new cycle of cottaging (Halseth, 1998, p. 26).

Pressures arise as communities develop pathways for cottage converters, such as “improvement of on-site facilities and more general provisions for collective residential service” (Halseth, 1998, p.10). Farstad (2013) explored the reasons for conflict between second homeowners and local residents in rural areas. “Locals often feel positive towards development as they depend on its viability socially, culturally and economically” (Farstad, 2013, p.41). Second homeowners differ and are often more concerned with “preserving the rural idyll that is at the heart of their relationship to the area” (Farstad, 2013, p. 42). Tensions increase as locals and second homeowners share the same spaces, but use them differently, as locals focus on work and “everyday life”, while second homeowners focus on nature based activities and recreation (Farstad, 2013, p. 42). This causes debates as to how municipal development monies should be spent and what sustainable development looks like within their communities (Halseth, 1998, McNicol & Buxton, ND, Farstad, 2013) and can include building developments, affordable housing, tourism initiatives and business and economic development plans.

By way of example, in 2006, the town of Canmore, Alberta undertook a Second Home Ownership Survey. This study found that individuals purchased second homes in Canmore to enjoy nature and scenery, not to become involved in community issues (McNicol & Buxton, ND, p.15). Additionally they found second homeowners had limited interest in the local employment market and had very little connection with the business community. The largest issue arising from this study was ways to determine how a community like Canmore engages its second home owner population in future planning when 30-40% is unconcerned (McNicol & Buxton, ND, p.18).

3.3 Summary

Current trends, service delivery themes and second homeowner literature discussed in this section provide only a brief overview of issues impacting recreation service and facility development in rural communities. In addition to setting the context and need for the Village of Radium to engage in the Community Recreation Facilities Study, these emerging themes will be discussed and analyzed alongside feedback received throughout the community consultation process.

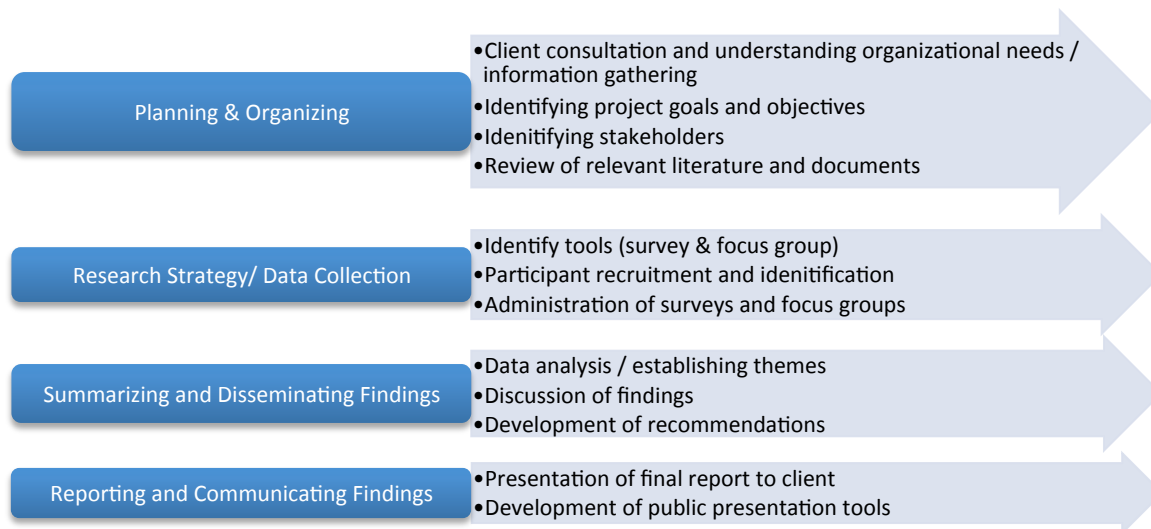
4. Methodology

The previous sections discussed the background and rational of this project. A review of literature discussing current trends in recreation and an analysis of relevant documents provided support for the goals and objectives of the Radium Community Recreation Facilities Study. A needs assessment framework was chosen to investigate current and future facility requirements for recreational, social and cultural activities and events. This section will explore the needs assessment framework and research strategy undertaken in this report.

4.1 Needs Assessment Framework

Part of an overall planning process, needs assessments are effective tools to discover what community members are thinking and how they feel on a particular topic (University of Illinois, N.D. and Community Tool Box, 2013). “A needs assessment is a systematic approach to studying the state of knowledge, ability, interest or attitude of a defined audience or group involving a particular subject” (Cawley, 2009, p. 3). Ultimately, it asks questions, compares answers and makes informed decisions about next steps (University of Illinois, N.D.). Through the process of identifying assets and determining potential concerns (Sharma et al, 2000, p.1), communities can identify gaps in services or current conditions “needs” and desired outcomes or “wants” (Community Tool Box, 2013). Findings provide an opportunity for organizations to gain a deeper understanding of the community, and help to prioritize projects, programs and system improvements (Community Tool Box, 2013). “Assessments can and should be more than just gathering and analyzing data, they can also be basis for creating change” (Moore, 2009, p. 2).

Figure 4.1 – Needs Assessment Strategy



4 Step research diagram adapted from Sharma et al (2000)

A number of steps and models can be used to develop a needs assessment framework. The Village of Radium Community Recreation Facilities Study employed a 4-step strategy adapted from *A Community Needs Assessment Guide* by Sharma et al (2000). As demonstrated in Figure

4.1, the 4 step approaches provided a logical process in which to research, collect, analyze and report research findings.

4.2 Research Strategy

This project's research strategy included a mixed methodology with quantitative and qualitative data collection methods used. These were chosen to best obtain input from a broad cross-section of the community including full-time and part-time residents. Quantitative research, characterized by structured means of data collection, identifies a problem through numerical data and useable statistics and "is used to quantify attitudes, opinions, behaviors, and other defined variables – and generalize results from a larger sample population" (Wyse, 2011, n.p.). Qualitative research is characterized by its exploratory unstructured or semi-structured methods, which help gain understanding into motivations, opinions and underlying behaviours (Wyse, 2011).

4.3 Data Collection Tools

The Village of Radium Community Recreation Facilities Study used a structured survey and focus group as means of data collection. Data collected provided insight into the recreation, arts, and cultural facility and programming needs of community members. These tools were designed to provide the Village of Radium with a snapshot of the community's values and perceptions towards current and future community facility needs. They are later supported through recommendations for future community space development and operations.

Village of Radium Community Space Survey – This online survey was accessible to full-time and part-time residents of Radium Hot Springs and the adjacent hamlet of Edgewater and available at www.fluidsurvey.com/s/radium from July – September 2013. Community members were notified of the survey and directed to the online location through a direct mail flyer, Village of Radium Hot Springs web page and advertisements and press releases in local newspapers (see Appendix A-C).

The survey was designed with the goal of understanding the following from full and part-time residents of Radium Hot Springs:

- values and attitudes towards current community spaces including, facility use patterns, accessibility, community hall expansion and opportunities for future indoor and outdoor developments;
- recreation, arts and leisure activity, programming and event needs and staffing;
- opportunities to enhance communication with residents;
- opportunities for partnerships and program development;
- recreation infrastructure development and its influence on second homeowner conversion.

A complete listing of survey questions can be found in Appendix F.

Stakeholder Focus Group – A World Café style focus group was conducted September 24, 2013 and held at the Radium Community Hall. This style of event was chosen as it provides a simple and efficient method for hosting group dialogue in a short amount of time (The World Café, 2013). The World Café format provides participant driven dialogue, which often facilitates a more open and diverse discussion compared to traditional focus groups or individual interview techniques. This method also provides for greater confidentiality and anonymity within the group data analysis when conveyed in the published report. Four questions were designed and participants were given 15 minutes to discuss each question.

A list of community members were identified by Village of Radium staff and council and represented one of four stakeholder groups:

- Young Families - Community members under 35 years of age but older than 18 living and or working within the community, with or without children.
- Business – Representatives from the Radium Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Radium Board of Directors
- Full-Time Residents – Community members who live full-time and have resided in the community for more than 10 years.
- Part-Time Residents – Community members who own property within the municipality but whose primary residence is outside the community.

Altogether, 45 individuals were contacted by email and/or telephone and invited to participate in the world cafe. In total 8 participants attended the World Café event and were divided to two groups:

- Young adults (18-39)/Families with young children
- Seniors/Retirees/Recent second homeowner converters

Focus Group Questions

Building on responses provided in the community survey, 4 questions were designed to support the project goals and understanding of the community's current and long-term recreation, arts, culture and leisure facility needs.

1. Are there any facilities you would like to see built, improved or opened for recreation. Are there any additional recreational opportunities you would like to see become available within the community?

2. Do you think there are further opportunities to partner and collaborate to enhance recreation services? Who could we be collaborating with? What could the Village do to support collaboration and partnerships in this area?

3. 34% of survey respondents were satisfied with the Community/Senior's Hall and only 5% very satisfied. Over 50% of respondents said they do not use this facility. If the Village of Radium were to invest and redevelop or enhance this facility, what type of space could you envision and support for community members and visitors alike?

4. Survey responses found the majority of respondents believed the Village's ability to inform residents about opportunities to participate were satisfactory. What steps can the Village take to improve their communication with residents and visitors alike?

The following sections will present the data collected from the community surveys and findings from the focus groups. This will be followed by a discussion of the data and its relevance to the project goals and objectives.

5. Community Consultation

This section provides a review of the findings from the community survey and focus group activities. Each tool was designed to gather information to provide the Village of Radium Hot Springs with an overview of full-time and part-time residents' values and attitudes towards current and future arts, culture, recreation and leisure facility needs.

5.1 Community Survey Overview & Survey Respondents

Response to the Community Survey was strong with 103 online surveys at least partially or entirely completed. Of the respondents, 55% identified themselves as full-time residents and survey representation (68%) was largest amongst adults 50-69 years of age. Almost all of respondents, 92% resided in the Village of Radium, 3% in the Hamlet of Edgewater and 5% listed other, which included Calgary, RDEK (Regional District of East Kootenay) and Brisco. A large percentage, 46% said they have lived or owned property in their community for over ten years.

Of the 103 respondents, 45% identified themselves as part time residents with 44% reporting they plan on making Radium Hot Springs their primary residence. Of those 20 respondents, 10 planned on making Radium their full-time residence in 6-10 years, 6 in the next 1-5 years, 1 respondent within the year, and 2 in 10+ years.

A total of 176 individuals are represented through the completed surveys. The gathering of household data was additionally used to identify trends and common themes between four subgroups. By analyzing the subsections of the survey respondents, we can determine if values and attitudes towards services and facilities differ.

The four subgroups include:

- Families with Children (Includes full and part-time residents with children)
- Full-Time Residents (Primary residence is Radium, no age or children restrictions)
- Part-Time Residents (Individuals who reside in the community less than 6 months/year, no age or children restriction)
- Seniors (55+ years of age with no children at home, includes full-time and part-time residents)

5.1.3 Findings

This section provides a review of the findings from the online Community Survey and provides discussion of subgroup responses when answers differ from the overall group responses.

Satisfaction with Community Facilities

Overall, all survey respondents and all subgroups believed the Village of Radium's current facilities are satisfying community recreation, artistic and cultural needs. As demonstrated in Figure 5.1, 42% believed the Village to be doing a good job with 6% responding excellent, 37% satisfactory and 15% poor.

Figure 5.1 – Current facility satisfaction

1. How are the Village of Radium’s current facilities satisfying community recreation, artistic and cultural needs?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Excellent		6%	6
Good		42%	42
Satisfactory		37%	37
Poor		15%	15
Total Responses			100

When asked about satisfaction towards individual facilities and demonstrated in Figure 5.2, the majority of residents were generally satisfied or replied neutral towards the majority of community facilities including the Community Hall, Pump Track, Tot Lot Playground, School Gym & Municipal Boardroom. Residents responded with very satisfied towards the Stanley Street Playground, Rotary Outdoor Fitness Equipment and the Sinclair Creek Trail. Respondents were least satisfied or responded dissatisfied with the ice skating rink and community hall with the exception of the seniors’ subgroup who had the highest rate of satisfaction towards the community hall.

Satisfaction rates may be attributed to the age of the facilities and usage patterns found in question #3. Facilities with the highest rate of satisfaction were nature based trails or newer installations that were frequented more often by residents and visitors alike. These findings are consistent amongst all subgroups.

Figure 5.2 – Facility Satisfaction

2. Please indicate satisfaction with Radium Hot Springs' facilities listed below.

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	Total Responses
Community/Senior's Hall	4 (4%)	17 (17%)	41 (40%)	35 (34%)	5 (5%)	102
Brent's Shack	0 (0%)	2 (2%)	30 (30%)	43 (43%)	25 (25%)	100
Ice Skating Rink	9 (9%)	22 (21%)	32 (31%)	34 (33%)	6 (6%)	103
Pump Track (Bike Park)	7 (7%)	4 (4%)	44 (44%)	29 (29%)	16 (16%)	100
Playground - Stanley Street	3 (3%)	3 (3%)	11 (11%)	42 (42%)	42 (42%)	101
Baseball Field	5 (5%)	7 (7%)	18 (18%)	45 (45%)	26 (26%)	101
Tot Lot Playground - Kirk Street	2 (2%)	3 (3%)	44 (44%)	28 (28%)	22 (22%)	99
Sinclair Creek Trail & Picnic Area	1 (1%)	7 (7%)	19 (19%)	45 (45%)	28 (28%)	100
Walking/Hiking Trails	1 (1%)	10 (10%)	23 (23%)	45 (44%)	23 (23%)	102
Rotary Outdoor Fitness	1 (1%)	2 (2%)	12 (12%)	46 (46%)	40 (40%)	101

Equipment						
School Gym	6 (6%)	8 (8%)	74 (73%)	10 (10%)	3 (3%)	101
Municipal Boardroom	4 (4%)	2 (2%)	76 (76%)	11 (11%)	7 (7%)	100
Fire Hall Training Space	1 (1%)	0 (0%)	64 (63%)	19 (19%)	17 (17%)	101
Library	1 (1%)	5 (5%)	39 (39%)	32 (32%)	24 (24%)	101

Facility Use

Facilities with the highest frequency of personal use were walking/hiking trails, Sinclair Creek Trail, Radium Community Hall and Brent’s Shack. Playgrounds, ice skating rink and the baseball diamond had low usage rates by the majority of survey respondents but were found to be accessed by the family subgroup and visitors to the community. Facilities that were not used by those surveyed included the School Gym, Municipal Boardroom and the Fire Hall Training Room. Figure 5.3 provides a breakdown of frequency of use by subgroup.

Figure 5.3 – Facility Use Patterns

Facility Use Patterns		
	Highest Frequency of Usage	Low Frequency of usage
Families	Playgrounds (Stanley & Kirk, Rotary) & walking/hiking trails	Community Hall, meeting spaces
Seniors	Community hall, walking/hiking trails, Rotary fitness equipment, library	Ice rink, pump track, baseball diamond, meeting spaces
Part-Time Residents	Walking/hiking trails, Rotary fitness equipment	Community hall, library, pump track, meeting spaces
Full-Time Residents	Community hall, hiking/walking trails, library	Pump Track, baseball diamond, meeting spaces

Frequency & Awareness

Outdoor spaces such as walking/hiking trails and Sinclair Creek Trail & Picnic Area were found to have the highest frequency of weekly use amongst all respondents while playgrounds and Outdoor Rotary Fitness Equipment were frequented weekly by families and monthly by all other groups. Frequency rates of part-time residents were lower than the other subgroups due to their visitation and residency patterns and may have impacted the overall frequency averages of each facility. Most facilities received less than 6 visits per year with the Pump Track, Tot Lot Playground and Ice Skating Rink having the highest rates of “never visited” amongst outdoor amenities. Indoor meeting spaces, which include the municipal boardroom, school gym and fire hall training space had the lowest use amongst all subgroups and may be attributed to the absence of programs and community groups utilizing these spaces. Overall, with the exception of the indoor meeting spaces, awareness of community recreation facilities and outdoor amenities was high.

Facility use by visitors followed similar use patterns to those of residents with walking/hiking trails and the Sinclair Creek Trail & Picnic Area being most visited by visitors.

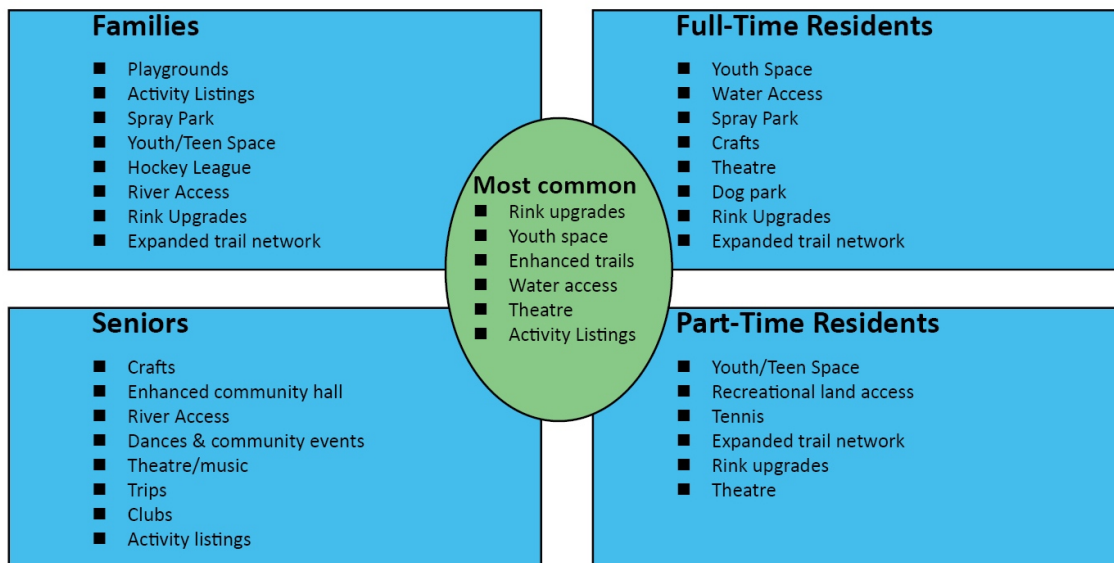
Leisure and Recreation Participation

From a supplied list of leisure and recreational activities, respondents were asked to identify their level of participation. The question further asked respondents if participation occurred locally within the Village of Radium or if participation occurred outside the community but within in the larger region.

Activities with the highest level of local participation included cycling, golf, hiking/walking and swimming/aquafit. It was found that respondents traveled outside the community (but within the region) to participate in cross country skiing, fishing, canoe/kayaking and golf. League sports, clubs and lifelong learning opportunities had the highest frequency of “do not participate”. This may be a result of various factors including opportunity, interest and demographics as the Village does not currently provide programming and is home to many seniors and second homeowners who are increasingly seeking drop-in, casual and individual recreational pursuits.

The second part of this question was open-ended and allowed respondents to provide feedback on additional activities they would like to see offered within the Village of Radium. A summary of the feedback and most common responses is provided in Figure 5.4. Across all subgroups there was a demand for rink upgrades, new youth/teen spaces, enhanced trail network, water access or water feature, performing arts space and development of a new community events and activity listing. A full listing of responses is provided in Appendix F.

Figure 5.4 – Recreation Participation Feedback



The suggestions provided by respondents correspond with activity participation rates provided in the first part of the question, which includes the need for an expanded trail network. As a large number of full-time residents participate in canoe and kayak activities outside the community, developing river access would support opportunities to participate for all community members. Linking participation rates to opportunities for facility and amenity development is important to ensure long-term use and sustainability. In addition to facilities, a number of programming opportunities were discussed and included crafts, theater, events and youth activities. While development of a dedicated youth space may not be feasible in the short-term, the Village could support an increase of youth and seniors programs through facilitation and coordination within current spaces.

Indoor & Outdoor Facility Development

From a supplied list of spaces and facilities, survey participants were asked what type of new indoor and outdoor amenities they would support Council considering for development in the next 5-10 years. The survey also asked part-time homeowners if these types of indoor or outdoor facilities would influence their decision in making Radium their primary residence, with 47% replying that yes it would influence their decision. In addition, 81% of all respondents replied that an increase in these types of indoor and outdoor facilities would help recommend a guest to visit Radium Hot Springs.

Indoor

Survey responses indicate support for community meeting/gathering, social/banquet, performing arts and fitness facilities to be important considerations for future development. Overall as demonstrated in Figure 2.5, many of the facilities garnered neutral opinions. Amongst the subgroups, families and full-time residents were most supportive of childcare developments while seniors maintained the need for greater community gathering spaces. Part-time residents were least in favour of new indoor facility developments, likely due to their activity patterns which are largely outdoor pursuits occurring on weekends, holidays and during the summer seasons when programs and facilities are typically providing limited operations and programs.

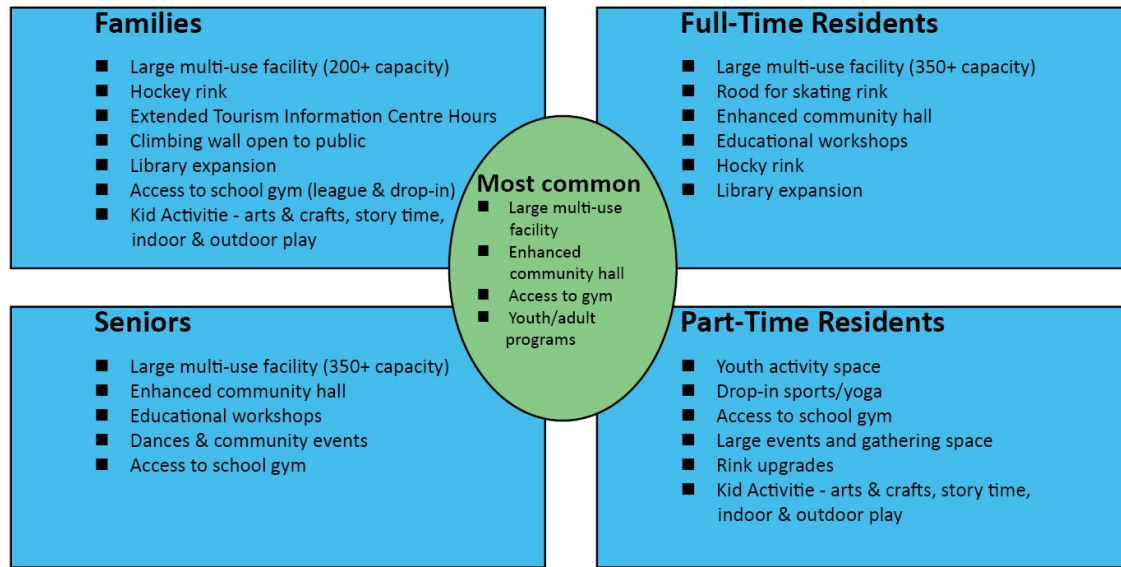
Figure 5.5 – Indoor Facility Development

6. What new indoor facilities would you support council considering for future development in the next 5-10 years?

	Not at all Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Important	Very Important	Total Responses
Fitness/Wellness Facility	7 (7%)	17 (17%)	24 (24%)	31 (31%)	22 (22%)	101
After School Care	25 (26%)	5 (5%)	39 (40%)	21 (21%)	8 (8%)	98
Art Display Space	21 (21%)	18 (18%)	35 (35%)	25 (25%)	1 (1%)	100
Climbing Wall	24 (25%)	12 (12%)	31 (32%)	24 (25%)	6 (6%)	97
Daycare	22 (22%)	6 (6%)	35 (36%)	24 (24%)	11 (11%)	98
Community Meeting/Gathering Space	12 (12%)	11 (11%)	28 (28%)	38 (38%)	12 (12%)	101
Performing Arts Space	15 (15%)	13 (13%)	31 (31%)	34 (34%)	6 (6%)	99
Social/Banquet Facilities	17 (17%)	10 (10%)	25 (25%)	33 (33%)	14 (14%)	99
Community Garden	14 (14%)	16 (16%)	28 (28%)	29 (29%)	13 (13%)	100
Museum	22 (22%)	15 (15%)	41 (41%)	17 (17%)	4 (4%)	99

The second part of this question allowed an open-ended opportunity to list additional indoor developments individuals would like to see offered within the Village of Radium. A variety of responses were provided and a summary by subgroup is provided below in Figure 5.5. Common indoor development themes included improvements to the community hall, larger gathering spaces, youth spaces (arcade and rainy day activities), increase access to school gym for drop in activities, dedicated yoga space, child/infant activity spaces and opportunity for library expansion. A full listing of responses is provided in Appendix G.

Figure 5.6 – Indoor Facility Development



Outdoor

A large number of respondents believed an expanded trail system to be an important (42%) or very important (36%) development for Council to consider. In addition, open/park spaces, picnic areas, events spaces and cross country ski trails were listed as important developments for consideration. Respondents were fairly divided over the remaining options, which included spray park, swimming area, volleyball/basketball courts, bike/skateboard parks, and sports fields. Overall, outdoor developments were favored and supported more frequently than indoor developments.

Figure 5.7 – Outdoor Facility Development

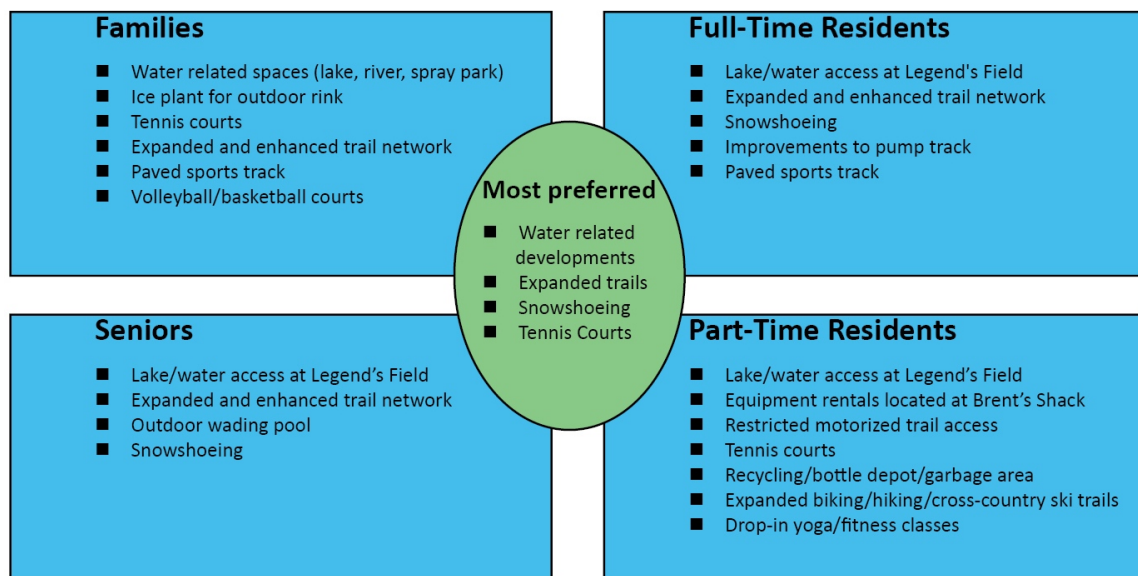
7. What new outdoor developments would you support council considering for future development in the next 5-10 years?

	Not at all Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Important	Very Important	Total Responses
Expanded Trail System	3 (3%)	7 (7%)	12 (12%)	43 (42%)	37 (36%)	102
Open/Park Spaces	4 (4%)	13 (13%)	21 (21%)	39 (39%)	24 (24%)	101
Bike Park	17 (17%)	8 (8%)	36 (35%)	23 (23%)	18 (18%)	102
Picnic Areas	9 (9%)	7 (7%)	29 (28%)	40 (39%)	18 (17%)	103
Event Spaces	8 (8%)	10 (10%)	23 (23%)	48 (48%)	12 (12%)	101
Sports Fields	12 (12%)	10 (10%)	41 (41%)	29 (29%)	8 (8%)	100
Water Spray Park	27 (27%)	9 (9%)	22 (22%)	22 (22%)	20 (20%)	100
Skateboard Park	33 (33%)	10 (10%)	36 (36%)	11 (11%)	10 (10%)	100
Swimming Area	28 (28%)	6 (6%)	27 (27%)	16 (16%)	22 (22%)	99

Volleyball/ Basketball Courts	12 (12%)	18 (18%)	27 (27%)	31 (31%)	12 (12%)	100
Cross Country Ski Trails	7 (7%)	6 (6%)	18 (17%)	48 (47%)	24 (23%)	103

The second part of this question allowed an open-ended opportunity to list additional outdoor developments individuals would like to see offered within the Village of Radium. A variety of responses were collected and a summary by subgroup is provided below in Figure 2.7. Common themes included expanded hiking, biking, cross-country ski and snowshoe trails, water related developments, tennis courts, and improvements to the ice-skating rink and basketball courts. A full listing of responses is provided in Appendix H.

Figure 5.8 – Additional Outdoor Development Recommendations



Opportunity to Participate

As reflected in Figure 5.9, respondents agreed that the Village of Radium provided enough opportunities to participate in community events such as Radium Days and Music on Main. Families and full-time residents disagreed that there were enough opportunities to participate in youth activities, as well as recreation such as drop-in or league sports. Generally respondents felt neutral or slightly disagreed with having enough opportunities to participate in activities for senior as well as arts and culture pursuits.

Figure 5.9 – Opportunities to Participate

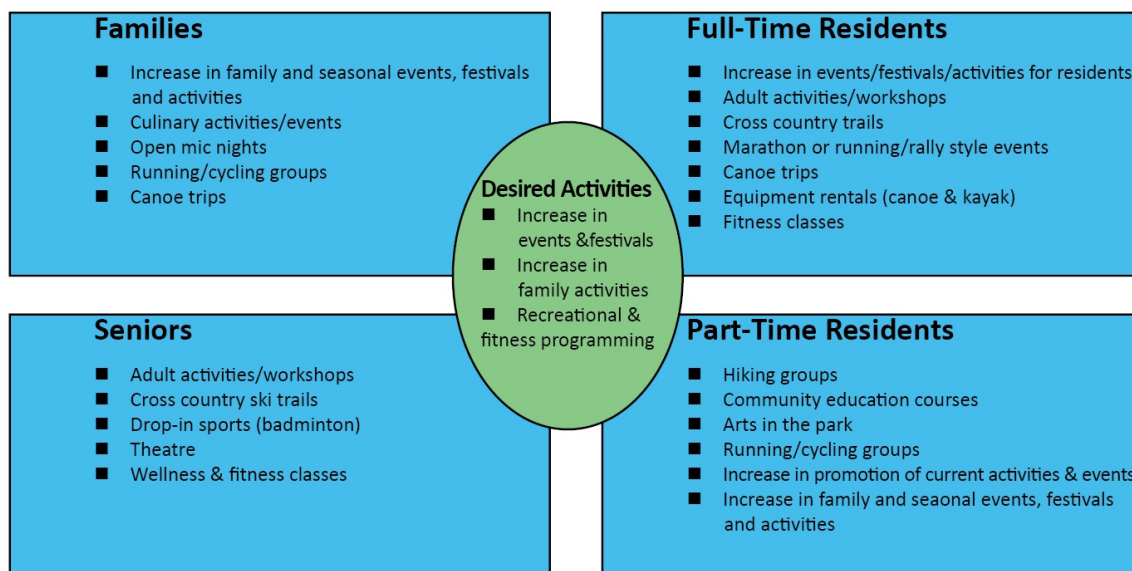
10. Do you agree or disagree that there are enough opportunities and services to participate in the following areas?

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total Responses
Arts/Culture (Painting, drawing, performing arts, music, dance, etc.)	9 (9%)	32 (31%)	35 (34%)	21 (21%)	5 (5%)	102
Senior (Games, socials,	2 (2%)	22 (22%)	54 (53%)	21 (21%)	3 (3%)	102

educational activities, day trips, etc.)						
Youth (Activities, clubs, after school programs, etc.)	10 (10%)	22 (22%)	56 (55%)	11 (11%)	2 (2%)	101
Social Activities (Clubs, social groups, associations, etc.)	5 (5%)	27 (27%)	49 (49%)	16 (16%)	3 (3%)	100
Community Events (Radium Days, Music on Main, etc.)	2 (2%)	13 (13%)	10 (10%)	59 (58%)	18 (18%)	102
Recreation (Drop-in/league sports, fitness classes, cross country skiing, golf, etc.)	8 (8%)	39 (39%)	29 (29%)	21 (21%)	4 (4%)	101

The second portion of this question provided respondents with a final opportunity to discuss what additional activities and events would benefit themselves and others living in the community. While much of the feedback was similar to other open ended responses within the survey and as demonstrated in Figure 5.10, it was apparent all groups were in favour of an overall increase in local activities, festivals and events. Other notable suggestions included equipment rentals (canoe/kayak, snowshoe/cross country skis), drop-in sports and fitness activities as well as lifelong learning programs. A full listing of responses is provided in Appendix I.

Figure 5.10 – Event and Activity Suggestions

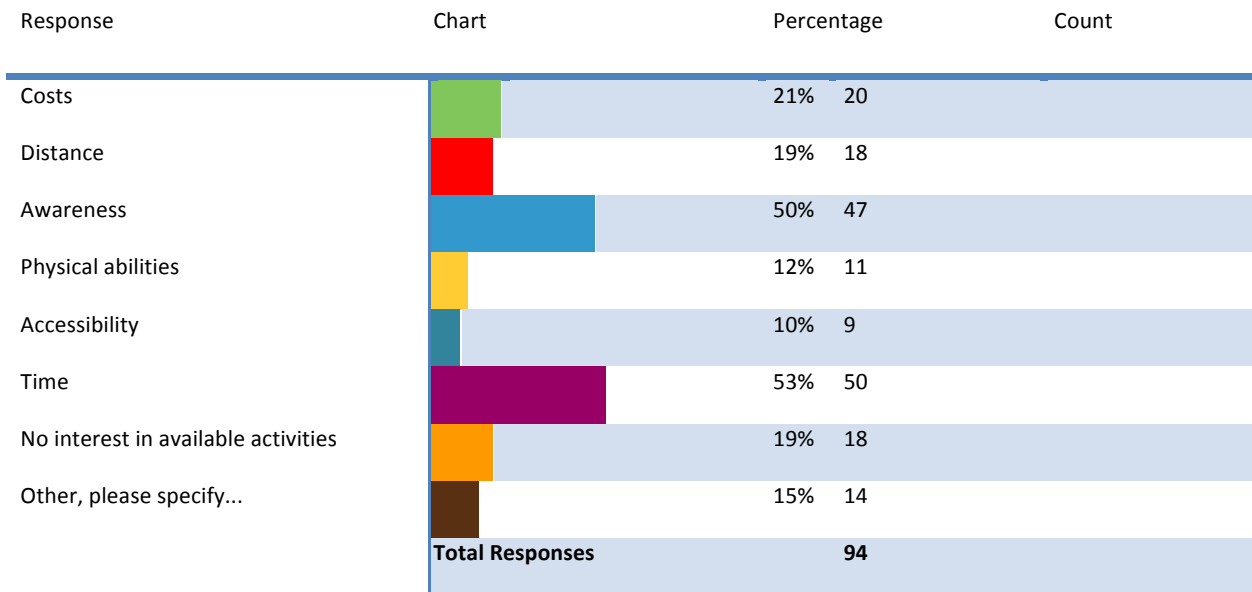


Barriers to Participation

It was found that the largest barrier to participation was time (53%) and awareness of activities (50%). A review of additional barriers and limitations are found in Figure 5.11 and were found to be consistent across all subgroups. Additional replies, found under “Other, please specify...” included a diverse set of responses such as, “lack of available options”, “there is more to do than I can find time and energy for – a plethora of riches”, “poor roads and lack of sidewalks” and “as a part time resident, to know what is available, more information about what is available would help”. Appendix J provides a complete listing of additional responses.

Figure 5.11 – Barriers to Participation

11. What limits (or are barriers to) your participation in community activities?



Communication

Overall, residents reported feeling satisfactory to good regarding the Village’s ability to inform residents about opportunities to participate. It was found that the majority of survey participants across all subgroups learned about activities and events through local newspapers and word of mouth. The Village Newsletter and Village of Radium website were also noted as avenues to find out about events and activities although these were least used by part-time residents. Posters located in the post office and Meet on Higher Ground Coffee’s message boards were also found to increase awareness.

Figure 5.12 – Village Communication

12. How would you rate the Village’s ability to inform residents about facilities, and opportunities to participate in arts, culture, recreation and leisure activities?

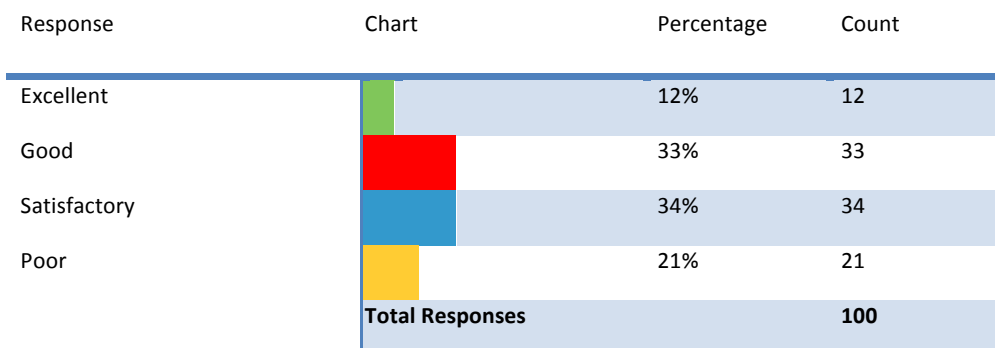










Figure 5.13 – Event and Activity Information
13. Where do you find out about activities and events?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Newspapers		78%	80
Village Newsletter		47%	48
Word of Mouth		70%	72
Posters		48%	49
Radio		5%	5
Social Media (Facebook/Twitter)		13%	13
Village Website		30%	31
Other, please specify...		10%	10
Total Responses			103

5.2 Summary of Survey Findings

The goals of the community survey were to provide residents with an opportunity to provide feedback on community facilities as well as support the research objectives of understanding facility use patterns, values and attitudes towards current community spaces as well as gaining feedback on current communication techniques, partnership opportunities and importance of recreation facilities to part-time residents. The responses collected throughout this survey were used to establish the four questions posed within the focus group activity.

While the general attitude is that current facilities are satisfying residents’ needs, use patterns and open-ended feedback suggests improvements to current infrastructure, greater promotion and the development of programming within the facilities is required to maximize use of current facilities. Figure 5.14 summarizes the feedback presented throughout this section and allows for easy comparison of facility satisfaction, use patterns and desired developments between all subgroups.

All subgroups reported satisfaction and awareness of current facilities within the municipal boundary although part-time residents were found to have the lowest frequency of overall use. Desire for an increase of trails, parks and land access ranked high amongst all users and demand for an increase in programs is evident throughout the feedback and would support the need to improve the community hall space and increase overall use of gym and meeting space facilities. These are both outlined within the community plan and are further addressed within the discussion and recommendation sections of this report.

Figure 5.14 – Survey Subgroup Matrix

Community Survey Facility Feedback Matrix	Families	Seniors	Full-Time Residents	Part-Time Residents
Highest Levels of Satisfaction	Outdoor playground Baseball diamond Brent's Shack Trails & pathways	Community hall Library Playgrounds Fitness equipment Trails & pathways	Outdoor playgrounds Brent's Shack Trails & pathways Library	Outdoor playgrounds Fitness equipment
Lowest Levels of Satisfaction	Skating rink Community hall	Ice skating rink	Skating rink Community hall	Skating rink
High frequency of Weekly/Monthly Use	Playgrounds Trails Rotary fitness equipment	Community hall Trails & pathways Rotary fitness equipment Library	Community hall Brent's Shack Trails & pathways Library	Trails & pathways Playgrounds Fitness equipment
High Frequency of "Do Not Use"	Community hall Brent's Shack Meeting spaces School gym	Ice skating rink Pump track Meeting spaces School gym	Pump track Baseball diamond Meeting spaces School gym	Community hall Pump track Library Meeting spaces School gym
Activity Participation	Cycling Skating Hiking Golf Swimming	Walking Golf Kayak Cross-country skiing	Cycling Cross-country skiing Golf Hiking/walking Canoe/kayak Swimming	Cycling Walking Golf Cross-country skiing Canoe/kayak Skating
Desired Developments	Mom & tot groups Online activities listing Spray park Teen/youth space Hockey league River access Skating rink upgrades Expanded trail network	Crafts Improved community hall River access Dances & events Trips/clubs Theater/plays/music Activity and event listing	Youth/teen space Water access Spray park Crafts Theatre Dog park Expanded trail network	Backcountry access Youth/teen space Tennis courts Expanded trail network Theatre/music Skating rink upgrades

5.2 Focus Group Overview

A World Café style focus group was conducted September 24, 2013 and held at the Radium Community Hall. This style of event was chosen as a simple and effective method for hosting group dialogue (The World Café, 2013). Four questions were designed and participants were given 15 minutes to discuss each question. A list of potential participants was identified by Village of Radium council and staff with eight community members participating in the event. They were divided into the following two groups:

- Young adults (18-39) / Families with young children
- Seniors/Retirees/Recent second homeowner converters

5.2.1 Findings

The questions used during the focus group event were derived from responses within the community survey and a need to further investigate community member's needs and values associated with current indoor and outdoor facilities. This included current uses and future development opportunities of the community hall space, perceived opportunities for partnerships and effectiveness of current communication means between the Village of Radium Hot Springs and full and part-time residents.

Upgrades, Enhancements & New Facility Developments

Participants felt that overall the Village of Radium has an excellent variety of amenities for a village of its size. When asked if there are any facilities they would like to see built, improved or opened for recreation, a number of ideas were generated. The conversation focused on upgrading current facilities that may be dated or in need of repair, repurposing existing or underused facilities and options for new development.

Upgrades

Both groups agreed that a number of community facilities are in need of upgrades. These included the ice skating rink, and basketball courts. Suggested improvements included lights, larger ice surface and repairs to the boards and hoops. Big vision included a full redevelopment, creating an artificial ice surface or full arena.

Continued Enhancements

The Pump Track and current hiking and walking trails were viewed as excellent amenities and major attractions for both residents and visitors. Continued improvements to access, maintenance and signage were seen as key factors for enhancing these assets.

Repurpose

Legend's Field - With no active league play, participants believe the baseball diamond located at Legend's Field to be underused and saw an opportunity for this space to be repurposed. Ideas included a water/splash park, lake, outdoor concert space, community park/garden and/or amphitheatre.

School Gym – Gym space located at the former elementary school is currently occupied by the gymnastics club but has been vacant for periods in the past. Participants felt that youth activities, fitness style programming and drop-in sports such as badminton would make good uses of this space.

New Developments

Both groups indicated a strong need for the development of public washrooms, specifically a facility adjacent to the Stanley Street Playground.

Additional ideas for new development include:

- Tennis Courts
- Fitness Facility
- Amphitheatre
- Dog Park

Activity Development within the Village

Both groups believe that the Village of Radium would benefit from an increase in kid friendly activities. Families found it difficult to find rainy-day activities and afterschool programs while seniors echoed these sentiments when grandchildren were visiting. It was discussed that the Village of Radium could better collaborate with surrounding communities to host activities and events. These could include:

- Outdoor movies
- Walking tours
- Theatre in the park
- Rotating festivals
- Improved transportation links between communities

Opportunities to Partner & Collaborate

Participants discussed and listed a wide variety of organizations, businesses and individuals with whom the Village of Radium could partner to develop and enhance recreation, arts and culture services. Figure 5.1 provides a summary listing of the discussed organizations and partnership opportunities.

Figure 5.15 – Partnership Organizations & Opportunity

Organization	Opportunity
Columbia River Greenway Alliance	Hiking/walking/biking trail development
Columbia Valley Cycling Society	Pump track/bike park and trail expansion
Regional Municipalities	Transportation/rotating activities & events
Golf Courses	Cross country & snowshoe trails / equipment rentals
College of The Rockies	Leisure and lifelong learning programming (yoga, art, cooking, interpretive Hikes)
Parks Canada	Trail coordination / winter camping / future pool ownership / shuttle from village to pools
Service Clubs (Rotary, Kinsman)	Funding and infrastructure development projects
Private Business: TELUS / Canfor / Suncor	Potential funding to support recreation infrastructure development (i.e.: ice rink/Legend’s Field re-development)
Elk Park Ranch	Increase collaboration to deliver activities and events
Library / Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy	Literacy, youth and family activities and events.
Private Business – Fitness, Sports, Arts	Delivery of workshops and courses

Radium Community Hall

Participants recognized that a number of improvements have been made to the Radium Community Hall over the past few years but believe it has not led to an overall increase in use. The largest problem currently facing the facility is its identity and name. The community hall is “home to the Radium seniors” (Personal Communication, Village of Radium, 2013) and many people throughout the community refer to the facility as the Radium Senior’s Hall. As this name is commonly used throughout the community, many of the participants did not consider this space a multi-generational facility. Young families did not believe this was a space for them although community events and gathering such as pancake breakfasts, Radium Days and Halloween/Winter carnivals often occur within this facility.

Aesthetically, the facility left a less than favorable impression amongst the group with participants stating its outdated decor, odors (musty smell), poor lighting and lack of windows lead to an overall poor atmosphere. Parking was also an issue in the functionality of the building. One participant noted that there is no designated outdoor space for alcohol or smoking during events such as weddings and parties. This moves noisy individuals into the parking lot and onto the street of the adjacent neighborhood. It was also noted that the basement, which is no longer in use, houses useable equipment such as pool and shuffleboard tables.

Overall, participants believe that the facility serves its current purpose and did not see a need for a new building. Strong support was voiced for improvements to its appearance and function.

Communication

When asked what steps can the Village consider to improve their communication with residents and visitors alike, a number of existing strategies and tools were discussed in addition to new ways of connecting Village and Council to community members.

Current Communication Methods

Participants believed that the Village newsletter, newspaper advertisements and Village of Radium website were all effective tools in the delivery of community information to residents. Participants felt that Village council and staff were easily accessible through formal channels such as office hours, council meetings and website minutes and informal channels such as on the street/parking lot conversations. A number of small businesses, such as Radium Esso and Meet on Higher Ground Coffee were also recognized as “go-to” places for information on community activities and events.

Opportunities For Improvements

Social Media - It was agreed that frequent communication is needed and the Village could further use channels such as social media (Facebook/Twitter), email newsletters blasts and an online calendar of activities and events to support communication with residents.

Signage/Posters – Improved signage for events and facilities was recommended and suggestions included a coming events message board (electronic or with interchangeable letters), a large “coming events” poster board located outside the Visitor’s Information Center and smaller ones located within businesses would enhance awareness and increase participation.

Print Media – Investigating opportunities to increase visibility in local newspapers and newsletters (ie: What’s up in Radium section in the Valley Peak) was recommended.

Collaboration

Participants believed the Radium Chamber of Commerce to have excellent communication with its members. It was suggested that the Village work closely with this organization to improve messaging to residents and visitors.

Additional Suggestions

Community Branding – Many participants felt that the community lacked a formal identity and were not supportive of recent rebranding activities. A more traditional, classic and historical approach was supported.

Shared Narrative – Participants felt that a succinct history and story of the community would benefit residents and tourist alike. A shared narrative used by individuals, groups and businesses would enhance community pride and engagement. This shared narrative would also give visitors “a story to take away and pass along”.

5.3 Summary

The focus group event was designed to further examine and understand four key themes, which included resident’s perceptions of current facilities, future expectations of the Radium Community Hall, partnership development opportunities to enhance facilities and increase programs and ways to support an increase in communication between the municipality and residents. While a mix of families, full-time residents and seniors participated in the event and provided rich dialogue and feedback, minimal representation from second homeowners due to the timing of the event was a drawback of the research strategy. The follow section provides a discussion of key themes in relation to the research question, document and literature review as well as feedback obtained throughout the community consultation process.

6. Discussion

Through offering a variety of indoor and outdoor recreation, arts and culture facilities and opportunities the “Village is committed to enhancing the quality of life and leisure by providing cost-effective programs and facilities for recreation and culture throughout the community” (Village of Radium, 2013, p. 12). By engaging in the Community Recreation Facilities Study, the Village can further develop an understanding of which individuals and groups are using municipal community spaces, as well as how frequently they are being used and accessed. This section will provide a discussion of findings from the community consultation in relation to the research objectives, which included:

- values and attitudes towards current community spaces including, facility use patterns, accessibility, community hall expansion and opportunities for future indoor and outdoor developments;
- recreation, arts and leisure activity, programming and event needs and staffing
- opportunities to enhance communication with residents;
- opportunities for partnerships and program development;
- recreation infrastructure development and its influence on second homeowner conversion.

Overall, focus group and survey participants held similar views around current and future facility needs which included improvement to current indoor infrastructure, an increase in programming and continued development of outdoor trails and parks. With this information, and their own vision, the Village of Radium Hot Springs can begin to further adopt operational and funding plans for infrastructure and program development.

6.1 Values and Attitudes - Outdoor and Indoor Facilities

The Village of Radium Hot Springs is a gateway to numerous outdoor activities and recreational pursuits. Its location between the Rocky and Purcell mountain ranges and adjacent Kootenay National Park provides endless opportunities for locals and visitors alike. While many pursuits are found beyond the community boundaries, the Village of Radium Hot Springs strives to provide recreational opportunities within the municipality to meet the needs of visitors and residents. It was found throughout the consultation process that many residents believe the level of facilities within the community were extremely good for a village of its size. Others felt that minor to significant upgrades and new developments are needed to support recreation, arts and cultural activity expansion within the community. This section will provide a discussion of values and attitudes towards current and future facility needs in relation to activity trends, full-time and part-time residents’ development visions as well as municipal priorities found within the current Official Community Plan (OCP).

6.1.1 Outdoor Facilities

Municipal outdoor facilities and amenities had the highest levels of satisfaction and use amongst survey respondents with part-time residents providing the greatest support for outdoor facility and amenity development. Families, seniors and full-time residents felt that current infrastructure was in need of upgrades before new projects should be undertaken. Outdoor facilities were divided into two groupings for discussion. The first being trail networks and parks with the second comprised of playgrounds and outdoor recreation equipment and facilities.

6.1.1.1 Trail Networks

Consistent with national trends, individual pursuits such as walking, hiking, cycling, and cross-country skiing were found to have the highest rate of participation by survey respondents and new trails, and pathways were the most supported outdoor development. Over 56% of survey respondents participated in trail based activities within the municipal boundaries. Walking and hiking had the highest participation rates amongst those surveyed. Numerous trails are currently accessible within the municipality and include Sinclair Creek Trail, Old Coach Trail, as well as Juniper, Red Streak Campground and Red Streak Loop Interpretive Trails managed by Parks Canada. Cycling, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing had relatively high rates of participation within the region as well. While trails are accessible in the winter season, they are not maintained or plowed with the exception of in-town sidewalks.

Throughout the public consultation processes, support for trail enhancement and development coincide with the goals, strategies and policies outlined by the Village of Radium within the Official Community Plan (OCP). As an aging population and part-time residents drive this support and desire for flexible informal recreational pursuits such as walking, hiking, cycling and snowshoeing, partnerships are a key element to further enhance and expand urban and rural pathways and trails. OCP strategy 3.5.2 supports working with partners on acquiring and maintaining parks and recreational trails, the continued development of trails and interpretive information as well as new land acquisitions for parks and trails (Village of Radium, 2013, p.12).

Active relationships with Columbia Valley Greenways, Parks Canada and the Columbia Valley Cycling Society, position the Village to meet municipal goals and seek assistance in developing a community trail strategy. A comprehensive community trail strategy will support organizational missions, expand funding opportunities, improve maintenance, increase use of current trails and expand opportunities for residents to participate. While the summer trail system currently meet residents' expectations, further opportunities for winter trail development and access should be explored. Golf courses provide ideal land for cross country ski, snowshoe and winter walking trails. Evaluation of operational models would be required and could be shared between Radium Springs Golf Course, the Village of Radium Hot Springs and a non-profit such as Greenways or Toby Creek Nordic Ski Club. As future rural trail developments should support both summer and winter activities, the urban trail strategy will focus on the movement of people throughout the community and engage residents, property developers and local businesses to ease and facilitate access. By continuing to focus on these types of initiatives, the Village further supports community goal #4 to "further develop our sidewalks, and pathway networks to connect natural amenities, and commercial and residential areas to each other, as well as to adjacent communities" (Village of Radium, 2013, p. 6).

Although the Radium Hot Springs Visitors/Town Map identifies, trail, pathways, parks and recreational facilities, many residents surveyed were not familiar with any forms of community trail maps and recommended its creation and development. Identified again within the communication discussion, Section 6.5 of this report, residents often are not aware of tourism-based publications and/or feel they are not relevant to them.

6.1.1.2 Parks, Playgrounds and Outdoor Recreation Equipment

Playgrounds, parks and outdoor recreation equipment all received strong public approval. The high level of satisfaction with the Stanley Street Playground, Kirk Street Tot Lot, Brent's Shack and the Rotary Fitness equipment may be attributed to recent upgrades and construction of these amenities over the past three years. Residents were less than satisfied with the ice skating rink and outdoor basketball court stating a need for upgrades to boards, ice surface, nets and lighting. While satisfied with the condition of the baseball diamond at Legend's Field, residents felt that

with no current league play, the space could be repurposed. Opportunities for redevelopment discussed included spray park, soccer fields, community-lake and outdoor amphitheatre. Focus group participants also noted a need for open public washrooms close to the central park area for users of the Stanley Street Playground, ice-skating rink and Legend's Field facilities.

Constructed in partnership with Columbia Valley Mountain Bike Association and Rotary Club of Radium Hot Springs, the Pump and Jump bike park garnered neutral feelings which can be largely attributed to its low usage. Over half (58%) of survey respondents stated that they never visited the facility and only 17% used it themselves which may be reflective of the large number of seniors residing within the community. Focus group participants believe the facility to be a great asset and attraction for visitors and residents throughout the region. Improved access, signage, lighting and connection to trails and pathways would enhance accessibility and support increase in use.

6.1.1.3 Future Considerations

Throughout public consultation, a variety of outdoor developments were discussed with “water” emerging as a key theme. Items identified under this theme included a community lake located at the current baseball diamond site, and a spray park or wading pool with close proximity to the Stanley Street Playground. Additionally numerous respondents supported increasing accessibility to the adjacent Columbia River located at the south end of the community below the Radium Springs Golf Course and next to the Canfor Saw Mill. Goal 3.4.1 under rural lands provides to “acquire portions of rural lands located adjacent to Sinclair Creek and the Columbia River wetlands for public park purposes” (Village of Radium, 2013, p. 12). Based on public recommendations, the Village should actively pursue this goal, which will support both the need for water/river access and the large number of residents who participate in river and water based activities.

In addition to further developing water features and attractions, the following developments were brought up numerous times by both survey and focus group participants.

- **Tennis Courts** – Tennis courts were discussed numerous times throughout the consultation process. Families and part-time residents felt strongly about the need to develop tennis courts within the community.
- **Public Washrooms** – Suggested to be located close to Stanley Street Playground and Legend's Field, this development was viewed as very important by families, seniors and full-time residents.
- **Dog Park** – An in-town, off-leash dog park would support the needs of full and part-time residents with pets in the community and would be extremely beneficial to those who reside in condominiums and townhouses with minimal outdoor space.
- **Outdoor Amphitheatre** – Part of a larger arts and culture development strategy, establishment of an outdoor amphitheatre supports demands for theatre and music programming by residents and should be explored in partnership with arts and culture groups within the region.

6.1.2 Indoor Facilities

Indoor facilities, which included the community hall, school gym, municipal boardroom, fire hall training space and Radium Library, garnered neutral to satisfied ratings from residents. Over 85% of survey respondents replied they “did not use” the gym, boardroom or training spaces. Low usage of these facilities is attributed to awareness, as over a quarter of survey respondents and several focus group participants were unaware these facilities either existed or were available for

public use. Individuals themselves may not be pathways to increase use of these facilities, but opportunities to encourage use and grow rental income can be achieved through an increase in community programming and private and non-profit bookings. Community programming may include; continuing education programs, youth activities, mom and tot playgroups, recreation leagues and clubs as identified through the community consultation data and further discussed in Section 6.3. While fee schedules, rental agreements and booking methods are readily available on the Village's website, exploring new means of communicating availability and awareness was recommended by focus group participants.

Indoor facility development goals, strategies and policies found in the Official Community Plan are less defined than those of outdoor trail and pathways. Strategy 3.5.2 state that the Village should "pursue opportunities for partnerships and cooperative construction and operation of recreational and cultural facilities with the private sector and non-profit and community organizations" (Village of Radium, 2013, p. 13). The multi-use facility discussed within OCP strategy 5.2.2 corresponds with the big vision of Phase 2 of the Adventure Radium Park as described in Section 2.5 of this report. This strategy states that the Village should "consider including library, museum, interpretive and cultural components as part of the proposed community facility project" (Village of Radium, 2013, p. 13). While not providing direct feedback for the development of a multi-use facility, the Community Recreation Facilities Study investigates the strengths and weaknesses of the current Radium Community Hall as well as programming and future development opportunities. This feedback will provide data the Village can use to support future multi-use facility consideration.

6.1.2.1 Radium Community Hall

The Radium Community Hall is quickly approaching a point in its facility life cycle where it will require renovation and/or upgrades to sustain use. Aging infrastructure, cosmetic deficiencies and low use patterns are all issues to consider as the Village contemplates renovations or construction of a new multi-use facility. While satisfaction with the Radium Community Hall was strong, over half of respondents said they do not use this facility. Awareness of the facility did not appear to be an issue but rather its function, offerings and current program options.

The community consultation stage provided residents with an opportunity to discuss the functionality and purpose of the facility. Focus group participants were most critical of the name. Informally known as the Radium Senior's Hall, and managed by the Radium Seniors Association, the general community perception is that this facility only services the recreation and leisure needs of that population. In some instances, focus group participants mentioned prior to the focus group event to believing the Radium Community Hall and Seniors Hall to be two separate facilities. In contrast, the Village and user groups view this as a community wide, multi generational facility. Other than community celebrations such as Christmas, Halloween, New Years and Radium Days, the bulk of activities and operations do cater to the seniors demographic. Opportunity to expand activities and events occurring within this space exist and could support the community's growing arts, culture and recreational needs. A name change that recognizes multi-use use rather than Seniors Hall or standardizing the use of Radium Community Hall would aid in creating a space that would be inviting to all individuals, groups, families and businesses seeking facility space rental in the community.

Although a name change may increase perception and awareness, larger challenges still exist. Both survey and focus group participants felt the facility was in need of numerous upgrades stating poor lighting, dated decor and inadequate ventilation are deficiencies that need to be addressed. In addition, upgrades similar to those proposed in Phase 2 of the Adventure Radium Park, included expanding hall capacity from 200 to 400 people, creating group level access for new recreational amenities including Radium Library, Adventure Radium Youth Center, fitness room and outdoor ice rink change rooms, as well as patio and deck construction (Radium Hot

Springs, 2011, p.2) should be examined as each of these upgrades and modifications were echoed throughout public consultation. By enhancing this space, opportunities to serve the growing needs for expanded adult extended learning, youth programs and desired drop-in fitness by recreational homeowners can grow.

6.1.2.2 Library

Residents were overall satisfied with the current library facilities with seniors and full-time residents sharing the highest levels of satisfaction. Focus group participants discussed opportunities to expand or move current facilities and OCP strategies 3.5.2 discusses “consider including library, museum, interpretive and cultural components as part of the proposed community facility project” (Village of Radium, 2013, p. 13). Survey analysis found that 43% of all respondents used the library services and over 60% of full-time residents and seniors used this facility. While use was high amongst these two groups, less than 25% used it monthly. Awareness was not a factor in accessibility as only 3% of total respondents replied they were unaware this facility existed yet 30% of all respondents stated they never visited the library. Similarly, only 2% of part-time homeowners were unaware this facility existed, although 49% said they have never visited.

6.1.2.3 School Gym

An absence of programming and limited public access, led to an overall neutral level of satisfaction with the school gym. This degree of satisfaction may result from unfamiliarity with the facility as 92% of all respondents reported they do not use this facility and 21% stated they were unaware this facility existed. Feedback within the community survey and from focus group participants warrants an increase in access and programming within this facility. Badminton and volleyball were repeated as league or drop-in sports in which both full and part-time residents would like to participate in. Part-time residents also requested drop-in yoga and fitness classes, which could take place within this facility. Increasing access and providing programs within this facility would also address the need for an increase in youth and teen specific activities within the community.

6.1.3 Future Indoor Considerations

As with outdoor developments, community members provided numerous ideas for current and future developments with emphasis being placed on expanding use and improving the functionality of current facilities. Feedback from residents found an increase in programming, new activities and additional events would increase use and satisfaction with current indoor facilities. New indoor facility developments were least important to part-time residents although they did see a need for expanded youth and teen activities and access to drop-in sports and fitness.

6.2 Activities and Programs

Residents agreed that enough opportunities exist to participate in community events and celebrations such as Radium Days, New Years celebrations and Music on Main. Full-time residents, seniors and families believed that the community did not provide enough services and opportunities to participate in youth activities, recreation (drop-in sports, fitness classes) and arts and culture (painting, drawing, performing arts) activities. Demand and interest supports the expansion of arts, culture, recreation and leisure programs within the Village of Radium Hot Springs. Results drawn from question #5 in the Community Survey demonstrates that the majority of respondents replied that they do not participate in many of the activities suggested. It should be noted that it is unclear if they would not participate in such activity or if they do not partake as a result of limited availability in opportunities to participate locally. Current trends in sport and recreation indicated that persons are moving towards more informal and often individual activities with lack of free time being the largest contributor in this shift. Feedback

from the community survey (open ended question #5) and focus group indicated interest in drop-in sports, clubs and lifelong learning opportunities.

6.2.1 Recreation Activities and Participation Rates

Concurrent with national trends, individual pursuits such as hiking, walking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, fishing, canoe/kayaking and swimming were found to have the highest participation rates amongst survey respondents. Increasing opportunities for participation in these types of activities is addressed through Section 6.1.1 titled Outdoor Facilities and recommends the development of a comprehensive trail strategy, exploring opportunities for river access and more outdoor water features. Families with young children were found to have the highest rates of participation in drop-in sports but were required to travel outside the community to participate in these types of activities. This group also noted that they would be most likely to participate should drop-in activities become available locally. Seniors as well as full-time residents indicated interests in lifelong learning opportunities and clubs, which included culinary and language classes as well as hiking and biking clubs. While desire to join drop-in activities and fitness classes exist within the second homeowner group, scheduling and ensuring rates of participation amongst this group to sustain activities may be a challenge due to visitation patterns on weekends and holidays.

6.2.2 Youth/Teen Activities

Discussed numerous times throughout the survey and focus group feedback was a need to increase youth and teen friendly activities and facilities. While the Village has been successful in upgrading parks and playgrounds over the past 3 years, increased programming and activities are desired. Facilitated drop-in times at the community hall or gym space as well as additional league and evening sports and games would support improved youth health and engagement. Phase 2 of the Adventure Radium Park development seeks to build a youth centre in a new multi-purpose space, and should be further explored as focus group participants strongly supported this development. The Summit Youth Centre, operating in the neighbouring community of Invermere was referenced and provided a facility and program model to replicate. Interim developments could support working with the Invermere youth center organization to facilitate evening programs and day trips for Radium youth.

6.2.3 Event and Program Coordination

Should the Village of Radium aspire to provide expanded activities and programs they will need to evaluate staffing requirements as well as new occasions to partner for service delivery. Currently, municipal funding supports a half time events coordinator working with Tourism Radium. An opportunity exists to expand and focus the role of this position to include community programming and partnership development. Partnerships should be explored as numerous private and public businesses throughout the region could be approached to offer services within the community of Radium Hot Springs. Using partners to support program delivery will reduce the pressures placed upon village staff time requirements. Partnership opportunities and developments are further explored in Section 6.4 and would support OCP goal 3.5.1 to “provide a diverse range of recreational and cultural services facilities and amenities that cater to a wide range of age groups” (Village of Radium, 2013, p. 12).

6.3 Partnerships

Increasing partnership opportunities would support overall program and service delivery as well as support strategies outlined in Section 3.5.2 of the Official Community Plan. While

municipalities can act as direct service providers, limitations such as staffing and funding create opportunities for the municipality to act as developers, by expanding local capacity and assisting community groups in the delivery of activities and programs (Markham, 1991, p.13). As discussed in the review of literature, “creating community links is essential to developing long-term, quality programs” (Saskatchewan Parks & Recreation Association, 2012, p.3). By leveraging assets already existing within the community, the municipality can better address community needs and engage groups in the planning process. Expanding partnerships to include private and non-profit organizations will not only increase program options but support overall social and economic development.

The Village of Radium’s OCP strategy 3.5.2 emphasizes partnership development on multiple levels and includes the acquisition and maintenance of recreational trails and publicly accessible open spaces, for the promotion and development of arts and culture related programs and assets and to pursue opportunities for partnership and cooperative construction and operation of recreational and cultural facilities (Village of Radium, 2013, p.13). A number of partners were identified within the OCP document as well as throughout the public consultation phase, which are included in Figure 5.1 on page 28. By engaging and developing partnerships, the Village will better serve residents and support capacity building initiatives as well as reduce service costs.

6.4 Communications

Civic and community engagement can be supported through strong municipal communication strategies. When asked, full-time residents and families with children felt the Village’s ability to inform residents about opportunities to participate in arts, culture, recreation and leisure activities was good with part-time residents and seniors rating it as satisfactory. An overall need for improved communication was brought forward by focus group participant and acknowledged the accessibility of mayor, council and staff through formal and informal channels. This group also recognized the village newsletter as a great outreach tool yet only one third of survey participants replied they found out about activities and events through this avenue. The top source for community information was print media including newspapers and poster boards located throughout local businesses. Word of mouth was also perceived to be one of the best avenues to learn about events and activities occurring within the community.

Building upon current effective communication tools, focus group participants believed the community would benefit from an electronic notice board announcing current and upcoming events, a permanent weatherproof poster board located in front of the Visitor Information Center, an improved online calendar of events as well as more “local” directed communication tools and publications. While print mediums with community maps and event listings exist, they are used primarily as visitor tools and often overlooked by local residents. Updating certain materials such as the map pad and locating this and the visitor information guide on the Village of Radium website, residents may increase familiarity with the tools without requiring the municipality to duplicate efforts.

Residents also acknowledged local businesses as being important participants within the community communication chain. It was noted that businesses such as Radium Esso, Meet on Higher Ground coffee shop and the post office were important local information hubs. Supporting this response, residents felt that Tourism Radium/Chamber of Commerce possesses strong communication with local businesses and believed continued development of these channels with the Village of Radium would further enhance knowledge and awareness of activities and events.

As a result of the 2010 community survey, the Village of Radium Hot Spring undertook a comprehensive re-branding strategy with Twist Marketing. Part of an overall economic development strategy, rebranding and the strategic marketing plan recommendations are being implemented with goals of increasing visitors to the region as well as supporting an increase in permanent full-time population through second homeowner conversion. The Village's new brand is 70's inspired with the tag line of "Find your Peace". Full-time residents were critical of the new brand and tag lines, noting they desired something more traditional, classical and inspired by the mountains as they felt this branding would not carry the longevity needed. Positive impacts arising from this project were the village newsletter, website upgrades and communication strategy development.

The proposed website upgrades by Twist Marketing, reviewed in Section 2.3 are designed to support and illuminate pathways to increase the full-time resident population within the Village of Radium Hot Springs with two tabs driving visitors to their intended destinations. While the "Invest Tab" provides information related to relocation and investment decision-making, the "Living Tab" will provide comprehensive resources for community residents. While the "Living Tab" largely supports second homeowner conversion, opportunities to increase communication and to improve access to information for current full-time residents exist within this project. Value added additions to the website would include a comprehensive community event calendar, downloadable trail and community maps, facility rental information, recreation activities listings and social media integration. Full-time residents felt a need to be connected to their community and cited a form of shared narrative would improve this connection. Examples provided included stories, tales and historical facts they could share with guests and anchor them within their community. The new website platform would allow the Village to share the history and tales of the community while social media integration will also allow resident to build their own stories, post pictures and share what's happening in their neighborhood, businesses and community.

6.5 Recreation Development and Second Homeowners

Twist's 2013 Integrated Marketing Plan identifies the design of marketing and communication materials to support second homeowner conversion. "Our key marketing objective therefore is to illuminate pathways for conversion of PT to FT residency using what we know about this market" (Twist, 2013, p.2). The additional understanding of second homeowner recreation and activities needs gained through the Community Recreation Facilities Study can further enhance the upcoming strategy being executed by Twist Marketing.

Of the 103 individuals who completed the online Radium Community Recreation Facilities Survey, 45 of those identified themselves as a secondary or part-time homeowner with 44% saying that they plan to make Radium their primary residents. From this group, just over half are planning to convert to full-time residents in the next 6-10 years. When asked if an increase in indoor or outdoor facilities would play a factor in making Radium their primary residency, 47% replied it would influence their decision. Based on the survey feedback, supporting an increase in trail development, family friendly activities and events, tennis courts, as well as drop-in fitness classes may begin to further meet part-time residents needs and support relocation decisions.

Part-time residents expressed overall satisfaction with current indoor and outdoor recreation facilities. While use patterns were understandably lower than those of full-time residents, amenities such as trails and parks have the highest level of use by part-time residents. Indoor facilities were less frequented or often unused by second homeowners.

Use patterns of second homeowners can be reflective of a number of factors, which include frequency of visitation, scheduling of visits and second homeowners' desire to recreate, relax and

enjoy outdoor and nature based activities (McNicol & Buxton, N.D.). Part-time homeowners spend much of their time in the community on weekends, holidays and throughout the summer vacation period. While there is an increase in events during these periods, recreation programming and access to indoor facilities are often reduced and lead to the higher frequency in use of trails, playgrounds, baseball diamond and skating rink. Data indicates that support for indoor facility developments and programs was quite low with the exception of youth activities and drop-in fitness. Part-time residents seek an increase in trails, access to crown land and natural recreation spaces, water features and tennis courts.

As reviewed in section 3.2.6, conflict between second homeowners and local residents in rural areas may occur as “locals often feel positive towards development” and second homeowners are concerned with preserving the rural ideal (Farstad, 2013, p. 42). Although use patterns, awareness and frequency varied from full-time to part-time residents, desired recreation development themes coincided and minimal tensions between user groups were evident.

6.6 Discussion Summary

The above sections discussed resident’s perceptions of current and future community recreation, arts, culture and leisure facility and program developments in relation to community goals and strategies as presented in the Official Community Plan. Numerous community facility and amenity developments were discussed throughout the consultation phase for the municipality’s consideration. While common themes developed between subgroups and as illustrated in Figure 5.13, Survey Subgroup Matrix, the Village of Radium may choose to undertake strategies to focus on increasing use of facilities with high “do not use” level, focus on most commonly requested developments or choose those which may have the largest impact on second homeowner conversion. In addition, communication, engagement and program strategies were examined as they relate to overall opportunities to participate in recreation and leisure activities for current full and part-times residents. This discussion provided the rationale for recommendations outlined in the following section.

7.0 Recommendations

Based upon feedback received throughout the consultation process and supporting where applicable the goals, strategies and policies found within the Official Community Plan, this section provides a series of recommendation to support recreation, arts, culture and leisure infrastructure and program development. It is important to recognize that partnerships with a number of organizations, public, private and non-profit are critical in supporting many of these recommendations. Each of the recommendations takes into account the needs of each subgroup in the community and provides a balanced approach to facility and program development over the next 10 years. Short-term (1-4years) and long-term (5+years) recommendations are provided in the following areas:

- Outdoor facilities
- Indoor facilities
- Programs, Activities and Staffing
- Communication

Outdoor Facilities

Municipal outdoor facilities and amenities had the highest level of satisfaction and use with part-time residents providing the strongest support for the continued development of outdoor spaces. With the highest frequency of use, an expanded trail network was a high priority for all residents (families, seniors, full-time, part-time). As such, numerous recommendations support the continued development and expansion of these facilities and amenities.

Short-Term:

- *Pursue the continue development of trail and pathway strategy as per strategies and policies outlined in Policy 3.5.3 of the Official Community Plan. Use established partnerships to expand trail network and work with business and residential landowners to increase accessibility and movement throughout neighborhoods and business zones.*
- *Develop a Village specific walk/bike map.*
- *Continue to develop bike park and pump track area to increase use, access and safety.*
- *Develop a park maintenance and priority strategy and continue to upgrade aging outdoor infrastructure, as funding is made available.*
- *Seek funding and partnership opportunities to upgrade ice-skating rink, basketball court and improve lighting in central park area.*
- *Evaluate opportunities and options to repurpose baseball diamond.*

Long-Term:

- *Explore and proceed if feasible with OCP Goal 3.4.1 to acquire lands adjacent to the Columbia River Wetlands and develop river access.*
- *Assess the potential for new outdoor public washrooms located near the Stanley Street playground and Legend's Field.*
- *Monitor activity trends, demand and explore the development opportunities for tennis courts, dog park and outdoor amphitheatre.*

Indoor Facilities

Low use patterns of indoor facilities has resulted from poor awareness of community meeting spaces and limited programming in venues such as the community hall and school gym. In order to begin to maximize indoor space use and supported through staffing and communication initiatives, the Village should strive to increase community programming as well as rentals by public, private and non-profit community groups. As the Radium Community Hall approaches a critical point in its building lifecycle, short-term and long-term strategies will need to be considered as activity and facility use patterns evolve.

Short Term:

- *Increase awareness of the availability of municipal facility rentals for community meetings, activities and events for meeting and small group activities and can be promoted through the Village of Radium Website, word of mouth and village to business networking*
- *Pursue partnership opportunities to develop new and enhance existing indoor arts, culture and leisure program spaces.*
- *Community/Senior's Hall*
 - *Pursue cosmetic upgrades to current facility, which includes paint, flooring, HVAC system and overall décor.*
 - *Rename current community hall facility or standardize name use to Radium Community Hall.*
 - *Increase revenue generating activities and ventures to help offset costs associated with operations and maintenance.*

Long Term:

- *Pursue partnership opportunities to develop new indoor arts, culture and leisure program spaces.*
- *Community/Senior's Hall*
 - *Continue to explore the long-term vision and expansion as discussed in Phase 2 of the Adventure Radium Park and referenced in the Official Community Plan.*
- *Library*
 - *Monitor use pattern, promote an increase in programming and continue to include library in future multi-use facility discussions and developments concepts.*

Programs, Activities and Staffing

A need for expanded recreation, arts, culture and leisure programs, activities and events was clearly communicated throughout the Community Recreation Facilities Survey. Required to support Village run programs as well as develop private and non-profit community activities, events and programs, the Village of Radium should explore and update job description and duties for Village Event Coordinator position to include community activity and recreation programming. Provision of youth and teen specific spaces and programs was an important theme throughout the community consultation process. While outdoor play spaces exist, and need for safe indoor spaces and programmed activities was deemed very important.

Short Term

- *Develop Event Coordinator position to be responsible for researching community activity trends and programming new weekly and monthly adult recreation, arts, culture and leisure programs.*

- *Seek partnership and staffing opportunities to support and provide an increase in programs and activities occurring within the current Community Hall and School Gym.*
- *Explore and develop youth/teen coordinated drop in activities and events within current local facilities and amenities as well as exploring opportunities to partner with the Invermere Youth Center.*

Long Term:

- *Develop and expand partnerships with local private and public organizations and educational institutions to increase community activities, program availability and facility use and bookings.*
- *Explore opportunities to develop a staffed, youth specific facility.*
- *Increase staff funding opportunities and structure to support year-round student leadership position.*

Communication

Civic and community engagements are supported through strong municipal communication strategies. While current communication rebranding and strategy efforts are underway, the Village of Radium should continue to build and focus on the following:

Short-Term:

- *A communication plan, which includes local and part-time resident engagement strategies.*
- *Develop new online/print activities and event calendar.*
- *Increase the frequency of Village Newsletter to a minimum of 4-6 issues per year.*
- *Explore opportunities to purchase and install electronic signboard and/or permanent poster board located near the Visitor Information Center.*
- *Explore opportunities to increase visibility through paid advertisements and monthly news articles in local newspapers and magazines including the Columbia Valley Pioneer, Invermere Valley Echo and Valley Peak.*

The information and recommendations provided within the Village of Radium Community Recreation Facilities Study are the first steps in identifying community arts, culture, recreation and leisure facility and program needs over the next 5-10 years. An action and recommendation matrix is provided in Figure 7.1 to assist the Village of Radium Hot Spring staff and council in identifying potential partnerships, prioritizing actions as well as allocating staffing, finances and timelines to the provided recommendation as they work through budgetary and strategic planning activities.

Figure 7.1 – Action and Recommendation Matrix

Village of Radium Community Recreation Facility Study Action and Recommendations Matrix	OCP Goal/Strategy/Policy (where applicable)	Potential Partner(s)	Implementation Timeline	Staff/Department Responsibility	Projected Budget
Outdoor Facilities					
<i>Short-Term</i>					
Pursue the continue development of trail and pathway strategy as per strategies and policies outlined in Policy 3.5.3 of the Official Community Plan. Use established partnerships to expand trail network and work with business and residential landowners to increase accessibility and movement throughout neighborhoods and business zones.					
Develop a Village specific walk/bike map.					
Continue to develop bike park and pump track area to increase use, access and safety.					
Develop a park maintenance and priority strategy and continue to upgrade aging outdoor infrastructure, as funding is made available.					
Seek funding and partnership opportunities to upgrade ice-skating rink, basketball court and improve lighting in central park area.					
Evaluate opportunities and options to repurpose baseball diamond.					
<i>Long-Term</i>					
Explore and proceed if feasible with OCP Goal 3.4.1 to acquire lands adjacent to the Columbia River Wetlands and develop river access.					
Assess the potential for new outdoor public washrooms located near the Stanley Street playground and Legend’s Field.					
Monitor activity trends, demand and explore the development opportunities for tennis courts, dog park and outdoor amphitheatre					
Indoor Facilities					
<i>Short-Term</i>					

Increase awareness of the availability of municipal facility rentals for community meetings, activities and events for meeting and small group activities and can be promoted through the Village of Radium Website, word of mouth and village to business networking					
Community/Senior's Hall - Pursue cosmetic upgrades to current facility, which includes paint, flooring, HVAC system and overall décor. - Rename current community hall facility or standardize name use to Radium Community Hall. - Increase revenue generating activities and ventures to help offset costs associated with operations and maintenance.					
Pursue partnership opportunities to develop new and enhance existing indoor arts, culture and leisure program spaces.					
Long-Term					
Pursue partnership opportunities to develop new indoor arts, culture and leisure program spaces.					
Community/Senior's Hall Continue to explore the long-term vision and expansion as discussed in Phase 2 of the Adventure Radium Park and referenced in the Official Community Plan.					
Library Monitor use pattern, promote an increase in programming and continue to include library in future multi-use facility discussions and developments concepts.					
Programs, Activities & Staffing					
Short-Term					
Develop Event Coordinator position to be responsible for researching community activity trends and programming new weekly and monthly adult recreation, arts, culture and leisure programs.					
Seek partnership and staffing opportunities to support and provide an increase in programs and activities occurring within the current Community Hall and School Gym.					
Explore and develop youth/teen coordinated drop in activities and events within current local facilities and amenities as well as exploring opportunities to partner with the Invermere Youth Center.					

Long Term					
Develop and expand partnerships with local private and public organizations and educational institutions to increase community activities, program availability and facility use and bookings.					
Explore opportunities to develop a staffed, youth specific facility.					
Increase staff funding opportunities and structure to support year-round student leadership position.					
Communication					
Short-Term					
A communication plan, which includes local and part-time resident engagement strategies.					
Develop new online/print activities and event calendar.					
Increase the frequency of Village Newsletter to a minimum of 4-6 issues per year.					
Explore opportunities to purchase and install electronic signboard and/or permanent poster board located near the Visitor Information Center.					
Explore opportunities to increase visibility through paid advertisements and monthly news articles in local newspapers and magazines including the Columbia Valley Pioneer, Invermere Valley Echo and Valley Peak.					

8. Conclusion

The Village of Radium Hot Springs Recreation Facilities Study is a valuable step in understanding residents' values and attitudes towards municipally owned and/or managed facilities and amenities. Developed through a community consultation process the needs identified within this study provide the Village of Radium Hot Springs with a number of current and future development considerations.

Response from residents conveyed overall satisfaction with the level of facilities and services for a community of its size and additionally reinforced the vision provided within the Official Community Plan (OCP). While the OCP itself is a 20-year plan, this report focused on providing recommendation to support initiatives and developments within the next five to ten years in relation to goals identified within this document.

Feedback and requests for new facilities and developments in the immediate future (5-10 years) were relatively limited while demand for an increase in programs and upgrades to enhance functionality and maximize use of current facilities was of importance to both full and part-time residents. In order to increase program and maximize space use, the Village will need to allocate current staff time (ie: Event Coordinator position) to building programs and increase facility rentals.

With a strive to increase the population base through the conversion of part-time homeowners to full-time residents, information, perceptions and recommendations within this report will provide the Village with additional information to support current economic development initiatives focused in this area. While tensions regarding municipal policies and develop initiatives often exist in communities with large second homeowner populations, limited tensions between full and part-time homeowners within the Village of Radium were found in relation to recreation facilities and programming.

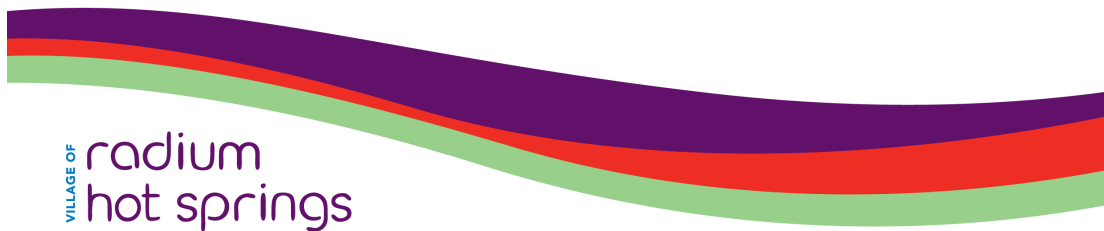
The Village of Radium Hot Springs provides numerous facilities and amenities for residents and visitors alike to enjoy. Building upon the input provided and creating a balanced approach between available funding and desired development, the Village of Radium will continue to meet community service needs and build the infrastructure and program needed to support community growth and sustainability.

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Appendix A – Direct Mail Survey Recruitment Flyer



VILLAGE OF
radium
hot springs

We Want To Hear From You!

The Village of Radium Hot Springs invites your household to provide feedback on its community arts, culture, leisure and recreational facilities!

Do you envision multi purpose spaces for leisure activities such as dance, yoga, children/senior craft and recreation programs or spaces large enough to hold dances, banquets and community celebrations? Perhaps you support expanding hiking/ walking trails and outdoor spaces? The Village of Radium Hot Springs is seeking feedback on existing community spaces, ensuring they have the necessary amenities, features and services, without duplicating other venues and community commercial spaces.

This research is being undertaken as a Master's Project and as follow up to the 2010 community survey. This information may be used to guide long range planning as the Village updates the Radium 2020 Vision and goals and strategies under Section 3.5 outlined in the 2013 Official Community Plan Draft.

Please Visit:

<http://fluidsurveys.com/s/radium>
to complete the survey today!

Researcher: Jessica Fairhart is currently completing a Master's degree in Community Development at the University of Victoria and has undertaken the Village of Radium Community Facility Needs Assessment as her Master's Project. With undergraduate degrees in Leisure Studies and Organizational Communications; community, recreation and municipal services have always been areas of interest to Jessica. you may contact her if you have further questions by email at fairhart@uvic.ca.



Appendix B – Newspaper Survey Recruitment Advertisement



VILLAGE OF radium
hot springs

We want to hear from you!

The Village of Radium Hot Springs invites households to provide feedback on its community arts, culture, leisure and recreation facilities! This information may be used to guide long range planning as the Village updates the Radium 2020 Vision and goals under the 2013 Official Community Plan.

Please visit:
fluidsurveys.com/s/radium
to complete the survey today!

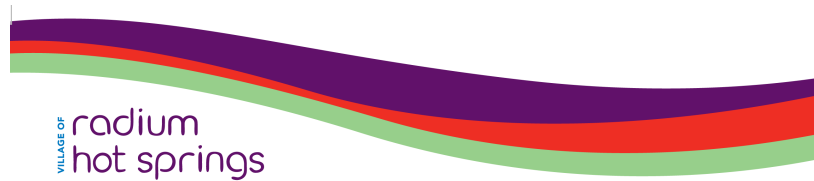
VILLAGE OF radium
hot springs

We want to hear from you!

The Village of Radium Hot Springs invites households to provide feedback on its community arts, culture, leisure and recreation facilities! This information may be used to guide long range planning as the Village updates the Radium 2020 Vision and goals under the 2013 Official Community Plan.

Visit:
fluidsurveys.com/s/radium
to complete the survey today!

Appendix C – Focus Group Recruitment Script



We Want To Hear From You!

The Village of Radium Hot Springs invites you to participate in a focus group and provide us with feedback on community arts, culture, leisure and recreational services and facilities!

Seeking to ensure that current community spaces are the correct size and have the necessary amenities, features and services, the Village envisions a multi purposes space for leisure activities such as dance, yoga, children/senior craft and recreation programs as well as space large enough to hold community dances, banquets and celebrations without duplicating other venues and community commercial spaces. This research is being undertaken as a Master's Project and may be used to guide the Village's long range planning as we update the Radium 2020 Vision and goals and strategies under Section 3.5 outlines in the 2013 Official Community Plan Draft.

Join us on Tuesday, September 24th, 2013 at 6pm at Radium's Community Hall for a facilitated, interactive forum to discuss the community's future community space needs.

Please RSVP to Jessica Fairhart by September 20th at Fairhart@uvic.ca or by calling 250-270-0037.

Letter For Implied Consent

Radium Hot Springs Community Space Study

You are invited to participate in a study entitled Radium Hot Springs Community Space Study that is being conducted by Jessica Fairhart and the Village of Radium Hot Springs.

Jessica Fairhart is a Graduate Student in the department of Public Administration at the University of Victoria and you may contact her if you have further questions by email at solohart@gmail.com or phone at 250-270-0037.

As a graduate student, I am required to conduct research as part of the requirements for a degree in Community Development. It is being conducted under the supervision of Dr. Lynne Siemens. You may contact my supervisor at 250-721-8069 or siemensl@uvic.ca.

Purpose and Objectives

The Village of Radium Hot Springs' Community Space Needs Assessment will provide an understanding of the community's current and future space requirements for recreational, social and cultural activities and events. As the Village of Radium enters strategic planning to determine a 20-year community vision, this research will help inform development and operational strategies for its publicly owned spaces. Specifically, the Village of Radium seeks to understand community interests, support and projected use of current facilities and programs to help determine if current infrastructure meets today and tomorrow's demands.

Importance of this Research

The Village of Radium Hot Springs is undertaking this research to understand the strengths and limitations of current community gathering, activity and event spaces. The Village of Radium seeks to ensure that current community spaces are the correct size and have the necessary amenities, features and services community members seek without duplicating other venues and community commercial spaces. This overview will support goals and strategies under Section 3.5 currently outlined in the 2013 draft Official Community Plan (OCP), Radium 2030, presented to the public February 2013.

Participants Selection

You are being asked to participate in this study because as a full or part-time resident of the Village of Radium Hot Springs you are a user community activity and gatherings spaces. By understanding your current and future needs, the Village can better plan to serve your recreational and leisure needs.

What is involved?

If you agree to voluntarily participate in this survey, you will be asked a series of questions regarding your household's perception and attitudes towards community facilities. The survey will take approximately 10-15 minutes.

Risks

There are no known or anticipated risks to you by participating in this research.

Benefits

The potential benefits of your participation in this research include a better understanding of recreation and cultural space requirements for the residents, businesses and visitors. This will support the development of community policy, funding and planning with regards to arts, culture, recreation and leisure within the Village of Radium Hot Springs. This research will allow the Village to further understand resident's attitudes towards current and future community space needs and plan accordingly.

Voluntary Participation

Your participation in this research must be completely voluntary. If you do decide to participate, you may withdraw at any time without any consequences or any explanation. If you choose to withdraw from the online survey and do not submit your answers, the data will be eliminated. Once the survey has been submitted it is impossible for participants to remove their survey or to withdraw from the study, because all surveys are completely anonymous.

Confidentiality

All records of participation will be kept strictly confidential by the researcher. In digital form, the data will be held in password-protected files on computers controlled by the researcher. The data may be shared with the researcher's client, and supervisor.

Dissemination of Results

It is anticipated that the results of this study will be shared with others in the following ways, including published needs assessment report, presentation to Village of Radium council and public, posted on Village of Radium's website and published master's project posted on the University of Victoria's website.

Disposal of Data

Once the study is completed, data from this study will be erased from the researcher's computer.

Contacts

Individuals that may be contacted regarding this study include:

Jessica Fairhart, Researcher
Graduate Student, Master of Arts in Community Development
University of Victoria
fairhart@uvic.ca
250-270-0037

Clara Reinhardt, Client
Councilor, Village of Radium Hot Springs
clara.reinhardt@radiumhotsprings.ca

Dr. Lynne Siemens, Supervisor
Graduate Advisor, Master of Arts in Community Development
School of Public Administration, University of Victoria
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In addition, you may verify the ethical approval of this study, or raise any concerns you might have, by contacting the Human Research Ethics Office at the University of Victoria (250-472-4545 or ethics@uvic.ca).

By completing and submitting the questionnaire, **YOUR FREE AND INFORMED CONSENT IS IMPLIED** and indicates that you understand the above conditions of participation in this study and that you have had the opportunity to have your questions answered by the researchers.

Please retain a copy of this letter for your reference.

Appendix E – Focus Group Consent Form

Focus Group Participant Consent Form

Project: Radium Hot Springs Community Space Study

Researcher:

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Client

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Purpose(s) and Objective(s) of the Research:

- The Village of Radium Hot Spring's Community Space Needs Assessment will provide an understanding of the community's current and future space requirements for recreational, social and cultural activities and events. As the Village of Radium enters strategic planning to determine a 20-year community vision, this research will help inform development and operational strategies for its publicly owned spaces. Specifically, the Village of Radium seeks to understand community interests, support and projected use of current facilities and programs to help determine if current infrastructure meets today and tomorrow's demands.

This Research is Important because:

- The Village of Radium Hot Springs is undertaking this research to understand the strengths and limitations of current community gathering, activity and event spaces. The Village of Radium seeks to ensure that current community spaces are the correct size and have the necessary amenities, features and services community members seek without duplicating other venues and community commercial spaces. Current community spaces are dated or lack accessibility and the Village envisions a multi purposes space for leisure activities such as dance, yoga, children/senior craft and recreation programs as well as space large enough to hold community dances, banquets and celebrations. This overview will support goals and strategies under Section 3.5 currently outlined in the 2013 draft Official Community Plan (OCP), Radium 2030, presented to the public February 2013.

Participation:

- You are being chosen to in this study by the Village of Radium because as a full or part-time resident of the Village of Radium Hot Springs you are a user community activity and gatherings spaces. By understanding your current and future needs, the Village can better plan to serve your recreational and leisure needs.
- Participation in this project is entirely voluntary.
- Whether you choose to participate or not will have no effect on your position [e.g. employment, class standing] or how you will be treated.

Appendix F – Online Survey Questions

RHS Community Recreation Facilities Online Survey

1. How are the Village of Radium's current facilities satisfying community recreation, artistic and cultural needs?

Overall current facilities within the community are:

- Excellent
- Good
- Satisfactory
- Poor

2. Please indicate satisfaction with Radium Hot Springs' facilities listed below.

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Community/Senior's Hall	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Brent's Shack	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ice Skating Rink	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pump Track (Bike Park)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Playground - Stanley Street	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Baseball Field	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tot Lot Playground - Kirk Street	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sinclair Creek Trail & Picnic Area	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Walking/Hiking Trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rotary Outdoor Fitness Equipment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
School Gym	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Municipal Boardroom	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fire Hall Training Space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Library	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. Do you, members of your household or visitors use the following community facilities?

Check all that apply

	You	Family Member	Visitors	Do Not Use
Community/Senior's Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brent's Shack	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ice Skating Rink	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	You	Family Member	Visitors	Do Not Use
Pump Track (Bike Park)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Playground - Stanley Street	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Baseball Field	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tot Lot Playground - Kirk Street	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sinclair Creek Trail & Picnic Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walking/Hiking Trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rotary Outdoor Fitness Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
School Gym	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Municipal Boardroom	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire Hall Training Space	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Library	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. How frequently do members of your household use or visit the following facilities?

	Weekly	Monthly	Less than 6 visits per year	Never visited	Unaware this facility existed
Community/Senior's Hall	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Brent's Shack	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ice Skating Rink	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pump Track (Bike Park)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Playground - Stanley Street	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Baseball Field	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tot Lot Playground - Kirk Street	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sinclair Creek Trail & Picnic Area	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Walking/Hiking Trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rotary Outdoor Fitness Equipment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
School Gym	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Municipal Boardroom	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fire Hall Training Space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Library	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. What type of leisure activities do you participate in? Do you need leave the community to pursue these activities?

Check all that apply.

	Participate in activity within Radium Hot Springs	Participate in activity within the Columbia Valley	Activity not available in the region but would participate if available locally	Do not participate in this type of activity
Cycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cross Country Skiing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Snowshoeing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skating	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fitness Classes (aerobics/zumba)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Golf	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yoga	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slo-pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
League Sports	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drop-in Sports (volleyball, badminton)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ice Hockey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Floor Hockey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disc Golf	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pickle Ball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hiking/Walking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clubs - Hiking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clubs - Biking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Card Games	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Culinary	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Painting/Arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fishing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canoe/Kayak	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Language Classes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sightseeing Tours	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Swimming/Aqua Fit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please list additional activities you would like to see offered within the Village of Radium.

6. What new indoor facilities would you support council considering for future development in the next 5-10 years?

	Not at all Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
Fitness/Wellness Facility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
After School Care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Art Display Space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Climbing Wall	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Daycare	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community Meeting/Gathering Space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Performing Arts Space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social/Banquet Facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community Garden	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Museum	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Are there any additional indoor developments you would like to see considered?

7. What new outdoor developments would you support council considering for future development in the next 5-10 years?

	Not at all Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
Expanded Trail System	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Open/Park Spaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bike Park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Picnic Areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Event Spaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sports Fields	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water Spray Park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Skateboard Park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Swimming Area	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Volleyball/ Basketball Courts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cross Country Ski Trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Are there any additional outdoor developments you would like to see considered?

8. Would an increase in these type of indoor or outdoor facilities help you recommend a guest to visit Radium Hot Springs?

- Yes
- No

9. If you are a secondary homeowner, would an increase in these type of indoor or outdoor facilities play a factor in making Radium your primary residence?

- Yes
- No
- N/A - Already a full time resident

10. Do you agree or disagree that there are enough opportunities and services to participate in the following areas?

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Arts/Culture (Painting, drawing, performing arts, music, dance, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Senior (Games, socials, educational activities, day trips, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Youth (Activities, clubs, after school programs, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social Activities (Clubs, social groups, associations, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community Events (Radium Days, Music on Main, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Recreation (Drop-in/league sports, fitness classes, cross country	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree

skiing, golf, etc.)

What additional activities/events would benefit yourself and others living or visiting the community?

11. What limits (or are barriers to) your participation in community activities?

Check all that apply

- Costs
- Distance
- Awareness
- Physical abilities
- Accessibility
- Time
- No interest in available activities
- Other, please specify...

12. How would you rate the Village's ability to inform residents about facilities, and opportunities to participate in arts, culture, recreation and leisure activities?

- Excellent
- Good
- Satisfactory
- Poor

13. Where do you find out about activities and events?

Check all that apply

- Newspapers
- Village Newsletter
- Word of Mouth
- Posters

- Radio
- Social Media (Facebook/Twitter)
- Village Website
- Other, please specify...

About You:

14. Are you a full-time or part-time resident?

- Full Time Resident (Reside year round/primary home is in Radium Hot Springs)
- Part-Time Resident (Reside less than 6 months per year in Radium Hot Spring or primary home is elsewhere)

15. Which community do you reside in?

- Radium
- Edgewater
- Other, please specify...

16. How long have you lived/owned property in your community?

- Less than 1 year
- 1-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 10+ years

17. If you are a part time resident, do you plan on moving your primary residence to Radium Hot Springs?

- Yes
- No
- N/A - Full Time Resident

18. If yes, in how many years do you see yourself living full-time in Radium?

- Less than 1 year
- 1-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 10+ years

19. What are the age ranges of the members in your household?

Check all that apply and indicate number of people

- 0-10 years
- 11-17 years
- 18-29 years
- 30-49 years
- 50-69 years
- 70+ years

20. Are you Male or Female?

- Male
- Female

Thank you for your feedback!

Appendix G – Open Ended Responses Question #5

Please list additional activities you would like to see offered within the Village of Radium.

#	Response
1.	unaware of fitness classes but would like to participate. would like to see a Radium website of activities. Only access seems to be Columbia Valley Recreation. (is a good site, but not Radium specific)
2.	Adult crafts
3.	Tennis courts, roller blading
4.	Climbing wall open at Radium School; Bike trails connected to pump track area.
5.	Would like to see the ball park that has not been utilized at all for 6-7 years now made into a man made lake. During summer months you could have peddle boats, swimming, beach etc and in the winter could be a skating rink with many other winter activities. We need something in this town to keep families visiting here rather than just sleeping here then venturing to Invermere for the day. These questions seem like your focusing too much on the local people here and not the visitors who are the bread and butter for a majority of people in this town!
6.	Upgraded Community hall Better signage for visitors
7.	I think it would be great to have Parent/Child playgroups(whether at the park, or an indoor space). Our new park facility is gorgeous, and it would be nice to see it used lots! This would be a great job position for a parent....I would be interested in looking into this further if it were something you liked (you can contact me at baileylepage@hotmail.com). More fitness classes would also be beneficial to the area I think!
8.	The ability to shop within the town. There are too few shops in the village that detract from staying within the village. The shops that are here do not appeal to the average person. We have liquor stores and restaurants. There is nowhere to buy a bathing suit if needed or a pharmacy if someone is sick. Far too often I don't have transportation to Invermere to get items that I want or need.
9.	more youth space and activities, canoe or water paddling area. need to have a safe take out area on the columbia river for paddlers within the municipal boundary. Bird watching area and trail system in the bottom land.
10.	All the focus on Invermere receiving a spray park highlights that Radium has nothing to offer. Yes we have the hot pools, but I would like to see the ball diamond, which is barely ever utilized turned into a water attraction of some kind. Why are we letting all of the businesses money go to Invermere. We need Radium to be a place where you come, and don't have to leave because there is nothing for families to do.

11.	lake, beach area on the river bowling, badminton
12.	Fitness classes at a community provided facility equipped with a solid weight room and other fitness equipment.
13.	Knitting
14.	Village facilities are sufficient given the permanent and part-time population. Village should remain focused on providing essential services, and stay out of interfering in our lives, and increasing bureaucracy and government employees.
15.	I think that the level of facilities in the community is extremely good for a village of this size and tax base.
16.	I would like to see more community activities like occasional dances at the community/Seniors hall.
17.	I would like to see us able to access the crown lands around Radium. It's a unique opportunity that we can offer locals, quasi-locals and visitors that many other similar tourist destinations cannot. The beauty of nature surpasses ice hockey rinks, pickle ball, culinary experiences etc. that anyone can offer.
18.	None
19.	Organized trips to take part in activities not available locally such as casinos, performing arts events in Cranbrook, Golden, Invermere, Calgary. This would involve a vehicle or vehicles owned and operated by Radium.
20.	theatre, local plays (drama) Concers- music
21.	Book club - list of current clubs - who would accept new members - drop ins Social meetings - advertised - what groups are meeting in Radium that drop-in people are allowed to attend?
22.	Fix the mental mix of the council as they have not done anything substantial to fix the basic infrastructure of roads and sidewalks in the entire village. The main street sidewalks are an embarrassment. The roads are deteriorating and they do nothing to alieve problems with road water going into citizens yards and homes
23.	A place for teens to meet. With pool tables, ping pong, darts, etc.
24.	A new council and Mayor that stop wasting tax payer money on stupid bullshit!!!!!!!!!!
25.	Roller blading, tennis, badminton
26.	Hockey league
27.	Not sure if it is in Village but we need a Park site near the river. We need to expand off leash dog areas as we have so many pets in town. We could use another viewpoint in the area. We could use a toboggan /bunny ski hill. Splash park for kids.
28.	A full fitness centre with daily classes such as Body Pump, Spinning, Yoga etc

29.	I would like to see more walking/hiking trails, picnic areas with bonfire/cooking facilities especially beside the Sinclair Creek/bike park area, playground/community center/skating rink area. We have a condo (#12 Columbia Avenue) and come out on weekends year round. We have children/grandchildren that could use the gym if we had known about it. Perhaps an attempt to reach the residents, both full and part-time about these facilities would be beneficial.
30.	Cross-country skiing, children's clubs and activities, more cycling trails
31.	Nothing
32.	I would like to see upgrades to the outdoor rink. Some of the boards are falling apart. The biggest issue there is that the hockey nets don't have netting. It would be easy to get netting put on them or better yet get some used real hockey nets.
33.	I would like to see the outdoor basketball court in the ice rink fixed up. The place needs to be cleaned and better hoops installed.
34.	Pilates, amateur theatre (local or visiting), professional theatre, travel overviews
35.	expanded access to trails - particularly for cycling/non-motorized access
36.	Better hiking trails More single track mountain bike trails (level terrain)
37.	Tennis. However, there are no tennis courts in RHS.

Appendix H – Open Ended Responses Question #6

Are there any additional indoor developments you would like to see considered?

#	Response
1.	better multi use facility, able to house up to 350 people for an event. covering/proving the skating rink
2.	Cinema, dance club, indoor soccer, indoor badminton
3.	I would like to see more than just museums and art galleries. As a young person seeing an arcade or other engaging activities would be great. As well within the Valley families with young children find it hard to do stuff on rainy days.
4.	Archery range, larger event hall, music and theatrical stage,
5.	Community Hall make it nice!!!
6.	It would be fantastic if the village had a large enough venue, that we could keep the car show attendees in Radium, instead of them going to Invermere for the dance. A larger hall, with 200+ seating capacity, would open a lot of doors for organizations looking to hold local functions as well.
7.	A covered skating rink that will keep the snow off and help preserve the ice in the winter.
8.	No.
9.	None.
10.	Get the smell of mold out of the Senior Hall. It is very unpleasant.
11.	Some of the facilities you mention in this question are important, but I do not believe they are a 'Village' issue. Example: After school care is not a municipal governemtn issue.
12.	None
13.	No. We need fixed roads and sidewalks and a better attitude towards getting businesses into the community.
14.	badminton
15.	educational seminars- mountain ecosystem, wellness/health topics,
16.	Hockey rink
17.	The climbing wall in the school is always closed..why? Squash, racquetball and pickleball courts
18.	Extended Tourist information hours. There is a huge disconnect between Edgewater and Radium. We know nothing about each other in regard to services and events.

- | |
|---|
| 19. A drop-in gym/yoga studio would be nice, as well as facilities where meals could be catered to for large groups. |
| 20. Library expansion |
| 21. I didn't know that there was a gym in the old school building. I would like more information to be available on how to access that space for volleyball, basketball or other indoor sports. |
| 22. gymnasium |
| 23. art/craft classes for kids. more Story times for kids. more outdoor activities geared for kids. |

Appendix I – Open Ended Responses Question #7

Are there any additional outdoor developments you would like to see considered?

#	Response
1.	Tennis courts, badminton, roller blading, soccer
2.	YES, A lake in the unused ball park.
3.	I would enjoy seeing the current baseball field replaced with a lake. It would provide the opportunity to give the Village a new attraction. There can be a new beach area for swimming and can allow paddle boats to float on. This beach could be made a sand beach and would be a great draw over the beaches in Invermere. As well it could make use of the existing Brent's shack as a concession and boat rental facility that is run by the village(i.e. making it money). During the winter with the current picnic and firepit area the lake would be frozen which would allow for a larger skating area, and Brent's shack could have skate rentals and once again be a concession area. The other facilities of the Basketball court/Icerink would likely be better utilized due to the increase of people at the lake. A waterspray park would then also be a nice draw for those families who would prefer their young children not to be swimming. Having a lake at the center of town also has the benefits of drawing more tourists into the center of town which would allow the businesses off of the highway to see more customers. This as well would turn Radium into the "walking town" that it is branded as. This flow of people into the area would also mean that more shops could open off of the highway.
4.	would like to see the legends field be turned into Legend lake (shallow maybe 2 feet deep) with a sand beach and volley ball area, paddle boats and a water fountain. winter would be extra skate area and winter fun.(present ball field is a waist of space)unused.
5.	make the baseball park into a water park and in the winter time for skating / speed skating!!!
6.	As long as its water related, and will keep visitors in town, maybe turn the ball diamond into a beach area with a swimming area. Could put volleyball down on the sand, and grassy areas for picnicking near the water.
7.	Water park
8.	I would like to see a paved biking trail from Radium to Invermere just like Banff to Canmore built. Fill the ball diamond with water so we could enjoy water sports and leisure locally.
9.	Better signalize hiking trails
10.	Not specifically just some serious improvements to the pump track...however I do realize this is a work in progress.
11.	No.
12.	None. Please do not tease residents with goodies without being very clear about asking for the additional willingness to be taxed. We get enough of that pandering from senior politicians. Leadership is often about knowing when to say no, not always offering more.
13.	Many of these items are already in existance, but maybe could be developed more. Open/Park Spaces and Picnic areas already exist. Basketball hoops already exist at the rink...etc. For the most part, I think we

	have what we need in town. ALSO - I think facilities like skate parks are a good idea, but doubt there are enough kids in town to warrant the expense.
14.	I would like to see us prohibit motorized trail bikes from accessing to trails and natural areas. Not only does it detract from others enjoying the area but also it destroys the area for future use and enjoyment.
15.	Outdoor swimming pool with wading pool for children is very important both for residents and visitors (could charge a fee)
16.	None
17.	Snowshoeing on the golf course
18.	Additional bike trails.
19.	Get Parks Canada to live up to their responsibilities of road and trail infrastructure maintenance.
20.	We have the pools so why waste resources on a pool. As well the golf course has good cross Country ski trails, You built a bike track nobody uses and there was nothing wrong with the old play grounds Hopefully you can finish the new ones before my newborn goes to college
21.	Roller blading, tennis, badminton
22.	An ice plant for the outdoor rink so we would have great ice all winter
23.	Tennis courts!!!!
24.	Park/Picnic area near river. Bunny ski hill. A viewpoint near Sinclair canyon.
25.	Tennis courts
26.	So far I think the Village of Radium has done well with beautifying the Village so to continue with flowerpots, clean up the vacant lots, bottle depot and recycling depot would help. Also, for the vacation owners it would be nice to have a garbage area for those short weekends when it is difficult to get to Edgewater dump.
27.	A paved sports track (400m) with a soccer / football field in the middle. Similar to DTSS High School one. The one behind the old elementary school is too small.
28.	volleyball and basketball courts would be great.
29.	tennis courts
30.	Tennis courts. Develop more hiking/mountain bike trails in and around Radium. Morning fitness/yoga classes in a park. For Radium's many walkers/runners develop more paths/trails showing distances would be useful. Develop Hike/bike/Cross country ski trail above the village to Radium Resort. Reuse the old nat'l parks office bldg beside campground as a Tea Hut.

Appendix J – Open Ended Responses Question #10

What additional activities/events would benefit yourself and others living or visiting the community?

#	Response
1.	More things for adults to participate in.
2.	Outdoor concerts, outdoor movies, dance nights, bowling
3.	Village Polish
4.	Hiking groups, planned classes at the community center, events that use the baseball diamond and the band shell already in place. Have events like Mozart in the Park. Allow for groups to travel together out to places like Lake of the Hanging Glacier or the like.
5.	more events for residents, winter and summer. everything seems to be done for Tourism. There is more to the Village of Radium than Tourism.
6.	a rally - LIKE!!!! - start runner radium to shooting range - mountain runner shooting range to steamboat top - downhill runner steamboat mt to redrockroad km 33 cattle guard - bicker km 33 to peckers point - end runner peckers point radium so i hope you find on organizer just on idea
7.	cross country trails,little lake area, bowling/badminton
8.	More fitness spaces/classes and social activities/clubs.
9.	None provided by the Village. Stick with essential infrastructure services.
10.	None that require additional facilities.
11.	I cannot speak to all of these items as I don't participate in them, so am unaware of what's available.
12.	None
13.	Swimming
14.	This is a horribly termed question when you are dealing with seniors which are the majority of users of these facilities.
15.	A new council and Mayor
16.	snowshoeing equipment rental for visitors, related events- bon fires, hot drinks, promote old coach trail in winter.
17.	An Easter weekend (or other weekend) canoe trip. A small town near little brook NS has a great Easter weekend canoe trip I think it takes place over two days just for fun not a race and ends at a tiny waterfall with many spectators. Great times for all ages

- | |
|---|
| 18. More festivals to extend the shoulder months. October fest like events as we have 3 German restaurants. A spring marathon ie a run from Radium to Invermere. A snowmobile event. |
| 19. Morning running groups and cycling groups to meet in Radium |
| 20. First, I think the Village has to somehow make the existing programs known to the residents and visitors, whether this be by pamphlets distributed each week or another way but they have to be made known, plus the contact people. Then, other activities/events will follow. |
| 21. Live Theatre; fitness classes; wellness classes; dinner theatre |
| 22. increased community events such a music on main/open mike |
| 23. We really like Radium for it's family/community atmosphere. More focus on family related activities are what we look for and are attracted to. Culinary ideas such as "A Taste of Radium" or "Taste of the Valley" could be a family event or include with an Market or Art event. Winter events with ice skating, ice sculpture, cross country ski events. With sleigh rides. Harvest event with hay rides. Summer carriage rides overlooking the Columbia valley & river. |

Appendix K – Open Ended Responses Question #11

11. What limits (or are barriers to) your participation in community activities? (Other, please specify...)

#	Response
1.	lack of available options
2.	There really isn't any activities of interest going on in this town.
3.	
4.	Bad question. there are no barriers.
5.	There is more to do than I can find time and energy for - a plethora of riches.
6.	Poor roads and lack of sidewalks
7.	part time resident..need these activities in summer or long weekends
8.	No limits just availabilty
9.	Because this is a vacation home, we are not always up on the latest information. If we knew what was going on, then we would probably participate.
10.	Part Time Res
11.	Not here enough, as a part time resident, to know what is available. More information about what is available would help
12.	permanent residence is in calgary
13.	no barriers
14.	work

Appendix K – Twist Survey Question #28 & #29 Responses

Question 28 asked respondents to prioritize a list of recreation facilities felt to be most urgently needed in Radium over the next five years:

Rank	Suggestion	
1	Hiking/biking trails	Most Important (59%)
2	Fitness Centre	
3	Community centre	Modestly Important (29-36%)
4	Multipurpose facility	
5	Outdoor skating rink	
6	Tennis courts	Not Very Important (12-18%)
7	Indoor swimming pool	
8	Playgrounds	
9	Spray park	
13	Indoor arena	
	Golf course	
14	Soccer pitches	
	Skateboard park	
15	Gymnasium	Not Important (0-9%)
16	Outdoor basketball	
17	Baseball/Slo-Pitch diamonds	
18	BMX track	
	Football field	
	Track and field facility	

Question 29 asked respondents to prioritize a list of municipal facilities felt to be most urgently needed in Radium over the next five years:

Rank	Suggestion	
1	Subsidize / support / encourage a pharmacy / physician	Most Important (54%)
2	Enhance / renovate / rebuild the community hall	
3	Curbside garbage / recyclable / compost pickup	Modestly Important (27-44%)
4	Locate a garbage transfer site in the municipality	
5	Community cultural centre	
6	Conference / distance education meeting room	Not Very Important (9-12%)
7	Expanded library	