

## **Proposed Osborn Hall Replacement Project**

### **Round 1 Engagement Summary**

**February 25, 2021**

The Peace River Regional District is conducting community engagement activities to assist in determining the future of the Osborn Hall, which is in an advanced state of disrepair. The study is currently underway, and is expected to be completed by the summer of 2021. The study will explore community support for the facility's replacement, and if generally supported will examine options and costs for a potential replacement facility. As part of the study, the PRRD wants to understand the interests and preferences of residents, stakeholders, and users of the existing facility.

This document will outline the engagement activities undertaken, general themes that emerged, feedback received by activity, and next steps.

#### **Engagement Activities:**

During Round 1 Engagement "the Visioning", from October 2020-February 2021 the PRRD;

- Held a meeting with the project engineer and operating Society on site to understand Society priorities, and familiarize the engineer with the existing set up.
- Held a pre-virtual information meeting was held February 9, 2021 with representatives from the Osborn Hall Society and project Engineer to go over any questions prior to 'live' event.
- Mailed an information packet to community members within a 15km radius of the facility, including survey and advertising for virtual information session.
- Had a survey open to solicit responses from the community and received 11 responses by the extended survey close date of February 22. 8 paper copies were received, and 3 online.
- Held a virtual information session at 6:30pm on February 10, 2021. 9 people 'called in' to the session, and multiple people may have been viewing from the same connection. The information provided in the presentation mirrored the information packet that had been distributed and focused on;
  - o History and Facility Condition;
  - o Existing Facility Fast Facts;
  - o Possible funding sources and elector approval;
  - o Frequently asked questions;
  - o Timeline and Important Dates;
  - o A paper copy of the survey; and
  - o How to stay involved.
- Created An 'Engage' page for the project, and can be found at [prrd.bc.ca/engage/OsbornHall](http://prrd.bc.ca/engage/OsbornHall) and then transitioned to a 'HaveYourSay' Page at <https://haveyoursay.prrd.bc.ca/osborn-hall-join-in>

Advertising for the project included: PRRD website, social media, info packet mailout, online/paper survey, and the virtual town hall.

#### **General Themes From the 'Visioning Stage'**

A number of general themes have emerged during the 'Visioning' engagement, including

- People seem generally supportive of the proposed project.
- People think that having a community hall will revive a sense of community that has been lacking since the existing facility has been out of use.

### **Feedback Received by Activity:**

#### **Pre-Virtual Information Session – February 9, 2021**

A meeting was held on February 9, 2021 with the project engineer and community society to discuss the virtual information session. A number of questions were asked at this session, including;

- Why can't repairs be made to the current facility?
- Is there anything that we reuse or repurpose from the existing facility?
- Could we discuss what things and spaces can be put into the facility?

#### **Virtual Information Session – February 10, 2021**

A Virtual Information Session was held online at 6:30pm on February 10, 2021. This presentation followed along with the information packet that had been distributed in advance by mail to those living within 15kms of the existing hall.

There were 9 people called into the virtual information session, on the zoom call, with at least one home with multiple attendees. A few comments were received at this time and were generally supportive of at least looking at design and costs for a replacement facility.

One caller stated that they would like to see a new Hall, and that a new facility would help to keep the community together.

### **Visioning and Use Survey:**

The "Visioning and Use" survey opened January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021. There were 11 surveys completed as of the extended closing date of February 22, 2021. Detailed responses can be found as Appendix 'A' to this report. Generally the survey found that;

- The most used areas in the existing facility were the kitchen and open meeting area, followed by the playground and kids play room. Outdoor fields and the skating rink were the least used amenity by respondents.
- Of the 11 respondents, 92.3% lived within a 10 minute drive, with one living within 21-30 minutes of the Hall.
- If a replacement facility were built;
  - o 9 respondents said that they would use the facility weekly.
  - o 1 respondent said that they would use the facility monthly.
  - o 1 respondent said that they would NOT use the facility.
- When asked about most preferred activities in a new hall, holding events and meetings were most selected, with training, fitness classes also supported. Other uses suggested were;
  - o Holding markets
  - o Weekly craft time
  - o Fundraisers

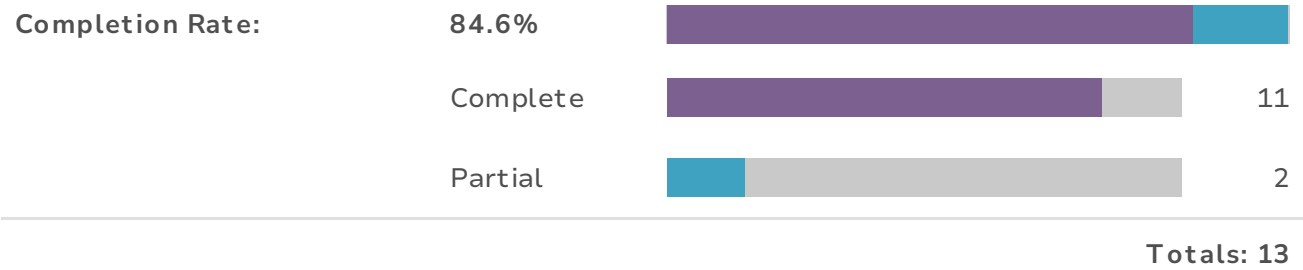
- Movie Nights
- The highest ranked new spaces to be included in a replacement hall were:
  - Meeting space that could be divided
  - Kitchen
- Of respondents, only 1 said that they did not want to pay for the capital construction of a new facility, with all other respondents stating that they would pay between \$1-100 per year.
- Of respondents, only 1 said that they did not want to pay for the operational expenses for a new facility, with all other respondents stating that they would pay between \$1-100 per year.

**Next Steps:**

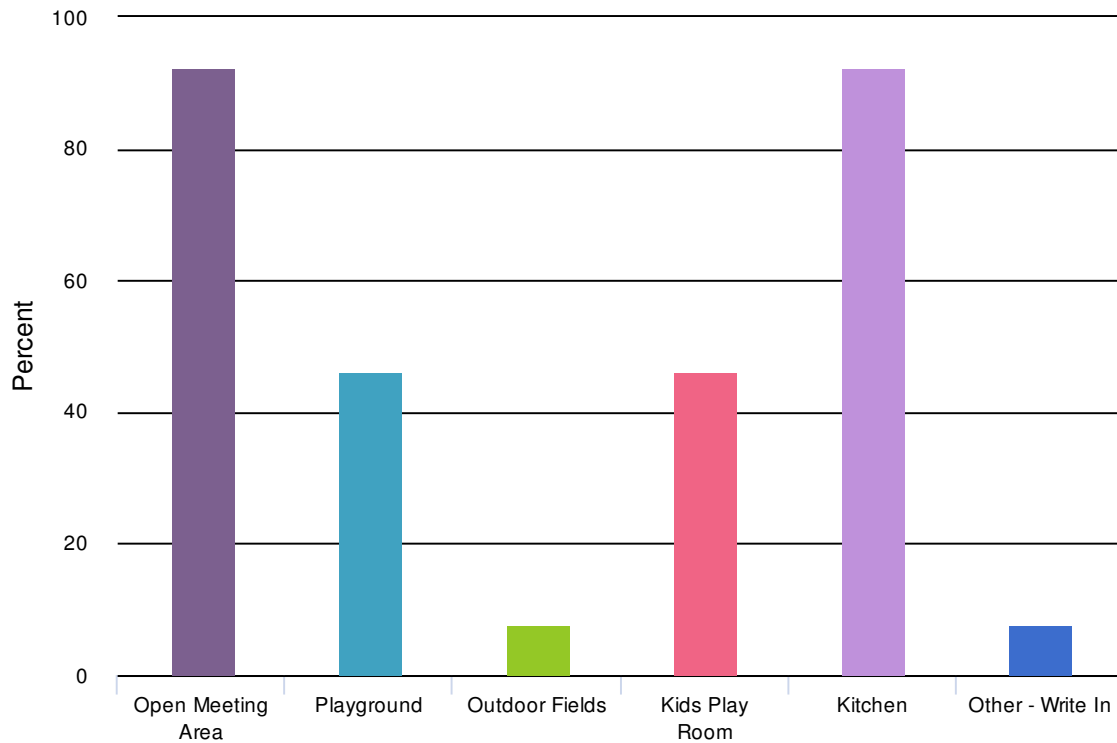
- The information gathered as part of the 'Visioning and Use' phase of this project will be sent to the Project Engineer for guidance in the creation of two facility design options and associated costs. The facility design options are likely to be received by April, 2021.

# Report for Osborn Hall - Visioning and Use Survey

## Response Counts



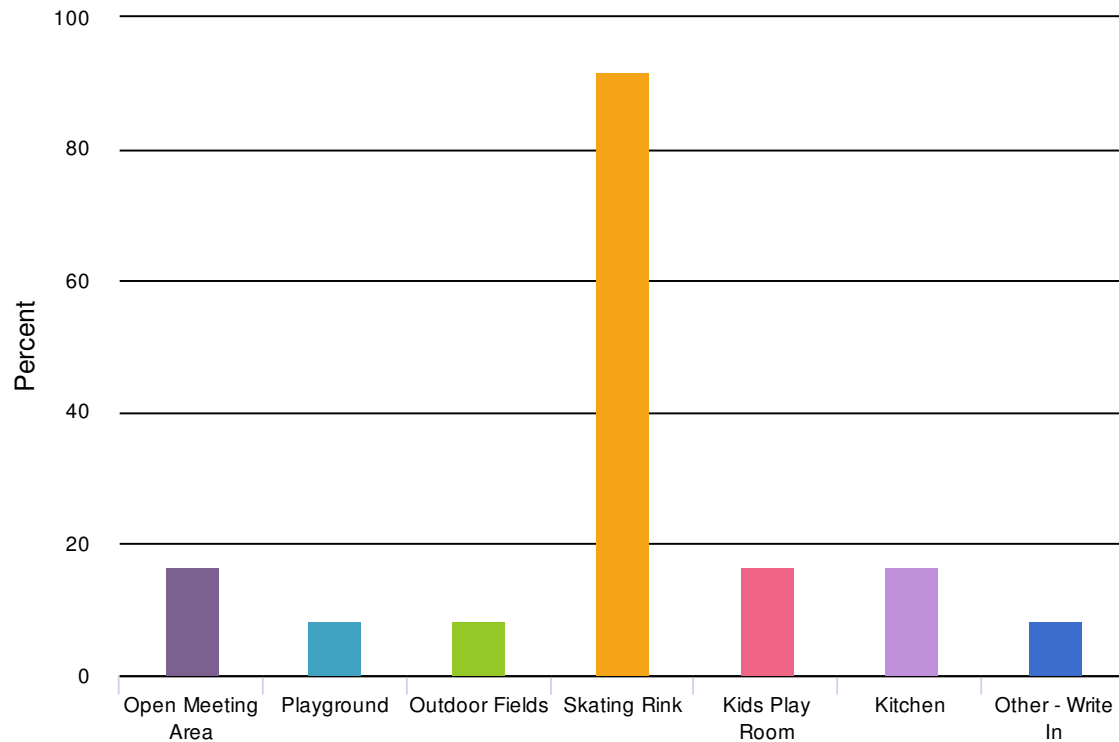
## 1. When the hall was open, which spaces did you use the most?



Value		Percent	Responses
Open Meeting Area		92.3%	12
Playground		46.2%	6
Outdoor Fields		7.7%	1
Kids Play Room		46.2%	6
Kitchen		92.3%	12
Other - Write In		7.7%	1

Other - Write In	Count
Outdoor fire pit area	1
Totals	1

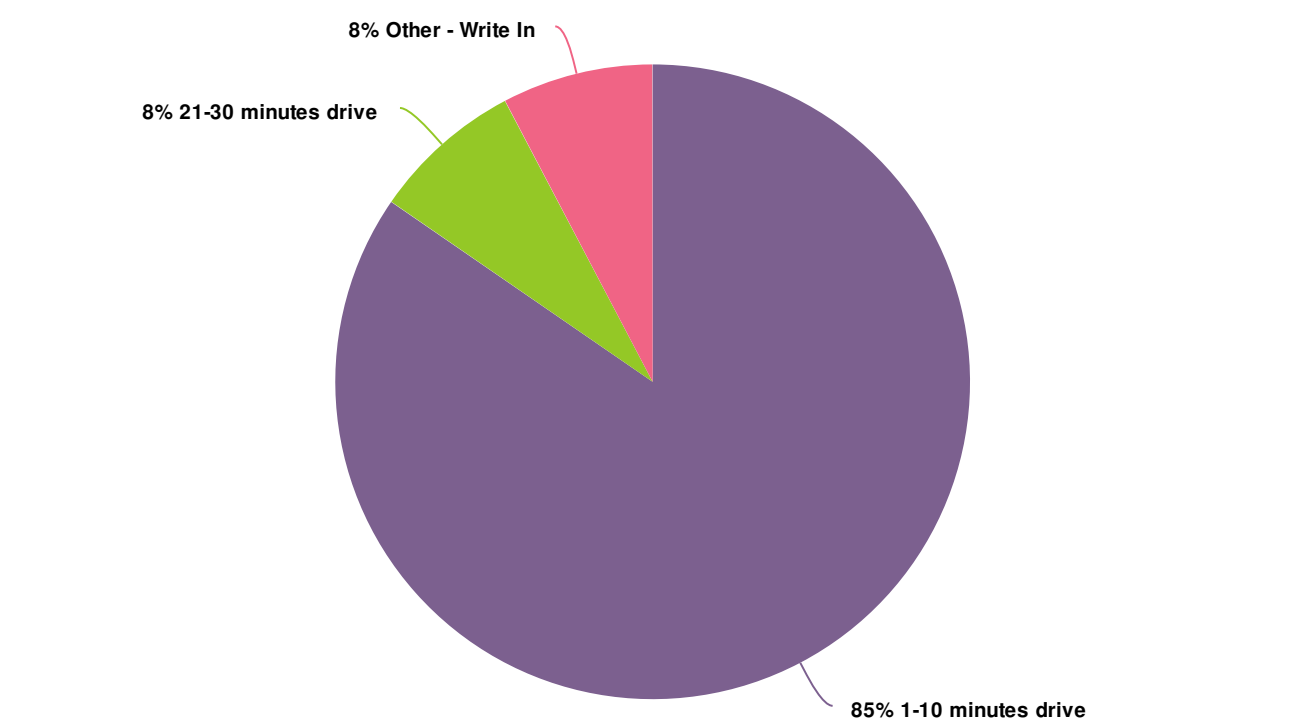
2. When the hall was open, were there any of the following spaces you did not use?



Value		Percent	Responses
Open Meeting Area	<div><div></div></div>	16.7%	2
Playground	<div><div></div></div>	8.3%	1
Outdoor Fields	<div><div></div></div>	8.3%	1
Skating Rink	<div><div></div></div>	91.7%	11
Kids Play Room	<div><div></div></div>	16.7%	2
Kitchen	<div><div></div></div>	16.7%	2
Other - Write In	<div><div></div></div>	8.3%	1

Other - Write In	Count
Fire pit area	1
Totals	1

3. How many minutes' drive from the existing hall do you currently live?

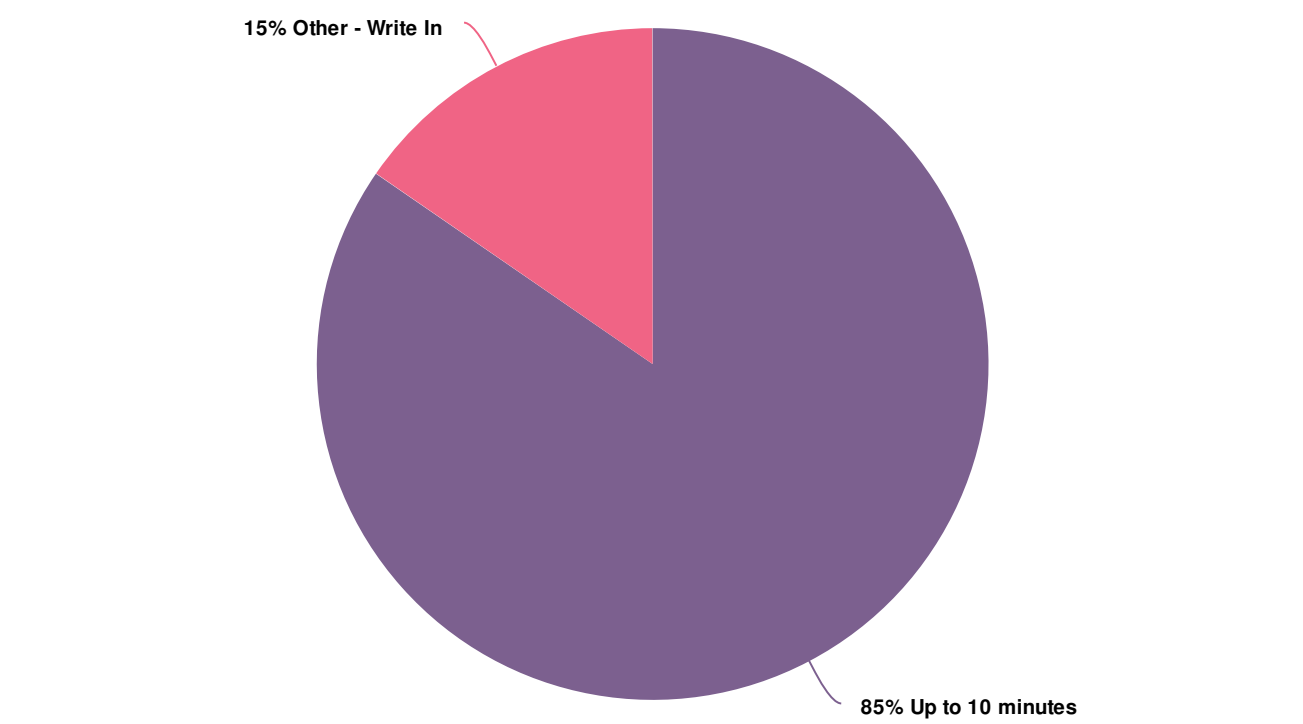


Value		Percent	Responses
1-10 minutes drive	<div><div></div></div>	84.6%	11
21-30 minutes drive	<div><div></div></div>	7.7%	1
Other - Write In	<div><div></div></div>	7.7%	1

Totals: 13

Other - Write In	Count
2 minutes	1
Totals	1

4. How far do you drive to take part in activities hosted at the hall?

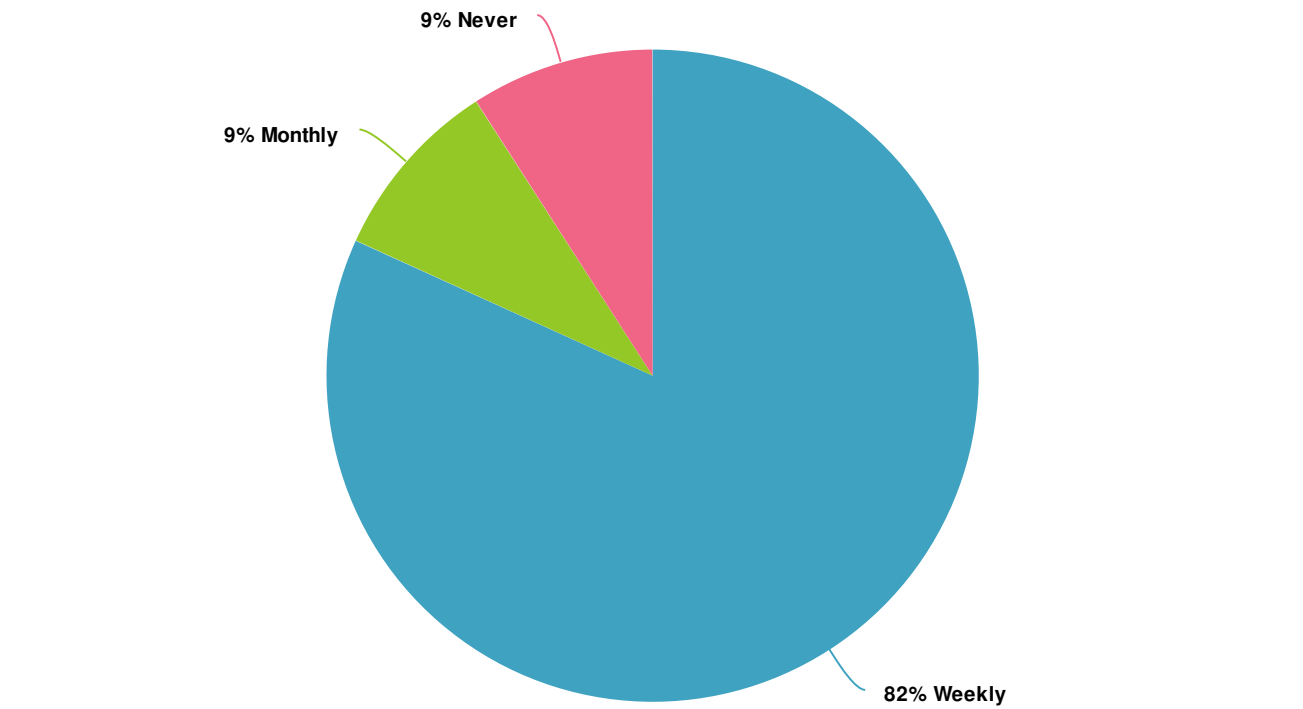


Value		Percent	Responses
Up to 10 minutes	<div><div></div></div>	84.6%	11
Other - Write In	<div><div></div></div>	15.4%	2

Totals: 13

Other - Write In	Count
2 minutes	1
Just used playground in the past.	1
Totals	2

5. How often do you think you would use a new Osborn Community Hall?

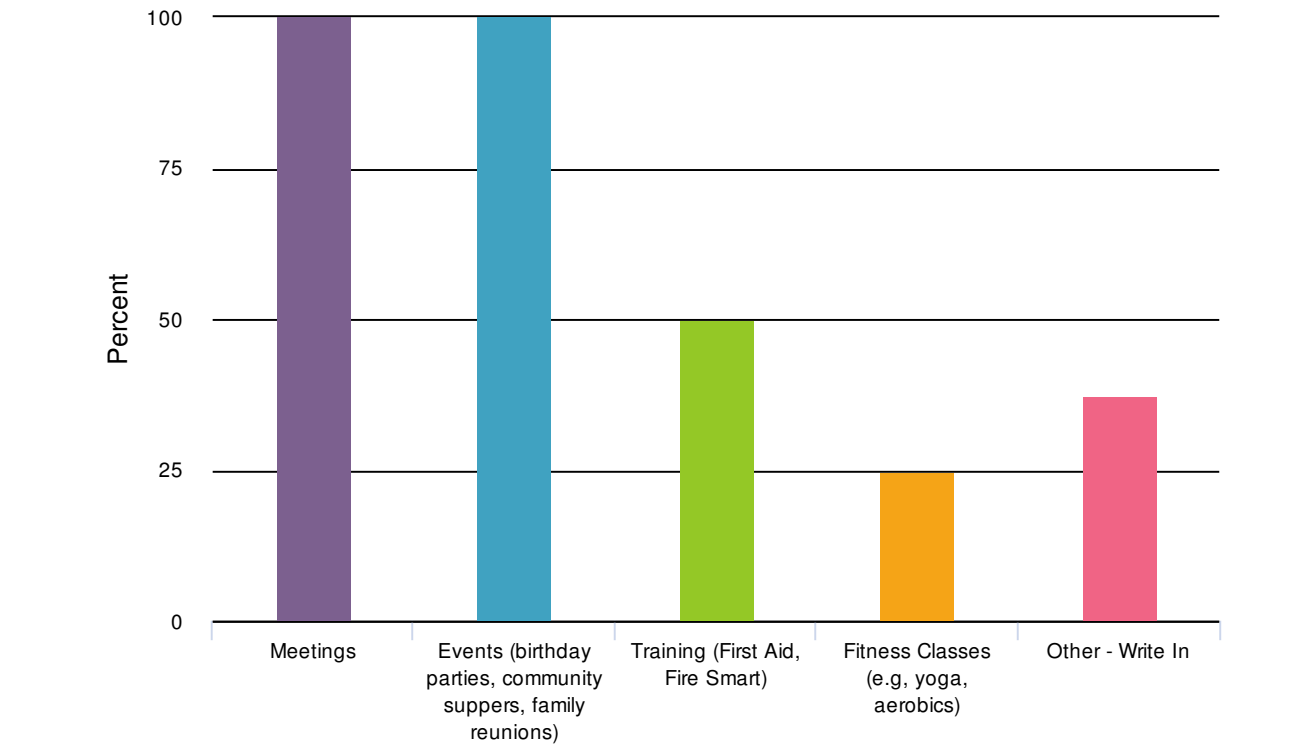


Value		Percent	Responses
Weekly	<div><div></div></div>	81.8%	9
Monthly	<div><div></div></div>	9.1%	1
Never	<div><div></div></div>	9.1%	1

Totals: 11

Other - Write In	Count
Totals	0


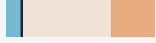
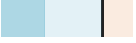


## 6. What kind of activities would you like to do in your community hall?




Value		Percent	Responses
Meetings	<div></div>	100.0%	8
Events (birthday parties, community suppers, family reunions)	<div></div>	100.0%	8
Training (First Aid, Fire Smart)	<div></div>	50.0%	4
Fitness Classes (e.g, yoga, aerobics)	<div></div>	25.0%	2
Other - Write In	<div></div>	37.5%	3

Other - Write In	Count
Markets	1
Weekly craft time	1
fundraisers, movie nights	1
Totals	3

7. What spaces/features do you think should be included in a new hall? Please rank in order of importance.

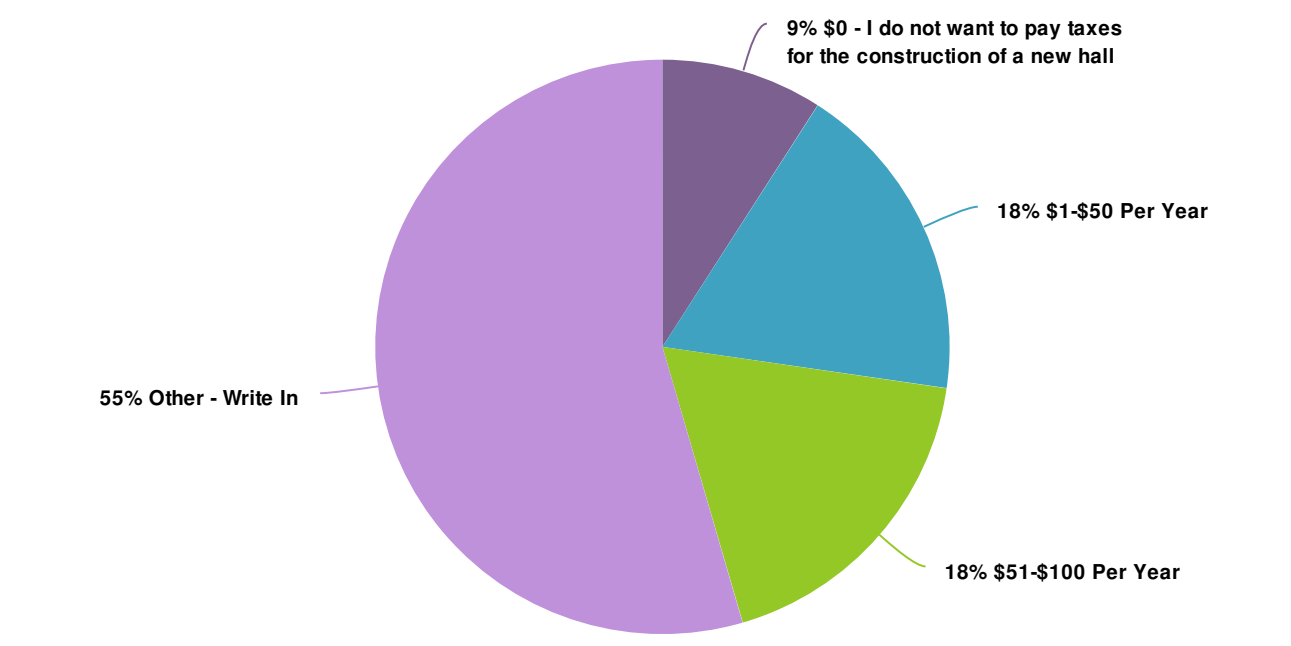
Item	Overall Rank	Rank Distribution	Score	No. of Rankings
Meeting spaces that can be divided	1		48	11
Kitchen	2		40	10
Storage Room	3		26	9
Other - Write In	4		5	2
Other - Write In	5		1	1



Lowest Rank

Highest Rank

8. If 100% of the cost of construction cannot be funded through grants, how much MIGHT you be willing to pay on your taxes annually for CONSTRUCTION?



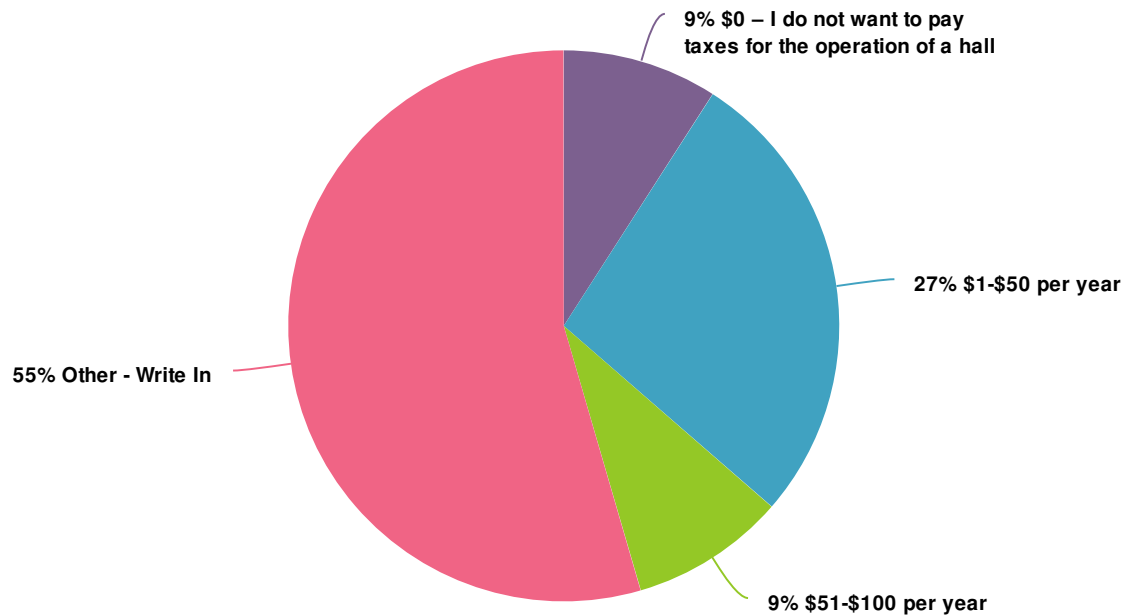
Value		Percent	Responses
\$0 - I do not want to pay taxes for the construction of a new hall	<div><div></div></div>	9.1%	1
\$1-\$50 Per Year	<div><div></div></div>	18.2%	2
\$51-\$100 Per Year	<div><div></div></div>	18.2%	2
Other - Write In	<div><div></div></div>	54.5%	6





Totals: 11

Other - Write In	Count
1-25	2
76-100	2
26-50	1
51-75	1
Totals	6



9. To ensure that there adequate funding for the operation and maintenance of the facility, how much MIGHT you be willing to pay on your taxes annually for OPERATING FUNDS?



Value		Percent	Responses
\$0 – I do not want to pay taxes for the operation of a hall		9.1%	1
\$1-\$50 per year		27.3%	3
\$51-\$100 per year		9.1%	1
Other - Write In		54.5%	6

Totals: 11

Other - Write In	Count
1-25	2
26-50	1
51-75	1
76-100	1
did not answer	1
Totals	6

10. Is there anything else you think we should know?



## ResponseID Response

13	Not sure if currently this is the best time to replace the hall.
16	I hope a new community hall would be place for community to gather together. Since the hall has been shut down I have really noticed the community has not been getting together nearly as much ( before Covid) I would hope a new hall would be a more attractive place to rent for social gatherings, a place to hold training courses and many other things, I'm looking forward to hearing what more about the new steps, thank you for the work that has been put into it so far
23	PHYSICAL SURVEY MAILED IN. "I feel like the hall is a very important part in our community and hope the interest is there, enough for all of use to move forward. Hoping we will be able to use all the new items from this hall towards the new one (furnaces, lights, kitchen cupboards, stope, fridge, appliances, toilets). Also hoping that the funds that are unused from 2016-2019 can be forwarded towards the new one.
24	PHYSICAL SURVEY MAILED IN. "The estimation for repairs is very high. all the hall really needs is a new roof, and a new floor in the hallway."
25	PHYSICAL SURVEY MAILED IN. "It felt extremely empty not to have use of a hall. Even though we are only a small community, it is still too many to gather in our houses. As a result, the community feels fractured."
26	PHYSICAL SURVEY MAILED IN.
27	PHYSICAL SURVEY MAILED IN. "Love to see a new hall for reunions, family, birthdays, craft sales, garage sales. Osborn Resident for 30 years"
28	PHYSICAL SURVEY MAILED IN. "I really hope we can get a new community hall. We need it to keep the community together. We used to have Christmas Dinners, Summer BBQ's, fundraisers, community meetings, etc. It was also very nice to have it available for family gatherings, birthday parties, etc. We are a small community and we need to stand together, work together, and now that our hall is closed it feels like we're losing some of that "togetherness". Thank you for your support in helping us get a functioning hall again."
29	PHYSICAL SURVEY MAILED IN. "I am definitely in favour of having a hall. I think it's very important to keep the community connected. In the old hall we would have functions such as community Christmas dinners and Thanksgiving dinners. People could also rent the hall which happened quite a bit. Our family has rented it several times for family gatherings and have really missed being able to do so. Since it has been shut down, we would have rented it several times already, if we could have, and had to find alternative locations.

