

Recreation Survey 2021 Results

UPDATE TO THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE REGIONAL RECREATION MASTER PLAN FINAL REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2017

1

Setting priorities for the next five-years

The 2021 Recreation Survey asked the community to share their top priorities today to keep recreation moving forward in 2021 and beyond.

Setting priorities for the next five-years

The [2017 Recreation Master Plan](#) is a ten-year plan completed to guide Rocky Mountain House region's allocation of services and overcome challenges identified by the community in the parks and recreation system.

The Plan sets out recommendations for indoor & outdoor facilities as well as programs.

2

Significant Facility Updates since 2017

In the past five years, significant facility updates have been completed. Considering this and shifts in community priorities the Recreation, Parks, and Community Services Board engaged the community via a survey to update the recommendations established in the 2017 Recreation Master Plan.

3

2017 Priority COMPLETED 2019 Covered Bleachers at NSRP

- ✓ Covered grandstands with sky boxes
- ✓ Power to rental hall
- ✓ Two well sites for running water
- ✓ Perimeter fencing
- ✓ Portable bleachers

Completed in partnership with the RMCA, RASA, Lions Club, Town of Rocky Mountain House, Clearwater County, Alberta Government CFEP Grant and Sponsorship.



4

2017 Priority COMPLETED Splash Park

- ✓ Opened to the public in 2021
- ✓ Soft launch in September 2020

Completed in partnership with the Spray Park Committee, Town of Rocky Mountain House, Clearwater County and Sponsorship.



5

2017 Priority COMPLETED Helen Hunley Park

2019 - Helen Hunley Park (log picnic shelter and David Thompson statue).

- ✓ Picnic Area - To build a picnic shelter and area which can be booked for families and events.
- ✓ Town Monument - To establish a new monument that will create an identity for the Town.

Completed in partnership with the Helen Hunley Foundation

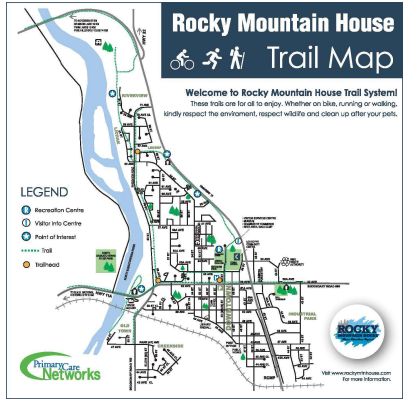


6

2017 Priority COMPLETED Trail Development & Added Amenities

- ✓ 2021
 - ✓ Hwy 11 trail from ATB to Co-op
 - ✓ Hwy 752 trail from 50 Ave to 47 Ave
 - ✓ 54 St extension to Creekside Trail
- ✓ 2019 - Wayfinding trail signage & additional benches, garbage & recycle receptacles.


50 Ave to Hospital 50



7

2017 Priority COMPLETED Upgrade the Indoor Pool


- ✓ 2021 - New sand filters & ceiling sound baffles
- ✓ 2020 - CHP, combined heat and power units and boilers \$785,000
- ✓ 2018 - Construction of the pool deck and new tile laid
- ✓ 2017 - Renovated programming space



8

2017 Priority COMPLETED
Upgrade the Twin Arenas

- ✓ 2020 - Ice Plant \$1.5 million capital project
- ✓ 2020 - Ice Resurfacer purchased
- ✓ 2020 - Bleacher seating upgrade in the Quick Lane



9

2021 Recreation Survey Design & Response Information

Survey open from: July 19 to August 23, 2021

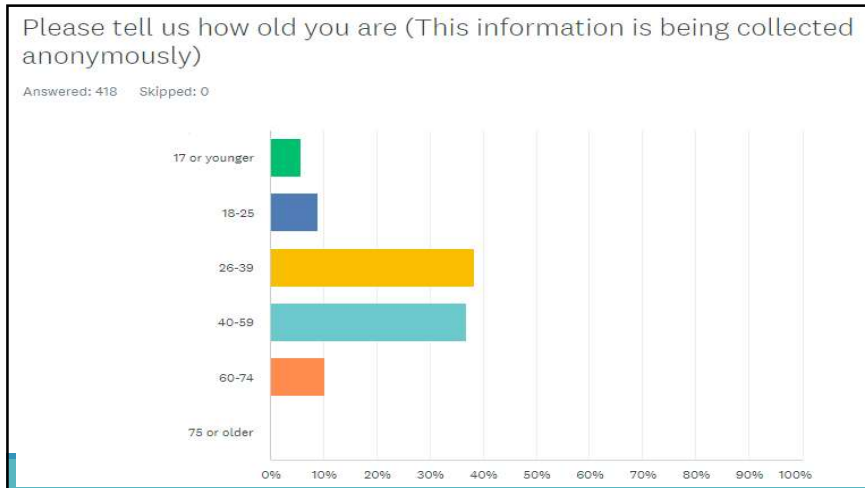
- Nine question survey with three demographic questions
- 72% Town residents & 26% Clearwater County residents

418 Survey Responses Received

- 334 web responses via Survey Monkey and 84 paper responses received
- 100% completion rate of survey, typical time spent 3m:47s
- 217 comments received

When asked "how important is recreation to you?" average response was **80%**

10



11

Indoor Facility Priorities

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	COUNT
▼ Upgrades to the Indoor Pool	52.05%	216
▼ Indoor Adventure Park	50.84%	211
▼ Indoor Gymnasium Space & Indoor Soccer Facility	48.67%	202
▼ Indoor Climbing Wall	46.02%	191
▼ Concert Hall / Performance Theater	33.49%	139
▼ Ag-Rec Centre	26.02%	108
▼ Seniors Facility	22.41%	93
▼ Create a Gymnastic Facility	21.69%	90
▼ Special Event Space	20.96%	87
Total Respondents: 415		

12

Number 1 selected
Indoor Facility Priority

Upgrades to the Indoor Pool

Renovating the pool will enhance residents' experiences.

✓ **In Progress** - Scoping audit to assess the HVAC system 2021.

Survey Comments (11/217 Comments):

- Improved ventilation on deck and in change rooms
- Improve viewing area - extreme temperature and humidity
- Improve air exchange
- Updated change facilities to accommodate families
- Viewing area is not accessible for those with a disability
- Steps into the pool for seniors
- Upgrade tiles in changerooms
- New flooring in gallery



Survey Results: 52% (216/415) of respondents selected Upgrades to the Indoor Pool

13

Number 2 selected
Indoor Facility Priority

Indoor Adventure Park

Creation of an indoor adventure park for small-wheeled activity and other adventure components.

Survey Comments:

- Community looking for more indoor Winter activities.
- Could include an indoor climbing wall, ninja gym, or indoor playground.



Survey Results: 51% of respondents (211/415) selected Indoor Adventure Park

14

Number 3 selected
Indoor Facility Priority

Gymnasium Space & Indoor Soccer Facility

Building an indoor gymnasium to facilitate indoor sporting, soccer, and recreation programming, complimenting the existing school facilities.

✓ **Ongoing** - RMH has a Joint Use Agreement with the School Boards for the community to access gymnasium space.

Survey Comments:

- 11 comments regarding the need for gymnasium access.




Survey Results: 49% of respondents (202/415) selected Gymnasium & Indoor Soccer

15

Number 4 selected
Indoor Facility Priority

Indoor Climbing Wall

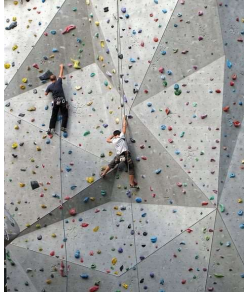
To create a climbing wall where individuals across the region can train.

Other Considerations:

- Rocky SAR has expressed an interest in this project for SAR training.

Survey Comments:

- Community looking for more indoor Winter activities.
- Could include an indoor climbing wall, ninja gym, or indoor playground.



Survey Results: 46% of respondents (191/415) selected Indoor Climbing Wall

16

Number 5 selected
Indoor Facility Priority

Concert Hall/Performance Theatre

Build a concert hall or performance theatre for citizens to enjoy performing arts.



Survey Results: 33% of respondents (139/415) selected Concert Hall / Performance Theater

17

Number 6 selected
Indoor Facility Priority

Ag-Rec Centre

To build an Ag-Rec Centre to provide a space for agricultural events and animal events for the region.

Other Considerations:

- Privately owned arenas are located throughout Clearwater County.



Survey Results: 26% of respondents (108/415) selected Ag-Rec Center

18

Number 7 selected
Indoor Facility Priority


Seniors Facility

Rocky Mountain House region will work with the pioneer centre to find a new space or renovate current space to provide programmable space.

10% of Survey respondents were aged 64-75

Other Considerations:

- Clearwater Region Seniors Social Needs Assessment, April 2020
- Clearwater Regional Social Master Plan, July 2020



Survey Results: 22% of respondents (93/415) selected Senior Facility

19

Number 8 selected
Indoor Facility Priority

Gymnastic Facility

Build a gymnastic facility to match the growth in the region.

Other Consideration:

- Private business offers a training centre and gymnastics instruction for the community.



Survey Results: 22% of respondents (90/415) selected Create a Gymnastic Facility

20

Number 9 selected
Indoor Facility Priority

Special Event Space

To provide a space which can be used for a 1,000-person banquet facility and event space.



Survey Results: 21% of respondents (87/415) selected Special Event Space

21

Outdoor Facility Priorities

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Trail Development	45.89%	190
▼ Trail Lighting	37.20%	154
▼ Outdoor Washroom	36.96%	153
▼ Pump Track	35.51%	147
▼ Change room facility for outdoor sporting	34.30%	142
▼ Mountain Bike Terrain Park	32.85%	136
▼ Crimson Lake Trail	31.64%	131
▼ Trail Amenities	29.47%	122
▼ Enhanced Skateboard Park	26.57%	110
▼ Larger Dog Park	23.43%	97
▼ Outdoor Programming Space / Amphitheater	21.98%	91
▼ New Playground - Visitor Information Centre	17.87%	74
▼ Food Services at Museum / Visitor Information Centre	10.87%	45
Total Respondents: 414		

22

Number 1 selected
Outdoor Facility Priority

Trail Development

Continue with the current plan of new trails and connectivity within the community and realign/build the trail along the river which was removed due to a flood.

✓ **Ongoing** - Trail development and planning is ongoing.

Other Considerations:

- 2021 Trail Completion after the survey closed:
 - Hwy 11 trail from ATB to Co-op
 - Hwy 752 trail from 50 Ave to 47 Ave and new pavement from Old Town



Survey Results: 46% of respondents (190/415) selected Trail Development

23


Number 2 selected
Outdoor Facility Priority

Trail Lighting

Investigate high use areas where trail lighting would benefit users but not detract from residences.

Survey Comments:

- 12% (25/217) Survey comments regarding trails
 - Four comments specific to trail lighting



Survey Results: 37% of respondents (154/415) selected Trail Lighting

24


Number 3 selected
Outdoor Facility Priority

Outdoor Washroom

Build an outdoor washroom facility. This will be placed at a destination park.

Survey Comments:

- 5% of Survey comments (11/217) identified the need for washrooms at the Spray Park.



Survey Results: 37% of respondents (153/415) selected Outdoor Washroom

25

Number 4 selected
Outdoor Facility Priority


Pump Track

To build a pump track facility

- ✓ **Ongoing** - Rocky Pump Track non-profit community group, formed in 2021, to spearhead initiative to raise funds and determine track design and location.

Other Considerations:

- Rocky Pump Track Facebook Group has been created with 821 members.
- Rocky Kinettes are involved to help guide/mentor group to form an official society for grant applications and fundraising.



Survey Results: 35% of respondents (147/415) selected Pump Track

26

Number 5 selected
Outdoor Facility Priority

Change Room Facility for Outdoor Sporting

Build a facility for teams to change for football, soccer, and rugby.

Other Consideration:

- Change rooms and washrooms have also been identified as a community recommendation for the Spray Park.



Survey Results: 34% of respondents (142/415) selected Change Room for Outdoor Sporting

27


Number 6 selected
Outdoor Facility Priority

Mountain Bike Terrain Park

To create a mountain bike terrain park to meet the growth of mountain biking in the region.

Other Considerations

- Potential for Pump Track Group to add this to the scope of their project.



Survey Results: 33% of respondents (136/415) selected Mountain Bike Terrain Park

28

Number 7 selected
Outdoor Facility Priority

Crimson Lake Trail

Land Acquisition and alignment must be created to join the Town to Crimson Lake creating a destination for the region.

Survey Comments:

- 12% - 25/217 commented regarding trail development & amenities.
 - 8 comments specific to out of Town trail development.



Survey Results: 32% of respondents (131/415) selected Crimson Lake Trail


29

Number 8 selected
Outdoor Facility Priority

Trail Amenities

All amenities inventoried and commence adding more benches and garbage cans along the path system.

- ✓ **Ongoing** - Recognition/Memorial Bench and Tree Program, installations as requested, established 2018.
- ✓ **Completed 2021 & 2019** - Grant awarded for new garbage and recycle containers.



Survey Results: 29% of respondents (122/415) selected Trail Amenities

30

Number 9 selected
Outdoor Facility Priority

Enhanced Skateboard Park

To build an addition / revitalization to the 2000 skateboard park.

Other Considerations:

- August 2021 "All Out Skate Jam" event held at the Rocky Skatepark.
- Rocky Skatepark Facebook Group has been created with 521 followers.



Survey Results: 27% of respondents (110/415) selected Enhance Skateboard Park

31

Number 10 selected
Outdoor Facility Priority

Larger Dog Park

New site that is at minimum, double the size for the community to utilize.

Survey Comments:

- 5% - 10/217 commented regarding dog park improvements.
 - Expand space into the trees
 - Require lighting
 - More trees / shaded area
 - Water available




Survey Results: 23% of respondents (97/415) selected Larger Dog Park

32

Number 11 selected
Outdoor Facility Priority

Outdoor Programming Space/Amphitheatre

Build an outdoor space for performing arts, bands, or classroom.



Survey Results: 22% of respondents (91/415) selected Programming Space / Amphitheater

33

Number 12 selected
Outdoor Facility Priority

New Playgrounds

Ensure our parks are developed to the standards adopted by council 2009.

✓ **Ongoing** - playground inspections, maintenance, and replacement to meet CSA standards.

Other Considerations:

- Rocky Mountain House has one of the highest playground counts of a small community with 19 playgrounds throughout Town.
- 2019 removal of the outdated Lions Park Playground to make room for picnic shelter and town monument.



Survey Results: 18% of respondents (74/415) selected New Playgrounds

34

Number 13 selected
Outdoor Facility Priority

Food Services at Museum/Visitor Information (VIC) site

Lease space for vending at the Lou Soppit Community Centre for the site.

Other Considerations:

- Private business / concession trucks may be able to facilitate this community suggestion.
- Spray Park opened in 2021 - busy in the Summer months.



Survey Results: 11% of respondents (45/415) selected Food Services at Museum / VIC

35

Program Priorities

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Youth Engagement	53.06%	217
▼ Sport Facility Maintenance	38.88%	159
▼ Sport Tourism	35.21%	144
▼ Spontaneous Activities	34.47%	141
▼ Playground Redevelopment	26.65%	109
▼ Community Development for Programming	26.16%	107
▼ Arts Programming	24.94%	102
▼ Senior Programming	23.96%	98
▼ Rocky Arts and Crafts Guild offerings	21.52%	88
▼ Volunteer Centre	18.34%	75
▼ Redevelopment plan for the NSRP	17.36%	71
▼ Communications	15.16%	62
▼ Rental Awareness	10.76%	44
Total Respondents: 409		


36

Number 1 selected
Program Priority

Youth Engagement Strategy

Working with youth in the community for recreation opportunities and leadership programs.

- ✓ **Ongoing** - Council established a Youth Advisory Council in 2020.



Survey Results: 53% of respondents (217/415) selected Youth Engagement Strategy

37

Number 2 selected
Program Priority

Sport Facility Maintenance

To increase the maintenance strategy as the use increases for sporting facilities.

- ✓ **Ongoing** - Communication between users, Recreation and Public Works Departments.

Survey Comments:

- 4% - 9/217 commented regarding maintenance and improvements to the ball diamonds.
 - Fields are lumpy and bumpy
 - Lights are needed
 - More ball diamonds



Survey Results: 39% of respondents (159/415) selected Sport Facility Maintenance

38

Number 3 selected
Program Priority

Sport Tourism Plan

Development of a plan that will attract major national and provincial sporting.

- ✓ **Completed 2021** - Hosted one-week Alberta Wrestling Summer camp.
- ✓ **Completed 2019** - Hosted the 2019 Alberta Masters Games.
- ✓ Developed Sport Venue Information notebook.
- ✓ Provincial sport organizing bodies promotions, Percy Page Centre.



Survey Results: 35% of respondents (144/415) selected Sport Tourism Plan


39

Number 4 selected
Program Priority

Spontaneous Activity

Additional drop-in programming for all ages.

- ✓ **Ongoing** - the Recreation & Community Services Department offers both registered and drop-in opportunities for all ages. Opportunities and details are advertised in the bi-annual Community Program Guide, Town Website, as well as social media (Facebook & Instagram) and in the CSWC.



Survey Results: 34% of respondents (141/415) selected Spontaneous Activity

40

Number 5 selected
Program Priority

Playground Redevelopment Plan

Creation of a redevelopment plan and review of over serviced communities.
Ensure our parks are developed to the standards adopted by council 2009.

✓ **Ongoing** - ongoing playground inspections, maintenance, and replacement to meet CSA standards.



Survey Results: 27% of respondents (109/415) selected Playground Redevelopment Plan

41

Number 6 selected
Program Priority

Community Development for Programming

Continue providing groups with support to organize and facilitate programming through capital and seed funding. Using principals of leisure education to create community capacity to enhance programming.

✓ **Ongoing:** Town Community Grant Program from \$500 up to \$5,000.

✓ **Ongoing:** Research and development of grant applications - networking with community groups to apply for grants / funding opportunities for various activities and infrastructure.



Survey Results: 26% of respondents (107/415) selected Community Development Programming

42

Number 7 selected
Program Priority

More Arts Programming

Increased partnerships with local art groups or providing introductory classes for arts.

Other Considerations: Clearwater Region Social Master Plan July 22, 2020, indicated that creating a gathering place(s) which includes opportunities for culture and arts endeavours is a recommended strategy.



Survey Results: 25% of respondents (102/415) selected More Arts Programming

43

Number 8 selected
Program Priority


Senior Programming

Rocky Mountain House region to increase seniors programming which will complement the program offering.

✓ **Ongoing** - Free Recreation Pass for seniors 75+ and fitness class offerings (e.g., aquafit & chair yoga).

✓ **Ongoing** - FCSS Seniors week (June) & Rural Link Intergenerational programming (grade 5 & seniors).

Other Considerations: Clearwater Region Seniors Social Needs Assessment completed April 2020 indicating that there are plentiful programs and services, however, ongoing communication and promotion of programs and services is needed.



Survey Results: 24% of respondents (98/415) selected Senior Programming

44

Number 9 selected
Program Priority

Rocky Arts & Crafts Guild offerings

Collaborating with the Rocky Arts & Crafts Guild on a communication strategy.

Other Considerations: The Town endeavours to partner with community organizations where possible.



Survey Results: 22% of respondents (88/415) selected Rocky Arts and Crafts Guild offerings


45

Number 10 selected
Program Priority

Volunteer Centre

Creation of a plan that all members in the Rocky Mountain House region can engage in volunteering.

- ✓ **Ongoing** - In 2018 Clearwater Regional Family and Community Support Services, FCSS, hired a Program & Volunteer Coordinator to run the Volunteer Centre, programming, and annual appreciation event.
- ✓ **New location** - In 2021 FCSS moved to a more accessible location the Post House building at 5110-50 Avenue.



Survey Results: 18% of respondents (75/415) selected Volunteer Centre

46

Number 11 selected
Program Priority

Redevelopment Plan for the North Saskatchewan River Park (NSRP) Site Plan

Site specific plan for the redevelopment of the NSRP.

- ✓ **Ongoing** - working with community groups for future improvements:
 - ✓ Improvements to infield building
 - ✓ Site development planning
- ✓ **Completed 2021** - Hwy access road improvements will allow more events at the site.



Survey Results: 17% of respondents (71/415) selected NSRP Site Plan

47

Number 12 selected
Program Priority

Communications

To have a person that is media trained and handles all social media accounts, not only for recreation but also for the Town.

- ✓ **Ongoing** - 2018 hired a Communication Coordinator for the Town of Rocky Mountain House.



Survey Results: 15% of respondents (62/415) selected Communications



48

Number **13** selected
Program Priority

Rental Awareness

Communicate to community groups within the region the spaces and prices.

- ✓ **Ongoing** - Event Rental Packages have been developed and are available on the Town website.

Survey Results: 11% of respondents (44/415) selected Rental Awareness

49

Additional Priorities

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Programming - Winter Festival in February	52.64%	209
▼ Outdoor Facility - Beach Volleyball Courts	37.78%	150
▼ Outdoor Facility - Credit Union Co-op Field Lighting	36.02%	143
▼ Programming - Canalta Play Centre (drop-in utilization)	33.75%	134
▼ Indoor Facility - Additional Change Rooms in CSWC	25.94%	103
▼ Outdoor Facility - Boat Launch Improvements	22.67%	90
Total Respondents: 397		

Additional Priorities identified in the 2021 Recreation Survey comments

- **Indoor Walking Track** - 9% (19/217) of survey comments
- **Indoor Squash / Racquetball Courts** - 3% (6/217) of survey comments
- **Outdoor Disc Golf Course** - 2% (5/217) of survey comments

50

Number **1** selected
Additional Priority

Program Winter Festival in February

Establish an outdoor Winter event ideally in the month of February.



Other Considerations:

- Identified in 2021 by the Recreation, Parks & Community Services Board.


Survey Results: 53% of respondents (209/415) selected Winter Festival in February

51

Number **2** selected
Additional Priority

Outdoor Facility Beach Volleyball

Work with the local league to develop outdoor beach volleyball courts.



Other Considerations:

- Identified in 2020 due to lack of access to indoor gymnasium space.


Survey Results: 38% of respondents (150/415) selected Beach Volleyball Facility

52

Number 3 selected
Additional Priority

Outdoor Facility Credit Union Co-op Field Lighting

Lighting will provide the opportunity to utilize this space after dark and extend the use both for field sports in the Spring and Fall, but also to light up the ice-skating oval during the Winter months.



Other Considerations:

- The Rocky Mountain House and District Minor Football Association has made application to the CFEP Small Funding Stream (in 2019 & 2020 both denied). Town and County Councils had approved funds based on a successful application for 2021.

Survey Results: 36% of respondents (143/415) selected Field Lighting

53

Number 4 selected
Additional Priority

Program Canalta Play Centre

Located in the Christenson Sports and Wellness Centre, this space is currently underutilized. Looking for support, comments, and ideas regarding the use of this space.



✓ **Ongoing** - Drop-in Play Centre access is available to the community for \$4.50 per family during open hours at the CSWC.

Survey Results: 34% of respondents (134/415) selected Play Centre

54

Number 5 selected
Additional Priority

Indoor Facility Additional Change Rooms in CSWC

Additional change rooms for ice users.



Other Considerations:

- Covid-19 restrictions have impacted dressing rooms availability
- 2019 Junior Hockey Team established


Survey Results: 26% of respondents (103/415) selected Additional Change Rooms in CSWC

55

Number 6 selected
Additional Priority

Outdoor Facility Boat Launch

Updates to the current boat launch facility.



Other Considerations:

- Water access safety by the water treatment plant

Survey Results: 23% of respondents (90/415) selected Boat Launch

56