

Paul Reynolds Community Centre

"What We Heard"



The public engagement process for the Paul Reynolds Community Centre began during the design phase where community needs, functionality and efficiency requirements were considered. Over the past year a comprehensive public engagement process took place to help shape the types of programs and services that will be offered at the Centre. This document reflects the common themes we have heard throughout the public engagement process.

How you told us...

- Engage St John's portal and survey – 2,200 people visited the site, 266 people completed the survey
- Paul Reynolds Drop in Community Consultations - June 5 and June 8 at Macdonald Drive Junior High – 33 people attended
- Focus group surveys and meetings with the following sectors: Inclusion; Youth; Seniors; Sport; Health; Fitness; Wellness; Aquatics; Newcomers

Through our online survey we learned:

- Slightly more than half of the respondents were not current users of Wedgewood Park (55 %)
- 64% of respondents live in households that are composed of 3-4 people.
- Respondents indicated they would be most likely to use the facility during early mornings and evening hours. Significant interest expressed for weekend use.

Affordability

What we heard...

Fees – have an affordable fee structure and flexible membership options; variety of programming with registered programs as well as drop in and flexible membership options.

What this means for Paul Reynolds...

Since the facility is more than four times the size of Wedgewood Park, it will be necessary to maximize the use of the space and offer a variety of programming across all price points to make it affordable.

Inclusion and Accessibility

What we heard...

Inclusion and accessibility features that break down barriers to facility use and participation in programs and orientation to programs and services for new users facing barriers;

Snow clearing and ample accessible parking to accommodate walkers, wheelchairs and strollers; adequate snow clearing of parking lot and walkways, including access to public transportation and accessible public transportation

What this means for Paul Reynolds...

There is a desire in the community for Paul Reynolds to be as accessible and inclusive as possible. Many of the design elements must consider these needs for both inside and outside of the building.

Other stakeholders we heard from:

- **Aquatic groups** such as Swimming Newfoundland & Labrador, Sport NL, Lifesaving Society NL
- **Sport organizations** such as Athletics North East, Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association, Private Fitness Instructors/Groups
- **General groups** such as Scouts and Girl Guides; Special Olympics, Heart & Stroke Association, Miller Centre/Outpatient Rehab; Arthritis Society
- **City of St. John's Advisory Committees** (comprised of organizational and public members): Municipal Advisory Committee on Youth, Inclusion & Accessibility Advisory Committee, Seniors Advisory Committee



Child, youth, seniors and family programs

What we heard...

- Youth - flexible drop in programs
- Adult - fitness programs – more, varied, early morning and evening,
- Seniors – fitness programs and lifelong learning programs
- Family Programs - programming where family members of all generations (inter-generational programming) can attend programs together; programs that parents and caregivers can attend during children's programs

What this means for Paul Reynolds...

Variety in both type and range of programming across all ages and abilities.

Aquatics

What we heard...

- Public swimming, lessons, early morning swims, lane swimming
- Fun aquatics features
- Warm water
- Swim lessons at all levels
- Lifeguard training

What it means for Paul Reynolds...

Variety of aquatics programming to meet all ages and abilities

Community Connections

What we heard...

- Community facility rentals and meeting space
- It should be a community hub
- We should work with community partners to maximize the use of the space and programming

What this means for Paul Reynolds...

Both city programming as well as community lead programming



OTHER COMMENTS

“Our family is very excited about the opening of the new Center. We are a family of 5 with 3 children. We live in the neighbourhood and we visit the Center 2-4 x per week. The programs we register for on a regular basis are swimming lessons for kids, teens and masters level courses. We have also enjoyed archery and many birthday parties. We attend the family swim every weekend and my husband and I enjoy the lane swim during the week. We are looking forward to the opening of the new Center and continuing our patronage of the facility.”

- East end resident

For more information about Paul Reynolds Community Centre engagement check out engagestjohns.ca or for more information about Paul Reynolds generally contact recreation@stjohns.ca, call 709-576-8499 or visit www.stjohns.ca/living-st-johns/recreation-and-parks