

2020 SURVEY QUESTIONS RESULTS - MD OF PEACE NO. 135 RATEPAYERS

SURVEYS RECEIVED: 101

1. Council would like to determine where MD taxpayers would like their tax dollars spent as they pertain to Recreation. Currently, the MD maintains the first four parks listed below – the MD also leases the Wilderness Park from the Provincial Government, but the Grimshaw Agricultural Society currently maintains it.

Please list your priority for spending beside each park below, with 1 - the highest priority and 5 the lowest:

| | No Comment | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------------------------------|------------|---|----|---|----|----|
| Brownvale Campground | 19 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 38 |
| Elk Island Park | 20 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 23 |
| Lac Cardinal Recreation | 14 | 1 | 55 | 2 | 18 | 3 |
| Strong Creek Park | 20 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 23 | 3 |
| Wilderness Park | 22 | 1 | 13 | 2 | 24 | 3 |

2. How often you or your family visit: 1 - not often 2 - somewhat often 3 - quite often 4 - never

| | No Comment | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|--------------------------------|------------|---|----|---|----|
| Brownvale Campground | 10 | 1 | 17 | 2 | 5 |
| Elk Island Park | 10 | 1 | 21 | 2 | 16 |
| Lac Cardinal Recreation | 8 | 1 | 14 | 2 | 40 |
| Strong Creek Park | 11 | 1 | 37 | 2 | 17 |
| Wilderness Park | 11 | 1 | 28 | 2 | 25 |

Please list anything else that you would like to see the MD add to or provide at your preferred park &/or others:

Brownvale Campground

- Would like to see Brownvale Campground added to or converted to a Dog Park. Also, to clean up the cross-country ski trails to make it more accessible. I think both would be well used if advertised.
- Did not know Brownvale had a campground.

Elk Island

- Due to the current economic circumstances, I do not feel Council should be expanding or making major improvements at any of the parks/rec sites. In my opinion, if cuts are to be made, Elk Island Park probably benefits the fewest number of MD of Peace residents.
- Elk Island Park - this is a ridiculous waste of money and a huge liability for a poor road. Like to see a splash park in Grimshaw eventually, but I also feel we are very fortunate with what we have and that the MD does a good job supporting us. Thank you!
- Elk Island should be cost shared with the MD & Town of Fairview. Strong Creek should be cost shared with the Town of Peace River, maybe they are already? Wilderness Park is a unique and ecological reserve in the centre of the MD. It needs to be preserved.
- Grade road to Elk Island.
- Maintain Elk Island Park road or close Park
- Stop spending money on Elk Island
- I have never been to Elk Island Park

Lac Cardinal Rec Site

- Charge more for hall rentals and hire someone to clean instead of individuals who rent. Maintenance of wet places/sites @ Lac Cardinal; clean outhouses; firewood.

Lac Cardinal Rec Site continued

- I love the Lac Cardinal campground. Thank you so much for maintaining and renovating the hall and for providing such a wonderful site for residents and visitors. Lac Cardinal is a fabulous resource and we are fortunate to be able to access it. Thanks again.
- Upgrade Lac Cardinal beach front; boat launch; showers and washrooms; seasonal use of kitchen facilities - open to vendors.
- Lac Cardinal - Vendor stands with ice cream & drinks. Entertainers/game planning to promote community connections/bouncy castles; day and night camp spots; supporting local businesses to set up space for opportunities.
- More electrical hookups at Lac Cardinal Rec Lease.
- updated playground; a dock one can enter on a kayak
- Improve Lac Cardinal; beach area, boat launch; maybe showers and bathrooms.
- Lac Cardinal is an important facility to maintain.
- Would like toilets put on south end of the park by the museum.

Strong Creek

- Put a few loads of gravel in at the Shaftesbury Ferry Boat launch for easier access to recreation on the river. Make a nice trail to access the Peace River at Strong Creek! Maybe a couple picnic tables near the river but not too close. Maybe a couple picnic tables at the ferry launch!

Wilderness Park

- Dust control on RR233 in front of the Wilderness Park parking lots.
- MD should set aside money for Grimshaw Ag Society to upgrade facilities at Wilderness Park. Fix dock systems, better trails, rejuvenate 2nd pond.
- Wilderness Park is adjacent to my property and I go there frequently.

General

- As we do not live in the area, we don't use facilities in the area.
- Fire pits with half screen on gravel; tables that you slide into to replace broken ones; keep grass mowed under tables.
- Frisbee golf, mountain bike trails - easy to make in the parks (ask Junior Forest Rangers - free help). More cross-country ski trails, bike trails, paved trails, indoor play spaces, groom golf courses.
- More maintenance on Berwyn Walking Trail.
- Not happy how rough Range Road 262 is or how much dust we get from it, with NO trees.
- Paved bike/walking trail around Grimshaw.
- RR242 repair.
- Seldom
- Spend money at Peace River Ski Hill.
- The Municipal garbage dump needs to be cleaned up more! If I owned neighbouring land, there would be legal action.
- Workout park with "use your own weight equipment".
- Love the walking trails

3. Council would like to know if you use any of the following recreation or culture facilities in our neighboring municipalities. Please check ✓ beside any facilities you currently use:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|----------------------------------|----|
| Berwyn Arena | 26 | Berwyn Library | 22 |
| Berwyn Tower Park Recreational Area | 13 | Berwyn Tennis Courts | 5 |
| Grimshaw Mile Zero Multiplex | 66 | Grimshaw Skateboard Park | 2 |
| Grimshaw Ball Diamonds | 10 | Grimshaw Outdoor Swimming Pool | 29 |
| Grimshaw Playgrounds | 16 | Grimshaw Outdoor Ice Rink | 10 |
| Peace River Library | 22 | Peace River Baytex Energy Centre | 25 |
| Peace River Museum | 25 | Peace River Parks & Playgrounds | 16 |
| Peace River Outdoor Ice Rinks | 8 | Peace Regional Indoor Pool | 40 |
| Peace River Skateboard Park | 5 | Peace River Splash Park | 20 |
| Peace River Ski Hill | 24 | Peace River Walking Trails | 26 |

Other: PEACE RIVER FAIRGROUNDS – 1, PR ECO CENTRE-1 GRIMSHAW LIBRARY- 4
 GRIMSHAW CURLING RINK-1 BROWVALE LIBRARY-3 WILDERNESS PARK FISHING- 1
 BERWYN WALKING TRAIL- 2 PEACE RIVER LOWER WEST TENNIS COURTS-1

4. In the spirit of regionalization, would you prefer your recreation tax dollars to go towards improving existing recreation facilities/parks in an adjacent urban municipality or would you prefer your recreation tax dollars be spent on the MD's facilities/parks? Please list your rating of preference – 1 most important, 2 quite important, 3 somewhat important, 4 least important

| IMPORTANCE | NO COMMENT | 1 | MOST | 2 | QUITE | 3 | SOMEWHAT | 4 | LEAST |
|-------------|------------|---|------|---|-------|---|----------|---|-------|
| Berwyn | 22 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 28 | 3 | 23 | 4 | 20 |
| Grimshaw | 23 | 1 | 10 | 2 | 32 | 3 | 35 | 4 | 1 |
| Peace River | 21 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 11 | 3 | 16 | 4 | 47 |
| MD of Peace | 16 | 1 | 65 | 2 | 13 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 |

Reasons:

Berwyn

- Berwyn recreation facilities are under used.
- Spend the most in Berwyn – it is close.

Grimshaw

- Grimshaw has lots of rec facilities for our MD and should be supported somewhat.
- Grimshaw is closest by - think it is good to invest in the towns.
- I believe in the spirit of collaboration! The best way to have excellent facilities and parks is to work together. I would like to see Grimshaw receive the primary attention. Peace River is too far to go on a frequent basis.
- Grimshaw is the hub of our MD; it has all the facilities (arena, pool, skate park, curling rink, playgrounds, soccer field, outdoor sport courts) in one location attached to both schools. Does not get any more convenient, a masterpiece.
- I do feel that the Grimshaw facilities is for our whole area and can see it being supported by the MD.
- Exercising and reading in Grimshaw.
- Grimshaw is the closest urban center that provides the facilities we use.

Peace River

- My family uses the Peace River Library and recreation facilities most.
- I belong to a couple of organizations in Peace River so attend functions there.
- We are closest to Peace River and use the amenities.
- Walking, swimming, skiing in Peace River.
- The Town of Peace River does not need any support from us.

Municipal District of Peace No. 135

- I live on Shaftesbury Trail and use the Grimshaw Multiplex and Strong Creek Park. I also use Wilderness Park for fishing. Sometimes I go to Lac Cardinal for events.
- Outdoors in the MD of Peace, camping, kayaking.
- I would like tax dollars to go to the MD of Peace.
- As MD of Peace residents do use recreation facilities/parks in the above noted urban municipalities, I do agree with providing an "appropriate" level of funding to the urban municipalities, however, the existing recreation facilities that are located in and regularly used by MD residents should be maintained if financially feasible to do so.
- As residents of the MD of Peace, we should not have to travel outside the MD to access recreation parks/facilities if those services already exist in the MD of Peace. We should reap the benefits within our own MD.
- Based on usage.
- Because I live in the MD of Peace, I would prefer to have closer access in the MD to recreation.
- Bigger communities can provide and afford larger, more complex facilities with shared costs etc., and regional use. Smaller communities can still provide and support less complex, simpler recreation facilities.
- Closer to home use.
- Closest to where I live and pay my taxes.
- Home location and age - I use parks seldom.
- I believe my tax dollars should go towards the MD of Peace's facilities because this is where we live, regardless of how much we use the facilities.
- I do not use urban facilities as I don't want to pay for them and they don't supply services I need.
- I think we would rather see our tax dollars spent in our own municipality. It is hard to have a say in adjacent municipalities except to pay \$ on their own wants and needs.
- I use facilities throughout the area, each with its own unique leisure/recreation opportunities.
- I would rather see local MD of Peace spots have money spent than in Peace River.
- If the MD of Peace parks were properly maintained, the usage would increase.
- Improving parks in the MD of Peace should be #1 then go by the size of the urban next.
- It is important that we have things to do in the MD of Peace for young people and our communities around us.
- Keep tax dollars in the MD of Peace.
- Local is priority.
- Locally operated first.
- Location; maintained walking/biking trail from Grimshaw to Lac Cardinal; gazebo at Lac Cardinal Hall (weddings etc.).

- Love to see my money help my MD.

Municipal District of Peace continued

- MD of Peace funds should be used for MD purposes.
- MD of Peace tax money better to stay in the MD.
- Money from taxpayers should be spent in their own MD, not someone else's.
- Like to see more people using MD of Peace facilities.
- Much better to go to local parks and facilities.
- My dollars should be shared. We support urban facilities; urbans should support rural facilities.
- Prefer to keep funding in the MD of Peace.
- Recreation facilities need to be close to where you live to be utilized the most.
- Support local facilities.
- My answers reflect more with how much we use these area's facilities.
- Use of MD of Peace grounds at Lac Cardinal Lake and support Berwyn, Grimshaw more. Prefer money to be spent in the MD.
- Use very often - the MD of Peace Park.
- We like to support all of them equally.
- We live halfway between Grimshaw and Peace River.
- We need to continue to provide services to our rural taxpayers as the urban members use much of the surrounding area for recreation, but their taxes are kept within their respective communities (I believe).
- With many park closures, it is important to have options for families, supporting larger areas that most people use is important.
- You must look after your own backyard before you look after your neighbors. Money though, needs to be wisely spent.
- I live in the MD of Peace and my kids go to school in Grimshaw and Peace River. We rarely go to Berwyn.
- Take care of ourselves and neighbours before moving on to other communities.
- We ourselves do not use the parks etc. very much but our guests do when they visit.
- Do not use an of them.
- If MD of Peace refers to Brownvale and Elk Island, just the fact its nature at its best when walking.

5. Do you have anything additional you wish to provide to Council regarding services within the MD?

- 1) Snow winged back off the roads-in the am on the frost (the snow melted down the middle of the road)
- 2) walking/biking trails available by Grimshaw - central location. 3) would like to see recycle bins for paper/plastic/metal etc. in Grimshaw.
- Address unsightly premises that have burned or uninhabitable structures on them. Danger to children.
- As a result of more costs being passed on to the MD of Peace (i.e. policing costs) and grant funding being reduced, if Council is going to avoid significant increases in property taxes, they are probably going to have to make some difficult, and maybe even unpopular choices with respect to expenditures and the level of service provided.
- Because we are seniors, we do not really use any recreational facilities in any location. We tend to be 'stay at home' people!!
- Better garbage clean-up would be nice if the money is there for summer students.
- Change Shaftesbury Trail Fire Protection Services Agreement back to Peace River Fire Services. We live a lot closer to Peace River than Grimshaw and our insurance went up by \$600 plus.
- Disappointing to see tax revenue used to build a new MD of Peace office rather than renovate the existing office- instead of putting that revenue into parks and services.
- Do not require recreation if we don't look after what we have.
- Does Public Works have any plan to deepen the ditches where most run-off happens so there is no water going across fields?
- Doing a great job!
- Doing an excellent job and especially now with all the uncertainty and political fear mongering.
- Get after Alberta Transportation to fix the Shaftesbury Trail HWY 684 from HWY 2 junction south and then HWY 684 all the way to the Town of Peace River. Beautiful scenery but terrible road. Worst road in Province for destroying vehicle suspensions.
- Gravel RR 233 (between TWP 830 and TWP 832).
- I believe the ditches - culverts and street surfacing in the Hamlet of Brownvale need immediate attention. Doing a good job! thank you.
- I think the dump is a disgrace. Put ball diamond fence around pits.
- I would like to be able to use the Grimshaw Transfer Station for disposing of garbage for no fee. Please enter into an agreement with the appropriate authority to make this happen. It is a 90 km round trip to the MD of Peace landfill for myself. Charge the Province property tax on Peace River Correctional Centre (PRCC) and Peace River Airport. if the Province reduces grants for the Airport and PRCC, charge them property taxes.
- Look at working with Peace River Eco Centre – they are not as friendly with outsiders as we are.
- Is there a program for shelter belts in our MD?
- Level of service is quite fair considering the tax level we pay. If taxes go up, service must also. If you lower taxes, service would go down. I feel the level is good now. Good balance.
- MD of Peace has mostly older residents and they do not require a lot of recreation facilities.
- No, thank you. (2x)

- Our road maintenance needs to improve. Jobs are going unfinished and often need to be redone. Our roads and road infrastructure need to be maintained better. The cost of rebuilding is too high. We should concentrate on maintenance and contract out construction if we can't keep up.
- Overall, we are happy with service provided by the MD of Peace. Great job keeping the roads plowed this past winter.
- POLICING
- Roads need to be graded more often to keep potholes out.
- RR 262 - our road is VERY DUSTY since the trees have been removed from the ditches and we don't feel it should be the homeowners cost to apply treatment on the road to reduce dust since the MD of Peace removed the trees!
- RR233 has several soft spots; likely due to underground springs - heavy traffic should be restricted from using this road because they create deep ruts in the road. The road should be graded more often too.
- Services within the MD of Peace should be supported first and foremost.
- Shared recreation facilities make a more economic sense particularly for the indoor "expensive" facilities requiring adequate building and staffing. Ball diamonds, walking trails, small campgrounds & local outdoor rinks are all low-cost facilities that should be maintained by each municipality to serve local residents.
- Sharing facilities makes sense for larger facilities/specific (& costs). Basic facilities such as parks, playgrounds, satellite library sites, baseball diamonds, etc. can be offered in each community for places for families/kids/schools still to access at any time.
- I am happy with you and the job you are doing.
- The condition of the road surface on the Shaftesbury Trail is terrible. Please try to influence Alberta Transportation to improve this situation.
- There is no cell service in my area!! Plus, landline quality is bad at times. All MD's have upgraded their signage. Our MD fell short I think. The background is ugly and it blends in with the background - it is just hard to read. I wish it was plain white and/or had more of a bold border around it. I wonder what other people think?
- Try harder to get grader not to make continuous washboard!
- We are proud to be residents of MD No. 135. keep up the good work!
- Same level of service without higher taxes would be great thanks.
- Inspect new approaches to MD of Peace roads for right culvert size.
- Upkeep & maintenance of roads within the MD of Peace is an ongoing issue
- Clean Modern Bathrooms

6. Council has tried a variety of methods to keep tax dollars lower with regard to fire protection for residents and businesses in the MD of Peace. Please choose the statement that most applies to you:

A. I would prefer my tax dollars fully pay for the costs of fire protection within the MD of Peace - 60

- Could this be split? I know there are a lot of circumstances, but each case looked at individually, people need to be accountable for their actions as well.
- I feel it is important to stand together in unity and support those who are in a time of crisis unless it was due to homeowner's negligence.
- Fire protection is best left as a communal shared cost, if you charge landowners, thereby insurance companies padding insurance rates will go up, with insurance companies padding profits at every step.
- I am opposed to charging individuals for fire response on their property. Our taxes pay for the equipment, training, and overhead for local fire departments. Charging people for a public service when they are already facing catastrophe is wrong.
- I seem to think far too many fire units attend some of the fires and accidents than are necessary.
- IF fire occurs why do police, ambulance, and others stay on site all day? In house fire, insurance should pay bill. By the time the police arrive, it's too late.
- If fire lit by owner or renter - they pay.
- If the landowner is negligent, he should pay costs himself.
- It depends on how the fire starts a landowner burning on their property and having the fire set away is different from a fire coming on to their property from somewhere else.
- It is the responsibility of the MD of Peace. Question: Do the Towns of Grimshaw or Peace River charge their residents for attending a fire?
- Only make idiots burning during fire bans or without burn permits between April 1 and October 31 each year pay. Reasonable burning during snow cover should be allowed.
- Our insurance has already increased due to the MD changing our fire protection agreement from PR to Grimshaw. I do not believe our insurance would pay for any fire costs charged to us by the MD of Peace or Grimshaw Fire Department.
- This is a difficult question. If a fire occurs because of the owner's stupidity.
- Trespassing and vandalism. Continual summer and winter with quads, motor bikes, snowmobiles, cutting fences, destroying no trespassing signs, and lighting bonfires.
- When there is gross negligence, insurance should pay.
- Would actually prefer both pay partial amounts.
- To make a decision, I would need more information such as what is the cost, how is it done now, what else would that money go to if owners pay, and how my decision affects how much we pay on taxes.
- Lack of fire protection will make it difficult and VERY expensive to get insurance.
- Unless fire - bush, ground - was intentionally set to clear land or fire started by careless cigarette or burning or campfire, then costs should be charged to guilty parties.
- We have had many instances of arson fires in our neighbourhood over the years that should not be covered by the innocent landowner

B. I believe that if a fire should occur on a landowner's/renter's property, he/she should pay for any fire costs incurred through his/her property insurance? – 22

- Fires due to negligence should be charged to the landowner - fires due to natural disaster should be covered by the MD of Peace.

- Tax money should never cover 100% fire protection on private land. However, some coverage if the landowner finds themselves under insured, and/or unable to afford the services, there has to be some allotment.
- I am not sure that having or not having insurance should be the determining factor as to whether a landowner will be invoiced for fire costs incurred. I believe the level of carelessness or negligence should be an important factor.
- I believe in a blend of these two options. Landowners/renters should pay up to a reasonable maximum portion and anything above and beyond should be covered. Fire is unpredictable and generally accidental; it is something we all need to be vigilant about.
- I think homeowners should be responsible for at least a bigger part of it.
- I think the fire being put out should be of mutual cost. Loss due to fire- e.g. possessions paid by insurance.
- I think there should be a third option that incorporates 1 & 2. it is important to deter reckless fire practices but possibly a deductible where the property owner pays up to a certain amount and then the MD of Peace pays the amount over the deductible.
- I would prefer a 50-50 split between the two options.
- If someone causes a fire on crown land, Alberta Forestry charges whoever causes the fire - the MD of Peace should do the same.
- If you can prove negligence etc. If an electrical fire etc. (accidental) causes other damage - no. If someone else causes fire on your land e.g. quadder on your property - no.
- Insurance IF the landowner's covers it, but some things are not insurable. The person is already hit re: whatever burned (ie hay bales) but most policies have things they don't cover.
- Keeps the taxes lower and should be insurance companies' cost for paying premiums.
- Not sure how this works. What if the landowner does not have insurance?
- Only if the fire was my doing, but if someone else started it, my insurance should not be liable.
- We feel it should be each homeowner's responsibility to have proper insurance. I make sure I am cautious with fire and hope each homeowner is equally as cautious. By having our own insurance, we are certain to be cautious and take care.

C. Comments: (no choice selected)

- 50% 50% - this is a difficult decision due to so many factors.
- Depends on circumstances.
- Depends on what kind of fire.
- Fire protection services should be supported to a certain degree by taxes; however, cost over and above a basic level should be the responsibility of the landowner thereby sharing costs and still providing service.