



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WINDSOR

Parks and Facilities/ Windsor Essex Local Immigration Partnership Community Consultation: Parks for Today-Planning for Tomorrow

Dec 9, 2014 Windsor Public Library

With the support of WE LIP Council members - YMCA, NCCE Inc., WEST and WWWWIW, 64 newcomers participated in a Parks Consultation held at the Main branch of the Windsor Public Library on December 9, 2014. The consultation was opened by Mike Clement and Stefan Fediuk from City of Windsor Parks and Facilities who presented an overview of the Parks Master Plan. The plan was translated and posted on large displays in Arabic, Spanish, Chinese and French around the room. After the presentation, small group discussions were led at the tables. Staff from the Settlement Service Providing Organizations, City of Windsor and WE LIP led the discussions and documented the participant's responses to five questions developed to gather input from newcomers. The small group discussion focused on likes/dislikes about the parks and recreation facilities in Windsor in addition to an opportunity to provide input on ways to improve the municipal parks and public spaces.

Summary of Small Group Discussion Notes

Total # of participants: 64

POSTAL CODE	# of participants
N9A	28
N8X	5
N9E	5
N8Y	3
N9B	6
N9G	5
N8S	2
N8R	1
N9C	2
N8W	1
N8P	1



1 a) How often do you or your family use City recreational facilities such as community centres or arenas?

Frequency	# of Responses
Daily	8
Weekly	34
Monthly	13
Occasionally	8
Rarely	1
Never	2

1 b) If participants responded that their use was ‘Occasionally, Rarely or Never’, please ask them to explain why. Responses below:

- Transportation – don’t walk in rain or snow (2)
- Too expensive
- Children are too young
- Don’t go swimming in winter
- Don’t know where services are, cost
- Not easy to arrange with every family member
- Not near a park (residence) Polonia Park- no big parks
- New to Canada, don’t know about the them
- Hectic busy life
- They are warm and it is not cold
- Like it in the winter because of the snow
- In summer
- Because I have no car
- I don’t have little kids
- Windsor doesn’t have nice parks
- Newcomer- don’t know the centres, don’t know what they do there

2. When you go to the park, do you usually go alone or as part of a group (such as a team)? *Note some participants answered both alone and with others.

Response	# of responses
Alone	7
With others/ Part of a group	60

3. What is your favorite park and recreation facility? If not sure of the name- where is it located? Please note responses below:

- Riverside Drive (7)
- Sculpture Garden (3)
- Likes many parks - with water
- Children go to park alone to play soccer
- Aquatic Centre (5)
- WFCU – for shows, entertainment, karate program
- Adventure Bay (3)
- Giles - School park
- Neighborhood park - N9A 4R7
- Jackson park (6)
- Riverside park downtown (4)
- Willistead (3)
- Mic Mac Park (3)
- Ojibway (2)
- Remington Park
- BB2 Park
- Lanspeary Park
- Gino A Marcus
- Malden Park
- Willson Park

3b) Why is that facility your favorite one? Please note responses below:

- Flowers/gardens (3)
- Walking (2)
- Exercise
- Live in apartment - fresh air
- Bbq at park- Mic Mack Park
- Enclosed, can use in the winter
- Interesting for children (Water World/Adventure Bay)
- Like parks with pavilions
- Scenery (2)
- Riverfront has long walking path
- Festivals
- Aquatic Centre/water slide
- Near the house
- Outdoor swimming
- Kids like the park
- Splash pad (Mic Mac)
- Pool is very clean
- Scenery is beautiful (2)
- Location
- Tennis/sports/running/bike trails
- Relaxing environment
- Fishing
- Safe area
- Playground for kids (2)
- Parking available
- Food - fast food - food trucks
- Swimming pool
- Beautiful parks
- Close to home
- Have swimming outdoor
- Fountain splash pad
- Waterfront fresh air
- Like swimming - tepid water, good for swimming, very relaxing, clean, good service

4. What are the most important features or services for you at parks and Recreational areas? For example, is it a playground, walking trail, tennis court, Basketball court, splash pad or other features? Please note responses below:

- Drinks (soft drinks), cookies
- Small Snacks/ venders/vending machines (2)
- Over the counter food
- Entertainment for children
- Areas for comfort
- Exercise machine outdoors for adults (3)
- Bicycles (stationary)
- Free parking
- More washrooms (3)
- Splash pads (3)

- Tennis/basketball/soccer/football (4)
- Slides/swings (good maintenance) (2)
- Connected to each other
- Safety with lights at waterfront
- Bbq (2)
- Natural wild areas in residential areas (well lit)
- Swimming pools
- Larger playgrounds (4)
- Open space and fresh air at the aquatic centre
- Safety
- View
- Bicycling (2)
- Walking paths (4)
- Pavilions
- Benches
- Trees
- Water fountains
- Water temperature for swimming
- Aquatic centre is good for swimming, open space, fresh air
- Safety
- clean

5. How do think the City of Windsor can improve its parks system? Please note responses below:

- Refreshment –need at all parks, restaurants/waterfront/coffee shop (2)
- Children play equipment
- Clean up dog waste – too much
- Other Animal waste – geese (3)
- Zoo park (4)
- Clean washrooms
- More washrooms (2)
- Change tables
- More benches with tables – picnic tables (2)
- Pavilions or over hang
- More trees for shelter
- Fences - Janette & Caron (2)
- Advertisement – history plaques (lack of knowledge about parks)
- Free parking
- More South Windsor parks
- Small park landscaping
- Mini golf
- Riverfront very busy in summer - needs lighting; colorful lighting
- Water fountains (3)
- Shallow pools for adults
- More shade (3)
- Indoor park (greenhouses-Example: Montreal Bio dome)
- Building parks between apartment buildings for convenience
- Man-made ponds with fish
- More ice rinks (outdoor) (2)
- Washrooms are not clean at Jackson

- More garbage bins
- Mosquitos/flies are present in a lot of parks (2)
- Tennis courts
- Keep washroom opens in September and October (2)
- More public transportation to parks (2)
- Keep open on weekend and holidays
- Connect bike paths/walking paths trails
- Dedicated winter facilities for children
- Indoor playgrounds for kids under 12
- Artificial hills for winter activities
- Inside-lit skating
- Lights
- Renovation of sport sights
- Upkeep of playgrounds
- Events/free/music
- Theme park
- Marketplace/food/international
- Need more seating for families with umbrella/shade
- Bbq to cook in the parks/specifically on Riverside
- Dog limitations in parks (scary)
- Improve the washrooms
- Competition for children with prizes
- Alcohol (2)
- Ball pit (McDonalds)
- Restaurants with place to sit down for kids (esp in winter)
- Riverside washrooms not clean & small
- Some of the equipment geared for kids not adults
- Riverside-no parking
- Cannot buy anything on Riverside park
- Indoor park possibly a greenhouse/aquarium
- Some parks need a playground
- Ask people and step by step do it
- Food and beverage, kiosk, venders
- More washrooms – in every park
- Need to pick up garbage more often
- Bathrooms need to be clean
- Flowers
- Clean and safe
- Ping pong
- Improve picnic tables
- More public skating-improve
- Zip line
- Art along the river - Odette Sculpture Garden is good
- History being demonstrated in the parks