

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Town of Milk River sent out a mail questionnaire to all their citizens to determine the concerns and opinions of citizens. This was a detailed questionnaire designed to provide information about the direction Milk River should pursue in the future.

MAJOR SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

- 73 percent of respondents rated Milk River as a good to excellent place to live.
- Average length of time respondents have lived in Milk River is 25.8 years.
- 76 percent of respondents would like to see the Town of Milk River grow at a moderate to rapid rate (10 to 14 or more new people a year).
- Major likes about living in Milk River:
 - Friendly people
 - Low crime rate (safety and security)
 - Small size of town
- The most important reason why the household chooses to live in Milk River:
 - Employment
 - Close to family and friends
 - Small town atmosphere
- Between 60 and 74 percent of the respondents were in favour of owning and developing land for residential, commercial and industrial purposes and to upgrade downtown.

GENERAL OVERVIEW OF HOW RESPONDENTS FELT ABOUT:

1. **Town Appearance**
 - The general appearance of the town, the new residential areas and new residential development were rated as good
2. **Recreational and Cultural Facilities**
 - Most categories were rated as good with parks and playgrounds rated as average and walking paths were rated as average
3. **Protection Services**
 - The fire and ambulance services were rated as excellent and the RCMP services were rated as good.
4. **Health Services**
 - Most categories were rated as good with the Hospital and Nursing Home receiving an excellent rating.
5. **Education**
 - Most categories received a rating of good.
6. **Town Administration/Roads and Streets**
 - Most categories received good to average responses. Respondents generally rated the infrastructure and general administration as good, while the maintenance categories and the community planning, access to local government and downtown parking were rated as average.

The results of the questionnaires provide the Town Council in drafting the new plan with invaluable ideas and community input. The results provide the foundation for formulating the broad community goals and objectives.