



**MAILING
ADDRESS:**

Village of Lytton
PO Box 100, 769 S- Trans Canada Hwy
Lytton, BC V0K 1Z0

www.lytton.ca

Village of Lytton Community Hub Survey Results - January 2025

As part of the planning process for the Community Hub project, the Village of Lytton has been engaging with community members. In January 2025, the Village led the following activities:

- [A mailout to property owners](#) with a project overview, invitation to an open house on January 31, 2025, and a link to an online survey to share input about the project;
- An online project feedback survey, which was open from January 13 to 31, 2025;
- A drop-in community open house (from 1 to 3 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m.) on January 31, 2025, with opportunities to learn more about the project, ask questions, and complete the survey online.

The Village promoted the survey and open house through the following channels:

- The Village's website and Facebook page
- January 9, 16, and 30 editions of the Village News e-newsletter
- Posters at the Village Office, Parish Hall, and post office
- Sharing information with the Community Hub's Project Advisory Committee members, to share with their communities

Responses

Six people filled out comment cards at the open house, and 43 people completed the survey online for a total of 49 respondents.

Survey (43 responses)

- In response to the question, "Are there any components missing from the Community Hub concept plan?" half of the respondents (51%) indicated "Yes". These are described more below.
- In response to the question, "Do you support proceeding with the Community Hub project once federal funding requirements have been met?" more than 70 per cent (72%) of respondents indicated "Yes".

Comment cards (6 responses)

- Over 80 per cent of respondents (five out of six) indicated support for the project.
- One third (two out of six respondents) identified components missing from the concept plan.

Open-ended questions

The three survey questions included opportunities for open-ended responses.

- In the first question, we asked for people to “Please describe” following their response about missing components.
- In the second question, we asked “Please explain” following their response about supporting (or not supporting) proceeding with the project
- In the final question, we asked “Do you have any other comments about the project? If so, please describe.”

Because responses in both the survey and comment cards were not limited to specific questions, we have compiled key themes below across all the open-ended questions for the 49 respondents.

Concept plan components

Respondents indicated that the following components were missing from the concept plan:

1. Fitness and recreation centre (10 references)

- Gym/fitness centre: Several respondents suggested adding a gym, treadmill, or fitness space to encourage an active lifestyle, especially for winter use.
 - *"A fitness centre would be beneficial to everyone's health, no matter what your age is."*
 - *"For an aquatics centre to succeed, we need a stronger fitness culture."*
- Running track: Some mentioned including a track for indoor or outdoor running.
- Weight room: Some suggested adding a weight room for strength training and rehabilitation.

2. Parking with security and electric vehicle (EV) charging stations (6 references)

- More parking spaces and security features (such as cameras, patrols, lighting) were suggested.
 - *"Parking area needs security (cameras, personnel, etc.)."*
- Respondents want at least one EV charging station in the parking lot.
 - *"This would bring people to stop for at least 40 minutes in town."*
 - *"EV chargers can generate revenue for the facility."*

3. Covered or indoor pool (5 references) vs. outdoor pool (4 references)

- There were several references to having an indoor or covered pool for year-round use and accessibility.
 - *"I believe the pool should be an indoor facility. Pro: year-round access."*
 - *"Yes to the indoor pool. I need exercise in the winter."*
 - *"Cover over the pool so it can be used all year long."*
 - *"An indoor pool will ensure access even in extreme weather conditions."*
- These were contrasted with respondents with a preference for an outdoor pool for fire protection and emergency use and sustainability.
 - *"A pool also offers a much-needed supplemental water reservoir for fire protection."*
 - *"For a community that has been impacted by fire, this would offer our first responders the extra resource to protect the community."*
 - *"Hoping the plan is for an outdoor summertime pool so that it can remain sustainable."*

4. Community kitchen (4 references)

- There were several references to having a commercial-grade community kitchen that could be used for festivals or events or rented out:
 - *"BIGGER KITCHEN: As a member of the Lytton Two Rivers Farmers' Market, I have participated in many festivals, markets, and community gatherings where meals were served, and I believe a large kitchen in the hub would be a benefit for revenue generation."*
 - *"Community dinners, cooking for festivals, and hiring out the kitchen for events would add to the income generated while outdoor events would benefit from the kitchen access as well."*
 - *"A walk-in cooler, stainless steel tables, and counters for food preparation would be needed, so planning for these items seems necessary in the design stage."*

5. Inclusion of the museum (6 references) and library* (6 references)

- Several respondents indicated support for including the museum and library:
 - *"We need pool, museum, library."*
 - *"I hope there is some discussion with TNRD about bringing the Library back. It was/is an integral part of town."*
 - *"Would like to see the museum back at the same spot – 420 Fraser St."*
- Other respondents suggested prioritizing other components:
 - *"The things that a Library can provide to our community, while great, those needs are being met in our community - schools, daycare, public service buildings, online."*
 - *"Museums and Libraries don't make sense in place of a fitness center. Gym equipment is just as expensive as a Library, but the maintenance is far easier. Library and Museum is a one-time visit place, a Gym can create healthy routines for our community and is a place where people go to better themselves."*

* Included in the concept plan if the Thompson-Nicola Regional District decides to rebuild a library in Lytton.

6. Other components

Respondents also suggested including the following:

- Waterslide to bring money into the community
- Community garden
- Additional electrical hookups for markets and events
- Quiet place/room with a spiritual theme
- Visitors Centre* which is included in current plans for rebuilding the Village Office
- Commercial tenants or private-public partnerships
 - *"Has a private, public relationship been explored? Tim Hortons, Subway, KFC, retail space."*

General themes and feedback

The following were the top themes that emerged from the open-ended survey data:

1. Support for the Community Hub

- Many residents express enthusiasm, believing the Hub is needed for community gathering, recreation, and youth.
- The Hub is seen as an essential replacement for lost community spaces and a place for people to come together.
 - *100% support. A community hub for various events, a pool where many memories will be made. A positive place for people to look forward to and a safe place to gather.*
 - *"The community needs to have a gathering space again, like the old community hall we used to have."*
 - *"This community hub is well needed in Lytton. Not only does it offer a space for the greater community to gather, recreate, and be together..."*
 - *"This Hub is essential for the community to gather, recreate, and be together."*
 - *"We need a gathering place for adults and children."*
 - *"Much-needed facility for our town."*
 - *"Imperative for this traumatized community to have a space to rebuild connection."*
 - *"We need to have a community facility that we can all be proud of."*

2. Improved recreational opportunities for health and well-being of community

- The swimming pool is a key priority for many residents for recreation and water safety training.
- Some respondents also advocated for a fitness centre to provide a safe, accessible exercise option for all ages.
- Several comments highlight the importance of a swimming pool for water safety, exercise, and as a fire protection resource.
 - *"The pool is 10,000% a top priority. Last day of Riverfest this year, two youth almost drowned."*
 - *"Yes to the indoor pool! I need exercise in the winter."*
 - *"A fitness center would be beneficial to everyone's health, no matter what your age is."*
 - *"For an Aquatics Centre to have success in this community, we must foster a more prominent fitness culture in this town. This can be done through fitness programing, weight room, running tracks, fitness classes etc. These ideas also have an opportunity to provide a small revenue for the centre and greatly improve quality of life for Lytton residents, tourists and temporary residents (Teachers, firefighters, Kumsheen Raft guides). "*
 - *I think it's important for our youth to have a place to gather and develop important skills such as swimming*
 - *"Elders, children and youth desperately need things to do in the community. Critical for mental health, addiction, etc."*

3. Economic growth and attracting residents and visitors

- Some residents believe the Hub can serve as a regional attraction that supports tourism, while also supporting growth of the Village.
"If you want any other folks to live here. You've got to have this. We won't see doctors or RCMP or fire or teachers or nurses want to stay and have families if there's nothing for them."
 - *"It will cost money, but without any amenities, we will never be able to attract newcomers, which we need to help our tax base."*
 - *"This Hub is essential not only for current residents of the area but also to attract newcomers who will help grow our village!"*
- Suggestions included adding EV chargers to encourage longer visits from travellers.
 - *"I think there should be EV chargers—at least one set in the parking lot. This would bring people to stop for at least 40 minutes in town."*

4. Financial viability, operations, and maintenance

- Several respondents saw the value of the project outweighing any concerns about financial viability.
 - *"The value it will bring to the community far outweighs the increase in tax dollars to maintain (which compared to other communities is minimal)."*
 - *"We are so fortunate to have the funds from the Federal Gov provided to build the hub!"*
 - *"I am not concerned about its future operation as I have faith in the current council and community partners to set policy that attracts revenue to see the operation of it is successful!"*
- There were several suggestions for revenue generation, including renting the commercial kitchen space, considering public-private partnerships and retail tenants, and charging for EV charging.
 - *"Has a public-private partnership been explored? Tim Hortons, Subway, KFC?"*
 - *"Electric vehicle charging stations can generate revenue."*
 - *"The site could host food processing businesses renting kitchen space."*
 - *"The site where the hub is located is large enough to fit a large number of divergent activities and potentially generate many income streams."*
 - *"I think it's a wonderful project. Just what the community needs. Boo! to the folks who are not in favour of project for reasons of not enough tax base to maintain facility—there are many other sources for money - e.g. surrounding bands etc. We need a gathering space and kids need a pool."*
- Other respondents expressed skepticism about how the project will sustain itself long-term, given Lytton's small tax base and have concerns about staffing.
 - *"Tax base too small to support something of this size."*
 - *"How will it be maintained, and by who?"*
 - *"Before the fire, the pool was rarely open due to staffing and funding issues."*
 - *"Staffing was an issue pre-fire, and now every employer is struggling to hire."*
 - *"Not enough population to support cost to maintain and operate."*

5. Partnerships and collaboration

- Several respondents commented about to the importance of inclusion of surrounding First Nations in project planning and cautioned around redundancy.
 - *"The partnership involving the surrounding First Nations community needs to be up front and centre. Their role cannot simply just be 'committee members' but active partners that lead and govern the project."*
 - *"Lytton has been a village to the Nlaka'pamux people for thousands of years and continues to be a central village to the surrounding communities of Lytton first Nation, Nicomen, Siska, Skuppah and Kanaka and Cooks Ferry. These communities send their children to Lytton for school. All of these communities involvement is required for the present and future."*
 - *"Tlkemcheen (aka Lytton) has been an Indigenous community for thousands of years. This village needs Kanaka, Siska, Skuppah, Lytton First Nations and Nicomen to be involved as leading partners, not just 'advisors', not just provide 'input' but have an active role in its creation and its administration. It cannot be lead solely by the village of lytton."*
 - *"Redundant. Local bands have halls. "*
- Several respondents also highlight the need for regional collaboration to support financial viability.
 - *It shouldn't be a Lytton project we are too small a population, it should be a regional effort and on a neutral property.*
 - *"This project is only sound with FINANCIALLY VESTED operational partners. TNRD library, LFN/VOL museum collaboration, and perhaps visitor center (collab with museum staff?) could be established."*

6. Proceeding with the project

- Respondents expressed a desire to move ahead with an expedite the project.
 - *"Let's work together and get this done well."*
 - *"Want to move forward with the project, not hold it up from proceeding."*
- Some respondents also had questions about providing input as the project proceeds and suggested facilitating future planning discussions.
 - *"Will there be opportunity to give further input as the project plan develops?"*
 - *It occurs to me that in order to expedite the decision making process maybe we need a trained planning facilitator to help the community/stakeholders in deciding what elements we truly want to include in the hub project. Someone with skills in flushing out the main ideas and necessary elements for success.*