Exploring a Youth Centre in Kinsmen Park

What We Heard Report

October 2026

Project at a glance

The City of Leduc is exploring the possibility of locating a youth centre in Kinsmen Park. Boys and Girls Club (BGC) Leduc, which currently operates youth programming out of the Leduc Recreation Centre, has identified the need for a future stand-alone facility and brought Kinsmen Park forward to the City as a potential location for consideration. No decisions have been made about whether a youth centre will move forward at this site.

Between June and September 2026, the City invited community members to share their perspectives on the opportunities, concerns and trade-offs associated with this location. Conversations also explored how a youth centre could fit within the park and surrounding neighbourhood, as well as considerations related to City investment, ownership, funding and operations.

To hear from a diversity of community voices, the engagement team visited schools, nearby neighbourhoods, community events and other gathering places across Leduc. Community members shared their feedback through a variety of different engagement activities, with 526 instances of participation recorded through conversations, pop-ups, open houses and other engagement activities, alongside 635 online survey responses.

Throughout the engagement, we heard that creating a dedicated, welcoming space for young people is important to many community members. We also heard a range of perspectives about Kinsmen Park as a potential location. While many see opportunities in the location, others raised questions and concerns about how a youth centre would fit within an already busy park and surrounding neighbourhood. These perspectives highlight important trade-offs that City Council will need to consider as it determines a path forward.

This *What We Heard Report* provides an overview of how we engaged, who participated and what we learned. It shares the main themes and perspectives we heard throughout engagement.

City Council will receive and consider this report in November 2026 as it decides whether and how to move forward with a youth centre in Kinsmen Park. Public engagement is one part of the decision-making process. Council will consider community feedback alongside other important information, including technical, financial, operational and site-related considerations, as it determines the next steps.

Project name	**Potential Youth Centre in Kinsmen Park**
Engagement opportunities & information shared	The project webpage provided information about the potential youth centre in Kinsmen Park and opportunities to participate in the engagement. It included: • A project overview and information about the potential Kinsmen Park location • Answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) • Information about upcoming engagement opportunities and events • A link to the online survey • Opportunities to sign up for project updates Community engagement took place from June to September 2026 and included: • Pre-engagement conversations with local organizations and schools in June and July 2026 • An online survey available from July 6 to September 13, 2026 • Door knocking with residents living adjacent to Kinsmen Park in July 2026 • Community pop-ups at Summer in the City, the Skate Park and Kinsmen Park in July and August 2026 • Youth pop-ups at École Leduc Junior High School, Leduc Composite High School, Black Gold Outreach School and the Boys and Girls Club of Leduc in September 2026 • One-to-one meetings with local schools, school divisions and Kinsmen Park recreation organizations in September 2026 Two public open houses were also held at the Civic Centre (1 Alexandra Park, Leduc): • August 20, 2026 • September 2, 2026
Webpage	www.leduc.ca/youthcentre

Acknowledgements

The City of Leduc acknowledges that we are situated within Treaty Six Territory, the ancestral and modern-day territories of the Nêhiyawak (Plains Cree), Denesuline (Dene), Niitsitapi (Blackfoot Confederacy), Anishinaabe (Saulteaux / Ojibway) and Nakota Isga (Nakota Sioux) Peoples. We honour our neighbouring Nations of Maskwacîs — Ermineskin Cree Nation, Samson Cree Nation, Louis Bull Tribe and Montana First Nation — as well as the Enoch Cree Nation. We also recognize that Leduc is within the Homeland of the Métis Nation.

We recognize the land and waters that sustain our community and honour the generations who have lived in relationship with this place. Treaty Six is a living covenant, founded on relationship, respect and shared responsibility. The City is committed to listening, learning, and acting in ways that advance meaningful reconciliation.

We would like to thank everyone who took the time to participate in this engagement process. Your experiences, ideas, questions and concerns have helped us better understand what matters to the community. We appreciate your contributions and hope you see your perspectives reflected in the pages that follow.

Abiding by the Code of Ethics of the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2), the Tilia Consulting team has aimed to reflect themes and summarize participant input from the community engagement activities in a manner that captures the essence of what was shared. Any errors or omissions made in this summary report are based solely on our interpretation and analysis of that input. —Tilia Consulting Team

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Project overview

Exploring a youth centre in Leduc

Boys and Girls Club (BGC) Leduc currently operates youth programming out of the Leduc Recreation Centre. As Leduc continues to grow, participation in BGC Leduc programming has also increased. Since 2023, the number of youth registered in BGC programming has increased by 116%, from 135 to 292 participants.

BGC Leduc has indicated that its current space limits its ability to expand programming, particularly for older youth, as programming must be scheduled around younger age groups. The organization is seeking a stand-alone youth centre to better respond to growing demand and the needs of youth and young adults.



A future youth centre could provide a safe, supervised space for young people in the 12–17 and 18–24 age groups.

As the potential operator, BGC Leduc would develop programming, activities and opportunities tailored to age-appropriate cohorts, recognizing the distinct developmental needs and interests of pre-teens, teens and young adults. While the centre may serve a broad age range, programming would be intentionally scheduled and structured to ensure younger youth and young adults are not routinely grouped together in activities or services where their needs and stages of development differ.

The centre could offer opportunities such as drop-in programming, recreation, leadership development, employment readiness support and social connection. It would *not* operate as an overnight shelter.

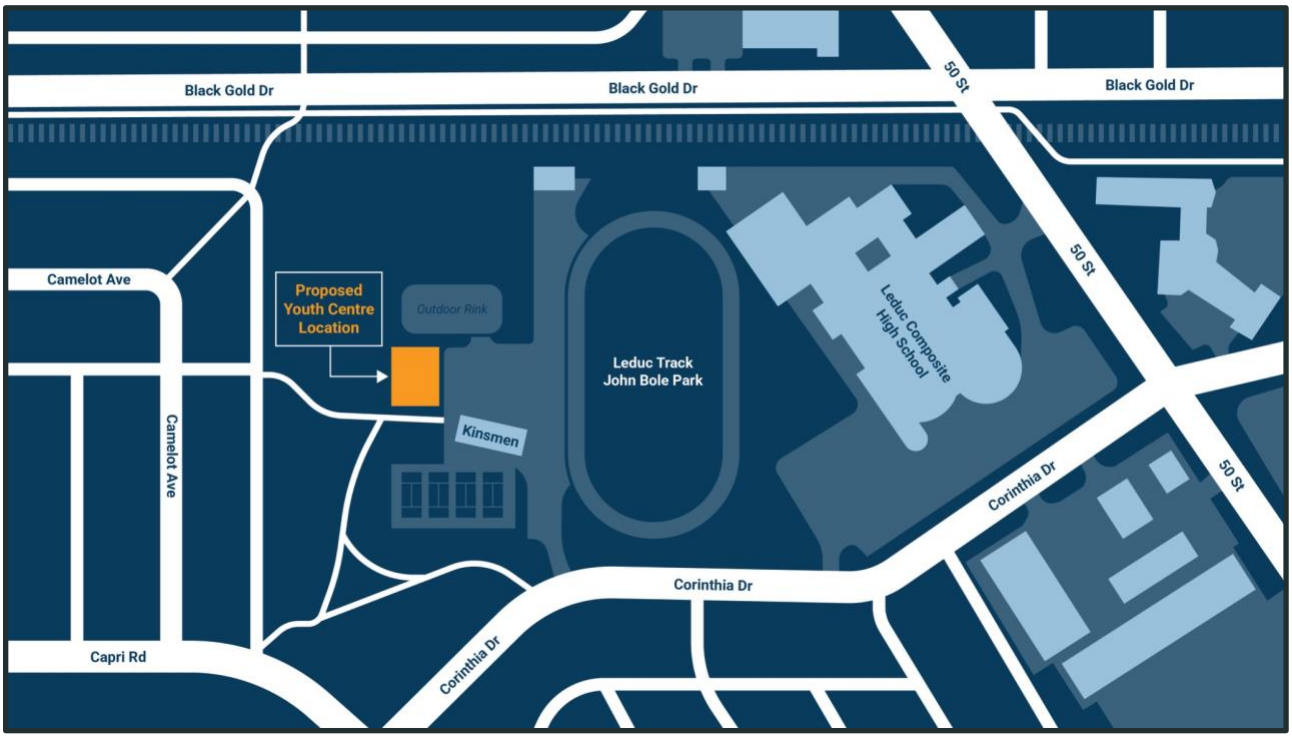
Exploring Kinsmen Park as a potential location

Over several years, BGC Leduc has explored a range of potential locations across Leduc for a stand-alone youth centre. As part of this work, the organization conducted a preliminary review of Kinsmen Park, considering existing infrastructure and landscape features that could affect where a building might be located. They completed a geotechnical investigation and a site survey, both of which determined the land was suitable for a project of this size.

Through this process, BGC Leduc identified a specific area on the west side of Kinsmen Park, between the outdoor rink and Leduc Track / John Bole Park, and brought it forward to the City for consideration.

The City began exploring the possibility of locating a youth centre at this site (shown in orange on the map below), including seeking community input to better understand the location. No facility design has been developed at this stage.

Map of the potential youth centre location



Why Kinsmen Park

Kinsmen Park is City-owned land and is being explored because of its proximity to schools, existing recreation amenities and accessibility for youth and families. It is currently the only location being considered for a potential youth centre.

No decisions have been made about whether a youth centre will move forward in Kinsmen Park. Community input will help City Council understand the opportunities, concerns and trade-offs associated with this location, alongside other technical, financial, operational and site-related considerations.

Summary of what we heard

This section provides a high-level overview of the six themes that emerged throughout engagement. These themes reflect a range of perspectives, including opportunities, concerns, and trade-offs that are explored in greater detail later in the report.

Throughout the engagement, we heard that many community members see value in creating a dedicated space for youth and young adults in Leduc. We also heard a range of perspectives about Kinsmen Park as a potential location. While many participants identified opportunities, others raised questions and concerns about how a youth centre would fit within an already busy park and surrounding neighbourhood. Some supported the idea of a youth centre but preferred a different location, while others questioned the need for a new stand-alone facility.

Among online survey respondents, the majority were comfortable with a youth centre being in Kinsmen Park. A majority also supported City investment in a potential youth centre at this location. Across the engagement, six key themes emerged:

- **Youth need a dedicated space that reflects their needs.** Participants saw value in creating a safe, welcoming place where youth can connect, participate in activities and access support. Youth emphasized the importance of affordable, flexible access and a space that feels designed for them.
- **Kinsmen Park's location and existing amenities offer opportunities.** Participants highlighted the park's proximity to schools, walking and biking connections, transit, recreation facilities and outdoor space.

- **Kinsmen Park is already a busy space with competing recreation needs.** Participants raised questions and concerns about how a youth centre would fit alongside existing recreation activities, parking, traffic, green space and future park needs.
- **Safety, supervision and neighbourhood impacts need proactive planning.** Participants raised concerns about potential noise, litter, vandalism, and traffic, emphasizing the importance of clear plans for supervision, safety and ongoing maintenance.
- **Youth and community members want an ongoing role in shaping the project.** Participants want opportunities to remain informed and involved as decisions are made about programming, design, operations and neighbourhood impacts.
- **The operating and funding model needs to be sustainable and accountable.** Participants emphasized affordable access, quality programming, long-term sustainability and responsible use of public resources. Survey respondents expressed the greatest comfort with partnership models involving the City and community organizations.

These six themes provide an overarching picture of what we heard across the engagement, rather than views shared by all participants. Youth and young adults, nearby residents, Kinsmen Park users and the broader Leduc community brought different experiences and priorities to the conversation. The following sections explore these themes in greater detail, including areas of agreement, differing perspectives and the tensions and trade-offs participants want City Council to consider.



How we engaged

Our approach to engagement

The engagement process was designed primarily at the *Consult* level of the City's Public Engagement Spectrum. At this level, members of the public are invited to share their feedback, input and advice. The City's commitment is to listen to and consider public input as part of the decision-making process.



To support this work, the City hired Tilia Consulting to plan and facilitate engagement activities, gather and summarize community feedback, and prepare this *What We Heard Report*. BGC Leduc participated as a project partner, providing information about the potential youth centre.

City Council is responsible for deciding whether and how a potential youth centre in Kinsmen Park will move forward. Community input was gathered and will be considered alongside other financial, operational and planning information to help Council understand what matters to the community as it considers next steps.

What we asked

Throughout the engagement, we invited community members to share their perspectives on the potential location and what would be important to consider if a youth centre moves forward. Questions focused on three key areas:

- **Kinsmen Park as a potential location:** What opportunities, concerns and trade-offs should be considered if a youth centre were located in Kinsmen Park?
- **The park and surrounding neighbourhood:** What would help a youth centre fit well within Kinsmen Park and the surrounding community?
- **Ownership, operations and City involvement:** What matters most when considering how a future youth centre could be owned, operated, funded and supported over time?

We also invited participants to share any other advice they wanted City Council to consider as it decides whether and how to move forward. Youth and young adults were asked additional questions about what would make a youth centre easy for them to get to and what they wish adults understood about the needs of young people in Leduc.

Engagement activities

To explore these questions, we offered a variety of ways for people to participate, from brief conversations in community spaces to opportunities for more detailed feedback. We also made a particular effort to connect with youth and young adults, nearby residents and people who regularly use Kinsmen Park to better understand their perspectives.

The table below summarizes the different engagement activities and opportunities for participation.

Engagement Activity	Timing	Participation
Pre-engagement conversations – Early conversations with the Leduc & District Minor Football Association, Kinsmen Club of Leduc, Leduc Track and the Black Gold Outreach School helped shape the design of the broader engagement process.	June - July 2026	4 conversations

Engagement Activity	Timing	Participation
Online survey – Community members were invited to share their perspectives on Kinsmen Park as a potential location, opportunities and concerns, City investment, ownership and operating models, and advice to City Council.	July 6 - September 13, 2026	635 respondents
Door knocking – The engagement team door knocked at homes adjacent to Kinsmen Park in the Corinthia Park and Linsford Park neighbourhoods to share information about the potential youth centre, answer questions and hear directly from nearby residents.	July 2026	153 doors knocked 34 conversations
Public open houses – Two drop-in events gave community members opportunities to learn more about the potential youth centre, ask questions, speak with the project team and share their feedback. These events were held at the Civic Centre (1 Alexandra Park, Leduc).	August 20, 2026 September 2, 2026	19 participants 9 participants
Community pop-ups – Informal pop-ups were held at Summer in the City, the Skate Park and in two locations at Kinsmen Park (the football field during practice, and at the playground/path area). These events provided opportunities to connect with people where they were already gathering.	July - August 2026	215 responses
Youth pop-ups – Activities at École Leduc Junior High School, Leduc Composite High School, the Black Gold Outreach School and the Boys and Girls Club of Leduc created opportunities for youth and young adults to share their perspectives, ideas and concerns.	September 2026	240 responses
One-to-one meetings – Individual meetings with Leduc & District Minor Football Association, Leduc Composite High School, Christ the King School, St. Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic School Division and the Black Gold School Division provided opportunities to discuss specific topics or concerns in greater detail.	September 2026	5 conversations

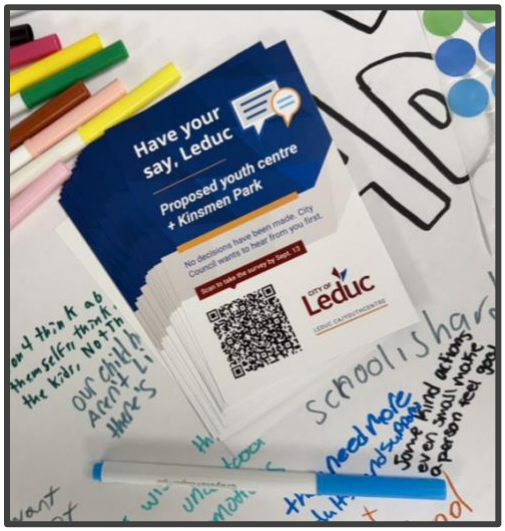
How we communicated

From July 6 to September 13, 2026, the City used a mix of print, digital and in-person communications to share information about the potential youth centre and invite community members to participate. The goal was to reach people in different ways, make project information easy to access and raise awareness of opportunities to share feedback.

Communications materials included door hangers, postcards, a project summary sheet, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and materials shared during in-person engagement activities. These documents can be found in *Appendix B: Engagement Materials*.

Targeted and print communications:

- Direct mail was delivered to 1,393 addresses
- 200 bookmarks were delivered to the Leduc Public Library
- One road sign was installed near Kinsmen Park
- 153 door hangers and over 350 postcards were distributed through targeted outreach



Digital communications:

- The project webpages received 821 total page views, including 666 views of the project landing page and 155 views of the project news item
- 8 social media posts generated 36,306 impressions and 625 engagements
- The project was featured in the July and August editions of *Leduc Link*, generating 46 and 26 clicks respectively
- A dedicated project subscriber list was created to share ongoing updates, growing to 237 subscribers by the end of September 2026

Social media was the strongest driver of traffic to the project webpages, with visits highest shortly after engagement launched. Local and regional media also helped share information about the project, with four media stories covering the engagement process.

Who we heard from

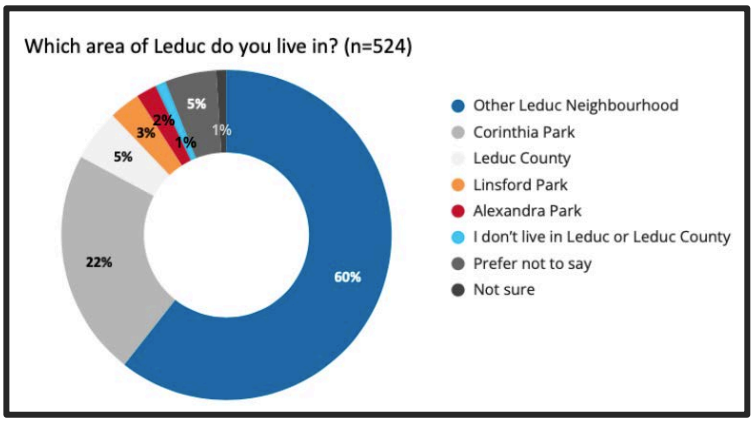
Throughout the engagement, we recorded 526 instances of participation through conversations, pop-ups, open houses and other activities, alongside 635 online survey responses[1]. Participants included youth and young adults, nearby residents, people who use Kinsmen Park, residents from across Leduc and people connected to community organizations and services. As some people may have participated in more than one activity, these figures do not necessarily represent unique individuals.

The online survey included questions to help us better understand who participated, including where respondents live, their age and how they use Kinsmen Park. The following demographic charts reflect online survey respondents only, as information about age and residence was not collected during the other engagement activities.

Where survey respondents live

Nearly all online survey respondents reported living in Leduc or Leduc County, with the majority living in the city[2].

22% live in the Corinthia Park neighbourhood, while smaller proportions live in Linsford Park or Alexandra Park.

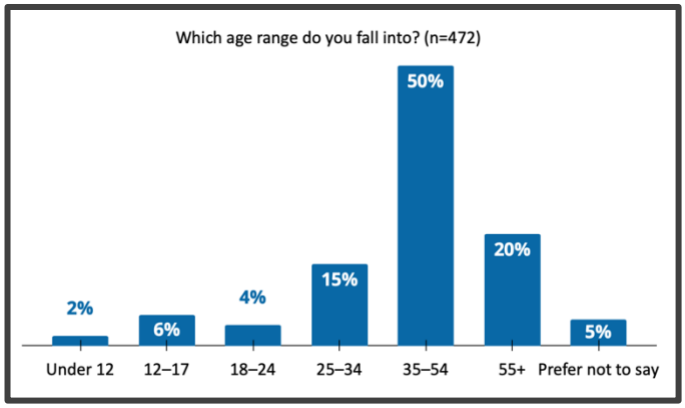


[1] The online survey was voluntary and open to interested participants. To help limit repeat submissions, it was set to allow one response per browser, although this did not verify that each response came from a unique individual. Survey percentages reflect the views of those who answered each question and are not statistically representative of all Leduc residents. The results were used alongside other engagement feedback to understand different perspectives, opportunities and trade-offs, rather than as a vote.

[2] Other Leduc neighbourhoods represented include Southfork, South Park, Bridgeport, Meadowview, West Haven, Windrose, Leduc Estates, Deer Valley, Suntree, Tribute, Robinson, Woodbend, Caledonia Park, Blackstone, Lakeside Estates, Willow Park, South Telford, Corinthia Park, Central Business District and North Telford. Other areas of Leduc noted by respondents included the west side of Leduc, East Elementary and Black Gold Drive.

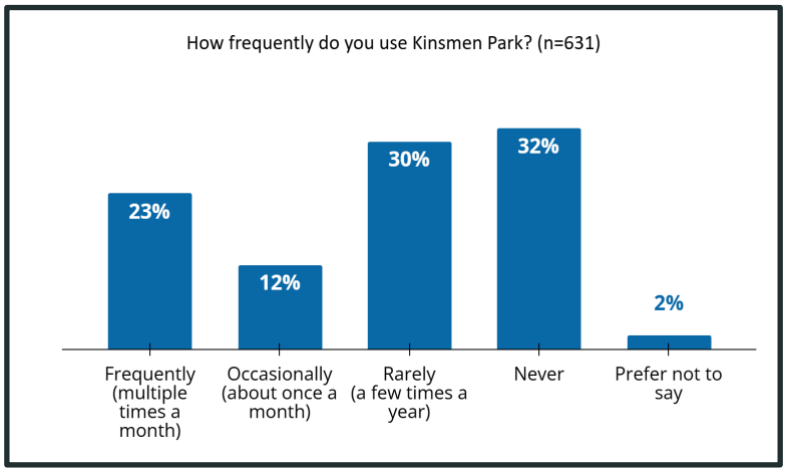
Age of survey respondents

Online survey respondents represented a range of age groups, including youth and young adults aged 12 to 24, as well as adult community members. Half of survey respondents were in the age range of 35-54.

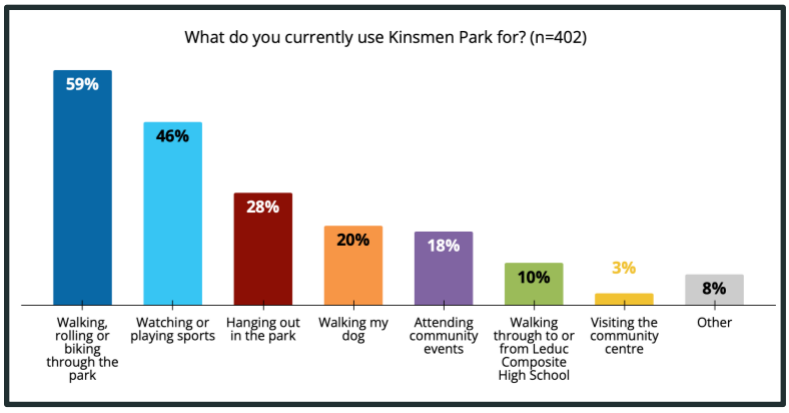


Current use of Kinsmen Park

We asked online survey respondents and people who participated in community pop-ups how often they use Kinsmen Park and what they use it for. More than half of online survey respondents reported using the park at least a few times a year, including approximately one in five who use it multiple times a month.



Among the survey respondents who reported using Kinsmen Park, the most common activities were walking, rolling or biking through the park and watching or playing sports. People reported spending time outdoors, walking their dogs, attending community events and travelling to and from Leduc Composite High School.



Those we spoke with during community pop-ups shared that they mostly use Kinsmen Park to watch or play sports.

What we heard in detail

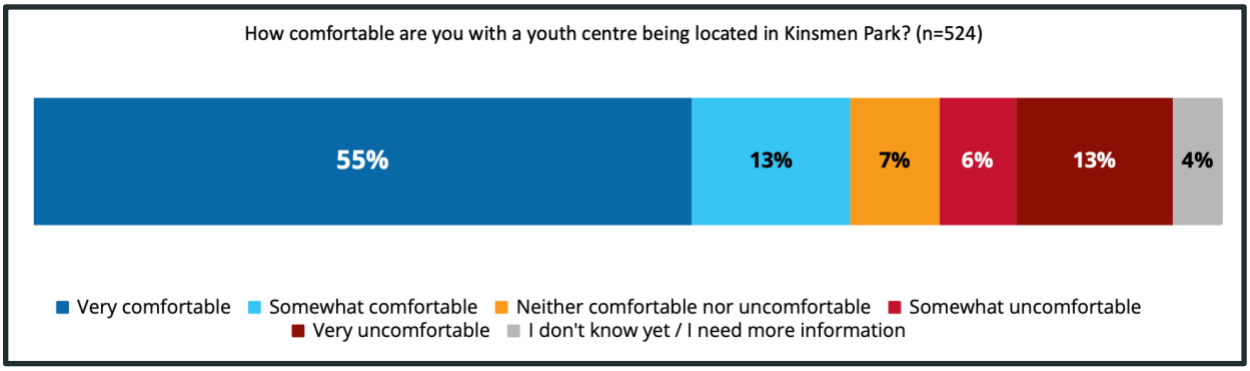
The following sections explore the findings introduced earlier in this report in greater detail. They bring together online survey results and feedback shared through conversations, pop-ups, open houses and other engagement activities to explore the opportunities, concerns and trade-offs participants want City Council to consider.

Views on Kinsmen Park and City investment

The online survey asked participants about their comfort with Kinsmen Park as a potential location and whether they supported City investment in a youth centre at this site. The results below provide an overview of how respondents answered these two questions.

Comfort with Kinsmen Park as a potential location

Among online survey respondents, 68% were very or somewhat comfortable with a youth centre being located in Kinsmen Park, while 19% were somewhat or very uncomfortable. Others were neutral or indicated they needed more information.



Comfort with Kinsmen Park as a potential location varied across participant groups. Among online survey respondents, 79% of youth and young adults were very or somewhat comfortable with the location, compared with 73% of broader Leduc community respondents, 68% of Kinsmen Park users and 57% of nearby residents.

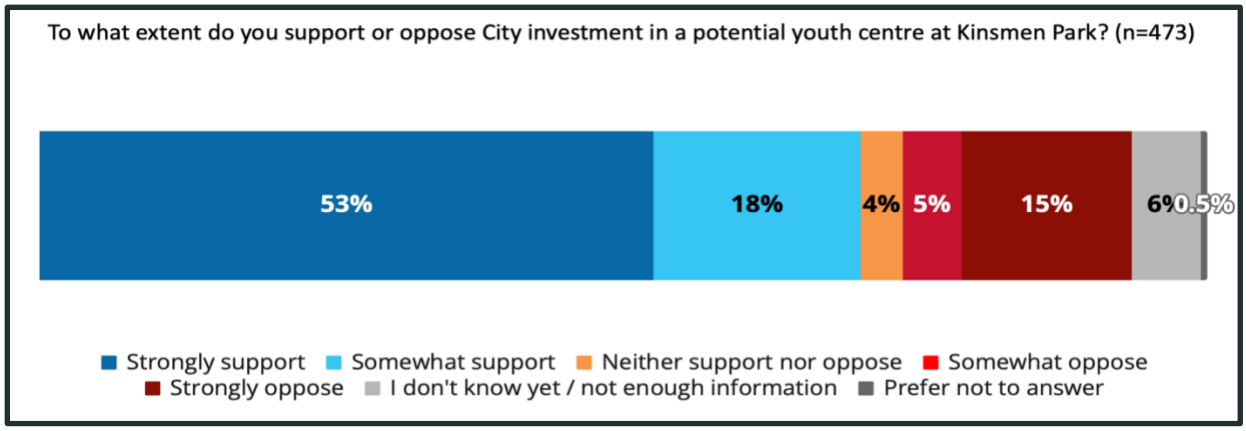
Nearby residents also expressed the highest level of discomfort (31%), followed by Kinsmen Park users (25%), while 14% of youth and young adults and 9% of broader community respondents were somewhat or very uncomfortable.

Among Kinsmen Park users, we heard different feedback from those who use the park regularly (once a month or more) and those who use it rarely (a few times a year). Those who use the park regularly had the lowest level of comfort (52%) and highest level of discomfort (41%) with Kinsmen Park as a potential location for a youth centre. In contrast, those who use Kinsmen Park a few times a year had the highest level of comfort (84%), and lowest level of discomfort (6%).

These results reflect the views of survey respondents within each group. More detailed findings, including the individual charts and feedback from each group, are provided in *Appendix A: Detailed Feedback by Participant Group*.

Support for City investment

Online survey respondents also expressed support for City investment in a potential youth centre at Kinsmen Park. 71% strongly or somewhat supported City investment, compared with 20% who somewhat or strongly opposed it.



Six key themes

The six themes that follow draw on survey comments and feedback from across all engagement activities to explore the opportunities, concerns and trade-offs behind participants' different perspectives.

Youth need a dedicated space that reflects their needs

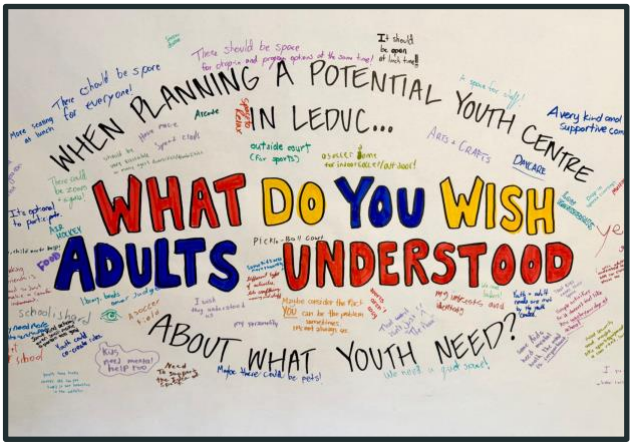
Many participants described the value of creating a dedicated space for youth in Leduc outside of home and school. They saw an opportunity to provide a safe, welcoming place where young people can spend time with friends, build connections, participate in activities and access support. Some youth shared that existing spaces and activities in Leduc do not fully meet their needs, particularly as they get older.

Youth emphasized that the success of a future centre would depend on whether it genuinely feels like a space designed for them. They described wanting an inclusive, comfortable and judgement-free environment with a mix of structured programming and opportunities to relax and connect on their own terms. They also highlighted the importance of affordable access, hours that reflect when youth would use the space and opportunities for recreation, creativity, learning and mental health support.

Participants also encouraged the City to consider the needs of young people who may not currently participate in organized sports, recreation activities or existing youth programs. They hope that a future centre could serve a broad range of youth and young adults.

"Youth want a place to connect with one another and do programming. Lots of families don't have the means to spend on sports or other things. This is a way where it is affordable for all and makes it accessible for youth to be themselves and grow."

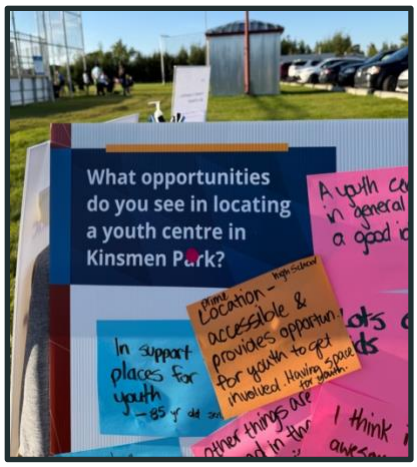
"Youth need a space to feel welcome and to call their own. Not all youth have a safe place so it's important to have space in our community for them."



Kinsmen Park's location and existing amenities offer opportunities

Many participants identified Kinsmen Park's central location and proximity to schools as advantages for a potential youth centre. Walking and biking connections, transit access and existing pathways were seen as opportunities to make the centre easier for young people to reach independently.

Participants also saw value in locating a youth centre near existing recreation facilities and outdoor spaces. The park's sports amenities, green space and proximity to places where youth already spend time could create additional opportunities for programming and activities. We also heard from those who questioned whether Kinsmen Park would be accessible to youth from all areas of Leduc, particularly as the city continues to grow. Others suggested that alternative locations should be considered before a final decision is made.



"Central location with walkable access from the Junior and Senior High Schools. Access to the football field, rink, and park space."

"While it's a central location, it is not an ideal location as this is a very busy space already between multiple user groups."

"This is probably the most central location in Leduc giving the best access to all kids."

Kinsmen Park is already a busy space with competing recreation needs

Nearby residents and people who regularly use Kinsmen Park described a busy park that already supports a wide range of activities. Participants raised concerns about how another facility would fit alongside existing uses, particularly football, track, tennis, the playground and other community activities. Some noted that parking, traffic and recreation facilities are already under pressure during peak seasons (spring, summer and fall) and expressed concern about adding another major facility to the space.

Participants encouraged the City to consider how a youth centre could be added without compromising existing activities or limiting future recreation needs. They raised questions about the exact location and size of the building, potential loss of green space, parking capacity, traffic flow, entrances and exits, access to facilities during construction, nearby intersections and the long-term plan for the park as a whole.

We also heard from those who emphasized the importance of considering the long-term vision for Kinsmen Park as a whole, including the continued growth of existing sports programs and potential upgrades to park infrastructure. While some were concerned that another facility would place further pressure on the park, others saw the addition of a youth centre in this location as an opportunity to make broader improvements to the park and surrounding infrastructure.



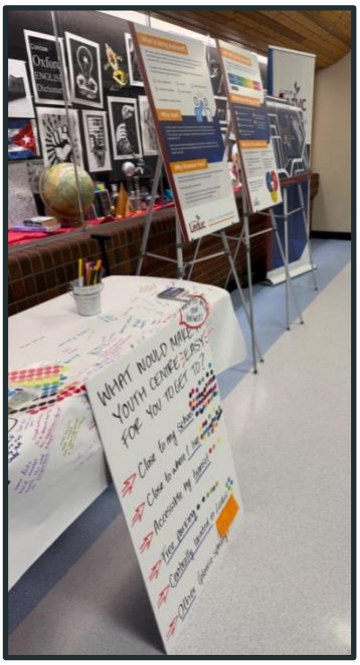
"Council needs to seriously consider the future of this space as first and foremost a football/track/black gold school/kinsmen space. The infrastructure in Leduc is already behind for recreation and this space should be reserved for the growth of football and track."

"Safety, traffic and parking are a big concern. Very busy area for football. Kids and families are running back and forth for football across both fields and change rooms."

Safety, supervision and neighbourhood impacts need proactive planning

Participants raised questions and concerns about how a youth centre could affect Kinsmen Park and the surrounding neighbourhood. These concerns included noise, litter, vandalism, loitering, traffic, drug and alcohol use, break-ins and other disturbances.

We also heard from those who saw the potential youth centre as an opportunity to provide young people with a safe, supervised place to spend time and access positive activities and support.



Some of those who raised concerns encouraged early planning to address potential impacts. Suggestions included adequate staffing and supervision, appropriate operating hours, lighting, security cameras, security staff, clear expectations for behaviour, garbage cans that are easy to use, regular site and building maintenance and plans for responding to problems if they arise.

Participants also raised questions about how the centre would serve both the 12–17 and 18–24 age groups, including how shared spaces, programming and supervision could be managed to meet the needs and safety of younger and older youth.

"Concerns would be noise, increased vandalism and litter (the area around the skate park is always a mess). Damage to the skating rink noted in the past two years might increase."

"We need more youth opportunities for the youth so they don't resort to drugs or crime. There would need to be security cameras around the building and in the parking lot."

"Significant and enforced restrictions on traffic, parking, hours of operation, and noise levels. I do not want the peace, quietness and privacy that I have enjoyed in this neighbourhood to be taken from me."

Youth and community members want an ongoing role in shaping the project

Participants emphasized the importance of continuing to involve youth and the broader community if planning for a youth centre moves forward.

We heard that youth want their experiences, ideas and needs to be taken seriously by adults making decisions about the centre. They expressed interest in helping shape programming, design, staffing, and how the space operates. Some participants suggested more formal opportunities for ongoing youth involvement, including reaching young people who may be less connected to existing programs and activities.

Nearby residents and park users also expressed a desire to remain informed and involved as more detailed decisions are made, particularly about issues that could directly affect their neighbourhoods and existing park activities.

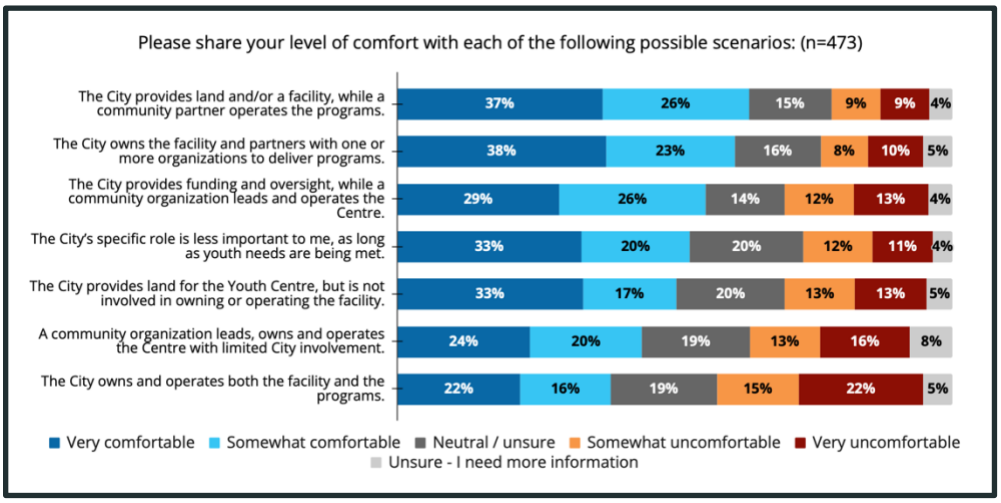
Across these conversations, participants emphasized the importance of ongoing communication, opportunities to ask questions, and a clear understanding of how community concerns will be considered as the project develops.

"Ask the youth what they want in a youth center, collaborate with organizations and youth to help create a safe and fun environment."

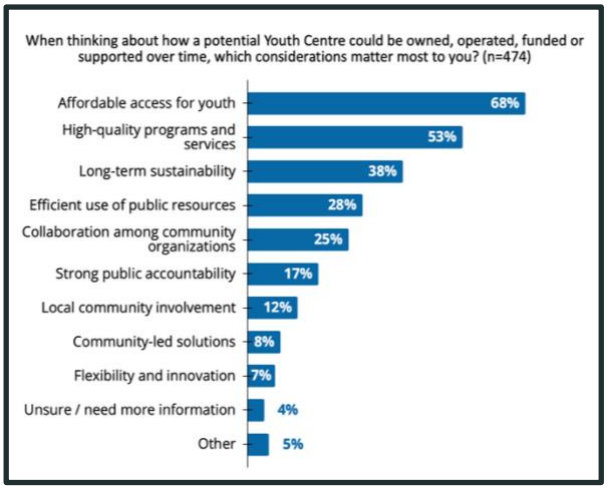
"The people that live in that area should have lots of opportunities to give their opinions and their concerns because the youth centre there would definitely affect them."

The operating and funding model needs to be sustainable and accountable

The online survey also asked respondents about possible ownership and operating arrangements for a future youth centre. Respondents expressed the greatest comfort with partnership models, including arrangements where the City provides land or a facility and a community organization delivers programming. They were less comfortable with the City owning and operating both the facility and its programs.



Across the different models, participants emphasized the importance of affordable access, high-quality programs and services, long-term sustainability and responsible use of public resources. For some, these considerations mattered more than the specific ownership arrangement.



Participants also raised questions about construction and operating costs, ongoing maintenance, staffing and what would happen if a future operator could no longer sustain its responsibilities.

Some encouraged Council to consider other funding opportunities, including fundraising, sponsorships and partnerships, to reduce the potential burden on taxpayers.

Overall, participants encouraged an approach that could meet the needs of young people while supporting the centre's long-term success and providing clear accountability for public investment.

Perspectives from different participant groups

The following sections highlight perspectives shared by nearby residents, youth and young adults, Kinsmen Park users and the broader Leduc community. Each group brought different experiences and priorities to the conversation. More detailed findings are provided in *Appendix A: Detailed Feedback by Participant Group*.

Nearby residents

Nearby residents shared mixed perspectives about locating a youth centre in Kinsmen Park. Some supported the potential location and saw opportunities to create a positive space for youth, while others preferred a different location or did not support the project. Residents emphasized that the direct impacts on the surrounding neighbourhood should be an important consideration in Council's decision-making.

Residents focused particularly on the potential day-to-day impacts on their neighbourhood. They raised questions and concerns about operating hours, noise, traffic, parking, safety, park maintenance, capacity and how the facility would accommodate different age groups. Some also expressed concerns about potential impacts on property values. We also heard questions about whether the facility could be used by other community groups.

Residents emphasized the importance of protecting existing green space and the playground, ensuring that any future building fits within the surrounding park and involving nearby residents in more detailed planning.

Youth and young adults

Youth participants focused on what would make a future centre genuinely welcoming and useful to them. They described wanting a comfortable, inclusive space where they could relax, socialize, participate in activities and access support without always sharing space with younger children. They also encouraged adults to recognize the different pressures and challenges young people experience today.

Youth identified opportunities for recreation, creativity, learning, mental health support, and simply spending time together. Youth expressed interest in helping shape the centre, including opportunities to participate in planning, staffing, and ongoing decisions. They encouraged Council to continue listening to a broad range of youth, including those who may be harder to reach.

Kinsmen Park users

Community members and organizations who regularly use Kinsmen Park focused on how a youth centre could affect a park they described as already busy and heavily used. Parking and traffic were among their most common concerns, along with the potential loss of space and impacts on existing recreation activities, organizations that use the space and amenities.

Park users emphasized that future decisions should consider the needs of current users and the park's ability to accommodate future recreation growth. They encouraged the City to look at Kinsmen Park as a whole, including potential upgrades to existing amenities and infrastructure, rather than planning the youth centre as a stand-alone project.

Participants also raised questions about safety, supervision and how the site would be managed, as well as how construction could affect their use of the park. Some supported creating a youth centre but preferred another location so that Kinsmen Park could continue to support its existing and future recreation uses.

Broader Leduc community

Participants from across Leduc shared a range of views about whether a new stand-alone youth centre is the right investment. Some questioned whether a new building is necessary, whether Kinsmen Park is the most appropriate location or whether City funding and land should be directed to other community priorities. Others supported the idea but wanted more information about costs, programming, and long-term operations before forming a final opinion.

Participants also encouraged the City to consider how a future youth centre could serve young people with different interests, abilities and life experiences, particularly those who are not currently connected to organized activities or existing support services.

We heard from those who encouraged planning for youth who may be harder to reach or who are experiencing challenges at home, school or in the community, and suggested offering a range of opportunities beyond recreation.

They highlighted opportunities to learn from youth centres in other communities, collaborate with organizations that work directly with young people, and plan for the long-term needs of Leduc's growing population.

What's next

In November 2026, City Council will receive this *What We Heard Report* and consider the feedback alongside other technical, financial, operational and site-related information as it decides whether and how a potential youth centre in Kinsmen Park will move forward.



We appreciate the different experiences, priorities and perspectives people brought to these conversations. Whether participants supported the potential location, had concerns or were still making up their minds, their contributions have helped build a fuller understanding of what matters to the community. We heard a strong desire from youth, nearby residents and park users to remain informed and involved if planning continues.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to share their experiences, ideas, questions, and concerns. Your contributions will help inform City Council's consideration of the next steps.

Information about Council's decision and any next steps will be shared through the City's project webpage at **leduc.ca/youthcentre**.

Appendices

The following appendices provide additional detail about what we heard throughout the engagement process, how people were connected to the project, and the information shared with community members. They offer readers an opportunity to explore the feedback and materials that informed this report.

Appendix A: Detailed Feedback by Participant Group

This appendix provides a more detailed look at the feedback received, organized into four participant groups. Each section explores the opportunities, concerns, trade-offs and advice shared with City Council, including:

- **Nearby residents**: Feedback from people living in Corinthia Park, Alexandra Park and Linsford Park, with particular attention to neighbourhood impacts and how a youth centre could fit within the surrounding area.
- **Youth and young adults**: Feedback from participants ages 24 and under, sharing what young people need from the space, and what they want adults to understand.
- **Kinsmen Park users**: Feedback from people and organizations who use the park, including considerations related to existing recreation activities, park facilities and future needs.
- **Broader Leduc community**: Perspectives from community members across Leduc on the potential location, City investment, ownership and operations and long-term community needs.

Appendix B: Engagement Materials

This appendix includes copies of the information and materials used to share details about the potential youth centre and invite community participation, including:

- Summary Sheet
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Resident Direct Mail Letter
- Postcard
- Resident Door Hanger
- Poster
- Bookmark
- Open House Display Boards
- Community Pop-Up Display Boards