

# What We Heard Report

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## Lac Ste Anne Summer Village Regionalization Study (SVRS)

November 18, 2021



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## PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Summer Villages of Lac Ste. Anne are characterised by a unique situation - six urban municipalities, independent and autonomous with distinct histories and identities, share a body of water and are located within a close distance. The six Summer Villages of Castle Island, Ross Haven, Sunset Point, Val Quentin, West Cove, and Yellowstone are undertaking to assess potential regionalization options. The project municipalities received funding from the Alberta Community Partnership program to support this regionalization study.

The Lac Ste Anne Summer Village Regionalization Study is focused on identifying current collaborative efforts and cost-sharing activities between the six identified municipalities and recommending ways in which these municipalities may further their collaboration. By engaging with the residents of the participating municipalities as well as working with their administrative staff and elected officials, options will be identified to improve public service delivery, reduce overall costs, and improve municipal efficiency.

## ENGAGEMENT PROCESS & PURPOSE

In the early stages of the Summer Village Regionalization Study project, the public had two opportunities to engage and provide their feedback in the form of a public online event (hosted online on October 28, 2021 from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm), and a public online survey (conducted from 8:00 pm on October 28, 2021 until 6:00 pm on November 4, 2021). Both the public online event and the public online survey consisted of 11 core questions designed to gain the public's perspective on current services, current governance structures, and the decision criteria being used by the project municipalities.

Due to public health restrictions as well as distance between some of the municipalities and the nature of summer villages, virtual engagement activities were used to safely reach the largest number of stakeholders possible and to allow for increased overall participation.

This What We Heard Report outlines public feedback, questions, and comments received through both the public online event and the public online survey.

## BY THE NUMBERS

47

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE  
ATTENDEES\*

35

PUBLIC ONLINE  
SURVEY RESPONSES

*\*plus additional elected officials*

## WHAT WE HEARD

### BY THEME

In reviewing public feedback from both the public online event and public survey, five key themes emerged:

1. Cost savings & efficiencies
2. Quality services & maintenance
3. Bylaw enforcement & policing
4. Community identity
5. Fair & balanced decision-making

Most input generally related to one of these five themes.

### Cost Savings & Efficiencies

One of the most common themes discussed during both the public event and the survey was cost savings and efficiencies, especially if regionalization was to occur between some or all of the municipalities. During the *public online event*, 39% of responses regarding hopes for the projects included themes of cost savings and efficiencies as important, with 41% of *survey responses* also deeming cost savings and efficiencies as important. This theme was reiterated when “Reduction of Costs and Taxation” was the second most important decision criteria identified in the *public online event*, and the most important decision criteria identified in the *survey*.

Many of the respondents further highlighted the need for increased cost savings and efficiencies when they indicated that they did not want to see taxes rise to improve levels of service.

Theme	Example Comments
Improved costs and efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hope for opportunities for shared contracts, lower bids because of economies of scale</li><li>• Hope that the Summer Villages unify as one with fewer duplications of services and councillors</li><li>• I think if our small communities collaborated together, we could get more value for our dollars as far as administration goes.</li></ul>
Increased access to funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hope that there are more opportunities for grant funds.</li></ul>
Concern over savings and efficiencies or imbalance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• My concern is that we will have to pay MORE and get LESS</li><li>• Would we still be prioritized when sharing with larger communities?</li></ul>



- What would be the formula for cost sharing? Assessed value? Number of properties? What is the best fit?
- Our costs will go up with a smaller population.

## Quality Services & Maintenance

Hand-in-hand with feedback around cost-savings, was also the desire for better services should regionalization go forward in some capacity. This was the third most important theme which came up when asking *survey respondents* what their hopes were (25%), and one of the three most important themes in *public online event* responses (39%). Many of the responses indicating what was working well focused largely on the general services and maintenance provided by the Summer Villages, such as: garbage collection, lawn care, roads & maintenance, and fire/emergency services.

However, there was also concern that regionalization may result in better services for some, but worse services for others - many of the concerns identified the potential and worry of imbalances. Overall, the consensus pointed towards the need for improved services, with a balance of service levels which was fair and adequate for all Summer Villages should regionalization go forward.

Theme	Example Comments
Improved, affordable services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hope that we work together for enhanced services for the same or less cost</li> </ul>
Collaboration on specific services or maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hope to clean up the village, control fences going up and removal of trees.</li> <li>• I would like to see our villages work together regarding emergency services and common needs.</li> </ul>

## Bylaw Enforcement & Policing

One of the most agreed upon themes to emerge from the study was policing and bylaw enforcement within the municipalities. This theme emerged in both the public online event and the survey, where 36% of responses in the *public online event* identified policing & bylaw enforcement as challenging for their Summer Village, with 32% of the responses in the *survey* also identifying this as challenging. Furthermore, when asked what was missing in their municipality, 33% of *survey* responses identified ample policing and bylaw enforcement as missing entirely. Interestingly, even though most respondents did not wish for increased taxes, improved policing was often brought up as one of the few things residents could be willing to pay more for.

Theme	Example Comments
Hope for improved bylaw enforcement and policing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hope that we can come together and share policing/bylaw officer.</li> </ul>
Bylaw enforcement as a current issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our village has instituted necessary bylaws and building restrictions which are not being enforced, and the absence of bylaw enforcement is changing the atmosphere of the community.</li> <li>• Unsure of who to contact in case of bylaw infractions</li> </ul>
Willing to pay for improved bylaw enforcement/policing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I would be willing to pay more for bylaw enforcement if it's actually being enforced</li> </ul>

## Community Identity

Community Identity was an important aspect often brought up in the *survey*, especially the need for maintaining the Summer Village status and rural small-town feel. One response which summarized most of the other responses dealing with maintaining identity was: “I feel we are a well run summer village and don't want to lose the good things we have going on”. This sentiment was often shared, with many respondents worried that regionalization could result in the loss of what makes the Summer Villages what they are. 31% of *survey* respondents outlined the need for either maintaining or improving community identity. Within this theme, many respondents also identified their preference for maintaining Summer Village municipal status to maintain the benefits and special circumstance for summer village residents and ratepayers.

Theme	Example Comments
Maintaining community feel and identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I do not want to see a change in our village ambiance or independence.</li> <li>• Concern that we will lose our identity and unique features of our individual communities.</li> <li>• Concern that we will be governed across the board and not looked at as individual villages with separate concerns.</li> </ul>
Maintaining Summer Village Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hope that we continue to be a Summer Village and not become part of Alberta Beach</li> </ul>

## Fair & Balanced Decision-Making

The last theme that emerged was Fair and Balanced Decision-Making in the study, as a result of the study, and that outcomes show an accurate reflection of data and public feedback. 17% of respondents in the *survey* were concerned that

1. There will be unbalanced contributions where some municipalities are required to give more than what is fair
2. Too many differences or opinions between all the municipalities would cause cooperation difficulties
3. There would be benefits created for one municipality and not the others.

Residents were also concerned that amalgamation would be chosen before the benefits were clear, and that the public wouldn't be listened to if they disagreed with the regionalization decision. This sentiment was also shared in the *public online event*, with 33% of respondents worried that politics would get in the way of fair and balanced decisions.

Theme	Example Comments
Evidence based decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I hope for smart decisions made by smart people that take the time to listen to the conclusions derived from real data and investigation methods paid for by the grant study.</li><li>• I hope the study clearly and honestly shows the positive and negative effects of regionalization to all residents so that an informed decision can be made.</li></ul>
Balance of competing priorities or political interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Each village has different priorities; how would we decide what priority gets looked after first and determine how much each village should contribute?</li><li>• Concern that the study will be swayed by personal politics of several mayors and won't think outside the box.</li></ul>
Concern over decision-making without other municipalities involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It concerns me that we are not considering a study that involves the amalgamation of three villages here, being Sunset Point, Alberta Beach, and Val Quentin. I think this would lead to better services for all, a fairer tax base, and the greater possibility of receiving gov't grants for projects and programs that would help build our community.</li><li>• For Sunset Point it should be a question of when will we become partners with Alberta Beach, not Ross Haven or Yellowstone. To do any different would be like saying why didn't Jasper Place become part of Spruce Grove instead of Edmonton. Please look ahead.</li></ul>

## PUBLIC ONLINE EVENT FEEDBACK

The public online event was held online on Thursday, October 28, 2021, from 6:30-8:00pm. The goal of the event was to create awareness and open dialogue around the project, gain understanding of public perceptions around current services and governance, and get feedback on the draft criteria for regionalization options.

During the event, a presentation was provided with information on the project background including purpose, timeline, and an overview of research to date. Two polls were conducted to gain more understanding about participants and to test potential regionalization option criteria. Poll details and results are included below.

The event also had two sessions of facilitated breakout rooms to allow for more detailed discussion and brainstorming among smaller groups. Facilitators utilized an online whiteboard to prompt conversation and collect input from participants. Break out discussions and feedback are detailed below.

The online event had 47 public participants along with additional attendees including elected officials who attend to hear the input, and administration to provide general support.

All verbatim responses collected during the event are included in Appendix B, and presentation slides are included in Appendix D.

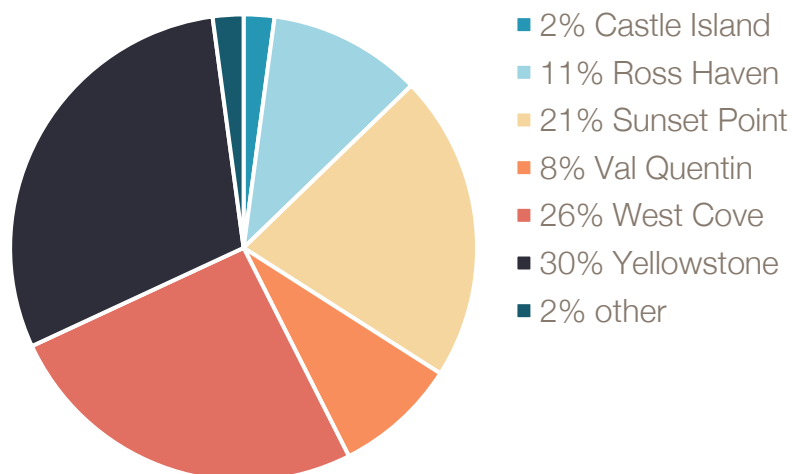
## POLLS

### Poll 1

Early on in the event, the first poll was launched to gain a greater understanding of where participants were from and if they were full-time or part-time residents/ratepayers.

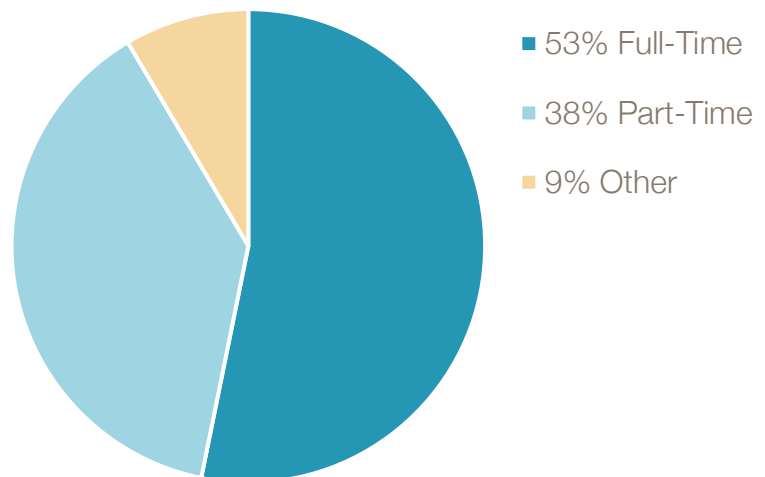
#### Part 1: ***What municipality are you from?***

In order to fully understand the feedback received from participants regarding services and governance, and because of the unique nature of each municipality involved, it was key to understand which community participants were from.



Part 2: ***Are you a full-time or part-time resident/ratepayer?***

Participants were asked if they were full-time or part-time residents or ratepayers in their community.



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**Poll 2**

The second poll was initiated toward the end of the event, introducing potential regionalization option criteria and asking participants to first choose which are most important, and then, which are least important.

The six draft regionalization option criteria presented were:

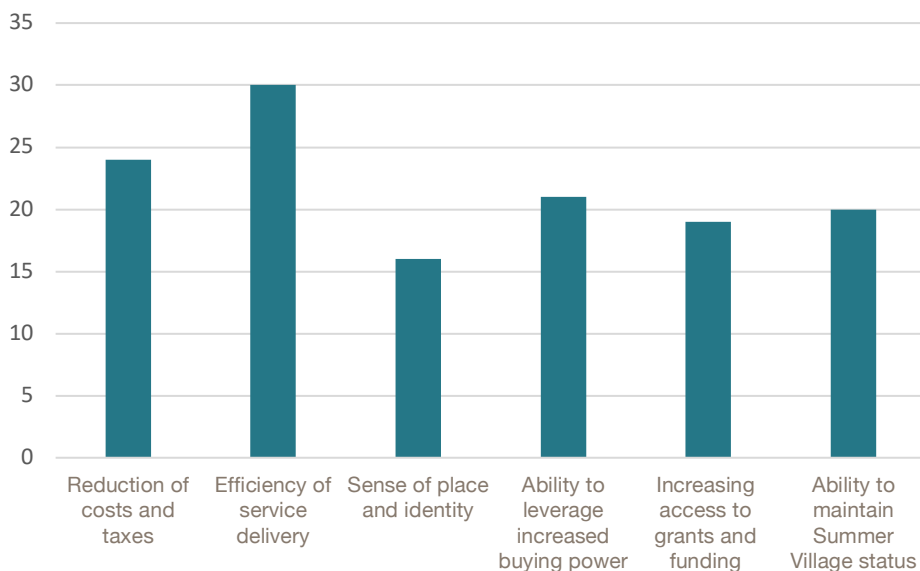
- Reduction of costs and taxes
- Efficiency of service delivery
- Sense of place and identity
- Ability to leverage increased buying power
- Increasing access to grants and funding
- Ability to maintain Summer Village Status, giving part-time residents the ability to vote and run for election

Overall, the criterion chosen as **most important** was “efficiency of service delivery” and **least important**, “sense of place and identity”. However, results were relatively close, and in subsequent discussion, several participants indicated they felt it was very hard to choose between the options and that all of them are important. Detailed results are included on the following page.

## Poll 2 continued

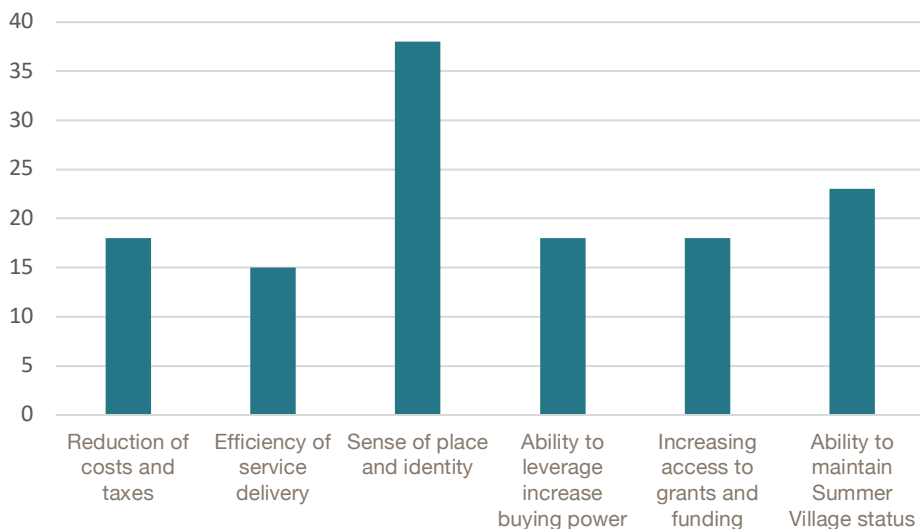
Part 1: **What is the MOST IMPORTANT for regionalization?** Choose as many as appropriate.

### MOST IMPORTANT



Part 2: **What is the LEAST IMPORTANT for regionalization?** Choose as many as appropriate.

### LEAST IMPORTANT





## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

During the Online Public Event, two breakout sessions were conducted where participants were sent into four breakout rooms. In each room, facilitators led discussions using visual prompts on an online whiteboard and collected feedback through live note taking. Participants were also able to contribute to the conversation via the chat function.

### Breakout Session 1

The first breakout session consisted of facilitated discussion and brainstorming around services and governance by community. Participants were prompted to consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc. and were asked the following question:

***In your community, which services/governance are***

- ***Working well?***
- ***Challenging?***
- ***Missing?***

Feedback from participants on this question was recorded by Summer Village and is included in detail below.

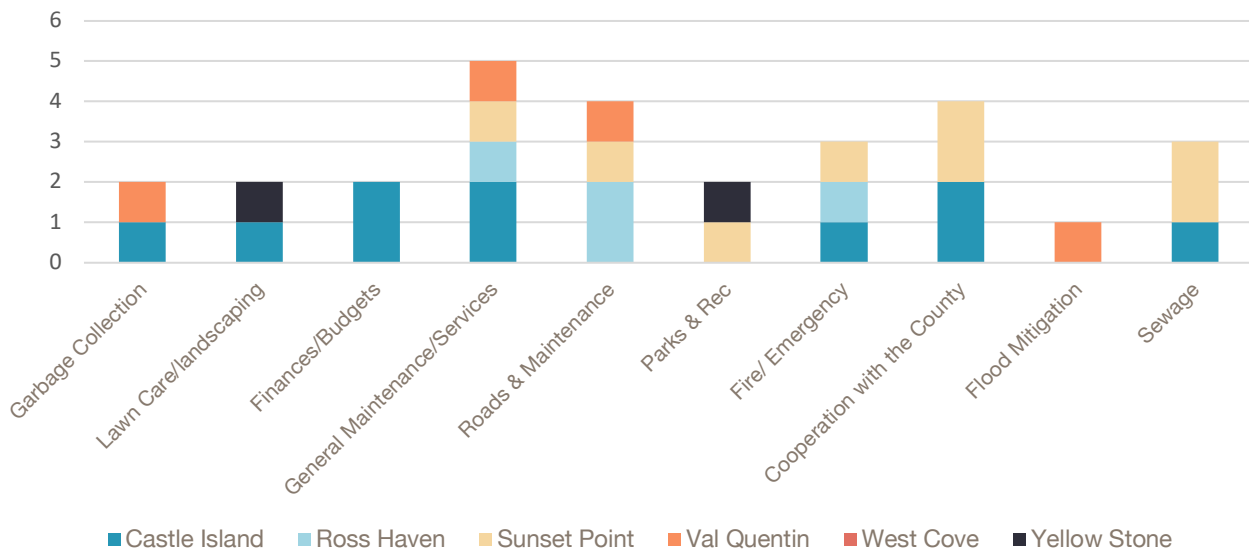
Upon discussion of current services and potential opportunities by community, participants were then asked the following general question:

***If you want new or enhanced services/governance, would you be willing to pay more taxes?***

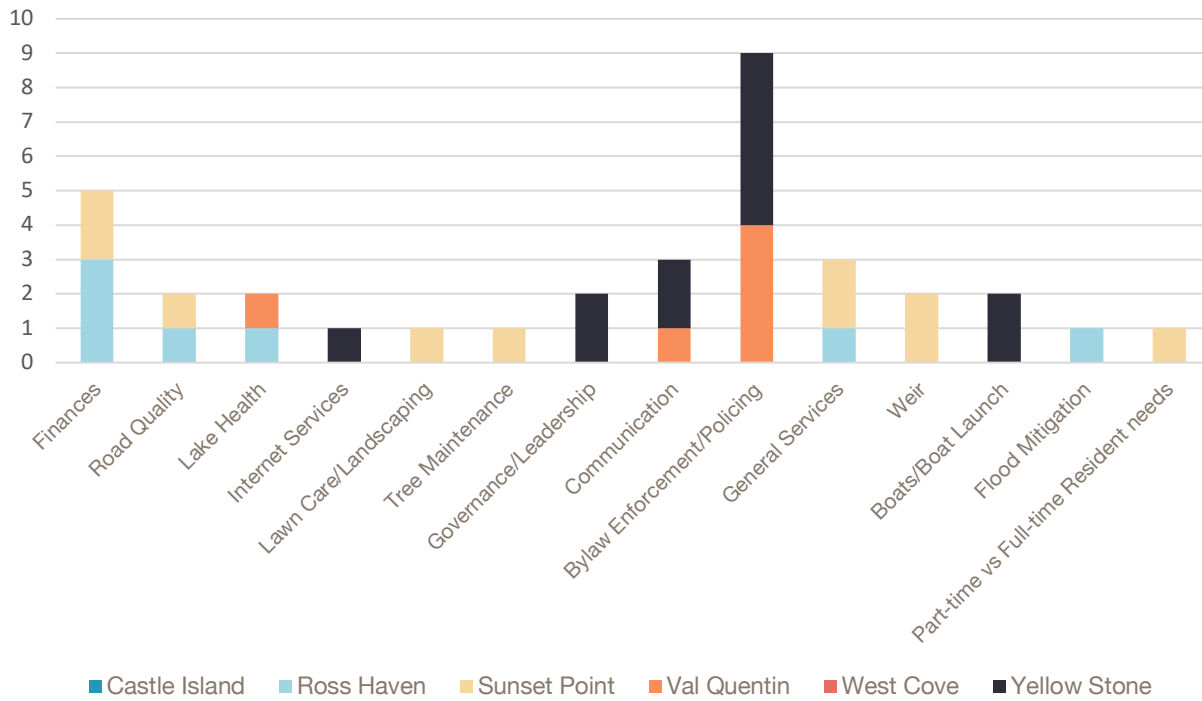
After a 15-minute discussion, breakout groups rejoined the main event and facilitators provided the entire group with summary of feedback received. Tables on the following page show the compiled results of the four breakout discussions. A visual compilation of the brainstorming sessions on the online whiteboard is included in Appendix E.

## Breakout Session 1 compiled results

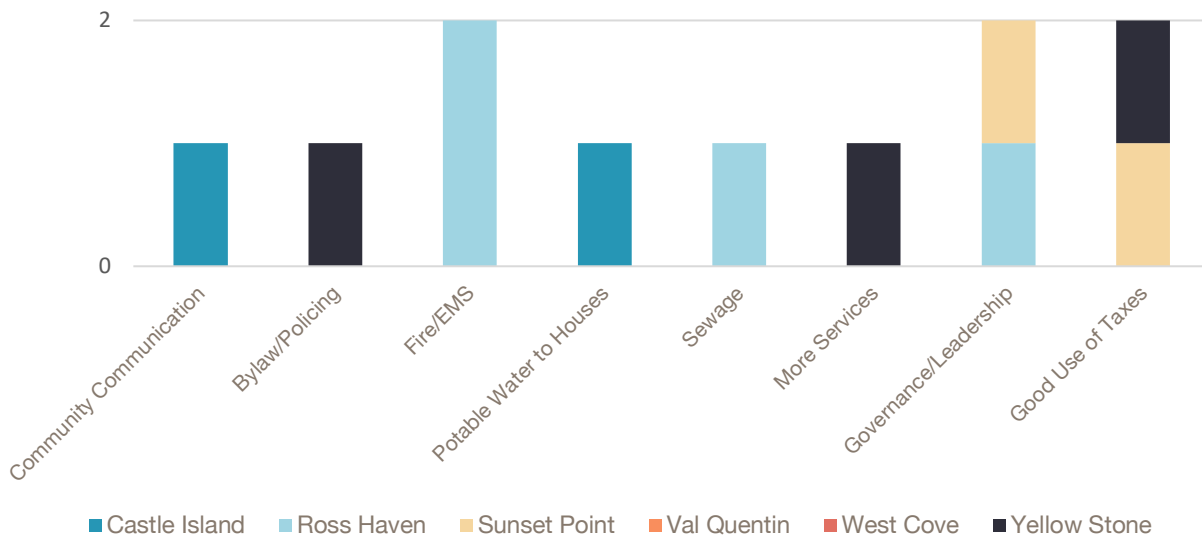
### WHAT IS GOING WELL?



### WHAT IS CHALLENGING?



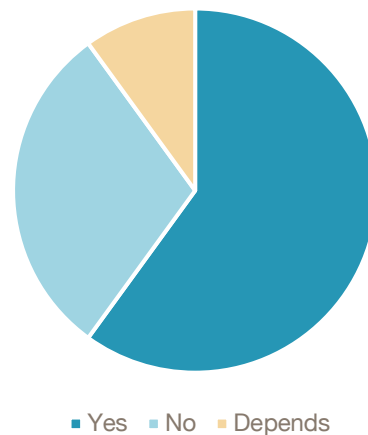
### WHAT IS MISSING?



A number of participants indicated that they would pay more taxes for certain improved services such as sanitary sewer, potable water, and effective bylaw enforcement. Other participants indicated they would not pay more or that there are concerns over high taxes currently paid and fair distribution of services.

It is important to note that breakout conversations were voluntary and not every participant of the online public event provided feedback during the discussions.

### WOULD YOU PAY MORE TAXES FOR NEW OR BETTER SERVICES?



## Breakout Session 2

The second breakout session focused on general community pulse taking and uncovering participants' feelings around the Summer Village Regionalization Study. Participants were asked to broadly consider the following questions:

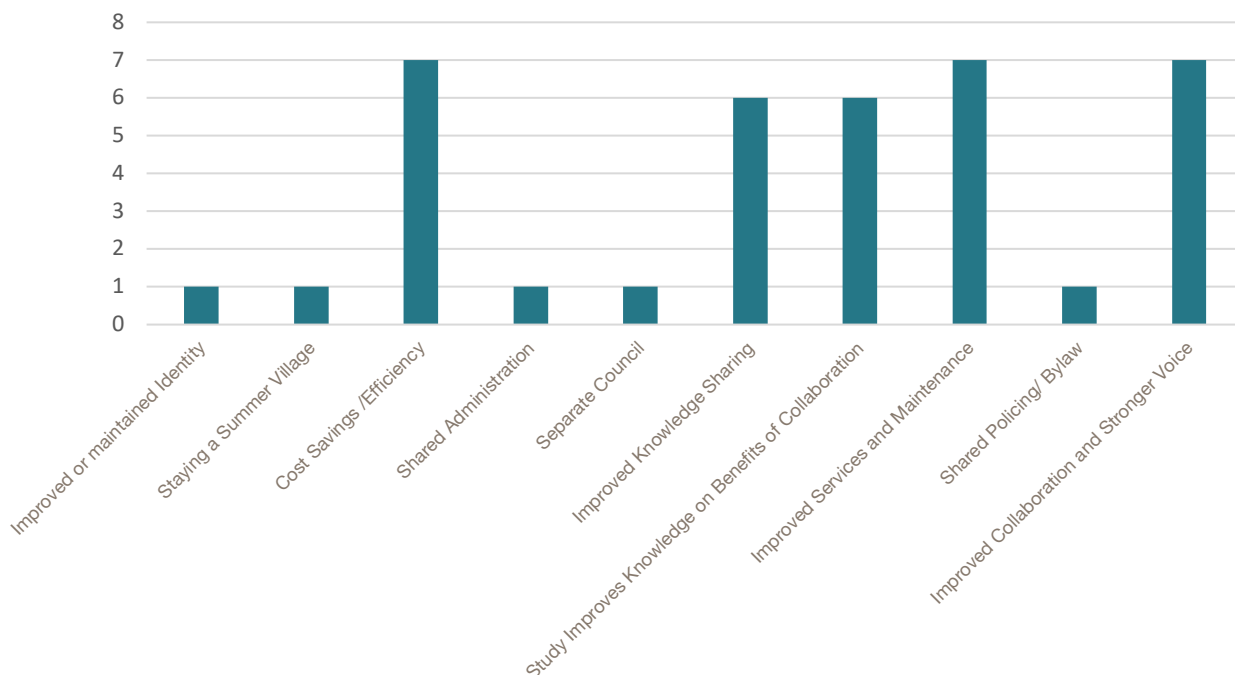
- ***What are your HOPES for the study?***
- ***What are your CONCERNS for the study?***

Feedback received included a range of statements about hopes for the study such as knowledge sharing, improved buying power, efficient service delivery, cost savings, and a stronger unified regional voice.

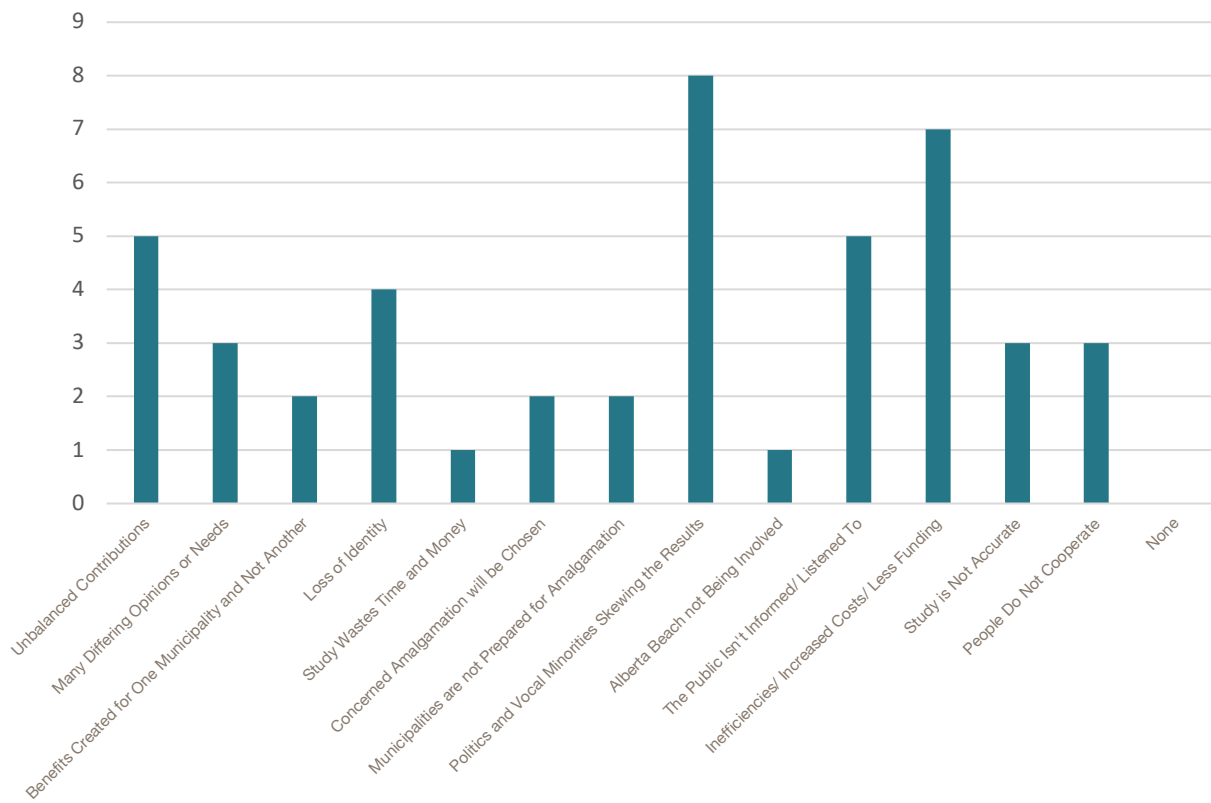
A range of concerns for the study were also expressed in feedback such as potential for rivalry between communities, decreases in services or quality of life, inefficiencies and increased costs, skewed results, unbalanced political representation, and concerns around maintaining Summer Village status.

Breakout groups rejoined the main event and facilitators provided the entire group with summary of feedback received. The following tables show the compiled results by theme of the four breakout discussions. A visual compilation of the brainstorming sessions on the online whiteboard is included in Appendix E.

### WHAT ARE YOUR HOPES?



## WHAT ARE YOUR CONCERNS?



## ONLINE PUBLIC SURVEY FEEDBACK

An online public survey was developed to mirror the questions and discussion points of the public online event. The goal was to provide an opportunity for respondents who were unable to attend the event or those who had additional comments to contribute their feedback. The online public survey was open for seven days after the online public event, from October 28, 2021 to November 4, 2021, and consisted of the same core 11 questions as the online event plus an additional question to provide any additional feedback. The survey was accessible on the project website at [lacsteanne-svrs.com](https://lacsteanne-svrs.com).

35 participants responded to the online public survey.

### The survey consisted of the following questions:

1. *What municipality are you from?*
2. *Are you a full-time or part-time resident/ratepayer?*
3. *Which services/governance are **working well** in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.*
4. *Which services/governance are **challenging** in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.*
5. *Which services/governance are **missing** in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.*
6. *If you want new or enhanced services/governance, would you be willing to pay more taxes? (please provide comments)*
7. *What are your **hopes** for this regionalization study?*
8. *What are your **concerns** for this regionalization study?*
9. *The following statements are the draft criteria being used to measure the different regionalization options. What is the **most important** for regionalization? Choose as many as appropriate.*
10. *The following statements are the draft criteria being used to measure the different regionalization options. What is the **least important** for regionalization? Choose as many as appropriate.*
11. *Please provide any additional feedback that you would like to provide on the regionalization criteria.*
12. *Is there anything else you would like to share with the municipalities?*

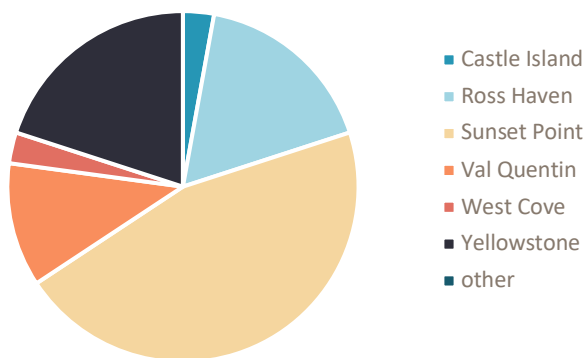


The purpose of the first two questions on the online public survey was to gain a greater understanding of who was participating. Participants were asked to share which municipality they are from and whether they are full-time residents/ratepayers, part-time residents/ratepayers, or other.

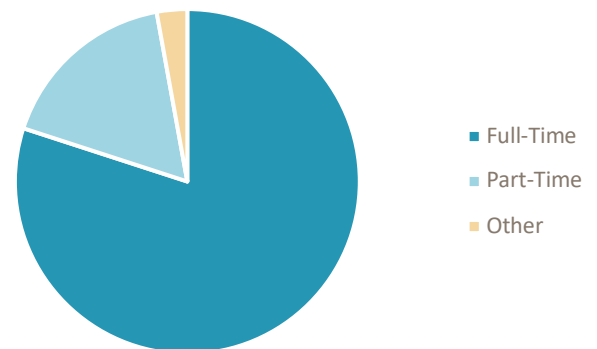
Of 35 respondents, participants indicated the following:

- 16 from Sunset Point
- 7 from Yellowstone
- 6 from Ross Haven
- 4 from Val Quentin
- 1 from Castle Island
- 1 from West Cove
- 28 full-time residents/ratepayers
- 6 part-time residents/ratepayers
- 1 other

**WHERE ARE YOU FROM?**



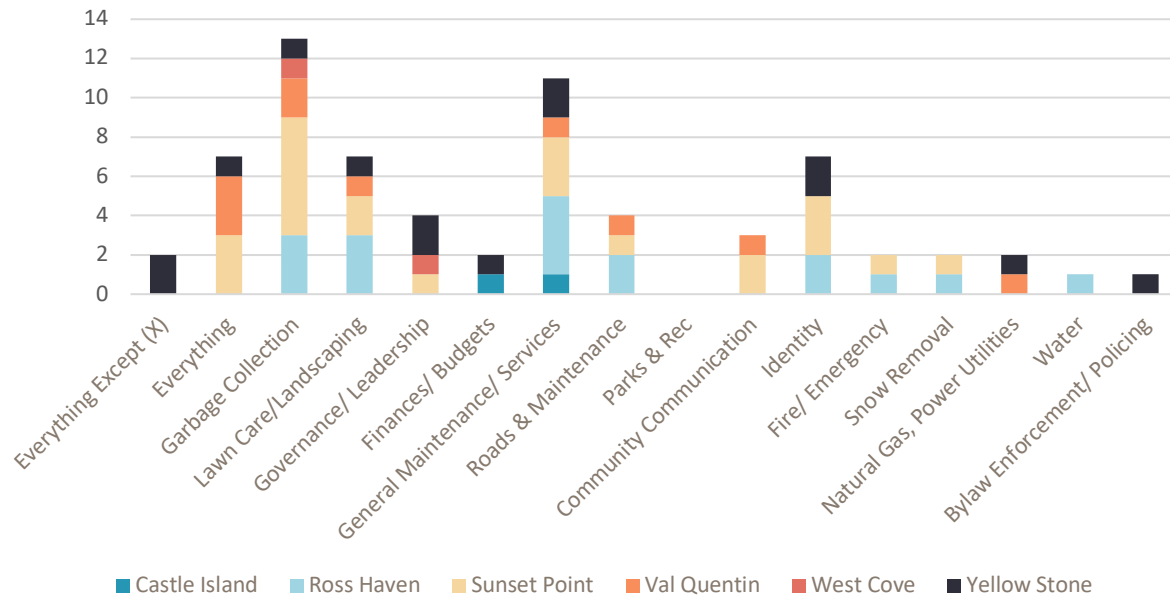
**ARE YOU A FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME RESIDENT/RATEPAYER**



Questions 3 through 6 focused on current service levels and governance by community. Participants were asked to consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation etc. and indicate what is working well, what is challenging, and what is missing in their community. They were then asked whether they are willing to pay more taxes for enhanced services. The following tables summarize the responses to questions on services and governance. Complete verbatim responses to these and all survey questions can be found in Appendix C.

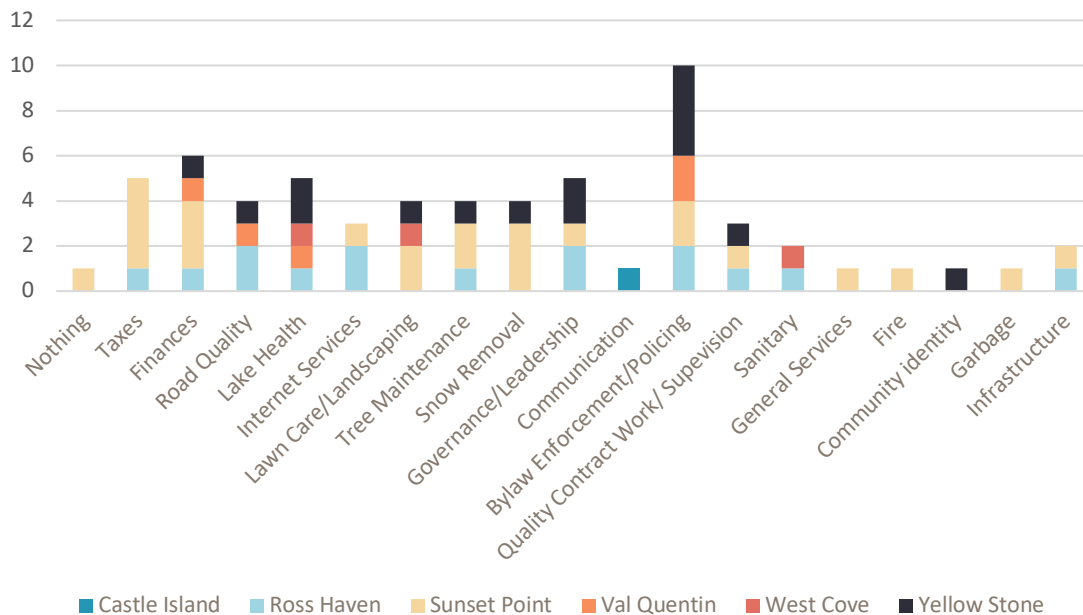
3. Which services/governance are working well in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.

## WHAT IS WORKING WELL?



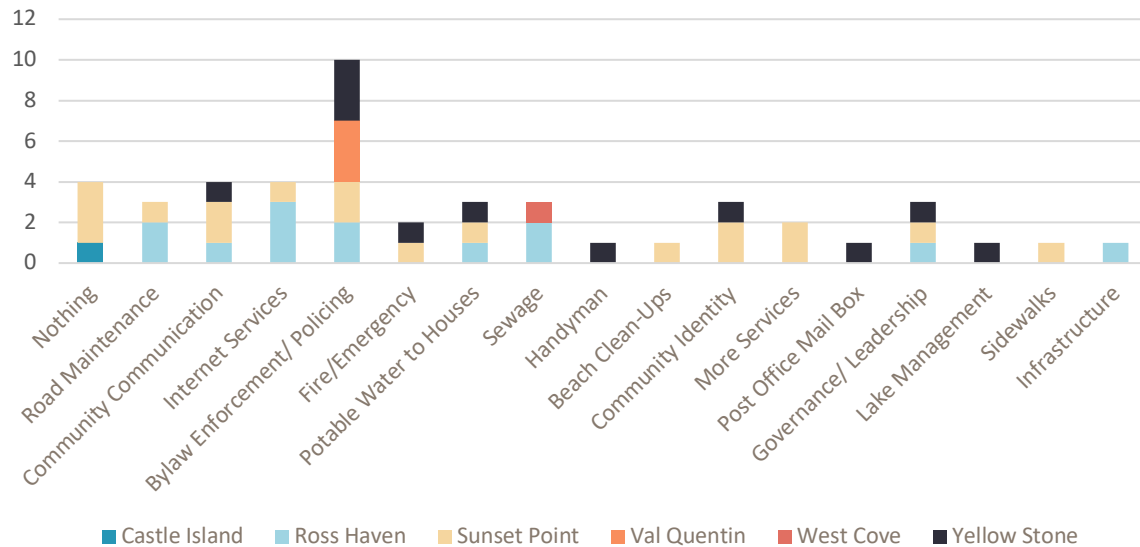
4. Which services/governance are challenging in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.

## WHAT IS CHALLENGING?



5. Which services/governance are missing in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.

## WHAT IS MISSING?



6. If you want new or enhanced services/governance, would you be willing to pay more taxes? (please provide comments)

A range of comments were provided with participants' answers on whether they would pay more taxes for new or enhanced services.

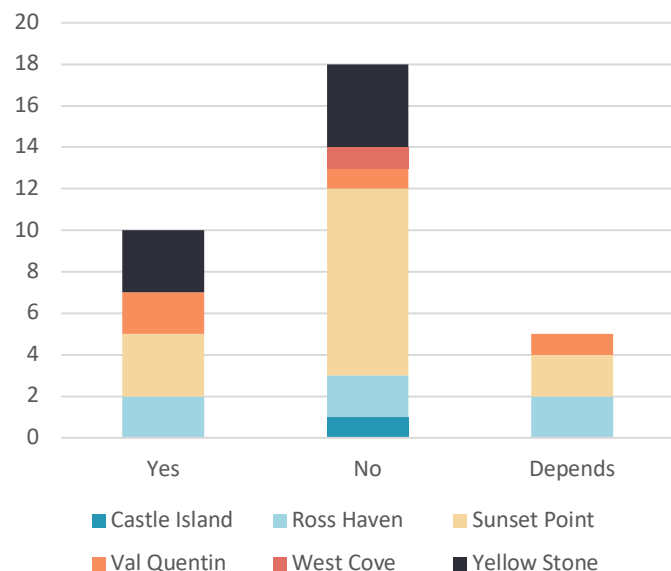
Generally, respondents that answered "No" indicated that they felt taxes were high enough already, that they would prefer not to, or that they felt better budgeting could make better use tax dollars at existing rates.

Many respondents that answered "Depends" or "Yes" specified which services they would pay more for. Sewer and bylaw enforcement were items listed.

Several respondents indicated they felt collaboration or better communication could create greater efficiency in the balance of services delivered and tax rates. All verbatim survey responses are included in Appendix C.

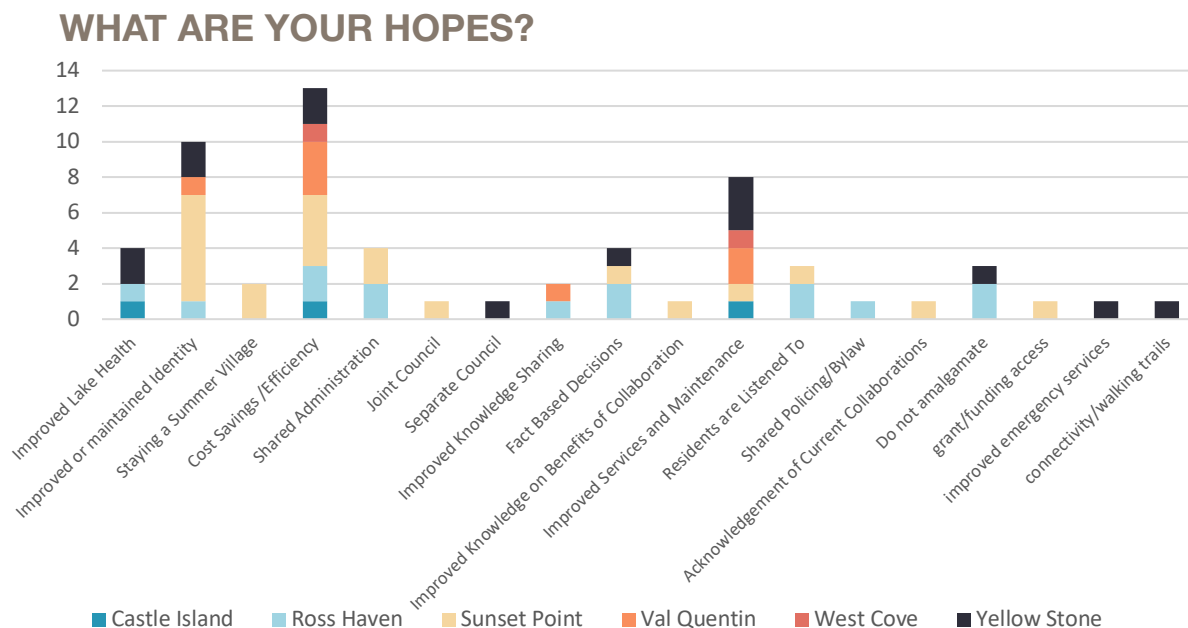
Questions 7 and 8 focused on participants' hopes and concerns for the Summer Village Regionalization Study. The following tables summarize the responses to questions on

## WOULD YOU PAY MORE FOR NEW OR ENHANCED SERVICES?

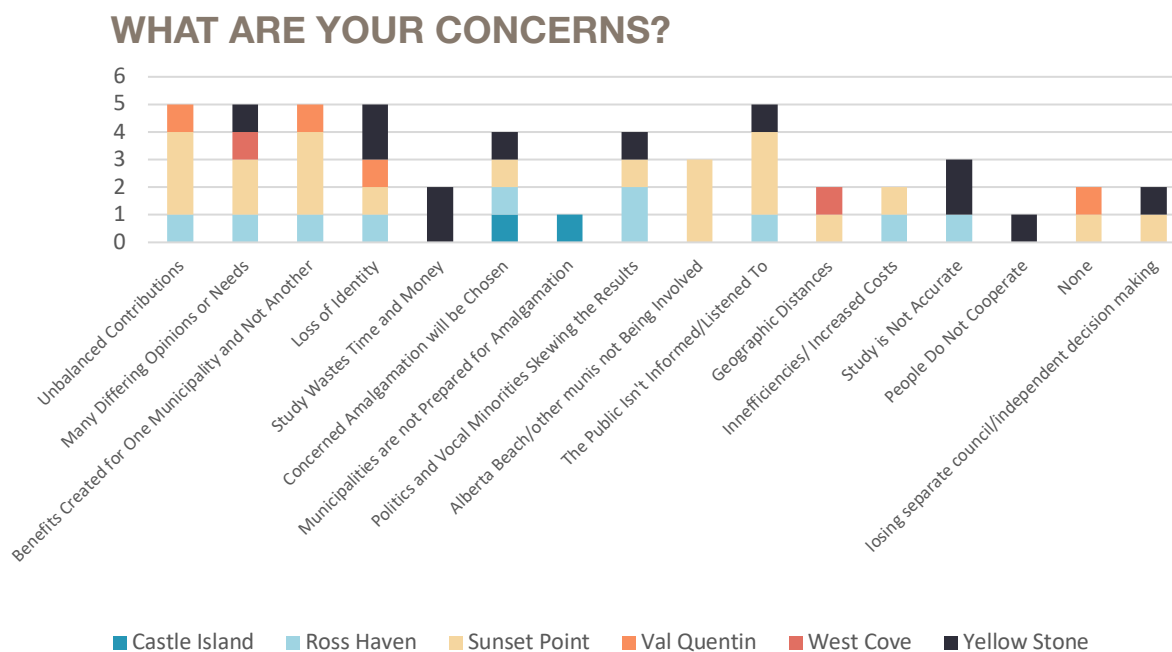


hopes and concerns. Complete verbatim responses to these and all survey questions can be found in Appendix C.

## 7. What are your hopes for this regionalization study?



## 8. What are your concerns for this regionalization study?



Questions 9 and 10 focused on regionalization option criteria drafted for the Summer Village Regionalization Study. Participants were provided with the draft criteria and asked to indicate which is the least important and which is the most important. Participants were then asked to provide any additional feedback on the draft criteria.

The six draft regionalization option criteria presented were:

- Reduction of costs and taxes
- Efficiency of service delivery
- Sense of place and identity
- Ability to leverage increased buying power
- Increasing access to grants and funding
- Ability to maintain Summer Village Status, giving part-time residents the ability to vote and run for election

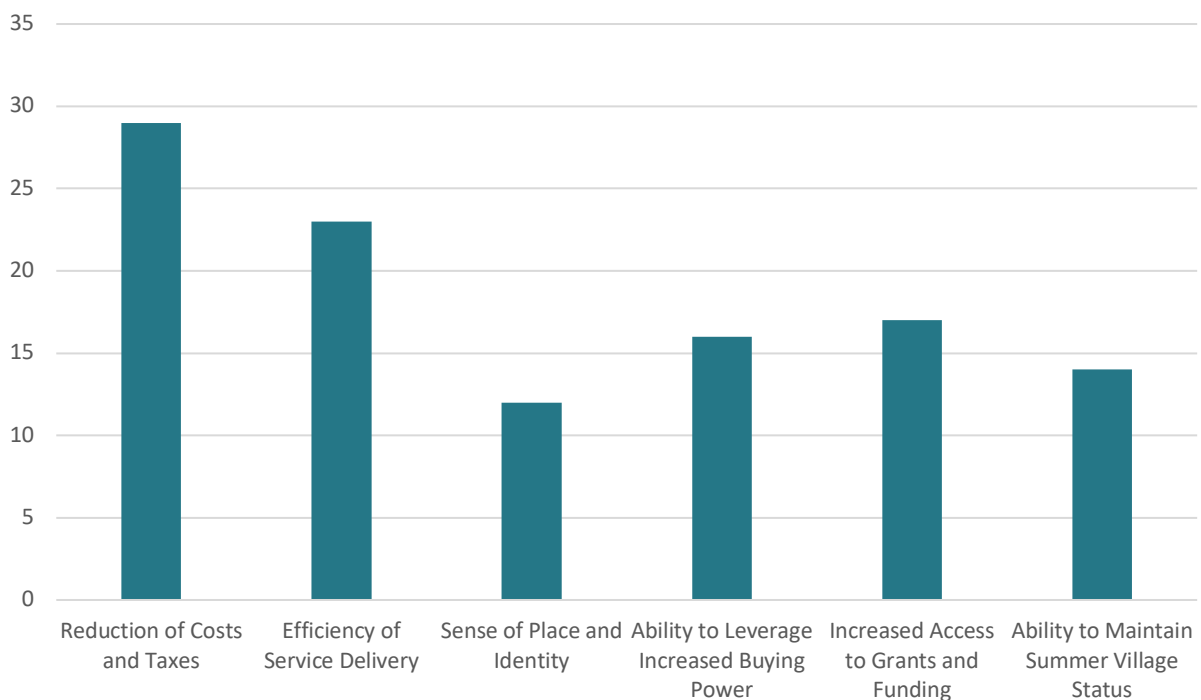
Out of the 35 participants, 29 indicated **reduction of costs and taxes** as the **most important** criterion; 12 indicated **sense of place and identity** as **least important**.

The following tables summarize the responses for most and least important criteria.

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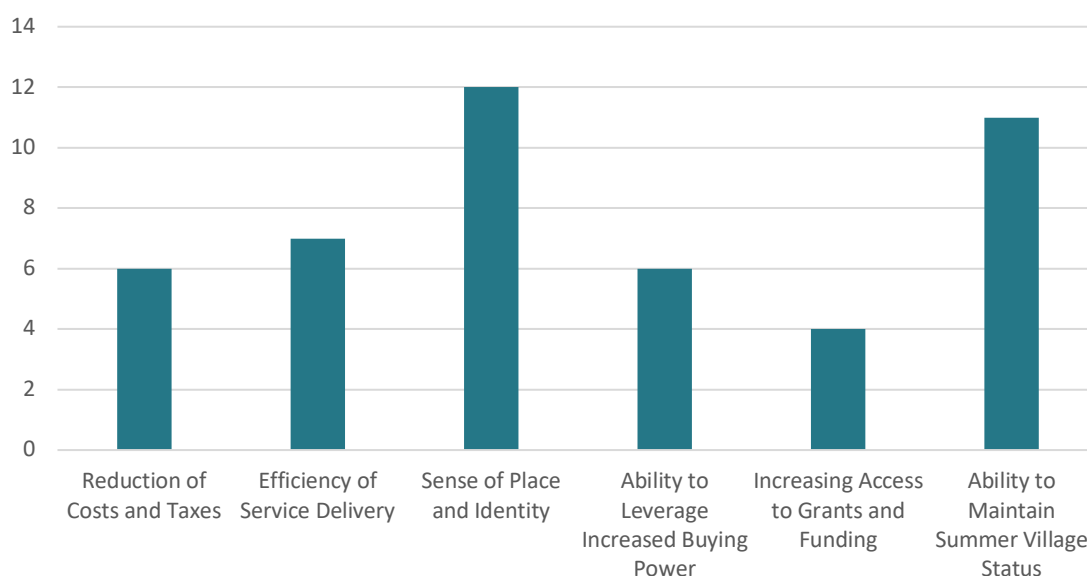
9. What is the **most important** for regionalization? Choose as many as appropriate.

### MOST IMPORTANT



10. What is the **least important** for regionalization? Choose as many as appropriate.

### LEAST IMPORTANT



Survey respondents were asked to provide any additional feedback on the regionalization criteria. A wide range of comments were provided and included themes of:

- Bylaws and enforcement
- Collaboration and equal representation
- Process of the study and engagement

### Additional Comments

Additional comments received in the survey ranged in topic. The following trends emerged in additional comments:

- **Lake levels:** Concern over lake levels was raised by several respondents with comments speaking to fish habitats, building of weirs, and sharing information around lake health.
- **Process:** Some respondents indicated that they are unhappy with the study and engagement process, while others indicated they are happy with the study and the opportunity to contribute. Some indicated that other municipalities should be involved.
- **Services and governance:** Several responses discussed competing priorities for different parties involved and the need for decision-making and servicing that is fair. Geographic distance was cited as a factor that creates challenges for collaboration. Clarity and access to bylaws was also mentioned.

All verbatim responses are included in Appendix C.



## APPENDIX A: PUBLIC ONLINE EVENT RECORDED RESPONSES

During the public online event, feedback from participants was recorded by facilitators on an online whiteboard. Participants could see the live note taking and add to the conversation. The following responses represent public feedback as interpreted and written by facilitators.

**Question 3:** Which services/governance are **working well** in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.

Municipality	Which services/governance are working well in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.
Castle Island	Good relationship with the county and surrounding municipalities
Castle Island	Shares services with SV and county
Castle Island	Sewer
Castle Island	Snow Removal
Castle Island	Garbage and Compost
Castle Island	Landscaping
Castle Island	Administrative costs
Castle Island	Good level of taxes to services
Castle Island	EMS responses
Ross Haven	Maintenance of facilities and roads
Ross Haven	Snow Removal
Ross haven	Fire and Ambulance
Sunset Point	Collaboration between Sunset Point and Val Quentin
Sunset Point	Sewage
Sunset Point	Beachwave Park
Sunset Point	Cooperation with the County
Sunset Point	Road maintenance and shared services (sewer + Wild Water)
Sunset Point	Community Policing
Val Quentin	Garbage and Compost
Val Quentin	Good flood mitigation
Val Quentin	Road Work
Yellowstone	Good management of forests and greenbelts

**Question 4:** Which services/governance are **challenging** in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.

Municipality	Which services/governance are challenging in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.
Ross Haven	Tax system not consistent
Ross Haven	Lake level issues
Ross Haven	Taxes vs service

Ross Haven	Road condition
Ross Haven	Lack of assistance from province and other municipalities
Ross Haven	No sandbags for flooding
Sunset Point	Provincial government changing finance methods (downloading of costs)
Sunset Point	Financial viability and efficiency
Sunset Point	Public infrastructure and parks/rec
Sunset Point	Weir
Sunset Point	Roads and drainage
Sunset Point	ratepayers doing maintenance and cleanup
Sunset Point	weir maintenance (no one taking responsibility)
Sunset Point	Demand differences for permanent vs part-time residents
Val Quentin	Policing
Val Quentin	Bylaw enforcement
Val Quentin	Lake Levels
Val Quentin	Lack of reliable policing
Val Quentin	Often no one to call about bylaw issues
Yellowstone	Boats and boat access not well managed
Yellowstone	Bylaw enforcement
Yellowstone	Concerns that being vocal about issues will have consequences
Yellowstone	No accountability for rule breakers (RVs on properties)
Yellowstone	Waterfront people being affected by boats and boat launch
Yellowstone	Not sure who to voice concerns to
Yellowstone	Lack of good internet

**Question 5:** Which services/governance are **missing** in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.

Municipality	Which services/governance are missing in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.
Castle Island	Potable Water
Castle Island	Collaborative voice to lobby the provincial government
Ross Haven	Sewer
Ross Haven	Good Emergency Response
Ross Haven	Emergency Management Funds
Ross Haven	Shared administration
Sunset Point	Shared administration
Sunset Point	Costs for new services are too high to justify with current tax base
Yellowstone	Bylaw Patrol
Yellowstone	Lack of services for how high taxes are

**Question 6:** *If you want new or enhanced services/governance, would you be willing to pay more taxes? (please provide comments)*

If you want new or enhanced services/governance, would you be willing to pay more taxes? (please provide comments)
Yes - for better sewer
Yes - Potable water
Yes - Ensure current services are maintained
No - Province should be giving more money
No - geographic distances will increase costs of services
Depends - residents need more information on tangible benefits
Yes - For bylaw enforcement, if it's actually enforced
Yes - For better sewer
No - It's natural no one wants to end up paying more taxes
Yes - Better sewer

**Question 7:** *What are your hopes for this regionalization study?*

What are your hopes for this regionalization study?
from the elected official lens - opportunities for efficiency, improved services, maintain lower taxes, ensure viability
opportunities for shared contracts, lower bids because of economies of scale
shared administration but still individual political representation
Excited about working with other SVs - provides good opportunities around sharing things
With increased collaboration, hopefully there is shared knowledge
Hopefully the study is able to look at the total picture from all communities
Keep the discussion around regionalization to services and SV cooperation. Stay within scope.
Improve bargaining power and obtain improved contracted services
Hope it paints a good picture of the SV cooperation and show the common themes which can be improved. Identify the governance structure and if SVs would maintain status.
For the next public forum, include what is already in place and being shared (working well vs not) so people can make more informed comments
Continue to share resources, what are next steps around collaboration. Study should include how to move the ball forward as we leave the exploratory phase
finance efficiency - road repair, ditches
bylaw enforcement: avoid councillors taking it on
united voice: solve problems together
find gaps and work together to solve - share what has been working
good that the trivillage are have history of working together

That the communities work together to create a regional pathway around the lake

buying power

taking the time for a study and consulting people - was concerned that it was going to just happen

**Question 8: What are your *concerns* for this regionalization study?**

**What are your concerns for this regionalization study?**

Ross Haven is kept very well by public works person - will we have to hire someone else?

Formula for cost sharing - assessed value? number of properties? what is the best fit

Cost sharing - our costs will go up with a smaller population – Castle Island

Would we still be prioritized when sharing with larger communities

Amalgamation - how does it effect MSI grants?

How would this be distributed?

Will this create rivalry?

One group may be more affluent etc

Grant funding stays consistent for 5 yrs - new municipality would transfer to new model - allowing for transition time

How do you balance political representation?

Preserving individuality may be a catch point when collaborating

Downloading of costs by province without an increase in funding

Study may get derailed caused by a lack of openness to amalgamation. May not reach it's fullest potential

Increasing resources to services without the backing of the province (too costly from a financial and resource standpoint)

Maintain SV status

Concerns about Alberta Beach not being a part of the study. 6 SVs may not have enough power and tax base.

Get sidetracked during the discussion around regionalization.

Getting into too large a scope by looking at areas which SVs can not directly impact

Preserving summer village feel

Focusing on the wrong services which are already being handled. No doubling up on already adequate services.

decrease in services or quality of life

will we lose other voices

1st time heard regionalization in 5 years - consensus last time - taken over by county - rejected verbally and elected - remains the case

If things are taken out of context - not understand the choices and context

we might not hear those who are not here to participate

**Question 11:** *Please provide any additional feedback that you would like to provide on the regionalization criteria.*

**Please provide any additional feedback that you would like to provide on the regionalization criteria.**

Really hard for me to choose what is "not important"

They are all equally important - in some ways I object to the poll questions

They are all connected and all important

All are important not one more than the other

**Question 12:** *Is there anything else you would like to share with the municipalities?*

**These are additional comments that came up during the event which did not fit into any of the other categories**

do your communities know about the provincial cut backs?

larger municipalities publishing this info - some available through AUMA

these communications take admin time etc that summer villages may not be able to keep up with

AUMA study of municipal governance - this spring

reduction of provincial grants so looking for different ways to be viable in the long term

better ways to address funding issues together

every SV should have an emerg management plan

many communities cut off by the train

if there is a major emergency, can any of the SVs afford it independently

regional DEM

regional disaster planning

Can we start small and can we keep the ball moving as things improve.

Start small and and identify if certain services can benefit everyone. Easier to mitigate risks.

Summer Villages of Lac Ste Anne East are responsible for Emergency management.

## APPENDIX B: PUBLIC ONLINE EVENT VERBATIM RESPONSES

Verbatim responses presented here include all of the comments provided in chat during the public online event. Offensive content and personally identifying information has been removed and replaced with XXXX. Aside from offensive or identifying information, comments here are completely undedited.

Municipality	Verbatim responses received in chat during the public online event
Ross Haven	Who approached whom to start the process?
Val Quentin	Can you give an example of 'high priority services'?
Ross Haven	Was Highland Park and Alberta Beach invited to join this group?
West Cove	<p>Answers provided in chat by elected official:</p> <p>Not Alberta Beach. Not sure about Highland Park...Arn't they a hamlet in LSAC</p> <p>Started through SVLSACE and a request from 2 summers villages</p>
Sunset Point	Could you clearly explain who was involved in community workshops please?
Sunset Point	Is the long-term financial viability of the Summer Villages also going to be examined?
Ross Haven	what would be involved in Lake management
Ross Haven	Maintenance excellent, Lawn Maintenance – good, Snow removal good
Ross Haven	We have maintenance chap who does amazing snow removal Garbage collection/lawn care/ parkway care
Yellowstone	In Yellowstone bylaw patrol practically non- existent
Sunset Point	is bylaw only rcmp in all these communities? I know sunset point and val quentin use alberta beach patrol
Yellowstone	bylaw is thru Mayorthorpe for Yellowstone
Yellowstone	RCMP did a summer community watch program utilizing the local officer that did the Highschool
Yellowstone	Does anyone care about the lake water quality? Blue/green algae?
West Cove	Trying to keep Flowering rush from coming into LSA from Lake Isle
West Cove	Also now with the weir at the Sturgeon river exit, looking at lake levels.
	Is anyone monitoring the lake water quality? There is some discussion of Alberta Beach homes discharging sewer into the lake.
Yellowstone	Need enforcement of bylaws Yellowstone Esp with regards to encroachment...by neighbours on private property.and roadway
Yellowstone	which Summer villages started the study?
Yellowstone	Yellowstone snow removal is not looked after by The County
Yellowstone	Choosing the right contractor to do snow removal is key, and not being last on the list to have it removed. Performance is more important than just cost



Sunset Point	I agree that the right contractor is key but, you have to balance cost and performance
Ross Haven	We have a wonderful maintainace fellow who does amazing snow removal, garbage collection, lawncare, parkway care and I am worried that if we become one we will lose the quality of care we are receiving.
Yellowstone	when is the study completed? once completed, then what happens?
	<b>Regarding regionalization option criteria:</b>
Sunset Point	All are important not one more than the other
Yellowstone	was there a vote the last time this exercise was done 5 years ago approx. ??
Sunset Point	Did you refer to the previous study in anyway while conducting this study

## APPENDIX C: ONLINE PUBLIC SURVEY VERBATIM RESPONSES

Verbatim responses presented here include all of the comments provided in the online public survey. Offensive content and personally identifying information has been removed and replaced with XXXX. Aside from offensive or identifying information, comments here are completely undedited.

**Question 3:** Which services/governance are **working well** in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.

Municipality	Which services/governance are working well in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.
Castle Island	Finances, some services and most infrastructure. Some facets of community involvement and getting along with each other.
Ross Haven	snow removal, garbage pickup, grass cutting
Ross Haven	Our SV maintenance (common areas, roads, grass garbage p/u etc.) has been exceptional for many years due to Noel.
Ross Haven	Community, identity, water
Ross Haven	village maintenance and upkeep
Ross Haven	Garbage pickup weekly, parkway grass cutting weekly, snow removal every day it snows. Emergency planning ( we are part of LSAEMC)
Ross Haven	Community
Sunset Point	Garbage pick up, grass cutting. Council so far appears easier to contact.
Sunset Point	blue bag, waste & organic collections
Sunset Point	Garbage, organic pick up. (Only) the lawn care.
Sunset Point	EVERYTHING IS NO NEED TO CHANGE ANY THINK
Sunset Point	Garbage, street cleaning
Sunset Point	I believe that for the most part our little summer village runs well in most areas.
Sunset Point	Services and infrastructure.
Sunset Point	All. Could be done for less.
Sunset Point	Community
Sunset Point	Garbage collection, snow clearing in winter
Sunset Point	Community
Sunset Point	Fire Services, infrastructure , identity
Sunset Point	Garbage collection is much improved since the change in provider. Also, since the election, there seems to be a concerted effort by council to include the residents in decision making, by virtue of communication and accessibility.
Val Quentin	no issues at this time
Val Quentin	Sang, Epcor, Garbage Collection are they only ones
Val Quentin	All
Val Quentin	We run pretty well and always work towards park improvements ect. I think we have a pretty good website and communicate well with our residents. Garbage, grass and snow removal is always consistent.
West Cove	Garbage service is great. Council seems to functioning better the last few years.
Yellowstone	Having our own independent council works excellent and does not need to change. Spending this money on this "study" is ridiculous

Yellowstone	I would describe the above as acceptable other than finances
Yellowstone	all of the above except identity, and bylaws.
Yellowstone	Natural gas, banking, grocery stores, postal services, vets, courier services, health services, gas stations are all good
Yellowstone	Utility services such as garbage collection; maintenance of green spaces; maintenance of current infrastructure.
Yellowstone	Councillors work hard and are vested. No real complaints about infrastructure. Appreciate that there is no visual commercial activity allowed in the village. Appreciate the country feel and yet close to the urban areas. Like the size of the community.

**Question 4:** Which services/governance are **challenging** in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.

Municipality	Which services/governance are challenging in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.
Castle Island	Some services and communication from council.
Ross Haven	Property tax (if taxes go up for one by 2% they should go up for all), the condition of the road maintained by the county we have to use to access Ross Haven, the lake levels and lake health, policing & bylaw officer, Internet services, last but not least political representation ( everybody in the village had their culverts replaced except for the five property owners at the beginning of Parkins Ave. Speed bumps were placed throughout the village except at the beginning of Parkins Ave, where the same five property Owners live) We pay our taxes to Ross Haven, but we do not feel we are part of this community.
Ross Haven	Bylaw enforcement, nuisance lighting, some infrastructure work have been problematic because of over-meddling by the former mayor. The new council will sort that out. There may be an opportunity for cost savings if the collective SV can share expenses for CAOs, Development Officers and Bylaw Enforcement.
Ross Haven	Tree maintenance
Ross Haven	Many people complain about the road coming down to the Village
Ross Haven	CAO, Development Officer is ignorant, condescending and a crutch to this village. The fact that we have not been able to proceed with sewer in 15 years of planning. The fact that vacation home owners can dictate to full time residents is wrong. I have vacation property in BC and can not vote. Primary residence outing only. Internet is frustrating. Fibre optic cable is at the highway-1.6 km from the entrance to the village. Lastly, Rosshaven should be obsolved and go to the county in which we are situated. They have all the services that we require, and provide them on either side of us. Also, Alberta Beach should be an observer in this excercise as Val Quentin and Sunset point would be far better off being part of them.
Ross Haven	Infrastructure
Sunset Point	Lawn care group, (tree cutting or lack of, lots of sitting around but no actual work) snow removal (ice build up, snow accumulations)
Sunset Point	Internet access. Residents should form a group to create a local ISP.
Sunset Point	Snow removal from roads. Tree cutting of dangerous leaning trees, seems like there is a lot of sitting around and talking and no tree cutting.
Sunset Point	Nothing
Sunset Point	I think snow removal is a challenge, and sometimes our road is not cleared of snow for a few days after a heavy snowfall. I also think policing must be a challenge, as the only time we see the Peace Officer, is on his daily 2pm drive through our cul de sac. I don't think this does much to deter crime?
Sunset Point	Finances

Sunset Point	All. Could be done for less.
Sunset Point	Services, infrastructure, aesthetics
Sunset Point	Infrastructure and project completion..I feel there is no staff to oversee the contractors work, that was is supposed to be done is done, and that the project is progressing on time and on budget ie (Drainage work ) There is no oversight ...poor tax notice system...had to follow up 2 years in a row ...I don't think it is efficient to have our administrator in Edmonton
Sunset Point	Paying high taxes
Sunset Point	Some services because we are small, costs of some services such as policing and fire
Sunset Point	It would seem that the rail track "park" that runs behind 48 street is definitely a poor relation to the other parks in Sunset point. It is pretty much left to run wild. The collection of property taxes needs to be tightened up. I did write to the council to express my concern that the payments are taken on a somewhat scatter gun system, I was informed the this issue would not occur again, it was due to the change of council and an administrative over site. This was not just an issue in September of this year, it has been an issue since we moved to Sunset point three years ago.
Sunset Point	Wednesday garbage pick up
Val Quentin	Police service, Road Maintenance, Lake Level Control to name a few
Val Quentin	Finances
Val Quentin	Policing and bylaw enforcement.
West Cove	Sewage removal is still septic tanks vs sewage system. Sewage pick up has been great although we only have one option as far as I know. As a lake front owner I have to pay for weed cutting versus the off lake owners get the park weeds cut paid for by tax payers. The boat launch is too shallow and needs re-work.
Yellowstone	Our former CAO charged too much, and handed work to her connections. This unethical process created more expense and poor quality of work. Projects often needed to be corrected numerous times
Yellowstone	Accountability for finances The former council let the cao run most things with no accountability
Yellowstone	Lawn cutting „handyman
Yellowstone	Identity and bylaws, and who deals with it.
Yellowstone	Road surfaces, road maintenance in winter months, walkway maintenance in winter months, lake levels (Lac Ste. Anne), policing
Yellowstone	Enforcement of by-laws & community Covenant; management of the lake water level & lake noise pollution in the summer months; creation of a strong community identity (rather than negative attitudes about petty stuff which often appears to be the case currently).
Yellowstone	Our village has instituted necessary by-laws and building restrictions which are not being enforced. The absence of by-law enforcement has led to disgruntled residents and the pitting of neighbours against each other. Ie: visual home businesses, unauthorized structures, unauthorized fencing, unauthorized set backs etc. The clearing of trees and underbrush from property (private and community) is changing the atmosphere of the community.

**Question 5:** Which services/governance are **missing** in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.

Municipality	Which services/governance are missing in your community? Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community, identity, political representation, etc.
Castle Island	Nothing I can put a finger on that poses any major adversities,

Ross Haven	Road maintenance, we pay taxes for services we don't use, communication from political representation actions or concerns takes over a week sometimes to be posted in the community website, good internet service, consistency policing and bylaw officer presents
Ross Haven	Eventually, it would be advantageous to have cable service and someday fibre optic.  Water and sewer make sense to those individuals who have decided to make the SV their primary residence. In a democratic society, however, I believe the majority should rule these types of decisions and that is the only way implementation of huge infrastructure projects and their associated costs should be forced into a Summer Village.
Ross Haven	Sewer
Ross Haven	Bylaw enforcement
Ross Haven	Sewer. Water. Fiber optic cable, paved roads Did I say SEWER. Rosshaven will be the only community on Lac are Anne to be without sewer.
Ross Haven	Infrastructure- lack of sewer system
Sunset Point	Clear and easy access to by-laws, we all are governed by then so we should know what they are.
Sunset Point	Nothing
Sunset Point	As we pay to support some of Alberta Beach services I am happy with our services.
Sunset Point	Town water system , reliable internet,
Sunset Point	I would like to see our beaches cleaned up more often, but I do understand that there are only so many tax dollars to work with.
Sunset Point	Identity
Sunset Point	Lack of Bylaw inforcement. Expensive fire services and insurance premiums since going with private company for fire suppression. Inadequate snow removal, takes days, and is only done a few times a season. Lack of services and infrastructure for the amount of property taxes we pay.
Sunset Point	None. Existing could be done for less.
Sunset Point	Services
Sunset Point	A newsletter is supposed to go out to residents but I have yet to be emailed one, even though I signed up...posting notices on a sign on the side of the road is a poor way to communicate
Sunset Point	Not fully being aware of thier ideas
Sunset Point	Sunset Point does not have a focal point. With the bible camp dividing the village in two, there is very much an "I wonder who they are" attitude prevailing. It's not that we do not want to know the people who live in the north section of the village, it's just that there is no venue for this to occur. maybe a "Happy Hour" rotation between the north and south sections could be considered. Who knows, we may even attract some lake people.
Sunset Point	Sidewalks
Val Quentin	By-Law enforcement
Val Quentin	Better Police Service
Val Quentin	Policing
West Cove	Sewer system.
Yellowstone	Local EMS ( ambulance and paramedics)
Yellowstone	Potable water Insufficient police presence
Yellowstone	Handyman
Yellowstone	Bylaw officers
Yellowstone	Post office mailing box (for small parcel drop offs) in Yellowstone
Yellowstone	A positive communal spirit/ identity; very little municipal management of the lake.

Yellowstone

By-law enforcement and who to contact in cases of infractions. Lines of communication are poor. Village has a "connect" email system but is not being used. Village information seems to go through unauthorized Facebook postings. For example this meeting was posted several times and promoted on Facebook but could have been advertised through the village Connect outlet.

**Question 6:** *If you want new or enhanced services/governance, would you be willing to pay more taxes? (please provide comments)*

Municipality	If you want new or enhanced services/governance, would you be willing to pay more taxes? (please provide comments)
Castle Island	No a flat no.
Ross Haven	depends on the enhanced services/governance that was to be improved
Ross Haven	I don't believe that is necessary. Again, for the majority, the SVs are recreational properties and not primary residents.
Ross Haven	Yes, to have sewer installed
Ross Haven	would prefer not to
Ross Haven	Yes. Although Rosshaven has a great financial position, ( top 5 of all summer villages in Alberta 3 years ago) we can do better. We have Cadillac plus services, compared to most communities the grass doesn't have to be cut so often, garbage biweekly in the winter and not so aggressive snow removal. For what we pay for these services, it can be done cheaper by RFP or sharing with the county.
Ross Haven	Yes, but would also like to see long term financing for infrastructure projects
Sunset Point	No taxes are more than high enough, better use of budgeting will provide additional funds to use. The council did well in adjusting garbage pick up to get more without more costs.
Sunset Point	yes
Sunset Point	No, I think the new council should work out a different budget than the one we have been using. The Church camp is NOT paying taxes per house only for 2 lots. There is a lot of income lost here!!
Sunset Point	No
Sunset Point	Only if they were premium service
Sunset Point	Yes... I believe that people have to expect to pay more taxes for better services.
Sunset Point	I think a good job is being done now with the taxes collected.
Sunset Point	No, our taxes now should be enough to support parks, libraries, stores, playgrounds, sidewalks, policing. We have had a lot of development of new homes therefore increasing the tax revenue but no new services or amenities in 25 years.
Sunset Point	No. No more needed.
Sunset Point	No! We pay enough as it is.
Sunset Point	I think if our small communities collaborated together we could get more value for our dollars as far as administration goes
Sunset Point	No
Sunset Point	The increase in taxation is inevitable, however, there needs to be some tangible evidence that the increases are being put to good use.
Sunset Point	Depends on what it is
Val Quentin	we are pretty high already when it comes to taxes
Val Quentin	Yes
Val Quentin	Yes
Val Quentin	I pay probably within the top 5% for taxes which is a burden on our fixed income, but would be willing to pay more for policing to slow down the speed on our mane drag (50 ave)

West Cove	No I think the taxes are high enough.
Yellowstone	No we pay high enough taxes for little to no service. As mentioned above our outgoing CAO cost WAY to much and overspent on her connections and family that she would hire as contractors
Yellowstone	Absolutely NOT. I feel the value for the money is awful
Yellowstone	No
Yellowstone	Bylaw officer , i will pay more
Yellowstone	Yes if warranted but can't afford it
Yellowstone	No. I don't believe there's a need for more taxes. The infrastructure & infrastructure maintenance are already in place.
Yellowstone	Nobody wants to pay more but We would be willing to pay more for increased services - ie by-law enforcement. However we believe that most areas could be improved with better communication and not money.

**Question 7: What are your *hopes* for this regionalization study?**

Municipality	What are your hopes for this regionalization study?
Castle Island	Exploring areas where cooperation is needed and perhaps some ways of collaboration or shared resources to reduce expenditures and hopefully taxes. Things that may help with lake water quality and doing things together with shared expenses like fixing the weir.
Ross Haven	That we all come together on the lake issues and share policing/ bylaw officer and administration. these seemed to be the only common issues we all had.
Ross Haven	I hope for smart decisions made by smart people that take the time to listen to the conclusions derived from real data and investigation methods paid for by the grant study. The general public (property owners) ultimately must have the decision.
Ross Haven	Do not amalgamate...that there is shared administrative duties
Ross Haven	I feel we are a well run summer village and don't want to loose the good things we have going on
Ross Haven	To show that there are savings to be had. But major players ( the county, and Alberta Beach ) are excluded. Some of the mayors at the table have personal reasons for continuing to be a summer village ( loss of autonomy or identity) but they are not looking at the big picture. The last 3-4 GOA ministers over looking SV's, have said that SV days are numbered. As they download costs to us, they are slowly breaking us. We had 83 SV's and now how many? 70? 75?
Ross Haven	More collaboration but not amalgamation
Sunset Point	Sunset Point doesn't lose its individual identity, other communities have different priorities.
Sunset Point	that the summer villages unify as one with fewer duplications of services & councilors
Sunset Point	That we will continue to be a summer village and not part of Alberta Beach.
Sunset Point	Shared admin costs but remain an independent summer village
Sunset Point	I actually don't see the benefit of the study , which only considers the smaller regions getting together...ie: Sunset point, Yellowstone, Ross haven, etc.
Sunset Point	That there are more opportunities to grant funds.
Sunset Point	I hope it clearly and honestly shows the positive and negative affects of regionalization to all residents, so that an informed decision can be made.
Sunset Point	That it will be acknowledged that Sunset Point and Val Quintin already operate as part of Alberta Beach. To ignore this would be like saying that Jasper Place should never have become part of Edmonton. When Jasper Place became part of Edmonton, they still had outhouses.
Sunset Point	Band together to find ways to decrease taxes and improve services
Sunset Point	Identify ways that we could work together to reduce costs in some areas ...and ways to create a community



Sunset Point	That we come together
Sunset Point	That we can work together to make some services more affordable
Sunset Point	The councils listen to the residents.
Val Quentin	availability of sharing information
Val Quentin	It would be nice if all the villages would work together for greater unity and reduced costs
Val Quentin	Better efficiency, enhanced services
Val Quentin	Get more services for about the same money.
West Cove	I'm hoping the study reveals ways we can enhance our services at the same tax rate or maintain the current services at a lower tax rate.
Yellowstone	For the village to remain the same as it is now, have an independent council from other villages, and for us to do work internally and avoid using over priced contractors
Yellowstone	The only thing I hope for is the villages to work together on a weir project to be able to maintain an acceptable lake level
Yellowstone	To clean up the village and control the fences going up and the removal of trees.
Yellowstone	That improvements will be made and not ignored
Yellowstone	Primarily I hope it addresses the lake water levels, water cleanliness, noise pollution, & sustainability.
Yellowstone	The sharing of economies of scale and ideas would be welcome but would not want to see amalgamations or a change in our village ambiance or independence. Would like to see our villages work together regarding emergency services, Maybe working together for common needs. Perhaps the construction of a walking trail between villages.

**Question 8: What are your *concerns* for this regionalization study?**

Municipality	What are your concerns for this regionalization study?
Castle Island	Preparedness for dealing with issues before there is any form of forced amalgamation that may be imposed by the provincial government.
Ross Haven	Each village has different priorities; how would we decide what priority gets looked after first and determine how much each village should contribute.
Ross Haven	Loud voices are often heard over the general consensus during these types of consultations and therefore the recommendations of the study MUST be shared with everyone and return input accommodated and for the majority. (some may not be computer savvy)
Ross Haven	That we will lose our identity and unique features of our individual communities
Ross Haven	my concern is that we will have to pay MORE and get LESS
Ross Haven	They will sway by personal politics of several mayors. That this study won't think out side the box.
Ross Haven	An attempt to force amalgamation
Sunset Point	Pushed into costly expenditures that are a major benefit to other communities and little benefit to Sunset Point.
Sunset Point	That we will lose our identity as a community. That our taxes will go to benefit the other communities and we will be left out because we don't need that benefit.
Sunset Point	nothing great idea!
Sunset Point	I don't wish to see amalgamation . We need our separate council.
Sunset Point	It concerns me that we are not considering a study that involves the amalgamation of the three villages here, being Sunset Point, Alberta Beach, and Val Quentin. I think this would lead to better services for all, a fairer tax base, and the greater possibility of receiving gov't grants for projects and programs that would help build our community.
Sunset Point	Why isn't Alberta Beach involved?



Sunset Point	I think the study itself is a good idea. My concern would be if regionalization went forward regardless of the opinions of ratepayers.
Sunset Point	For Sunset Point it should be a question of when will we become partners with Alberta Beach, not Ross Haven or Yellowstone. To do any different would be like saying why didn't Jasper place become part of Spruce Grove instead of Edmonton. Please look ahead.
Sunset Point	Having to pay for the other areas.
Sunset Point	Some of the communities are kind of far apart ...and may not all have the same needs ...don't want a part time resident on council as they may not be available 100% of the time to share in the work load
Sunset Point	That aren't left in the dark
Sunset Point	The councils don't listen to the residents. Sometime it is better to concentrate on quality of life, rather than fiscal gain.
Val Quentin	None
Val Quentin	Losing our identity
Val Quentin	How would costs be shared for things like sewer and walking trails, when Val Quentin already have these things.
West Cove	Not sure how the consolidation of village management/councils would work out for West Cove. Our geographic location may from the other villages may require us to have different needs than the group.
Yellowstone	Wasting money on this study, like 5 years ago, when the money could be better used elsewhere
Yellowstone	That there is a rumoured 100k spent on this and there will be little value.
Yellowstone	Everyone gets along
Yellowstone	We are governed acrossed the board and not looked at as individual villages with seperate concerns.
Yellowstone	That the outcomes will be biased
Yellowstone	I would be concerned if Yellowstone amalgamated fully with other municipalities and we lost our ability to make independent decisions. However, pooling resources to manage the lake specifically may make sense.
Yellowstone	That the study misunderstands the needs of each individual village and tries to streamline concerns and wishes to make all villages seem the same.

**Question 11:** *Please provide any additional feedback that you would like to provide on the regionalization criteria.*

Municipality	Please provide any additional feedback that you would like to provide on the regionalization criteria.
Ross Haven	We have political parties in this community that can't get along, throw other villages into the mix, and that's a whole different ball of ants. The shared services like policing/bylaw officer, administration, taxes and the lake seem to be the only things all the villages have in common. That is something we can all work on together but remain as individual villages.
Sunset Point	It was a challenge that I couldn't overcome to access the meeting. Minutes, agendas etc should be clearly presented so the public can provide clear feedback. IE some questions in the survey can be interpreted to meet multiple goals if the group wants to move an addenda forward. eg, question 9, who wouldn't want lower taxes, better service, more grants etc.
Sunset Point	If we come together as one, which bylaws would we have to follow?
Yellowstone	The virtual discussion had no goal and was just a complaint session. The presenters of the meeting had no value at all
Yellowstone	I think the timing of the survey is pointless as villages are under new admin, with no track record to approve on or hold accountable for

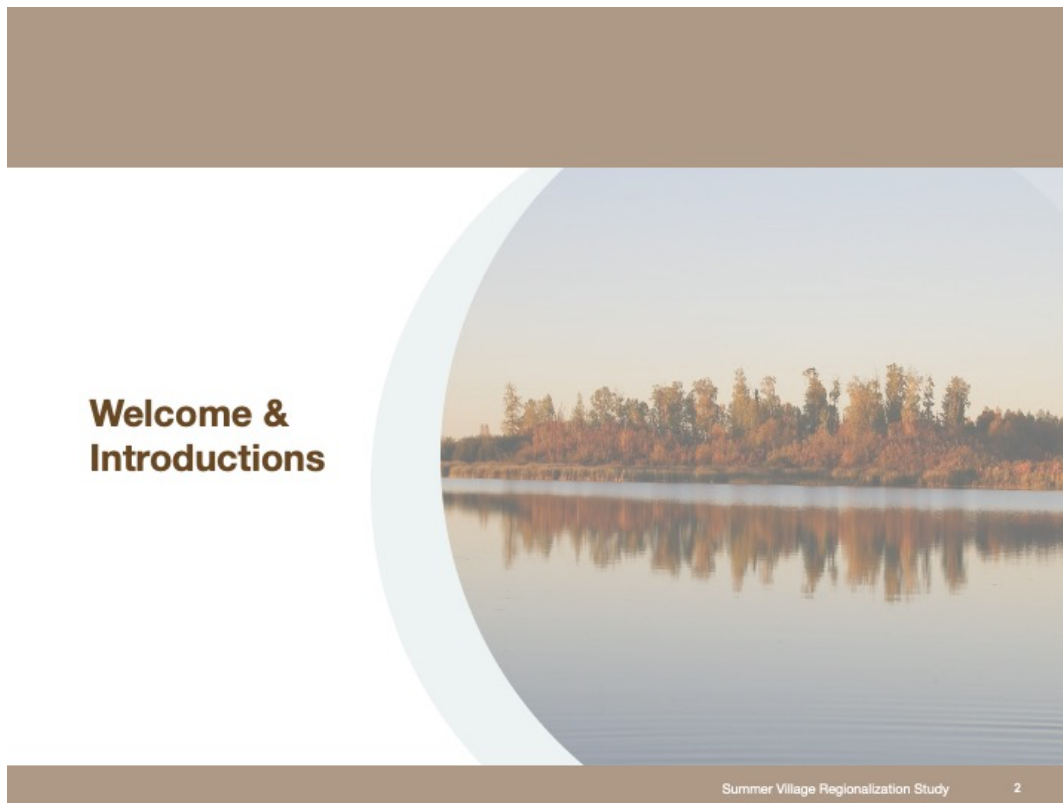
Ross Haven	If regionalization efforts further promote mutually beneficial collaborative activities and the achievement of cost savings and efficiencies then regionalization is a good thing. If this exercise creates rifts or conflict among the SV - then it was a major fail.
Sunset Point	I think every summer village is having trouble with there being no enforcement of bylaws and restricted covenants and it needs to be addressed. Perhaps if we were all together some of these issues could finally be dealt with.
Yellowstone	Some one to govern the bylaws and make sure the cavats and bylaws are followed
Sunset Point	People of Sun Set Point will always know they are part of Sun Set Point, even if Sun Set Point becomes a suburb of Alberta Beach. Just like Jasper Place and Calder still recognize their origins in Edmonton. Part time residents relax, we will do what is best (services and taxes) for You.
Yellowstone	I think that communal lake management is critical for future lake sustainability.
Ross Haven	I have noted that reduction in cost and taxation as not important, but what I mean is the taxes we pay are fair and I don't want to pay more taxes and end up with things being taken away.
Sunset Point	Do the research, listen. Very importantly, Use what you have, to get what you want.
Yellowstone	After attending the zoom meeting I was struck by two things. 1. That residents seemed to be more concerned about by-laws and their enforcement than economics and administration.(I thought that I was the only one). 2. The concern about the rift between full-time versus part-time residents. I was not aware of a difference, having been both for the past 58 years. This is disconcerting to me.
Ross Haven	Include Alberta beach anc the county
Ross Haven	Any reorganization steps should not look to equalize the services and amenities in each village. Some have a larger tax base and permanent population and should not have their tax base used to upgrade villages that are smaller and have fewer permanent residents.

**Question 12:** *Is there anything else you would like to share with the municipalities?*

Municipality	Is there anything else you would like to share with the municipalities?
Sunset Point	Making bylaws easily assessable.
Yellowstone	Regionalization is not the answer. Spend the money on this study to hire a qualified CAO that isn't trying to line their own pockets. Logistically, smaller villages will lose out, and just subsidize the larger ones by adding "muscle" to their bidding power, meanwhile the service level will be worse. This study and the amount of money thats being wasted yet again, its digusting !
Yellowstone	Need the water level lake higher ,,build weir
Ross Haven	I appreciate that several families have made the decision to make one of Lac St. Anne's SV their primary residence, however, in a democratic society, I believe decisions about municipal affairs should be governed by the majority of the ratepayers and therefore huge infrastructure projects like water, sewer and similar activities and their associated costs should not be forced into implementation just for the few who benefit the most. A user-pay system like we have for power, gas or internet is fair and equitable for all parties. Please keep this in mind when considering the implementation of a water/sewer project. Thank you.
Sunset Point	Well...even though I think we should be forming a united Village with Alberta Beach/Val Quentin/ Sunset point, I am grateful that this survey was offered to give us a voice in our community. Thank you!
Sunset Point	We bought and built in Sunset Point in particular because of the restricted covenants in place to ensure we did not have unsightly, unfinished properties in our village. These covenants are important to us as property owners and in spite of the lack of enforcement, many people take great pride in their properties in this village.
Yellowstone	Shared information on health of the lake , including input from the Alexis reserve and Alberta Beach. Drainage into the lakes from the start of the basin.

Sunset Point	Areas that share boundaries should Co-operate and share, it makes sense. I think history would show that Co-operating with Your neighbour is always best. Sharing with Areas that are separated by distance does not benefit either party. I think history would also verify this.
Yellowstone	Lake levels of Lac Ste. Anne should be fair to both sides of the lake, not just one side. South side likes it low, north side likes it higher so docks are not 200 ft out to be useable! Fisheries should be involved also to preserve the fish habitats.
Sunset Point	Don t leave things un done
Ross Haven	I would like to know more about the direction this is going, and to continue to be kept informed.
Sunset Point	Question #12- Part time residents can vote and run for election. This might change with amalgamation.
Ross Haven	1 council, 1 CAO for all the SV's voting reform, so only full time residents can vote. At the least.
Ross Haven	The catastrophic drop in lake level in 2021, caused largely by unilateral and unauthorized actions of certain individuals, should not be allowed to occur without prosecution.

## APPENDIX D: ONLINE PUBLIC EVENT PRESENTATION



## Guidelines for the Session

### Guidelines

- Be respectful
- Be open to all ideas
- Adhere to established process and timeframe
- Allow people to speak without interruption

### Online Tips

- Muting
- Speaking
- Video/recording
- Naming

## Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Project Overview
3. Current Services and Governance
4. Hopes and Concerns
5. Regionalization Criteria Perspective
6. Next Steps

## Welcome

### Poll:

**What municipality are you from?**

**Are you a part-time or full-time resident / ratepayer?**

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## Project Overview



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## Project Overview | Background

### Project municipalities

- Castle Island
- Ross Haven
- Sunset Point
- Val Quentin
- West Cove
- Yellowstone

### Observing municipalities

- Nakamun Park
- Silver Sands
- South View

- **Generally close proximity**
- **Shared body of water**
- **Existing collaborations and shared services**
- **Discussions of restructuring governance since 2016**
- **Study funding through Alberta Community Partnership Program**

## Project Overview | Background

### What is regionalization?

- **The way the Summer Villages will work together in collaboration and toward mutual benefits such as cost reductions and efficient service delivery.**

### What options will the study look at?

- **Intermunicipal collaborations**
- **Shared administration**
- **Amalgamation**
- **Business as Usual**

## Project Overview | Background

- **The SVRS study is exploratory and focuses on several different options for potential regionalization.**
- **No decisions have been made about regionalization.**
- **Each Summer Village is coming to the table with open intentions and no preconceived outcome.**

## Project Overview | Purpose

### **The study will:**

- **Identify current collaborative efforts and cost-saving activities**
  - **Engage with residents to understand current services and gaps**
  - **Uncover opportunities for increased efficiency**
  - **Make recommendations for potential regionalization options**
-



## Project Overview | Purpose

### Project Vision

*Creation of a Regionalization Framework that serves as a foundation for effective and efficient governance across the Lac Ste. Anne Summer Villages while supporting the autonomy and unique identities of each.*

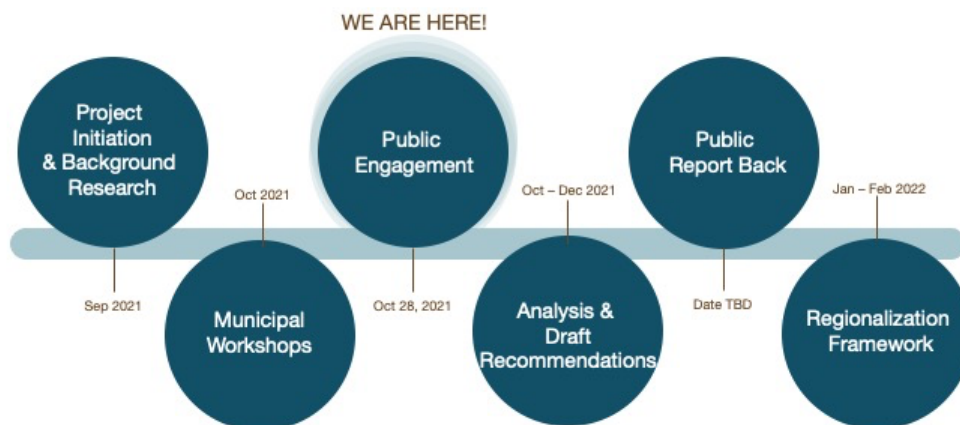
### Shared values

- **Transparency**
- **Respectful communication**
- **Idea sharing and ongoing dialogue**
- **Ensure every member is heard**
- **Autonomy is respected**

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## Project Overview | Process & Timeline



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## Project Overview | Scope

**The Summer Villages will review the following services, and may focus on high priority services for the analysis:**

- Emergency Services
- Operations and capital projects
  - Public Works
  - Water and sanitary sewage
- Parks and Recreation
- Community Services
- Planning & Development
- Municipal Finance
- Identity & Political governance
- Legislative services and administration

## Project Overview | Research to Date

### Understanding current collaborations

- |                                                         |                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| • Summer Villages of Lac Ste Anne County East (SVLSACE) | Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Waste, compost collection</li></ul> |
| • LILSA – Lake management                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yellowhead Regional Library</li></ul>        |
| • Allnet Communication                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• HWY 43 Waste Commission</li></ul>            |
| • Emergency Management Regional Collaboration           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• North 43 Lagoon Commission</li></ul>         |
| • Family and Community Support                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• WILD Water Commission</li></ul>              |
|                                                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• And more</li></ul>                           |

**...and understanding that each Summer Village is unique.  
Not all collaborations or service levels look the same for all.**

## Project Overview | Research to Date

### Understanding other details by municipality

- Current contracts
- Service levels
- Existing policy
- Financial summary
- Comparing expectations of service delivery with costs

### Understanding administrative & political view points

- Municipal workshops to identify gaps & opportunities

## Project Overview | Research to Date

### Understanding the community perspective

**This means you!**

## Current Services & Governance



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## Current Services/Governance

### BREAKOUT SESSION:

- In your community, which services/governance are
  - Working well?
  - Challenging?
  - Missing?

Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community identity, political representation, etc.

- If you want new or enhanced services/governance, would you be willing to pay more taxes?

### Report back

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## Hopes & Concerns



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## Hopes & Concerns

### BREAKOUT SESSION:

For the study:

1. What are your hopes?
2. What are your concerns?

---

### Report back

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## Regionalization Study Criteria: Perspective



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## Regionalization Criteria

- Reduction of costs and taxes
- Efficiency of service delivery
- Sense of place and identity
- Ability to leverage increased buying power
- Increasing access to grants and funding
- Ability to maintain Summer Village Status, giving part-time residents the ability to vote and run for election

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## Regionalization Criteria | Perspective

### Poll:

**What is most important for regionalization?**

**What is least important for regionalization?**

Discussion:

Is there any additional feedback you would like to provide on the criteria?

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### Study Next Steps



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## Study Next Steps

Analysis &  
Recommendations

Oct – Dec 2021

Public  
Report Back

Date TBD

Regionalization  
Framework

Jan – Feb 2022

Available Survey

And learn more: [lacsteanne-svrs.com](https://lacsteanne-svrs.com)

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# THANK YOU

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# APPENDIX E: ONLINE PUBLIC EVENT WHITEBOARD COMPILATION

## Round 1

### Current Services and Governance

15 - 20 mins

Consider services, finances, infrastructure, community identity, political representation, etc.

#### CASTLE ISLAND

Which services/governance in your community are...



#### ROSS HAVEN

Which services/governance in your community are...



#### SUNSET POINT

Which services/governance in your community are...



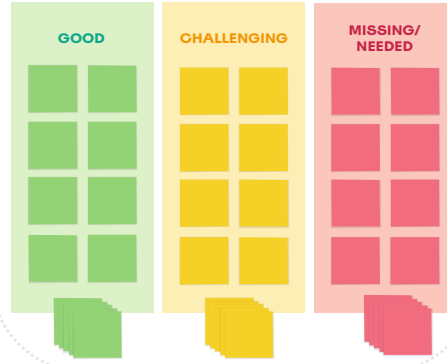
#### VAL QUENTIN

Which services/governance in your community are...



#### WEST GOVE

Which services/governance in your community are...



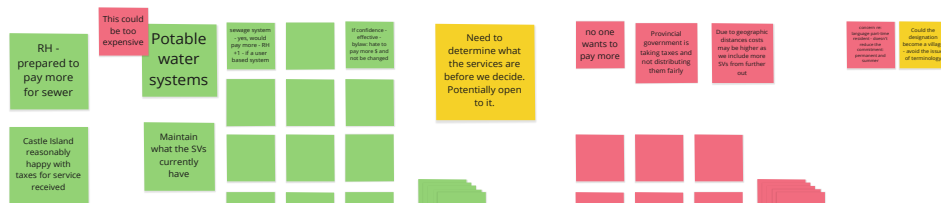
#### YELLOWSTONE

Which services/governance in your community are...



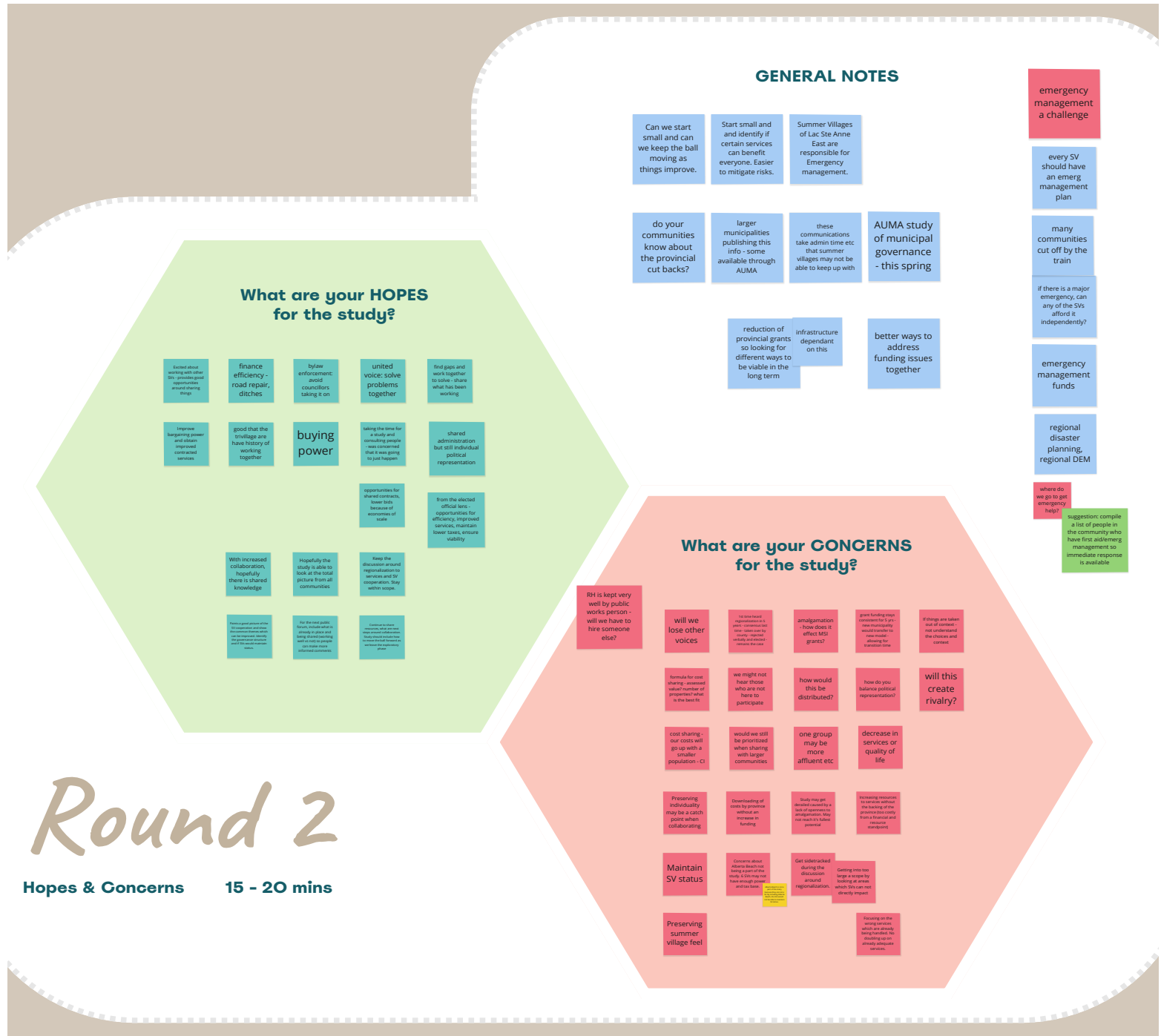
### Discussion:

If you want new or enhanced services/governance, would you be willing to pay more taxes?



Yellowstone - taxes seem to be high for the level of services we receive

NOTE: If printed, this page may be difficult to read; however, all responses shown here are captured in Appendix A. In digital format, the resolution of notes on this page should be legible when zoomed in.



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