

Seniors' Supports and Services Project – Final Report

Council
January 18, 2022

Presentation overview

1. Project Initiation
2. Launch of Project Workplan
3. Launch of Needs Assessment Research and Analysis
4. Launch of Community Engagement
5. A Path Forward
6. Priority Action Areas
7. Potential Next Steps

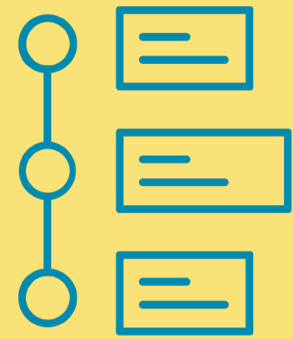


Project Background and Initiation

Seniors' groups in the community have brought forward to Council the need for a seniors' hub in Strathcona County.

Two motions by Council:

- February 2, 2021 - THAT Administration provide regular updates to Priorities Committee, commencing at the end of Quarter 2 regarding progress with respect to Priorities Committee motion 2021/ P4 on ongoing work on the Seniors Hub Concept, including the results of ongoing stakeholder communication and research.
- January 26, 2021 - THAT the January 26, 2021 Seniors Advisory Committee report, Seniors Hub Concept, be referred to Administration for a report, by the end of the fourth quarter of 2021, on options for establishing a seniors hub, including potential collaboration opportunities with stakeholders and options to combine with planned or existing County facilities or sites; and that the report include information on the implications, costs, and feasibility of the identified options.



Launch of Project Workplan

Project Goals



Listening



Informing



Responding



Launch of Needs Assessment Research & Analysis

Purpose

- To provide a rounded understanding of the context and current perspectives, values, and needs for seniors' supports and services in the community.

Key Activities

- Statistical profile
- Analysis of previous County engagement results
- Jurisdictional scan
- Inventory of County programs, supports, and services for seniors

Needs Assessment highlights

Statistical Profile

- In 2018, seniors represented 16% of the County population.
- The seniors' population in Strathcona County is increasing faster than the provincial average.

Previous County Engagements

- Many residents feel that community halls and seniors' centres have a positive impact on their quality of life and the community.
- There is a need for seniors-dedicated spaces and activities in Strathcona County.



Needs Assessment highlights

Jurisdictional Scan

- The majority of seniors' centres across the province are run by non-profit organizations.
- Seniors' centre site tours

Inventory of County Programming

- County facilities are designed for participants of all ages and abilities.



Launch of Community Engagement

June 1 – June 20, 2021: Public Survey

Questions focused on:

- Residents' values and perspectives of seniors' services in Strathcona County
- Needs and interest in seniors-only facilities and spaces
- Seniors' social, facility, recreation, transportation, and services needs

June 21 – July 21, 2021: Virtual conversations with seniors and senior-serving organizations

Conversations expanded on questions asked in the survey.

Community engagement findings



**Belonging
and Inclusion**

Voices heard

- 898 survey responses
- 27 stakeholders

**Accessibility
for Seniors**

Affordability

Need for coordinated and robust seniors' programming and services from a dedicated senior-serving organization.

Community engagement findings

Belonging and inclusion

- Themes of belonging, connectedness, and inclusion were the most prominent across stakeholder conversations.



Community engagement findings

Affordability

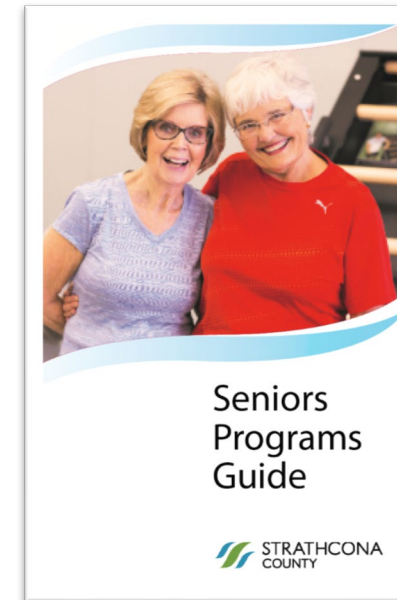
- The lower the income, the more likely for residents to rely on community halls and seniors' centres as a source of social, recreation, and cultural activities.



Community engagement findings

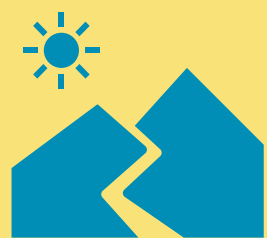
Accessibility for seniors

- Considerations: income, transportation, technology, information, physical access.
- A little over half of respondents (56.8%) indicated that a dedicated seniors' facility is very important/somewhat important to meet their social, recreation and well-being needs.



Project process

- ✓ **Launch of project workplan**
- ✓ **Statistical profile** of seniors in Strathcona County
- ✓ Analysis of **previous Strathcona County engagement** results
- ✓ **Jurisdictional scan** of seniors' supports, services, and facilities
- ✓ **Inventory of** Strathcona County seniors-focused programs, supports, and services
- ✓ Revamp of Strathcona County **seniors public website**
- ✓ Seniors Supports and Services Project **community engagement**
- ✓ Launch of **targeted seniors programming**
- ✓ Seniors centre **site tours**



A Path Forward

Vision

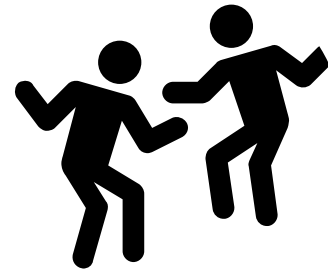
Strathcona County values the significant contributions of older adults to the fabric of the community.

Strathcona County supports spaces, programs, and services that have intentional considerations for older adults and that create opportunities for social connection and inclusion.

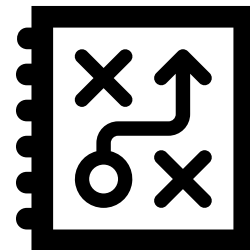




Priority Action Areas



**Supports &
Services
Enhancements**



**Coordination &
Programming**



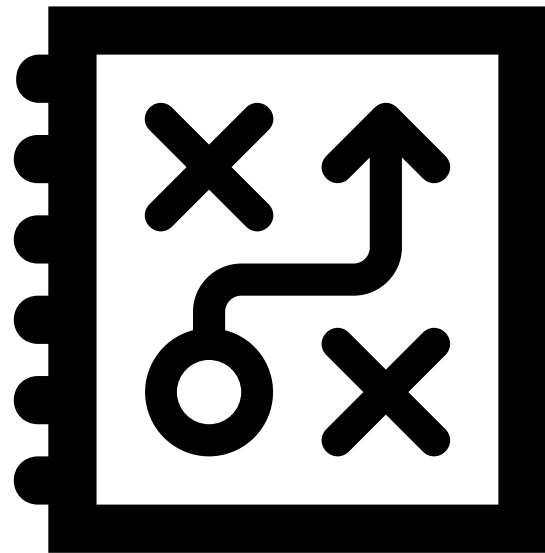
Infrastructure

Supports & services enhancements



- Enhancement of County programming, supports, and services for seniors.
- Focus on creating welcoming and safe spaces for seniors inside County facilities.
- Interactive engagement and ongoing evaluation with older adult population for long-term planning.

Coordination & programming



- Supporting the establishment of a non-profit, senior-serving organization in the community.
- Overarching organization to provide programming, coordination, and outreach of seniors' services at locations across the County, including with seniors groups, rural community halls, and at County facilities.
- Leverage the expertise from established non-profit operations, while incorporating the regional perspective and awareness through collaboration with the local community organizations.



Recommendation #1

Commit \$200,000, with \$100,000 from reserves along with \$100,000 from existing base funds in 2022, to initiate an expression of interest process that identifies a seniors-focused, non-profit organization to provide coordination and programming for older adults in Strathcona County.

Infrastructure

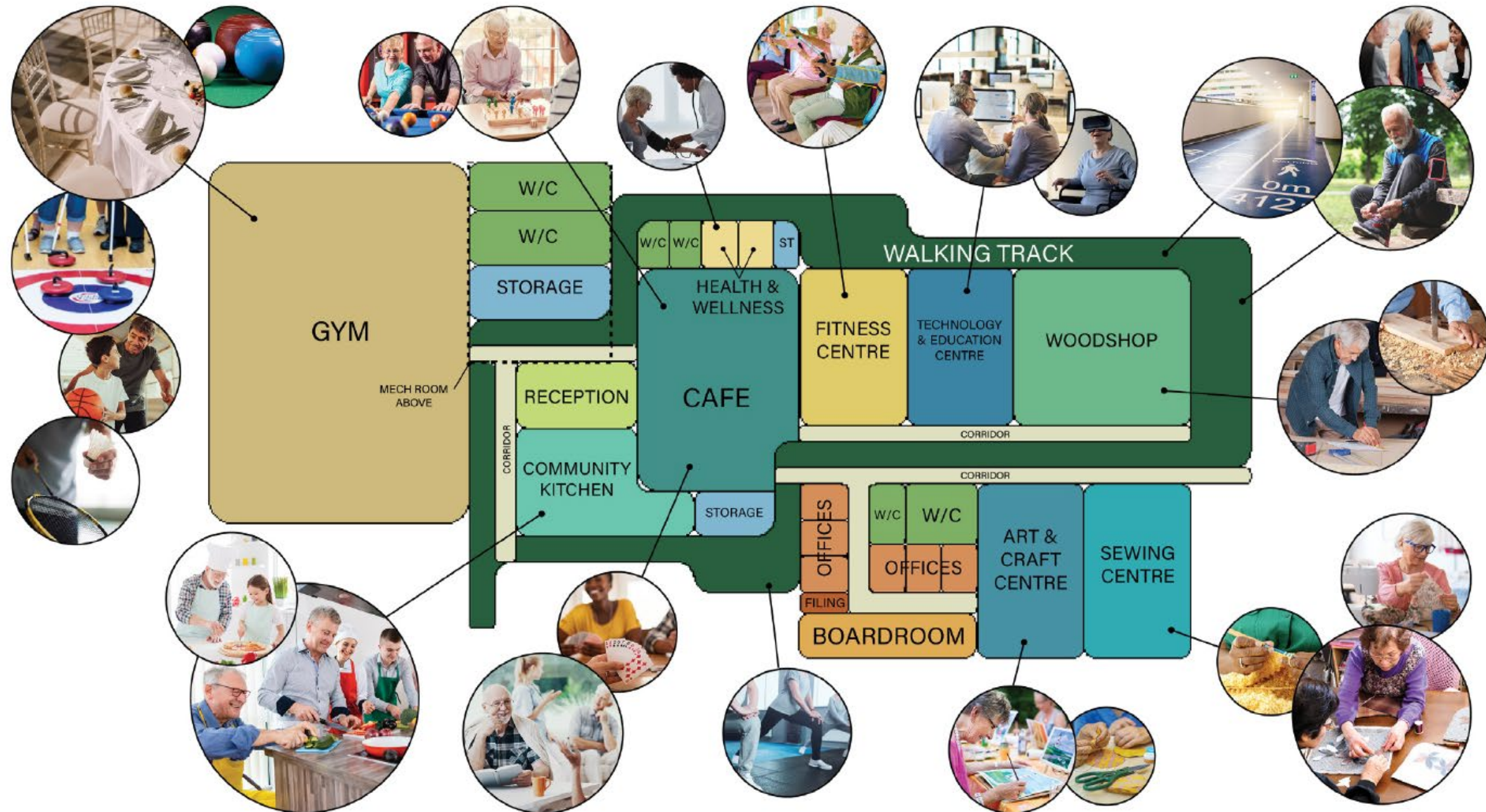
Working within existing infrastructure

- Utilize existing spaces in the community to support older adults programming, and continue with regular maintenance and renewal of the community halls and seniors centres throughout the County.

New build or renovation of a facility

- Engage in a capital build of a new facility, or the renovation of an existing facility, to provide social, recreation, and wellness programming for seniors.

Infrastructure concepts



~42,000 sq. ft

Group2

Architecture
Interior Design

Infrastructure cost estimates

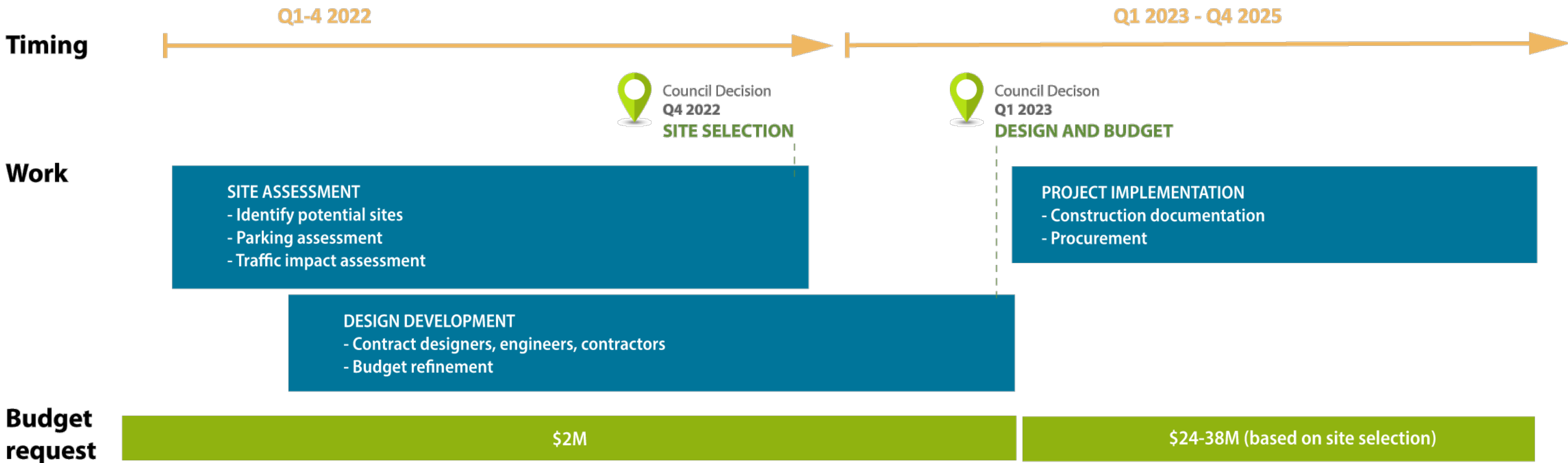
	Seniors Hub Costs
Construction cost and design	\$14.3M – \$18.6M
Site allowance and servicing	\$2.5M – \$9.6M
Construction contingency (50%)	\$7.2M – \$9.3M
Capital Budget*	\$24M – \$38M

*capital budget estimates are based on 2021 construction market unit costs

*does not include site acquisition

*does not include operation and maintenance of the facility

Seniors hub development timeline





Potential Next Steps

1. Strathcona County invests \$2M in 2022 to begin the site assessment and design process for a seniors' hub.
 - Conduct an initial site assessment for the seniors hub, including site identification, parking assessment, traffic impact assessment.
 - Conduct design development.
 - Report back to Council in Q4 2022 on potential sites for site selection.
 - If a site is approved, continue the design phase.
 - Report back to Council in Q1 2023 for approval of project design and budget.



Potential Next Steps

2. Strathcona County commits \$200,000 for three years to engage with a non-profit organization, to provide programming and services to older adults in Strathcona County.
3. Strathcona County continues to enhance the provision of seniors supports and services in the County.



Recommendation #2

Should Council choose to build a seniors hub, it is recommended that \$2M be committed from reserves, to begin the site assessment and design process.

Questions

