

# Indoor gymnasiums and multi-sport court spaces

Recreation, Parks and Culture  
April 22, 2025

# Types of use

A variety of opportunities are available to meet community needs including:

- Drop-in or spontaneous use recreation
- Registered recreation programs
- Block bookings for minor sport and community groups
- Casual bookings





# Types of spaces

Spaces include dedicated gymnasiums, dry surface and halls in recreation facilities:

- Millennium Place
  - gymnasium
- École Père Kenneth Kearns
  - gymnasium use on evenings and weekends
- Ardrossan Recreation Complex
  - hall
- Moyer Recreation Centre
  - hall
- Glen Allan Recreation Complex
  - curling dry surface from April to August



# Gymnasiums



Two dedicated, built-for-purpose gymnasiums are ideally suited to meet the needs of a large variety of user groups due to features such as flooring, ceiling height, divider curtains and availability of equipment.

- Millennium Place
- École Père Kenneth Kearns
  - evenings and weekends



# Hall and dry surface spaces

## Ardrossan and Glen Allan Recreation Complex, Moyer Recreation Centre

### Community benefits

- Provides additional year-round dry-surface opportunities to relieve pressure on dedicated gymnasiums for some activities
- Space is ideal for activities that require minimal specialized gymnasium infrastructure and equipment
- Provides a rural offering

### Space deficiencies

- Infrastructure is not conducive to supporting a variety of gymnasium sports like basketball and volleyball
- Balancing use for social gatherings and recreation activities in the hall spaces
- Moyer hall and École Père Kenneth Kearns gymnasium have administrative limitations that do not support spontaneous use activities
- Primarily available during the off-season



# Utilization

- Spontaneous use activities include badminton, basketball, pickleball, floor hockey, fitness programs and more
- Millennium Place averages 40 to 70 users in peak times; bookings available for one-quarter section of gym with bookings for groups such as ball hockey, schools, youth basketball, floor hockey, social badminton
- École Père Kenneth Kearns gymnasium bookings are created seasonally for county programs, minor sport groups, adult sport groups and casual bookings.



# Utilization

- An average of 73 hours per week of indoor drop-in pickleball is offered through fall, winter and spring at three locations.
- Birthday party bookings are popular at all locations.
- Drop-in use at Glen Allan ranges from 4 to 28 users; bookings available for one-quarter section of space with birthday parties accounting for most time booked.
- Social events make up 60 per cent of the bookings in the rural halls at Moyer and Ardrossan and the other 30 per cent is used for recreation activities.



# Unmet demand

- Public engagement and utilization demonstrate a proven need for an increase in gymnasium and multi-sport court space.
- The provision of infrastructure benchmarked against other like municipalities shows Strathcona County at a deficit, averaging six gymnasiums in other communities compared two in the County.
- A key challenge involves access to gymnasium space during the winter season. The halls and dry surface spaces within recreation facilities help to relieve some pressure during the off-season.





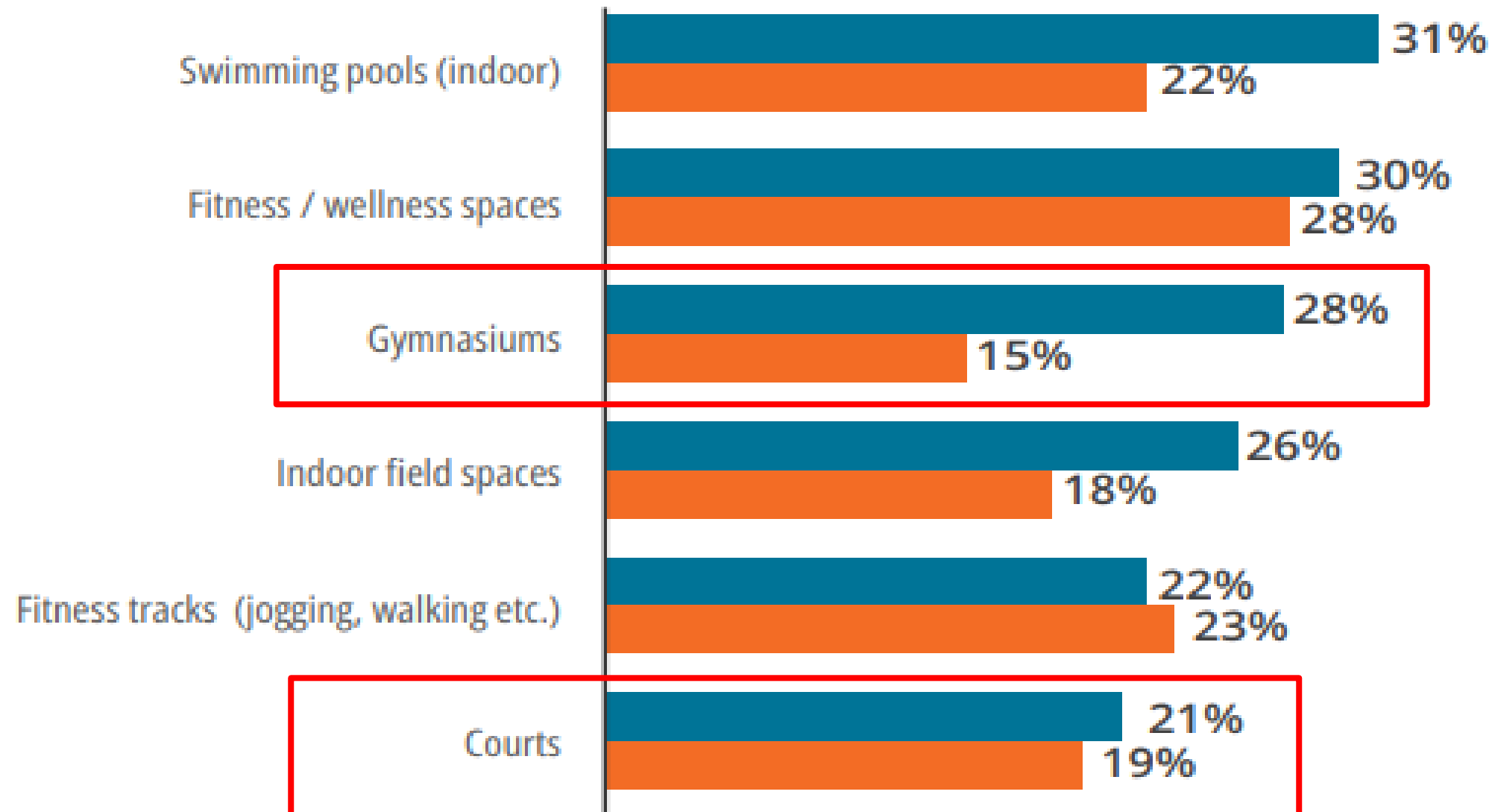
# Unmet demand

- Spontaneous use activities are trending upwards
  - admissions increased by five per cent and memberships by 13 per cent in 2024 alone
- Recreation programs increased hours booked by 11 per cent with an 81 per cent registration fill rate
- Bookings at École Père Kenneth Kearns increased by 43 per cent with the addition of Sundays
- Bookings are limited to sections of the gymnasiums at limited times
- Unable to accommodate requests for entire gym as full-day bookings for tournaments and events at any location, especially on weekends
- Increased demand for shoulder season bookings that overlap with winter activities

# Community need

## COMMUNITY Survey – 2023 engagement, Recreation and Culture Strategy

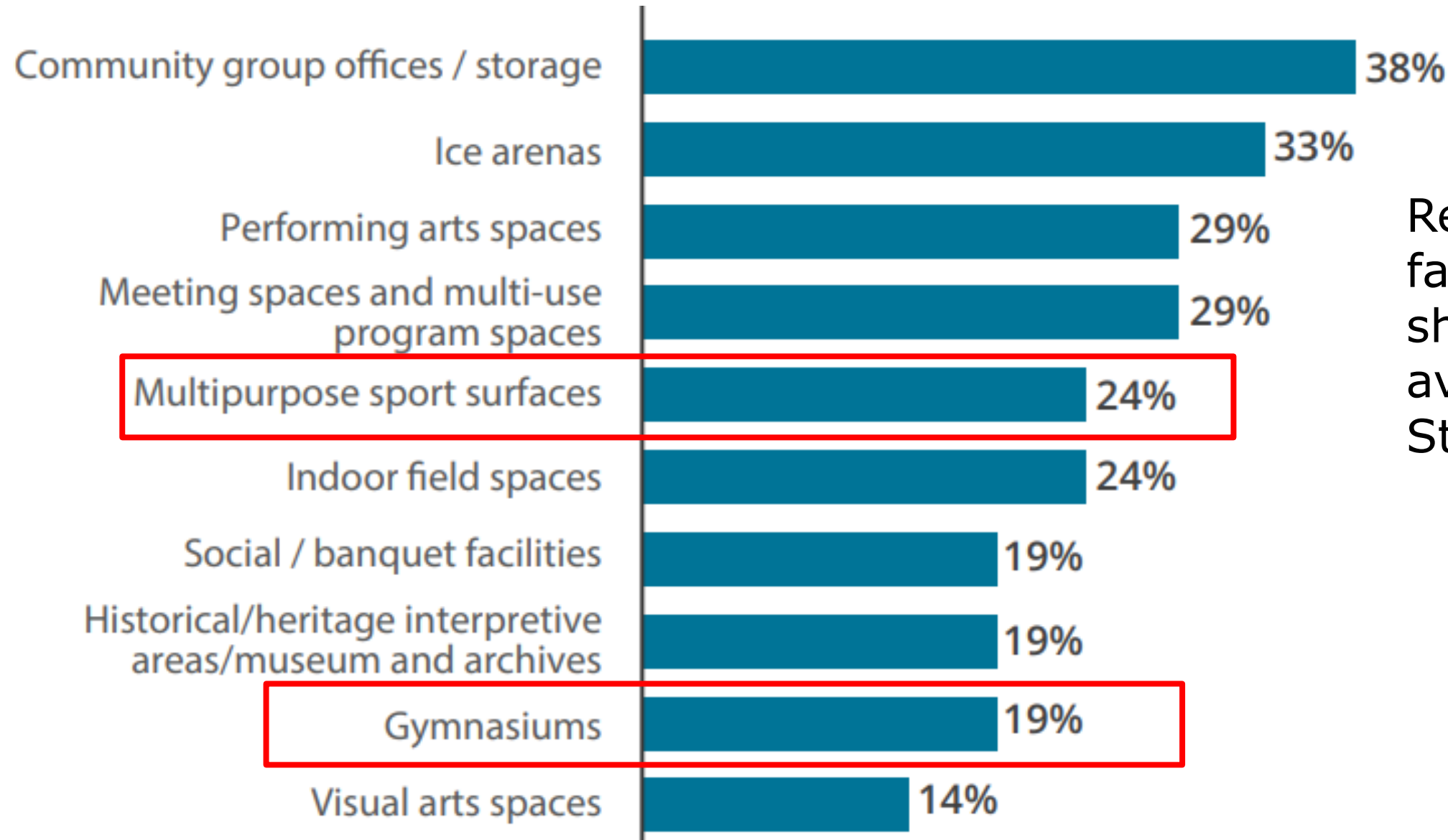
■ 2023 ■ 2019



Recreation and culture facilities and amenities that should be more readily available or enhanced in Strathcona County.

# Community need

## GROUP Survey – 2023 engagement, Recreation and Culture Strategy

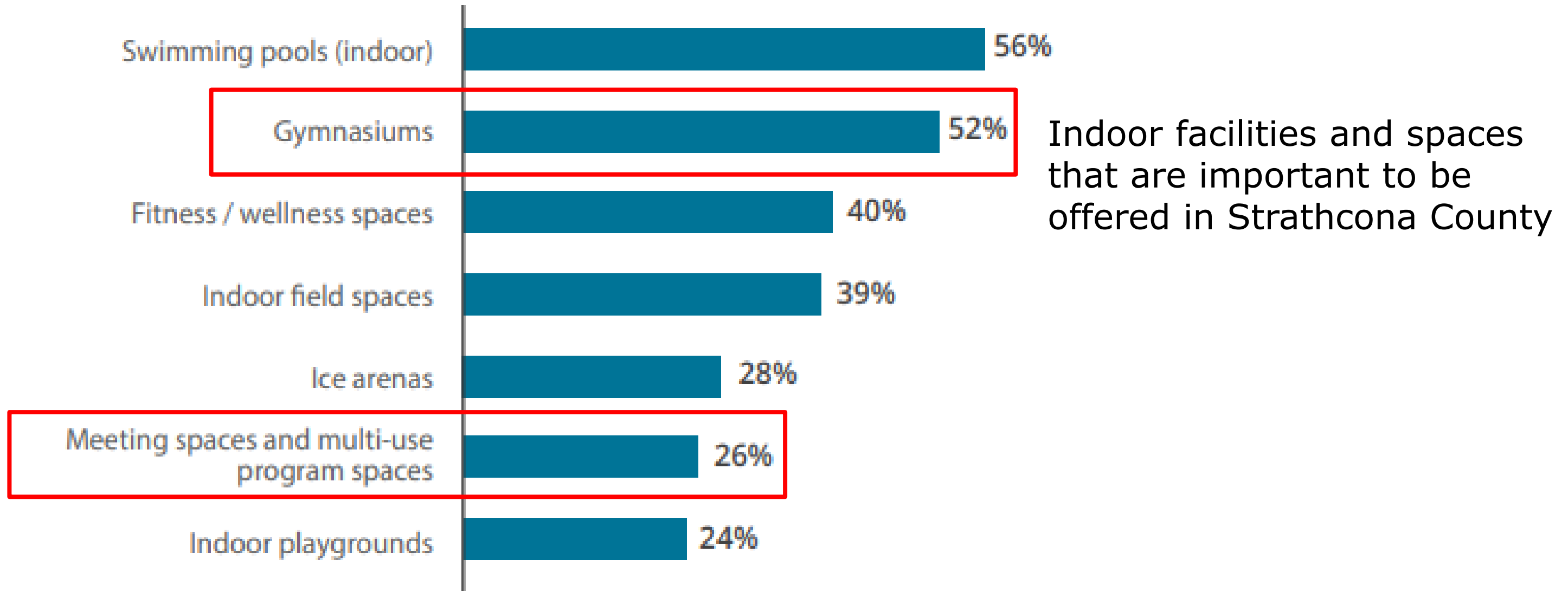


Recreation and culture facilities and amenities that should be more readily available or enhanced in Strathcona County.



# Community need

## YOUTH Survey – 2023 engagement, Recreation and Culture Strategy



# Recreation and Culture Strategy

## 2024-2026 Implementation Plan

**Chart B: Prioritization results - INDOORS**



Enhance service level



Maintain service level

Amenity type	Needs Assessment	Current & potential projects and other considerations
1. Indoor fields		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Feasibility and design of Indoor Field House</li></ul>
2. Museum and archives spaces		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continue with feasibility process and functional plan</li></ul>
3. Gymnasiums		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Feasibility and design of Indoor Field House</li><li>Develop Dry Surface and Gymnasium Allocation Guidelines</li></ul>
4. Multi-purpose sport surfaces		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Feasibility and design of Indoor Field House</li></ul>
5. Performing arts theatres		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Festival Place design solution refresh</li><li>Festival Place modernization</li></ul>

# Strategies to mitigate unmet needs

1. Continue to evaluate utilization for halls and dry surface spaces in recreation facilities and adjust based on community need.
2. Consider adding new curling dry surface spaces into the multi-sport court inventory.
3. Consider modifying existing spaces into dedicated gymnasium/court facilities for future revitalization projects.
4. Where feasible, add new dedicated gymnasium/court spaces as part of new construction or as a stand-alone facility
5. Explore future partnerships



# Questions?

