



## **Bragg Creek Trails (BCT) Trails Centre Permanent Trail Centre Project – Community Engagement Summary**

### **Introduction**

This report summarizes the results of the BCT community engagement related to the potential development of a Permanent Trail Centre at West Bragg Creek (WBC). The purpose of this engagement was to better understand trail use, community priorities, and perspectives to help inform future planning and decision-making.

### **Engagement Overview**

The public engagement survey was conducted from February 1–28, 2026, with more than 1,100 responses received from members of the trail community.

In addition, beginning in November 2025, the Permanent Trail Centre Project Committee engaged directly with organized user groups. A total of 41 of 48 invited organizations (85%) participated, representing over 35,000 members, with 22 formal Letters of Support submitted.

Together, these engagement efforts provide a comprehensive view of both individual and organized perspectives across the WBC community.

Our community shared a wide range of perspectives. They ranged from supportive and seeing value in a Permanent Trail Centre, to expressing concerns or questioning the need. This feedback is important and helps inform thoughtful, balanced decision making.

### **Context for Reviewing the Survey Results**

The results provide helpful insight into how our community and partners experience the area, what amenities they value, and the considerations they feel are important for the future of the trail network.

Sharing these results is part of BCT's commitment to transparency and community engagement. The insights gathered will help inform ongoing discussions and planning, with the goal of supporting the long-term stewardship, sustainability, and responsible use of the WBC trail network.

When reviewing the findings, several important considerations should be kept in mind:

- Participation was voluntary and reflects the perspectives of individuals who chose to respond, many of whom are already engaged with the WBC trail system.
- Responses represent a range of perspectives, including supportive, neutral, and critical viewpoints.
- The survey results are intended to provide input to help inform planning and decision-making. They do not represent a vote or consensus of the entire trail community.
- Written comments reflect individual experiences and priorities

**For all, outside, every season.**



## Key Engagement Insights

- Interest in a Permanent Trail Centre varies across individuals, while user groups expressed strong support
- Alignment on modest, functional amenities including washrooms and accessibility
- Priority to protect the natural character of WBC
- Importance of trail maintenance, stewardship, and volunteer support
- Growing trail use is highlighting gaps in infrastructure and services

## User Group Highlights

User groups indicated strong value, with no groups indicating they would not use the facility.

- Year-round access, including daytime and evening use
- Running water and flush toilets
- Meeting and gathering space
- Fully accessible design

## Community Feedback Themes

- Support for basic amenities and accessibility
- Importance of maintaining the natural character of WBC
- Support for trail stewardship and volunteers
- Need to manage increasing trail use responsibly

## Methodology & Limitations

The survey was distributed digitally, and participation was voluntary. Results likely reflect perspectives of active and engaged trail users, with younger or occasional users potentially underrepresented. Despite this, the survey provides meaningful insight into current community priorities.

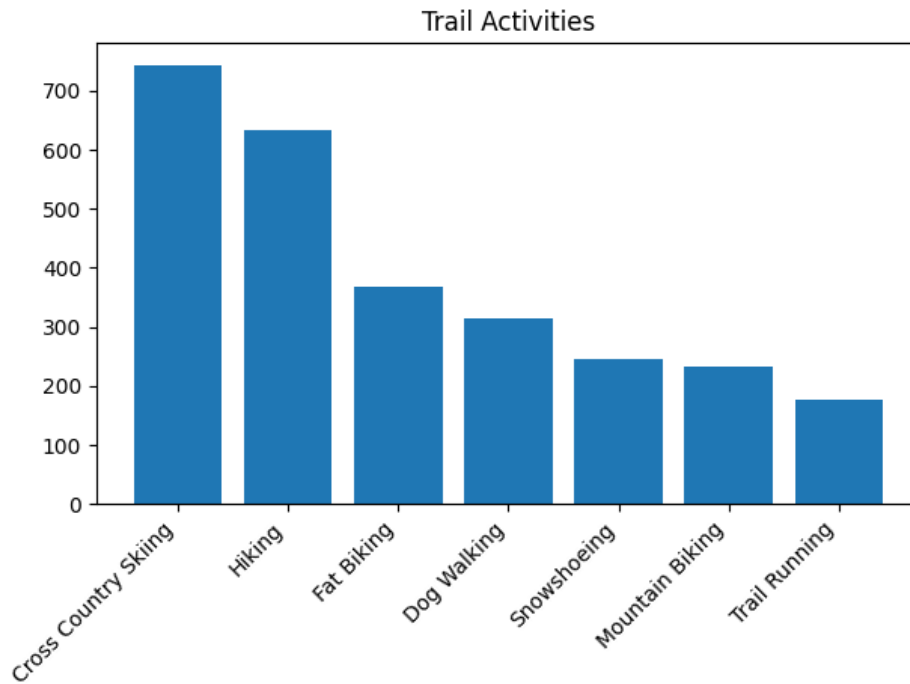
## Survey Overview

- Largest age groups: 45–64 and 65+
- Wide range of trail activities across seasons, year-round use anticipated
- Permanent Trail Centre is expected to primarily enhance the visitor experience, with a limited increase in visits

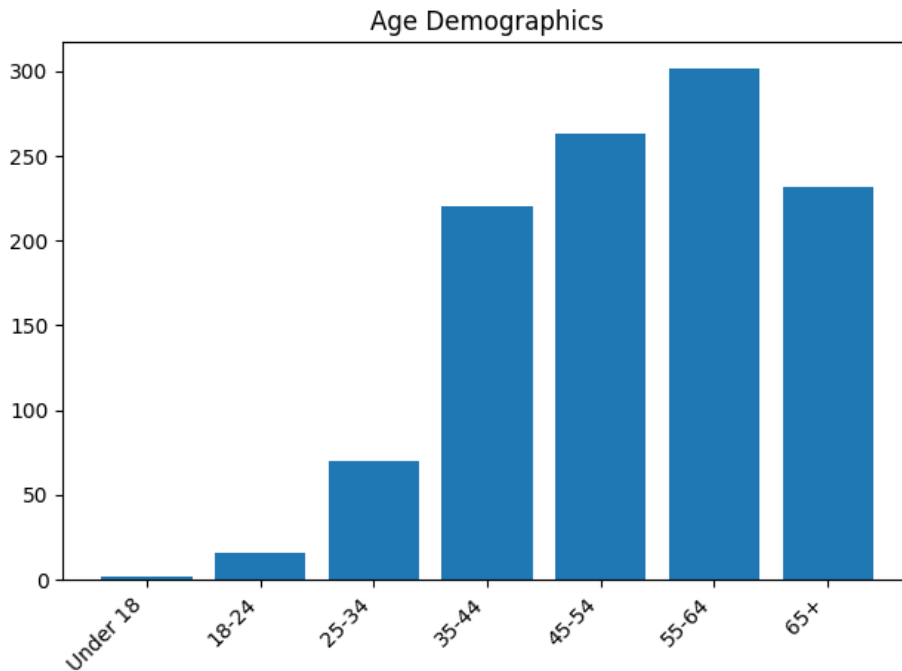
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### Trail Activities – Public Engagement Survey



### Age Demographics – Public Engagement Survey

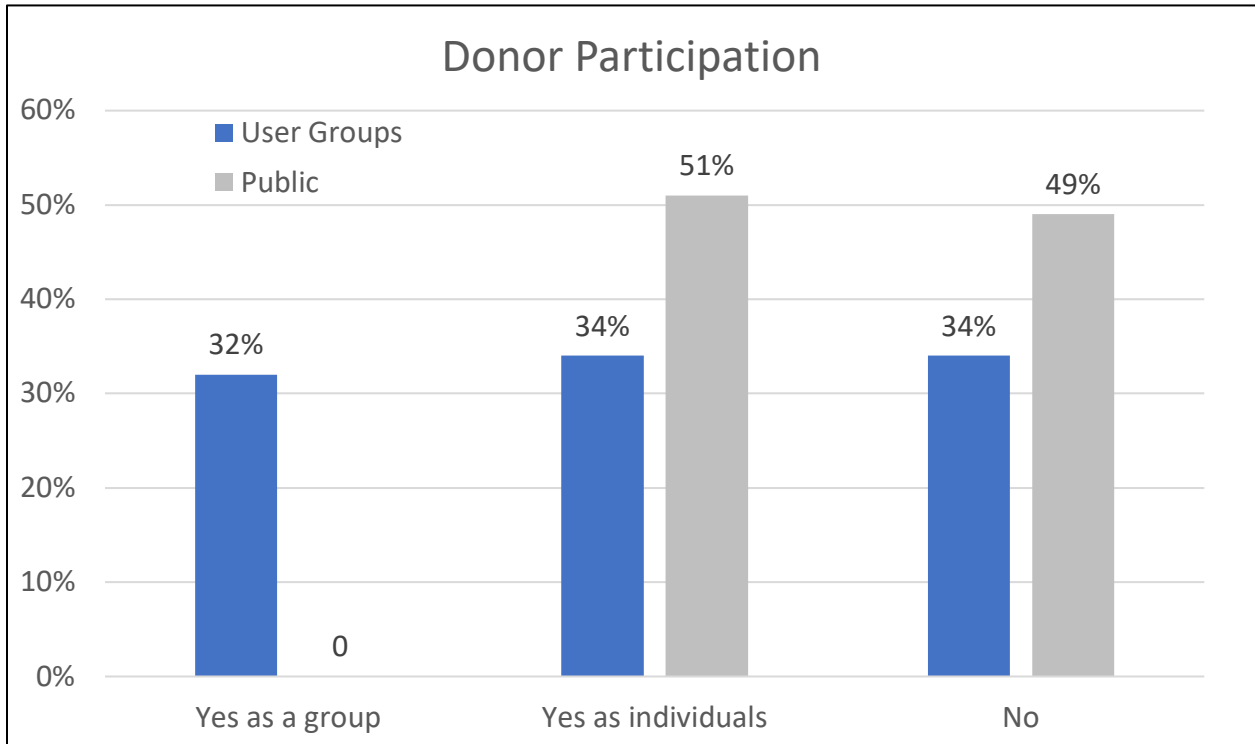


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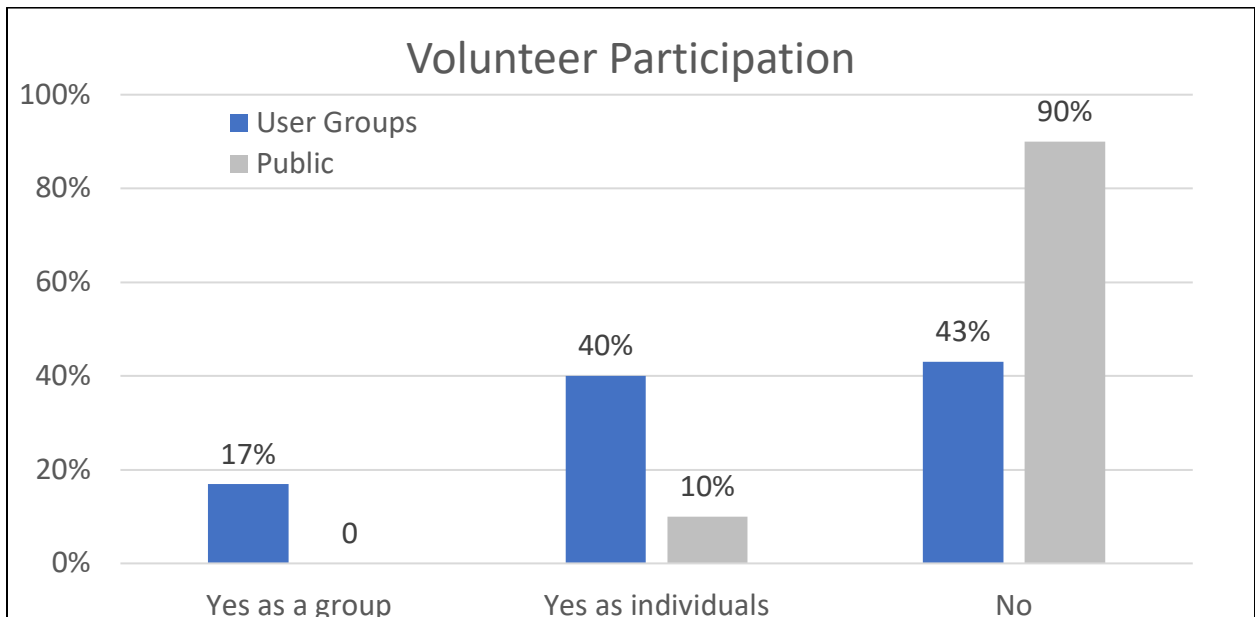


### Donation Participation

Participants were asked whether they currently donate to or volunteer with BCT.



### Volunteer Participation

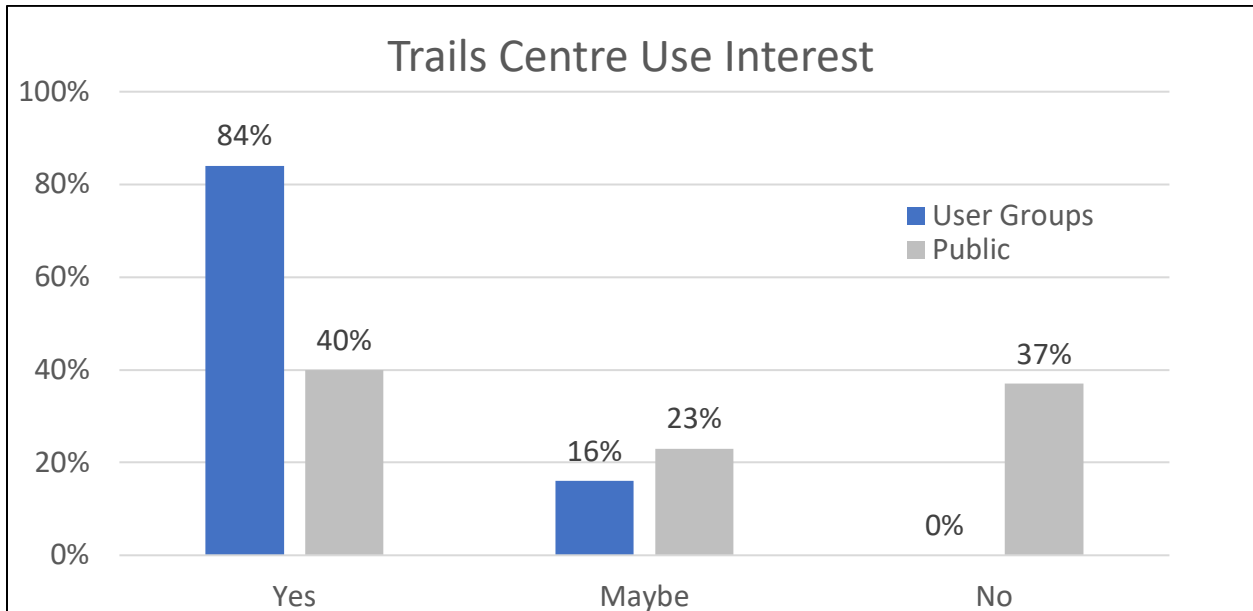


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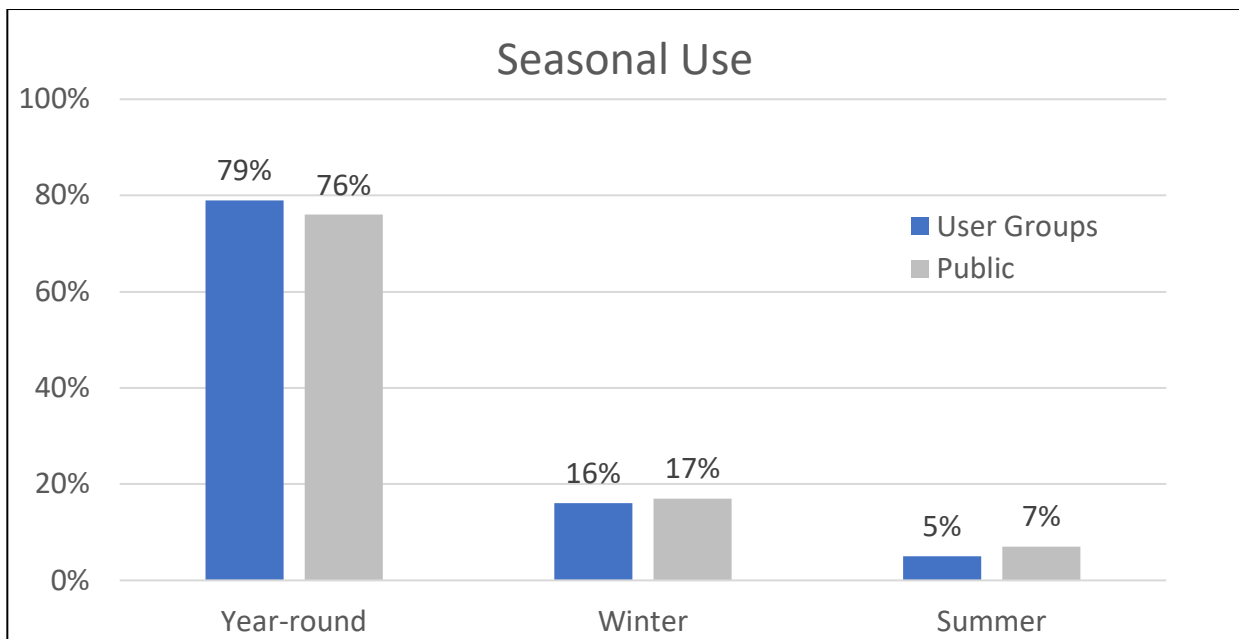
### Interest in a Permanent Trail Centre

Interest in the potential permanent Trail Centre varies across respondents.



### Seasonal Use

Respondents indicated that a permanent Trail Centre would most commonly be used year-round.

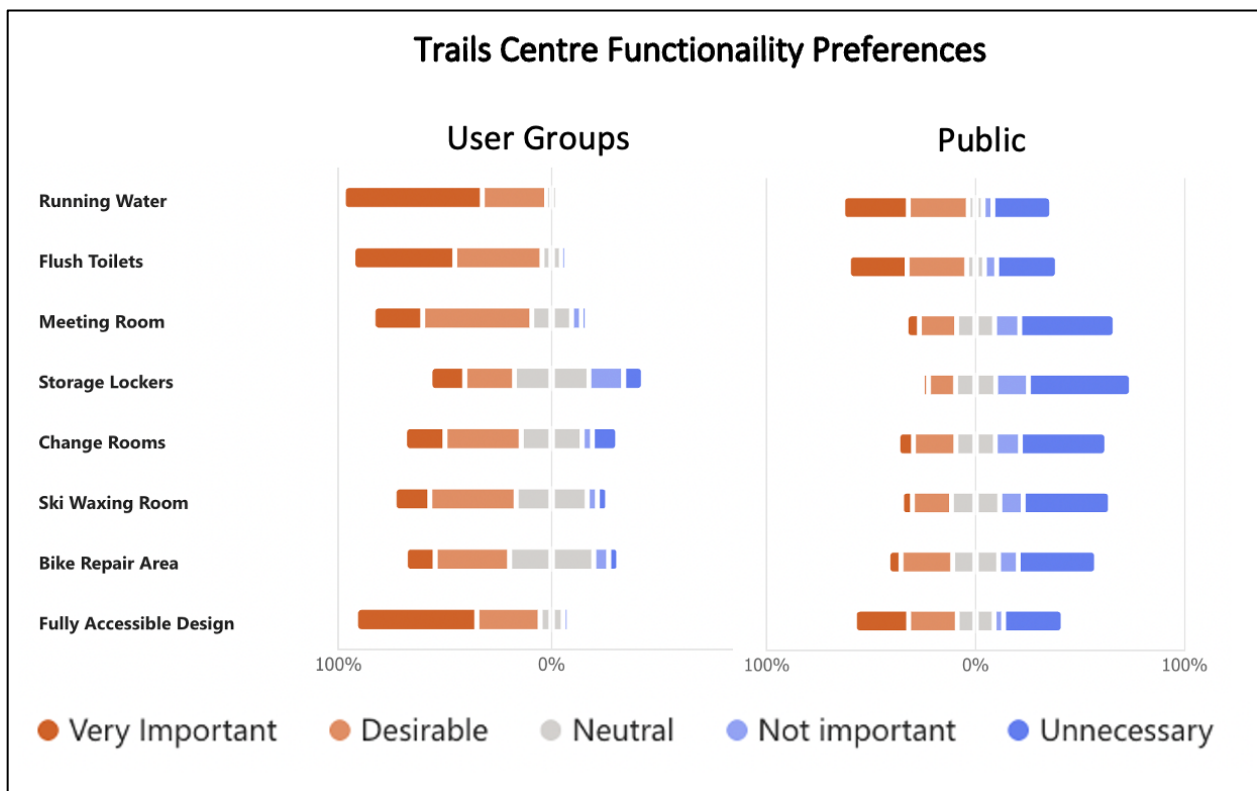


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## Functionality Preferences

The functionality preferences show strong alignment between public respondents and user groups on the importance of core amenities. Features such as running water, flush toilets, and fully accessible design were consistently identified as highly important. User groups demonstrated particularly strong support for functional and operational spaces, while public responses showed a broader range of preferences across additional features. Overall, the results reinforce the priority of providing practical, inclusive, and user-focused amenities within the Permanent Trail Centre.



## Community Feedback Themes

- Support for modest amenities such as washrooms and accessibility.
- Protecting the natural character of WBC.
- Supporting trail maintenance and volunteer stewardship.
- Managing increasing trail use.

## What Happens Next

- Design refinement, including a rustic design approach
- Financial planning with a sustainable, stand-alone funding model

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- Ongoing engagement with community and partners and communication through BCT channels

The Permanent Trail Centre will only proceed if it aligns with BCT's guiding principles and long-term sustainability

## Summary

The engagement survey highlights a highly connected and passionate trail community. Feedback reflects both interest in thoughtful infrastructure improvements and a strong desire to maintain the natural character of WBC while supporting stewardship of the trail network.

***\*This document has been prepared to support ongoing engagement regarding the Permanent Trail Centre project. It reflects current planning and considerations by the BCT Board, staff, and the project working group, and may be updated as feedback and discussions continue.***

For all, outside, every season.