

Paddle Prairie
METIS SETTLEMENT

COMMUNITY VISION WORKSHOP SUMMARY REPORT

PADDLE PRAIRIE LAND USE PLAN

Compiled by ProACTIVE Planning
Submitted to PPMS Administration on June 16 2022

On June 2, 2022, ProACTIVE Planning Inc. (ProACTIVE) held a Community Vision Workshop at the Paddle Prairie school gym. The three-hour (4 pm - 7 pm) workshop was drop-in/open house style and participants were directed to attend four stations that covered four topics of significance to the land use plan. The Community Vision Workshop was advertised for 4 weeks on the PPMS Facebook page, and through hard copy posters that were put up in various spaces in the community. The workshop was also used as an opportunity to promote the Land Use Plan Home Visit Interview program and the Photo Contest that will help encourage participation and awareness of the land use plan.

Community members of the Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement provideD valuable information on the major influencing components of the land use plan. Community members have unique and valuable insight into the values, needs, and wants of the entire community. The 'world-cafe' style workshop was intended to be relatively informal so that participants felt free to share as much as they saw fit on each individual topic.

The workshop had approximately 50 people attend and provide feedback throughout the duration of the event. The workshop, unfortunately, ended up coinciding with a Stanley Cup Playoff hockey game featuring the Edmonton Oilers which reduced the overall anticipated turnout. The community will be provided additional engagement opportunities throughout the land use plan project.

Participants in attendance were also invited to fill out a survey form, and a total of 12 forms were submitted. The responses of these forms will be combined to create a larger data set and will be amalgamated with the responses received from the online survey and through the home visits.



Community Workshop Participation and Dinner



Culture and Recreation is critical to explore when drafting PPMS' land use plan. In Paddle Prairie, the culture is innately and irretrievably linked to the land, and culture and recreation discussions will lead to designated cultural and recreational land uses. Culture in Paddle Prairie has changed many times over the years to accommodate the ways the land has also changed. Fires and floods have dramatically altered the Paddle Prairie landscape, and so cultural and recreational activities have also changed. The location of the old culture camp was destroyed by fire and hasn't been used since 2019. Recreation and sports are also very important to the community, but with flooding, sports are not always possible outdoors.

The responses for the Culture and Recreation station are as follows:

What do we Value?

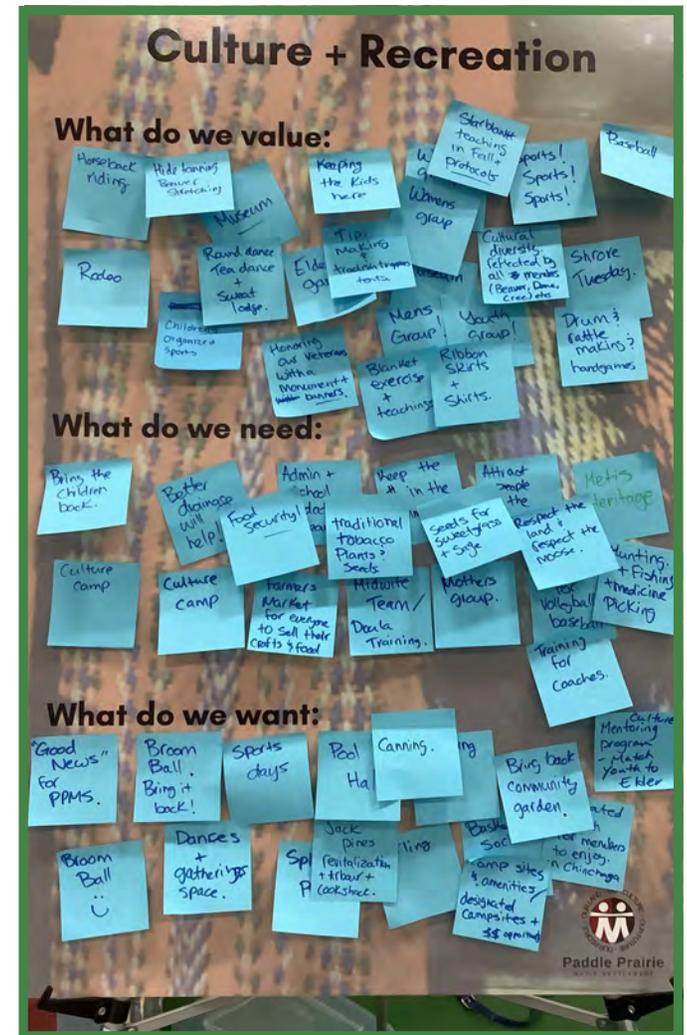
- Horseback riding
- Beaver stretching
- Hide tanning
- Rodeo
- Roundance
- Tea dance
- Tipi making and traditional trapping tents
- Sweat lodge
- Children's organized sports
- Keeping the kids here
- Elders gardens
- Starblanket teachings
- Women's group
- Baseball
- Shrove Tuesday
- Drum and rattle making,
- Hand games
- Youth group
- Ribbon skirts and shirts
- Men's group honoring veterans,
- Blanket teachings

What do we Need?

- Bring the children back
- Culture camp
- Better drainage
- Food security
- Traditional tobacco plants and seeds
- Farmer's market for crafts and food
- Midwife team or doula training
- Seeds for sweetgrass and sage
- Mothers group
- Attract people to the community
- Respect the land and animals
- Metis heritage
- Hunting, fishing, and medicine picking
- Volleyball court,
- Training for sports coaches,
- Admin building and school updating

What do we Want?

- Dances and gathering spaces
- Annual 'good news' release
- Jackpine revitalization
- Arbor mentoring program
- Youth and elder program
- Campsites with amenities
- Designated campsites as an income opportunity
- Designated Chinchaga beach
- Tompkins area revitalization
- Curling
- Sports days
- Cultural diversity is reflected by all members (Beaver, Dene, and Cree)
- Basket socials
- Pool hall
- Splash park
- Memorial monument



As Paddle Prairie looks toward the future of the community, economic development opportunities are top of mind. Paddle Prairie has a unique opportunity by holding the largest Settlement land base of any Metis community. The community itself and the major highway corridor present commercial opportunities. Paddle Prairie has access to a variety of natural resources (energy and forestry) that can be responsibly developed but must be done in a way that doesn't compromise traditional land use and cultural areas. The land is in proximity to major river corridors creating prime agricultural land. Paddle Prairie has every opportunity to create a balance of economic opportunity and to maintain traditional land-based practices for future generations. With a land base of this size, there are many possibilities.

The responses for the Commercial, Forestry and Agriculture station are as follows:

What do we Value?

- Our land and resources
- Our children's future here
- Our families
- Our culture
- Growing traditional plans such as saskatoons, rosehips, wild mustard, chamomile, and caragana plants

What do we Need?

- Road improvement
- Irrigation and water pumping
- Tourism camp
- Hunting and horseback riding
- Agricultural training
- Greenhouse
- Stand-by camps
- River tours (canoeing and kayaking)
- New store
- "Inviting" amenities
- Restaurant
- An interpretive center and museum
- Class 1 training

What do we Want?

- "The Biggest Wagon" entry attraction
- Car wash
- Wetland preservation credits
- Native seed collection and regeneration
- 24 hour truck stop
- Culture camp
- Tourism hub
- Training center or regular opportunities
- Farmers market
- More resources back to the community





TRADITIONAL LAND USE AND ENVIRONMENT

Traditional Land Use (TLU) and environmental management are key considerations for the Paddle Prairie Land Use Plan. While development and infrastructure can proceed in designated areas, there are vast areas where TLU and the environment need to be protected for current and future generations. TLU and environmental management need to be considered in the present-day context, specifically, 30% of PPMS's land base was destroyed by fire and some traditional medicines and traditional plants have been nearly wiped out. As part of the Land Use Plan, specific areas will be identified for potential reclamation and replanting of traditional plants and medicines, and other areas will be designated as "no development" areas where any resource development or infrastructure construction will be prohibited.

The responses for the Traditional Land Use and Environment station are as follows:

What do we Value?

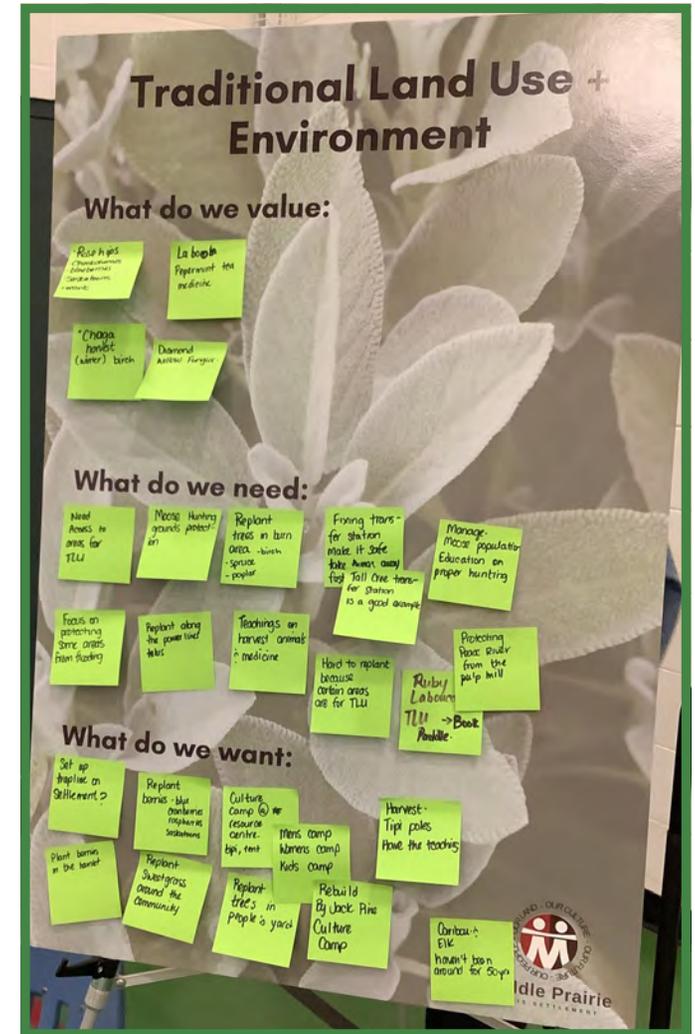
- Our land
- Traditional medicine
- Peppermint tea
- Chokecherries
- Blueberries
- Rosehips
- Saskatoons
- Mint
- Chaga
- La Bomb
- Diamond willow fungus
- Winter birch

What do we Need?

- Access to areas for traditional land use
- Moose hunting grounds protection
- Birch, spruce, and poplar replanting
- Fix transfer station to make it safer
- Manage moose population
- Replant along powerlines
- Hunter trainer education
- Protect Peace River
- Traditional Land Use Book
- Hard to replant because certain areas for TLU
- Teachings on harvest, animals, and medicine
- Flood protection is important

What do we Want?

- Set up a trapline on settlement
- Replant berries (blueberries, raspberries, cranberries, saskatoons)
- Culture camp at the resource center
- Tipi's / tenting
- Men's, women, kids camp
- Harvest tipi poles
- Rebuild by jackpine - culture camp
- Caribou and elk haven't been around for 50 years
- Replant sweetgrass around the community
- Replant trees in peoples yards



Like all communities, planning for housing and resources is critical for the long-term livability and sustainability of the community. In Paddle Prairie, there is a unique challenge for future housing and community resources considering that many areas flood annually. Moreover, there are few areas with high soil quality that should be designated for agriculture as part of economic prosperity for the Settlement. The greatest challenge that was articulated was the need for a structured system for surveying land in order to administer and manage existing housing. While the Land Use Plan can only address aspects of the housing and resource needs of the community, there is still potential to explore surveying opportunities in tandem with the development of the Land Use Plan.

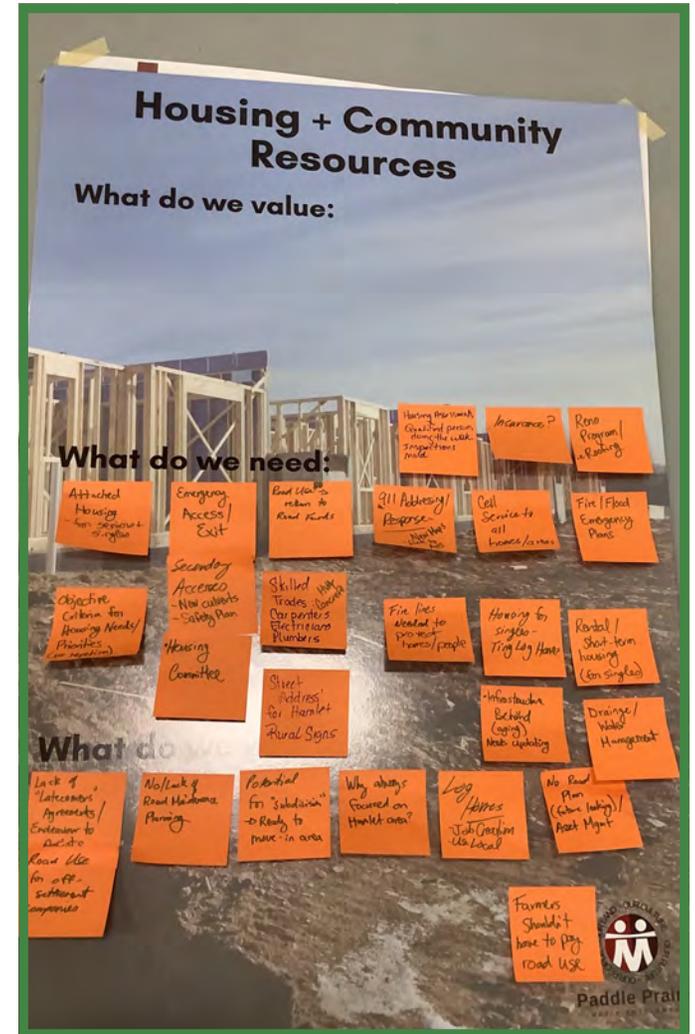
The responses for the Housing and Community Resource station are as follows:

What do we Need?

- Housing assessments
- Inspections for mold and qualified people doing the work
- Insurance
- Reno program
- Attached housing for senior and singles
- Emergency access/exit
- Road use revenue transformed into road funds
- Cellular service to all homes and areas
- 911 addressing
- Emergency response linked to AHS
- Fire and flood emergency plans
- Secondary accesses
- New culverts
- Rental and short-term housing for singles
- Housing for singles
- Tiny log homes
- Fire lines are needed to protect homes and people
- Infrastructure is aging and needs to be updated
- Draining / Water management,
- Street address for hamlet and rural signs
- Skilled trades - carpenters, electricians and plumbers
- Safety plan
- Housing committee
- Objective criteria for housing needs/priorities
- No nepotism

What do we Want?

- Latecomer agreements,
- Better road maintenance planning
- Road use agreements for off-settlement companies
- Potential for subdivision / ready-to-move-in area
- Log homes,
- Job creation and local use
- Road plan and asset management



The Community Vision Workshop provided important insight into the values, wants, and needs of the Paddle Prairie community. Similar to the Youth Workshop, the consistency with the four pillars of the settlement (Our Land, Our People, Our Future, Our Culture) was prevalent throughout. It was apparent in all four stations that the Paddle Prairie community is passionate about protecting the land and the way of life, while also seeking new opportunities and ways to utilize the land for economic and social prosperity. Many themes related to a specific use of the land that were identified will be explored further in the land use plan. The community also identified a number of tangible ways to involve the membership and create a better overall community through all four subject areas. The workshop themes also provide direction to the overall goals and values of the community that will guide the land use plan.

It was recognized that even though the workshop had a great turnout, there is additional engagement and feedback that needs to take place in order to create the best plan for the community. This will be accomplished through home visits to be completed by the Land Use Ambassador, and online survey opportunities.



Community Dinner