



Paddle Prairie
METIS SETTLEMENT

YOUTH WORKSHOP SUMMARY REPORT

PADDLE PRAIRIE LAND USE PLAN

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

INTRODUCTION

The Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement (PPMS) Land Use Plan requires valuable input from all members of the community. The next generation will be the new caretakers of the land and the future leadership of PPMS. It is important to include youth in the land use planning process as their relationship with the land is unique, therefore their perspectives are fresh, interesting, and meaningful. In youth workshops, it is common to find out what youth value about their community.

On June 2, 2022, ProACTIVE Planning Inc. (ProACTIVE) held a Youth Workshop at the Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement school gym. The first half of the workshop involved youth in Kindergarten to Grade 6 and the second half had youth from Grade 7 to Grade 12. The workshops saw participation from approximately 70 students with assistance from school staff.

The youth participated in an ice breaker activity intended to stress the importance of planning for a task. Participants were then given a brief presentation on the land use planning process and explained why youth participation was important to the process. Following this, participants were asked to attend each rotating station for approximately 10 minutes where they provided answers to ProACTIVE's questions. Answers were recorded by ProACTIVE team members.

The questions explored through the workshop and the responses received are detailed in the next section. There were multiple response themes that were replicated throughout each of the sessions. The frequency of the responses is reflected in the "Word Cloud" in each of the following sections.



Youth Workshop Ice Breaker Activities



STATION 1: FAVORITE PLACES AND THINGS TO DO RIGHT NOW

For Station 1, the youth were asked to provide a list of their favorite things to do and their favorite places. There were instances where participants would name places and activities that are outside of Paddle Prairie (ie: Trampoline Park), however, most youths expressed a genuine appreciation for Paddle Prairie and all it has to offer.

The dominant response themes of this station were focused on family, friends, recreation, and being on the land.



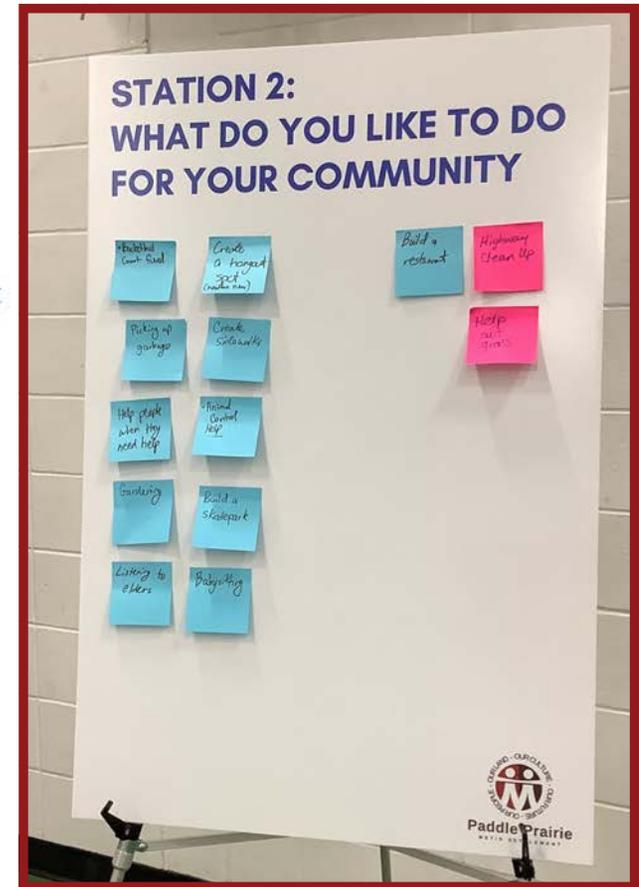
Station 1 Summary

STATION 2: WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO FOR YOUR COMMUNITY?

Station 2 was intended to challenge the youth and to shift their mindset into how they currently and would like to care for their community and how they envision their roles as community members. This question was intended to reveal the wants and needs that go beyond the individual and touch on the needs of the greater Paddle Prairie community.

The dominant themes of this station were about helping other community members and contributing to the sustainability and beauty of Paddle Prairie lands.

Animal control
 Help people swim
 Pick up garbage Babysitting
 Pick berries Be generous
 Give money to people who need it
 Create a hangout spot
 Gardening Help families
 Help cut grass
 Plant trees
 Help parents out
 Highway cleanup Listening to Elders
 Build a skatepark Clean houses
 Fixing basketball court
 Cut grass for others
 Share things
 Help people
 Stop bullying

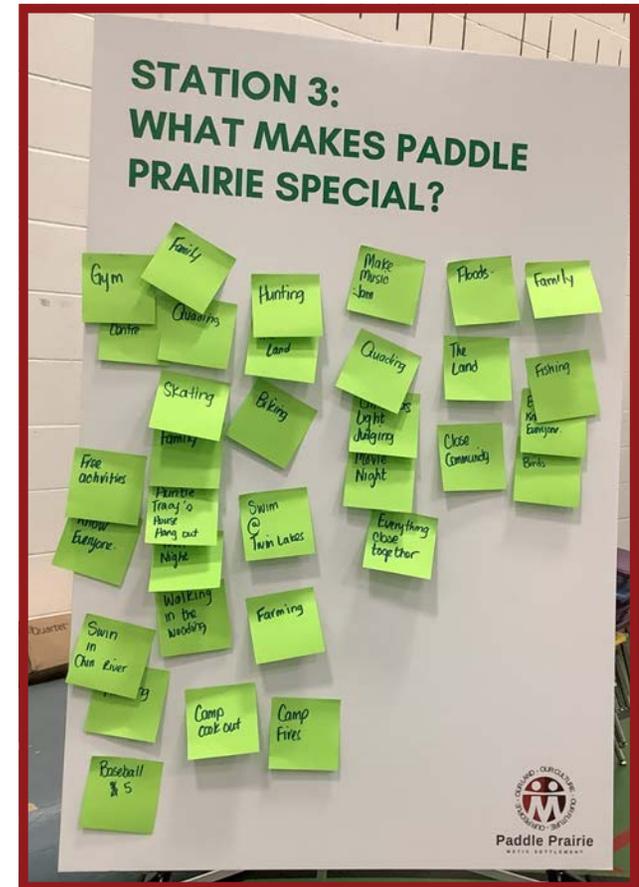
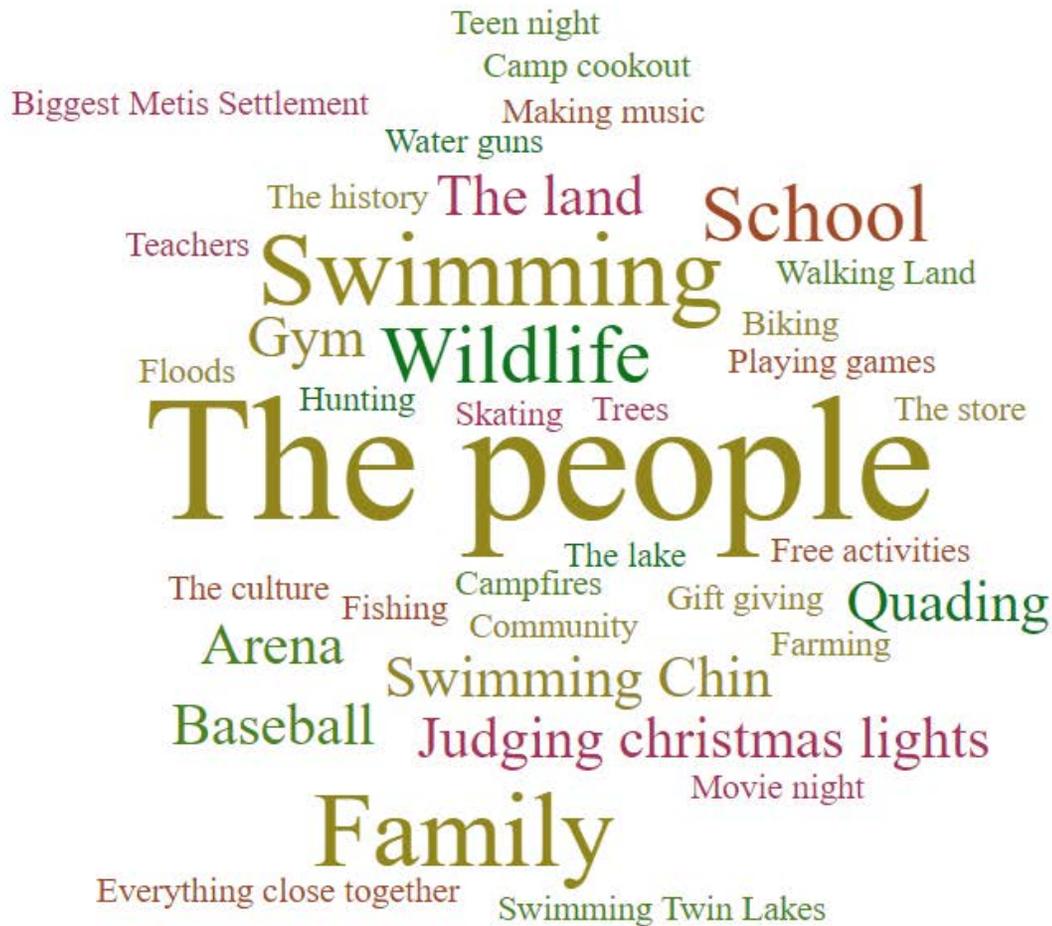


Station 2 Summary

STATION 3: WHAT MAKES PADDLE PRAIRIE SPECIAL?

Station 3 was intended to have participants share what makes Paddle Prairie a unique and genuinely special community. These responses were reviewed to discern which places and activities in Paddle Prairie are distinct and should be supported, upheld, or protected in the land use plan.

The dominant themes of this station were surprising - more than 25% of responses made reference to the people of Paddle Prairie as being "the thing" that makes this community so special. Also, the majority of other responses referenced activities on the land.



Station 3 Summary

YOUTH WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Over the course of the two separate youth workshops, three things became clear: the youth in Paddle Prairie were exceptional participants throughout the workshop, they truly love and appreciate their community, and they have big visions for the future of PPMS. The feedback truly reflected the four pillars of the settlement: Our Land, Our People, Our Future, Our Culture.

While most participants expressed an appreciation for their community, many youths mentioned how they wish there was more to do in the community. There were many themes that tie into the intentions of the land use plan: recreation amenities, commercial, agriculture, and traditional land use preservation. There were many responses that reflect some of their desired needs and wants including better sidewalks, better animal control, stronger connection to Elders, learning, and shopping opportunities. Many youths also said that they don't like going to the City (High Level and Edmonton) but feel like they have to because Paddle Prairie doesn't offer the same amenities (Trampoline Park, Shopping, Sports Tournaments).

Paddle Prairie has an empowered and enthusiastic community of youths and has great potential to develop additional amenities that youth and families will enjoy for generations to come. The land use plan can help identify what is possible and where these potential amenities might be best located in the future.



Youth Workshop Mural