

Village of Ryley

# FCSS Community Social Needs Assessment

August 2021

*Img Source: The Village of Ryley*



*Img Source: The Village of Ryley*







# Executive Summary

## Introduction

Ryley has a rich history and is home to community minded people and businesses and like any community, people are concerned about the welfare of their neighbours and family. For many years, the Village was a partner with Tofield and Beaver County in the regional Family and Community Support Services (FCSS)<sup>1</sup>. Ryley decided to leave the regional FCSS program and develop its own program.

To provide direction for this newly formed service, the Village completed this community needs assessment. This assessment examined the community to identify areas of focus for the newly developed FCSS program. This report presents the findings of the research and conclusions drawn; this, in turn, will provide direction as the Village's FCSS program charts its direction in the short term.

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<sup>1</sup> FCSS is a program that believes local solutions are the best means of addressing community issues. In particular, FCSS is intended to fund preventative programs and initiatives to build capacity and resilience, so people and communities are better able to help themselves.

## Conclusions

Based upon the research presented herein, several issues have been identified and conclusions drawn - these are presented below. Ultimately it is up to Ryley FCSS and the Village of Ryley to determine how to address the issues or, in fact, whether they have a role at all. For additional text for each item below, please refer to the full section of the report.

- **Counseling and medical professionals.** Counseling services to address a myriad of issues including mental health concerns, addictions, relationships, and parenting issues is desired locally. Related, there is a call for an assortment of health and medical professionals being available in Ryley.
- **Enhanced awareness of programs and services.** There is a need for ongoing and centralized promotion and communication efforts about the various agencies / organizations and the programs and services provided. To ensure people take advantage of all the available services there needs to be a single location that is well known to all residents where people can go and access this information.
- **Interagency meetings.** While it is important that residents are aware of the organizations and their programs and services, it is equally important that the agencies and organizations have this same awareness. To help ensure this occurs, and to facilitate synergies between the organizations, the structuring of an interagency meeting needs to occur.
- **Transportation challenges.** Because many of the services residents need are located out of Ryley, there is the need for people to be able to travel to other communities.
- **Volunteer development and support.** While there is a core of community volunteers, it can be difficult for some organizations to secure volunteers. This is particularly true for longer term commitments.
- **Community building.** Welcoming and integrating people into the community is an important element to building a place in which people care about each other and look after each other. This is manifested in a reduction in isolation and loneliness, improved feelings of safety, and people's greater investment - including volunteerism - in their community.

- **Community input.** Providing opportunities for the community to have some influence and/or input into happenings and decisions about community initiatives is important.
- **Youth/teen programming.** While there are some organizations that do offer youth programming, there is a strong desire for additional programs for youth - particularly those unaffiliated with a religious institution.
- **Adult & older adult programming.** Programming for adults can often take a back seat as efforts are dedicated to programming for children and families. Older adult programming is often left to the local seniors club (i.e. Sunshine Club).
- **Addressing personal safety.** Residents raised a concern related to personal safety. Some issues related to safety can be addressed to some degree through many of the aforementioned points (e.g. community building, health professionals, programming). This may be another issue for which a community initiative would be beneficial.
- **Lack of employment.** There is not an abundance of employment opportunities in Ryley. Concerns about employment have been expressed.

Based upon the findings of this needs assessment, the Ryley FCSS can determine what it wants to address and develop plans to do so. Consideration should be given to presenting to the public the findings from this needs assessment as well as the steps FCSS is taking to address its findings.

# Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Community Description</b>	<b>3</b>
	2.1 Community Demographics	5
<b>3</b>	<b>Planning &amp; Policy Review</b>	<b>8</b>
	3.1 Village of Ryley	8
	3.2 Province of Alberta	14
<b>4</b>	<b>Social Trend Research</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Community Assets</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Engagement</b>	<b>23</b>
	6.1 Household Survey	24
	6.2 Stakeholder Meetings	35
	6.3 Youth Survey	37
<b>7</b>	<b>Conclusions</b>	<b>40</b>
	<b>Appendices</b>	<b>43</b>
	Appendix A – Postcard	43
	Appendix B – Household Questionnaire	44
	Appendix C – Stakeholders Participating in the Engagement	51



# 1

## Introduction

Situated less than 80 km east southeast of Edmonton along Highway 14, the Village of Ryley is a community of 483 people. The Village has a rich history and is home to community minded people and businesses and like any community, people are concerned about the welfare of their neighbours and family. For many years, the Village was a partner with Tofield and Beaver County in the regional Family and Community Support Services (FCSS)<sup>1</sup>. Recently, Ryley decided to leave the regional FCSS program and develop its own program.

The FCSS Regulation states that the services must do one or more of the following:

- help people to develop independence, strengthen coping skills and become more resistant to crisis;
- help people to develop an awareness of social needs;
- help people to develop interpersonal and group skills which enhance constructive relationships among people;
- help people and communities to assume responsibility for decisions and actions which affect them;
- provide supports that help sustain people as active participants in the community.

To provide direction for this newly formed service, the Village completed a community needs assessment. This assessment examined the community to identify areas of focus for the newly developed FCSS program. This report presents the findings of the research and conclusions drawn; this, in turn, will provide direction as the Village's FCSS program charts its direction in the short term.

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<sup>1</sup> FCSS is a program that believes local solutions are the best means of addressing community issues. In particular, FCSS is intended to fund preventative programs and initiatives to build capacity and resilience, so people and communities are better able to help themselves.

Components of the research are described below:

- **Community Description.** This describes the context within which the FCSS program will be delivered. It describes where Ryley is; its proximity to other population centres; its demographic composition; and projections for growth.
- **Planning & Policy Review.** The Village has plans and documents that can have some influence on the FCSS program. In part, these documents underscore the importance the Village places on its residents' quality of life. An overview of the Province's Social Policy Framework is presented as well.
- **Social Trends.** Looking beyond the local context, this section presents some research findings that may be applicable to the Ryley context. Insights can be gathered from looking elsewhere and applying learnings to the local context.
- **Community Assets.** Assets within Ryley exist that help achieve some of the outcomes of FCSS. These assets can also be potentially levered by FCSS as it undertakes its work. While some may not be initially considered as pertinent to social services, potential does exist to address social issues. In addition, some assets are not home in Ryley but they do provide services to Village residents.
- **Community Engagement.** A varied program of community engagement was undertaken to shed light on issues in the community. Engagement activities included a resident household survey, a youth survey, and stakeholder interviews and meetings. Together, the findings from these engagement mechanisms offers insight into potential areas of FCSS focus.

Based on these research elements overall conclusions are presented that can guide the new FCSS program.

*Img Source: The Village of Ryley*



# 2

## Community Description

Located southeast of the City of Edmonton, the Village of Ryley is a regional agricultural centre in Beaver County, surrounded by several towns and villages including the Town of Tofield, the Village of Holden and the Hamlet of Bruce.

Historically, the Village has been a regional hub with a variety of local businesses to support the surrounding farms that focus on the production of grain and cattle. The administration offices for Beaver County are also located in Ryley, along with various community and recreation services that provide employment opportunities for local residents. Ryley is part of the Battle River Alliance for Economic Development (BRAED) region. BRAED is a partnership of communities in East Central Alberta whose purpose is to work cooperatively and voluntarily to address community economic development issues from a regional perspective.

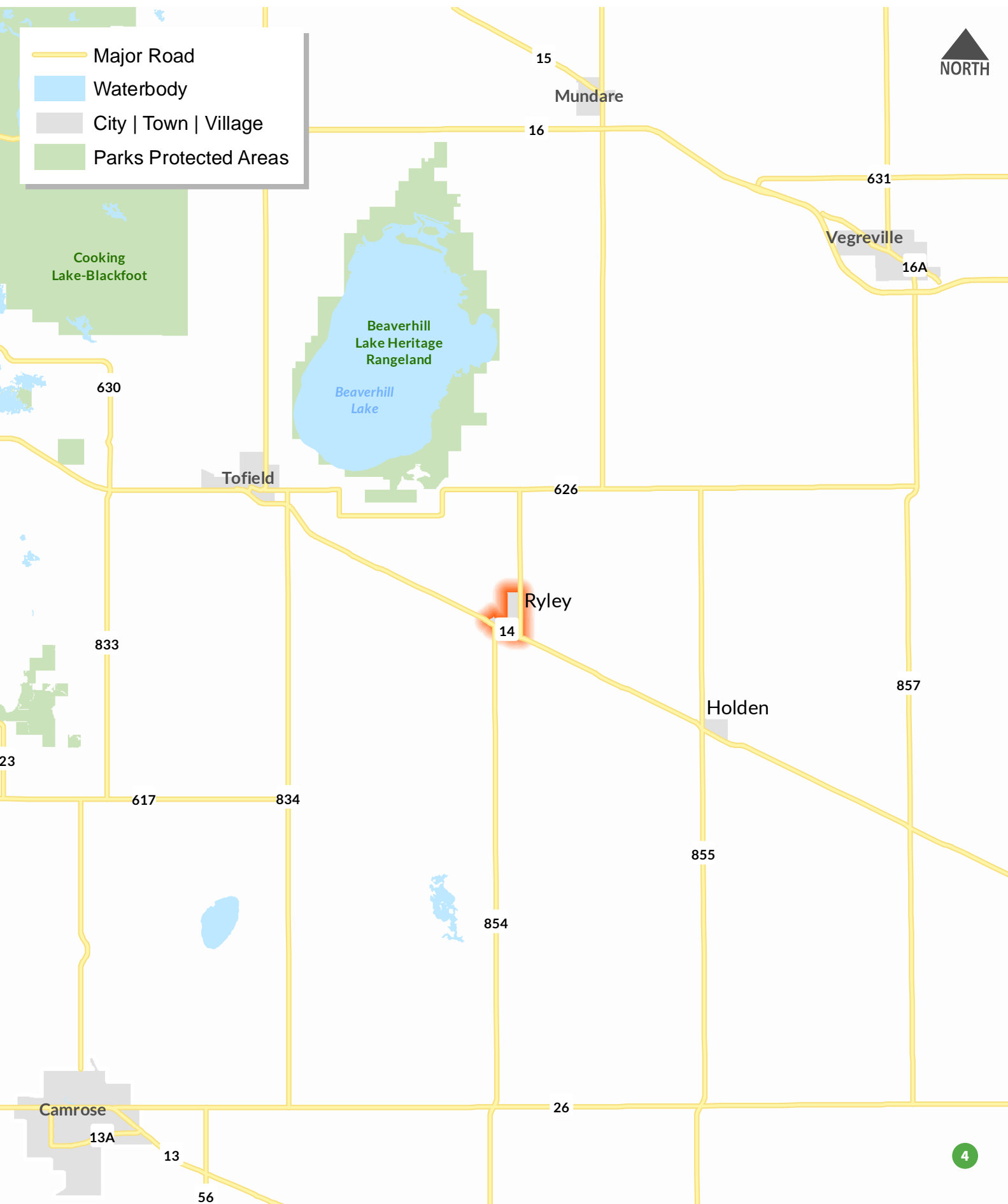
Once called Equity, the Village is named for George Urquhart Ryley, who was the Grand Trunk Railway's Land Commissioner and Chief Townsite Agent in the early part of the 20th century. The Railway established a station in what is now Ryley in 1908 and the Village was incorporated in 1910 and has remained a village ever since.

Recreation facilities within the village include a community centre, the Ryley District Museum, the newly renovated indoor Swimming Pool and Fitness Centre (which is operated by the Beaver Heritage and Agricultural Society), ball diamonds, outdoor skating rink, three sheet curling rink and the new Skate/BMX Park and two playgrounds. Where the CN Rail Station once stood is now a community park complete with rubber walking path and a gazebo.

The McPherson Library provides a variety of services including unlimited free Internet access, interlibrary loans, a collection of books and resources, and a Summer Reading and Activity Program for children. There are 4 local churches – Bethel Lutheran, Seventh Day Adventist, The Total Life Centre and the Good News Community Church. Children from kindergarten through grade nine attend elementary school in Ryley while high school students leave Ryley to attend school in Tofield<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> It should be noted that students in Ryley may also attend other schools in other communities.



## 2.1 Community Demographics

According to the Federal Census, the Village population was 483 in 2016, which is a slight decrease from the 2011 population of 497. According to the 2016 Census<sup>1</sup>, 3% of the population identified as a visible minority (Chinese or South Asian decent) and 12% are Indigenous, which represents a 50% increase over the previous five years (Statistics Canada, 2017).

While updated census information is not available beyond 2016 for Ryley, the Village has experienced growth. Village officials have noted an influx of families and older adults. According to the Municipal Development Plan (Village of Ryley, 2020), this growth is from a combination of net migration and births. During that same period, the surrounding area has experienced a small decline in population with a noted movement of people westward to within commuting distance of the Alberta capital region. The estimated population in 2020 was 488<sup>2</sup>, and the projected population for 2025 is 494 (Esri<sup>3</sup>, 2021).

*Img Source: The Village of Ryley*



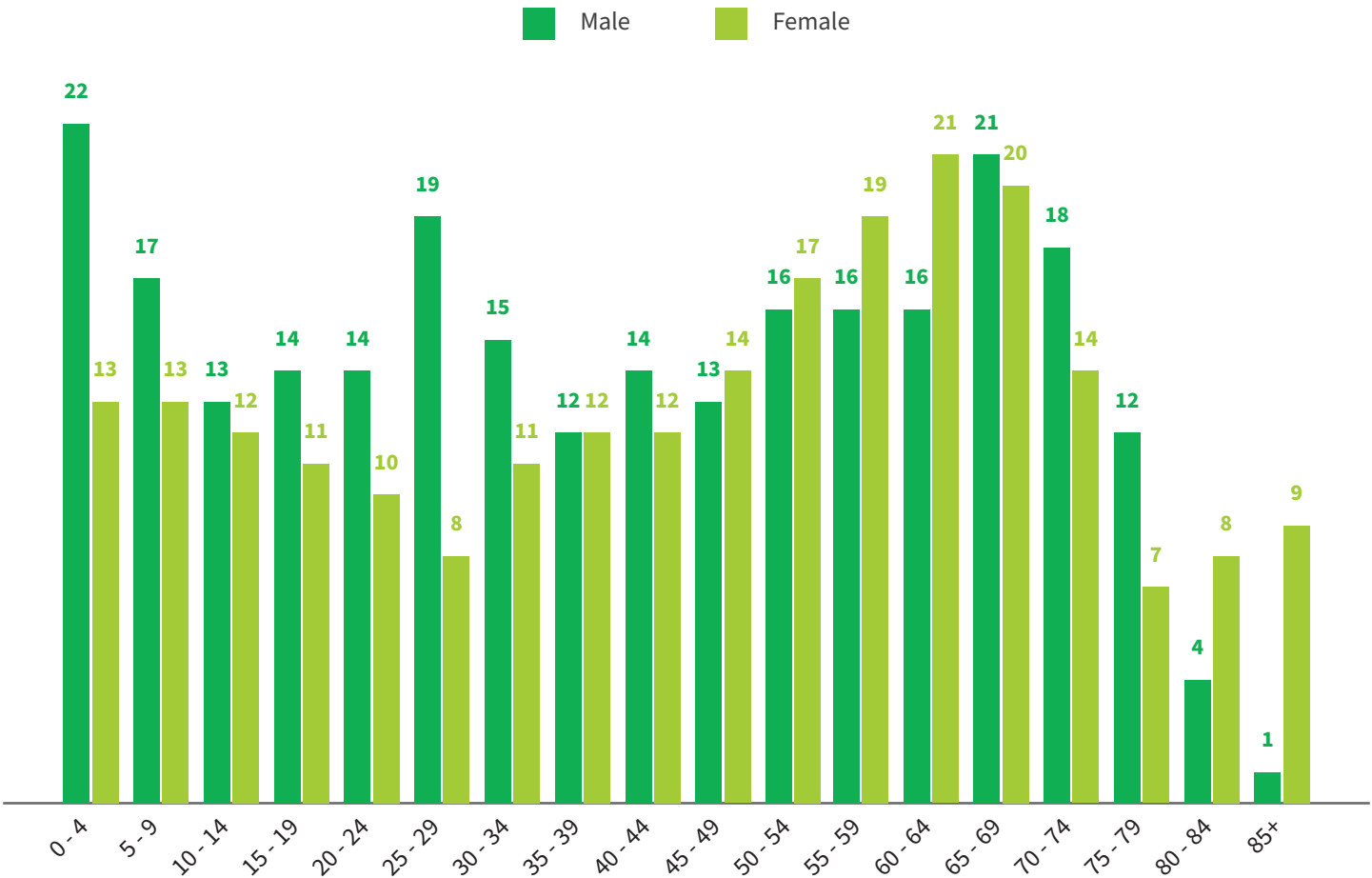
- 1 Statistics Canada. 2017. Ryley, VL [Census subdivision], Alberta and Alberta [Province] (table). Census Profile. 2016 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-X2016001. Ottawa. Released November 29, 2017. <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed July 13, 2021).
- 2 Projected 2020 and 2025 demographics are sourced from Esri and Business Analyst
- 3 ESRI (Environmental Systems Research Institute) provides an online tool called Business Analyst which provides reports on communities based on Statistics Canada, selected InfoCanada Business Listings Data, HERE Streetmap Premium files.

### 2.1.1 Age

Like many other rural Alberta communities, the Village’s population is aging. Based on the 2016 Census the median age in Ryley was 43, which is five years older than the provincial average. This median age has continued to increase; in 2020 it was 45.4 years. Women are slightly older than men, with the median age of women in 2020 49.8 years and the median age of men 40.9 years in 2020 (ESRI, 2021). The average life expectancy was 79.9 years in 2018 (Alberta Municipal Affairs, 2021).

#### Population Composition

(2020 est.)



### 2.1.2 Households

As of 2016, the Village of Ryley contained a total of 205 dwellings – 83% of which are owner occupied and 17% to be occupied by renters. According to the Municipal Development Plan (2020) most of the housing stock was built before 1980 (74%), with ten percent of the housing stock in need of major repairs; this is roughly double the provincial average (Village of Ryley, 2020).

It is projected that by 2025 the Village of Ryley will contain a total of 224 households, with an average household size of 2.1 – 80% of which are owner occupied, and 20% to be occupied by renters (ESRI, 2021).

In 2020 there were 135 census families, composed of 114 couple families and 21 lone-parent families. Of the couple families in 2020, the majority are couples without children at home 54% compared to 46% with children. Of the lone-parent families 65% were female parent families and 35% were male parent families (ESRI, 2021).

The average household income in Ryley is \$72,385 according to the 2016 Census; this is significantly lower than the Alberta average of \$125,522 (Statistics Canada). It is estimated that the average household income was \$76,369 in 2020 (ESRI, 2021).

### 2.1.3 Education & Employment

According to the 2016 Census approximately one-third of the population of Ryley aged 15 years and older have no certificate, diploma, or degree. This is balanced by 50% of the population that have postsecondary diploma or degree – the majority of which is an apprentice or trade certificate or diploma.

The Village has an employment rate of 90% according to the 2016 Census. The largest occupation type in the Village workforce is trades/transportation/equipment operators at 36%, followed by business, finance and management at 22% and health at 13%. Of employed residents, 35% work in the Village and 45% work within the region (Statistics Canada, 2021).



# Planning & Policy Review

# 3

There are numerous municipal plans and documents that have some influence on the provision of services related to social needs in Rley. Several Village plans and studies have been reviewed; a summary of these is noted below. These plans and studies reference the Village's desire and efforts to enhance the lives of its residents. The perspectives of residents about Village life is also reviewed as captured during a citizen survey. An overview of Alberta's Social Policy Framework is included herein as well.

## 3.1 Village of Rley

### 3.1.1 Municipal Development Plan (MDP)

Bylaw 2020-935 was passed by Council in July 2020. The MDP provides long range guidance for the development of the Village of Rley. It outlines principles, goals, objectives, and policies related to the community's development. It has been reviewed with pertinent items related to the social circumstances of residents highlighted.

The MDP identifies a principle of Smart Growth with themes identified. Those particularly pertinent to this needs assessment are noted below.

- Fostering an identity which is unique, vibrant, diverse, and inclusive.
- Nurturing engaged citizens. Community members and volunteers will participate in community life and decision-making.
- Providing a variety of transportation choices to ensure that urban areas are attractive and have safe infrastructure for walking and cycling, in addition to driving.
- Facilitating the provision of diverse housing opportunities so that people in different family types, life stages and income levels will be able to afford a home in the village.
- Preserving open spaces, natural beauty, and environmentally sensitive areas.



There are twenty-one goals listed in the MDP. Those of particular relevance to this needs assessment are noted.

- Encourage the positive attributes that make the Village of Ryley a safe and caring community.
- Enhance the quality of life in the Village of Ryley by offering better facilities and services to residents and by improving the environment.
- Expand and diversify the village economic base while providing a high-quality living environment for residents.
- Encourage the development of a variety of transportation choices within the community and the larger region.
- Facilitate the provision of diverse housing opportunities within the community.
- Manage and maintain municipal recreational, cultural and heritage resources to a standard of excellence that meets residents needs and makes Ryley a tourist destination.
- Identify and promote significant recreational, cultural and heritage resources within the village.
- Enhance existing regional and community partnerships and seek new collaborative opportunities.



Img Source: The Village of Ryley

### 3.1.2 Ryley Strategic Plan

The Village developed its strategic plan for the years 2018-2022. It does include completion dates for each objective<sup>1</sup>. Objectives of relevance to this needs assessment are listed below.

- 4.1 Communicate to residents the services available through FCSS, the library, and the Pool and Wellness Centre.
- 4.4 Develop a strategy to engage youth in the community.
- 7.1 Enhance communication with residents
- 7.2 Adopt a strategy to address volunteer maintenance and enhancement.

Img Source: Go East of Edmonton



<sup>1</sup> The Strategic Plan does not indicate if the completion dates have been met nor progress towards the achievement of the objectives.

#### Village of Ryley Public Consultation Summary



In January of 2018 the Village of Ryley completed a public consultation survey. This survey was designed to collect important feedback from residents on the programs and services offered by the Village, and to help Council and municipal administration plan for the future.

The Village received 97 completed surveys. These surveys provided both numerical responses and written responses. All of the responses we received were important, and your feedback was very appreciated.

In February, 2018, Council completed a facilitated strategic planning retreat to plan for the future of the community. Your survey feedback was a major consideration when discussing future projects and initiatives. In the sections that follow, this document provides a summary of what we heard from the surveys as well as the new strategic objectives that arose from your feedback.

##### 1. Municipal Services and Quality of Life

The survey asked participants to rate the programs and services provided by the Village, and to assess various aspects of the overall community on a scale ranging from "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree". We converted the results to an overall percentage score to see where the Village of Ryley performed well, and where you felt we needed to improve. Here is what we heard.

##### Areas that scored high (scored over 75%)

Question	% Score
The waste management services provided by the Village of Ryley are satisfactory	87%
I feel safe living in the Village of Ryley	86%
Utility services provided by the Village are satisfactory	81%
The Village's operation of the cemetery is satisfactory	81%
Recreation facilities in the Village are satisfactory	78%
The condition of parks and open spaces in the Village is satisfactory	77%
Emergency services provided for the Village are satisfactory	75%
Village owned facilities are well maintained	75%

You told us that Ryley is a safe community with well maintained parks and community owned facilities. There is a high level of satisfaction with municipal programs and services related to waste management, emergency services and utilities.

##### Areas for improvement (scored under 60%)

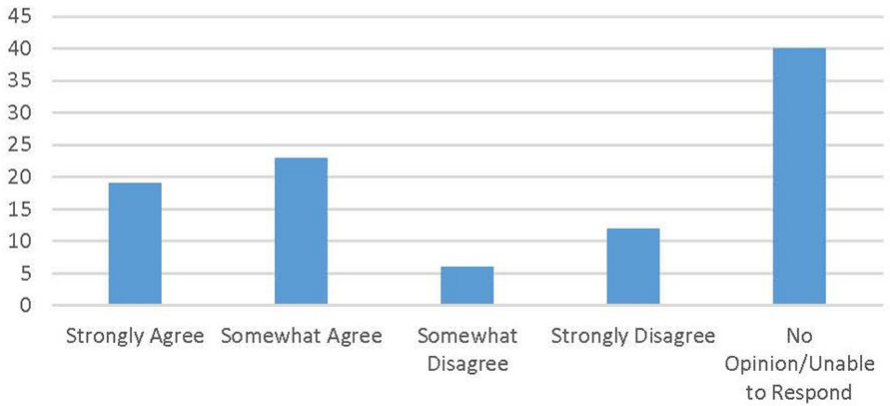
Question	% Score
In consideration of the services provided by the Village, the Village's tax rates are reasonable	58%

### 3.1.3 Public Consultation Summary

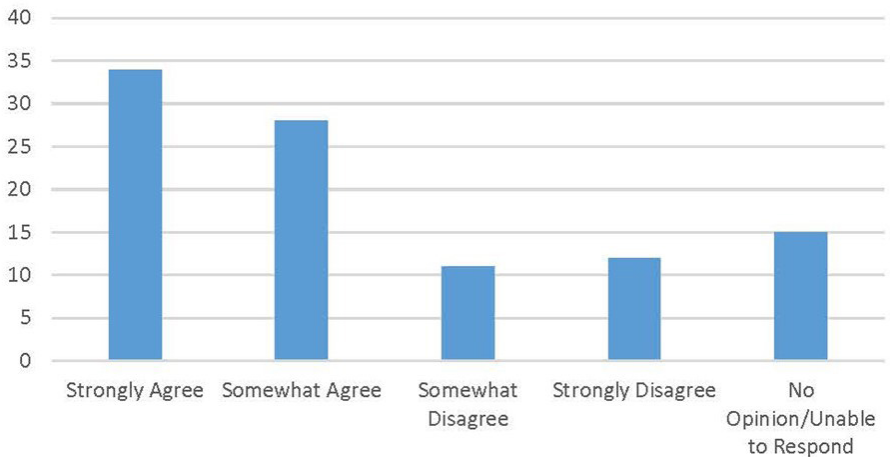
The Village undertook a public survey to gather the perspectives of residents on a range of municipal services. The survey was fielded in January 2018. Highlights from the survey are noted below with some graphs taken from the report.

- 86% of respondents agreed that, "I feel safe living in the Village of Ryley."
- 77% of respondents agreed that, "The Village should create incentives for recognizing volunteers and volunteer groups in Ryley."

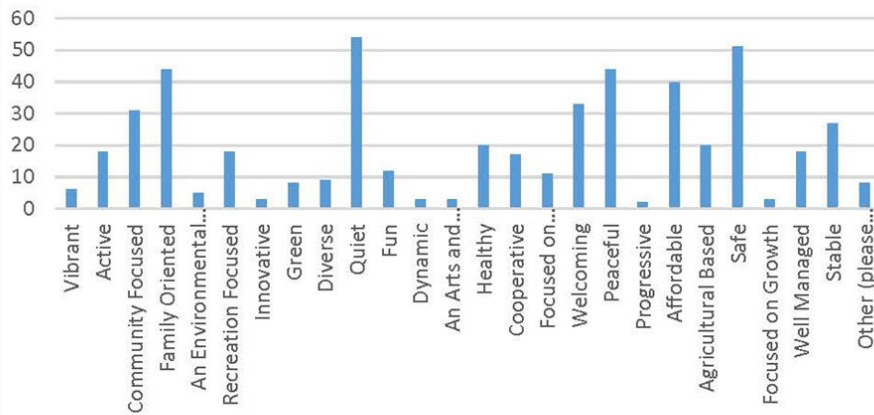
#### 11. Village Supported Social Programs for Citizens and Families in Need are Satisfactory



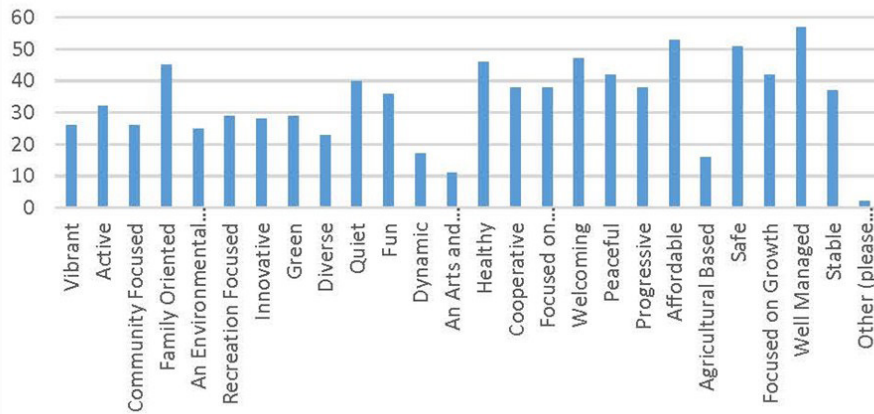
#### 31. I am satisfied with my quality of life in Ryley



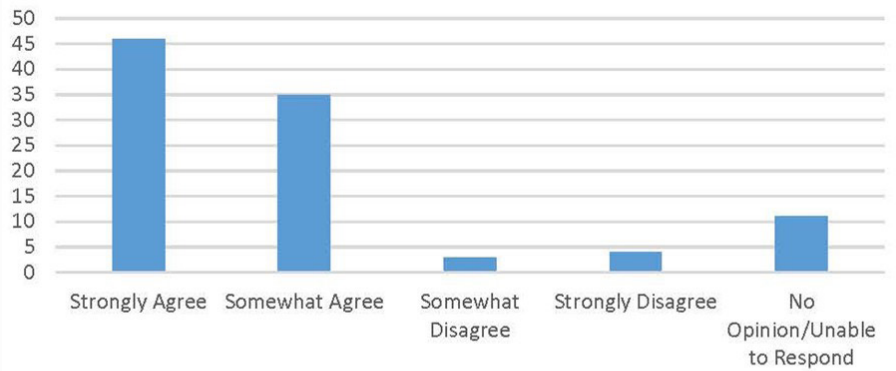
32. Please choose each of the words you believe **currently apply** to the Village of Ryley



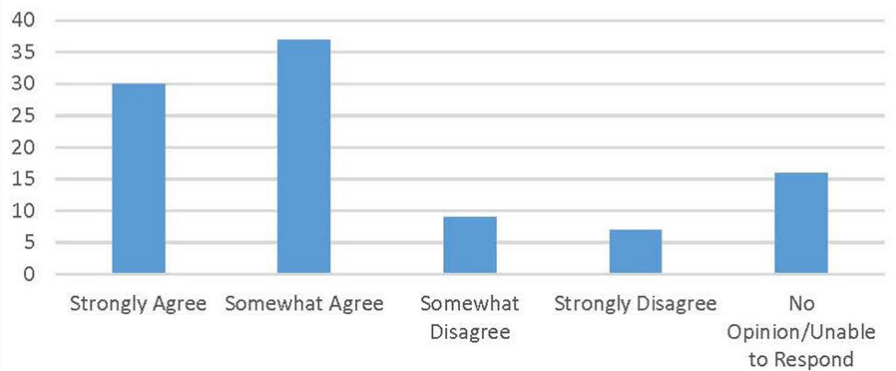
33. Which of the following words would be used to describe your **ideal future** for Ryley



41. Village Supports for Volunteer Groups are Necessary to Keep Local Organizations Going in Ryley



42. The Village Should Create Incentives for Recognizing Volunteers and Volunteer Groups in Ryley

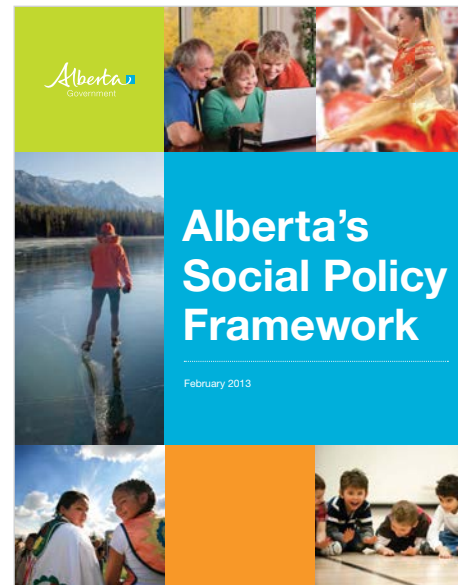


## 3.2 Province of Alberta

### 3.2.1 Alberta's Social Policy Framework

Completed in February 2013, the Social Policy Framework is a vision for social policy that serves as a blueprint for helping Albertans achieve their potential. It includes desired outcomes and key principles. The Framework includes a vision...

*In Alberta, everyone contributes to making our communities inclusive and welcoming. Everyone has opportunities to fulfill their potential and to benefit from our thriving social, economic, and cultural life.*



#### APPENDIX A: ALBERTA'S SOCIAL POLICY FRAMEWORK OUTLINE

Overarching Goals & Directions	SOCIAL POLICY GOALS These goals belong to all Albertans: individuals, families, communities, non-profit and private sectors, and governments	
	Protect the Vulnerable	
STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS Our common areas of focus and action	Transform	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; We transform systems and relationships to produce better outcomes for all Albertans</li> <li>&gt; We orient practices, delivery systems, and culture to the framework principles and outcomes</li> <li>&gt; We implement transformational initiatives</li> </ul>	

SPF VISION Overall direction for social policy in Alberta	OUTCOMES Frame and orient activities towards common goals	
	Social Policy Outcomes	System Outcomes
In Alberta, everyone contributes to making our communities inclusive and welcoming. Everyone has opportunities to fulfill their potential and benefit from our thriving social, economic, and cultural life.	<b>Albertans are ...</b>	<b>Aligned</b>
	<b>Safe</b> > Live free from fear of abuse and violence	> Policy is aligned across program areas; tools and supports work together
	<b>Healthy</b> > Achieve the highest attainable standards of health and well-being	<b>Accessible</b> > Albertans have access to and benefit from cohesive, flexible, timely, and informed services and supports
	<b>Secure &amp; Resilient</b> > Support themselves and their households through safe work and career opportunities, with access to effective income supports when in financial need	<b>Complementary</b> > Roles are balanced, complementary, and work together to achieve outcomes
	<b>Lifelong Learners</b> > Develop the knowledge, skills, and commitment to learning needed to participate in society and reach potential	
	<b>Included</b> > Feel welcomed in the communities where they live, learn, and work	
	<b>Active &amp; Engaged</b> > Explore opportunities to participate in recreational activities and cultural experiences, and to engage in Albertan society	

Reduce Inequality	Create a Person-centred System of High-quality Services	Enable Collaboration and Partnerships
Innovate	Collaborate	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; We use the framework as a tool to generate alignment across policy domains and tools</li> <li>&gt; We use policy as an outcomes-based tool to create new opportunities, in improved ways</li> <li>&gt; We incent and encourage innovation to achieve agreed-upon outcomes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; We work together to achieve positive social outcomes</li> <li>&gt; We use broad coalitions to resolve challenges</li> <li>&gt; We share a common language and a common vision for the future</li> </ul>	

	PRINCIPLES Guide decision making, programs and service delivery	ACTIONS Priority transformational initiatives to realize change*	POLICY SHIFTS Influence and inform policy
<b>Balanced</b> > Programs and services are balanced between prevention and intervention, support the whole person, and recognize strengths and needs	Dignity	Early Childhood Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Policy balances prevention and intervention</li> <li>2. Policy supports citizens to have the resources and competencies for success</li> <li>3. Government is an influencer, convener, and partner</li> <li>4. Social policy emphasizes the integration and coordination of resources</li> <li>5. Policy is a tool to empower, facilitate, and create opportunity</li> <li>6. Focus on outcomes, quality, values, and dignity</li> </ol>
	People First	Poverty Reduction Strategy	
	Healthy and Strong Relationships	Common Service Access	
	Mutual Responsibility	Primary Health Care Initiatives	
<b>Accountable and Sustainable</b> > Social programs and services are results-oriented, transparent, and sustainable	Inclusion	Results-based Budgeting	
	Proactive	Partner with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Communities	
	Collaborative	Safe Communities	
	Accountable	10-Year Plan to End Homelessness	

\* This is a list of leading Government of Alberta initiatives and not an exhaustive list of actions by government or other sectors.

# 4

## Social Trend Research

A scan of trends, issues, and research related to the provision of social services in Ryley was conducted. Items of relevance to this needs assessment are highlighted below. This is a time of rapid change. Social, economic, and technological developments, along with the unknown long-term implications of COVID, are all having far reaching impacts on the way people live, work and play. These factors are resulting in significant changes to the way governments and organizations are conceiving, funding, and delivering community-based services. Service providers will need to be prepared for these changes in order to navigate them successfully. The following section highlights key information on emerging trends and leading practices in community social services.

### Place Based Approach to Community Services

Place-based approaches are collaborative, long-term approaches to build thriving communities delivered in a defined geographic location. This approach is ideally characterized by partnering and shared design, shared stewardship, and shared accountability for outcomes and impacts. Place-based approaches are often used to respond to complex, interrelated or challenging issues – such as to address social issues impacting those experiencing, or at risk of, disadvantage, or for natural disasters.

- Department of Social Services,  
Australian Government

A place-based approach to community and health services has gained significant attention over the past few years at the policy, research, and community level. This interest has been driven by the idea that the complex social, health and economic issues people experience are connected to and influenced by their unique social environment and place. Essentially, it is the idea that people in different communities will experience social, health, and economic issues differently and that preventative and intervention social and health services should reflect the unique nature of that community. A place-based approach advocates for the creation of a strategy to address issues like disadvantage and health and social inequality by developing services and programs that are designed meet the specific needs of a particular community, not designed at a provincial or federal level<sup>1</sup>.

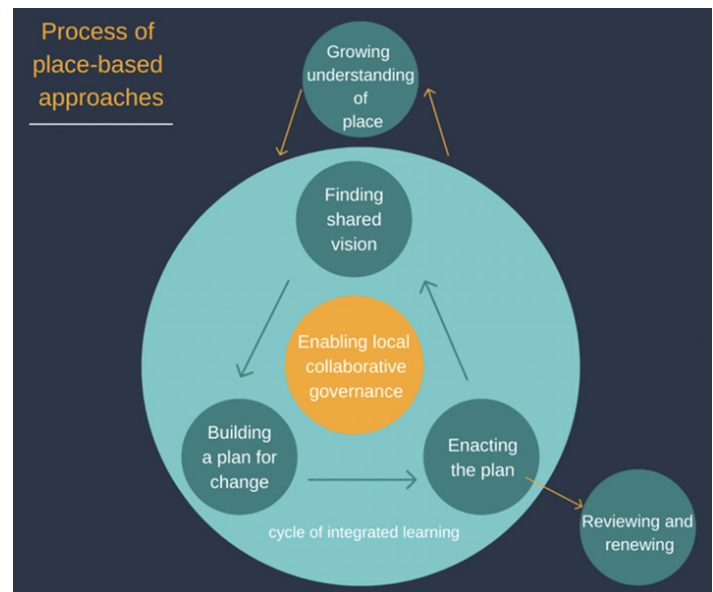
<sup>1</sup> See Bradford (2005). *Place based public policy: Towards a new urban and community agenda for Canada*

This approach to planning community services empowers the broader community to collaborate – local government, residents, businesses – to respond to their own unique challenges. With time it will foster a shared vision, strong community partnerships and innovation within the community<sup>1</sup>.

Place-based approaches have been developed to address a varied range of policy issues including health, housing, mental health, social inclusion, family wellbeing and sustainability<sup>2</sup>. Generally, services and programs developed with this approach will have the following features:

- a focus on the local level;
- a shared, long-term vision and commitment to outcomes;
- working differently together across the community;
- governance at a local level;
- broad engagement with the community; and
- innovation and action learning.

## Process of Place-Based Approaches



Source: Queensland Council of Social Services

### Case study: Early Years Centres, British Columbia

(Source: Poon, Rowcliffe, Forer, Wiens, Matean & Biferie 2015)

The British Columbia government funded 12 Early Years Centres (EYC) in 2014 to enable parents and families to connect to early learning, health and family services through a single window. Centres are supportive physical and/or virtual places and involve communities working together to ensure that families have access to services and support that promote the health and wellbeing of children.

The development of the EYCs required that different people and organizational partners worked together toward a shared purpose and common vision. Developing a shared vision required time, reciprocity across partners and ongoing dialogue to understand each other's priorities and perspectives. To do this, the partners made the effort to speak 'the same language', understand community needs and the challenges that different organisations may be facing, and develop a shared value of being 'in it for the kids' and their families. This family-centred philosophy, where organizational partners placed the utmost value on being responsive to the community and what families needed, was central to the programme. The shared vision that developed provided a strong foundation for the development of strategies for measurement and documentation of EYC processes and outcomes.

<sup>1</sup> See Queensland Council of Social Services: *Understanding place based approaches*.

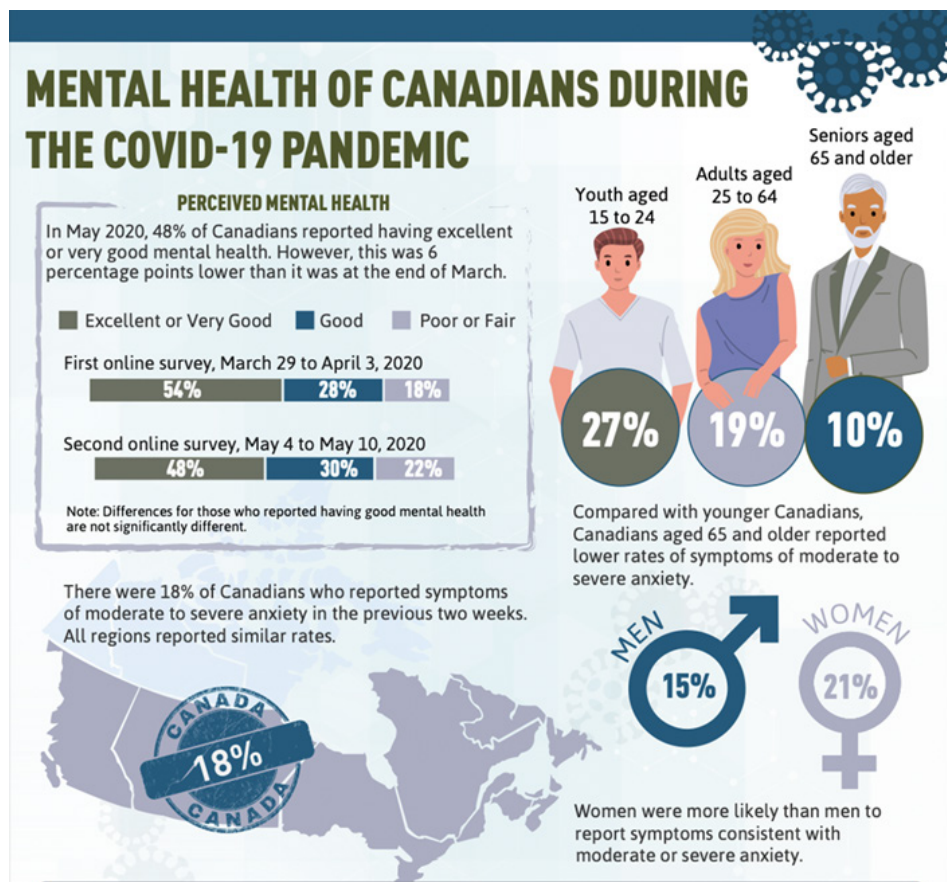
<sup>2</sup> See Crew (2020): *The effectiveness of place based programs and campaigns in improving outcomes for children*.

## COVID & Community Services

The COVID pandemic has created great uncertainty, disruption, and harm, especially to Society's most vulnerable. Canadians are reporting their lowest levels of life satisfaction since data became available in 2003. (43% of Canadians rated their life satisfaction as 8 or higher on a 10-point scale, compared with 73% of Canadians in 2018<sup>1</sup>.) Before the pandemic 68% of Canadians reported very good or excellent mental health, compared to only 55% in October 2020. Youth experienced the greatest declines in reported mental health – a 20 percentage point reduction from 60% (pre-COVID) to 40% (July 2020).

Social impacts have been varied and the most vulnerable are disproportionately affected by social, health, and economic disruptions. Social isolation due to COVID has heightened the risk of family violence and substance use issues. Across Canada, 54% of responding victim services reported an increase in the number of victims of domestic violence served between mid-March and early July 2020. Immigrants and racialized people are overrepresented among front line workers, putting them at greater risk from COVID-19. Racialized communities have perceived an increase in harassment, attacks, and stigma since the pandemic began – rates in Canada were highest among Chinese, Korean, and Southeast Asian participants.

## Mental Health of Canadians During the COVID-19 Pandemic



Source: Statistics Canada, 2020

While the impacts of the pandemic have been difficult, and at times tragic, the community services sector will need to leverage the following opportunities and outcomes:

- The health care, public health and social services have received broad support from the broader community which has led the sectors to realize their value to people and their contributions to overall health and wellness.
- Many services and supports have transitioned to being provided virtually. Where deemed effective and well received by the community served, this virtual approach can reach people quicker and easier while freeing up organizational resources (i.e., time, money).
- The urgency to respond to the pandemic has created new efficiencies and fostered collaboration between intergovernmental departments and organizations, and across sectors to create new synergies.
- Emergency funding has forced community services and programs to be designed rapidly and people focused to meet the immediate need.

<sup>1</sup> See Stats Can (2020): *The Social and Economic Impacts of COVID-19: A Six Month Update*.

## Preventative Social Programs

Regarding community and social services, prevention typically consists of methods or activities that seek to reduce or deter specific or predictable problems, protect the current state of well-being, or promote desired outcomes or behaviors.

For Family and Community Support Services (FCSS)<sup>1</sup>, prevention occurs by strengthening resiliency through identifying and enhancing individual, family, and community assets.

- Prevention may involve enhancing the strengths, skills, and abilities of individuals, families and the community so they are more resilient and better able to deal with stress or challenges that may result in future problems.
- Prevention may involve building individual or environmental safeguards that enhance the ability to deal with stressful life events, risks, or hazards and promote the ability to adapt and respond constructively.
- Prevention may involve addressing protective and risk factors.
- Protective and risk factors can exist both within individuals and across the various settings in which they live, such as the family, peer group, school, and community.

Protective and risk factors are the aspects of an individual, family, community, or group and environment or personal experience that make it more likely (protective factors) or less likely (risk factors) that people will achieve a desired outcome or experience a given problem.

Another term used for protective factors is “assets.” “Asset-based” approaches used by local FCSS programs put the emphasis on the positive (protective), not the negative (risk), factors that contribute to outcomes. Research suggests that the greater the number of assets, the more likely are positive outcomes. Research suggests that the greater number of risk factors, the more likely a negative outcome.

Protective and risk factors are generally grouped into two categories: those that are personal characteristics of individuals, and those that occur in the environment (both socially and physically). Personal factors are unique

to each individual (or group). They include an individual’s knowledge, skills, experience, history, and genetic makeup. Environmental factors are factors that affect a specific group of people in each community; they are not specific to each person. The environment refers to the conditions in which each individual life - their household, their neighborhood or town, and the larger community – is impacted. Categories of environmental factors include: support and services; access, barriers and opportunities; consequences of efforts; and policies and living conditions.

General principles are true for all of the “subtypes” of factors: protective and risk, personal and environmental, social and physical. Research has consistently shown that:

- Many protective and risk factors are related to multiple community outcomes. That is, they are important factors in many community social concerns. As such, they provide a good place to start when developing lists of protective and risk factors. For example, a child having a strong relationship with a caring adult is a protective factor against substance use, dropping out of school, committing criminal actions, and so on. On the other hand, poverty is a risk factor for teen pregnancy, substance use, and inadequate access to health services.
- Not all protective and risk factors are created equal. Some protective and risk factors are much more influential than others. For example, having friends who use drugs has been shown to be a very significant risk factor for a teen to start using drugs. It is a much stronger risk factor than simply having the substances available in the community. It is important to consider the relative importance of each protective and risk factor because this will help you prioritize your actions later on.
- The more protective factors or assets individuals have in their corner, the less likely they are to engage in unhealthy behaviour. And conversely, the more risk factors a person has, the greater the likelihood they will engage in unhealthy behavior. For example, a person who smokes heavily, eats a diet high in cholesterol, does not exercise, and has high blood pressure, is much more likely to have a heart attack than if the only risk factor is a poor diet<sup>2</sup>.

1 See Government of Alberta (2010). *FCSS Program Handbook*.

2 See Centre for Community Health and Development (2021). *Community Tool Box – Section 2. Understanding Risk and Protective Factors: Their Use in Selecting Targets and Promising Strategies for Intervention*.

## Family and Children Focused Interventions

Research has found that successful interventions, which are focused on families and children, must both promote protective factors and reduce risk factors to ensure child and family well-being. There is growing interest in understanding the complex ways in which these protective and risk factors interact within the context of a child's family, community, and society to promote child and family well-being as well as to affect both the incidence and consequences of child abuse and neglect.

Protective factors are conditions or attributes of individuals, families, communities, or the larger society that promote healthy development and well-being of children and families and reduce or eliminate risk. These factors help ensure that children and youth function well at home, in school, at work, and in the community, today and into adulthood. Protective factors also can serve as buffers, helping parents who might otherwise be at risk of abusing or neglecting their children to find resources, supports, or coping strategies that allow them to parent effectively, even under stress.

There are six protective factors that have been shown to strengthen families. These six protective factors are associated with optimal child development and lower levels of child abuse and neglect. The six protective factors<sup>1</sup> include the following.

- Nurturing and attachment
- Knowledge of parenting and child development
- Parental resilience
- Social connections
- Concrete support for families
- Social and emotional competence of children

## Case Study: Shift – The Project to End Domestic Violence

(Source: University of Calgary, Faculty of Social Work)

Shift was created to lead charge and advance a primary prevention agenda in Alberta. Primary prevention explicitly focuses on actions before the condition of concern develops. In the area of domestic violence, it means reducing the number of new instances of violence by intervening before any violence has occurred (World Health Organization, 2007).

Interventions can be delivered to the whole population or to particular groups that are at high risk of using or experiencing violence in the future. Examples include whole-school approaches to violence prevention and building healthy relationships skills and environments, home visitation programs that target first-time moms and parents, and social marketing campaigns that encourage bystanders to step in to stop the violence.

The purpose of Shift is to work with and enhance the capacity of policy makers, system leaders, clinicians, service providers and the community at large, to significantly reduce the rates of domestic violence in Alberta. We are committed to making our research accessible and working collaboratively with a diverse range of stakeholders, to inform and influence current and future domestic violence prevention efforts, through the perspective of primary prevention.

The research program was initiated to explore the issue of domestic violence and its root causes and identify primary prevention strategies and programs from around the globe that demonstrate evidence. What we discovered is that although domestic violence is complex and pervasive, it is also preventable. There are evidence-based programs and policies that can stop domestic violence from happening in the first place.

<sup>1</sup> See US Department of Health & Human Services (2015). *Making Meaningful Connections: 2015 Resource Guide by the Administration for Children and Families*.

# Community Assets

# 5



*Img Source: Farm Real Estate*

There is a myriad of assets in Ryley that work to enhance the lives of the Village's residents. It is important that residents are aware of these assets; additionally, each organization should be aware of the others. Synergies can be created when organizations work together and duplication can be avoided. Refer to the following table for a listing of the organizational assets that are in Ryley.

Program	Description	Target Participant	Organization/ Host
Awana	Bible based children programming	Children	Good News Community Church
Beaver County CALP	CALP offers three main programs: adult learning courses (including technology and computers), adult literacy and numeracy and family literacy. English language courses are delivered. A primary outcome is enhanced quality of life including through improved employability.	Adults/Older Adults	McPherson Municipal Library
Beaver County Victim Services	Beaver County Victim Services is a non-profit organization, composed of 12 members with Beaver County, the Town of Tofield, Town of Viking, Village of Holden and Village of Ryley. Provide free support, information and referral services to victims of crime and tragedy.	All	Community volunteers - supported by RCMP
Beaver Heritage & Agricultural Society	Operate the Ryley Pool and Wellness Centre. Deliver AHS therapy and rehabilitation programming to the community. Promotes importance of agriculture in the community. Agricultural Societies encourage enhanced quality of life through youth and adult programming, events, and services.	All	Beaver Heritage & Agricultural Society
Beaverhill Rural Crime Watch	Community crime prevention through awareness, education, and encouraging suspicious activity when observed.	All	Alberta Provincial Rural Crime Watch Association staffed with community volunteers
Children to adult programming; collections lending, computer use	Reading programs for youth, crafting, and social programs. Programs are developed based on community need. Provides technology like computers, printing, internet, wifi. Offers social programming as well.	All	McPherson Municipal Library
Hall rental, supporting community events	A service club that supports community events including hosting the Remembrance Day ceremony. The Legion operates a hall in Ryley that is available for community and private functions	All	Royal Canadian Legion.

Program	Description	Target Participant	Organization/ Host
K-9 grades	Ryley and Holden students from Kindergarten to grade 9 are taught in Ryley. Aside from curricular activities, the school offers a variety of extra and co-curricular activities including: cross country running, golf, volleyball, basketball, badminton, track & field, and the travel club. Additionally there are mental health services available to all students (and activities that can be done by students' families).	Children and youth from K-9	Ryley School
Ryley Community Together	The mission of the Community Together Program is to create and build a strong network for all community members. Services include: wellness check ins; delivery of groceries, household items; volunteer connections; referrals to social services.	All	Village of Ryley
Ryley Lions Club	Community volunteers focused on improving community infrastructure.	All	Ryley Lions Club
Ryley, Tofield & Area Food Bank	The Food Bank, operated by volunteers, provides hampers to local families or individuals in need.	Low income families/ individuals	Volunteer/ Beaver County
Seniors Programming	Recreation and social programming for seniors (50 years of age or older). Activities are varied but include: bingo, pool, shuffleboard, scrabble, cards, crib tournament, luncheons, Christmas meal, and others.	Seniors	Ryley Sunshine Club
Variety of programs	Programs that are preventative in nature that help people develop independence and become more resilient, support healthy relationships, and strengthen communities.	Individuals, families, and communities	Ryley FCSS
Welcome Basket	Bag for new residents with information on the community from the Village, businesses and organizations	New residents	Village of Ryley and Town of Tofield
Youth Group	Recreation activities, with religious education.	Youth	Good News Community Church

# 6

## Engagement

A varied program of engagement was implemented to gather the opinions and perspectives of residents of Ryley as well as representatives from organizations that provide services to the Village and its residents. Residents were surveyed through the fielding of a household survey; a disparate group of stakeholder organizations were contacted and representatives shared their thoughts; and finally some youth from the community participated in a brief survey.



### Household Survey

52 responses



### Stakeholder Meetings

11 sessions  
(20 individuals)



### Youth Survey

18 respondents

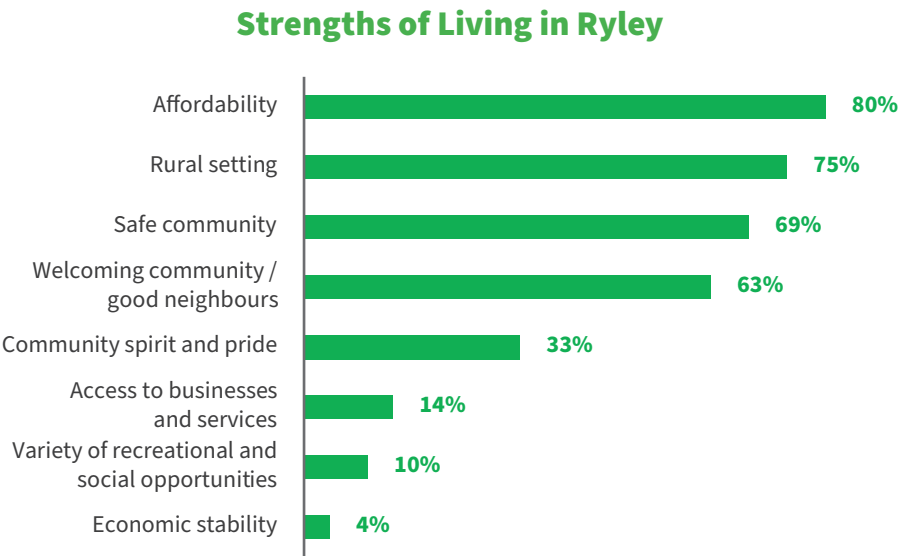
# 6.1 Household Survey

A survey was fielded with households in Ryley with households invited to participate through use of a postcard. Each household in Ryley was provided<sup>1</sup> with a postcard with an access code unique to its household; the access codes allowed that household to access the survey and provide a response on behalf of all members of the household. This control mechanism helped to limit the participation in the survey to one response per household. See Appendix A for the postcard and Appendix B for the questionnaire.

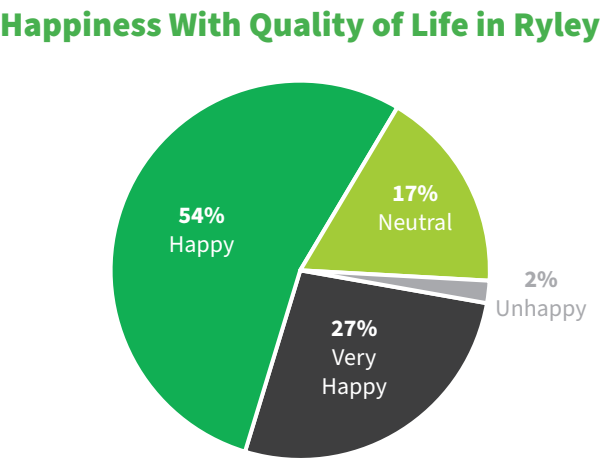
Participants were able to visit the Village’s website to access the survey, enter their access codes, and provide their responses. As well, participants could complete a hard copy version if they preferred. Two hundred eight (208) households were provided with a postcard. In total 52 responses were received. The findings are considered representative of the Village households. Survey findings are presented below in the order the questions were asked in the questionnaire. The figures presented reflect the proportions of people answering the question (not all respondents answered all questions). Due to rounding the figures may not add to 100%.

## 6.1.1 Living in Ryley

To begin the survey, respondents were asked to identify the strengths about living in Ryley. As illustrated in the graph at least three-quarters of respondents said affordability (80%) and the rural setting (75%) are strengths.



When asked about the happiness of household members, over three-quarters are happy (54%) or very happy (27%). Three percent (2%) said household members are unhappy. Refer to the graph.



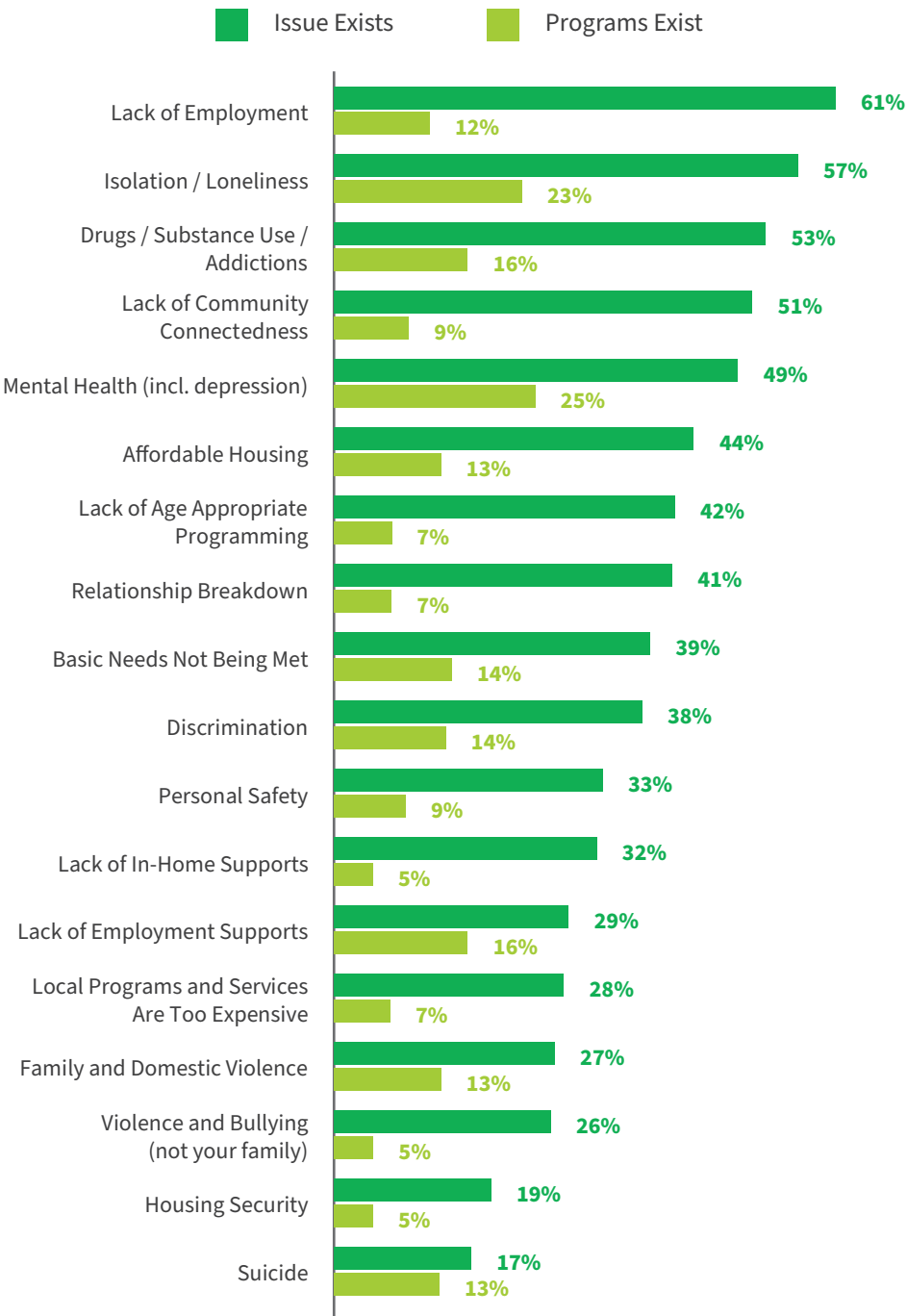
1 The Village FCSS Coordinator along with some volunteers hand delivered the postcards to all households.

6.1.2 Social Issues in Ryley

Respondents were provided with a list of social issues and asked whether each issue exists in Ryley. Specifically, they were asked to identify if the issue existed among children / youth and then if it existed among adults and families.

As illustrated in the accompanying graph, at least half of respondents said the following social issues exist amongst adults and families: lack of employment (61%); isolation / loneliness (57%); drugs / substance use / addictions (53%); and lack of community connectedness (51%). At the same time a minority of respondents indicated that there are programs that exist in Ryley to address these issues.<sup>1</sup>

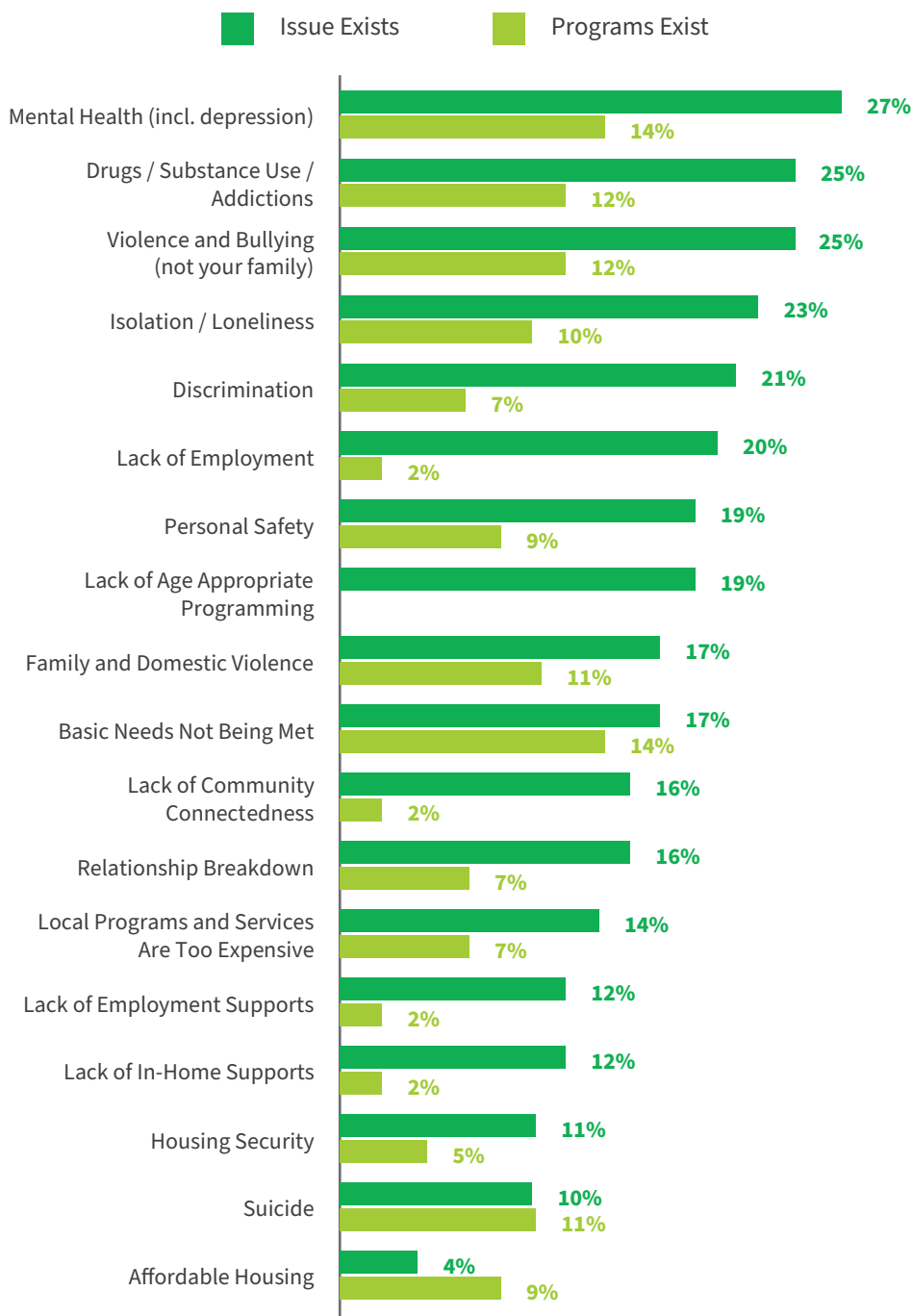
Social Issues & Existing Programs - ADULTS & FAMILIES



1 For many of these issues there are no programs available to address them.

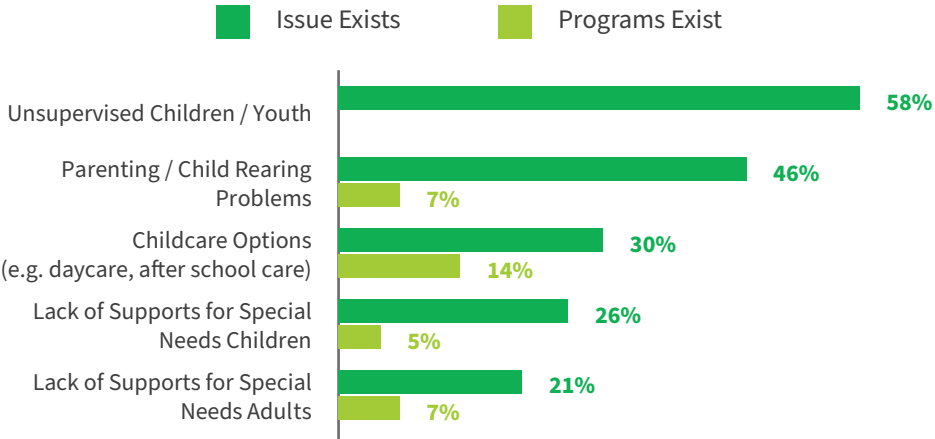
In terms of children and youth the top issues identified include mental health (27%); and drugs / substance use / addictions (25%); violence and bullying (25%); and isolation / loneliness (23%). A minority of respondents said there are programs in Ryley to address the issues.

## Social Issues & Existing Programs - CHILDREN & YOUTH



Over half (58%) of respondents said that there are unsupervised children / youth in Ryley and almost half (46%) said there are parenting / child rearing problems. As with the previous questions, a minority of respondents said there are programs to address these issues. Refer to the graph.

### Social Issues & Existing Programs

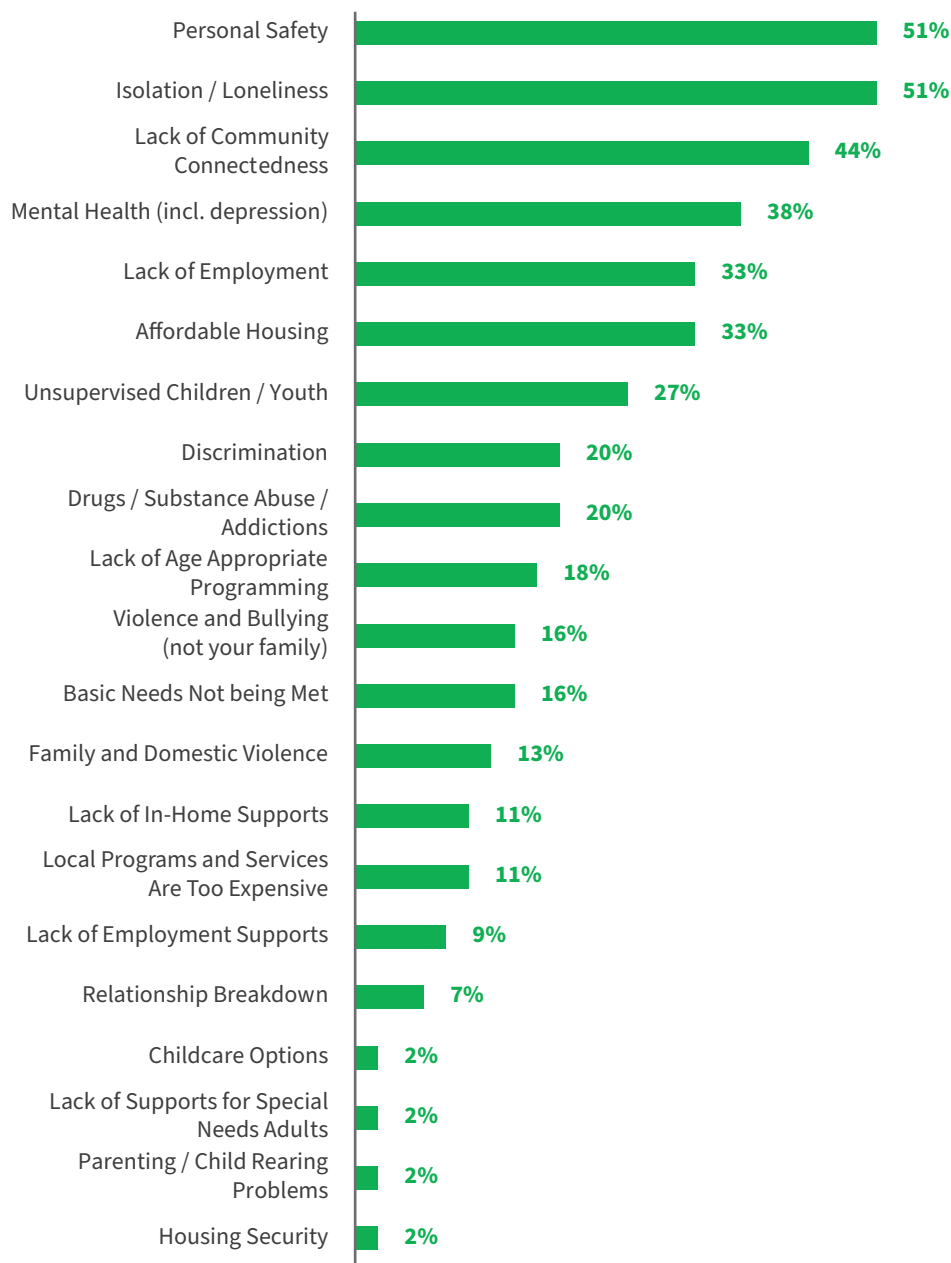


Img Source: Spark Real Estate

Finally, respondents were asked to identify their top five (5) priorities for social issues. As illustrated in the graph, approximately half (51%) said personal safety and isolation / loneliness are priority issues. Other priorities included lack of community connectedness (44%); mental health (38%); lack of employment (33%); and affordable housing (33%).

## Social Priorities

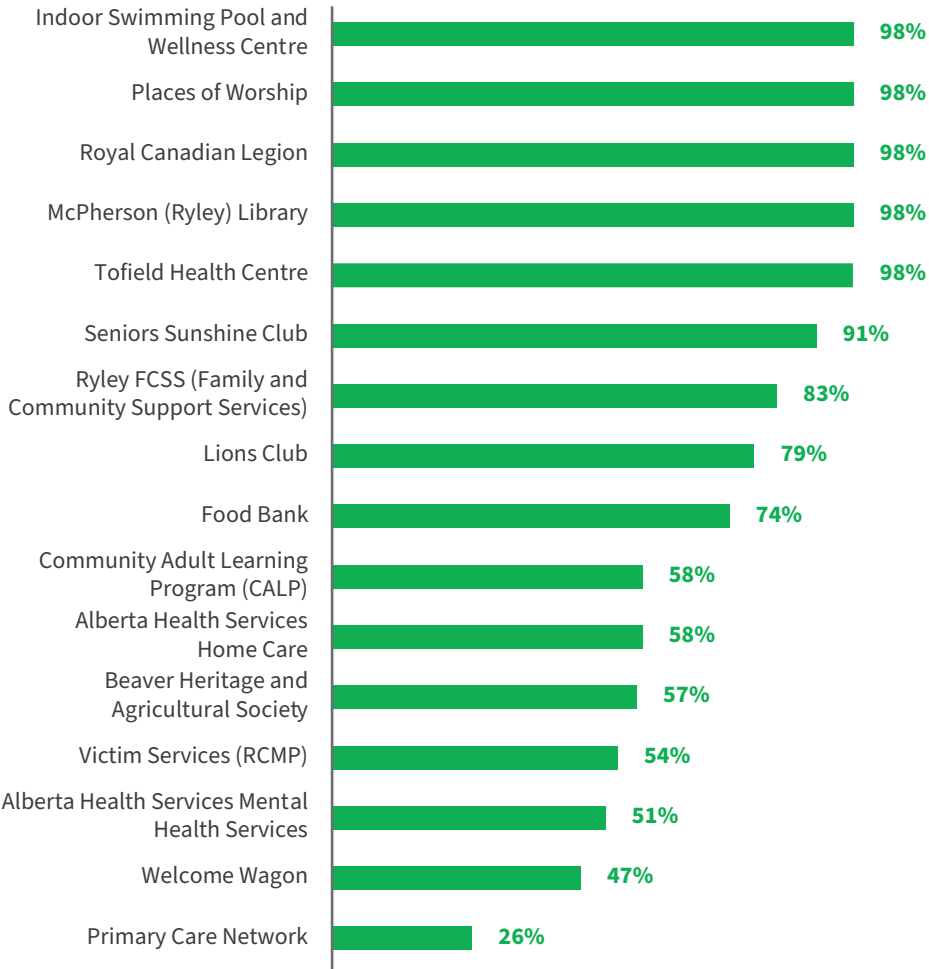
(Top 5 priorities)



### 6.1.3 Social Programs and Services

There are various social programs and services delivered by numerous agencies to residents of Ryley. Given a list, respondents were asked whether someone in their households is aware of each organization. As illustrated in the graph, almost all are aware of the indoor swimming pool and wellness centre (98%); places of worship (98%); the Royal Canadian Legion (98%); the McPherson Library (98%); and the Tofield Health Centre (98%). Approximately one-quarter (26%) are aware of the Primary Care Network. See the graph for awareness of other organizations.

Awareness of Organizations



In terms of using the services of these organizations, the Tofield Health Centre was used by over three-quarters (82%) of respondents. Approximately one-third used: places of worship (39%); the Food Bank (29%); McPherson Library (29%); and the Royal Canadian Legion (28%)

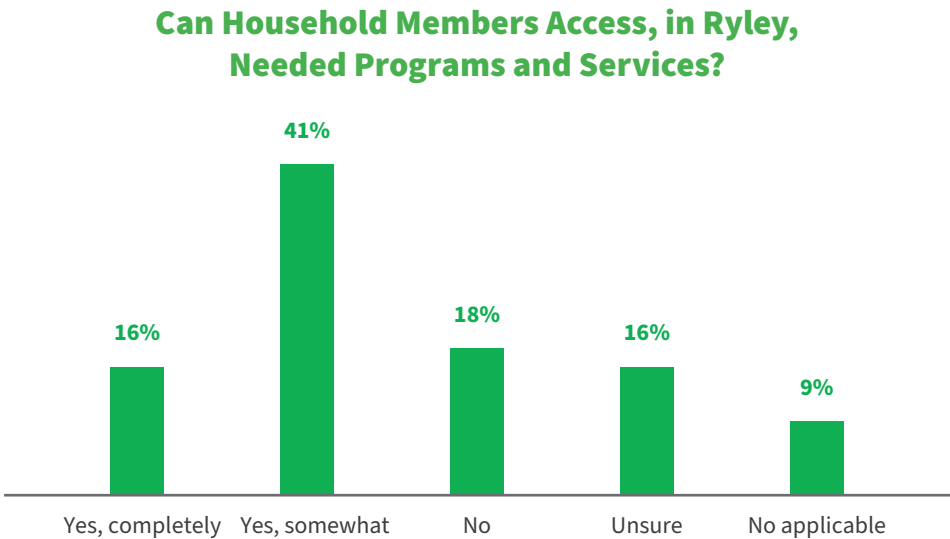
Respondents were then able to identify any **improvements** they think are needed to **existing programs** and services offered by the organizations. Comments made by multiple people included the following.

- Greater promotion is needed so people are aware of existing programs and services and how to access them. (4 comments)
- There needs to be more programs and activities that help draw the community together, encourage participation in Ryley and reconnect people. (4 comments)
- Costs to access programs need to be reduced or provide options for payment. The pool was an example given by some. (3 comments)
- Additional programs for seniors in addition to those offered by the Sunshine Club. (2 comments)

Next, respondents were asked to identify **social programs and services** that they think should be **delivered locally** in Ryley. A variety were suggested including the following (by multiple people).

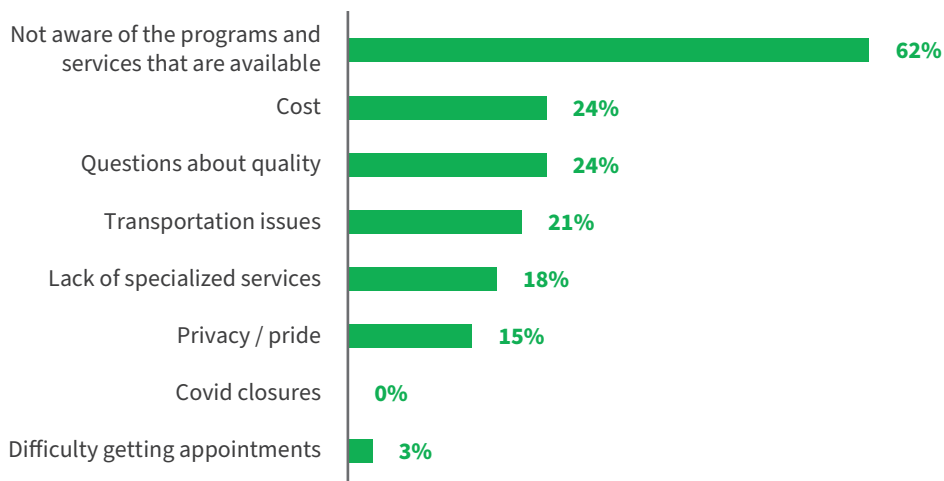
- Home care so people can remain in their homes. (3 comments)
- Additional seniors' activities including seniors' fitness in addition to those from the Sunshine Club. (3 comments)
- Programs and opportunities to meet others and socialize. (3 comments)
- Counselling and mental health supports (2 comments)
- Parenting classes including family activities (2 comments)
- Programs for children including child and day care and after school care. (2 comments)
- Citizen directed programs to build community pride and encourage and promote volunteerism. (2 comments)

Over half (57%) of respondents said that household members are completely (16%) or somewhat (41%) able to access the program and services, in Ryley, that they need. Refer to the graph.



Approximately two-thirds (62%) of respondents said that a lack of awareness prevents them accessing services. Cost is a barrier for almost one-quarter of respondents (24%) as is questions about quality (24%). Refer to the graph.

### Barriers to Accessing Needed Programs and Services

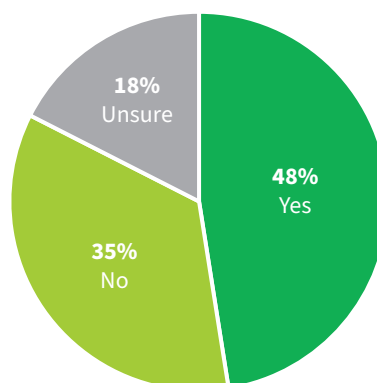


As shown in the graph, approximately half (48%) accessed programs and services outside of Ryley in the previous two years that they would have preferred to access in Ryley.

Respondents then identified what some of those services are that they would prefer to access in Ryley. Those receiving multiple mentions include the following.

- Counselling services around mental health and dealing with family dynamics. (4 comments)
- Youth programs but not affiliated with a church. (2 comments)
- Doctor / medical services. (2 comments)
- Food bank. (2 comments)
- Enhanced and more affordable grocery store. (2 comments)

### Are There Social Programs / Services That Household Members Accessed Outside Ryley That They Would Prefer to Access in Ryley?



There are many communication vehicles to provide information to residents. Respondents were asked to identify the three best methods to get information about social programs and services to them. As illustrated in the graph, almost all (98%) identified the Village Voice as an effective mechanism. About half (44%) said Facebook or other social media.

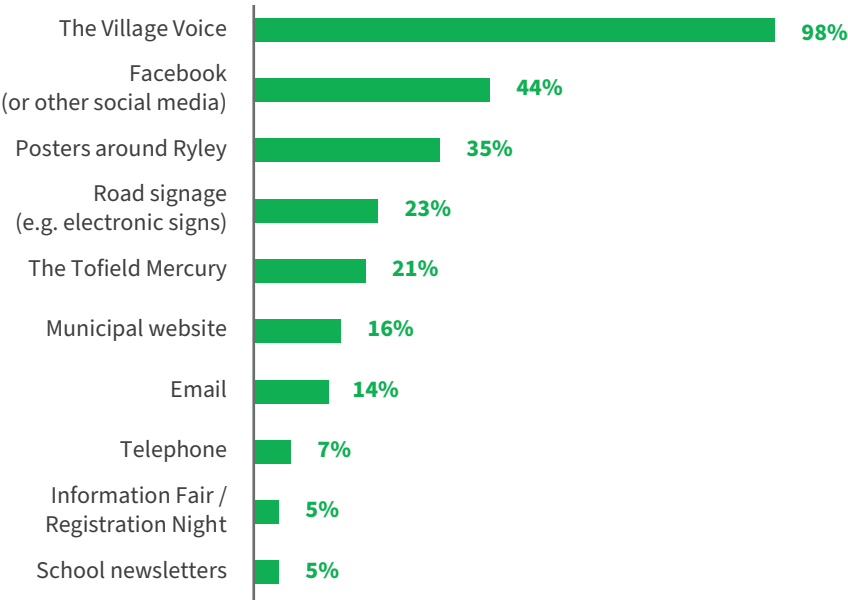
### 6.1.4 General Comments

Respondents were able to share comments about the planning of social programs and services in Ryley. There were calls to ensure that all programs and services are promoted so people are aware of what is available. As well the need to ensure programs and services are affordable was mentioned.

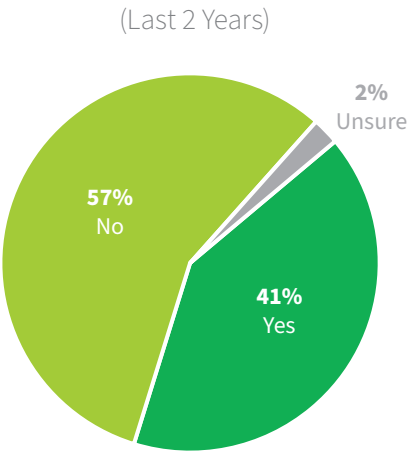
### 6.1.5 Volunteerism

Less than half (41%) of households have a member who volunteered locally within the last two years, as shown in the graph.

### Best Communication Methods



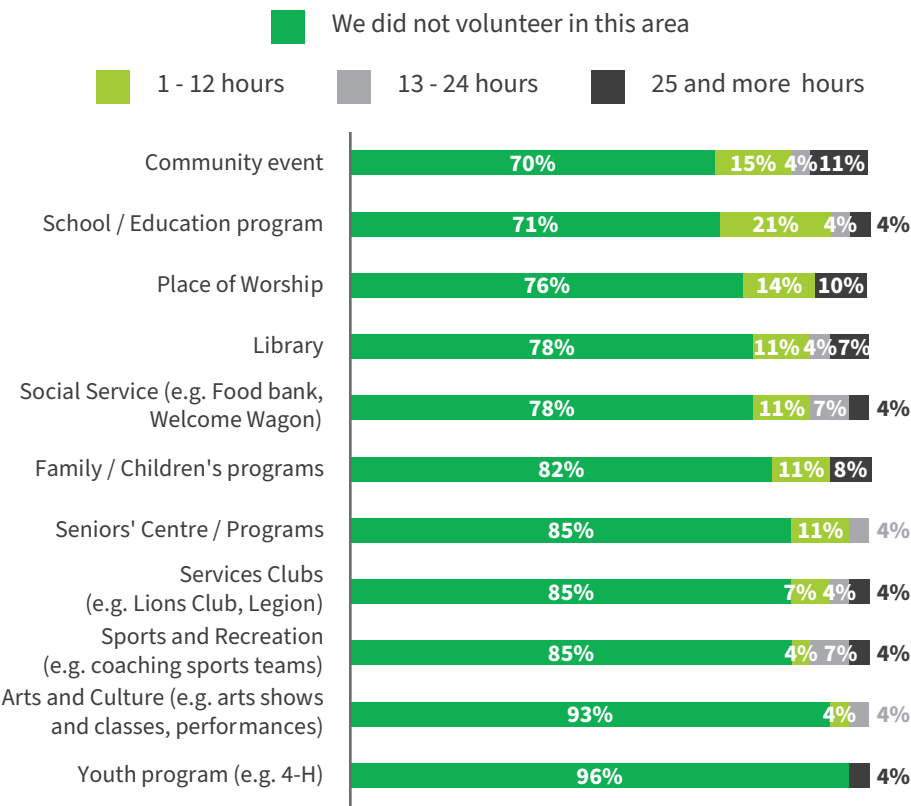
### Has a Household Member Volunteered Locally?



Of those who volunteered, the largest proportion of households volunteered for community events (30%) and with schools / education programs (29%). See the graph for additional information including a category of hours volunteered.

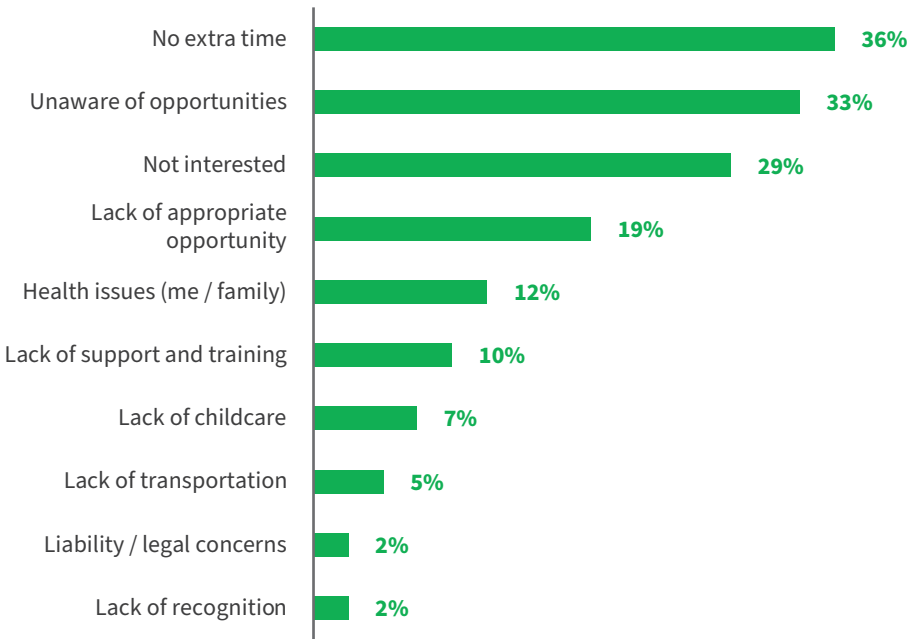
### Volunteer Time By Household Members

(Last 2 Years)



When asked what prevents them from volunteering more, approximately one-third (36%) said a lack of time and a lack of awareness of volunteer opportunities (33%). Over one-quarter (29%) said they do not volunteer more because they are not interested. See graph for more reasons.

### Barriers to Volunteering



## 6.1.6 Respondent Profile

The profile of respondent households is presented in the following table.

Tenure in Ryley	
Less than 2 years	13%
2 to 5 years	20%
6 to 10 years	13%
More than 10 years	53%

Household Composition	
0-4 yrs	4%
5-9 yrs	6%
10-14 yrs	2%
15-19 yrs	2%
20-29 yrs	7%
30-39 yrs	14%
40-49 yrs	12%
50-59 yrs	12%
60-69 yrs	19%
70-79 yrs	17%
80 yrs and older	4%

Household Income (annual)	
Less than \$20,000	7%
\$20,000 to \$29,999	16%
\$30,000 to \$39,999	7%
\$40,000 to \$49,999	9%
\$50,000 to \$59,999	13%
\$60,000 to \$69,999	4%
\$70,000 to \$79,999	4%
\$80,000 to \$89,999	4%
\$90,000 to \$99,999	2%
\$100,000 and over	7%
I would rather not say	27%

Img Source: The Village of Ryley



## 6.2 Stakeholder Meetings

A variety of organizations and individuals were engaged to gather insight into the lives of residents in Ryley and to gather thoughts about the initiation of the FCSS program in Ryley. Participants represented social agencies offering services to residents, community volunteers, residents, education and justice systems, health, and communities of faith. See Appendix C for the list of stakeholders participating. A synopsis of the conversations is presented below according to four main themes: good things about Ryley; social issues that exist in Ryley; actions and programs to address social issues; and the role of the Village. It is important to recognize that the comments presented represent the conversations that took place and are not intended to be a detailed record of each meeting.

### Good Things About Ryley

Stakeholders spoke about the positive elements of the community and what drew them to Ryley and enticed them to stay (for residents). The most prevalent comments are noted below.

- Quiet and safe
- Close to service centres including Tofield, Camrose, Sherwood Park, and Edmonton
- Affordable
- Walkable
- Growing with many young families and retirees moving there
- Very good complement of recreation facilities
- Community pride
- People will rally around a cause and help each other

### Social Issues That Exist in Ryley

During the conversations, stakeholders were specifically asked to identify social issues that exist in Ryley. The intent was not to disparage the community but rather to realistically consider the community and identify the challenges the stakeholders see there. Through the identification of these challenges is the opportunity to address them. It is important to note that the stakeholders identified these issues only after speaking about the positives of the community. The following items were noted as issues that exist. While not strictly in order, those issues higher up on the list were noted more frequently in the discussions than the items lower on the list.

- Connecting newcomers to Ryley with the community
- Volunteer recruitment for longer tenured opportunities
- Lack of awareness of existing programs and services
- Transportation challenges for people without their own vehicle to leave Ryley for shopping and / or appointments
- Substance use and addictions (alcohol and drugs)
- Lack of mental health supports
- Lack of counselling services
- Access to medical professionals is limited in Ryley
- Employment market is limited in Ryley
- Lack of youth programming especially for older youth (unaffiliated with religious institutions)
- Limited programming for younger and more active seniors
- Lack of programs for young adults
- Seniors' isolation
- Maintaining seniors in their own homes
- Lack of parenting supports
- Economically disadvantaged families
- Family instability including domestic violence

## Actions & Programs to Address Social Issues

Stakeholders did not identify actions or programs to address each aforementioned issue. They did however offer some ideas that could improve the lives of Village residents; the ideas mentioned could also address more than one of the issues identified.

- Host community wide events including social gathering, sport and recreation events, community garage sales, and so on
- Pop up or visiting health professionals such as a pharmacy, counselling, optometrist, occupational therapist, physical therapist
- Develop / offer office space to accommodate visiting professionals
- Convene interagency meetings and develop partnerships among agencies
  - » Develop and maintain a database of community organizations and services
  - » Share information to enhance awareness and uptake
- Enhanced promotion and marketing of available opportunities, services and programs
- Pair and partner isolated seniors in the community with younger adults – for connection, address isolation, and enable seniors to remain in their homes longer
- Enhanced programming for youth, young adults, active seniors
- Outreach to people “on the margins” – consider those in the minority
- Develop volunteer recruitment strategies and practices

## Role of the Village

The Village was acknowledged through the discussions as being a key hub for people as they seek services and solutions to their challenges. It was mentioned several times of being able to contact the Village and receive direction or an answer. Stakeholders offered some thoughts about the role the Village can play in addressing social issues; in some instances the Village is already doing some of the items listed.

- Promotion of programs and services.
- Directly offer programs and services including community events.
- Work with community organizations and individuals as they work to deliver programs and events.
- Actively strengthen its relationship with agencies and organizations in the community.
- Serve as a facilitator bringing other organizations together to share resources and information.

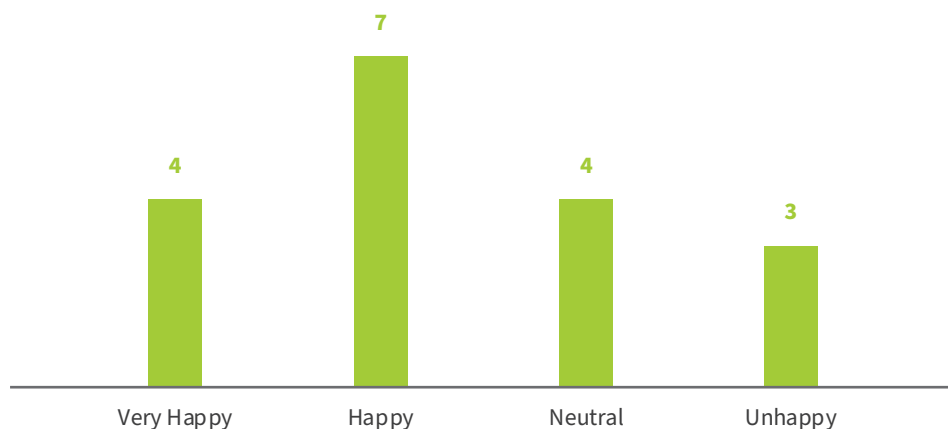
## 6.3 Youth Survey

A survey was fielded to gather the opinions of youth in the community. While the household survey responses do represent all members of the household including youth, collecting information directly from the youth in Rley provides some additional insight. This survey was promoted through the same postcard that promoted the household survey. As well this survey was promoted through the Rley School. While the findings cannot be considered representative of youth in Rley, they do provide some insight into this segment of the community. In total 18 youth provided a response.

To begin, youth were provided with a definition of quality of life. “Quality of life is a term used to describe how healthy, comfortable, and happy someone is. Your quality of life and happiness depends on your friends, family, school, jobs, and hobbies.” They were then asked how happy they are with their quality of life. As illustrated in the graph, the youth are generally happy with their quality of life – although three said they are unhappy.

When asked if something could be done to improve their quality of life a variety of answers were provided. Three students spoke about **money** and the need for more of it with one youth stating his family is worried about money. Three youths said that having better friends and not being judged but **being accepted** would make their quality of life better. Related, one youth referenced a desire for mental health support. Two youths felt that more activities to do, including more school sports would result in a better quality of life. Other comments included: getting out and interacting with more people and a new house.

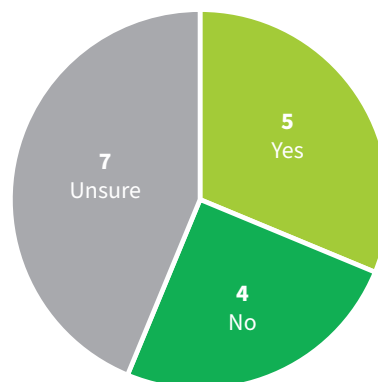
### Happiness With Quality of Life



Next, youth respondents identified the social issues that are important to them. Social anxiety was identified by three youth, mental health (including suicide / depression and anxiety) by two youths; and friendship issues by two youth. Bullying and unkind people were also identified by two youth. Other issues included: judgemental people, gender identity, theft, and switching schools to Viking.

As noted in the accompanying graph, five respondents said there are programs and services that are not available in Ryley but that they like them to be. Seven are unsure.

### Would You Like Some Programs & Services to Be In Ryley That Are Not Now?



When asked, the youth respondents identified the following programs and services they would like to have in Ryley. The most commonly mentioned response is additional things to do like sports, games, or movies (3 mentions). Other mentions are additional funding for the school and pool; a fast food place nearby, and the availability of cosmetology class.

Youth were able to identify up to three things that could be done to make their life better. The responses referenced family security and social dynamics. The items are noted below from the individual responses:

- Going to a different school; spending more time with both my parents;
- Basketball; baseball; be nice to others;
- live in a better house; parents get along; my sibling leaving so I feel safe;
- acceptance; keeping my group of friends;
- Better house; Enough money for my family to have good health; parents to not worry;
- becoming more confident; people not worry so much about me; play with friends more;
- to ride a horse; and
- Stop being bullied; have more friends; more to do.

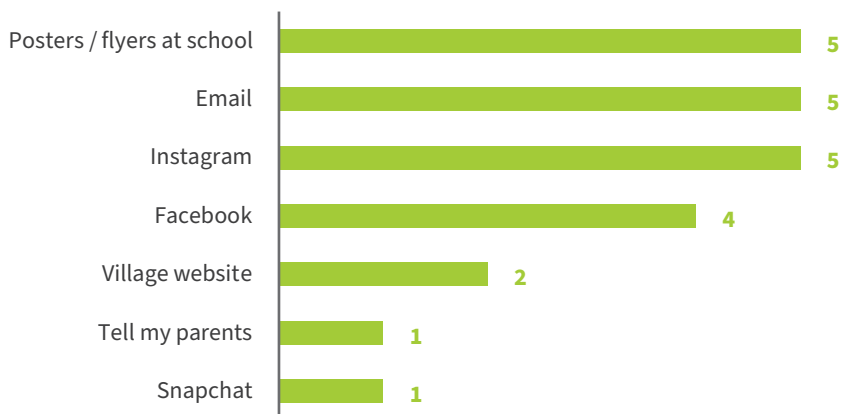
As illustrated in the accompanying graph, the most common issue preventing the youth respondents from participating in programs and services is a lack of awareness. Timing, location, and lack of transportation were also identified by several youths.

### Barriers to Participation in Programs & Services



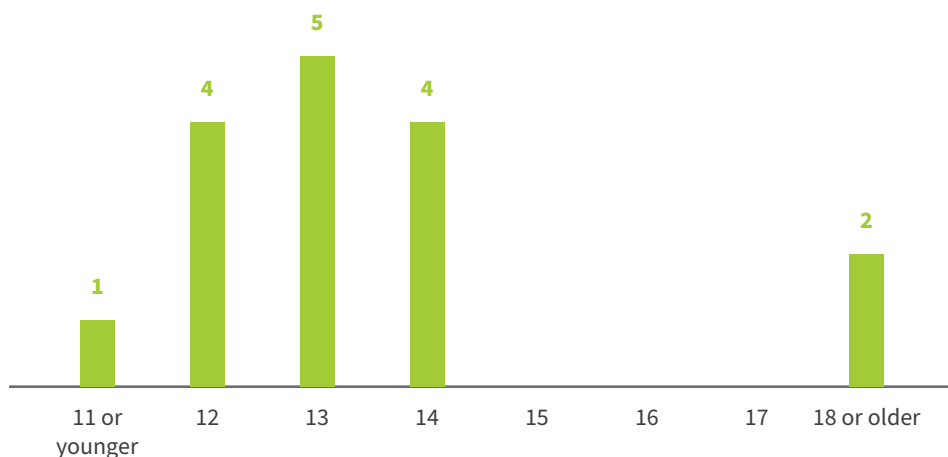
Posters / flyers at school, email, and Instagram were identified as the best way to communicate to youth about programs and services. Instagram was the next best method. Refer to the graph for other responses.

### Best Communication Methods



Most of the respondents are 12 to 14 years of age. Refer to the graph.

### Age of Respondents



# Conclusions

# 7

Based upon the research presented herein, several issues have been identified and conclusions drawn - these are presented below. Each is described along with some suggestions to address it. Ultimately it is up to Ryley FCSS and the Village of Ryley to determine how to address the issues or, in fact, whether they have a role at all. Clearly some of the issues identified do not fall directly within the authority of Ryley FCSS. In these instances, FCSS may determine there is some role it has to address the issue; this role may simply be to refer the issue to another entity. The items are not presented in any particular order.

- **Counseling and medical professionals.** Counseling services to address a myriad of issues including mental health concerns, addictions, relationships, and parenting issues is desired locally. Related, there is a call for an assortment of health and medical professionals being available in Ryley. This may include optical specialists, doctors, and other specialties. While it may not be realistic to assume these services can be available on a full-time basis, there may be the opportunity to bring these services to Ryley on regular intervals. This may be hastened by the development of office / professional office space that can be used by visiting professionals.
- **Enhanced awareness of programs and services.** There is a need for ongoing and centralized promotion and communication efforts about the various agencies / organizations and the programs and services provided. To ensure people take advantage of all the available services there needs to be a single location that is well known to all residents where people can go and access this information. Information on how to access the programs and services needs to be available as well. While the intent is to offer as much locally as possible, this information source needs to include information about the broad array of programs that Village residents can consume.

- **Interagency meetings.** While it is important that residents are aware of the organizations and their programs and services, it is equally important that the agencies and organizations have this same awareness. To help ensure this occurs, and to facilitate synergies between the organizations, the structuring of an interagency meeting needs to occur. Effective interagency meetings certainly include a “show and tell” period but they also ensure that all participants receive value. As noted previously, involving the participants in the operations of the meetings is important to guarantee their participation. Recruiting for and convening an inaugural meeting is critical.
- **Transportation challenges.** Because many of the services residents need are located out of Ryley, there is the need for people to be able to travel to other communities. While many people have their own transportation and can simply leave Ryley to access these services, others are unable to do so. A solution to allow all people to leave the community to access services is desired. This could take the form of a formal transportation system (e.g. bus / van service) or through a more informal ride share. (Services range from medical appointments to shopping.)
- **Volunteer development and support.** While there is a core of community volunteers, it can be difficult for some organizations to secure volunteers. This is particularly true for longer term commitments. In some instances, volunteers are at the ready but they are unaware of the opportunities. On other occasions, organizations may not be prepared to welcome new volunteers. Some support for organizations to learn what is needed to ensure new volunteers are apprised of opportunities and that organizations are able and willing to accept them would be helpful. Retention of volunteers should be addressed as well.
- **Community building.** Welcoming and integrating people into the community is an important element to building a place in which people care about each other and look after each other. This is manifested in a reduction in isolation and loneliness, improved feelings of safety, and people’s greater investment – including volunteerism – in their community. This can be strengthened through the hosting of community events and the encouragement of involvement in meaningful opportunities.
- **Community input.** Providing opportunities for the community to have some influence and/or input into happenings and decisions about community initiatives is important. While involvement in Village Council meetings does occur and the recruitment of the new FCSS Board has provided public input opportunities, having ongoing mechanisms in which residents are able “be involved” and share their thoughts is important. Bringing the community into “the process” can assist with community building and volunteerism as well.
- **Youth/teen programming.** While there are some organizations that do offer youth programming, there is a strong desire for additional programs for youth – particularly those unaffiliated with a religious institution. Employment opportunities for youth are limited in Ryley as well which is also a factor supporting the need for programming. The specifics of this programming may be developed by consulting with the community’s youth.
- **Adult & older adult programming.** Programming for adults can often take a back seat as efforts are dedicated to programming for children and families. Older adult programming is often left to the local seniors club (i.e. Sunshine Club). While the specifics of the programming may be determined through specific engagement with this segment of the community, it may be connected to community events and seniors’ wellness activities. Adults and older adults cannot be considered a homogeneous group.

- **Addressing personal safety.** Residents raised a concern related to personal safety. Some issues related to safety can be addressed to some degree through many of the aforementioned points (e.g. community building, health professionals, programming). This may be another issue for which a community initiative would be beneficial. Certainly the Tofield detachment of the RCMP are an important resource in this issue; the detachment does offer some public education about safety issues. There may be some other elements that, if addressed, may enhance residents' perception of safety.
- **Lack of employment.** There is not an abundance of employment opportunities in Ryley. Concerns about employment have been expressed. The pandemic has demonstrated that remote employment can work, particularly with the proper infrastructure. The efforts by the Village to secure high speed internet can help. There may be a place to offer employment supports to assist people with the key components necessary to enhance their employability (e.g. job search skills, skill enhancement).

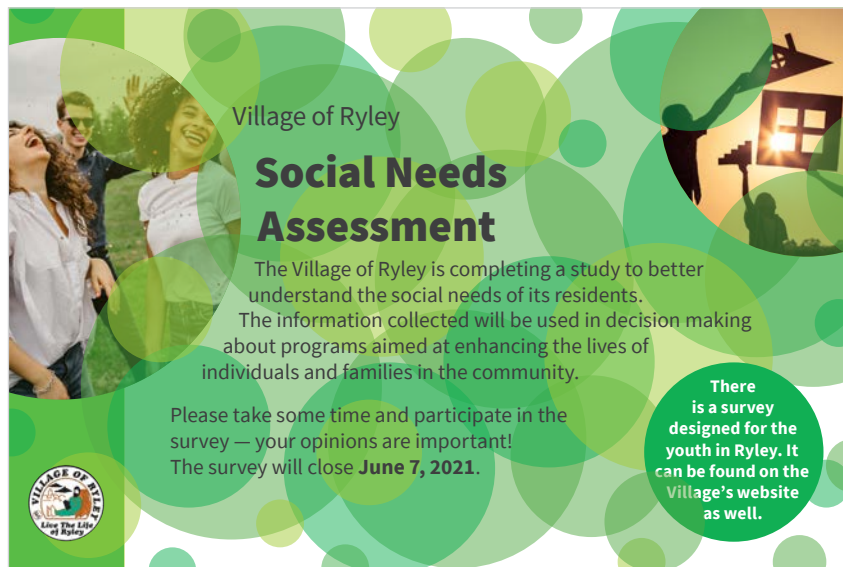
Based upon the findings of this needs assessment, the Ryley FCSS can determine what it wants to address and develop plans to do so. Consideration should be given to presenting to the public the findings from this needs assessment as well as the steps FCSS will undertake to address these findings upon review and strategic planning.

*Img Source: The Village of Ryley*



# Appendices

## Appendix A – Postcard



visit the

Village's website ([www.ryley.ca](http://www.ryley.ca)) and look for the Social Needs Assessment link.

XXXXXXXX

**YOU WILL NEED THE ACCESS CODE TO COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON BEHALF OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD.**

For more information about the Community Social Needs Assessment or to request a hard copy of the questionnaire, please contact Mickey Wilson (Family and Community Support Services) at [fcss@ryley.ca](mailto:fcss@ryley.ca) or call him at 780-231-4561.

## Appendix B – Household Questionnaire

Village of Ryley

# Social Needs Survey

Please have an adult in your household answer the questions by considering the needs of **all members of your household**; it should take about 20 minutes to complete. Your completed survey should be **submitted by June 7, 2021**. (This survey is also available online. Simply visit the Village's website ([www.ryley.ca](http://www.ryley.ca)))

Please submit your completed survey by dropping it off at the Village Office. If you wish to keep your responses confidential, envelopes are available at all our drop-off locations.

If you have any questions about this survey, please contact **Mickey Wilson** (Family and Community Support Services) at [fcss@ryley.ca](mailto:fcss@ryley.ca) or call him at **780-231-4561**.



## Section 1: Living in Ryley

1. What are the strengths about living in Ryley?

- ☐ Safe community  
☐ Affordability  
☐ Access to businesses and services  
☐ Economic stability  
☐ Community spirit and pride

☐ Welcoming community / good neighbours  
☐ Rural setting  
☐ Variety of recreational and social opportunities  
☐ Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

2. How happy are household members with their quality of life in Ryley?

- ☐ Very Happy   
 ☐ Happy   
 ☐ Neutral   
 ☐ Unhappy   
 ☐ Very Unhappy

## Section 2: Social Issues in Ryley

3a. For each of the following social issues please:

- i. Indicate whether these issues exist among children / youth and / or among adults and families in Ryley.
- ii. Indicate if there are programs and services in the area that could help people address these needs.

Social Issue	i. Does this issue exist in Ryley? <i>Please check ( ✓ ) all that apply.</i>				ii. Are there local programs / services that address this issue? <i>Please check ( ✓ ) all that apply.</i>			
	Yes (children / youth)	Yes (adults / families)	No	Unsure	Yes (youth)	Yes (adults / families)	No	Unsure
<b>Isolation / Loneliness</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Mental Health</b> (incl. depression)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Affordable Housing</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Drugs / Substance Use / Addictions</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Suicide</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Housing Security</b> (e.g. homelessness, couch surfing, temporary housing)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Discrimination</b> (e.g. racism, homophobia, religion, ethnicity, age, gender)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Personal Safety</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Basic Needs Not Being Met</b> (e.g. food, clothing, shelter)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Local Programs and Services are too Expensive</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Relationship Breakdown</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Lack of Community Connectedness</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Lack of In-Home Supports</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Lack of Age Appropriate Programming</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Lack of Employment</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Family and Domestic Violence</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Violence and Bullying</b> (not your family)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Lack of Employment Supports</b> (e.g. job search, resume writing)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3b. For each of the following social issues please:

- Indicate whether these issues exist in Ryley.
- Indicate if there are programs in the area that could help people address these needs.

Social Issue	i. Does this issue exist in the area?			ii. Are there local programs that address this issue?		
	Yes	No	Unsure	Yes	No	Unsure
Parenting/Child Rearing Problems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unsupervised Children/Youth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of Supports for Special Needs Adults	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of Supports for Special Needs Children	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Childcare Options (e.g. daycare, after school care)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3c. Check ( ✓ ) the **top five (5) priorities** that matter to your household.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Isolation / Loneliness  | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of In-Home Supports   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health (incl. depression)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Age Appropriate Programming                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affordable Housing  | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Employment   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drugs / Substance Abuse / Addictions  | <input type="checkbox"/> Family and Domestic Violence                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suicide   | <input type="checkbox"/> Violence and Bullying (not your family)                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Security<br>(e.g. homelessness, couch surfing, temporary housing)     | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Employment Supports<br>(e.g. job search, resume writing) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discrimination<br>(e.g. racism, homophobia, religion, ethnicity, age, gender) | <input type="checkbox"/> Parenting/Child Rearing Problems                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Safety   | <input type="checkbox"/> Unsupervised Children/Youth                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basic Needs Not Being Met (e.g. food, clothing, shelter)                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Supports for Special Needs Adults                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local Programs and Services are too Expensive                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Supports for Special Needs Children                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Relationship Breakdown  | <input type="checkbox"/> Childcare Options (e.g. daycare, after school care)              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Community Connectedness   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____   |   |

### Section 3: Social Programs and Services

Social issues affect the well-being of individuals, families, and the community. **Programs and services** that address **social issues** help people by:

- » Strengthening coping skills.
- » Raising awareness of social needs.
- » Fostering relationships between people.
- » Helping people to become active participants in the community.

4. For the organizations listed below, please indicate:
- Whether you or someone in your household is aware of it.
  - Whether you or someone in your household participated in its programs or services within the previous two (2) years.

Organization/Agency	i. Is a household member aware of this organization?			ii. Did a household member use its programs / services within the last 2 years?		
	Yes	No	Unsure	Yes	No	Unsure
Alberta Health Services Mental Health Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alberta Health Services Home Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seniors Sunshine Club	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food Bank	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
McPherson (Ryley) Library	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Welcome Wagon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tofield Health Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lions Club	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Royal Canadian Legion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Places of Worship <i>(in the region)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ryley FCSS <i>(Family and Community Support Services)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Adult Learning Program <i>(CALP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor Swimming Pool and Wellness Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Primary Care Network	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Victim Services <i>(RCMP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Beaver Heritage and Agricultural Society	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. What improvements, if any, are needed to the existing social programs and services (such as ones offered by the previously listed organizations) in Ryley?

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6. Please identify any social programs and services that you think should be delivered locally in Ryley.

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- 7a. Are members of your household able to access the programs and services in Ryley that they need?

☐ Yes, Completely    ☐ Yes, Somewhat    ☐ No    ☐ Unsure    ☐ Not Applicable

7b. What prevents you from accessing the needed programs and services in Ryley?

Please check ( ✓ ) all that apply.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of specialized services                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Cost                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Questions about quality                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Privacy/pride                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation issues                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty getting appointments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not aware of the programs and services that are available |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____                             |  |

8a. Are there social programs and services that household members accessed outside of the Village in the past two years that they would prefer to access in Ryley?

- ☐ Yes      ☐ Unsure      ☐ No (Please proceed to Q#9)

8b. If “Yes” or “Unsure”, please identify programs and services household members would prefer to access in Ryley.

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9. What are the best methods to get information to your household about existing social programs and services in the community? Please check ( ✓ ) the **three (3) best methods** from the list below.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Village Voice                   | <input type="checkbox"/> School newsletters                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Tofield Mercury                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Information Fair / Registration Night |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Facebook (or other social media)    | <input type="checkbox"/> Email                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Road signage (e.g. electronic sign) | <input type="checkbox"/> Posters around Ryley                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal website                   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____       |  |

#### Section 4: General Comments

10. Please use the following space to share any additional comments concerning the planning of social programs and services in Ryley.

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## Section 5: Volunteerism

11a. In the previous two years has a household member volunteered locally?

- ☐ Yes      ☐ Unsure      ☐ No (Please proceed to Q#12)

11b. If “Yes” or “Unsure”, please indicate approximately how many hours in the past two years someone in your household has volunteered - in total - for the following types of organizations.

How many hours did your household volunteer in total for each of the following areas in the past 12 months?	We Did Not Volunteer	1 - 12 Hours	13 - 24 Hours	25 - 50 Hours	More Than 50 Hours
<b>Sports and Recreation</b> (e.g. coaching sports teams)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Arts and Culture</b> (e.g. arts shows and classes, performances)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Family / Children's Programs</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Social Service</b> (e.g. Foodbank, Welcome Wagon)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Service Clubs</b> (e.g. Lions Club, Legion)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>School/Education Program</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Place of Worship</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Library</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Youth Program</b> (e.g. 4-H)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Seniors' Centre / Programs</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Community Event</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Other</b> (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12. What, if anything, prevents household members from volunteering more than they currently do?  
Please check ( ✓ ) all that apply.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> No extra time                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of childcare            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not interested                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of recognition          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of transportation          | <input type="checkbox"/> Liability / legal concerns   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of appropriate opportunity | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of support and training |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unaware of opportunities        |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____   |   |

## Section 6: Respondent Profile

13. How long have you lived in Ryley?

- ☐ Less than 2 years
- ☐ 2 to 5 years
- ☐ 6 to 10 years
- ☐ More than 10 years

14. Please describe your household by recording the number of members in each of the following age groups (please include yourself!)

_____ 0 - 4 yrs	_____ 5 - 9 yrs	_____ 10 - 14 yrs	_____ 15 - 19 yrs
_____ 20 - 29 yrs	_____ 30 - 39 yrs	_____ 40 - 49 yrs	_____ 50 - 59 yrs
_____ 60 - 69 yrs	_____ 70 - 79 yrs	_____ 80 yrs and older	

15. What category best describes your total yearly household income?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$20,000  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$70,000 - \$79,999  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20,000 - \$29,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$80,000 - \$89,999  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30,000 - \$39,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$90,000 - \$99,999  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$40,000 - \$49,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000 and Over   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000 - \$59,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Would rather not say |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$60,000 - \$69,999 |   |

**Thank you very much for completing this questionnaire!**

## Appendix C – Stakeholders Participating in the Engagement

1. The R.C.M.P.
2. The Faith Community: 7th Day Adventist Church and Good News Community Church
3. Ryley Preschool
4. Ryley School
5. Seniors
6. Village of Ryley Council
7. Incoming FCSS Board of Directors
8. McPherson Library
9. Tofield Ryley Food Bank
10. AHS Community Health
11. Village of Ryley Administration
12. Ryley FCSS Director



