# Full Results Report



Imagine that!

# **Stratford Resident Survey**





# **Table of Contents**

1.0	Introduction	1
2.0	Improving Resident Health and Safety	3
2.1	Health and Wellness	3
2.2	Physical Activity	4
2.3	Active Transportation	5
2.4	Safety in your Community	6
2.5	Perceptions of the Local Police Force	7
3.0	Increasing Resource Efficiency	9
3.1	Alternative Energy Sources	9
3.2	Energy Saving Actions	9
4.0	Improving Environmental Responsibility	11
4.1	Resident Engagement in Protecting Ecosystems	11
4.2	Naturally Stratford	12
4.3	Pesticide Use on Lawns	12
4.4	Resources Used to Protect the Environment	13
5.0	Increasing Community Engagement	14
5.1	Town Initiatives	14
5.1	.1 Think! Stratford – Support Local Initiative	16
5.1	.2 "RESPECT" – Road Safety Campaign	16
5.2	Food Trucks	17
5.3	Short-Term Rentals	17
5.4	Communications	18
6.0	Improving Governance	19
6.1	Satisfaction with Town Performance	19
6.2	Net Promoter Score <sup>TM</sup>	21

Appendix A: Profile of Respondents

Appendix B: Methodology

Appendix C: Stratford Resident Survey 2022



# **Table of Figures**

Figure 1: Ninety-two percent (92%) of Stratford residents report having good, very good, or excellent hea	Ith 3
Figure 2: Eighty-four percent (84%) of Stratford residents report their health as about the same, somewh	at
better, or much better than one year ago	3
Figure 3: Sixty-one percent (61%) of Stratford residents are physically active 3 or more times in an average	ge
week	4
Figure 4: Many Stratford residents are physically active for more than one hour each week	4
Figure 5: Thirty-six percent (36%) of Stratford residents are at least sometimes held back from physical	
activity due to a physical or mental health issue	5
Figure 6: Stratford residents are fine with either multi-use paths or sidewalks	5
Figure 7: Stratford residents feel crime is lower compared to other areas of PEI	6
Figure 8: Few Stratford residents feel crime levels are increasing in their neighbourhoods	6
Figure 9: Stratford residents have a great deal of confidence in the local police force	7
Figure 10: Quality of policing by local police force	8
Figure 11: Air source heat pumps are the most utilized alternative energy source by Stratford residents	9
Figure 12: Replaced older light bulbs with LED bulbs is the most commonly utilized energy saving action	
utilized by Stratford residents	10
Figure 13: Stratford resident engagement in helping to strengthen or improve the Town's ecosystem	11
Figure 14: Some Stratford residents are becoming more informed on taking measures to protect the nat	ural
environment	12
Figure 15: Most Stratford residents do not actively use pesticides	12
Figure 16: Stratford residents support using Town resources to protect the environment	13
Figure 17: Stratford residents have the most awareness of the Think! Stratford – Support Local Initiative .	
Figure 18: Stratford residents frequently access services and shop at businesses located in the Town of	
Stratford	16
Figure 19: Compared to last year, Stratford residents are more aware of road concerns and more likely to	
"Slow Down, Move Over, and Think of Others" while driving	16
Figure 20: Stratford residents' preference on where and when food trucks operate	
Figure 21: "Stratford Town Talk" is the most common way Stratford residents receive information about t	the
Town of Stratford	18
Figure 22: Resident satisfaction with Town performance	20
Figure 23: Net Promoter Score <sup>TM</sup> = 51	21



# 1.0 Introduction

The Town of Stratford has utilized the Stratford Resident Survey since 2012 as one of many methods to receive feedback from residents to note community changes over time. Feedback received through the Stratford Resident Survey is a key way for the Town to ensure it adheres to its performance management system, "Sustainable Stratford – Results Matter." Survey results are used by the Town to inform the strategic and operational decision-making process, as well as assist with Town planning.

This report provides a detailed analysis of information collected from the many engaged citizens who took the time to respond to the **2022 Stratford Resident Survey**. A Summary Report is also available and can be found at www.townofstratford.ca. Additional documents have been created to assist with presentation of findings to the public, Council, committees, and staff.

The Town of Stratford is committed to sustainability and envisions a future where the social needs of residents are taken care of, where the culture and heritage are rich, diverse and celebrated, where the limits of the earth to sustain the people are recognized and respected, where there is a thriving local economy and where there is a transparent and responsive local government.

To ensure that the Town of Stratford is continually moving towards the desired future, the Town has developed a performance management system based on the balanced scorecard and its sustainability vision. The performance management system, "Sustainable Stratford – Results Matter," includes strategic objectives and performance indicators that measure the Town's progress towards its objectives. Objectives are categorized under four (4) perspectives: Resident/Stakeholder Perspective, Stewardship Perspective, Internal Process Perspective and Organizational Capacity Perspective. The Stratford Resident Survey 2022 is one method that the Town of Stratford is using to receive feedback from residents.

Some of the performance indicators can be measured using existing data that is available to the Town – like the number of trees planted, the amount of water used per person or the number of Town volunteers. Other performance indicators, such as resident satisfaction with the Town's governance, resident perception of safety and resident health are measured using the data collected in the Stratford Resident Survey. Having a statistically valid survey allows the Town to report the results of the survey with confidence and to rely on the data from the survey to measure performance and to continually improve. Performance is monitored, and initiatives are adjusted as required, to improve performance in each area. The results are reported annually to residents so that the Town is transparent and accountable for its actions.

MRSB Consulting Services Inc. was contracted by the Town of Stratford to assist with the planning, development, marketing, implementation, analysis, and reporting of the 2022 Stratford Resident Survey. MRSB Consulting Services provides a wide range of services and have extensive experience in conducting detailed primary and secondary research, including design and implementation of surveys. MRSB works on an ongoing basis with diverse organizations to meet their evolving organizational and strategic needs.

A paper version of the survey was distributed to 4,376 homes and apartments through the Canada Post Precision Targeter and neighbourhood Mail distribution systems. The paper survey contained a Business Reply Mail envelope allowing residents to easily mail paper surveys back to the Town. An online version of the survey was administered using the SurveyMonkey Platform. One-thousand and eighteen (1,018) responses were received.



Data entry of paper surveys was conducted by Town of Stratford staff members. The data entry team was trained in data entry through a data entry workshop and data entry was monitored by MRSB. Ten percent (10%) of manually entered surveys (from paper responses) were randomly checked for data entry accuracy and consistency.

All blank surveys, incomplete surveys (respondents answering less than three questions), and surveys completed by individuals under the age of 16 were cleaned from the survey database. Five (5) responses were removed during data cleaning and analysis was performed on the remaining 1,013 survey responses.

Survey data was weighted and adjusted to match the demographics for the Town of Stratford, based on the 2016 Census data for age and dwelling (owned or rented), except for the under-representation of the 15-24-year age range which could not be corrected. The survey accuracy (margin of error) was +/- 3.0%, 19 times out of 20.

Percentages may not add exactly to 100% due to rounding. Only non-response rates (missing data due to question skipping) of over 10% are reported. Percentages shown in charts and tables are a percentage of those who answered each question.

2022 Stratford Resident Survey results were compared to previous years. Changes of less than 10% are deemed statistically insignificant and are not reported on in this document.

All surveys are subject to non-response bias by people choosing not to participate in the survey. Non-response bias is the bias that results when respondents differ in meaningful ways from non-respondents. The potential for other nonresponse biases for the survey are recognized for residents with low literacy skills which might affect response to a paper or online survey and for residents who are newcomers to the province and/or do not have English as a first language.

The profile of survey respondents is included in Appendix A to this report and further information on the process of developing the survey and the methodology are found in Appendix B to this report.



# 2.0 Improving Resident Health and Safety

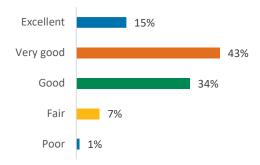
Strategic Objective: Stratford will strive to create a community where residents feel safe and where residents have opportunities to increase their health and wellness.

2022 Stratford Resident Survey results were compared to previous years. Changes of less than 10% are deemed statistically insignificant and are not reported on in this document.

#### 2.1 Health and Wellness

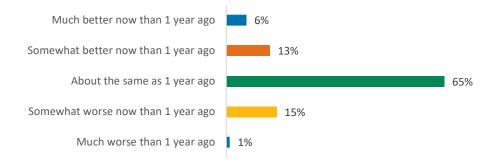
Ninety-two percent (92%) of survey respondents report their health as excellent, very good, or good. Eight percent (8%) of survey respondents report their health as fair or poor.

Figure 1: Ninety-two percent (92%) of Stratford residents report having good, very good, or excellent health



Eighty-four percent (84%) of survey respondents reported their health is about the same, somewhat better, or much better, when asked "compared to one year ago, how would you say your health is now?" Sixteen percent (16%) of respondents reported their health as either somewhat worse or much worse than 1 year ago.

Figure 2: Eighty-four percent (84%) of Stratford residents report their health as about the same, somewhat better, or much better than one year ago



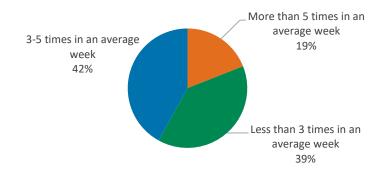


# 2.2 Physical Activity

Canadian guidelines recommend that to achieve health benefits, adults aged 18-64 years should accumulate at least 150 minutes of moderate to vigorous intensity aerobic physical activity per week, in bouts of 10 minutes or more. The definition of physical activity used in the survey was: "Moderate physical activity" will make you breathe harder and your heart beat faster. You should be able to talk, but not sing while doing moderate physical activity. Moderate activities include: walking briskly outside or on a track/treadmill, fitness classes, bike riding, cross country skiing, skating.

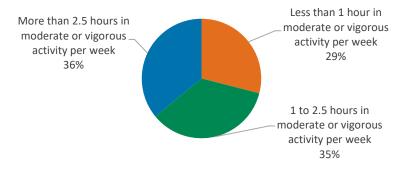
Survey respondents were asked the number of times in an average week that they engage in moderate to vigorous activity lasting for 10 minutes or more. Nineteen percent (19%) of survey respondents were performing a moderate or more vigorous more than five times in an average week for 10 minutes or more, 42% reported engaging in moderate to vigorous activity for 10 minutes or more 3-5 times in an average week, and 39% of respondents reported engaging in moderate to vigorous activity less than 3 times in an average week.

Figure 3: Sixty-one percent (61%) of Stratford residents are physically active 3 or more times in an average week



Residents were asked to add up the amount of time they engage in moderate to vigorous activity in an average week. Thirty-six percent (36%) of survey respondents indicated they spend more than 2.5 hours engaged in moderate or vigorous physical activity each week. Seventy-one percent (71%) of respondents engaged in moderate to vigorous activity one or more hours per week.

Figure 4: Many Stratford residents are physically active for more than one hour each week

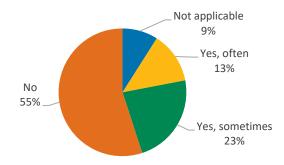


Fifty-five percent (55%) of respondents indicated that a physical or mental health issue does not reduce the amount or kind of activity they are able to perform (includes only health conditions or problems that have lasted or expected to last 6 months or more). Thirty-six percent (36%) of respondents indicated that a



mental or physical health issue often or sometimes reduces the amount or kind of activity they are able to perform.

Figure 5: Thirty-six percent (36%) of Stratford residents are at least sometimes held back from physical activity due to a physical or mental health issue



Ninety-four percent (94%) of survey respondents are usually able to walk around the neighbourhood without difficulty and without mechanical support such as wheelchairs, walkers, braces, a cane, or crutches.

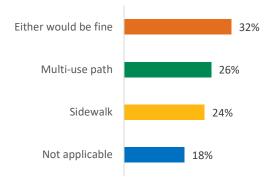
# 2.3 Active Transportation

The Town of Stratford has substantially completed the initiatives laid out in its fifteen-year Active Transportation Plan and is now in the process of developing a new plan. The survey focused on learning more about Stratford residents' preference for sidewalks or multi-use paths within subdivisions where a determination has been made that an Active Transportation path is required.

The following definitions were provided:

- "Active Transportation" refers to any form of human-powered transportation walking, cycling, wheelchair, in-line skating or skateboarding.
- "Sidewalk" refers to a 5-foot-wide concrete path between the curb/lateral lines of the road, street, lane, drive, or avenue and the adjacent property lines intended for the use of pedestrians.
- A "multi-use path" refers to a 10-foot-wide asphalt path between the curb/lateral lines of the road, street, lane, drive, or avenue and the adjacent property lines intended for the shared use of pedestrians, cyclists, skateboarders, and in-line skaters.

Figure 6: Fifty percent (50%) of Stratford residents have an active transportation preference in their subdivisions





Thirty-two present (32%) of respondents said either option would be fine in their area, where 18% indicated that this question is not applicable to them because they already have a sidewalk or multi-use path in their area.

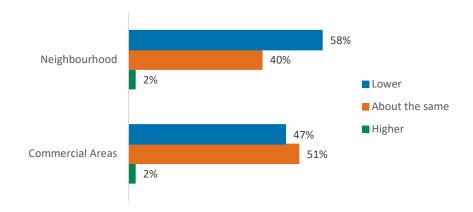
In addition, respondents were asked to provide their postal code to catalog their preference for a sidewalk or multi-use path if it was determined one was needed. This information was provided to the Town administration to assist with future active transportation development.

# 2.4 Safety in your Community

For the purposes of this survey, a "neighbourhood" referred to the area surrounding the home and "commercial areas" referred to the area surrounding businesses in Stratford.

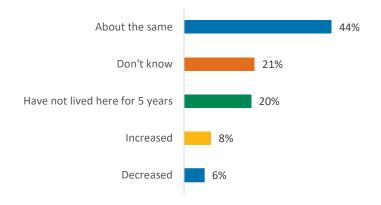
Compared to other areas in PEI, 58% of survey respondents think their neighbourhood has a lower amount of crime and 47% think the commercial areas of Town have a lower amount of crime.

Figure 7: Stratford residents feel crime is lower compared to other areas of PEI



During the last 5 years, 44% of survey respondents think that crime in their neighbourhoods has stayed at the same level. Eight percent (8%) of survey respondents believe crime levels have increased in the past 5 years.

Figure 8: Few Stratford residents feel crime levels are increasing in their neighbourhoods





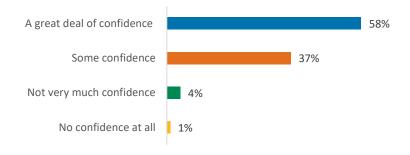
Survey respondents were asked how safe they feel walking around their neighbourhood. Ninety-eight percent (98%) of survey respondents feel very safe or somewhat safe walking around their neighbourhood.

## 2.5 Perceptions of the Local Police Force

In the past 5 years, 35% of survey respondents have had contact with the local police force. Sixty-five percent (65%) of survey respondents have not had contact with the local police force in the past five years.

Overall, survey respondents have a great deal or some of confidence in the local police force (95%). Five percent (5%) of survey respondents have no confidence or not very much confidence in the local police force.

Figure 9: Stratford residents have a great deal of confidence in the local police force

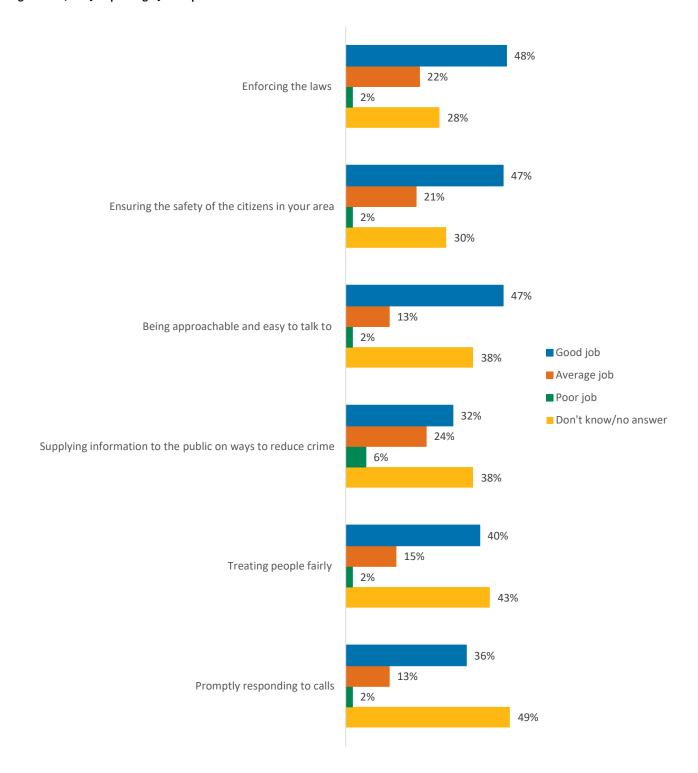


Respondents were asked to rate the quality of policing by the local police force on several aspects of policing depicted in Figure 10.

Seventy percent (70%) of respondents think the local police force does a good or average job of enforcing the laws. Sixty-eight percent (68%) think the local police force does a good or average job of ensuring the safety of the citizens in their area. Sixty percent (60%) of respondents think the local police force does a good to average job of being approachable and easy to talk to. Fifty-six percent (56%) of respondents think the local police force does a good to average job of supplying information to the public on ways to reduce crime. Fifty-five percent (55%) of respondents think the local police force does a good to average job of treating people fairly and forty-nine percent (49%) of survey respondents think the local police force does a good to average job of responding to calls promptly.



Figure 10: Quality of policing by local police force





# 3.0 Increasing Resource Efficiency

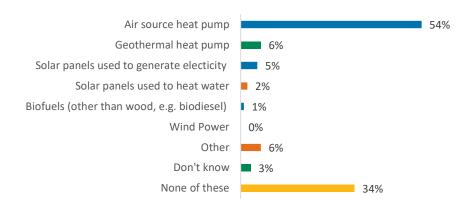
Strategic Objective: Stratford will use our natural resources, which include land, water and energy, more efficiently and effectively.

2022 Stratford Resident Survey results were compared to previous years. Changes of less than 10% are deemed statistically insignificant and are not reported on in this document.

# 3.1 Alternative Energy Sources

Residents were asked if they utilize alternative energy sources (not including wood or fossil fuels – like oil or gas) in their home. Thirty-four percent (34%) of survey respondents indicated they do not use any of the alternative energy sources listed in Figure 11. The most popular alternative energy source used by survey respondents is air source heat pump (54%).

Figure 11: Air source heat pumps are the most utilized alternative energy source by Stratford residents



Sixty-three (63) individuals answered "other" for this question. The 63 comments were reviewed and grouped as they related to: updated insulation, passive solar, and other answers that were either not relevant to the question asked or information contained in the available answer choices.

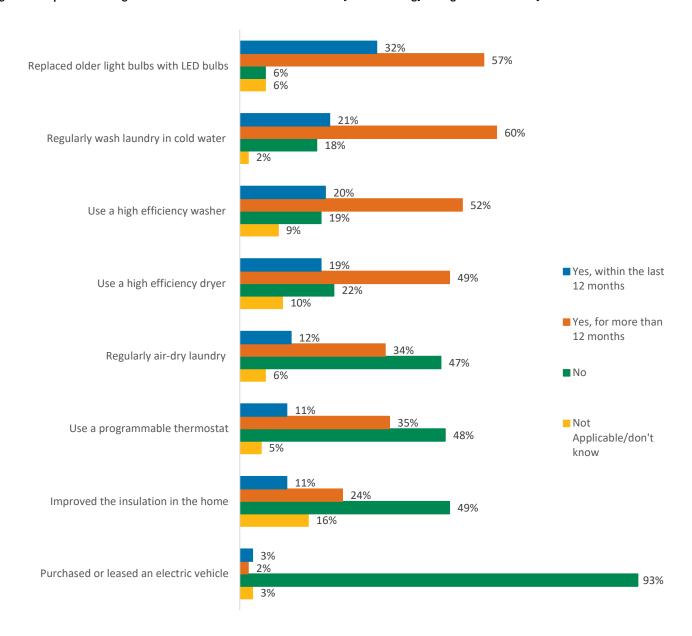
# 3.2 Energy Saving Actions

Survey participants were asked if they had taken any the energy saving actions contained in the list below. Note, in 2022 electric vehicles were added to the list of energy savings action options below.

- 1. Eight-nine percent (89%) replaced older light bulbs with LED bulbs.
- 2. Eighty-one percent (81%) regularly wash laundry in cold water.
- 3. Seventy-two percent (72%) use a high efficiency (HE) washer.
- 4. Sixty-eight percent (68%) use a high efficiency (HE) dryer.
- 5. Forty-six percent (46%) regularly air-dry laundry (where permitted).
- 6. Forty-six percent (46%) use a programmable thermostat to automatically lower the temperature.
- 7. Thirty-five percent (35%) improved the insulation in the home, a 10% decrease compared to 2021.
- 8. Five present (5%) purchased or leased an electric vehicle.



Figure 12: Replaced older light bulbs with LED bulbs is the most commonly utilized energy saving action utilized by Stratford residents



Survey respondents were asked if they have taken any other energy saving actions. One-hundred and ninety-eight (198) respondents provided an answer to this question. The 198 comments were reviewed and grouped as they related to: installed low-flow water fixtures, incremental improvements such as lowering the temperature in the home and turning off lights when not using them, smart appliances, replacing windows, passive solar, completion of home energy audits, replacing old appliances, sealing doors and windows, utilization of municipal, provincial and federal grants for energy efficiency improvements, and other answers that were either not relevant to the question asked or information contained in the available answer choices.



# 4.0 Improving Environmental Responsibility

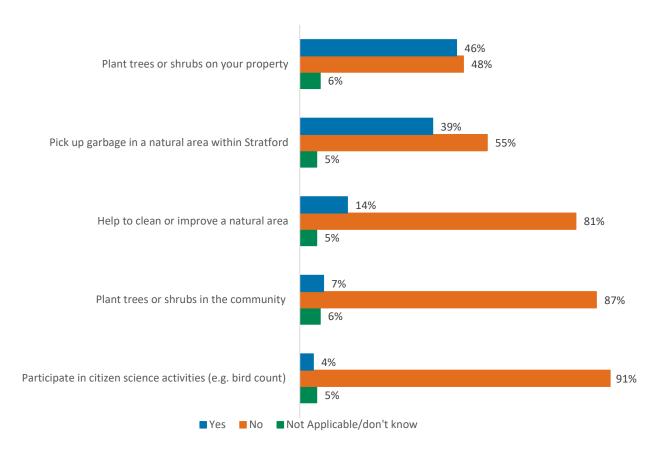
Strategic Objective: Stratford recognizes the intrinsic value of the ecosystems and biodiversity on which it is built and will educate residents and stakeholders on their value and work to increase community stewardship of these valuable systems.

2022 Stratford Resident Survey results were compared to previous years. Changes of less than 10% are deemed statistically insignificant and are not reported on in this document.

## 4.1 Resident Engagement in Protecting Ecosystems

Residents were asked if they or someone in their home participated in any of the practices in the chart below that would help strengthen or improve Stratford's ecosystem. In the past 12 months, 46% of respondents indicated they planted trees or shrubs on their property, 39% picked up garbage in a natural area, 14% helped to clean or improve a natural area, 7% planted trees or shrubs in the community, and 4% participated in citizen-science activities of measuring, monitoring, or reporting such as a bird count or water monitoring.

Figure 13: Stratford resident engagement in helping to strengthen or improve the Town's ecosystem





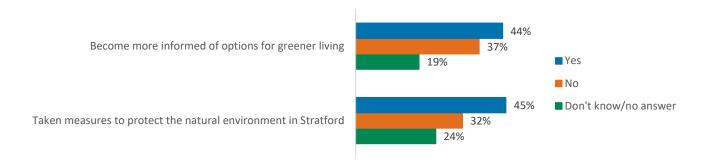
# 4.2 Naturally Stratford

Survey respondents were asked if over the past year they and their family have become more informed of options for greener living in the Town of Stratford and if over the past year they have taken measures to protect the natural environment in Stratford.

In the past year, 44% of survey respondents have become more informed of options for greener living in the Town of Stratford. Nineteen percent (19%) did not know or could not provide an answer.

In the past year, 45% of survey respondents have taken measures to protect the natural environment in Stratford. Twenty-four (24%) did not know or could not provide an answer.

Figure 14: Some Stratford residents are becoming more informed on taking measures to protect the natural environment

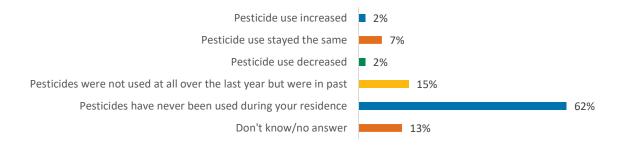


#### 4.3 Pesticide Use on Lawns

Stratford residents who lived in a home with a lawn (93% of respondents) were asked if the use of pesticides on their lawn changed over the last year compared to the previous year. Pesticides refers to any synthetic (man-made) chemical substance that is used to prevent, reduce, destroy, repel, or attract any weeds or pests.

Sixty-two percent (62%) of residents indicated that pesticides have never been used during their residence. Fifteen percent (15%) of survey respondents indicated pesticides were not used at all over the last year but were in the past.

Figure 15: Most Stratford residents do not actively use pesticides

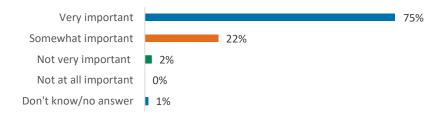




# 4.4 Resources Used to Protect the Environment

Stratford residents continue to show strong support for the use of Town resources to protect the environment. Ninety-seven percent (97%) of residents feel it is somewhat important or very important to use resources to protect the environment and no survey respondents feel it is not at all important.

Figure 16: Stratford residents support using Town resources to protect the environment





# 5.0 Increasing Community Engagement

Strategic Objective: Stratford will engage significantly more residents and stakeholders in the decision-making process based on collaborative planning principles.

2022 Stratford Resident Survey results were compared to previous years. Changes of less than 10% are deemed statistically insignificant and are not reported on in this document.

#### 5.1 Town Initiatives

Respondents were asked how much they know about various Town initiatives and to choose an answer that best describes how much they know about each of the given initiatives.

**Think! Stratford – Support Local Initiative** had a high level of recognition, with 84% of respondents indicating that they had "heard about," "know some details about," or "have followed it closely or sought more information." In comparison, 16% had never heard of Think! Stratford.

The **Water Audit Program** had a high level of recognition, with 81% of respondents indicating that they had "heard about," "know some details about," or "have followed it closely or sought more information." In comparison, 19% had never heard of the Water Audit Program.

**Stratford's Youth Centre** had a high level of recognition, with 81% of respondents indicating that they had "heard about," "know some details about," or "have followed it closely or sought more information." In comparison, 19% had never heard of the Stratford Youth Centre.

The **"RESPECT" – Road Safety Campaign** had a high level of recognition with 79% of respondents indicating that they had "heard about," "know some details about," or "have followed it closely or sought more information." In comparison, 21% had never heard of the "RESPECT" – Road Safety Campaign.

The **Waterfront Park** had a high level of recognition, with 79% of respondents indicating that they had "heard about," "know some details about," or "have followed it closely or sought more information." In comparison, 22% had never heard of the Waterfront Park.

The **Community Campus** had a good level of recognition, with 63% of respondents indicating that they had "heard about," "know some details about," or "have followed it closely or sought more information." In comparison, 37% had never heard of the Community Campus.

The **Community Energy Plan** had a good level of recognition, with 60% of respondents indicating that they had "heard about," "know some details about," or "have followed it closely or sought more information." In comparison, 40% had never heard of the Community Energy Plan.

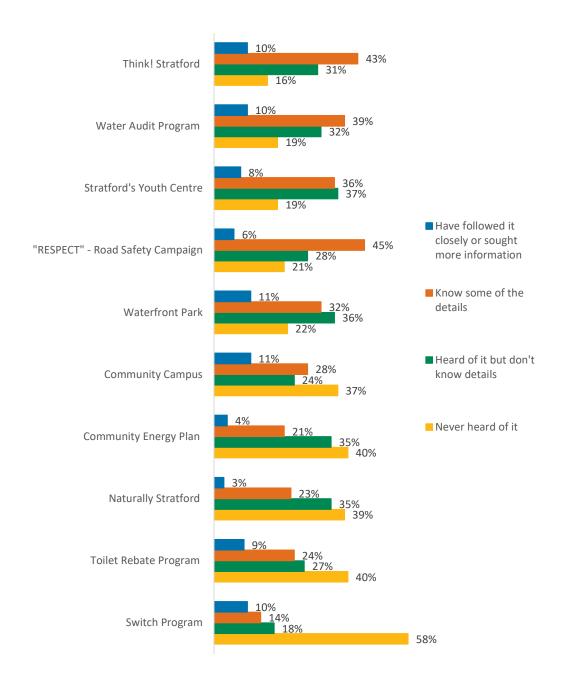
**Naturally Stratford – Environmental Responsibility Program** had a good level of recognition, with 61% of respondents indicating that they had "heard about," "know some details about," or "have followed it closely or sought more information." In comparison, 39% had never heard of Naturally Stratford – Environmental Responsibility Program.

The **Toilet Rebate Program** had a good level of recognition, with 60% of respondents indicating that they had "heard about," "know some details about," or "have followed it closely or sought more information." In comparison, 58% had never heard of the Toilet Rebate Program.



The **Switch Program** had a fair level of recognition, with 42% of respondents indicating that they had "heard about," "know some details about," or "have followed it closely or sought more information." This awareness has seen a notable increase of 24% since last year, where only 18% of respondents in 2021 indicated that they had "heard about," "know some details about," or "have followed it closely or sought more information." In comparison, 58% had never heard of the Switch Program.

Figure 17: Stratford residents have the most awareness of the Think! Stratford – Support Local Initiative



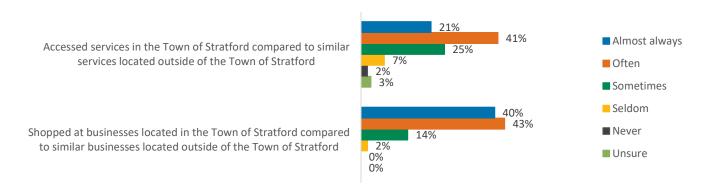


#### 5.1.1 Think! Stratford – Support Local Initiative

Survey respondents were asked how often in the past year they have accessed services in the Town of Stratford compared to similar services located outside of the Town of Stratford. They were also asked how often in the past year they have shopped at businesses located in the Town of Stratford compared to similar businesses located outside of the Town of Stratford.

In the past year, 87% of respondents have either almost always, often, or sometimes accessed services in the Town of Stratford compared to similar services located outside of the Town of Stratford. In the past year, 97% of respondents have either almost always, often, or sometimes shopped at businesses in the Town of Stratford compared to similar businesses located outside of the Town of Stratford.

Figure 18: Stratford residents frequently access services and shop at businesses located in the Town of Stratford

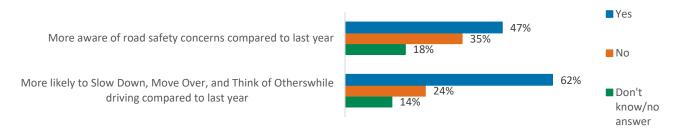


#### 5.1.2 "RESPECT" – Road Safety Campaign

Survey respondents were asked if they and their family are more aware of road safety concerns compared to last year and if they and their family are more likely to "Slow Down, Move Over, and Think of Others" while driving compared to last year.

Forty-seven percent (47%) of survey respondents are more aware of road safety concerns compared to last year and 18% either did not know or could not provide an answer. Sixty-two percent (62%) of survey respondents are more likely to "Slow Down, Move Over, and Think of Others" while driving compared to last year and 14% either did not know or could not provide an answer.

Figure 19: Compared to last year, Stratford residents are more aware of road concerns and more likely to "Slow Down, Move Over, and Think of Others" while driving



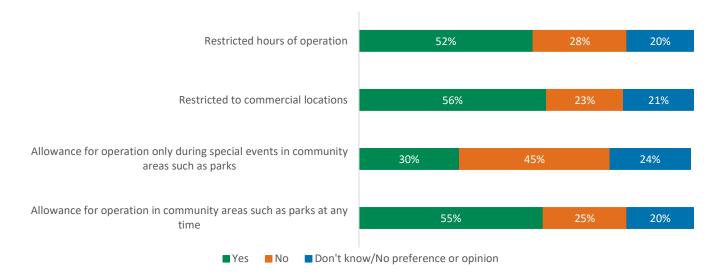


## 5.2 Food Trucks

Currently, the Town of Stratford does not permit the operation of food trucks in the Town. The Town wanted to learn more about residents' opinion on the' operation of food trucks. For the purposes of the survey, a "Food Truck" was defined as a motor-powered vehicle, equipped with facilities for cooking and selling food.

Ninety-one percent (91%) of respondents support the Town of Stratford with establishing regulations for food truck operations. Residents were also asked about their preference regarding location and operating hours of food trucks, with 52% of respondents supporting limiting hours of operation and 56% of respondents supporting limiting food trucks to commercial areas. Fifty-five percent (55%) were also in favor of food trucks being operated in community areas such as parks at any time, while 30% indicated a preference for operation in community areas only during special events.

Figure 20: Stratford residents' preference on where and when food trucks operate



# 5.3 Short-Term Rentals

Currently there are no regulations in the Town of Stratford for the operation of short-term rentals and the Town is interested in learning more about Stratford resident's opinion on the operation of short-term rentals. The survey noted to residents that if regulations were to be considered, a public consultation process would be held.

"Short Term Rental" was defined in the survey as a furnished living space including rooms in a house, in-law suites, houses, and apartment or condominium units available for short periods of time, from days to weeks.

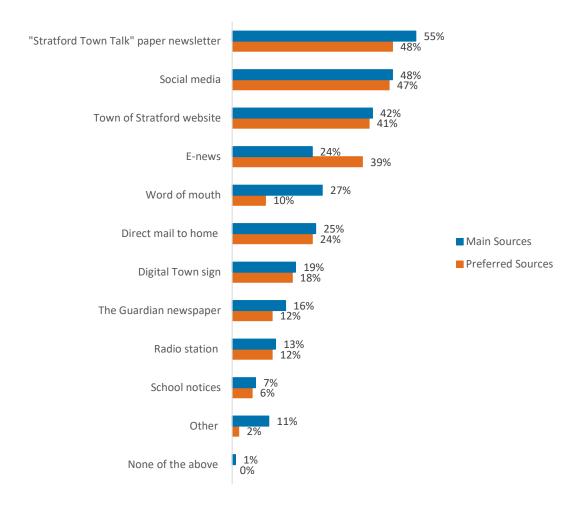
Seventy-one percent (71%) of respondents support the Town regulating short term rentals, with twenty-nine percent (29%) indicating they do not support regulations from the Town.



#### 5.4 Communications

Respondents were asked about the communications channels that were their main source of information about the Town of Stratford and about their preferred methods. The most common form of communications received by residents are the "Stratford Town Talk" paper newsletter (55%), social media (48%), and the Town of Stratford website (42%). Respondents preferred method of communications the "Stratford Town Talk" paper newsletter (48%), social media (47%), and the Town of Stratford website (41%).

Figure 21: "Stratford Town Talk" is the most common way Stratford residents receive information about the Town of Stratford.



Twenty-eight (28) individuals answered "other" for their main sources of information about the Town of Stratford. The 28 comments were reviewed and grouped as they related to: Town Committee, television, the Buzz, CBC, and other answers that were either not relevant to the question asked or information contained in the available answer choices.

Twenty-three (23) individuals answered "other" for their preferred sources of information about the Town of Stratford question. The 23 comments were reviewed and grouped as they related to: Town Committee, television, the Buzz, CBC, and other answers that were either not relevant to the question asked or information contained in the available answer choices.



# 6.0 Improving Governance

Strategic Objective: Stratford is committed to good government where there is transparency, accountability and meaningful community engagement.

2022 Stratford Resident Survey results were compared to previous years. Changes of less than 10% are deemed statistically insignificant and are not reported on in this document.

#### 6.1 Satisfaction with Town Performance

Respondents were asked to rate how satisfied they are with the Town of Stratford's performance in the following areas:

- Overall performance
- Ability to meet your needs
- Responsiveness to Town issues
- Opportunities for input into planning and decisions for the community
- Accountability for actions taken
- Transparency of decision making

For **overall performance**, 75% of residents were satisfied or very satisfied with the Town's performance, 7% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied, and 18% chose did not know/no answer.

For **ability to meet your needs**, 67% of residents were satisfied or very satisfied with the Town's performance, 10% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied, and 23% chose did not know/no answer.

For **responsiveness to Town issues**, 65% of residents were satisfied or very satisfied with the Town's performance, 6% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied, and 29% chose did not know/no answer.

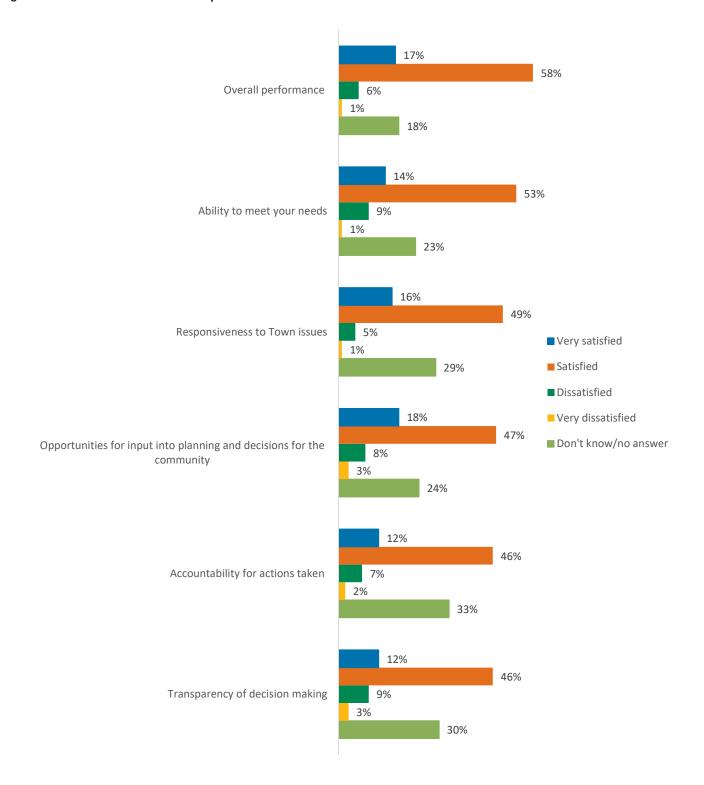
For **opportunities for input into planning and decisions for the community**, 65% of residents were satisfied or very satisfied with the Town's performance, 11% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied, and 24% chose did not know/no answer.

For **accountability for actions taken**, 58% of residents were satisfied or very satisfied with the Town's performance, 9% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied, and 33% chose did not know/no answer.

For **transparency of decision making**, 58% of residents were satisfied or very satisfied with the Town's performance, 12% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied, and 30% chose did not know/no answer.



Figure 22: Resident satisfaction with Town performance





## 6.2 Net Promoter Score™

The inclusion of an annual Net Promoter Score<sup>™</sup> question began in 2015. The Net Promoter Score<sup>™</sup> was originally created to aid businesses with gauging the attitudes and behaviors of their customers in terms of how likely they are to actively promote a product. It is also used by communities as an internal benchmarking tool for noting changes in residents' satisfaction with their community.

The tool divides people into three "promoter" categories: promoters, passives, and detractors. The Net Promoter Score™ is determined by subtracting the number of detractors from the total number of promoters (passives are not included in the calculation) where:

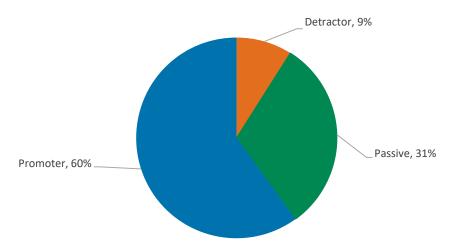
- Detractors (rating of 0-6) are considered dissatisfied residents who might cause your community to receive fewer referrals by creating negative word-of-mouth.
- Passives (rating of 7-8) are considered passively-satisfied residents who are susceptible to offers from competing communities in your area.
- Promoters (rating of 9-10) are considered highly-satisfied residents who are loyal and likely to recommend your community.

An adjustment was made to the Net Promoter Score question in 2017 to allow Stratford's question to be benchmarked against other Net Promoter Scores<sup>TM</sup> for governments within North America.

The 2022 Net Promoter Score<sup>™</sup> for the Town of Stratford is 51 and is comprised of 60% promoters, 31% passives (not included in the calculation), and 9% detractors. The 2021 Net Promoter Score<sup>™</sup> was 50.

The Town's Net Promoter Score<sup>™</sup> has been steadily increasing from 38 in 2017, 39 in 2018, 42 in 2019, 45 in 2020, 50 in 2021, to 51 this year. The Net Promoter Score<sup>™</sup> cannot be accurately compared to years before 2017 because of the wording changes made in that year.

Figure 23: Net Promoter Score™ = 51



Respondents were asked what, if anything, the Town could do to increase the likelihood that respondents would recommend Stratford as a place to live. Four-hundred and eighty-two (482) respondents provided an answer to this question. In addition, respondents had a final chance to share additional comments through



an open-ended question which asked for any additional comments. Two-hundred and twelve (212) respondents provided an answer to this question.

The comments were reviewed and grouped as they related to: taxation, trails, recreation and recreational facilities, the Hillsborough bridge and associated concerns, personal feelings, municipal services, drainage infrastructure, public transit, active transportation, green space, existing and new schools, future Town planning for growth and business development, affordable housing, and other comments.

All comments are reviewed by the Town of Stratford as part of its strategic planning.



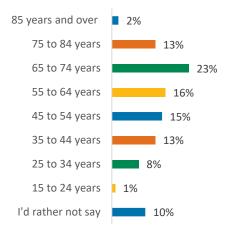
# **Appendix A: Profile of Respondents**

It is not unusual for respondents to skip demographic questions in surveys that allow question skipping. Depending upon the question, 6-13% of respondents chose not to answer the demographic questions asked at the end of the survey.

The majority of respondents to the Stratford Resident Survey 2022 were female (59%). Thirty-seven percent (37%) of survey respondents were male, five (5) respondents indicated transgender, third gender, non-binary, non-conforming, or other gender, and 4% of survey respondents preferred not to disclose how they describe their gender.

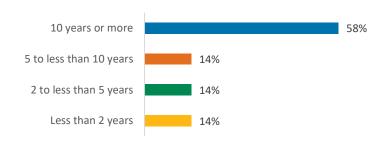
Fifty-four percent (54%) were in the 45 to 74 year age range. Nine percent (9%) of survey respondents were aged 34 or younger.

Figure A1: Age of respondents



Eighty-seven percent (87%) of survey respondents were born in Canada and 94% of survey respondents reported living in Canada for 10 years or more. Fifty-eight percent (58%) of survey respondents have lived in Stratford for 10 or more years.

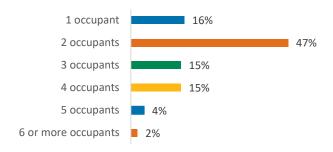
Figure A2: How long survey respondents have lived in Stratford





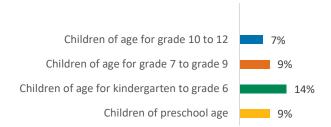
The number of occupants per dwelling shows that 78% of dwellings are inhabited by three or less occupants.

Figure A3: Number of occupants per dwelling



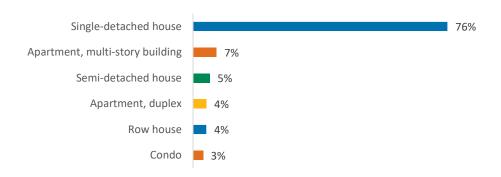
Seventy-two percent (72%) of respondent's report that they have no children under the age of 19 living in their household. Of the 39% of respondents who reported having children under the age of 19 living in their households, 7% of households have children in grades 10-12, 9% have children in grades 7-9, 14% have children in kindergarten to grade 6, and 9% have pre-school aged children in the household. Respondents were able to select more than one category.

Figure A4: Children under 19 living in the home



Eighty-three percent (83%) of respondents indicated they own their dwelling while 17% indicated they rent their dwelling. The majority of respondents (76%) indicated they currently live in a single detached house.

Figure A5: Type of dwelling





Respondents were asked to estimate the total income received by all household members (from all sources before taxes and deductions in 2021). The estimated household incomes were:

Figure A6: Total household income





# **Appendix B: Methodology**

The Town of Stratford engaged MRSB consulting Services Inc. to conduct the Stratford Resident Survey 2022, perform analysis of collected information, and report on information collected. The target population for this survey was individuals 16 and over residing in the Town of Stratford, Prince Edward Island.

Key areas of inquiry were identified in consultation the Chief Administrative Officer for the Town of Stratford, PEI; senior staff; and special committees including staff and volunteers. Survey questions were developed to address:

- 1. Stratford Strategic Plan Objectives as identified by the Town of Stratford staff;
- 2. Indicators to be repeated year over year (benchmarking questions): satisfaction with town governance; residents self-reported health status; perceptions of community safety; environmental stewardship; and energy conservation measures;
- 3. Indicators reserved as biannual questions were consistent over the first four years and are unlikely to change dramatically in a single year;
- 4. New areas of inquiry (change each year) specific Town Initiatives and this year's special focus areas: food trucks, short-term rentals, and active transportation preferences for subdivisions.
- 5. Demographics (e.g. length of residency, type of housing, age, household income).

A multi-mode method (distribution of an online survey as well as a paper survey) was used to ensure the survey reached as many respondents as possible and provided residents with multiple options for survey completion. The online survey was administered online using the SurveyMonkey platform and the paper survey was distributed by Canada Post. The online survey and paper survey were aligned so that the questions and their position in the survey were the same.

The survey did not gather any information to identify individual respondents and results are reported in aggregate form only.

Survey questions were tested with a few individuals and based on feedback received no alterations were required.

# **Survey Distribution**

A paper version of the survey was distributed to 4,376 homes and apartments through the Canada Post Precision Targeter and neighbourhood Mail distribution systems. The paper survey contained a Business Reply Mail envelope allowing residents to easily mail paper surveys back to the Town. An online version of the survey was administered using the SurveyMonkey Platform.

MRSB Group's Marketing Department developed and implemented a communications strategy with the goal of encouraging all residents aged 16 and over residing in the Town of Stratford to complete the Stratford Resident Survey. An additional emphasis was place on attracting millennials to complete the survey as this have been a demographic with a lower response rate in the past. The communications strategy utilized digital channels including the Town of Stratford e-newsletter, website, Facebook, Twitter, digital sign board, and traditional channels including the paper survey being distributed via Canada Post.



Key messaging used during survey distribution included:

- Utilization of #ImagineThat The Town of Stratford's branded hashtag
- Utilization of #ThinkStratford, #NaturallyStratford, and #RespectStratford hashtags relating to the Town of Stratford's strategic objectives and campaigns
- Engagement of key influencers
- What the survey is and why it's important to the Town of Stratford,
- Special topics of interest that were identified as important to residents
- How to access the survey online
- Examples of how results are incorporated year after year
- When residents can expect to receive a paper survey
- How long it takes to complete the survey (on average)
- How to return the paper survey
- Deadline for completion

The online survey was launched on February 2, 2022 and the paper survey was delivered to households between February 10 and 12, 2022. Paper surveys were also available for pickup at the Stratford Public Library and the Stratford Town Offices. The original survey deadline was March 4, 2022 but was extended to March 8, 2022.

# **Survey Analysis**

One-thousand and eighteen (1,018) survey responses were received. Data entry of paper surveys was conducted by Town of Stratford staff members. The data entry team was trained in data entry through a data entry workshop and data entry was monitored by MRSB. Ten percent (10%) of manually entered surveys (from paper responses) were randomly checked for data entry accuracy and consistency.

All blank surveys, incomplete surveys (respondents answering less than three questions), and surveys completed by individuals under the age of 16 were cleaned from the survey database. Five responses were removed during data cleaning and analysis was performed on the remaining 1,013 survey responses.

Survey data was weighted – adjusted to match the demographics for the Town of Stratford, based on the 2016 Census data for age and dwelling, owned or rented, except for the under-representation of the 15-24-year age range which could not be corrected. The survey accuracy (margin of error) was +/- 3.0%, 19 times out of 20.

Percentages may not add exactly to 100% due to rounding. Only non-response rates (missing data due to question skipping) of over 10% are reported. Percentages shown in charts and tables are a percentage of those who answered each question.

All surveys are subject to non-response bias by people choosing not to participate in the survey. Non-response bias is the bias that results when respondents differ in meaningful ways from non-respondents. The potential for other nonresponse biases for the survey are recognized for residents with low literacy skills which might affect response to a paper or online survey and for residents who are newcomers to the province and/or do not have English as a first language.



# Reporting

Survey data is represented in this Full Results Report and a Summary Report which are both available on the Town of Stratford's website, www.townofstratford.ca.



# **Appendix C: Stratford Resident Survey** 2022