

TOWN OF ERIN

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE MASTER PLAN

Final Report, September 2019



Prepared for:



Prepared by:



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1 Introduction

1.1 Project Purpose and Scope

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan for the Town of Erin is a flexible blueprint intended to guide municipal planning and decision making for parks, recreation and cultural assets and services over the next 10 years (to 2029). This Plan will help Town Council and staff manage the development of parks and trails, recreation and cultural facilities and services, and programming and events in a strategic manner.

For the purposes of this report, ‘recreation’ is defined as the experience that results from freely chosen participation in physical, social, intellectual, creative and spiritual pursuits that enhance individual and community wellbeing¹.

The Master Plan is an integrated plan that evaluates needs and strategies related to the following:

Indoor Recreation Facilities

- Community Centres
- Arenas
- Community Halls



Parks and Trails

- Active and Passive Parkland
- Trails



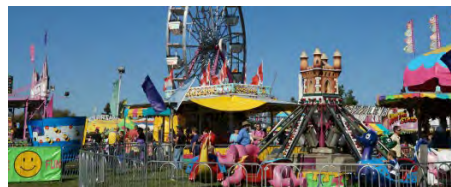
Outdoor Recreation Facilities

- Sports Fields
- Courts
- Playgrounds



Programming and Events

- Programming
- Partnerships
- Service Delivery
- Special Events



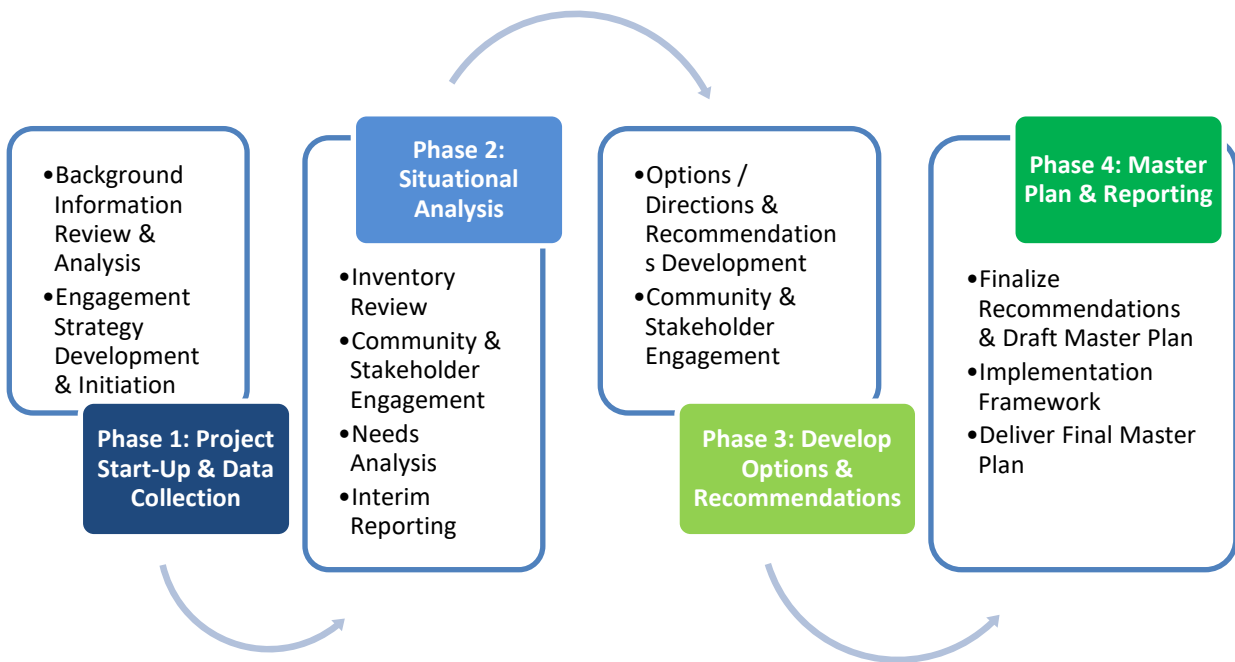
¹ Framework for Recreation in Canada: Pathways to Wellbeing (2015).

This Master Plan recognizes that a preferred growth scenario for the Town has not been confirmed at the time of reporting. The recommendations and service levels identified within this report utilize the growth projections as per the County's Official Plan. While there may be some variance in estimations as a result of the Growth Management Strategy (currently underway), the Master Plan has the ability to adapt to a changing demographic situation dependent on the growth scenario and how the community changes over time. In this regard, continuous monitoring of community demographics will be important going forward.

1.2 Study Process

The Master Plan was developed through a multi-phased and integrated approach. The general framework for the study is identified as follows:

Exhibit 1: Study Process Diagram



1.3 Engagement Completed to Date

1.3.1 Summary of Activities

Several engagement activities relating to the preparation of this Master Plan have been undertaken, with the purpose of gathering input from those who use and help to deliver the services. These activities include the following:

- Residents Survey;

- Student Online Survey;
- Community Workshop;
- Stakeholder / User Group Workshop;
- Engagement with external stakeholders (e.g. school boards, local schools, tenants, and conservation authorities); and
- Public comment period to review final draft Master Plan.

Additional details of each activity are provided below.

Residents Survey

An online survey for residents was open to the public via the Town's website from February 18 to April 5, 2019. Printed versions were also made available at Town facilities. In total, 452 respondents participated in the online survey and provided their views and experiences with Town-owned parks, recreation and culture facilities, programs and services. Based on the sample size of respondents, the results of the close-ended questions are reported with a confidence level of 95% and a margin of error of +/- 5%.

A detailed summary of the outcomes of the Residents Survey have been developed under separate cover.

Student Online Survey

In order to gain further perspective into parks, recreation and culture facilities, services and programs from a youth perspective, an online survey was distributed to students at the Erin District High School. In total, there were 21 survey responses.

When students were asked 'What do you like most about the Town of Erin as a place to live and recreate?' the survey responses (n=12) ranged from a small town feel that is quiet and peaceful to enjoying the arenas and open space. The lack of summer recreational activities, parks, and public pool(s) were described by youth as what they liked the least.

Student Survey respondents (n=21) ranked jogging and running (48%) as the top activity they participated in over the last 12 months, followed by badminton (43%), pickleball and camping (38% respectively), and basketball, canoeing, road cycling and indoor swimming at 33% each.

Community Workshop

A Community Workshop was held on April 2, 2019 at the Erin Community Centre (ECC). The purpose of this meeting was to provide a project introduction and receive initial feedback related to the community's parks and recreational needs moving forward. There were 17 interested citizens in attendance.

The meeting provided community members with the opportunity to share their views on their needs, wants, and vision for parks, recreation and culture activities in the Town over the next 10 years, and how the Town could be a leader in Southern Ontario in lifestyle services.

Stakeholder / User Group Workshop

A User Group Workshop was held on April 3, 2019 at the Erin Community Centre. There were 24 individuals in attendance representing a variety of groups who use the Town's recreation facilities. User groups not present at the workshop were contacted via email for input.

The purpose of the meeting was to understand the groups' current needs, issues and opportunities for the future. Discussion(s) at the meeting focused on their views of the Town's facilities (what should be celebrated, what needs to be enhanced, and overall satisfaction), existing challenges groups face and what solutions they have sought, what they would like to see in the future, and facility examples from other communities the Town could learn from.

School Board / School Engagement

Telephone interviews were conducted with the Upper Grand District School Board and public schools (elementary and secondary) located in Erin. The purpose of the interviews was to understand whether any Town-owned/operated recreational facilities were being utilized by local schools (if so, what was their satisfaction level), desired change in the types of major recreation facilities provided over the next 10 years, as well as opportunities or constraints to partnership development with the Town.

In general, the schools are satisfied with the existing facilities but state there is a need for a public pool to serve the 'Swim to Survive Program' and meet the needs of their school aged children and youth. The schools observed that all-seasoned recreational and sport programs for youth are vastly needed since the current offer is very limited. Suggestions included summer programs such as nature programs / leadership camps for youth and promoting the use of Erin's outdoor amenities for recreational and leisure activities to families (in an effort to reduce screen time at home).

Through these conversations it was also noted that there is economic disparity among residents in Erin. The provision of "affordable" programs and services for kids and families, as well as a health resource / drop-in centre for families that offers parenting courses, mental health programs etc., were identified as important needs in the future.

The School Board indicated that they would be open to discussing expanded partnerships with the Town, as per the Ministry of Education's Community Planning and Partnership Policy. The School Board holds an annual meeting (usually in the fall) to provide opportunities for these partnerships (municipality/organizations) to be discussed.

Conservation Authorities Engagement

Telephone interviews were also undertaken with conservation authorities to garner an inventory of their amenities, what they would like to see in the future, and future opportunities for further partnership development.

From an environmental perspective, the Town of Erin is split across two watersheds under the mandate of conservation authorities, namely the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) and Credit Valley Conservation (CVC). Two prominent themes that evolved from the discussions include a lack of greenspace available for recreational use within the municipal realm to meet the needs of a growing population. CVC trails are heavily used for hiking, walking, and biking in the summer, and ATV and snowmobile use in the winter. On the latter, many ATV and snowmobile activities are occurring with no set regulation and this is damaging the trails. CVC is interested in working with the Town to understand if there will be a continued trend for this recreational sport and how it should be facilitated (or not) in the future.

The conservation authorities are open to considering opportunities for partnership with the municipality to provide passive recreation on some of their properties and to gain an understanding of what the Town's trends and needs for recreational service delivery will be in the future.

1.3.2 Emerging Themes from Engagement to Date

From the activities and discussions undertaken to date, several key themes and observations, and opportunities were prominent. These are summarized below:

Celebrate Existing Assets

Overall, stakeholders celebrated the Town's parks (Victoria Park, Orton Park, McMillan Park and Hillsburgh Park) and hiking trails (Elora Cataract Trail) and described them as beautiful and a key asset to the Town, however the maintenance of these green spaces could be improved.

Suggestions for improvement included the placement of garbage bins, signage for clean-up, and better surveillance. It was also observed that more trail connectivity to Town parks and the Elora Cataract Trail with adequate signage is needed. Lastly, stakeholders want more parkland and green space for recreational use and an off-leash dog park.

Recreational Facilities Require Attention

Stakeholders identified recreational facilities in the Town as looking old, outdated and in poor condition needing a facelift. Specifically, the Hillsburgh Arena (HCC) is small and not suitable for adult leagues. The ice quality at both arenas are below standard and large pools of water collect after an ice resurfacing. Hillsburgh Arena is very cold and the changerooms and washrooms are in poor condition.

Many ball diamonds and fields have poor drainage in heavy rainfall leading to game cancellations. There are limited dugouts, batting cages and outdoor lighting for evening / night usage. The latter also applies to soccer fields.

At Erin Centre 2000 there is concern over mold and water issues (in the hockey office in particular), theatre seats need an upgrade, and a better sound system is required in the arena. Additionally, it was noted that tennis courts have not been resurfaced in the last 4/5 years and as a result most are cracked with sink holes.

Many stakeholders expressed poor maintenance of facilities as a major concern. This includes the cleanliness of washrooms, changerooms, kitchen, and floors in Erin and Hillsburgh arenas/community centre. Outdoor fields were also noted to be poorly maintained with unlevelled surface, tall grass and weeds, poor line markups, etc. Two user groups are interested in partnering with the Town to share with the upkeep of outdoor fields.

Accessibility of Recreational Space

Accessibility issues were identified by user groups as problematic at Erin Community Centre 2000, Hillsburgh Arena and outdoor ice rinks. These facilities are not fully accessible for persons with a disability, however it should be noted that the ECC has some accessibility features, while the HCC is suitable for sledge hockey.

Recreational Facility & Program Needs

The lack of playgrounds, splash pads and a public pool in the Town was consistently raised by community members and a number of user groups. Alongside, for those existing playgrounds (e.g. Lion's Park) most were described as needing an upgrade. It was also noted that parking availability in most facilities was limited and needing repairs (e.g. parking lot at Victoria Park needs paving). Student Survey respondents identified a need for more activities to be available during the summer months.

User groups identified the lack of age-specific recreational programs available to youth, adults, and seniors. These include, but are not limited to, basketball and lacrosse for youth; art classes, fitness, and yoga for adults; and wellness programs for seniors. Citizens are interested in having more summer festivals, outdoor musical events and live theatre/movie nights to foster a stronger sense of 'community'. To enhance cultural activities and bring in tourism it was suggested the Town should partner with neighbouring towns to collaborate on a blues festival or art fest, among other activities.

Program Awareness & Promotion

Stakeholders perceive advertising by the Town on current recreational programs and community services as lacking. Recommendations were made to create a marketing tool, including a program guide, brochure, and an on-line service directory available to residents on the Town's website. Ideally, it should be on a "one-stop shop" for easy access. It was also suggested a 'welcome package' for newcomers be available in print and online with all of the relevant information.

Booking & Rental Fees

The booking of facilities was deemed problematic for many user groups. Better customer relations and a balanced partnership between the Town and primary users was identified as a necessary step forward.

Additionally, rental fees were described as very high and not comparable to surrounding communities. Affordable rates and low registration costs were

deemed important by all user groups for local access to Town's recreational facilities and increase to help club membership. To make rental fees affordable user groups asked if community grants were available by the Town or at the County level.

Improved Partnerships

Generally, stakeholders want more transparency and better communication with Town staff and full integration between the private and public sectors. User groups would like to develop a stronger partnership with the Town to cultivate opportunities for recreation and sporting events, including more municipal and regional tournaments.

There is also interest in seeking corporate funding in partnership with the Town.

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2 The Context of Planning in Erin

2.1 Regional Context

The Town of Erin is one of seven lower-tier municipalities within Wellington County’s jurisdiction. The City of Guelph, although part of the County census division, is a single-tier city, municipally independent of the County in term of its administration and growth planning.

Exhibit 2: Locational Context of Erin within the Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH)



Source : Sierra Planning and Management based on mapping from the Neptis Foundation.

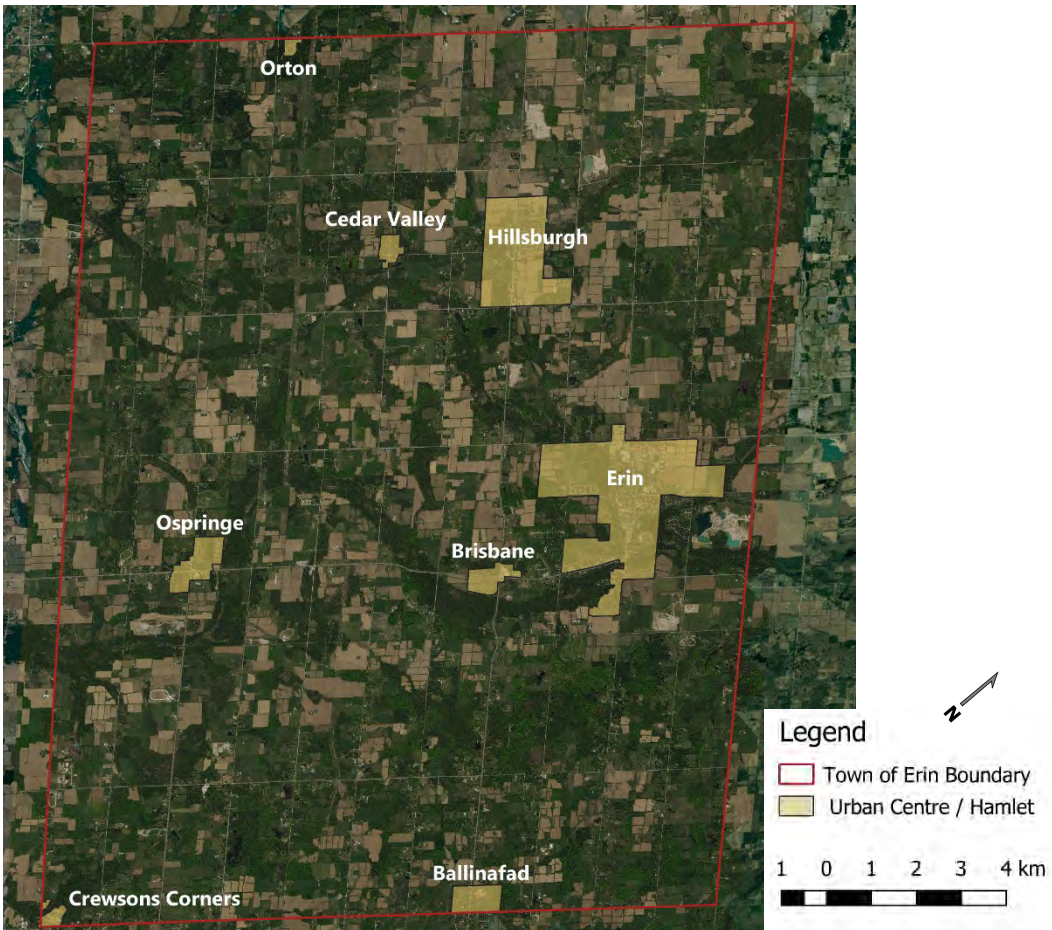
Exhibit 3: Wellington County 2016 Population Comparison

Wellington County Lower Tier Municipalities	Principal Population Centre(s)	2016 Pop.
Township of Centre Wellington	Fergus, Elora/Salem	28,191
Township of Guelph/Eramosa	Rockwood	12,854
Township of Wellington North	Mount Forest, Arthur	11,914
Town of Erin	Erin, Hillsburgh	11,439
Township of Mapleton	Moorefield, Drayton	10,527
Town of Minto	Palmerston, Harriston, Clifford	8,671
Township of Puslinch	Aberfoyle, Morriston	7,336
County Total (excl. City of Guelph)		90,932

Source : Statistics Canada, Census 2016

The Town comprises two urban centres: Erin Village and Hillsburgh and is surrounded by 6 hamlets: Ballinafad, Brisbane, Cedar Valley, Crewsons Corners, Orton and Ospringle, as detailed on the map below.

Exhibit 4: Urban Centres and Hamlets within Town of Erin



Source: Sierra Planning and Management based on mapping provided by Wellington County

2.2 Policy Context

Parks, recreational and cultural facilities are key components to a community's overall quality of life. These resources contribute to the health of residents, as well as the social, environmental, and economic well-being of the community.

Erin's recreational and cultural assets, as well as its parks, trails and open space network, are currently planned through the following supportive regional and municipal policies.

2.2.1 Local Context

The *Town of Erin Official Plan* contains goals, objectives and policies relating to land use and development within the Town and is the primary policy framework guiding future development of the municipality to 2041.

It is the Town's policy to develop a system of parkland and recreation facilities suitable to meet the needs of the community within the urban areas of Erin Village and Hillsburgh.

Parkland

The Town's *Official Plan* (Section 3.11) identifies that "it is the Town's policy to develop a system of parkland and recreation facilities that will benefit the community as well as seek out opportunities to add to its park inventory". Details of the Town's acquisition strategies are identified in Section 5.2 of this Interim Report.

Recreation

Recreational Areas, as identified in Schedule A-1 of Erin's *Official Plan*, includes private and public land which is used for passive and active recreational purposes. The latter includes private and public parks, playing fields, playgrounds, arenas, community centres, fairgrounds, picnic areas, hiking/biking trails and other recreational uses and facilities.

The objectives identified for Recreational Areas include: (s. 4.12.2)

- a) To provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities for residents of the community;
- b) To recognize and maintain the natural areas, rivers and their associated valley lands as a unique natural feature and an important community resource;
- c) To co-operate with the appropriate Conservation Authority, local service clubs and other public and private agencies in providing and/or enhancing recreational and cultural facilities for the community;
- d) To obtain land suitable for parkland development in accordance with the policies of Section 3.10 of the Official Plan;
- e) To improve access to public open spaces wherever appropriate; and
- f) To encourage the development and maintenance of a linear trail system within the Town.

2.2.2 Wellington County Context

The existing *Wellington County Official Plan* was approved in 1998 and has since been updated on a number of occasions, with the most recent consolidation published on 01 June 2018. The *Wellington County Official Plan* outlines land use and planning decisions in Wellington County.

Wellington County supports the establishment of healthy communities to make accessible 'recreational' opportunities to all segments of the community (s. 2.1.4). It is also committed to ensuring that existing and future residents have access to an adequate supply and variety of leisure activities and cultural facilities (s. 1.1).

Public Spaces, Parks and Open Space

The County promotes healthy, active communities by providing for a full range and equitable distribution of publicly accessible built and natural settings for recreation, including facilities, parklands, open space areas, and trails.

Recreational Areas

Recreational Areas are those lands which have the potential for development of recreational or seasonal residential uses that rely on recreational activities. The Plan identifies permitted uses and activities these areas as:

- a) Seasonal recreational uses;
- b) Active and passive recreational activities including golf courses;
- c) Commercial activities related to and serving recreational activities; and
- d) Publicly accessible built and natural settings for recreation, including parklands, open space areas, trails and, where practical and appropriate, water-based resources.

In section 8.8 of the County's *Official Plan*, the following objectives have been set for Recreational Areas include:

- a) To provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities for the residents of the community;
- b) To co-operate with the appropriate Conservation Authority, local service clubs and other public and private agencies in providing and/or enhancing recreational and cultural facilities for the community;
- c) To obtain land suitable for parkland development; and
- d) To improve access to public open spaces wherever appropriate.

Culture

From a 'culture' perspective both the County and Town Official Plans identify the downtown urban centres as the focal point for cultural activities and social functions.

2.2.3 Provincial Context

Planning Act & Provincial Policy Statement

The Planning Act sets out the ground rules for land use planning in Ontario and describes how land uses may be controlled, and who may control them. All planning policies, official plans, secondary plans, zoning by-laws, plans of subdivision, and other planning tools must be prepared and applied in compliance with the Act. Policies and procedures for public consultation and changes to land use are set forth in the Act. The Planning Act supports the adequate provision and distribution of recreational facilities and also identifies requirements for parkland conveyance.

Municipalities use the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) to develop their official plans and to guide and inform decisions on other planning matters. Policy 1.5.1 addresses Public Spaces, Recreation, Parks, Trails and Open Space and identifies the promotion of healthy, active communities through:

- a) Planning public streets, spaces and facilities to be safe, meet the needs of pedestrians, foster social interaction and facilitate active transportation and community connectivity;
- b) Planning and providing for a full range and equitable distribution of publicly accessible built and natural settings for recreation, including facilities, parklands, public spaces, open space areas, trails and linkages, and, where practical, water-based resources;
- c) Providing opportunities for public access to shorelines; and
- d) Recognizing provincial parks, conservation reserves, and other protected areas, and minimizing negative impacts on these areas.

Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act

The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) came into effect in 2005. The Act includes mandatory accessibility standards aimed at identifying, removing, and preventing barriers for people with disabilities, with the goal of making Ontario fully accessible by 2025.

The AODA consists of five regulatory standards. The area that is most pertinent to built infrastructure is the Design of Public Spaces Standard, which is contained within the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation. The Design of Public Spaces Standard establishes a minimum set of technical design requirements that apply to: exterior paths of travel; recreation trails, beach access routes, and outdoor public-use eating areas; outdoor play spaces (e.g., playgrounds); accessible parking; service elements; and maintaining accessible public spaces. These standards apply to both new development and redevelopment but are not retroactive for elements that existed prior to the phase-in period (now in full effect).

The AODA also requires the development of Accessibility Plans at the municipal level, which may identify enhancements to existing facilities, among other matters. Technical building standards relating to the accessibility of the parks and recreation facilities that will be considered within the Master Plan are largely governed by the Ontario Building Code and the Town's Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, which was updated in 2016.

2.2.4 National Framework

A Framework for Recreation in Canada 2015: Pathways to Wellbeing

The Framework for Recreation in Canada 2015 outlines the national directive for the development of recreation in Canada over the next ten years, for which provincial and municipal recreation policies and practices should support. The Framework was endorsed by Provincial and Territorial Ministers and supported by the Government of Canada in February 2015. Its aim is to improve the wellbeing of individuals, communities, and the built and natural environments. Specifically, it:

- Presents a renewed definition of recreation and explores the challenges and benefits of recreation today;
- Provides the rationale for investing in an evolved recreation strategy and describes the need for collaboration with other initiatives in a variety of sectors; and,
- Describes a new vision for recreation in Canada and suggests some common ways of thinking about the renewal of recreation, based on clear goals (active living, inclusion and access, connecting people, supportive environments, and recreation capacity) and underlying values and principles.

A number of the goals of the plan relate specifically to parks and recreation facilities:

Goal 1: Active Living seeks to promote active living through physical recreation. Key priorities for action include:

- (1.1) Enable participation in physically active recreational experiences throughout the life course, continuing to focus on children and youth but expanding to meet the needs and foster the participation of the growing number of older people in Canada.
- (1.2) Incorporate physical literacy in active recreation programs for people of all ages and abilities. Physical literacy is recognized as a precondition for lifelong participation in and enjoyment of sport in the Canadian Sport Policy 2012.
- (1.3) Support the child's right to play, and to participate freely and fully in "age-appropriate recreational experiences, cultural life, and artistic and leisure activities", as outlined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Enhance opportunities for children and youth to play outdoors and interact in nature in school, community and neighbourhood settings.

Engage parents and provide safe, welcoming, low- or no-cost opportunities for families and multiple generations to experience the joy of spontaneous active play together.

Goal 2: Inclusion and Access focuses on increasing inclusion and access to recreation for populations that face constraints to participation. A priority for action relevant to recreation and parks includes:

(2.1) Develop and implement strategies and policies, which ensure that no families or individuals in Canada are denied access to public recreation opportunities as a result of economic disadvantage.

Goal 4: Supportive Environments is to ensure the provision of supportive physical and social environments that encourage participation in recreation and help to build strong, caring communities. Selected actions that may help to guide this Master Plan include:

(4.1) Develop and implement strategies and policies, which ensure that no families or individuals in Canada are denied access to public recreation opportunities as a result of economic disadvantage.

(4.2) Work with partners to increase the use of existing structures and spaces for multiple purposes, including recreation (e.g. use of schools, churches, vacant land and lots).

(4.3) Enable communities to renew recreational infrastructure as required and to meet the need for green spaces by:

- Securing dedicated government funding at all levels, as well as partnerships with the private and not-for-profit sectors for the necessary development, renewal and rehabilitation of facilities and outdoor spaces;
- Developing assessment tools and evidence-based guidelines for investing and reinvesting in aging recreation infrastructure; and,
- Developing and adopting innovative renewal strategies that will endure over time, use less energy and provide affordable access for all.

(4.4) Lead and support community efforts and planning processes for active transportation and public transit. Participate in the planning and design of communities to encourage the placement of workplaces, schools, shops libraries, parks, and sport and recreation facilities in close proximity so that active modes of transportation are easier to use. Encourage development and maintenance of active transportation routes that connect people to the places they want to go.

Canadian Sport Policy (2012)

Canadian Sport Policy (CSP) is an intergovernmental policy directive that provides a national vision and framework for sport, physical activity and recreation until 2022. In facilitating sport excellence, enhanced education and skill development, improved health and wellness, civic

pride and economic prosperity; the Policy outlines a vision to increase the number and diversity of Canadians participating in sport.

Key policy objectives of the 2012 CSP support the development of a Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan for Erin, in as much as the latter will constitute a comprehensive framework to achieve the following national priorities at a local/municipal level:

- Programming is accessible, equitable and inclusive to meet the needs, motivation and interests of participants in a fun and safe experience;
- Collaboration among community, regional and provincial/territorial partners supports the development of sustainable sport facilities, green spaces and equipment accessible to all citizens;
- Children and youth have access to safe and appropriate spaces for unstructured play and self-organized sport;
- Linkages and partnerships are fostered and supported among municipalities/local governments, schools, Provincial/territorial and national sport organizations to provide leadership and resources for recreational sport programs;
- Capable volunteers and salaried workers are recruited and retained in order to achieve system objectives;
- Collaboration among community, regional and provincial/territorial partners supports the development of sustainable sport facilities, green spaces and equipment accessible to all citizens;
- Linkages and partnerships between and among sport organizations, municipalities/local governments, and educational institutions align and leverage athlete, coach and officials' development and maximize facility utilization; and,
- Leaders, educators and parents support the development of physical literacy and safe, healthy, values-based play and sport among children and youth.

To support the implementation of CSP 2012 policy goals and objectives, in August 2013, Federal, Provincial and Territorial Ministers of Health and of Health Promotion/Healthy Living Ministers approved new priorities for collaborative action that focuses on promoting access to sport for economically disadvantaged Canadians, improving capacity in the sport system, and aligning CSP 2012 with strategies for physical activity and recreation.

Canadian Sport for Life (CS4L)

Canadian Sport for Life (CS4L) is a national initiative to improve the quality of sport and physical activity in Canada via a seven-stage training, competition and recovery pathway framework for

fostering sport and physical activity from infancy to adulthood. The initiative challenges Canadian sport organizations to develop and adopt a Sport for Life model and subsequently forms a framework for provincial sport organizations and municipalities in delivering recreation services and attaining funding from upper levels of government.

2.3 Demographics

2.3.1 Historic Population Growth

As per the 2016 Census data, the Town's population is 11,439 residents. The two main centres include Erin Village with a population of 3,100, and Hillsburgh with 1,315 residents.

The following exhibit shows that the Town experienced population growth of 2.6% over the 10-year period from 2006 to 2016 (albeit with a drop of circa 378 recorded residents between 2006 and 2011). This pace of growth is considerably less than the County of Wellington as a whole in the same period (11.13%). It should be noted the 2016 Census demographics for the County of Wellington also includes the City of Guelph.

Exhibit 5: Town of Erin and Wellington County Comparison: Population Change 2006 to 2016

Municipality	2006	2011	2016	% change 2006 to 2016
Town of Erin	11,148	10,770	11,439	2.6%
Wellington County (incl. Guelph)	200,425	208,360	222,726	11.13%

Source : Sierra Planning and Management based on Statistics Canada, Census 2016

During the 2006 and 2011 Census period the Town experienced population decline in the villages of Erin and Hillsburgh and the hamlet of Brisbane. But between 2011 and 2016 population growth was experienced in all areas of the Town's urban boundary, including the hamlets of Cedar Valley, Brisbane, Ospringe and Ballinafad. At present, a lack of servicing capacity is limited the growth potential of the town. See Appendix 1 for mapping details related to population growth.

2.3.2 Relative Age of Erin Residents

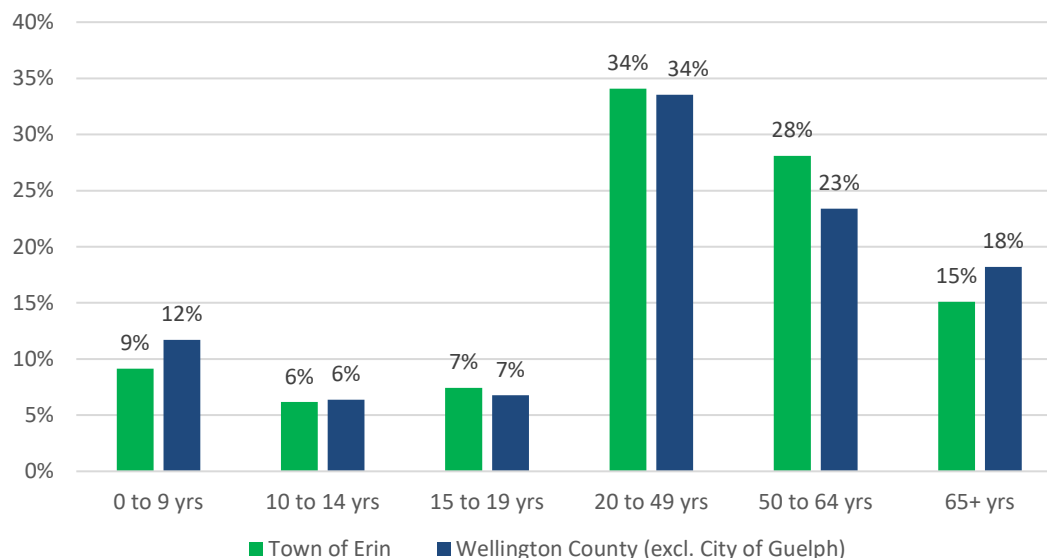
The Town's age distribution profile closely aligns with that of the County and is similar to that found in comparable municipalities across Ontario. In general, 43% of the Town's population is 50 years or older, while adults between 20 and 49 years of age comprise 34% of the population at both the Town and County level. The trend of an aging population is progressing steadily within the County of Wellington, as it is in Ontario and across Canada. The age profile for children aged 0 to 19 is 22% for the Town. The age distribution comparison provided below excludes data from the City of Guelph.

Exhibit 6: Town of Erin and Wellington County 2016 Age Distribution Comparison

	Children	Youth			Adults	Older Adults		Total
Municipality	0 to 9 yrs	10 to 14 yrs	15 to 19 yrs	20 to 49 yrs	50 to 64 yrs	65+ yrs	2016 Total	
Town of Erin	1,045	705	850	3,895	3,210	1,725	11,430	
Wellington County (excl. Guelph)	10,655	5,795	6,150	30,480	21,275	16,560	90,915	

Source : Sierra Planning and Management based on Statistics Canada, Census 2016
 Note : Figures differ from total population due to rounding.

Exhibit 7: Town of Erin and Wellington County 2016 Age Distribution Comparison



Source : Sierra Planning and Management based on Statistics Canada, Census 2016

In 2016, the average age of the Town’s residents was highly concentrated in the urban boundaries of the Town, including Brisbane, Crewsons Corner, the north limits of Ospringe, north-east limits of Erin Village, and north west limits of Hillsburgh.

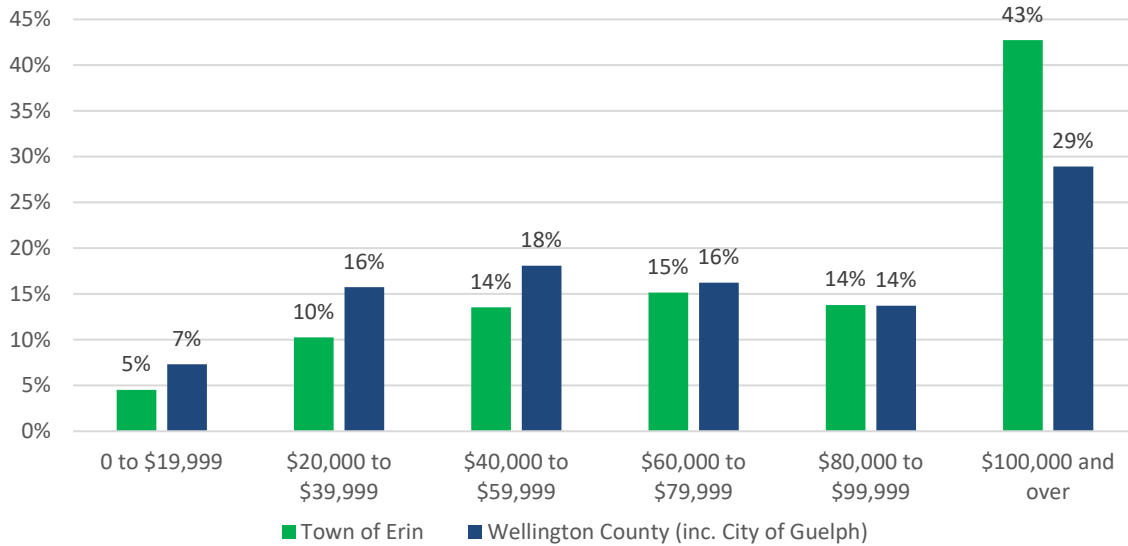
Children and youth (population under 19 years of age) were highly concentrated in Erin Village, Hillsburgh, Cedar Valley and Ospringe. Areas with the highest proportion of older adults (65+) included the north limits of Hillsburgh and Brisbane. See Appendix 1 for mapping details related to age distribution across the Town.

2.3.3 Considerations of Income

As per the 2016 census, the Town has an average household income after tax of \$104,885, which is considerably higher than Wellington County, inclusive of the City of Guelph (\$82,292).

Forty-three percent of the Town's households have an income of \$100,000 or more, compared with 29% in the County.

Exhibit 8: Town of Erin and Wellington County 2016 Income (After Tax) Comparison



Source: Sierra Planning and Management based on Statistics Canada, Census 2016

Prevalence of Low Income

In 2016, 6.9% of the Town of Erin's population was under the low-income cut-off (after tax). This is a lower proportion of the population when compared with 10.2% in Wellington County, and 9.8% in Ontario as a whole.

The geographic areas that had the highest proportions of resident household under the Low-Income Cut-Off Threshold, after tax (LICO-AT), in 2016 were mostly focused near the north-west limits of the Town's boundary. See Appendix 1 for mapping details.

The lower than average prevalence of low-income households is likely also attributable to the lack of municipal servicing capacity and directly relates to the requirement for septic or well servicing for each household.

2.4 Planning for Growth

2.4.1 Future Population Growth

The County's *Official Plan* projects up to 16,250 residents in the Town by 2036, and 18,905 by 2041. Based on the 2016 Census baseline population, this equates to an increase of up to 7,466 residents by 2041. The urban centres of Erin and Hillsburgh are anticipated to accommodate a majority of this growth.

As shown below, a range has been provided to recognize that the Town of Erin was in the process of determining its future potential to accommodate growth on municipal water and wastewater services in these two Urban Centres at the time of the Official Plan review.

Exhibit 7: Estimated Population Projections to 2041 (Town, County)

Municipality / Year	2016	2036	2041	% increase 2016 to 2036 (range)	% increase 2016 to 2041 (range)		
Town of Erin							
Total population	11,439	15,360	16,250	15,865	18,905	24% to 31%	28% to 53%
Wellington County (excludes City of Guelph)							
Total population	90,932	132,000	140,000	45%	54%		

Source: Sierra Planning and Management based on Wellington County Official Plan, June 2018

The County *Official Plan* clearly indicates that the population and employment projections for the Town will need to be revisited on completion of the wastewater strategy and implications for development capacity.

2.4.2 Wastewater and Servicing Requirements

As identified above, at present, the Town of Erin does not have a municipal wastewater system which has placed limitations on the opportunities for new housing and employment development. In June 2018, an Environmental Study Report was completed – and based on the comparative analysis of costs, the preferred solution was identified as a municipal wastewater collection system conveying sewage to a single wastewater treatment plant located south east of Erin Village. This system comes with an estimated cost of \$118 M, and the potential to serve an urban population of up to 14,600 residents. The implementation of the wastewater system relies on external funding by senior levels of government as well as front-end financing by developers to reduce the required capital by the Town.

2.4.3 A Framework for Growth

A Growth Management Strategy is currently underway to further the progress of this work, which will guide growth and investment over the next 20 years and beyond. Erin is anticipated to add approximately 7,000 to 10,040 new residents by 2041, up from an existing urban population of 4,415 residents. The low end of this estimate equates to the high scenario presented in the Wellington County Official Plan (18,904 population by 2041), and therefore the Town may need to plan for a heightened level of provision and be ready to respond effectively as growth occurs.

The Strategy will ultimately provide guidance on the appropriate location, timing, phasing, servicing and financing of growth between Hillsburgh and Erin Village, and identify a preferred growth scenario. Once defined, this Master Plan, and the implementation of the recommendations here within, must have consideration for the growth anticipated and the

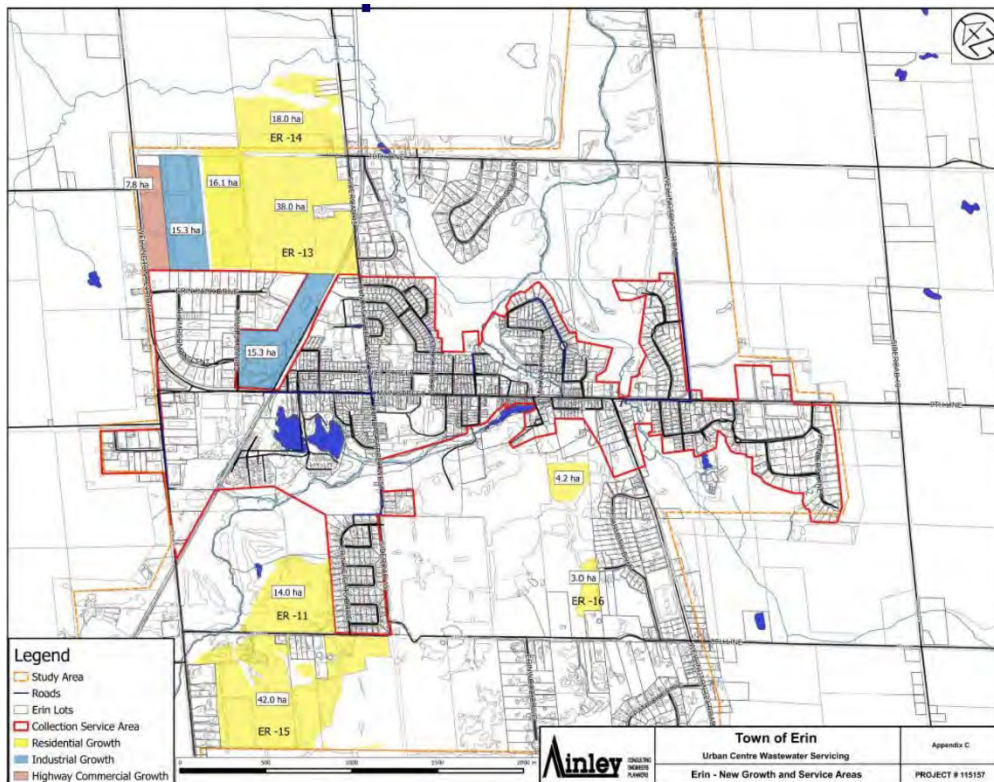
changing demographics of the community. Continuous review and monitoring will be important going forward.

Potential Locations for Growth

The County's data related to the issuance of residential building permits indicates that residential development is poised to occur mostly within the two urban centres of Erin Village and Hillsburgh.

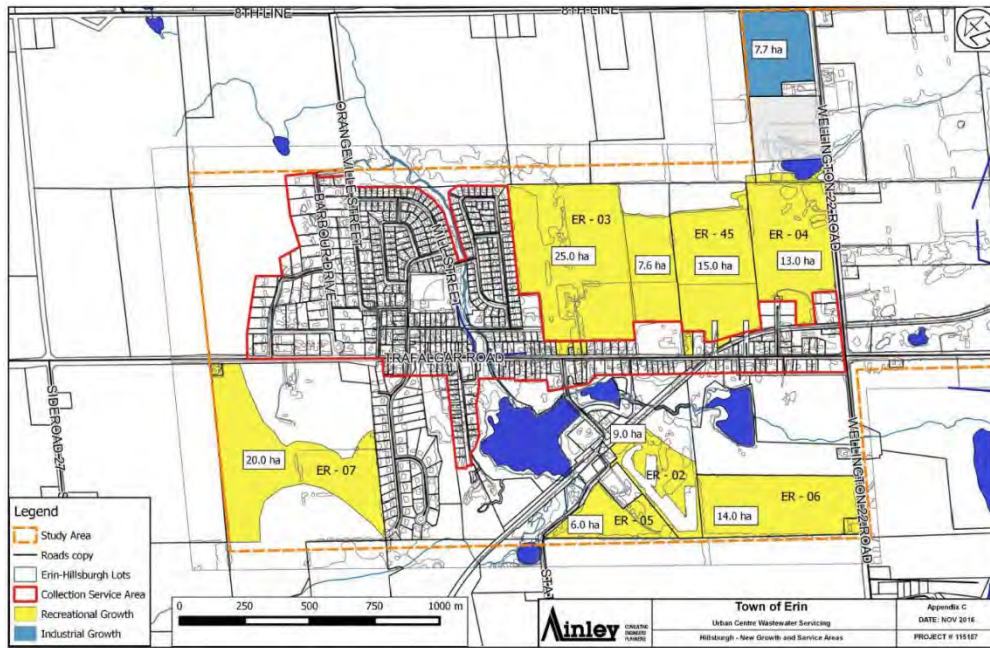
The Environmental Study Report identifies areas that have been designated for residential growth within the urban boundaries of Erin Village and Hillsburgh. Within Erin Village, 135.3 hectares have been identified for residential growth, while 100 hectares are identified in Hillsburgh. The residential growth areas within the villages are depicted in yellow on the following exhibits.

Exhibit 8: Potential Development Areas in Erin Village



Source: *Urban Wastewater Servicing Class EA, Ainley & Associates Limited, April 2018.*

Exhibit 9: Potential Development Areas in Hillsburgh

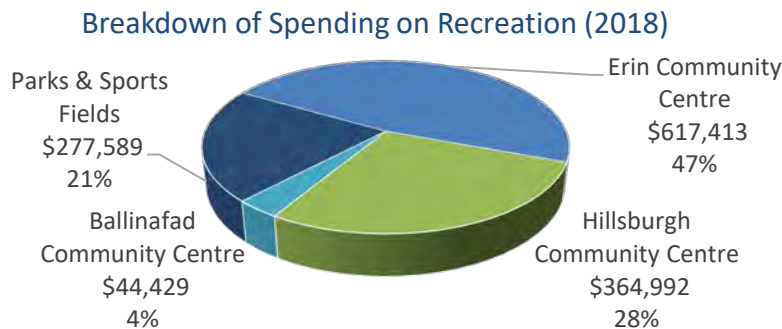


Source: Urban Wastewater Servicing Class EA, Ainley & Associates Limited, April 2018.

2.5 Municipal Investment in Recreation

2.5.1 Historic Spending and Cost Recovery

In 2018, the Town of Erin spent approximately \$1.3 million in operating dollars across parks, trails, recreation and culture. Approximately 79% (\$1,026,834) of these expenses are associated with the operation of the three community centres – Erin Community Centre (includes the operation of the Erin Community Theatre), Hillsburgh Community Centre, and Ballinfad Community Centre. The operation of all other parks, trails, and outdoor recreational assets accounts for the remaining 21% (\$277,589).



With over \$683,000 in revenues in 2018, the Town’s Recreation portfolio has an existing overall cost recovery of 52%. Cost recovery for specific facilities vary across the asset base.

Town of Erin Parks and Recreation (All Facilities and Amenities)			
	2016	2017	2018
Total Revenue	\$711,609	\$643,628	\$683,504
Total Expense	(\$1,329,403)	(\$1,465,796)	(\$1,304,423)
Net Operating Income (NOI)	(\$617,794)	(\$822,168)	(\$620,919)
Cost Recovery %	54%	44%	52%

Source: Town of Erin Recreation Budget (2016-2018)

As part of this assignment, a benchmarking exercise was undertaken to assess Erin compared to communities of a similar nature². The following identifies recreation services (recreation programs and recreation facilities) cost recovery rates for comparable communities in Ontario based on 2016 data³. Based on this data, Erin's overall cost recovery rate for recreation services is in line with other municipalities of a similar context and composition.

Exhibit 10: Cost Recovery for Recreation, Municipal Comparison

Comparable Municipality	Population (2016)	% Cost Recovery		
		Recreation Programs	Recreation Facilities	Total
Brock	11,068	74%	40%	57%
Ingersoll	12,146	42%	24%	33%
Kincardine	11,468	72%	10%	41%
Meaford	11,536	35%	30%	33%
Minto	8,671	34%	66%	50%
Scugog	21,617	95%	46%	71%
Whitchurch-Stouffville	45,837	72%	43%	58%
Wilmot	20,545	10%	50%	30%
Average	17,861	54%	39%	46%

Source: BMA Management Consulting Inc., Municipal Study – 2016.

The recreation-related expenditure identified above amount to approximately \$114 per capita and includes costs associated with the delivery of facilities as well as its limited programs and related services. It is important to note that spending amounts per capita can vary greatly across municipalities and are largely dependent on the services provided and facilities held within the municipal portfolio. Erin's spending translates into a slightly higher than average spending per capita when compared to the other municipalities identified here but is lower than the provincial average (\$133) as identified in BMA Management Consulting Inc.'s Municipal Study 2016, a municipal comparative study undertaken on behalf of participating Ontario municipalities.

² Comparable communities are those which are approximately an hour's drive outside of a major urban centre and are predominantly rural in context.

³ BMA Management Consulting Inc., Municipal Study – 2016.

Exhibit 11: Recreation Spending per Capita, Municipal Comparison

Comparable Municipality	Population	Expenditures	Spending per Capita
Brock	11,068	\$ 962,916	\$87
Ingersoll	12,146	\$ 1,396,790	\$115
Kincardine	11,468	\$ 2,511,492	\$219
Meaford	11,536	\$ 761,376	\$66
Minto	8,671	\$ 901,784	\$104
Scugog	21,617	\$ 1,707,743	\$79
Whitchurch-Stouffville	45,837	\$ 4,217,004	\$92
Wilmot	20,545	\$ 2,650,305	\$129
Average	17,861	\$ 1,989,269	\$111
Erin (2018)	11,439	\$ 1,304,423	\$114

Source: BMA Management Consulting Inc., Municipal Study – 2016.

2.5.2 Planned Capital Investments

In addition to its current investment, the Town of Erin is engaged in the planning of new recreational infrastructure to address ongoing replacement requirements and new growth-related needs. The Town has recently completed the Erin Rotary River Trail, Phase 1 (Town), while Wellington County has recently developed a new library facility in Hillsburgh to replace an older facility.

Future initiatives, as related to parks, recreation, trails and culture, as identified in the Town's approved 2019 Capital Budget detailed below, total \$751,000. This is in addition to an annual contribution of \$20,000 towards Centre 2000 (through an agreement with the Upper Grand District School Board) and \$50,000 allocated towards the emergency response centre reserve.

Exhibit 12: Planned Capital Expenditures for Recreation Department (2019 – 2022)

Year	Key Capital Projects	Amount
2019	• Erin Community Centre (Centre 2000) for accessibility renovations, new flat roof and ice resurfacer	\$160,000
	• Online booking software	\$40,000
	• Parks fencing, playground equipment, tractor and bleachers	\$63,000
	2019 Total	\$263,000
2020	• Dog park	\$28,000
	• Operating equipment	\$30,000
	2020 Total	\$58,000
2021	• Centre 2000 theatre seating	\$80,000
	2021 Total	\$80,000
2022	• New splashpad (unspecified location)	\$350,000
	2022 Total	\$350,000

Source: Sierra Planning and Management based on Approved Town of Erin 2019 Capital Budget.

3 Trends in Recreation and Sport

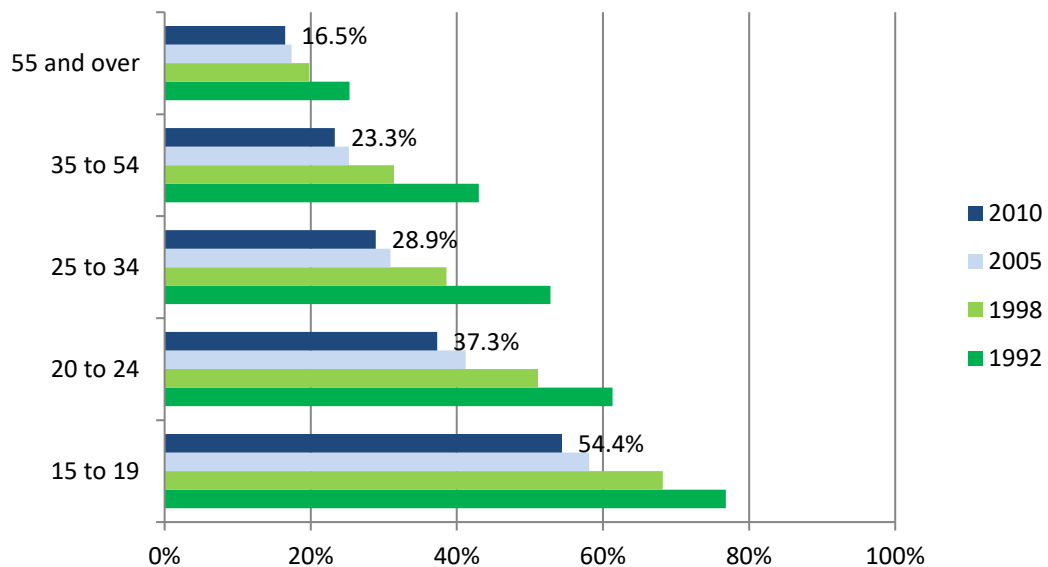
In order to plan recreation and community facilities effectively for the future, it is important to understand the demand for recreation programs, services and facilities. This section provides a high-level assessment with regards to general physical activity profiles, trends in participation at the national, provincial and local level (based on available data), and recreation industry trends. Sport-specific participation trends are provided in the appropriate areas of Sections 5 through 7 of this document.

3.1 National Influences on Recreation and Sport Participation

The following socio-economic factors that influence physical recreation participation have been identified by Canadian Heritage, Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute, Statistics Canada, and the Interprovincial Sport and Recreation Council/Canadian Parks and Recreation Association:

- **Age** – Sport participation and overall active lifestyle tends to decrease with age. National and Provincial sports participation is projected to continue to decline as the population ages;

Exhibit 13: National Sport Participation by Age Groups 1992-2010



Source: Sierra Planning and Management based on Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion, Active 2010 Ontario's Sport and Physical Activity Strategy

- **Gender** – The gender gap in sport participation has increased where the gap in favour of a greater representation of male sport participation increased from 1998 (17%) to 2010 (19%);
- **Household composition** – Recent immigrants⁴ are more likely to regularly participate in sport than immigrants who arrived prior to 1991. Furthermore, in 2010 recent immigrants reported similar levels of sport participation as Canadian-born residents;
- **Labour force status** – In 2010, students displayed the highest rate of participation in sport (46%), followed by part-time workers (31%), full-time workers (27%) and unemployed (17%);
- **Marital status** – Single adults are more likely to participate in sport as compared to married Canadians; however, married Canadians are more likely to participate in sport than widowed, divorced or separated adults;
- **Geography/place of residence** – In 2005, rural Canada experienced lower sports participation levels than more urbanized areas. Lower rural sports participation may be a result of longer travelling distances, which may limit engagement in physical activity opportunities;
- **Health challenges** – An increase in sedentary lifestyle has led to unhealthy eating practices and increases in chronic diseases such as diabetes and heart disease. Psychological barriers include depression, especially among youth;
- **Consistent access** - Overall health improves with consistent exercise, therefore consistent access to opportunities to exercise and recreate can influence positive and active behaviours;
- **Social media** – An increase in the use of social media has limited face-to-face interactions and the opportunity to recreate;
- **Infrastructure deficits** - A lack of quality and quantity of recreation spaces hamper community access to recreation opportunities. Pace of development that impacts natural environment also reduces quality and quantity of outdoor recreation spaces in cities;
- **Access to opportunities for those with a disability** - A common barrier encountered by persons with disabilities is a relatively limited range of opportunities to participate in sport and recreation across Canada. In some cases, this may simply be that there is either no program available in their community or, it could be that local facilities are not accessible or welcoming for those with a particular disability;
- **Educational attainment** – Canadians with greater levels of educational attainment are more likely to be engaged in sport (20% for Canadians with some college, trade or high school diploma vs. 30% of those with a university degree); and

⁴ For this study, Canadian Heritage defines ‘recent immigrants’ as immigrants who arrived in Canada after 1991.

- **Income inequality** – In 2010, the rate of sport participation among households with incomes greater than \$80,000 (33%) was five times larger than sport participation for households with incomes of less than \$20,000 (7%). Wealthier Canadians tend to have more access to recreational opportunities.

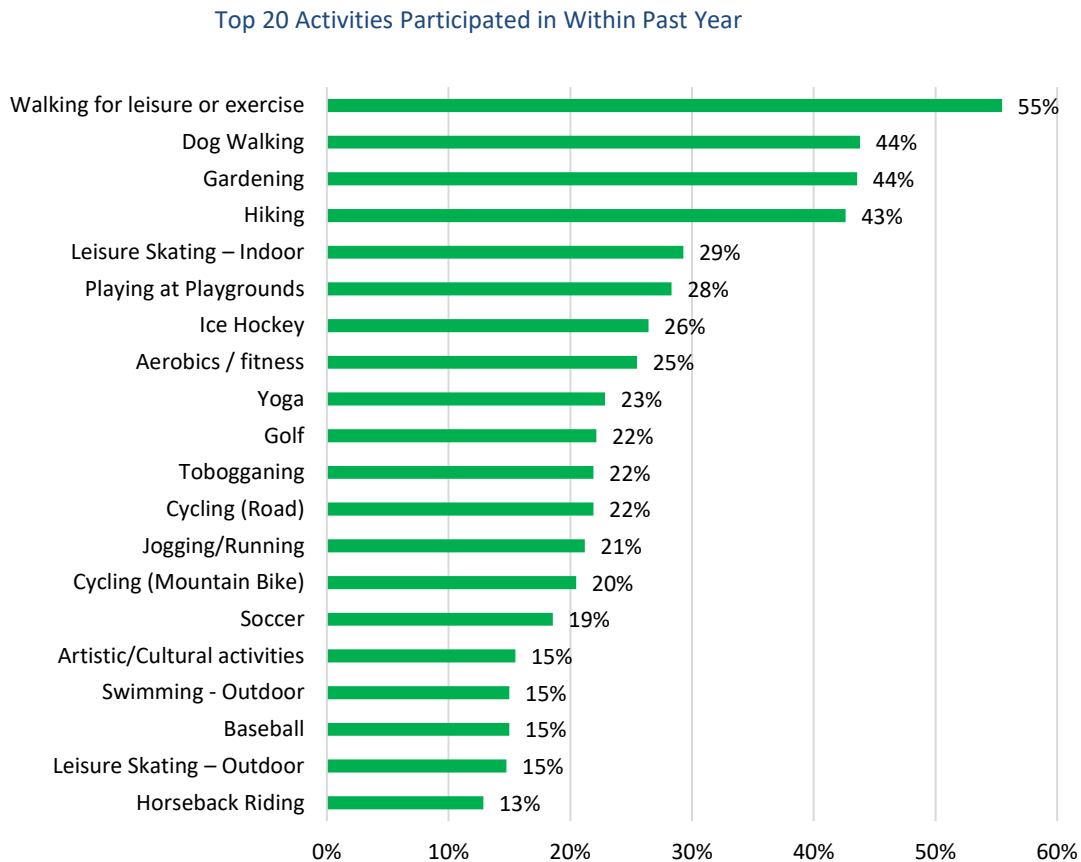
3.2 Local Trends in Recreation and Sport Participation

3.2.1 Participation in Unorganized Activities More Common

Based on Residents Survey results, popular activities among respondents indicated that informal or unorganized leisure activities are likely the most common for Erin residents. These include walking for leisure or exercise (55%), followed by dog walking and gardening (44%), and hiking (43%).

With respect to activities that may reflect more organized programming options: Ice Hockey (26%), Soccer (19%), and Baseball (15%), were the most popular among survey respondents.

Exhibit 14: Local Participation Trends

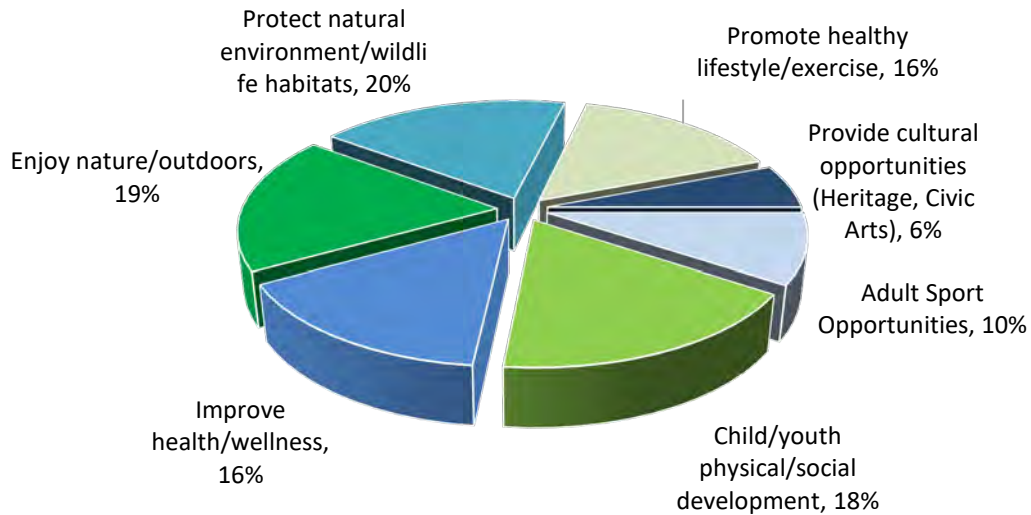


Source: Sierra Planning and Management based on Master Plan Residents Survey Results, 2019

3.2.2 Local Importance of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Facilities and Services

When asked “How important are the purposes or benefits of Erin’s parks, recreation and cultural facilities and services to you?” respondents indicated that opportunities to protect the natural environment and wildlife habitat (75%) and enjoy the outdoors/nature (74%) were very important to them, as well as enabling the physical and social development of children/youth (71%), exercising (62%), and improving health/wellness (61%).

Exhibit 15: Important Purposes and Benefits of Recreation Facilities and Services



Source: Sierra Planning and Management based on Master Plan Residents Survey Results, 2019

3.3 Indoor Recreation Infrastructure Trends

In 2009, the Canadian and Ontario governments launched the Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RIc) Program and the Ontario Recreation Program (Ontario REC), in recognition of the need to upgrade and improve recreational infrastructure. Through the Economic Action Plan (2009), the Government of Canada has committed \$500 million over two years for upgrading and renewing recreational facilities - \$195 million was allocated for Ontario. Since then, the governments of Canada and Ontario have invested in more than 750 recreational infrastructure projects.

According to a 2010 Parks and Recreation Ontario report⁵ well designed and functioning recreation and sport facilities, trails and parks is key to creating and maintaining healthy

⁵ Parks and Recreation Ontario, *Investing in Healthy and Active Ontarians through Recreation and Parks Infrastructure* (2007)

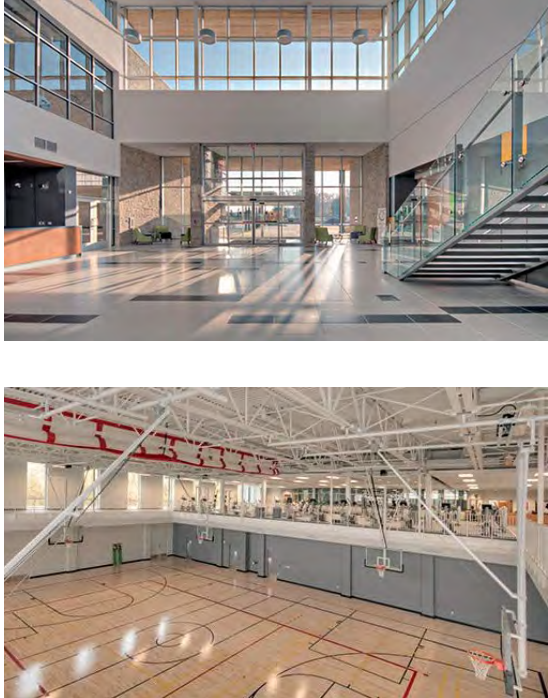

communities. Many Ontario recreation infrastructure⁶ assets are in a state of decline, as the majority of publicly owned facilities were built between 1956 and 1980. According to Parks and Recreation Ontario's *Major Municipal Sport and Recreation Facility Inventory*, all communities throughout Ontario will be required to upgrade or replace up to 55% of their community centres in the near future.

Key trends that have emerged in the development of indoor recreation facilities include:

- **Multi-usage** –Increasing focus on creating flexible multi-use “destination” facilities as recreation, entertainment and family centres and community hubs with a preference for multi-generational opportunities;
- **Unique amenities / attractions** – Integrating unique amenities within “traditional” recreation facilities. Examples include rock-climbing wall, green roofs, community kitchens, graffiti wall, etc.;
- **Sport tourism** – Throughout Canada, sport tourism represents a growing market and providing facilities to accommodate this is an important consideration;
- **Multi-pad arena development** – 2 and 4 pad arenas provide desirable sites for tournaments and events;
- **Sustainability** – Increasing focus on the overall sustainability of a facility (e.g. net zero/carbon neutral) overachieving a specific certification program status (e.g. LEED). Key considerations include building orientation, massing and envelope; and
- **Accessibility** – Improving accessibility for people with disabilities due to the passing of the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (2001)* where municipalities are required to improve opportunities for participation for people with disabilities through the removal of barriers.

⁶ Parks and Recreation Ontario defines recreation infrastructure as “indoor and outdoor places and facilities that offer specific health, social, environmental and economic benefits to the individuals and communities in which they live”. Examples of indoor recreation infrastructure include arenas, community centres and indoor pools. Examples of outdoor recreation infrastructure include parks, trails and outdoor pools.

Exhibit 16: Recreation Infrastructure Best Practice

Location	Features	Imagery
<p>Komoka Wellness and Recreation Centre, Middlesex County, ON</p> <p>Trends: Multi-Usage: Co-located facilities / community hub</p> <p>Sport Tourism: Melding competitive and community needs</p> <p>Multi-pad arena development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twin NHL-Size Pad Arena (750 and 250 seat capacity) with six change rooms each; • 4,000 square foot Fitness Centre; • Indoor walking track; • Double gym (operated by the YMCA of Western Ontario); • 7,000 square foot Branch Library for Middlesex County; • Activity and multi-purpose rooms; • Office facilities including main location for Community Services Department. 	
<p>Wilmot Recreation Complex, Baden, ON</p> <p>Trends: Multi-Usage: Co-located facilities / community hub</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twin NHL-Size Pad Arena (730 and 300 seat capacity, 12 dressing rooms); • Aquatics Centre; • Active living centre; • Optimist Youth Centre (partnership with Wilmot Family Resource Centre); • Multi-use room with kitchen; • Indoor Track; • Complemented by 5 soccer fields, accessible playground, 3km trail loop, and splash pad. 	

3.4 Parkland Design and Development Trends

While each municipality sets its own goals and priorities in the development of its parkland system, common trends that can have an impact on the development / redevelopment of parks, trails, and other outdoor facilities include demographic changes (e.g. aging communities and rising senior needs for passive pursuits), participation trends in traditional field sports, active transportation and active living, and linking recreation and leisure services to resident's quality of life.

Identified below are key design trends and best practices that can influence the planning and development of parks in the future, as related to accessibility standards, safety, sustainability, connectivity, flexible and multi-use spaces, use of native plantings, etc.

Multi-Use for Multiple Audiences

Parks and green spaces that tend to have the most influence in encouraging residents to participate in outdoor recreation and leisure pursuits, are those that provide a range of amenities to facilitate a broad variety of activities. As an example, well designed neighbourhood parks may include a playground, walking track, benches, and playing field. Dependent on the availability and condition of the land, the park may also include a naturalized area. This type of park functions to provide residents of all ages with a variety of opportunities for outdoor recreation.



Creating spaces that are flexible enough to enable a variety of events and activities by a variety of ages speaks to the "8 to 80" movement, which focuses on designing spaces where everything in the space is functional for both an 8-year-old and an 80-year-old, therefore it will be usable by all. For example, rather than having formal sports facilities in smaller local parks, providing an open grass space for unstructured play may be better used by a wider range of people. This flexibility also speaks to the growing diversity of populations and communities with a growing demand for "un-programmed" field space and facilities that can be used for a variety of sports, recreational activities, events, festivals, etc.

Inclusiveness and Accessibility

Accessibility requirements under the Design of Public Spaces Standard of the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)* apply to new construction and the redevelopment of elements in public spaces, including parks, trails and other public amenities. Design Standards for Public Spaces encompasses recreational trails, outdoor public use eating areas, outdoor play spaces, exterior paths of travel (e.g. sidewalks), accessible parking, and maintenance, among others.

Ensuring that all park amenities, including play facilities, are welcoming and easily navigable for all ages and abilities is an important consideration. It is important to consider not only mobility devices, but those with cognitive and other issues (i.e. autism, sensory disorders, visual and hearing impairments, etc.). Many park designers are striving to include all types of ages and abilities within the same play / park space by designing amenities that can be used in a multitude of ways.

Exhibit 17: Inclusiveness and Accessibility Best Practice

Location	Features	Imagery
<p>Creditview Activity Hub Brampton, ON</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully inclusive, accessible and AODA compliant • Basketball court • Bounce wall • Swings for all ages and abilities • Splash pad • Play structure • Sand tables 	
<p>Neshama Playground at Oriole Park Toronto, ON</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Built on a “zero rejection policy” • Water play area • Bounce pad • Enclosed merry-go-round • Musical elements • Braille panels • Sign language diagrams 	

Parks as Green Infrastructure

As environmental awareness is ever increasing, and communities are demanding healthy environments, green roofs, bioswales in road rights-of-way, engineered tree pits, and other Low Impact Development (LID)⁷ initiatives are being implemented in many municipalities across North America. This contributes to the natural system and sustainable management of stormwater runoff, with the emphasis of LID being on mitigating the impacts of increased runoff and stormwater pollution on-site through the implementation of runoff prevention strategies, runoff mitigation strategies, and treatment controls to remove pollutants.

LID measures implemented within parks often include permeable paving in parking areas, structural soil cells, bioswales and pond systems, and rainwater harvesting system for irrigation, among others. Incorporating these high functioning landscapes, which are focused on water, ecology and air quality, is becoming common in the design and development of parks. Additionally, there are opportunities to integrate these features with elements of play or education and learning, as appropriate.


⁷ LID is a planning and engineering design approach to manage stormwater runoff as part of an environmental infrastructure system.

Nature-Based Play

Natural play elements are increasingly becoming more prominent in playground planning. Many benefits of connecting children with nature have been documented, including that a child’s social, psychological, academic, and physical health is positively affected when they have frequent contact with nature. Mixing elements of the natural environment with the built environment only enhances the play experience and often see the highest use. One of the main things that natural play environments combat is static play elements or park designs that children may get bored with quickly. Incorporating natural elements with play places supports higher levels of play through repeated use and can help to encourage children to get outside and explore. Examples can be found across Canada, and include:

Exhibit 18: Nature-Based Playground Best Practice



Location	Features	Imagery
<p>Exhibition Park Guelph, ON</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wood beams create a variety of playground features / challenges ● Sand play area ● Water pump 	
<p>Highland Park Salisbury, NB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Log climbing areas ● Swinging rope ● Chalk board ● Story circle spot ● Sand box 	
<p>Assiniboine Park Winnipeg, MB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sand and water play area ● Crow’s nest ● Willow tree tunnels ● Rubber mounds ● Hillside slides ● Net bridges ● Children’s garden 	

Location	Features	Imagery
<p>Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre Brantford, ON</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Furniture crafted from local logs • Sand and water play areas • Climbing structures 	

Outdoor Fitness Equipment

There is a trend in many communities to design parks and their amenities that appeal to older adults. The outdoor gym trend is one of these amenities, often including various mechanical devices ranging from simple sit-up stations to rowing machines, elliptical trainers and leg presses. Signs indicate that the devices are intended for people aged 12 and older, however, in public parks there is no control over the age or skill level of users, and there is no supervision. The equipment does have moving parts and is subject to often harsh winter conditions. Therefore, safety is often a consideration for municipalities, however the benefits to residents often outweigh these concerns.

Exhibit 19: Outdoor Fitness Equipment Best Practice

Location	Features	Imagery
<p>Beavermead Park Peterborough, ON</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LifeTrail Advanced Wellness Stations (specially designed for those over 50 years of age) • Stretching stations • Cycle stations 	
<p>Bandes riveraines de l'Ancien-Canal-de-Beauharnois Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, QC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bamboo climbing structures 	

Maintenance and Sustainability

Many municipalities are facing strained budgets when it comes to the maintenance and operation of public spaces, as new parks and facilities are acquired through the development process. In order to reduce the maintenance and operational requirements for parkland and park amenities, park development and renewal in the future municipal governments are now contemplating sustainability practices, specifically related to:

- Designs that encourage sustainable maintenance practices; (e.g. xeriscapes, naturalized landscapes, etc.);
- Incorporating native, drought-resistant vegetation features (to reduce watering requirements); and
- Utilizing durable materials and infrastructure (i.e. furniture, play equipment, etc.).

Safety and Security

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), is based on the “belief that the proper design and effective use of the built environment can lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime as well as an improvement in the quality of life” (CPTED, 2018). The philosophy focuses on utilizing natural methods of surveillance, access control and area definition, to positively influence individual’s behavior when interacting with the environment. These principles have become common practice in today’s design realm.

Lighting is another important aspect of feeling safe and secure within parks. The appropriate lighting levels utilized in the right locations can make parks and trails more inviting, even at night. Lighting also enables extended use for active play on sports fields and ball diamonds.

3.5 Trail System Planning & Design

Participation in Walking for Exercise

Walking as a recreational/leisure time activity has grown in popularity across the province and is often the most common and popular activity above all other leisure pursuits in Ontario communities. Use of trails continues to grow with an increasing emphasis on healthy and active lifestyles, “walkable” communities, and given that it is a fairly universal activity (for those who are mobile). Walking and other trail activities are also typically low cost (or no cost) to participate, with a range and diversity of routes and alternatives available, offer the ability to participate alone or in groups and in either organized programs or spontaneously, and the availability and convenience of locations for walking at almost any time.

Community Connectivity

In addition to supporting individual and public health and promoting active-lifestyles, trails play an increasingly important role in creating community connectivity as a means of enticing people into the community to take advantage of recreation and leisure opportunities available not just by car, but via trails, walkways and bike paths. Walking and biking are emerging as some of the

most popular fitness trends, and therefore, an interconnected trail system offers communities a way to recreate, access key community hubs, and commute to work without using a vehicle.

Accessible Pathway Design & Multi-Use Trails

Ensuring that portions of the trail system are universally accessible is important to ensure use by multiple audiences. While it is recognized that universally accessible trails may not be realistic in some of the more natural areas, due to slope, general terrain, or other limitations, those trails located in more urban settings (sidewalks or otherwise) should be designed for universal accessibility (i.e. appropriate curb cuts, signage, etc.).

Four Season Use

As with parks, there is increasing emphasis on the year-round use of trails to support a greater range of activities throughout the four seasons. Related activities and types of trails have diversified to include leash-free dog-walking trails, skating trails, tobogganing trails, mountain biking and BMX trails, in addition to traditional seasonal and year-round trail activities such as walking, hiking, running, cycling, rollerblading, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, etc. There are related maintenance and equipment considerations however, for specific uses such as winter trail grooming for cross-country skiing and flooding/surfacing equipment for skating trails.

3.6 Service Delivery Trends

Key trends that have emerged in service delivery methods for recreational and sport programming include:


- **Volunteerism** – National trends show a decline in volunteerism. However, those who volunteer are doing so on a more frequent basis;
- **Performance measures** – Recreation Sector performance measures are increasingly shifting from outputs to outcomes (shift from output measures such as capital costs, number of registrants to outcome measures such as how the program benefited the community and health indicators);
- **Partnerships** – Communities are increasingly entering into partnership agreements with community groups and the private sector to maximize cost efficiencies;
- **User and rental fees** – Rising user and rental fees are increasingly raising the cost of participation. This is a particular challenge for communities in the inclusion of target groups; and
- **Structure of Recreation/Sport Participation** – Demand for unorganized and drop-in activities on the rise.

Assessing service delivery needs can help guide recreation departments when devising programming and identifying gaps in services. These most commonly include:




- **Lack of free time** – busy lifestyles and commuting have been a barrier to recreation participation, which has increased demand for self-scheduled and spontaneous activities. The flexibility of drop-in programming will have implications in terms of non-traditional hours, the popularity of multi-purpose facilities and a diversity of drop-in activities.
- **Focus on Youth** – a growing awareness of the importance of focusing on youth programming and its life-long benefits, such as healthier lifestyle and decrease in bullying and crime. Play Works developed criteria for “Youth Friendly Communities”, which are awarded to municipalities that demonstrate their commitment to youth programming.
- **Engaging an Aging Population** – recreation departments are trying to engage older adults more to get a better understanding of their needs. This generation of older adults tends to be more physically active than previous generations and will likely register for mainstream fitness classes. This level of activity will likely drive more demand for more active programming/skill development, higher expectations of service quality and facilities, and a greater emphasis on “active” living.
- **Strengthening Neighbourhoods & Creating Community Hubs** – the need to animate neighbourhoods with an increase of recreational activity, and work with local groups to determine neighbourhood needs. A community gathering space that provides a range of programming can create a greater sense of belonging, empowerment and cohesion within diverse populations.

3.7 Other New and Emerging Recreation Trends

Beyond those trends identified above, as generational influences and recreational preferences change, a variety of progressive recreation trends have emerged. Examples are provided below:

Location	Facility	Imagery
<p>Stouffville BMX Track, Ontario</p>	<p>Pump Track</p>	

Location	Facility	Imagery
<p>Sunnyside Bike Park, Toronto, Ontario</p>	<p>Mountain Bike/BMX Skill Track</p>	
<p>Saint-Jérôme Multi Sports Park, Quebec</p>	<p>Kids Obstacle Course</p>	
<p>Penzer Park, Langley</p>	<p>Parkour Park</p>	
<p>Elevation Place, Canmore, Alberta</p>	<p>Climbing Wall</p>	

Location	Facility	Imagery
<p>Durham College eSports Arena, Oshawa, Ontario</p>	<p>Dedicated eSports Arena</p>	
<p>Century Gardens Recreation Centre eSports Challenge, Brampton, Ontario</p>	<p>eSports Programs</p>	
<p>Sudbury Parks and Rec Viking Ninja Warrior, Ontario</p>	<p>Ninja Warrior Programs for Kids</p>	

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4 Master Plan Values & Priorities

This Master Plan is a municipal guidance document for future investment in recreation. The Plan outlines a series of short, medium and longer-term priorities for investment in facilities, services and programs owned and/or delivered/operated by the Town of Erin over a 10-year timeframe. The Plan and its recommendations are based on the following principles, vision, goals, and objectives for planning and investment.

4.1 Key Principles

The Master Plan and its recommendations are based on seven key principles, as follows:

1. Invest in recreation infrastructure for resident retention and attraction (i.e. youth and families);
2. Adopt an asset management approach to investment in infrastructure that reflects prudent capital investment – this includes consideration for replacing, decommissioning and/or repurposing assets where warranted;
3. Address the needs of an aging and changing population through recreation planning;
4. Enhance existing assets through investment, creative programming and with a focus on partnerships;
5. Ongoing monitoring of community demand for events, new sport and activities and where possible, accommodating such demand through the multi-use of assets (that is, through the creation of ‘recreation destinations’);
6. The provision of quality services in a responsive manner as well as the development and implementation of policies and protocols that enhance the user experience with facilities; and,
7. A balancing approach to fee setting that encourages broad community participation in recreation and which recognizes the value of assets.

4.2 The Vision for Parks, Recreation and Culture

A proposed vision for parks, recreation and culture in the Town of Erin was developed as part of the Master Planning process, and reads:

“An active, engaged and vibrant community that maximizes its existing built and natural assets to provide unique recreation opportunities and service excellence for residents and visitors.”

4.3 Goals & Objectives



Goal #1

Plan for Future Growth through Facility Renewal and Investment

Objectives



Anticipate growth and plan for necessary recreation infrastructure over the 10 year planning cycle.



Apply municipal-wide catchment areas for major infrastructure (e.g. arenas).



Invest in infrastructure based on principles of sustainable development, risk-mitigation and business planning.

Objectives



Promote health and wellness through the provision of accessible, inclusive, age-friendly and innovative opportunities for recreation and leisure.



Prioritize and enhance outdoor recreational assets through parks and trail development.



Protect the natural environment and promote active transportation in Erin through an integrated network of parks, trails and open space.



Goal #2

Promote Health, Wellness and Active Living to Improve Quality of Life



Goal #3

Address the Diverse and Evolving Needs of Residents through Programs and Services

Objectives



Achieve balance between community development / facilitation of programs versus direct programming.



Encourage integrated and responsive models of service delivery.



Address service needs in rural areas including target populations.

4.4 The Approach to Planning

The recommendations included within this Master Plan cover a range of considerations for the provision of indoor and outdoor recreation facilities as well as parks, open space, trails, and cultural facilities, specifically as it relates to capital investment and development and the implementation of projects over the 10-year life of this Plan.

Master Plan recommendations have been informed by a variety of inputs, and are the product of a balanced assessment of the following long-term capital planning and asset management factors:

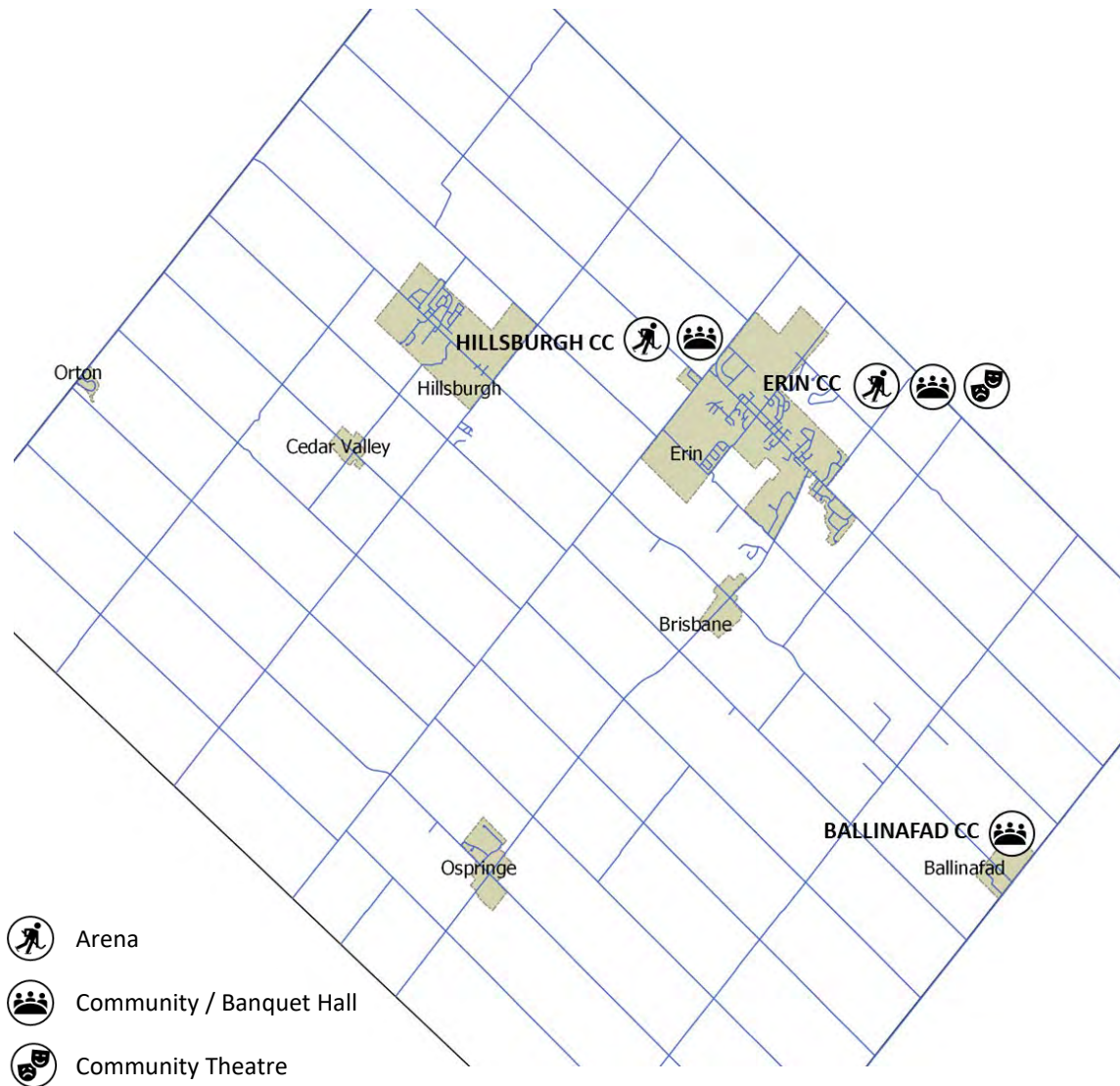
- Defined levels of service for each class or category of facility dependent on the nature and scale of use of amenities (i.e. town, community and/or neighbourhood level of service as appropriate);
- Current and projected population-based and participation-based standards of provision and the implications of forecasted resident growth on current levels of service;
- An assessment of the capital implications of aging infrastructure and options to enhance the delivery and operation of assets through future investment and other efficiencies; and,
- Community “needs and wants” as expressed through public engagement. Community needs and wants are those that are expressed by members of the public, stakeholders and community groups. They reflect the aspirations of the community as communicated through the public engagement activities associated with the Master Plan process.

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5 Indoor Facilities

The Town of Erin is home to a collection of indoor recreation facilities that provide residents with the opportunity to engage in a wide range of activities including hockey, skating, performing arts, and educational and social activities. Indoor facilities are focused in three community centres: Erin, Hillsburgh and Ballinafad.

Exhibit 20: Municipal Indoor Facilities Map



The following table summarizes the consulting team’s review and inventory of indoor recreational facilities in Erin based on ownership and type of facility.

The Town is the main provider of indoor recreation facilities, with the exception of gymnasiums which are provided by the school boards that service the Town. The Erin Indoor Recreation Centre is a private facility for indoor soccer that operates independently from the municipality.

Exhibit 21: Indoor Facility Inventory

Indoor Facility Inventory				
Facility by Type	Facility Ownership			Total
	Town	School Board	Other / Private	
Community Centres	3			3
Indoor Ice Pads	2			2
Community / Banquet Halls	3			3
Community Theatre	1			1
Gymnasiums		3		3
Indoor Field House			1	1

Detailed inventory sheets of all municipal facilities are provided in Appendix 2.

5.1 Community Centres

Supply

The Town of Erin has three community centres in its inventory:

- Erin Community Centre (Centre 2000);
- Hillsburgh Community Centre; and
- Ballinafad Community Centre.

The Erin Community Centre was built in 2000 to incorporate an existing ice pad (originally built in 1970) with new amenities on-site. This includes the Erin District High School, 2nd floor banquet hall space, a live performance theatre, a public library branch, and lease space for service providers, namely Station Road Nursery School, East Wellington Community Services (EWCS) who provide an Adult Day Program and local foodbank, a dental office, canteen, and a pro shop with skate sharpening.

The Hillsburgh Community Centre is a two-storey building, built in the 1950s, with an arena building added in the 1960s. The facility includes dressing rooms, referee rooms, score room, and a 2nd floor multi-use hall (capacity of 225 people) with kitchen facilities. The site is constrained by a watercourse and the road network and does not allow for expansion.

The Ballinafad Community Centre, built in 1962 with an addition in 1988, is a one-storey building with a finished basement. It comprises a multi-purpose hall (capacity of 286 people), kitchen facilities, and activity rooms (in basement).

The Town recently took over the operation of this facility, as it was operated by volunteers until August 2018.

Condition Building Condition Assessments have recently been completed for Erin’s Community Centres by Pinchin Ltd. The reports identify the future requirements to address deficiencies in the immediate term and over the next ten years.

These costs are summarized as follows:

Future Capital Requirements: Community Centres				
Community Centre	Immediate	Years 1-5	Years 6-10	Total
Erin	\$37,500	\$1,281,400	\$424,000	\$1,742,900
Hillsburgh	\$125,000	\$566,500	\$77,000	\$768,500
Ballinafad	\$8,000	\$78,500	\$98,500	\$185,000
Total	\$170,500	\$1,926,400	\$599,500	\$2,696,400

Source: Building Condition Assessments, Pinchin Ltd., dated Nov. 30, 2018, Jan. 11 and Jan. 14, 2019.

The major expenditures required for Erin Community Centre include Roofing (BUR) replacement at a cost of \$279,300 (identified for Year 1 and 2) and asphalt paving resurfacing in Year 1 at a cost of \$140,000.

One of Hillsburgh’s major requirements is an ice resurfer identified for Year 3 (2020) at a cost of \$100,000. While Ballinafad’s major requirement is asphalt resurfacing at a cost of \$60,000 in Year 8 (2025).

With an insured value of over \$5.4 million for the Hillsburgh Community Centre, and considering the future capital requirements identified above, the facility has a Facility Condition Index (FCI)⁸ value of 14%, meaning it is in fair condition⁹.

⁸ FCI is defined as the ratio of current year required renewal costs to current building replacement value. Values between 0-10% FCI indicate asset is in *good* condition; 10-30% FCI indicate asset is in *fair* condition; and more than 30% FCI indicate asset is in *poor* condition.

⁹ Fair condition is defined by industry standard as: normal deterioration and minor distress observed. Program delivery is impeded by the asset’s condition.

Operational Performance When considered together, the three community centres operate at a deficit that has ranged from nearly -\$534,000 in 2017 to -\$424,000 in 2018. The deficit per square foot has therefore improved over this period from -\$6.85 to -\$5.44.

Operating Performance: Community Centres			
Erin CC	2016	2017	2018
Revenues	\$388,762	\$368,731	\$371,276
Expenses	-\$611,775	-\$690,398	-\$617,413
NOI	-\$223,013	-\$321,666	-\$246,137
Cost Recovery	64%	53%	60%

Hillsburgh CC	2016	2017	2018
Revenues	\$187,442	\$186,136	\$192,248
Expenses	\$428,434	\$398,822	\$364,992
NOI	\$240,992	\$212,686	\$172,744
Cost Recovery	44%	47%	53%

Ballinafad CC	2016	2017	2018
Revenues	\$42,243	\$47,230	\$39,800
Expenses	\$37,734	\$46,748	\$44,429
NOI	\$4,509	\$482	-\$4,629
Cost Recovery	112%	101%	90%

Source: Recreation Financials provided by the Town of Erin (2016-2018)

What We Heard

Student Survey respondents (n=20) rated the Town's recreational facilities as being average (55%), citing that overall, they are in good condition, but minor improvements are required. Overall, student respondents suggested the Town is lacking in recreational facilities to serve their specific needs.

They would like to see the Town invest in a multi-use recreational community centre that includes a public pool, arena and outdoor ice rink. However, ensuring that both Hillsburgh and Erin have a community hub was important to many respondents.

It was also noted that the room utilized by EWCS for the Adult Day Program, the Wellington Room, has great appeal to the public for rental, however it is not able to be rented due to the large amount of furniture and program supplies stored in the room at all times.

Implications

The Town of Erin is not alone in facing a need to plan for renewal of its community centres and recreation facilities. Many municipalities across Canada face a similar infrastructure challenge arising because of the age of their facilities, the limitations of available capital to maintain and replace essential building systems, and in some cases, the absence of an asset management-based strategy to repair, replace and plan for new development.

Municipal sport and recreation facilities, as a category of public sector assets, have recently been demonstrated to have the poorest condition rating among all categories of assets. *Informing the Future, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Infrastructure Report Card, 2016*, quantified the relative condition of facilities across the nation through a detailed methodology and survey. Nineteen (19%) percent of sport and recreation facilities were categorized as being in poor or very poor condition, the highest proportion compared to all other asset classes, including roads and bridges, stormwater, wastewater and potable water facilities, and other public buildings. Among these facilities, ice arenas had the highest proportion (28%) of facilities in poor or very poor condition.

The target annual rate of reinvestment in infrastructure and facilities is recommended by the FCM at between 1.7% and 2.5% of asset value. Collectively, municipalities are not achieving this range (currently at 1.3% per annum).

None of this should be construed as a lack of recognition of the need for investment. It is broadly recognized that reinvestment requirements are more than just improvements to existing facilities, many of which are functionally constrained by modern design standards and the expectations of patrons, as is the case in Erin. There is a need to maintain a competitive level of functionality to sustain their appeal and enhance quality of life benefits for area residents. Recreation assets are just one part of the broader quality of life equation but an important one which many municipalities have recognized is within their area of control.

Key Directions

In order to maintain Erin and Hillsburgh as the two major community hubs in Town, and based on the provision standards for ice, utilization and condition of the existing arena, and considering trends in facility development and operational sustainability, it is recommended that the Town develop a new multi-use recreation facility within Hillsburgh's urban boundary, contingent on the decommissioning of the undersized Hillsburgh Arena as an ice pad. Barbour Field is the recommended site for a future multi-use recreation facility, as it is a large open parcel of land already in the Town's ownership and able to accommodate additional development (contingent on municipal servicing).

Recognizing the community value of the Hillsburgh site and repurposing it with the same level of activity will be important. Once the ice is decommissioned (see Section 5.2 for details), there may be opportunities as a multi-purpose facility for use by a variety of community, private and/or sport groups (i.e. pickleball, rock climbing, gymnastics, etc.), however, the feasibility of this will require further assessment. It is also important to recognize that repurposing of this facility would not equate to a standard new municipal gymnasium or similar space and would require upgrades to meet AODA requirements.

Improving the existing spaces at the Erin Community Centre, such as the theatre, banquet hall and the Wellington Room, will provide an opportunity to increase the revenue potential associated with these spaces.

Recommendations: Community Centres

1. Maintain two primary community hubs in Erin located within the population centres of Erin and Hillsburgh Villages, and maintain Ballinafad as a secondary, more rural community hub within the Town.
2. Immediately commence planning (Feasibility Study and Business Plan) for a new multi-use recreation facility at Barbour Field in order to establish the size and program, confirm the location, and to initiate a funding strategy. This facility will ultimately replace the ice at the existing Hillsburgh Community Centre.
3. In the longer term, invest in a multi-use / multi-sport recreational hub at Barbour Fields in Hillsburgh. Co-location of services and the delivery of supporting amenities which allow for a broad range of programming should be a focus of the design.
4. With the development of a new multi-use recreational facility, decommission the existing ice surface (including removal of the ice plant) at Hillsburgh Community Centre and evaluate the feasibility and cost-benefits (Feasibility Study) of repurposing the existing facility for other indoor recreation uses.
5. Over the short term, work with the East Wellington Community Services (EWCS) to improve the condition of the Wellington Room, review the existing lease agreement, and subsequently improve rental revenues outside of the Adult Day Program (e.g. in evenings or on weekends).
6. In the mid-term, review and undertake an assessment of the merit of retaining the Ballinafad Community Centre, given the capital requirements for years 6 to 10 identified in the Building Condition Assessment.

5.2 Indoor Ice Pads

Supply

The Town of Erin is home to two ice pads – one at the Erin Community Centre and one at Hillsburgh Community Centre. The Erin ice pad is an NHL regulation size rink, while the Hillsburgh ice pad is not of regulation size and therefore can only host certain groups, including minor hockey (up to age 9 – Atom level), the Skating Club (home ice), Old Timers League, etc.

When the ice is removed for the off-season (April to August), the dry floors of both arenas are used for a variety of events, such as rummage sales, ball hockey, lacrosse, community dinners, weddings, and concerts.

Service Level

While there are two ice pads in the Town's supply, the fact that the Hillsburgh rink is not regulation size and therefore limits users, results in it being counted as 0.5 pads for the purposes of this analysis.

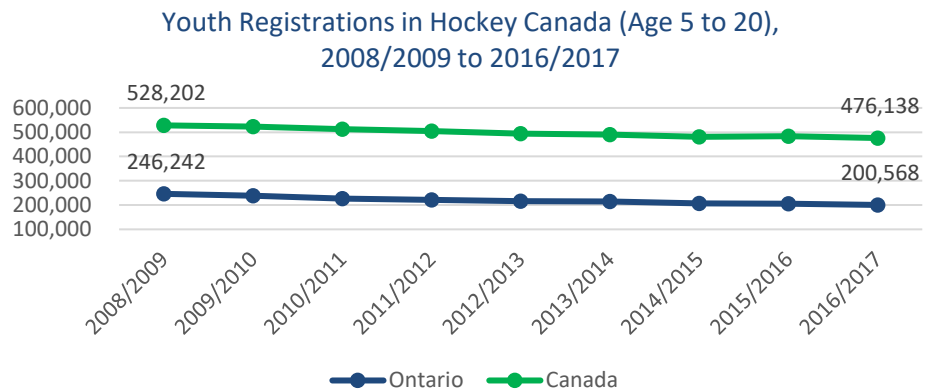
With 1.5 ice pads in its ‘effective’ supply, the Town is currently providing one ice pad per 7,619 residents. This is not an uncommon level of provision in smaller communities that have made the decision to invest in indoor ice.

Based on benchmarking done in municipalities similar in context to Erin, the current provision of indoor ice pads is comparable to what other communities are providing.

Municipality	Population	Ice Pads	Provision Level
Minto (2019)	8,671	3	1 : 2,890
Kincardine (2009)	12,016	2	1 : 6,008
Mississippi Mills (2019)	13,163	2	1 : 6,582
Canmore (2019)	13,992	2	1 : 6,996
Owen Sound (2017)	21,341	3	1 : 7,114
Scugog (2018)	21,617	2.5	1 : 8,647
Uxbridge (2018)	21,176	2	1 : 10,588
Whitchurch-Stouffville (2018)	45,837	4	1 : 11,459
Meaford (2015)	12,207	1	1 : 12,207
Average	23,157	2.4	1 : 8,055
Erin	11,439	1.5	1 : 7,626

Participation Trends Hockey

On a national and provincial basis, youth participation in ice hockey has experienced a decline over the past decade. Both Hockey Canada and the Ontario Hockey Federation have seen declining youth registrations (ages 5 to 20) since the 2008/2009 season.



Overall registrations across all age categories (including adults) peaked in the 2014/2015 season in Canada and in 2012/2013 season within Ontario; to 2017, registrations have generally declined.

Registration in female hockey has decreased since 2008/2009 by 6,876 players (or 15% of total female registrants), while registration in male hockey has decreased by 5,145 players which equates to only 3% of total male registrants over the same period (to 2018).

Based on information from local hockey groups, this trend is echoed in Erin, with many groups experiencing a decline over the past five years. Other hockey groups indicated they have seen stable participation over the same period.

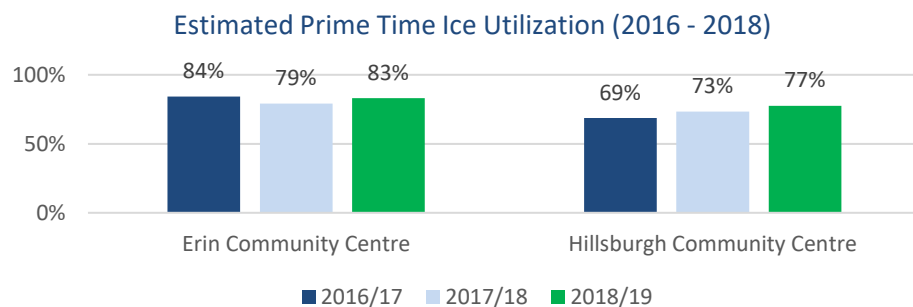
Figure Skating

Between 2014 and 2018, total registrations in figure skating has remained fairly steady, if not declined slightly, on both a national and provincial basis. Ontario experienced a decrease in registrants of 4% (or 2,909 registrants) over the past 4 years; similar decreases were experienced across the prairies and in the north. Whereas, British Columbia, Quebec and the Maritime provinces experienced increased registrations. This accounts for an overall Canada-wide slight decrease (2%) in total registrants (2,861 registrants).

Locally, figure skating has experienced an increase over the past 5 years, with the Erin Skating Club seeing nearly double the number of skaters in 2019 than it had in 2014. This can be accredited to a push by the volunteer board to improve visibility through social media, keep fees lower than those in surrounding municipalities, and attracting local companies to help sponsor a Skate Canada learn to skate program.

Utilization

Municipal booking data indicates that both arenas are well utilized. Analysis of prime-time¹⁰ utilization indicates that use of the ECC has remained consistent over the past three seasons, whereas use of the Hillsburgh arena has increased during the same period. Utilization has been calculated based on a 27.5-week ice season, as identified by the Town.



Source: SPM based on Town of Erin Facility Booking Calendar data (2016-2019)

¹⁰ Prime time hours are defined by the Town as Monday to Friday from 5:00pm to 11:00pm, and Saturday and Sunday from 8:00am to 11:00pm.

It is also important to note that the Town has experienced increasing ice requests for rentals over the past few years from organizations that typically operate outside the Erin, adding to the local demand for ice.

Condition

Erin CC - The Building Condition Assessment indicated that both the arena netting and rink boards are in generally good condition and will not need to be replaced over the next 10 years.

Hillsburgh CC – The rink floor and pipes were replaced in 2000 and generally in good condition. However, the BCA indicates that the floor brine pumps are in need of replacement / major repair.



Ice Rink, ECC

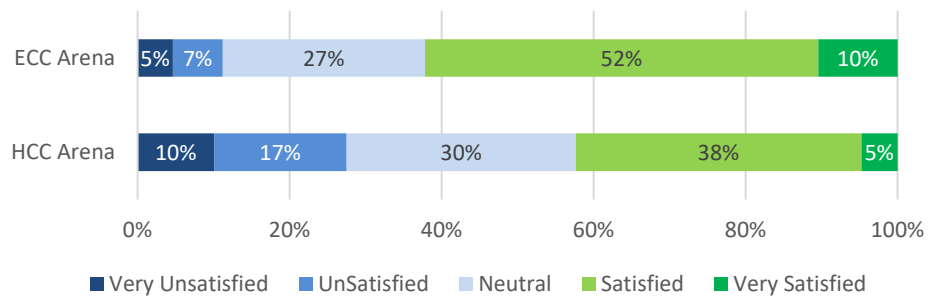


Ice Rink, HCC

What We Heard

Overall, there was general satisfaction with the two arenas. Accessibility, general condition / maintenance, and small size of ice pad were identified as the key issues at Hillsburgh Arena. The hockey office at the Erin Arena was identified to be in poor condition with mold and water issues.

User Satisfaction: Arenas



Projected Demand

A participation-based provision target is not employable at this time due to insufficient data and an inadequate response from ice user groups, therefore a population-based target is presented below. Based on the existing standard of 1 pad per 7,626 population, a target of 1 per 7,500 population has been used for illustration purposes.

Under this scenario, there will be a deficit of 0.4 pads by the end of the plan period and will grow to a deficit of 1.0 pads by 2041.

Ice Pad Provision	2016	2019	2024	2029	2036	2041
Town Wide Population	11,439	12,027	13,076	14,216	16,250	18,905
Target Standard	1 : 7,500 population					
Town-wide Needs	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.9	2.2	2.5
Existing Supply	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Surplus (Deficit)	(0.0)	(0.1)	(0.2)	(0.4)	(0.7)	(1.0)

Implications Based on population standards, utilization rates, and participation trends, there is no immediate requirement to invest in an additional ice pad before the end of the planning period. However, a third pad will likely be required by 2041.

The age and condition of the facilities, coupled with the fact that Hillsburgh is undersized and has increasing utilization, may however necessitate a closer look at addressing ice within Erin over the planning period and beyond.

Key Directions Developing a new multi-use recreation facility, as identified above, to include an NHL size ice rink would help to address the issues experienced at Hillsburgh Arena at present. While the planning for such a facility should begin immediately, the existing Hillsburgh Community Centre should continue to remain a hub until the new facility is operational.

With one net additional ice pad estimated to be required by 2041, the provision of ice within the new facility will include replacing the undersized ice pad at Hillsburgh with a full-size pad. This alone may reduce some of the pressure currently felt at the Erin Community Centre with all groups being able to use both of the ice pads. Notwithstanding, there are cost advantages of building twin pads when the facility is being developed. This allows flexibility of when to install the ice with the infrastructure already in place. Until the third (net additional) pad is required for use as an ice facility, it can be used as a dry use space able to accommodate a variety of sports, activities and events.

The net additional pad may not be required to be developed until beyond 2041. Continuous monitoring in this regard will be important going forward.

Recommendations: Indoor Ice Pads

7. Maintain the ice at Erin Community Centre over the course of the Plan period for continued use by the community.
8. In the short and medium term, invest in essential upgrades and maintenance for the Hillsburgh Arena as warranted for continued community use while plans for a new multi-use recreation facility are prepared.

9. Through the feasibility and design process for a centralized multi-use multi-sport recreation centre at Barbour Field (as per Recommendation 2), develop a new twin-pad facility with full-size ice pads to replace the ice at the Hillsburgh Arena. The facility should be designed to function with one ice pad initially, with the second pad being used for dry land uses until required.
10. In the long-term, continue to monitor the demand for ice on an annual basis to determine when a third ice pad will be required.

5.3 Community / Banquet Halls

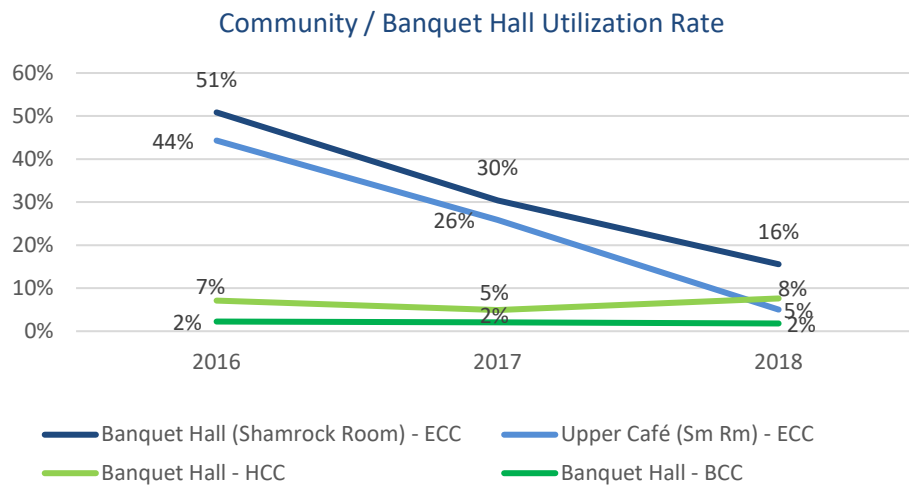
Supply

The Town is home to three banquet / multi-use community halls – one within each of the community centres (Erin, Hillsburgh, and Ballinafad). These community spaces facilitate both recreation and social activities.

Utilization

These spaces are understood to be rented for a variety of uses by a number of users including the Rotary Club and private parties at Hillsburgh, Euchre Club and Halton Hills Concert Band at Ballinafad, and the Erin District School Board at Erin Community Centre who use the 2nd floor multi-purpose space as their cafeteria during school hours. School use of this space may account for the decrease in booked hours over the past 3 years if these hours are not being formally recorded through the Town’s booking system.

Booking data provided by the Town indicates that current hall utilization is very low, with Ballinafad being the lowest at 2% of available time being booked.



Condition

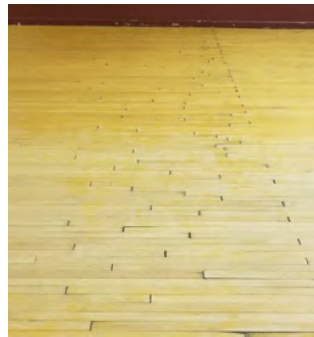
Erin CC - The BCA indicates that the 2nd floor hall has some areas of damage on the floor, which was observed during a site walk-through. Additionally, the

retractable folding partition wall was identified to be in poor condition with two years of remaining life expectancy.

Hillsburgh CC – The BCA indicates that the wood flooring in the banquet hall is in poor condition and requires restoration /refinishing.



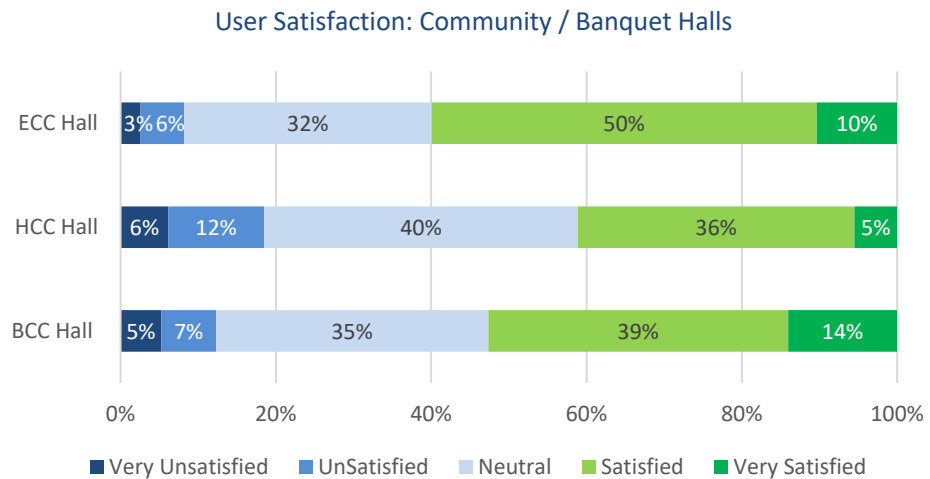
Shamrock Room, ECC



Banquet Hall Floor, HCC

What We Heard

Feedback from the community suggested that the banquet facilities are not attractive and need a general facelift / upgrade. Accessibility of these spaces, as well as the rental costs, were also identified as concerns.



Implications & Key Directions

The majority of community / banquet space in Erin is associated with indoor ice facilities and is reflective of best practice in co-location of services and the delivery of supporting amenities which allow for a broad range of programming.

With respect to the operation and marketability of Ballinafad Community Centre, a standalone hall for event rentals, it is important to recognize that the local market is also serviced by other venues, such as the Legion, as well as private golf course facilities. Further investigation is required as to the need and feasibility of retaining multipurpose space at the Ballinafad Community Centre

in its existing form and scale over the life of the Master Plan. Opportunities to utilize these spaces for more diverse uses should be explored.

Recommendations: Community Halls

11. Maintain the existing community halls and other community rental spaces in good condition, undertaking general improvements as per the requirements of the Building Condition Assessments and through asset management planning.
12. Expand promotion of the community halls as viable and affordable locations for event and programming rentals.
13. Assess the potential for additional revenue opportunities through enhanced programming of the spaces (i.e. low-impact exercise classes, specialized camps, etc.) that are suitable for such locations.
14. Explore opportunities to revitalize, reconfigure or otherwise repurpose spaces at the Ballinacree Community Centre for new and/or expanded community programming, either directly by the Town or through community partners.

5.4 Community Theatre

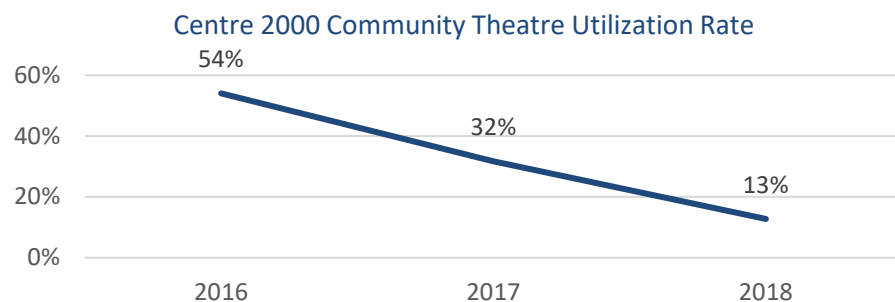
Supply

The Town-owned live performance theatre is located at the Erin Community Centre (Centre 2000). This facility has a capacity of 312 seats (with 212 fixed seats) and sound and lighting capabilities.

The theatre plays host to a variety of events, including, but not limited to, live theatrical performances, guest speaker events, fundraisers, auctions, etc.

Utilization

Based on booking data provided by the Town, the theatre has experienced a significant decrease in booked hours since 2016.



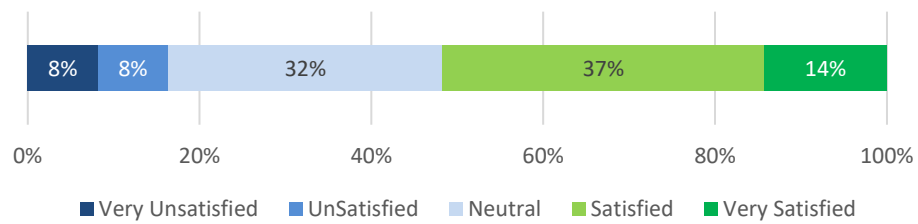
Source: SPM based on Town of Erin Booking Reports

Condition The Building Condition Assessment identifies that the fixed seating is generally in good condition and is not anticipated to need replacing over the next ten years. However, discussions with Town staff indicated that some of the seats are not structurally sound and require replacement on an as-needed basis.



What We Heard Engagement activities indicated that general upgrades to the theatre are needed, in particular, new seating. A number of respondents to the public survey suggested to bring back screening movies at the theatre, as well as encouraging that the theatre be used for other screenings, performances, and shows.

User Satisfaction: Erin Community Theatre



Implications & Key Directions Replacing the seating at the Erin Community Theatre is an important initiative to continue with in order to improve the overall user experience and rentability of the facility to non-municipal organizations and partners.

The Town should strive to increase the utilization and expand the programming of the theatre for special events, movie screenings, eSports events, live theatrical, musical and other performances, etc. This could be expanded through new and/or improved partnerships with local community groups, municipal partners, and others, as appropriate.

Recommendations: Community Theatre

15. Continue with plans to replace the seating at the Erin Community Theatre to improve user experience. Discussions with the Upper Grand District School Board should be initiated to determine the potential for sharing the capital costs.
16. Expand the programming of the theatre for special events, musical performances, movie screenings, viewing of sporting and cultural events, eSports events, etc. through partnerships with local groups and/or businesses to enhance revenue potential.

5.5 Gymnasiums

Supply There are currently no gymnasiums within the municipal supply. Three gymnasiums are located within the local schools, namely the Erin District High School, Brisbane Public School and the Erin Public School.

What We Heard Feedback from engagement activities related to gymnasiums was somewhat limited. However, some responses to the open-ended questions in the Residents Survey indicated that a gym within the Town would be nice to have. This was mainly tied to use for gymnastics.

Results of the Student Survey put gymnasiums as the 2nd top priority for future investment. A climbing gym was also mentioned by three respondents as an additional facility need.

Implications & Key Directions Gymnasiums provided within schools (or places of worship) are often a smaller size than is required for gymnastics or adult sport leagues. Municipal gymnasiums are typically co-located in multi-use recreation facilities as they are flexible spaces through which a range of programs can occur. Arena users often benefit from the dry-land training space offered in gymnasiums, and there are enhanced program opportunities that can occur if the gym is co-located with a seniors or youth space. Gyms also enable the facilitation of drop-in activities such as basketball, volleyball, pickleball, floor hockey, etc., which are growing in popularity and demand.

Notwithstanding the fact that when the ice is removed from the two arenas during the off-season, these facilities provide indoor space for recreational pursuits; however, they do not provide the functionality of a municipal standard gymnasium, which are typically used more during the winter months and shoulder seasons. Therefore, continued dialogue with user groups to understand their indoor needs will be important over the course of the Plan period (to 2029) and may warrant consideration for a full-size gymnasium or other multi-purpose activity court as part of a new multi-use recreation facility.

Recommendations: Gymnasiums

17. As part of the feasibility and business planning exercise for a new multi-use recreation facility, consider the inclusion of a full-size gymnasium as part of the building program to accommodate a variety of program and rental opportunities.

5.6 Indoor Field House

Supply There is one indoor field house within the Town, owned and operated by non-municipal organizations. The Erin Indoor Recreation Centre (EIRC) is located in the Erin Agricultural Society Building and run jointly by the Hillsburgh, Erin and District Soccer Club (HEADS), and the Erin Agricultural Society (EAS).

The indoor artificial turf field is 110 x 60 feet and is often utilized for soccer, lacrosse, rugby and football practices.

What We Heard

There were minimal comments related to the indoor field house received through engagement activities. However, there was discussion about increasing the variety of activities / uses within the EIRC.

Implications & Key Directions

The opportunity exists to partner with the Erin Agricultural Society and HEADS to potentially provide additional / improved sport-related programming within the EIRC. This could include programs provided by non-municipal organizations and private providers, and/or direct programming by the Town (through a use agreement), etc. The programs offered should not conflict or be in competition with those offered at Town-owned and operated facilities.

Recommendations: Indoor Field House

18. Work closely with the Erin Agricultural Society and HEADS to identify opportunities for improving the program offer at the EIRC. Consideration should be had for affordable children, youth and seniors programming opportunities (e.g. drop-in soccer, walking club, etc.). The programs offered at the EIRC should not conflict or be in direct competition with those offered at Town-owned and operated facilities.

5.7 Indoor Pool

Supply

There is currently no indoor aquatics facility within the Town of Erin. However, there are a number of aquatics facilities within the regional supply, within Wellington County as well as several other relevant geographies.

What We Heard

An indoor pool was identified as the most needed indoor facility by those Residents Survey respondents who think additional facilities are needed (67% or 133 responses). This was echoed in the Student Survey results with pool being the top priority for a number of respondents (followed by arenas and outdoor ice rinks).

Indoor pools were identified as the facility type that are used the most outside of Erin by survey respondents. Over half of respondents to the Residents Survey (53%, or 187 respondents), indicated they use indoor aquatics facilities the most outside of Erin over other facility types. The outcomes of the public engagement activities indicated that many people travel outside of the Town to use indoor pools, in particular, Orangeville, Guelph, Halton Hills and Caledon.

Implications & Key Directions

Indoor aquatics facilities tend to have a high cost associated with their operation – they typically run with an annual operating subsidy of between \$350,000 and \$500,000. Smaller communities in Ontario often do not invest in indoor pools for this very reason, as it would put a heavy burden on the tax

base. However, the opportunity to provide access to indoor aquatics through municipal partnerships an/or alternative providers should be explored.

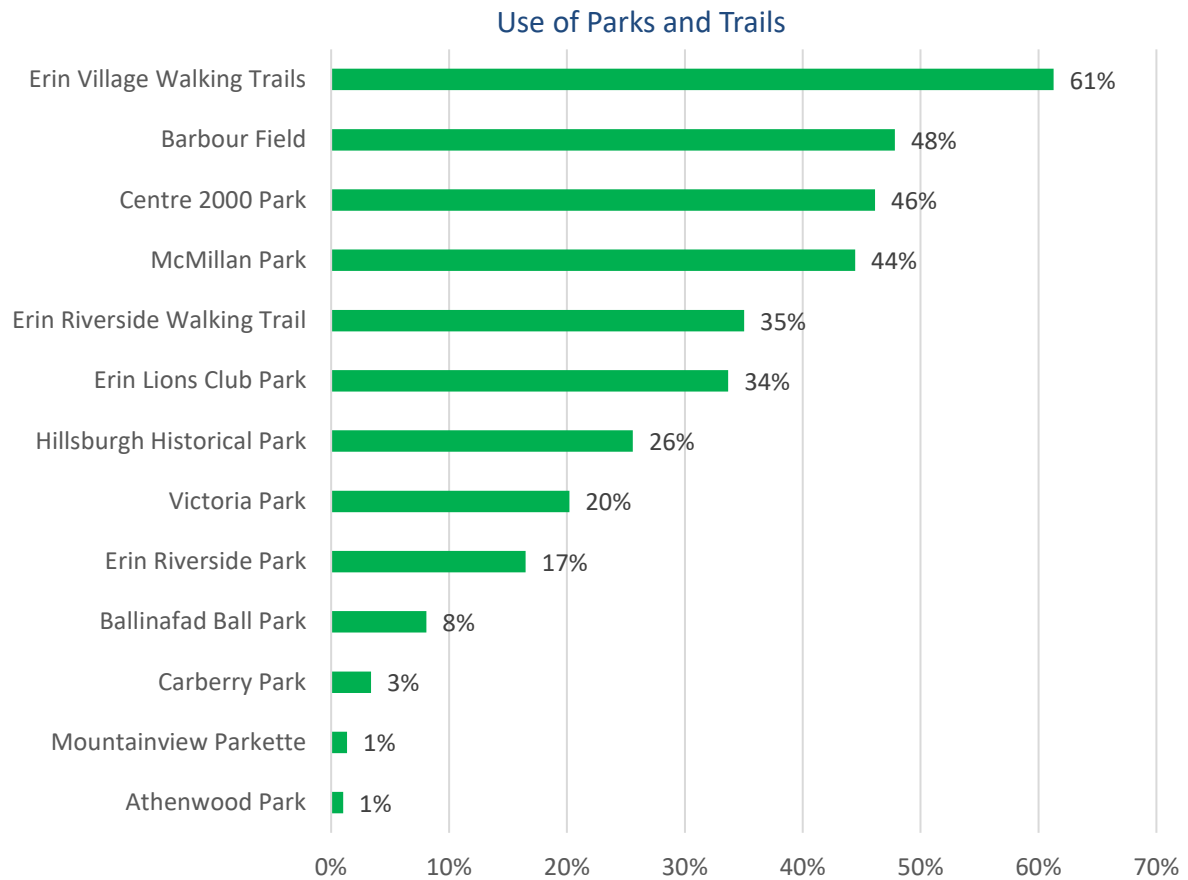
Recommendations: Indoor Pool

19. Through discussions with neighbouring municipal pool providers, explore opportunities to better facilitate access for Erin residents to utilize nearby indoor aquatic facilities. This could be done through a variety of means, including negotiating a 'preferred' rate for Erin residents, provision of transportation services to facilities, among others.
20. Investigate potential alternative providers of aquatics facilities (i.e. commercial and residential developers, hotel providers, etc.) as a means for the potential future provision of a pool / aquatic facility.
21. Monitor the future likelihood to attract a swimming school to locate in Erin (e.g. Making Waves, Goldfish, British Swim School, etc.).

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6 Parkland and Trails

Parkland and trails within Erin are well used by residents. Residents Survey respondents indicated that they used Erin Village Walking Trails the most (61%, n=297), while 48% used Barbour Field in Hillsburgh, 46% used Centre 2000 Park and 44% used McMillan Park in the Town. Other more localized parks were not used by as many respondents.



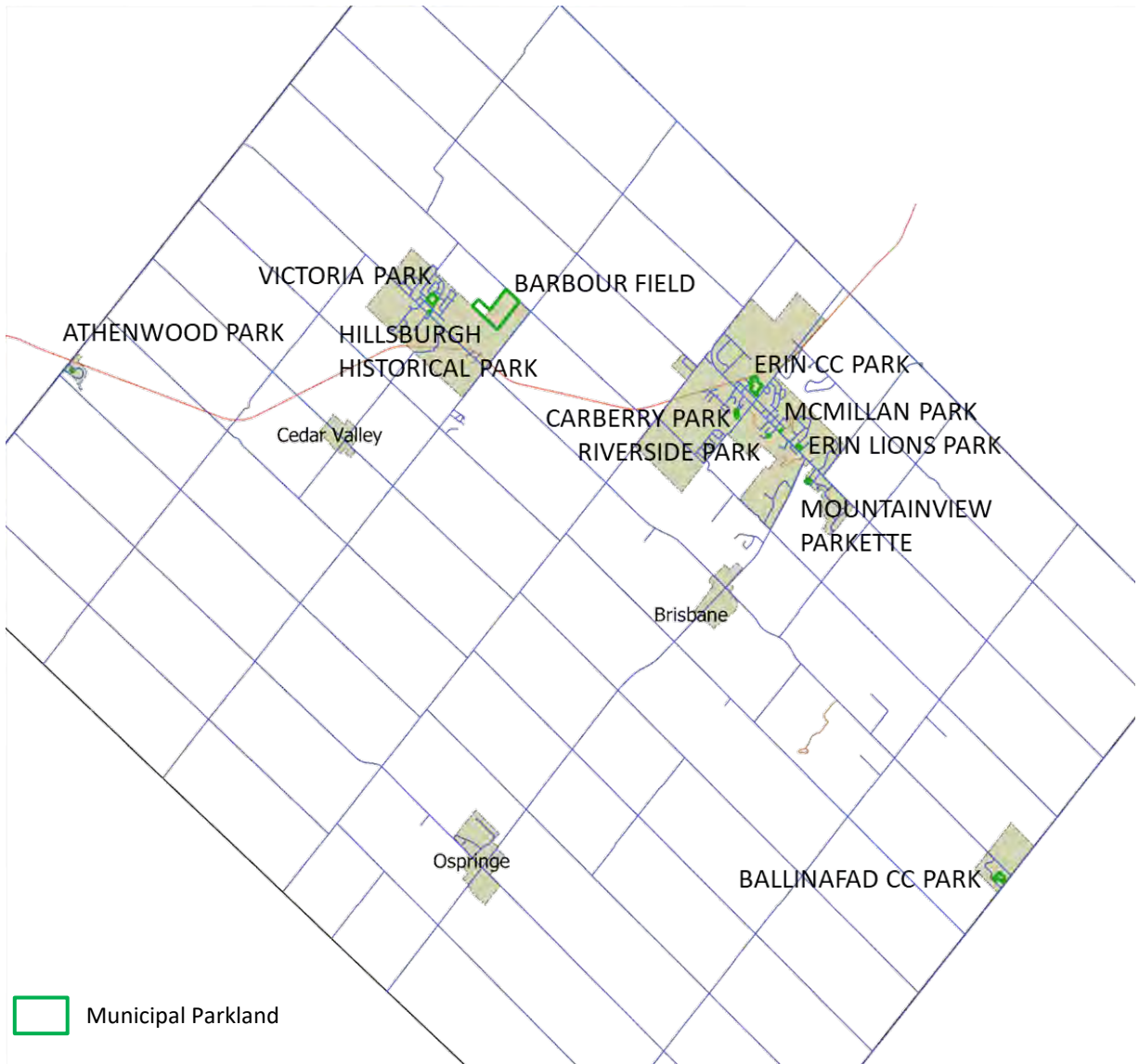
Source: Sierra Planning and Management based on Residents Survey Results, 2019.

6.1 Parkland Supply & Classification

Supply

The Town owns and operates 11 municipal park parcels, with a total land area of 37.34 hectares. The parks are distributed geographically throughout the Town, with concentrations in Erin Village (6 parks) and Hillsburgh Village (3 parks). Park locations are identified on the map below.

Exhibit 22: Municipal Parkland Map



No.	Park Name	Parcel Size (ha.)
1	Erin Community Centre Park	3.63
2	Ballinafad Community Centre Park	1.96
3	Athenwood Park	0.21
4	Barbour Field	27.22
5	Carberry Park	0.71
6	Erin Lions Club Park	0.35
7	Hillsburgh Historical Park	0.07
8	McMillan Park	0.09
9	Mountainview Parkette	0.62
10	Riverside Park	0.15
11	Victoria Park	2.33
	Total	37.34

Source: Sierra Planning and Management

Size of Parks

7 of the 11 municipal park parcels (64%) are under 1.0 hectares in size. While Barbour Field, at 27.22 hectares in size, accounts for 73% of the total parkland supplied by the Town. Larger park parcels, such as Barbour Field, generally enable greater opportunities for co-location of park amenities, as well as the provision of adequate space for gatherings, celebrations, and special events. The Town should seek to acquire larger parcels when possible over smaller parcels that limit use.

Breakdown of Municipal Parkland by Size



Source: Sierra Planning and Management

Classification & Service Level

The Town's Official Plan does not classify parks into a parkland hierarchy. For the purposes of this Master Plan municipal parkland has been classified based on form, function and level of service, as proposed below.

Classification	Total Parcels	Area (ha.)	Current Town Standard	Parks
<i>Town / Regional Parks</i>	1	27.22	<i>2.38 hectares per 1,000 residents</i>	Barbour Field
<i>Community Parks</i>	5	8.16	<i>0.72 hectares per 1,000 residents</i>	Erin CC, Ballinafad CC, McMillan, Riverside, Victoria
<i>Neighbourhood Parks</i>	5	1.96	<i>0.17 hectares per 1,000 residents</i>	Athenwood, Carberry, Erin Lions, Hillsburgh Historical, Mountainview
Total	11	37.34	3.27 hectares per 1,000 residents	

Parkland service levels are typically measured in terms of hectares per thousand population, providing the municipality with a useful target in which to maintain and augment the supply of parkland. These targets can be encouraged through documents such as Official Plans as a level the Town should strive to attain / exceed.

Service levels observed in comparable communities typically are in the range of 2.5 to 4.0 hectares of parkland (combination of both active and passive parkland) per 1,000 residents. This service level is applicable only to municipally owned parkland.

A Parkland Classification System is recommended for Erin to establish service area and provision level targets to sustain provision levels with continued population growth and to guide planning for future parkland acquisition, design, development, and use/programming.

Exhibit 23: Proposed Town of Erin Parkland Classification System

Typology	Purpose/ Function	Service Area	Optimal Size / Provision Standard	Optimal Location	Potential Facilities
Town Parks Includes: Barbour Field	Active / passive recreation. Major sport, social/cultural activities, events. Multi-purpose functions.	Serves entire municipality. May also have regional destination service level.	Large and spacious (min. 3 ha/varies). Provided at combined standard with Community Parks of 3.0 ha per 1,000 population.	Accessible location for entire municipality. Connections with open space and trail system. Frontage on Arterial / Collector roads.	Multiple sports fields, multi-courts, play structure(s), open space, pathways/trail linkages, skate park, splash pads, dog park, washrooms, visitor info., parking, bike racks, etc.
Community Parks Includes: Erin CC, Ballinafad CC, McMillan Park, Riverside Park, Victoria Park	Active / passive recreation. Community focal points.	Serves local community / surrounding area.	1 to 3 ha in size, except for some existing locations. Provided at combined standard with Town Parks of 3.0 ha per 1,000 population.	Widely distributed throughout Town. May be co-located with indoor recreation facilities and/or adjacent to secondary schools. Highly visible with frontage on major roads.	Sports fields, play structures, open space, pathways/trail linkages, community gardens, bike racks, etc.
Neighbourhood Parks Includes: Athenwood Park, Carberry Park, Erin Lions Park, Hillsburgh Historical Park, Mountainview Park	Active / passive recreation. Neighbourhood focal points.	local neighbourhood, 400m to 800m (5 - 10 minute walk).	0.5 to 1 ha, except for some existing locations. 0.5 ha per 1,000 population.	Centrally located within service area. Prominent local street intersections with frontage. May be located adjacent to schools, natural areas or environmental features.	Informal sports field(s), play structures, open space, pathways, etc.
Natural Areas	Protected natural features, areas, linkages.	Varies	Feature size and buffers. Maintain existing, targeted and opportunity-based acquisition.	Valley lands, riverside lands, floodplain areas, natural corridors.	Passive open space, trails, interpretive signage, benches, conservation.

Operational Performance

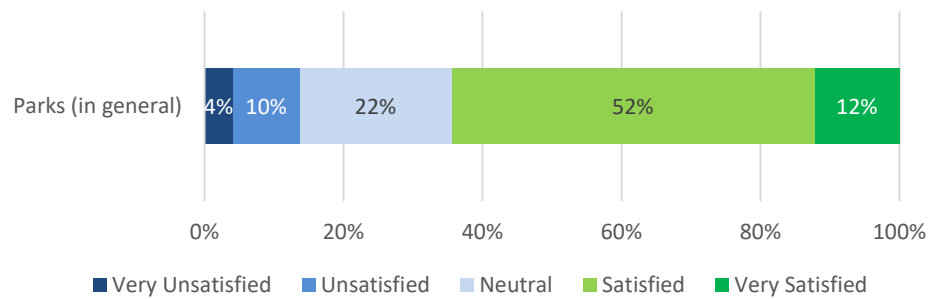
As the primary provider of publicly accessible parkland in Erin, the Town’s cost recovery related to this asset type is comparable to that seen in other communities across Ontario. Opportunities for revenues in these spaces are typically limited to the rental of sports fields and other spaces.

Operating Performance: Parks & Sports Fields			
	2016	2017	2018
Revenues	\$81,962	\$41,186	\$80,180
Expenses	\$251,460	\$329,829	\$277,589
NOI	(\$169,498)	(\$288,643)	(\$197,409)
Cost Recovery	33%	12%	29%

Source: Recreation Financials provided by the Town of Erin (2016-2018)

What We Heard

Over 60% of respondents (n=270) to the Residents Survey were ‘satisfied’ or ‘very satisfied’ with the parks in Erin. Providing a balance of larger parks and smaller parkettes throughout the Town was identified as important, as well as retaining and/or transforming Town-owned lands for use as parks.



Safety was identified as a concern for some respondents who would like to see more surveillance in parks and facilities. Other respondents identified improved clean-up and maintenance of parks, and the inclusion of more garbage bins in parks and on trails.

Specific suggestions from the Residents Survey included developing a dog park (Victoria Park was identified as a potential location), general upgrades to the Lions Club Park, and developing a municipal park in the growing Ospringe community.

The need for a large outdoor gathering space was also identified – this would be somewhere that special events can be held on an occasional basis, and it can act as a centralized meeting place for socializing on a daily basis.

It is important to note here that the public has limited use of the Erin Fair Grounds, which is owned by the Erin Agricultural Society. Through engagement, the community indicated that they would like to see the Fair Grounds being better utilized on a more regular basis. It is understood that the Grounds are

fenced and locked when not in use by the EAS but the facilities within are bookable / rentable by the community.

Projected Parkland Requirements

In order to increase parkland within Erin, a provision level of 3.5 hectares per 1,000 residents is recommended. Based on the forecasted population growth to 2029, the Town would need to procure an additional 22.1 hectares of parkland to meet the proposed service level target.

Within Ontario, parkland has historically been obtained at a rate of 1.2 hectares per 1,000 population, meaning that 3.3 hectares could be reconciled through parkland dedications based on existing population projections. Therefore, it is estimated that 18.8 hectares of parkland would need to be acquired through other non-dedication methods, as described in Section 6.2.

	2016	2019	2024	2029
	(Census)	(Estimated)		
Population	11,439	12,027	13,076	14,216
Population Added from 2016	-	588	1,637	2,777
Current Parkland Supply	37.3	37.3	37.3	37.3
Parkland Provision Target	3.5 hectares per 1,000 residents			
Additional Parkland Required		6.8	14.2	22.1
Historical Acquisition Rate Through Dedications	1.2 hectares per 1,000 new residents (based on historical provincial average)			
Expected Parkland Acquired Through Dedications	-	0.7	2.0	3.3
Parkland Required Through Alternative Acquisition	-	6.1	12.2	18.8

Implications & Key Directions

It is evident that there is a need to strategically acquire fewer but larger consolidated parkland parcels for active recreation uses as part of future planning, in particular within Erin Village as it grows. The extent to which this may be accommodated in the form of an additional large outdoor venue in a new location and/or by way of an expansion of an existing park location will need to be further assessed as opportunities may arise.

Additionally, with parkland in Erin Village currently lacking, the opportunity exists to work closely with the EAS to enable public access to the Erin Fair Grounds on a more regular basis, with the potential to provide a central gathering space in Erin Village.

Recommendations: Parkland Supply & Classification

- 22. Pursue a parkland provision standard of 3.5 hectares (minimum) per 1,000 residents over the course of the Plan period. Consideration should be had to include a suitable mix of both active and passive lands.

23. Target the acquisition of 22.1 hectares of parkland by the year 2029, to address growth related needs, where warranted, with a priority for larger Neighbourhood or Community Parks. This may require land assembly, rather than smaller parcels as typically provided by developers, and therefore a preference for cash-in-lieu is recommended.
24. Maintain existing parkland within the rural hamlets as outdoor recreation hubs for their respective communities.
25. Adopt a Parkland Classification System, per this Plan, as the Town's planning policy direction, organizing hierarchy and approach for acquiring, designing, developing and programming parkland in the future.
26. Work closely with the Erin Agricultural Society to explore opportunities to maximize use of the Fairgrounds property as a central gathering space within Erin Village. This could include enabling more regular public access for recreational purposes and/or attracting outdoor events and shows on a year-round basis.

6.2 Parkland Acquisition & Dedication

Policy Framework

The Town primarily acquires new parkland through the land dedication or cash-in-lieu of parkland requirements of the *Ontario Planning Act* to facilitate the provision of new parks within new developments, or in areas of intensification and redevelopment. The *Planning Act* enables municipalities to require the conveyance of land for parks or other public recreational purposes as a requirement of land division or development. As an alternative, the *Act* also sets out that municipalities may require the payment of cash-in-lieu of parkland that is otherwise required to be dedicated. For example, the cash-in-lieu of parkland dedication can be used when the parcel for parkland offered by the developer is too small to develop recreational facilities of any significance on the site.

The Town's *Official Plan* identifies that the following conditions apply in relation to the acquisition of parkland:

- a) For residential development, the conveyance of up to 5% of the land area proposed for development;
- b) For commercial and industrial development, the conveyance of up to 2% of the land area proposed for development; and
- c) For residential development, the Town may also pass by-laws pursuant to Section 42 of the *Planning Act* to require that land be conveyed to the municipality for park or other public recreational purposes at a rate of one hectare for each 300 dwelling units proposed.

Lands identified as being suitable for use as municipal parkland are those which are adjacent to established parks, school yards or stormwater

management areas; within easy walking distance to residential areas being served; located near multiple residential development; and not susceptible to major flooding, poor drainage or other environmental conditions which would interfere with their use for public recreation.

Alternative Acquisition Strategies

As identified above, the Town is estimated to need to acquire an additional 18.8 hectares of parkland, through other, non-dedication means, over the next 10 years based on the estimated population growth. This could be done by employing a variety of strategies, including, but not limited to:

- Land purchase, lease, exchange or easements;
- Reclassification of surplus municipally owned lands to parkland; and/or
- Partnerships to provide parkland through community partners.

Additionally, accepting undevelopable natural open space areas (e.g. hazard lands, EPAs,) through the development process to provide enhanced opportunities for conservation and compatible public access and linkages to parks, trails and open spaces. This land is not to be accepted as part of the parkland dedication requirements (i.e. no credit is to be applied).

Implications

The opportunity exists to develop guidelines for parkland acquisition (e.g. prioritizing larger, more centralized parcels potentially through the assembly of land) and when to accept cash-in-lieu of parkland (traditional/alternative rate). This includes use of the Alternative Parkland dedication rate to ensure that future acquired lands are of sufficient scale to accommodate active park use in keeping with planned growth in the community. This can be done through the development of a Parkland Dedication Policy and enacting By-Law.

A focus on cash-in-lieu (CIL) should be identified as the preferred method of parkland dedication for new developments as per the requirements of the *Planning Act*. This will enable the Town to pool resources in order to acquire larger park parcels that can be used for a variety of active and passive recreational uses. The Town's Official Plan should be updated to reflect the parkland goals, as per this Plan, as a basis for development approval policy.

Recommendations: Parkland Acquisition & Dedication

27. Develop a Parkland Dedication and Cash-in-Lieu of Parkland Dedication By-law to guide the future acquisition of new parkland, as well as the design and development of existing park facilities. This By-law should fully outline the circumstances where conveyance of land will not be accepted and where cash-in-lieu of parkland will be considered, including but not limited to:

- Where land is insufficient in size or configuration (e.g. no opportunity for land assembly to create new parks);

- Where there is no land that is either usable or functional on the site for parkland or recreational purposes; and/or
- Where the area being developed or redeveloped is already well served by parkland.

28. Maximize the supply of available parkland by utilizing a variety of acquisition strategies. This may include parkland dedication by development, donation of land, accessing grants, land trusts, conservation easements, land exchange, partnership agreements and/or direct purchase.

29. Pursue the acquisition of natural areas, particularly land adjacent to the West Credit River, through the development process and other means of securement to provide opportunities for enhanced conservation, compatible public access and linkages to parks, trails, open spaces and water.

30. Update the Town's *Official Plan* to include policies that make clear the intentions of the Town with respect to achievement of all parkland-related service levels as a basis for the development approval process. This update should include the Parkland Classification System and may be done at the time of the next comprehensive review or through an amendment to the Official Plan.

6.3 Parkland Development & Design

The design and development of parks is primarily led by the Town. Certain park projects and specific facility development may also involve developer and/or community volunteer contributions to fundraising and resourcing for design and construction of specific park projects. Section 3.4 of this report summarizes the key trends and practices that may influence the design and development of parks in the future, related to accessibility standards, sustainability, operational considerations, flexible and multi-use spaces, landscape treatments and the use of native plantings, and other amenity trends on a national and international scale. Through implementation, these trends can serve to enhance the overall user experience and contribute to resident's quality of life.

Implications & Key Directions

Inclusion and Accessibility

Ease of access to, and inclusivity within, parks, open space and trails encourages use by a broad range of users. Designing a linked and easily navigable network of parks and trails, incorporating a variety of amenities and barrier-free designs, designing for active and passive uses as well as structured and unstructured play, and providing the appropriate parking facilities (vehicular, bicycle or otherwise) are important considerations for the Town going forward. As parks are (re)developed, all park, trail and open space amenities must be designed to AODA standards.

Operations and Maintenance

Investments in the development and renewal of parks (and trails) must be matched with corresponding parks operations and service delivery resource requirements. Ongoing parks management needs to continue to change and grow with the expansion and diversification of parks and facilities related to staffing and resourcing, operations and administration of park policies, by-laws, bookings, budgets and other aspects. To create long-term sustainability, there is a need for increased emphasis on opportunities for operational savings and efficiencies in new capital projects and allocation of sufficient operational resources to address ongoing maintenance as well as lifecycle needs. The existing complement of Recreation staff currently perform these responsibilities, in addition to operating and maintaining indoor facilities.

Community Engagement

It is now common practice to engage the community through the park design and development process. For example, the City of Kingston employs a web-based engagement tool to garner feedback related to individual playground development / enhancement that are taking place across the City. The Town of Erin should explore ways in which the community can be engaged as it relates to park (re)development.

Recommendations: Parkland Development & Design

31. Ensure that new parks are designed with the user's comfort, safety and accessibility in mind, through use of CPTED (or similar) principles as well as adhering to AODA Design Standards.
32. When designing new parks, the Town should consider the potential operational impacts and assess the future resource implications of each aspect / amenity.
33. Encourage and facilitate the community's participation in park design, development and renewal projects by obtaining public input during the planning and design process, fostering partnerships and joint ventures in park development/renewal, and promoting awareness of park projects and initiatives through effective public communications.

6.4 Erin's Trail Network

Supply

There are approximately 25 kilometres of trails within Erin. The Town currently owns and maintains three trails, located in the Villages of Erin and Hillsburgh.

These include:

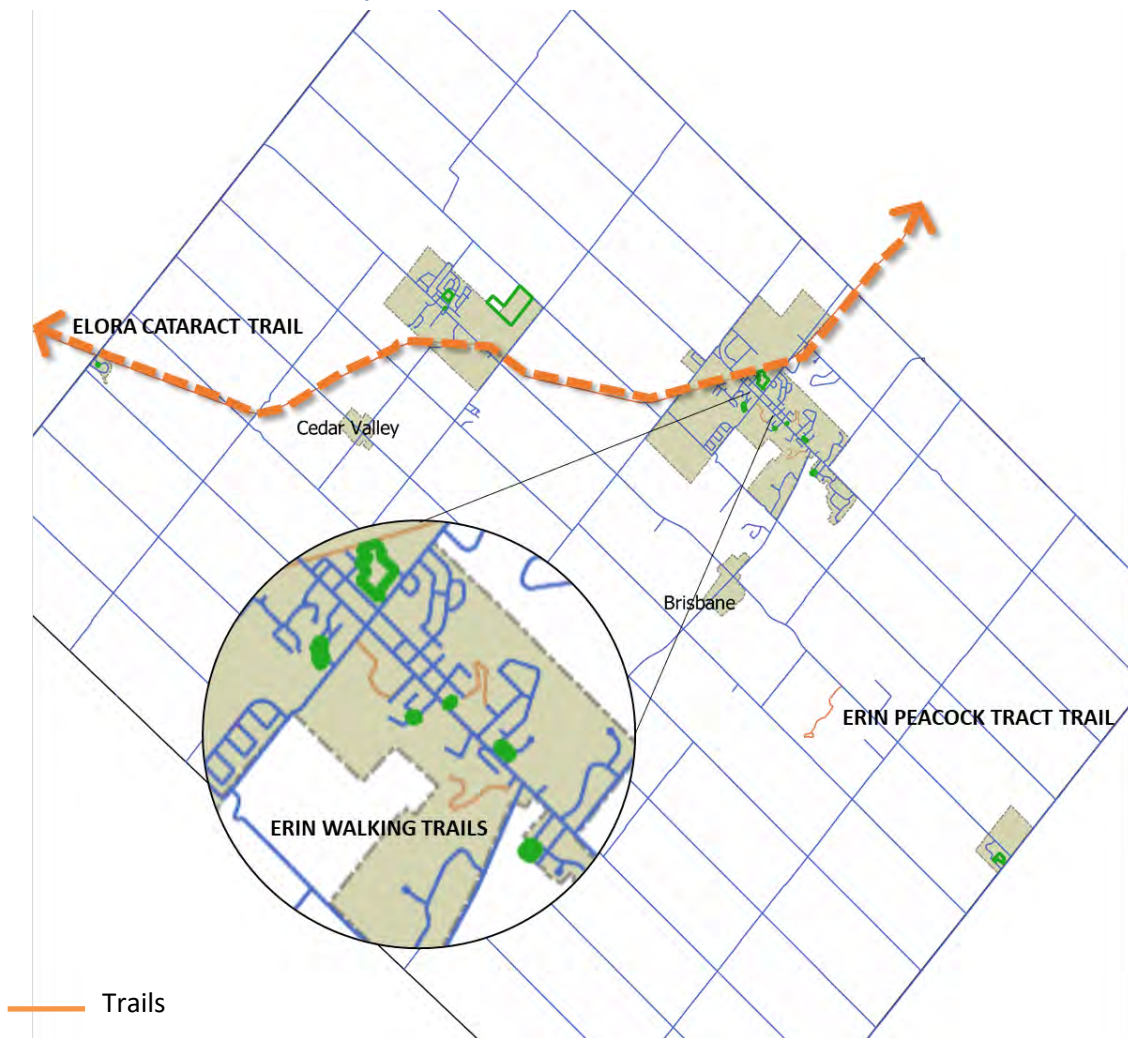
- Erin River Trail;
- Downtown Erin Heritage Walking Trail; and
- Hillsburgh Historical Trail.

Supplementing the Town-owned trails, there are a variety of additional regional trails, trails within conservation lands, and others, including:

Locale	Trail Name
Regional	Elora Cataract Trail (Trans Canada Trail)
Erin	Water Tower Trail
Erin	Rotary Trail
Erin	Woolen Mills Conservation Area & Trail (CVC)
Rural	Erin Peacock Tract (2 km)

Source: Sierra Planning and Management

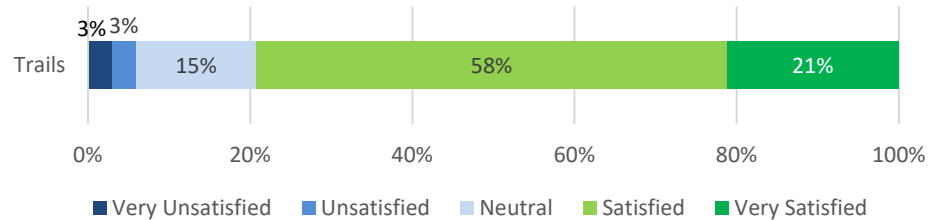
Exhibit 24: Trail Network in the Town of Erin



What We Heard

Public meeting attendees noted the trails within Erin as something to be celebrated, in particular the presence of the Elora Cataract Trail, as well as the overall beauty and accessibility of trails.

Overall, respondents to the Residents Survey were satisfied with trails, with nearly 80% (n=269) identifying they are 'satisfied' or very satisfied'.



Specific suggestions received through engagement activities, as it relates to trails, include:

- More nature trails in general;
- Interpretive signage along trails and in parks;
- More cycling trails in various locations within the Town boundaries (on-road and off-road opportunities);
- Side trails that lead into the Elora Cataract Trail;
- Boardwalk along the Town's water amenities (in Erin or by the Hillsburgh Library); and
- Walking loop outside of Victoria Park with paved parking for all season access.

Implications & Key Directions

With walking for leisure or exercise being the top activity that survey respondents participated in within the past year (by 55% of respondents), trails and active transportation routes are an important consideration as part of the overall parks and recreation network within Erin.

The Town should work with local trail groups to identify additional recreational trail development opportunities within the context of investment in potential new facility locations which would benefit from trails and other active transportation access which may not have been otherwise contemplated. Potential opportunities for key connections that should be explored include linking the Elora Cataract Trail with the Erin Village Walking Trails (via signed on-road cycling facilities along Dundas Street and/or Main Street or off-road connections) to link Erin Village into the broader trail network.

Additionally, subdivision planning is an opportunity to create connectedness within and beyond neighbourhoods. Requiring key connections as a condition of the development process should be set out through Official Plan policies.

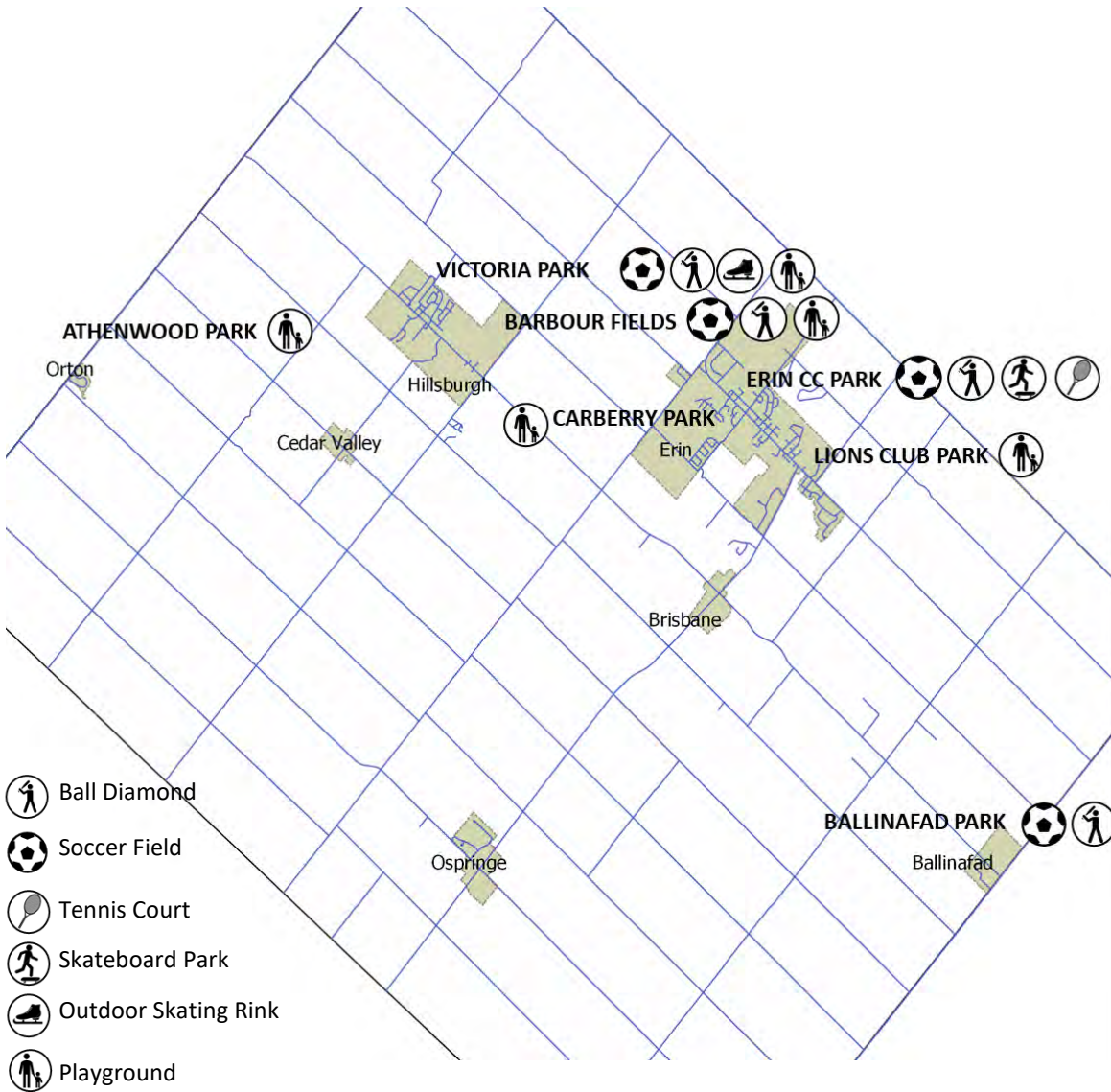
Recommendations: Trail Network

34. Work with local stakeholders, trail groups and the community to establish and identify required improvements and barrier-free access opportunities, as well as to determine important future connections within the local / broader trail network as well as additional locations for trail-related amenity development (e.g. bicycle racks, bike repair stations, parking, signage, portable washrooms, etc.).
35. Develop policies in the Town's Official Plan to:
 - a) Require the dedication of land for pedestrian and bicycle pathways as a condition of the subdivision of land, as provided for under the Planning Act (s. 51(25)(b)); and
 - b) Require the identification and provision of walkways and other means of pedestrian access, accessibility supports as well as bicycle parking facilities and other sustainable design elements on municipal streets, as may be required for site plan approvals and developments in accordance with the Planning Act (s. 41(4) #2(e), s. 41(7)(a)(4)).

7 Outdoor Facilities

The indoor recreation facilities in Erin are complemented by an inventory of outdoor assets, providing residents with the opportunity to engage in a wide range of both active and passive recreation and leisure pursuits.

Exhibit 25: Municipal Outdoor Facilities Map



The following table summarizes the consulting team’s review and inventory of outdoor recreational facilities in the Town of Erin based on ownership and type of facility.

Outdoor Facility Inventory			
Facility by Type	Facility Ownership		Total
	Town	School Board	
Ball Diamonds	5		5
Soccer Pitches / Multi-Use Fields	9	1	10
Tennis Courts	5		5
Playgrounds	6	1	7
Skateboard Parks	1		1
Outdoor Rinks	2		2

Detailed inventory sheets of all facilities are provided in Appendix 2.

7.1 Ball Diamonds

Supply

There are currently 5 ball diamonds in the Town’s inventory. This includes ball diamonds at the following locations:

Facility Name	Field		Total	Field Equivalency
	Lit	Unlit		
Barbour Field Diamonds	1	1	2	2.5
Erin CC Diamond	1		1	1.5
Victoria Park Diamond	1		1	1.5
Ballinafad Ball Diamond		1	1	1.0
Total	3	2	5	6.5

The ball diamond inventory, summarized above, considers field equivalencies, where 1 lit field equals 1.5 unlit fields, as lighting enables extended playing time in the evening. The ‘effective’ supply of ball diamonds is therefore 6.5 unlit fields.

Additionally, there is one batting cage located at Victoria Park in Hillsburgh.

Service Level With 6.5 ball diamonds in the existing supply, the Town is providing one diamond per 1,760 residents. Based on benchmarking done in municipalities similar in context to Erin, the current provision of ball diamonds is higher than what other communities are typically providing.

Municipality	Population	Ball Diamonds	Provision Level	
Canmore (2019)	13,992	3	1 :	4,664
Minto (2019)	8,671	5	1 :	1,734
Mississippi Mills (2019)	13,163	4	1 :	3,291
Scugog (2018)	21,617	12	1 :	1,801
Uxbridge (2018)	21,176	10	1 :	2,118
Whitchurch-Stouffville (2018)	45,837	9	1 :	5,093
Average	20,743	7.2	1 :	3,117
Erin	11,439	6.5	1 :	1,760

Participation Trends Over the past 5 years, baseball in Ontario has experienced an 18% increase in youth registrants (or 1,780 players). Registration in local baseball leagues typically fluctuates in conjunction with the popularity or overall success of the local sports teams (e.g. Toronto Blue Jays making the play-offs in 2015).

Based on feedback received to date from the ball diamond user groups, the membership base has decreased over the past five years.

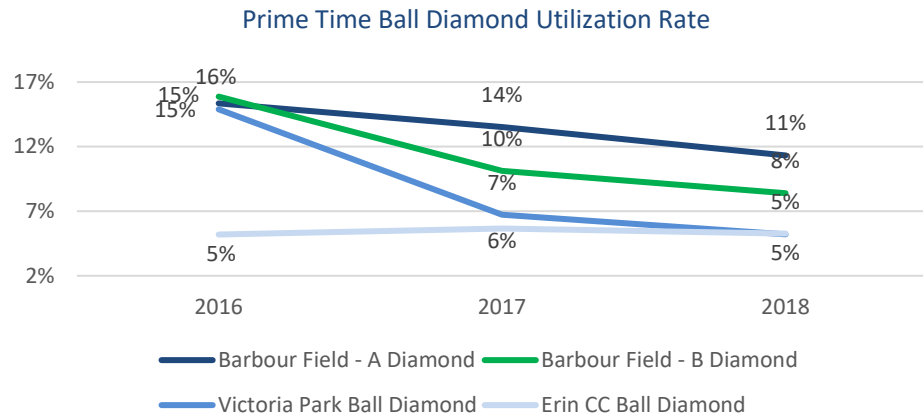
Utilization Ball diamond utilization has been calculated based on available prime time hours between May and October (22 weeks). For the purposes of this assignment, assumptions related to the prime time (PT) hours are provided as follows:

Facility Type	Weekdays (Monday to Friday)	Weekends (Saturday & Sunday)	Total Avail. PT Hours (per season)
Lit Diamond	5:00pm - 11:00pm	9:00am - 11:00pm	1290
Unlit Diamond	5:00pm - 9:00pm	9:00pm - 9:00pm	989

Utilization data for each of the ball diamonds in Erin is based on 2016, 2017 and 2018 booking data provided by the Town. Overall, ball diamond usage has decreased since 2016. This corresponds with participation rates and membership trends, as reported.

While the ball diamond at the Erin Community Centre has the lowest utilization rate of the diamonds, it has remained stable over the past 3 years. Booking information for the Ballinafad ball diamond is not available from the Town as it

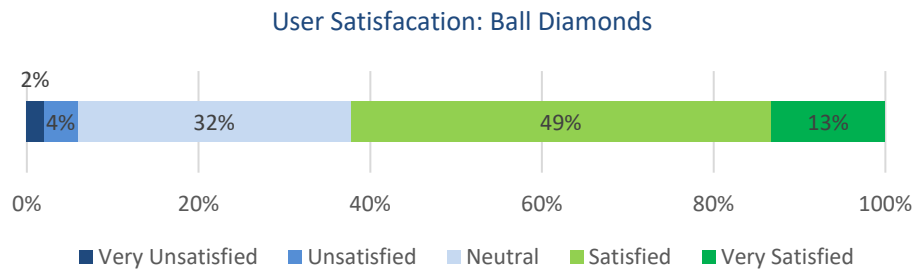
was previously booked directly through the community group who oversaw its operation.



Source: SPM based on booking data provided by the Town of Erin (2016-2018)

What We Heard

In general, users were satisfied with the ball diamonds in Erin – over 60% of respondents (n=151) indicated they were ‘satisfied’ or ‘very satisfied’.



Through discussions, user groups indicate that they experience the following issues with the ball diamonds:

Facility	Issues Identified
Erin CC Ball Diamond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field dimensions are not appropriate for adult play (too small);
Victoria Park Ball Diamond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved dugouts; Need for storage to house equipment on-site;
Barbour Field – A & B Diamonds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drainage issues; B diamond needs lighting;
Ballinafad Ball Diamond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues. Users are very satisfied with the facility.

Projected Demand

A participation-based, or market specific, provision target is often preferred when assessing the capacity for ball diamonds, however sufficient data was not received from stakeholder groups through the Master Planning process and

therefore, membership numbers are not accurate enough to be used to determine future needs. Therefore, a target of one ball diamond per 3,000 population is deemed to be appropriate with consideration for local conditions in combination with other external variables.

Based on the current 'effective' supply of 6.5 ball diamonds and a recommended target population standard of 1 diamond per 3,000 residents, Erin has a surplus of 0.8 diamonds at present. When forecasted population growth is accounted for, the surplus will be reduced to a surplus of 1.8 diamonds by the end of the planning period (2029), and 0.2 diamonds by 2041.

Diamond Provision	2016	2019	2024	2029	2041
Town Wide Population	11,439	12,027	13,076	14,216	18,905
Target Standard	1 : 3,000 population				
Town-wide Needs	3.8	4.0	4.4	4.7	6.3
Existing Supply	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
Surplus (Deficit)	2.7	2.5	2.1	1.8	0.2

Implications & Key Directions

Based on population standards, utilization rates and what we heard from the community, there is no need for additional ball diamonds or capacity improvements to existing fields (e.g. additional lighting), over the planning period. The Town should continue to maintain the ball diamonds in good condition for continued use by the community.

Consideration of participation numbers is also important. The Town should seek to gain an understanding of the number of actual participants using the ball diamonds on an annual basis through the gathering of membership data from the stakeholder groups. This could be done through the introduction of an annual diamond allocation meeting hosted by the Town.

Recommendations: Ball Diamonds

36. Continue to maintain the Town's existing ball diamonds in good condition for continued use by the community. General improvements should be undertaken as per the Asset Management Plan and maintenance should be performed on a regular basis to ensure the diamonds are suitable for use.
37. Consult with baseball, softball and other stakeholder groups, through the development of an annual Recreation Forum (as per Recommendation 59), to gather feedback regarding actual registration numbers and ages, facility quality and performance, maintenance issues and projected usage. This would enable the Town to monitor and assess sports field utilization and capacity on an on-going and periodic basis, as a key input to facilities planning and points of investment.

7.2 Soccer Pitches / Multi-Use Sports Fields

Supply

The Town currently has 9 soccer pitches / multi-use fields within its inventory, all of which are natural turf fields. The field inventory is summarized below and considers field equivalencies, where 1 lit senior field equals 1.5 unlit senior fields, 1 junior field equals 0.75 unlit senior fields, and 1 mini field equals 0.5 unlit senior fields.

Facility Name	Field Size				Total	Field Equivalency
	Senior (11v11)		Junior (9v9)	Mini (7v7)		
	Lit	Unlit	Unlit	Unlit		
Barbour Field	1	2	2	2	7	6
Erin CC Field		1			1	1
Victoria Park Field		1			1	1
Total	1	4	2	2	9	8

Once field equivalents have been considered, the 'effective' supply of soccer / multi-use fields is 8 unlit senior natural turf fields.

Service Level

Based on the 'effective' supply of 8 unlit senior fields, the Town is currently supplying 1 unlit senior field per 1,430 residents. Based on benchmarking undertaken as part of this assignment, the current provision of soccer fields is comparable (better in many cases) to what other communities are currently providing.

Municipality	Population	Soccer Fields	Provision Level	
Canmore (2019)	13,992	6	1 :	2,332
Minto (2019)	8,671	5	1 :	1,734
Mississippi Mills (2019)	13,163	5	1 :	2,633
Scugog (2018)	21,617	16	1 :	1,351
Uxbridge (2018)	21,176	22	1 :	963
Whitchurch-Stouffville (2018)	45,837	8	1 :	5,730
Average	23,157	10.3	1 :	2,457
Erin	11,439	8	1 :	1,430

Participation Trends

According to the 2010 General Social Survey, soccer was the second highest ranking sport to draw between 500,000 and 1 million participants annually (hockey was first). In addition, soccer was among the top 3 most practiced

sports among children ages 5 to 14 with 42% of Canadians participating in the sport¹¹.

However, over the past four years, Canada Soccer has recorded an overall decline in the number of youth registrations within Ontario, which experienced a decline of 9% or 25,313 youth registrations, as well as nation-wide with a 6% (or 42,788) decrease youth registrations.

This is in line with the trend seen in Erin, with the local soccer group reporting an overall decline in participation over the past 5 years. Decreasing youth population and increasing membership costs – affected by rental rates - were cited as likely reasons).

Utilization

Soccer field utilization has been calculated based on available prime time hours between May and October (22 weeks). For the purposes of this assignment, assumptions related to the prime time (PT) hours are provided as follows:

Facility Type	Weekdays (Monday to Friday)	Weekends (Saturday and Sunday)	Total Avail. PT Hours (per season)
Lit Field	5:00pm - 11:00pm	9:00am - 11:00pm	1290
Unlit Field	5:00pm - 9:00pm	9:00pm - 9:00pm	989

Prime-time utilization data for each of the soccer fields in Erin is based on the 2016, 2017 and 2018 booking data provided by the Town of Erin. This information indicates that while the fields at Barbour Field are well used by the community, usage has declined over the past 3 years. The fields at Erin Community Centre and Victoria Park are rarely used by the community in any formal capacity (booked / rented).

Facility	Utilization Rate (% booked)		
	2016	2017	2018
Barbour Field 1	29%	17%	18%
Barbour Field 2 E	23%	13%	10%
Barbour Field 2 W	17%	15%	8%
Barbour Field 3 E	18%	17%	9%
Barbour Field 3 W	14%	19%	12%
Barbour Field 4	33%	19%	23%
Barbour Field 5	23%	28%	16%
Erin CC Field	1%	2%	0%
Victoria Park Field	3%	1%	0%

Source: Sierra Planning and Management based on booking data provided by the Town of Erin.

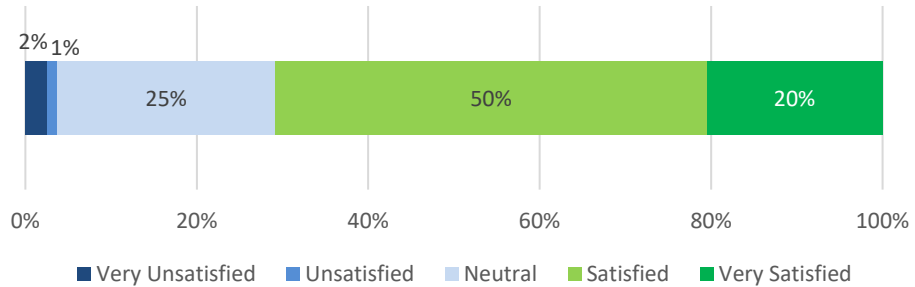
¹¹ 2010 Sports Participation, Canada Heritage, 2013.

Discussions with local user groups indicated that Barbour Field is heavily used during the week (Monday to Thursday) and sit vacant for many weekends. The potential exists to attract tournaments to utilize this multi-field complex on weekends.

What We Heard

70% of users of the soccer fields are satisfied with the facilities. User groups indicated that they are generally happy with Barbour Field, although there are some areas related to maintenance (e.g. grass cutting, weeding of fields, etc.) that could be improved.

User Satisfaction: Soccer Fields



Projected Demand

Due to incomplete participation data and an inadequate response from soccer groups, a market-driven level of provision is not employable at this time and a population-based target is used for assessing future demand. A provision target of one soccer field per 2,000 population is recommended for Erin.

Based on the current ‘effective’ supply of 8 soccer fields and a population standard of 1 field per 2,000 residents, Erin has a surplus of 2.3 fields. When forecasted population growth is accounted for, the surplus will be reduced to 0.9 fields by the end of the planning period. Over the long-term, a deficit of 1.5 soccer fields is projected by 2041.

Field Provision	2016	2019	2024	2029	2041
Town Wide Population	11,439	12,027	13,076	14,216	18,905
Target Standard	1 : 2,000 population				
Town-wide Needs	5.7	6.0	6.5	7.1	9.5
Existing Supply	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Surplus (Deficit)	2.3	2.0	1.5	0.9	(1.5)

Once the Town is able to consistently collect participation data from field users a provision target of one field per 90 registered users should be applied as the measure of soccer field needs and to assess against the population standard.

**Implications
& Key
Directions**

Based on a population standard approach and utilization rates, no new soccer fields are required to 2029. Once a complete understanding of participation numbers has been obtained by the Town, the projected demand can be completed on a participation basis.

As and when new sports fields are determined to be required over the long-term, consideration should be had for multi-field locations to enable improved tournament play. As the proposed multi-use recreation facility is developed at Barbour Field, a site planning exercise, to not only maintain the existing sports fields (e.g. soccer fields and ball diamonds) but also secure land for future sports fields, will be an important step in the design process.

The opportunity exists to bolster partnerships with local user groups to improve the maintenance standards of the soccer fields, attract tournament play and facilitate sport tourism opportunities, as appropriate, at the Barbour Field facility.

Recommendations: Soccer Pitches / Multi-Use Sports Fields

38. Continue to maintain the Town's existing soccer fields in good condition for continued use by the community. General improvements should be undertaken as per the Asset Management Plan and maintenance should be performed on a regular basis to ensure the fields are suitable for use.
39. The Town should require that soccer and other field user groups provide registration numbers on an annual basis. The collection of this data will enable the Town to monitor and assess sports field utilization and capacity more accurately on an on-going and periodic basis over the longer-term.
40. Work to enhance partnerships with local soccer and other field user groups to improve the maintenance standards of the fields, attract tournaments and facilitate sport tourism opportunities at Barbour Field.

7.3 Tennis Courts

Supply

There are 5 tennis courts within Erin, located at Centre 2000. While owned by the Town, these courts are maintained and operated through an agreement with the Erin Tennis Club.

Service Level With one tennis court per 2,288 residents, Erin is providing a higher standard of provision than comparable municipalities, which typically provide one tennis court per 3,500 to 4,500 residents.

Municipality	Population	Tennis Courts	Provision Level	
Canmore (2019)	13,992	4	1 :	3,498
Minto (2019)	8,671	2	1 :	4,336
Mississippi Mills (2019)	13,163	3	1 :	4,388
Scugog (2018)	21,617	6	1 :	3,603
Uxbridge (2018)	21,176	5	1 :	4,235
Whitchurch-Stouffville (2018)	45,837	12	1 :	3,820
Average	23,157	5.3	1 :	3,980
Erin	11,439	5	1 :	2,288

Participation Trends

Tennis

Results from a national research study commissioned by Tennis Canada indicates that 6.5 million Canadians played tennis at least once in 2014, a 32% increase in compared to 2012. Overall popularity of tennis is also increasing with 51% of Canadians indicating that they are either 'somewhat' or 'very interested' in the sport, compared to 38% in 2012¹². The study also indicates that participation among children ages 6 to 11 years has increased, and that most new interest in the sport is from this younger demographic.

With 260 members in 2018, the Erin Tennis Club membership has remained steady around 250 members over the past five years. Recent increases in junior memberships are attributed to moving the marketing strategy towards social media and away from more traditional methods.

Pickleball

Pickleball is widely recognized as one of the fastest growing sport in North America. There are an estimated 60,000 pickleball players in Canada having grown from 6,000 players in 2011¹³. Within Canada, the highest number of players and courts are found in British Columbia and Ontario. Pickleball Canada has experienced a significant increase in membership since 2009 with 247 members, to present with 10,375 members. Based on 2018 data from Pickleball Canada, British Columbia, Alberta and Quebec are gaining the most members¹⁴.

¹² Tennis Canada. News Release, September 7, 2014. Tennis in Canada Continues Remarkable Growth in Participation and Popularity, Recent Study Shows. Retrieved from <http://tenniscanada.com>

¹³ Pickleball Canada Newsletter, Pickleball Canada, April 2018.

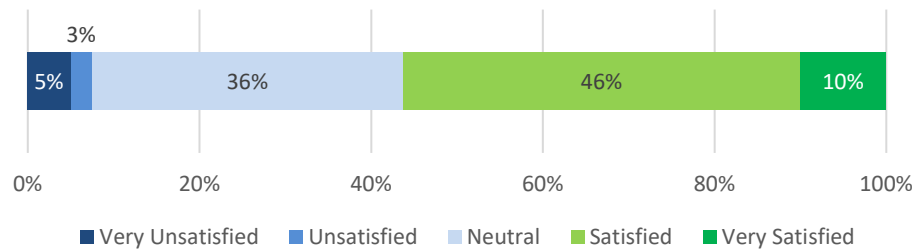
¹⁴ Ibid.

There is currently no pickleball club in Erin, however, with a growing older adult population, it is likely only a matter of time before it gains popularity locally.

What We Heard

Tennis court users indicated that they are generally satisfied with the facilities in Erin. Representatives from the Erin Tennis Club echo this sentiment - they are very satisfied with the facilities.

User Satisfaction: Tennis Courts



Condition

The tennis courts were built in 2001, resurfaced in 2015 and are considered to be in fair condition.

Projected Demand

A provision standard of one tennis court per 3,000 residents is deemed to be appropriate for Erin, based on its population and provision levels in other communities of similar character.

Based on the current supply of 5 tennis courts and a population standard of 1 court per 3,000 residents, Erin has a surplus of 1.2 courts. When forecasted population growth is accounted for, the surplus will be reduced to 0.3 courts by the end of the planning period.

Tennis Court Provision	2016	2019	2024	2029	2041
Town Wide Population	11,439	12,027	13,076	14,216	18,905
Target Standard	1 : 3,000 population				
Town-wide Needs	3.8	4.0	4.4	4.7	6.3
Existing Supply	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Surplus (Deficit)	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.3	(1.3)

Implications & Key Directions

It will be important to continue to work closely with the Erin Tennis Club for the management and operation of the tennis courts over the Plan period.

Based on the above analysis, there is no immediate need for additional tennis courts in Erin over the planning period. Tracking the demand for courts as well as Club memberships over the next ten years will be critical - if memberships at the Tennis Club or local interest in outdoor pickleball increase significantly, additional courts may be warranted over the next 10 years.

Recommendations: Tennis Courts

41. Continue to partner with the Erin Tennis Club for the operation and management of the tennis courts at the Erin Community Centre. The Town should continue to monitor the demand for tennis and pickleball, as well as Club membership (through annual reporting by the Club) in order to determine future needs.
42. In the longer-term, multi-use opportunities may arise and the need for a more substantial complex to accommodate multi-use opportunities may be warranted and should be explored by the Town.

7.4 Playgrounds

Supply

There are 6 playgrounds within the municipal supply, located within the following parks:

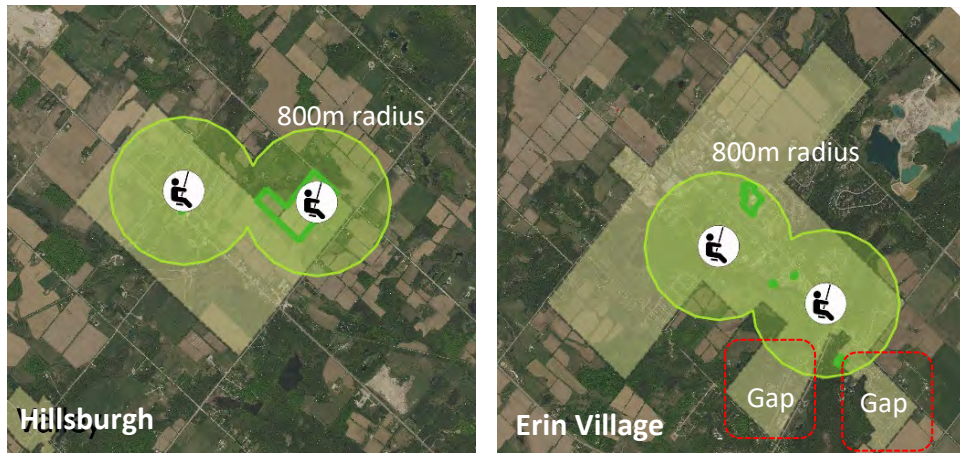
- Athenwood Park, Orton;
- Ballinafad Park, Ballinafad;
- Barbour Field, Hillsburgh;
- Carberry Park, Erin;
- Erin Lions Club Park, Erin; and
- Victoria Park, Hillsburgh.

Additionally, there are playground structures located at the Brisbane Public School and Erin Public School.

Service Level

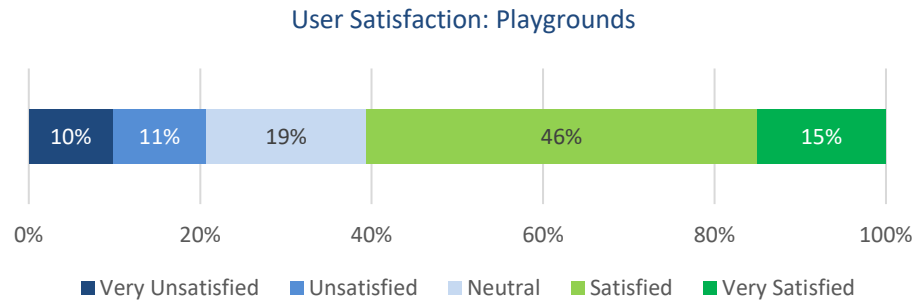
An industry standard for target service levels for playgrounds is typically one playground within 400m to 800 metres (5 to 10-minute walk) of major residential areas without major barriers impeding access.

Hillsburgh’s two playgrounds adequately serve the major residential areas in the village. While Erin Village’s two playgrounds serve the central area. There are two residential pockets in Erin’s southwest where there is a gap in the provision of playgrounds. The north end of Erin is primarily industrial, commercial and employments lands and therefore not in need of playgrounds to serve major areas of residential populations.



What We Heard

Overall, 60% of Resident Survey respondents are satisfied with playgrounds within the Town. Users were complementary to the recent playground upgrades at Victoria Park.



Specific comments heard through engagement activities include:

- Erin Village needs more playground locations;
- Improved surfacing at Barbour Field playground – replace pebbles with wood chips, fibar or other more accessible surface;
- Additional play structures and/ or swing set would be nice at Barbour Field for older children– existing structure is geared towards young children; and
- Some existing playgrounds are in need of upgrades.

Condition The Town has undertaken some recent playground replacements, including those at Ballinafad Park and Barbour Field in 2017, Lions' Club Park and the non-accessible equipment at Victoria Park was replaced in 2015. The playground equipment at Athenwood Park in Orton was installed in 2001.

Implications & Key Directions While the Town is growing older overall, there are young families residing in Erin as well and catering to the needs of this demographic is also important.

There are opportunities to improve the spatial distribution of playgrounds within Erin Village based on an 800 m radius (unimpeded by major obstacles) to address the gap in service identified in the southwest corner. This will need to be determined through community engagement and founded in the demographic composition of the immediate area.

Additionally, further upgrades to existing playgrounds may be necessary (as indicated through engagement) and should be carried out according to the recently updated Asset Management Plan. Consideration for inclusive, accessible and naturalized play elements will also be important going forward.

Recommendations: Playgrounds

43. Adopt a service-level target of 1 playground location accessible within a 400m to 800m walking distance of residential dwellings in new residential development areas, to ensure convenient access for residents and, in particular, households with children.
44. Assess the feasibility of developing one (1) new playground structure in Erin's southwest residential area to address the gap in service.
45. Develop additional playgrounds on newly acquired parkland as part of future Town, Community and Neighbourhood Parks where appropriate, and based on the Parkland Classification System and recommended standards of this Master Plan.
46. Continue to address current standards for safety and accessibility of play structures through on-going renewal / replacement when determined to be in poor condition (based on asset management planning).
47. Review and consider trends and innovations in playground design and development, with a potential for alternatives to traditional playground structures (i.e. naturalized playgrounds, etc.). This may help to reduce maintenance requirements.

7.5 Skateboard Park

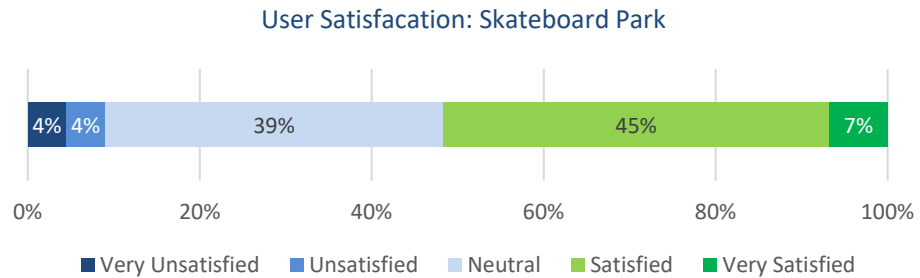
Supply There is one skateboard park within Erin, located at Centre 2000. This is a semi-permanent (mobile) facility with a perimeter fence, built in 2012.

Service Level The provision of skateboard parks is typically assessed on the basis of the youth population (age 10 – 19 years). The Town has chosen to make the investment in

this specialized facility, which is common in small rural municipalities, and is therefore currently providing 1 skateboard park per 1,555 youth. Typically, skateboard parks are provided on a basis of one skateboard park per 5,000 youth (maximum) but can vary greatly depending on a municipality’s geographic reach.

What We Heard

64 survey respondents indicated that they used the skateboard park within the past 12 months. Users are generally satisfied with the skateboard park, although the size (small / limited) was identified as an issue.



Projected Demand

At present the demand for skateboard parks is adequately service by the one at Erin Community Centre. Based on forecasted population growth (keeping the proportionate share of youth constant) the need for a new skatepark will not be realized until well beyond 2041.

Skateboard Park Provision	2016	2019	2024	2029
Town Wide Population	1,155	1,684	1,831	1,990
Target Standard	1 : 5,000 youth			
Town-wide Needs	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4
Existing Supply	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Surplus (Deficit)	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6

Implications & Key Directions

There is no immediate need for additional skatepark facilities within the Town based on service level by population, however municipalities with more than one village, hamlet or community hub will often provide specialized facilities in each of the larger settlement areas.

In order to improve the quality of skateboard facilities in Erin, the opportunity exists to develop a new permanent (poured concrete) skatepark with expanded features as part of the proposed multi-use facility at Barbour Field. Alternative active sports facilities should also be explored such as a pump park.

Recommendations: Skateboard Park

- 48. Continue to maintain the existing skateboard park at the Erin Community Centre in good condition for use by the public over the Plan period.
- 49. Through the feasibility and business planning work, explore the opportunity to develop a new skateboard or pump park facility as part of the new multi-use recreation facility at Barbour Field (co-located with other amenities) in the longer-term. This would improve the equitable distribution of active sports facilities within the Town and enable improved accessibility for those youth living in Hillsburgh’s urban area and beyond into the northern rural areas of the Town.

7.6 Outdoor Rinks

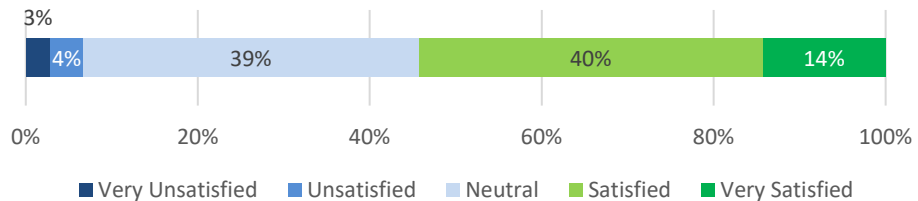
Supply

There are two outdoor ice rinks in the Town of Erin, located in Victoria Park in Hillsburgh and in Orton (shared with the Township of East Garafraxa). While located on Town property, these facilities are maintained and operated by the local Lions Club(s).

What We Heard

Over half of respondents to the Residents Survey were ‘satisfied’ or ‘very satisfied’ with the existing outdoor rinks. Some people would like to see additional outdoor ice rinks be developed.

User Satisfaction: Outdoor Ice Rinks



Suggestions for improvements included providing a seating area to put skates on and that improved ice flooding was required on some days.

Implications

Due to the challenges and costs associated with maintaining outdoor ice rinks, these are considered to be Town-wide facilities. They are best provided by way of opportunity and demand-based rather than a service standard.

The Town’s provision of outdoor rinks is considered to be sufficient. If community groups propose to implement and oversee the maintenance and operation of an additional outdoor ice rink, support for such initiatives will be important. This may include the provision of land within Town parks for the purposes of developing a temporary outdoor ice rink, and/or the supply of water for rink flooding.

Recommendations: Outdoor Rinks

50. Continue to encourage and support local volunteer and community organizations in the development, maintenance and operation of outdoor ice skating rinks. Additional outdoor rinks at Town or Community Parks should only be provided if justified through park master planning and business planning processes.

7.7 Splash Pads

Supply

There are currently no splash pads in the Town of Erin.

Service Level

Splash pads are typically provided on a population basis. An appropriate standard of provision, as observed in similar communities across Ontario, is 1 splash pad per 5,000 children (age 0-9 years). The 2016 Census identified 1,045 children living in Erin.

It is important to note that the standard of provision for splash pads varies broadly across Ontario and are often dependent on scale of facility and/or municipal geography.

What We Heard

The top priority for outdoor investment by respondents to the Residents Survey was for a splash pad. 32% (n=130) of those who feel Erin needs additional and / or new outdoor recreation facilities identified that a splash pad is needed.

Implications & Key Directions

Even though the population of children does not necessitate the need for a splash pad in Erin, it is evidently a priority for residents and the Town has responded by including a budget amount for a splash pad to be implemented in 2022, however its location is undetermined at this time. Potential locations to be considered should include Barbour Field, Victoria Park, Erin Fair Grounds (through a partnership agreement), and/or other locations anchored to new development. The location should be selected based on co-location with other compatible park uses (e.g. playgrounds, sports fields, indoor recreation facilities, etc.) and centralized for maximum accessibility by residents.

The opportunity exists for community involvement, including fundraising initiatives for the design and/or construction of the splash pad. Examples of where this has been successful in other communities includes the Township of Uxbridge, where a local community group, the Bonner Boys, fundraised a large portion of the amount required for developing a splash pad through a variety of events (Rib Fests, Tractor Pulls, Music Festivals, etc.), and the Township of Wilmot where the construction of their splash pad started as a 'grass roots' initiative targeting an array of sponsors and donors.

Recommendations: Splash Pads

51. Continue to plan for the development of a new splash pad of an appropriate scale by initiating a concept plan and costing exercise in the short-term. The analysis should evaluate the benefits, costs and risks of alternative options and provide a rationale for a preferred solution.

7.8 Off-Leash Dog Parks

- Supply** There are currently no off-leash dog parks within the Town of Erin.
- Service Level** There is no comparable level of provision for off-leash dog parks and are typically provided when the appropriate demand within a specific community is present.
- What We Heard** The development of an off-leash dog park was one of the top 5 responses when asked “Do you feel the Town of Erin needs additional and/or new outdoor recreation facilities?” with 13% of respondents (n=130). Potential locations identified by the community included Barbour Field and Victoria Park.
- Implications & Key Directions** An off-leash dog park has been identified recently as a priority for residents and the Town has responded by including a budget amount in 2020 to cover this, however its location is undetermined at this time. The location should be selected based on compatibility with other park / trail uses and the surrounding area, where adequate facilities can be provided including parking, lighting, water source, fencing / enclosure, amenities for both small and large dogs, shaded area, benches, and waste receptacles. Barbour Field, with an adequate supply of land to accommodate the required infrastructure, should be considered as a potential location for a designated off-leash dog park.

Recommendations: Off-Leash Dog Parks

52. Plan for a permanent, designated location for an off-leash dog park to be developed at Barbour Field, or an alternative location, over the short term. Community-based partnership options should be considered.

7.9 Basketball Courts

- Supply** There are currently no municipal basketball facilities within the Town of Erin. There are two basketball nets located at the Erin Public School, however they are sized for children.

Service Level & Projected Demand

These facilities are typically provided based on the youth (10 to 19 years) population at a rate of 1 basketball court per 800 youth. The 2016 Census identified 1,155 youth living in Erin, which translates into a demand for 1.4 courts. This deficit will increase to 2.5 courts by the end of the Plan period (2029) if there is no change in the current supply and the proportion of youth remains stable.

Basketball Court Provision	2016	2019	2024	2029
Town Wide Population	1,155	1,684	1,831	1,990
Target Standard	1 : 800 youth			
Town-wide Needs	1.4	2.1	2.3	2.5
Existing Supply	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Surplus (Deficit)	(1.4)	(2.1)	(2.3)	(2.5)

What We Heard

A number of respondents to the Residents Survey indicated the need for a basketball court, or at least a practice pad (half court and net).

Respondents to the Student Survey indicated that they would like to see basketball programs offered by the Town, and therefore the required facilities would need to be in place – whether indoor or outdoor.

Implications & Key Directions

Based on population standards and community engagement, there is a need for basketball courts / facilities in Erin. Ideally, basketball courts should be co-located with other active and youth-oriented amenities such as skateboard parks, and soccer fields, to the fullest extent possible.

Potential locations that should be explored include Erin Community Centre (potential for collaboration with the school) and/or Barbour Field, as part of a new multi-use recreation complex development. Larger parcels of parkland developed as part of any future residential development should also be considered for the provision of basketball courts.

Recommendations: Basketball Courts

53. Develop two (2) new full-size basketball court (or equivalent half court configurations) over the Plan period. The Town should consider providing basketball courts in a multi-use court format in order to increase their future utility as pickleball courts, ball hockey venues, etc. Underutilized park space and/or parking areas on municipal property should be explored as potential locations.

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8 Level of Service for Recreation

8.1 Current Model of Service Delivery

The Town of Erin, through its Parks and Recreation team, plays a role in the direct delivery of drop-in programming within the Community Centres and is also responsible for the maintenance and management of outdoor recreation assets such as playgrounds, parks, trails and sports fields.

At present, the Town supports a Community Development Model of recreation provision, balancing its operations with the facilitation of programs and services led by other organizations/non-profits within municipal facilities. The Town is the key provider of publicly accessible recreational facilities.

More specifically, Parks and Recreation staff are responsible for a variety of administrative, operational and maintenance activities related to both indoor and outdoor facilities and amenities. This includes but is not limited to ice / hall / facility rentals and bookings, field / diamond rentals and bookings, arena operation and program staffing, maintenance of playground equipment, general landscape maintenance (e.g. grass cutting, tree pruning, trail maintenance, special event support, among other activities).

The delivery of services in the Town is also supported by various committees and advisory boards at the local community, Town and County levels. There are also several agencies who are key stakeholders, particularly in terms of environmental matters.

Advisory Committees	Relevant Agencies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment & Sustainability Advisory Committee • Heritage Committee • Trails Advisory Committee • Erin Rotary River Trail Committee • Economic Development Committee • Property Standards Committee • Let's Get Hillsburgh Growing Committee • Wellington County Joint Compliance Audit Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit Valley Conservation Authority • Grand River Conservation Authority • Upper Grand District Schoolboard • Erin Village Business Improvement Association (BIA) • Six Nations of the Grand River Territory • Ontario Clean Water Agency

8.2 The Need for Effective Partnerships

Municipal Partners

At present, the Town partners with other municipal, institutional or social service organizations to provide additional services to residents. These include:

- **Planning and Development Services:** In general, planning is handled by the County of Wellington in an administrative capacity, including the receipt of planning applications and approvals, including Zoning and Official Plan Amendments; Severances and Lot Line Adjustment. The County is also the lead on planning policy development.
- **Libraries:** There are currently two branches of the County of Wellington Library within the Town: one at Centre 2000 in Erin Village, and one in downtown Hillsburgh – this is a newly constructed facility (2018) to replace an older facility.
- **Water:** The Town owns two ground water supply systems: for Erin and for Hillsburgh. In fall 2018, Town began outsourcing its water operations to the Ontario Clean Water Agency.
- **Upper Grand District School Board:** The relationship between the Upper Grand District School Board and the Town is two-fold: at Board level the Planning Department reviews and responds to municipal planning and development applications, zoning bylaws, and other land-use matters on lands adjacent or belonging to the Board. There is also a Management Committee that governs all operating costs and maintenance issues at the Erin Community Centre. The Erin District High School and Town co-own Centre 2000 with some areas exclusive to the Town (e.g. arena) and others (e.g. instructional areas) exclusive to the Board. Shared facilities include the theatre, community room(s), and outdoor recreation spaces which are shared but owned by the Town. The Upper Grand District School Board indicated that they are open to conversations with the Town for a stronger partnership.
- **East Wellington Community Services (EWCS):** The EWCS have a use agreement with the Town to run an Adult Day program out of space at the Erin Community Centre. While this space is used during the day for the EWCS program, the space is highly desirable for rent by the public and has revenue potential outside of EWCS usage times.

Community Partners

Additionally, the Town of Erin partners with community-based organizations that utilize space in the Town's facilities to provide recreation programs and services, engaging residents of all ages in a variety of activities. A summary of the community partners / organizations is provided below:

Hockey/Skating

Ice sports in Erin are provided through a variety of leagues and organizations. Examples of hockey and skating partner groups include the Erin Hillsburgh Minor Hockey League, Adult Hockey League, and Figure Skating.

Summer Sports

Summer sports leagues are often provided by community organizations in Erin. These include, but are not limited to, minor ball, minor soccer, ladies' baseball, and men's baseball leagues.

Other Community Partners

The Town of Erin works closely with several other community partners and organizations to provide a variety of programs and special events. Examples of community partners include the Erin and Hillsburgh Lions Clubs, Erin Rotary Club, Erin Garden Club, among others.

There are other local community groups committed to enhancing the quality of life for all Town residents through sound principles of good community development (e.g. Transition Erin, Let's Get Hillsburgh Growing, etc.). For example, Transition Erin's mandate is focused on:

- Using green spaces to separate and connect neighbourhoods, while providing areas of recreation, retreat or preservation.
- Fostering a strong sense of community through new development(s) that offer opportunities for people to meet and socialize through design (i.e. parks, green spaces, courtyards) that includes multiple access to roads, trails and walkways.
- Offering places for surrounding communities to visit (recreation, shop, retreat, enjoy nature, etc).
- Promoting social viability in areas of new development(s) with mixed-uses of public spaces as recreation, arts and culture, play facilities, and community facilities.
- Provide opportunities for social engagement and spontaneous social interaction through accessible public spaces and pedestrian-oriented streets.

What We Heard

Local groups / organizations and the community in general indicated that they would like to see better communication between surrounding municipalities as it relates to collaboration on events and sporting activities, as well as

between the Town, local groups and the private sector in terms of program delivery.

**Implications
& Key
Directions**

Partnerships continue to be important in the provision of recreation, taking a number of forms and include government, non-profit organizations, schools as well as the private sector.

While the provision of recreation and culture services has traditionally relied on municipal governments, many municipalities today are looking outwards for partnerships that can enhance service levels and effectively leverage public funds. Examples include facility naming and sponsorship arrangements, the contracted operation of spaces, or delivery of programs. A familiar and successful example of this is the YMCA, who partner with municipalities in a number of capacities, often unique to each situation, in terms of facility development and operations, service delivery, and/or programming. There are a number of examples across Ontario, including the MacBain Centre in Niagara Falls, Wasaga Beach YMCA, and Clarence-Rockland YMCA.

Additionally, the YMCA has recently introduced an amalgamation initiative to create larger entities that service a broader area and include more rural locales. The initiative considers how to best service the rural residents and those in the smaller centres within the region it serves. In these more rural areas, a stand-alone YMCA facility is often not feasible, however, the provision of partner programming run out of a municipal facility is one of the ways identified gaps are being addressed (e.g. summer camps, fitness classes, etc.).

Recommendations: Service Delivery & Effective Partnerships

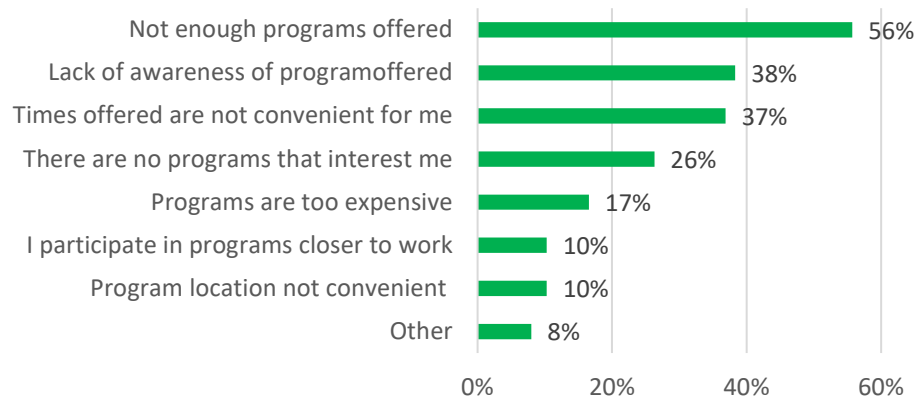
54. Continue to maintain a Community Development Model for the municipal delivery of parks, recreation and culture in the Town of Erin. Under this model, where volunteer and agency groups have historically serviced the recreation programming needs of the local community, the Town supports these initiatives through the provision of access to facilities for activities.
55. Explore partnership opportunities to enhance service levels and leverage public funds (e.g. facility naming / sponsorship, operation of spaces, program delivery, etc.).

8.3 Improving Participation

What We Heard

More than half of survey respondents (n=350) indicated a lack of available recreational programs in Erin or elsewhere as the greatest barrier limiting their participation, while the lack of program awareness (38%) together with inconvenient program times (37%) were identified as additional limitations.

Barriers to Participation in Recreational Programming



Through engagement it became clear that the community would like to see improved promotion, advertising, and awareness of what programs and community services are available within Erin, a ‘one-stop-shop’ of sorts. This could be in the form of a Community Guide, a directory on the Town’s website, or other creative means. This was also identified within the Operational Review of the Parks and Recreation Department previously undertaken – which has resulted in a revitalization of the Department’s webpage (anticipated to launch in 2019). The website will provide information related to community events, public access programs, trails and facility information.

When respondents were asked “Do you believe the Town of Erin has a role to play in delivering user-pay recreation programs to its residents?” including camps, group fitness, 55+ Adult programs, among others, 68% (n=408) said yes. Related to this, respondents indicated the importance of partnerships with local groups / organizations for program delivery and indicated that the Town should only provide the service if it is not provided by others – that is the Town being the provider of the last resort.

Implications & Key Directions

The Town has the potential to develop new partnerships in order to improve the program offer (municipal or otherwise) within Erin. This could be done through provision of rental space from the Town that is required for programs to occur, or other means.

Opportunities to improve marketing and communication methods for the promotion of services exist through the development of a community service

directory on the Town’s website and in print form to provide the community with the necessary information as it relates to available programs, services and businesses within the Town. This could be in the form of a ‘Community Guide’, which, in addition to a service directory, often provides other important municipal information to residents as well (i.e. waste collection calendar, recreational program and facility rental information, planned construction projects, etc.).

Recommendations: Improving Participation

56. Through the redesign of the Parks and Recreation page on the Town’s website, develop a comprehensive ‘Community Guide’ and recreation resource that includes a community calendar of events and provides details on all programs offered (municipal / non-municipal) in Erin including the contact information of organizers for programs that are not directly delivered by the Town. This could be provided on an annual / semi-annual basis in print form as well for distribution to residents.
57. Undertake regular resident surveys to assess resident/user needs and required improvements to the Town’s recreation service delivery model. Progressively address methods to improve the delivery of services over time.

8.4 Municipal Programming and Special Events

8.4.1 Current Program Offer

Offer

At present, the Town directly delivers some programs, limited to drop-in skating and shinny:



In Summer 2019, the Town will be piloting summer camp programs.

What We Heard

Engagement with the community at large resulted in numerous suggestions for an expanded suite of recreational programs offered by the municipality and/ or its partners. This included more programming for youth (including a youth drop-in centre), seniors’ programs, programs for caregivers / children, art classes, and more fitness and sports programs. The need for outdoor programming was also identified.

55% of Student Survey respondents (n=21) rated the Town’s sports and recreation programs as average. The reasons given were the lack of youth sports clubs, limited recreational programs, and few sports fields available in the Town of Erin. Students specifically indicated football, baseball, swimming, and classes in fitness and dance as top priorities. This was followed by basketball, broomball and gymnastics.

**Implications
& Key
Directions**

With a growing population of older adults, the opportunity exists to offer intergenerational programs that encourage participation and interaction from all age groups. This could include recreational as well as cultural pursuits (e.g. painting classes, cooking classes, theatre classes, etc.).

Going forward, it will also be important to focus on providing programming opportunities and spaces (dedicated or non-dedicated) for Erin’s youth.

Opportunities to strengthen programming through municipal partnerships should also be explored – there are likely synergies between the Library or other entities, County or otherwise, that can bolster programming opportunities within Erin.

Recommendations: Programming

58. Expand the suite of non-traditional programs offered/provided by the Town to focus on children, youth, and “new seniors” to enhance the utilization of existing infrastructure (e.g. arts and craft programs at Ballinafad Community Centre, youth drop-in at the Erin Community Centre, lecture series and theatre camps at the Theatre, etc.).
59. Host a collaborative Recreation Forum with local organizations on recreation program delivery (sport groups) as a means to address stakeholder plans to develop and pursue new/additional programs, and to include opportunities for groups and the Town to facilitate this through resource-sharing and facility improvements in keeping with capital planning principles identified within this Plan.
60. Explore ways to strengthen the existing programming and event offer through a variety of new and/or expanded partnerships (e.g. Library, County, sports groups, Conservation Authorities, other agencies).
61. Continue with plans to develop a methodology to track, on an annual basis, program registrations and assess the rate of take-up for individual programs offered by the Town. Continuous tracking will help the Town in decision-making related to the complement of programs that should be offered.

8.4.2 Existing Special Events

Offer At present, the Town supports local organizations and groups in the delivery of various special events, including Canada Day, festive holidays, tree lighting, Santa Claus Parade, Farmer’s Market, among others.

What We Heard 82% of respondents to the Residents Survey believe the Town should play a prominent role in delivering community events to its residents.

A recurring suggestion from the Residents Survey was for new / additional events to include movie nights - both indoor at the Erin Community Theatre and outdoor during summer months. Feedback at the community workshop identified a variety of suggestions related to special events including:

- Develop signature events that highlight Erin’s brand;
- Work with neighbouring municipalities to co-host events (i.e. satellite location in Erin for blues / jazz festivals, art shows, etc.);
- Utilize the Hillsburgh Library and adjacent lands for hosting special events;
- More community involvement / volunteerism required to implement non-municipal special events;
- More events focused on the local arts and culture (i.e. studio tours, etc.); and
- More live performing art events at the Theatre.

Additionally, providing events on a year-round basis was important, in particular social events for youth / seniors, as was increasing the cultural profile of the Town.

Comments received from respondents indicated that strengthening partnerships with, and support for, existing community / service groups who run special events in Town is important going forward, and that the Town’s role should be more geared towards facilitating these groups in the delivery of special events and building a sense of community than directly delivering events.

Implications & Key Directions Improving municipal support for local organizations to host events in Erin will be important going forward. This requires organizing the Town staff involved in planning, delivering and supporting festivals and events to more effectively support a community-led delivery model. Opportunities to develop resources to better enable community organizations in successful event hosting include developing an event planning toolkit / checklist, standard forms and

procedures, and/or special event policy identifying event and hosting requirements.

Key opportunities include developing a signature event for the Town of Erin, such as a St. Patrick's Day celebration (building on Erin's branding), improving support for non-municipal organizations to host all types of special events in Town, and focus on developing special events related to the cultural sector (performing arts, fine arts, etc.) utilizing the Town's existing assets.

Recommendations: Special Events

62. Develop and implement key resources (policies, forms, toolkits, etc.) to support enhanced community capacity for event planning and delivery.
63. Promote the development of cultural events (i.e. performing arts, fine arts, etc.) in Erin by working with local event organizers to evolve the range of events to better include cultural themes. This could include art in the park events, studio tours, weekly summer concert series, indoor and outdoor movie screenings, trail walking and cycling events, among others.
64. Work with the local arts and cultural community to develop, over time, a signature event for the Town. The event should specifically profile local talent, creative spaces and build on Erin's unique heritage and brand.

8.5 Affordable Access & User Fees

Current Situation At present, the Town does not have a formal User Fee Policy in place to guide levels of cost recovery and subsidization. Likewise, there is no policy that outlines the parameters for which community requests for new capital facilities are to be evaluated. This is will be important to ensuring prudent capital and operational planning, especially given limited public dollars available to support needs across various municipal departments and priorities.

These tools reflect best practice in municipal management and have been implemented across a number of Ontario and Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH) communities.

What We Heard One of the recurring themes that came out of the engagement activities was that the price of facility rentals was high when compared to other municipalities, and therefore groups often go elsewhere to practice and play.

Rental Rate Comparison A preliminary scan of rental rates charged in surrounding municipalities was undertaken, resulting in the following comparison:

Municipality	Prime-Time Ice	Meeting Room	Ball Diamond		Rectangular Field	
			Field	Lighting	Field	Lighting
Milton	\$ 225.36	\$ 47.50	\$ 7.65	\$ 19.67	\$ 12.29	\$ 21.02
Caledon	\$ 179.50	\$ 62.36	\$ 17.26	\$ 19.33	\$ 15.53	\$ 24.19
Halton Hills	\$ 241.09	\$ 45.88	\$ 8.97	\$ 38.54	\$ 10.17	\$ 48.96
Orangeville	\$ 258.37	\$ 23.50	\$ 16.94	\$ 14.94	\$ 16.94	\$ 18.54
Guelph	\$ 293.57	\$ 40.15	\$ 24.35	\$ 20.15	\$ 23.22	\$ 24.76
Average	\$ 239.58	\$ 43.88	\$ 15.03	\$ 22.53	\$ 15.63	\$ 27.49
Erin	\$ 230.79	\$ 52.36	\$ 25.72	\$ 29.10	\$ 46.53	\$ 29.10

Notes: 1. Rates quoted are for youth / minor rentals where applicable. 2. Rates are for Grade A ball diamonds and premium fields where applicable. 3. Ball diamonds rates for Erin are for Minor ball practices. 4. Rates include H.S.T. 5. 2019 rates, with the exception of Halton Hills (2018 rates).

Based on the above, it is apparent that while prime time ice rates are within a comparable range with what is being charged in surrounding municipalities, there is a considerable difference in diamond and field rental rates with rectangular field rental rates in Erin being three times the average of the other communities (exclusive of lighting).

Implications & Key Directions

Ensuring fairness and equitable access to recreation and leisure requires the implementation of a comprehensive range of mechanisms that include:

- Policies around how user fees are established;
- A clear delineation of the categories of users that should be subsidized through the rate setting process; and
- A clear policy for municipal involvement in capital projects requested by the community or organized groups (including when it is or is not appropriate for municipal capital dollars to be directed to such projects).

Municipal cost recovery for recreation is estimated at 52% based on the Town's 2018 Operating Budget. The completion of a User Fee Study would address the appropriateness of the current level of cost recovery as well as current rates being charged.

Recommendations: Affordable Access & User Fees

65. Undertake a review of current user fees and pricing schedule as it relates to facility, sports field, and parks rentals. This review should include a detailed assessment of current rates in surrounding municipalities and determine appropriate cost recovery ratios and rates for future programming opportunities. The existing User Fees and Rental Rates By-law should be adjusted accordingly.

9 Implementation Framework

The Master Plan is based on a 10-year planning horizon. Some recommendations are expected to extend well beyond this timeframe – in particular, those involving capital planning, the timing for which can only be estimated based on further assessment of funding sources.

On the other hand, a number of the recommendations regarding programs and services represent actions that once initiated, are expected to remain in place over the full life of this Master Plan and beyond.

This plan is designed to guide Council and municipal decision-makers in addressing priorities for planning and investment in recreation. However, recommendations related to the development of new facilities and repurposing of existing ones require detailed consideration of how these required changes will come about – that means further public consultation, design and concept planning, as well as an assessment of the technical feasibility of repurposing.

Erin’s staff and Council will need to further evaluate and investigate the feasibility of implementing individual recommendations/actions on an annual basis as part of the municipal planning and budgetary process.

9.1 Protocols for Reviewing, Monitoring and Updating the Master Plan

Staff support and partnerships will be critical to successfully implement the recommendations identified within this Master Plan, there also needs to be a commitment by senior management and administrative oversight for effective implementation. Recognizing the long-term scope (10-year period) of this Master Plan, this document and its recommendations should be subject to internal departmental review every two years to determine and re-adjust, as necessary, the timing of recommendations in light of unforeseen shifts in the municipal planning environment.

The monitoring and evaluation process should begin with the development of meaningful and measurable operating and financial metrics in the form of key performance indicators (KPIs). Many of these indicators may be informed by data retrievable from the Town’s future electronic program registration and facility booking system (output measures). Utilization and program registration statistics and trends documented within this Master Plan may also serve as a foundation for a more fulsome set of indicators. Outcome measures such as how programs benefit the community and individuals, resident satisfaction, as well as health and wellness indicators are also important.

Recommendations: Internal Master Plan Review & Monitoring

66. Develop an interdepartmental working group comprising senior management from relevant municipal departments to regularly review (recommended every 2 years) and evaluate the progress of the recommendations included in the Master Plan.

67. Develop a set of key performance indicators (KPIs) for each of the elements within the Master Plan for evaluation purposes. It is recommended that a blended approach (utilizing both output and outcome measures) to performance measurement is employed in keeping with the principles of the Master Plan and the Community Development Model for the delivery of parks and recreation.

9.2 Recommended Phasing Plan

The following identifies approximate timelines for the recommendations contained within this Master Plan. Recommendations related to general maintenance, program, service and policy-based enhancements as well as performance monitoring can be expected to occur on an ongoing basis and/or over time based on municipal capacity and resources, as identified within the following framework.

No.	Recommendations	Timing		
		Years 1-2	Years 3-5	Years 6+
	Community Centres			
1.	Maintain two primary community hubs in Erin located within the population centres of Erin and Hillsburgh Villages, and maintain Ballinafad as a secondary, more rural community hub within the Town.			
2.	Immediately commence planning (Feasibility Study and Business Plan) for a new multi-use recreation facility at Barbour Field in order to establish the size and program, confirm the location, and to initiate a funding strategy. This facility will ultimately replace the ice at the existing Hillsburgh Community Centre.			
3.	In the longer term, invest in a multi-use / multi-sport recreational hub at Barbour Fields in Hillsburgh. Co-location of services and the delivery of supporting amenities which allow for a broad range of programming should be a focus of the design.			
4.	With the development of a new multi-use recreational facility, decommission the existing ice surface (including removal of the ice plant) at Hillsburgh Community Centre and evaluate the feasibility and cost-benefits (Feasibility Study) of repurposing the existing facility for other indoor recreation uses.			

No.	Recommendations	Timing		
		Years 1-2	Years 3-5	Years 6+
5.	Over the short term, work with the East Wellington Community Services (EWCS) to improve the condition of the Wellington Room, review the existing lease agreement, and subsequently improve rental revenues outside of the Adult Day Program (e.g. in evenings or on weekends).			
6.	In the mid-term, review and undertake an assessment of the merit of retaining the Ballinafad Community Centre, given the capital requirements for years 6 to 10 identified in the Building Condition Assessment.			
Indoor Ice Pads				
7.	Maintain the ice at Erin Community Centre over the course of the Plan period for continued use by the community.			
8.	In the short and medium term, invest in essential upgrades and maintenance for the Hillsburgh Arena as warranted for continued community use while plans for a new multi-use recreation facility are prepared.			
9.	Through the feasibility and design process for a centralized multi-use multi-sport recreation centre at Barbour Field (as per Recommendation 2), develop a new twin-pad facility with full-size ice pads to replace the ice at the Hillsburgh Arena. The facility should be designed to function with one ice pad initially, with the second pad being used for dry land uses until required.			
10.	In the long-term, continue to monitor the demand for ice on an annual basis to determine when a third ice pad will be required.			
Community Halls				
11.	Maintain the existing community halls and other community rental spaces in good condition, undertaking general improvements as per the requirements of the Building Condition Assessments and through asset management planning.			
12.	Expand promotion of the community halls as viable and affordable locations for event and programming rentals.			
13.	Assess the potential for additional revenue opportunities through enhanced programming of the spaces (i.e. low-impact exercise classes, specialized camps, etc.) that are suitable for such locations.			

No.	Recommendations	Timing		
		Years 1-2	Years 3-5	Years 6+
14.	Explore opportunities to revitalize, reconfigure or otherwise repurpose spaces at the Ballinafad Community Centre for new and/or expanded community programming, either directly by the Town or through community partners.			
	Community Theatre			
15.	Continue with plans to replace the seating at the Erin Community Theatre to improve user experience. Discussions with the Upper Grand District School Board should be initiated to determine the potential for sharing the capital costs.			
16.	Expand the programming of the theatre for special events, musical performances, movie screenings, viewing of sporting and cultural events, eSports events, etc. through partnerships with local groups and/or businesses to enhance revenue potential.			
	Gymnasiums			
17.	As part of the feasibility and business planning exercise for a new multi-use recreation facility, consider the inclusion of a full-size gymnasium as part of the building program to accommodate a variety of program and rental opportunities.			
	Indoor Field House			
18.	Work closely with the Erin Agricultural Society and HEADS to identify opportunities for improving the program offer at the EIRC. Consideration should be had for affordable children, youth and seniors programming opportunities (e.g. drop-in soccer, walking club, etc.). The programs offered at the EIRC should not conflict or be in direct competition with those offered at Town-owned and operated facilities.			
	Indoor Pool			
19.	Through discussions with neighbouring municipal pool providers, explore opportunities to better facilitate access for Erin residents to utilize nearby indoor aquatic facilities. This could be done through a variety of means, including negotiating a 'preferred' rate for Erin residents, provision of transportation services to facilities from Erin, among others.			
20.	Investigate potential alternative providers of aquatics facilities (i.e. commercial and residential developers, hotel providers, etc.) as a means for the potential future provision of a pool / aquatic facility.			

No.	Recommendations	Timing		
		Years 1-2	Years 3-5	Years 6+
21.	Monitor the future likelihood to attract a swimming school to locate in Erin (e.g. Making Waves, Goldfish, British Swim School, etc.).			
Parkland Supply & Classification				
22.	Pursue a parkland provision standard of 3.5 hectares (minimum) per 1,000 residents over the course of the Plan period. Consideration should be had to include a suitable mix of both active and passive lands.			
23.	Target the acquisition of 22.1 hectares of parkland by the year 2029, to address growth related needs, where warranted, with a priority for larger Neighbourhood or Community Parks. This may require land assembly, rather than smaller parcels as typically provided by developers, and therefore a preference for cash-in-lieu is recommended.			
24.	Maintain existing parkland within the rural hamlets as outdoor recreation hubs for their respective communities.			
25.	Adopt a Parkland Classification System, per this Plan, as the Town's planning policy direction, organizing hierarchy and approach for acquiring, designing, developing and programming parkland in the future.			
26.	Work closely with the Erin Agricultural Society to explore opportunities to maximize use of the Fairgrounds property as a central gathering space within Erin Village. This could include enabling more regular public access for recreational purposes and/or attracting outdoor events and shows on a year-round basis.			
Parkland Acquisition & Dedication				
27.	<p>Develop a Parkland Dedication and Cash-in-Lieu of Parkland Dedication By-law to guide the future acquisition of new parkland, as well as the design and development of existing park facilities. This By-law should fully outline the circumstances where conveyance of land will not be accepted and where cash-in-lieu of parkland will be considered, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where land is insufficient in size or configuration (e.g. no opportunity for land assembly to create new parks); • Where there is no land that is either usable or functional on the site for parkland or recreational purposes; and/or • Where the area being developed or redeveloped is already well served by parkland. 			

No.	Recommendations	Timing		
		Years 1-2	Years 3-5	Years 6+
28.	Maximize the supply of available parkland by utilizing a variety of acquisition strategies. This may include parkland dedication by development, donation of land, accessing grants, land trusts, conservation easements, land exchange, partnership agreements and/or direct purchase.			
29.	Pursue the acquisition of natural areas, particularly land adjacent to the West Credit River, through the development process and other means of securement to provide opportunities for enhanced conservation, compatible public access and linkages to parks, trails, open spaces and water.			
30.	Update the Town's Official Plan to include policies that make clear the intentions of the Town with respect to achievement of all parkland-related service levels as a basis for the development approval process. This update should include the Parkland Classification System and may be done at the time of the next comprehensive review or through an amendment to the Official Plan.			
Parkland Development & Design				
31.	Ensure that new parks are designed with the user's comfort, safety and accessibility in mind, through use of CPTED (or similar) principles as well as adhering to AODA Design Standards.			
32.	When designing new parks, the Town should consider the potential operational impacts and assess the future resource implications of each aspect / amenity.			
33.	Encourage and facilitate the community's participation in park design, development and renewal projects by obtaining public input during the planning and design process, fostering partnerships and collaboration in park development/renewal, and promoting awareness of park projects and initiatives through effective public communications.			
Trail Network				
34.	Work with local stakeholders, trail groups and the community to establish and identify required improvements and barrier-free access opportunities, as well as to determine important future connections within the local / broader trail network as well as additional locations for trail-related amenity development (e.g. bicycle racks, bike repair stations, parking, signage, portable washrooms, etc.).			

No.	Recommendations	Timing		
		Years 1-2	Years 3-5	Years 6+
35.	<p>Develop policies in the Town's Official Plan to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require the dedication of land for pedestrian and bicycle pathways as a condition of the subdivision of land, as provided for under the Planning Act (s. 51(25)(b)); and b) Require the identification and provision of walkways and other means of pedestrian access, accessibility supports as well as bicycle parking facilities and other sustainable design elements on municipal streets, as may be required for site plan approvals and developments in accordance with the Planning Act (s. 41(4) #2(e), s. 41(7)(a)(4)). 			
	Ball Diamonds			
36.	Continue to maintain the Town's existing ball diamonds in good condition for continued use by the community. General improvements should be undertaken as per the Asset Management Plan and maintenance should be performed on a regular basis to ensure the diamonds are suitable for use.			
37.	Consult with baseball, softball and other stakeholder groups, through the development of an annual Recreation Forum (as per Recommendation 59), to gather feedback regarding actual registration numbers and ages, facility quality and performance, maintenance issues and projected usage. This would enable the Town to monitor and assess sports field utilization and capacity on an on-going and periodic basis, as a key input to facilities planning and points of investment.			
	Soccer Pitches / Multi-Use Sports Fields			
38.	Continue to maintain the Town's existing soccer fields in good condition for continued use by the community. General improvements should be undertaken as per the Asset Management Plan and maintenance should be performed on a regular basis to ensure the fields are suitable for use.			
39.	The Town should require that soccer and other field user groups provide registration numbers on an annual basis. The collection of this data will enable the Town to monitor and assess sports field utilization and capacity more accurately on an on-going and periodic basis over the longer-term.			
40.	Work to enhance partnerships with local soccer and other field user groups to improve the maintenance standards of the fields, attract tournaments and facilitate sport tourism opportunities at Barbour Field.			

No.	Recommendations	Timing		
		Years 1-2	Years 3-5	Years 6+
	Tennis Courts			
41.	Continue to partner with the Erin Tennis Club for the operation and management of the tennis courts at the Erin Community Centre. The Town should continue to monitor the demand for tennis and pickleball, as well as Club membership (through annual reporting by the Club) in order to determine future needs.			
42.	In the longer-term, multi-use opportunities may arise and the need for a more substantial complex to accommodate multi-use opportunities may be warranted and should be explored by the Town.			
	Playgrounds			
43.	Adopt a service-level target of 1 playground location accessible within a 400m to 800m walking distance of residential dwellings in new residential development areas, to ensure convenient access for residents and, in particular, households with children.			
44.	Assess the feasibility of developing one (1) new playground structure in Erin's southwest residential area to address the gap in service.			
45.	Develop additional playgrounds on newly acquired parkland as part of future Town, Community and Neighbourhood Parks where appropriate, and based on the Parkland Classification System and recommended standards of this Master Plan.			
46.	Continue to address current standards for safety and accessibility of play structures through on-going renewal / replacement when determined to be in poor condition (based on asset management planning).			
47.	Review and consider trends and innovations in playground design and development, with a potential for alternatives to traditional playground structures (i.e. naturalized playgrounds, etc.). This may help to reduce maintenance requirements.			
	Skateboard Park			
48.	Continue to maintain the existing skateboard park at the Erin Community Centre in good condition for use by the public over the Plan period.			

No.	Recommendations	Timing		
		Years 1-2	Years 3-5	Years 6+
49.	Through the feasibility and business planning work, explore the opportunity to develop a new skateboard or pump park facility as part of the new multi-use recreation facility at Barbour Field (co-located with other amenities) in the longer-term. This would improve the equitable distribution of active sports facilities within the Town and enable improved accessibility for those youth living in Hillsburgh's urban area and beyond into the northern rural areas of the Town.			
Outdoor Rinks				
50.	Continue to encourage and support local volunteer and community organizations in the development, maintenance and operation of outdoor ice skating rinks. Additional outdoor rinks at Town or Community Parks should only be provided if justified through park master planning and business planning processes.			
Splash Pads				
51.	Continue to plan for the development of a new splash pad in the short-term by initiating a concept plan and costing exercise. The analysis should evaluate the benefits, costs and risks of alternative options and provide a rationale for a preferred solution.			
Off-Leash Dog Parks				
52.	Plan for a permanent, designated location for an off-leash dog park to be developed at Barbour Field, or an alternative location, over the short term. Community-based partnership options should be considered.			
Basketball Courts				
53.	Develop two (2) new full-size basketball court (or equivalent half court configurations) over the Plan period. The Town should consider providing basketball courts in a multi-use court format in order to increase their future utility as pickleball courts, ball hockey venues, etc.			
Service Delivery & Effective Partnerships				
54.	Continue to maintain a Community Development Model for the municipal delivery of parks, recreation and culture in the Town of Erin. Under this model, where volunteer and agency groups have historically serviced the recreation programming needs of the local community, the Town supports these initiatives through the provision of access to facilities for activities.			

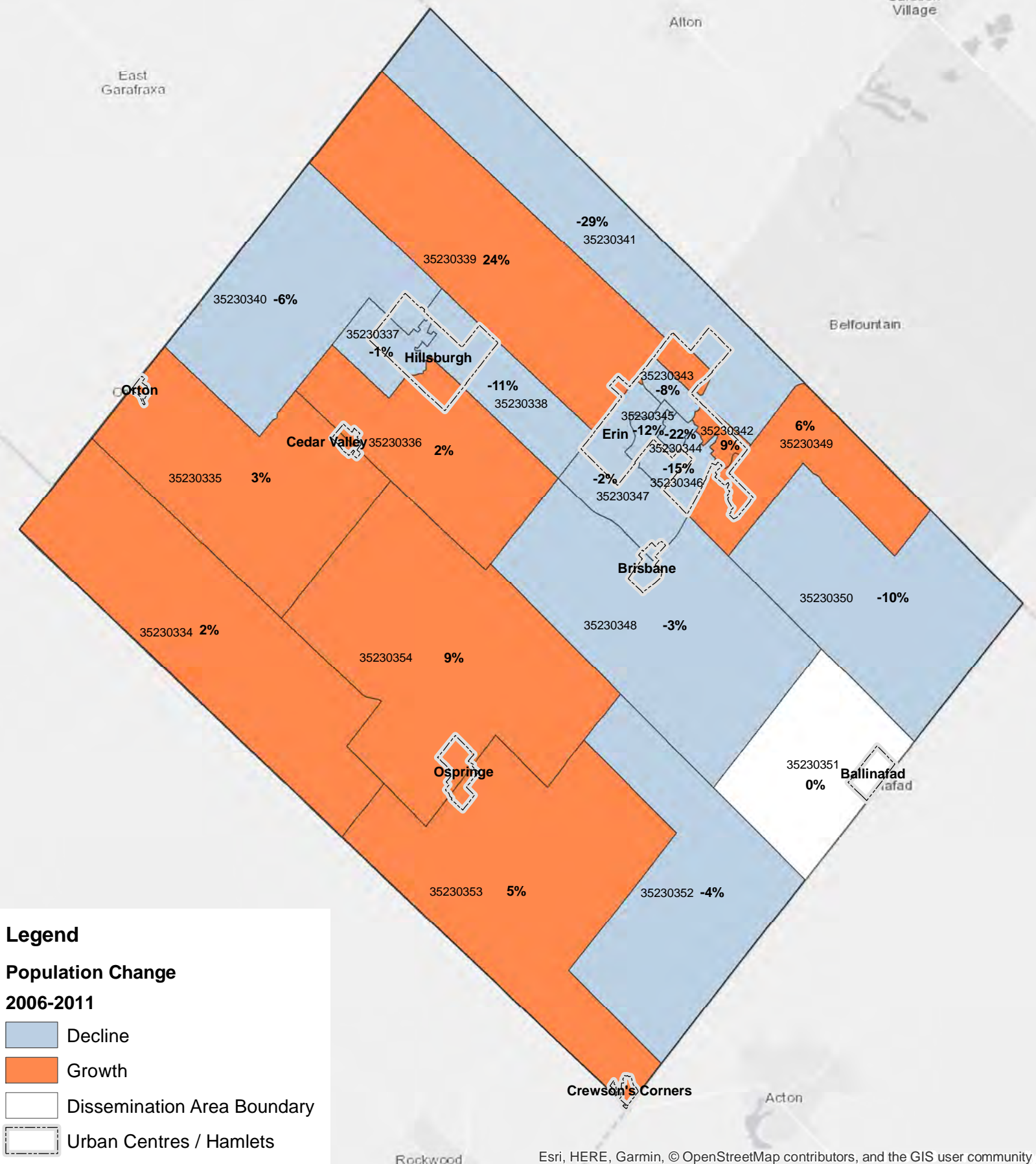
No.	Recommendations	Timing		
		Years 1-2	Years 3-5	Years 6+
55.	Explore partnership opportunities to enhance service levels and leverage public funds (e.g. facility naming / sponsorship, operation of spaces, program delivery, etc.).			
Improving Participation				
56.	Through the redesign of the Parks and Recreation page on the Town's website, develop a comprehensive 'Community Guide' and recreation resource that includes a community calendar of events and provides details on all programs offered (municipal / non-municipal) in Erin including the contact information of organizers for programs that are not directly delivered by the Town. This could be provided on an annual / semi-annual basis in print form as well for distribution to residents.			
57.	Undertake regular resident surveys to assess resident/user needs and required improvements to the Town's recreation service delivery model. Progressively address methods to improve the delivery of services over time.			
Programming				
58.	Expand the suite of non-traditional programs offered/provided by the Town to focus on children, youth, and "new seniors" to enhance the utilization of existing infrastructure (e.g. arts and craft programs at Ballinafad Community Centre, youth drop-in at the Erin Community Centre, lecture series and theatre camps at the Theatre, etc.).			
59.	Host a collaborative Recreation Forum with local organizations on recreation program delivery (sport groups) as a means to address stakeholder plans to develop and pursue new/additional programs, and to include opportunities for groups and the Town to facilitate this through resource-sharing and facility improvements in keeping with capital planning principles identified within this Plan.			
60.	Explore ways to strengthen the existing programming and event offer through a variety of new and/or expanded partnerships (e.g. Library, County, sports groups, Conservation Authorities, other agencies).			
61.	Continue with plans to develop a methodology to track, on an annual basis, program registrations and assess the rate of take-up for individual programs offered by the Town. Continuous tracking will help the Town in decision-making related to the complement of programs that should be offered.			

No.	Recommendations	Timing		
		Years 1-2	Years 3-5	Years 6+
	Special Events			
62.	Develop and implement key resources (policies, forms, toolkits, etc.) to support enhanced community capacity for event planning and delivery.			
63.	Promote the development of cultural events (i.e. performing arts, fine arts, etc.) in Erin by working with local event organizers to evolve the range of events to better include cultural themes. This could include art in the park events, studio tours, weekly summer concert series, indoor and outdoor movie screenings, among others.			
64.	Work with the local arts and cultural community to develop, over time, a signature event for the Town. The event should specifically profile local talent, creative spaces and build on Erin's unique heritage and brand.			
	Affordable Access & User Fees			
65.	Undertake a review of current user fees and pricing schedule as it relates to facility, sports field, and parks rentals. This review should also determine appropriate cost recovery ratios and rates for future programming opportunities.			
	Internal Master Plan Review			
66.	Develop an interdepartmental working group comprising senior management from relevant municipal departments to regularly review (recommended every 2 years) and evaluate the progress of the recommendations included in the Master Plan.			
67.	Develop a set of key performance indicators (KPIs) for each of the elements within the Master Plan for evaluation purposes. It is recommended that a blended approach (utilizing both output and outcome measures) to performance measurement is employed in keeping with the principles of the Master Plan and the Community Development Model for the delivery of parks and recreation.			

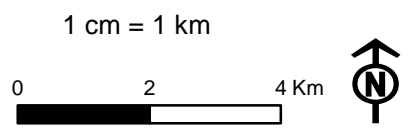
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Appendix A: Demographic Mapping

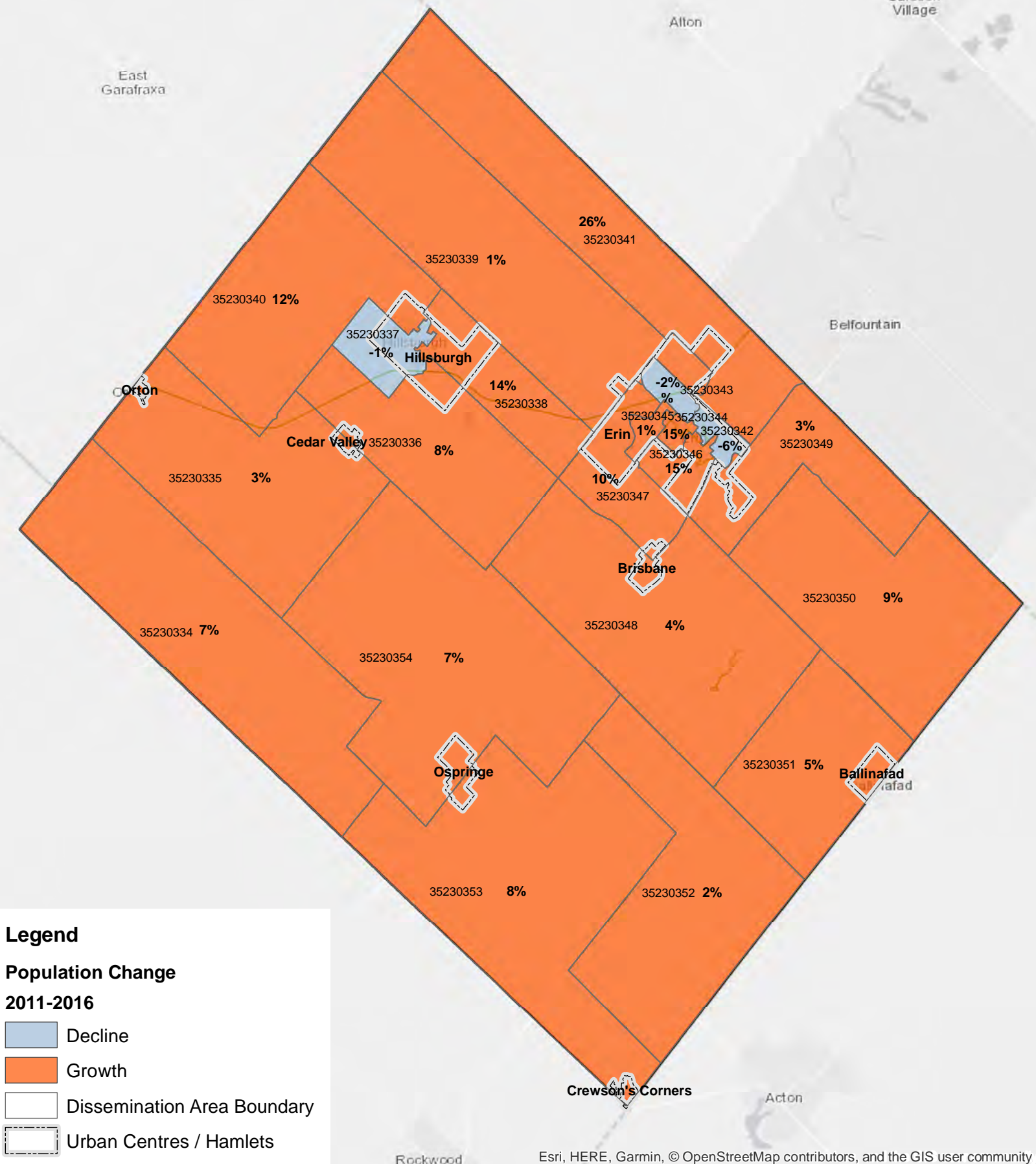
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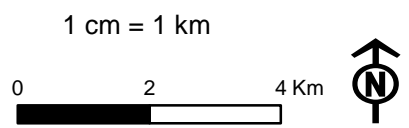
Population change 2006-2011
Town of Erin,
Wellington County, Ontario



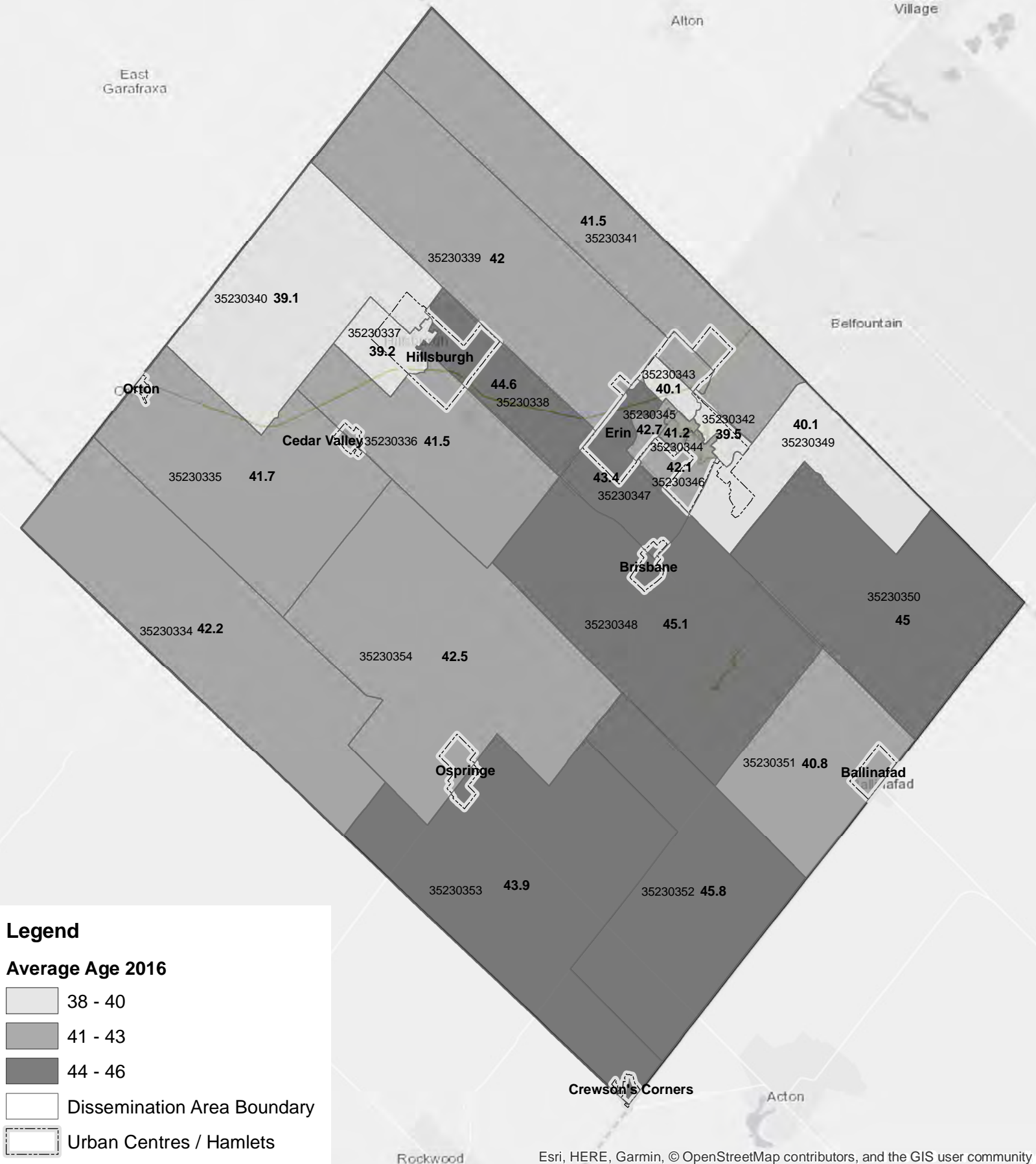
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Population change 2011-2016
Town of Erin,
Wellington County, Ontario



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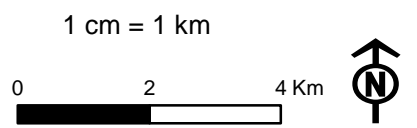


Legend

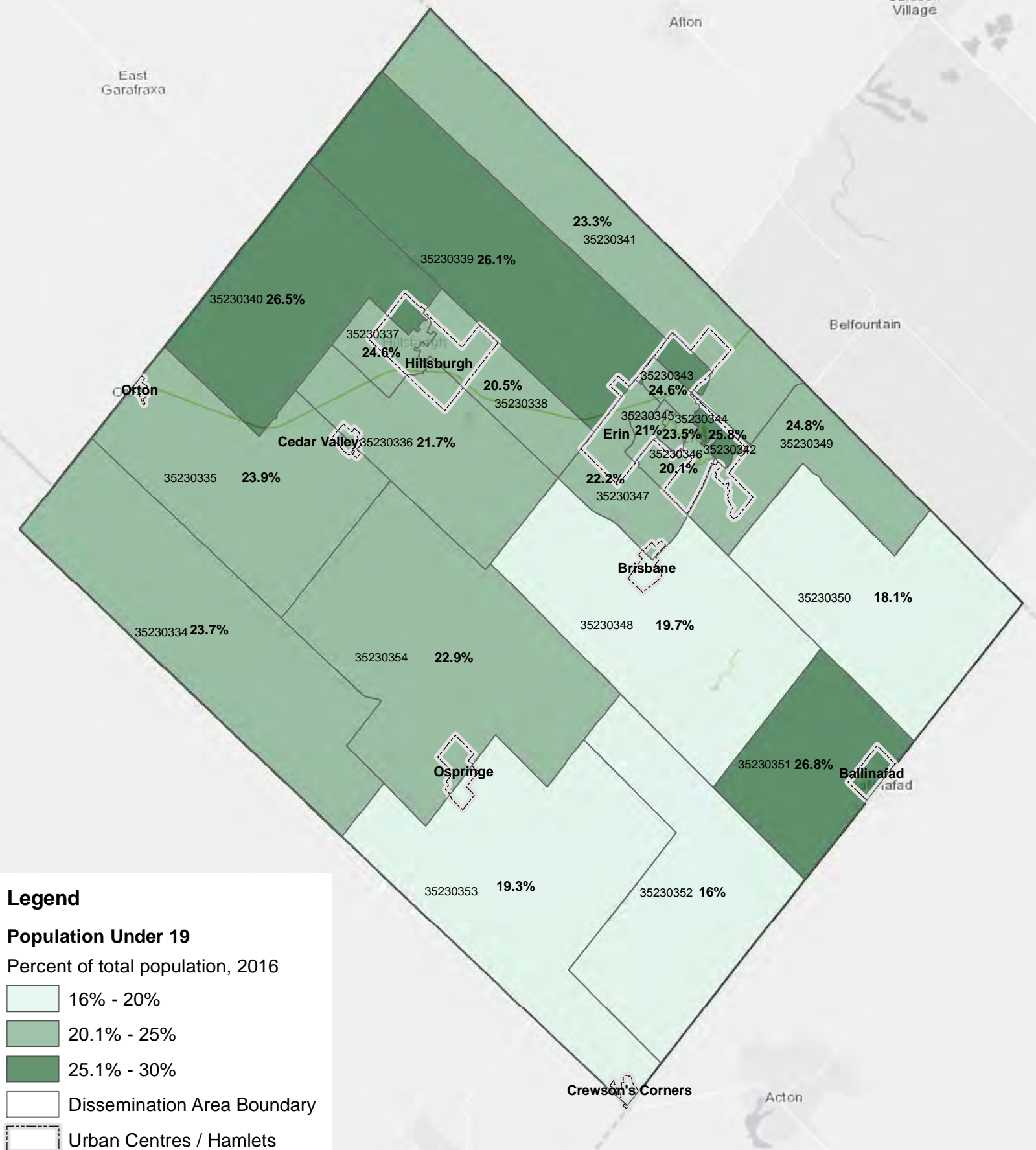
Average Age 2016

- 38 - 40
- 41 - 43
- 44 - 46
- Dissemination Area Boundary
- Urban Centres / Hamlets

Average Age, 2016
Town of Erin
Wellington County, Ontario



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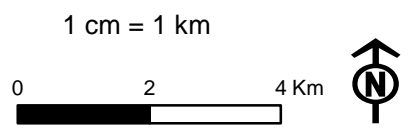


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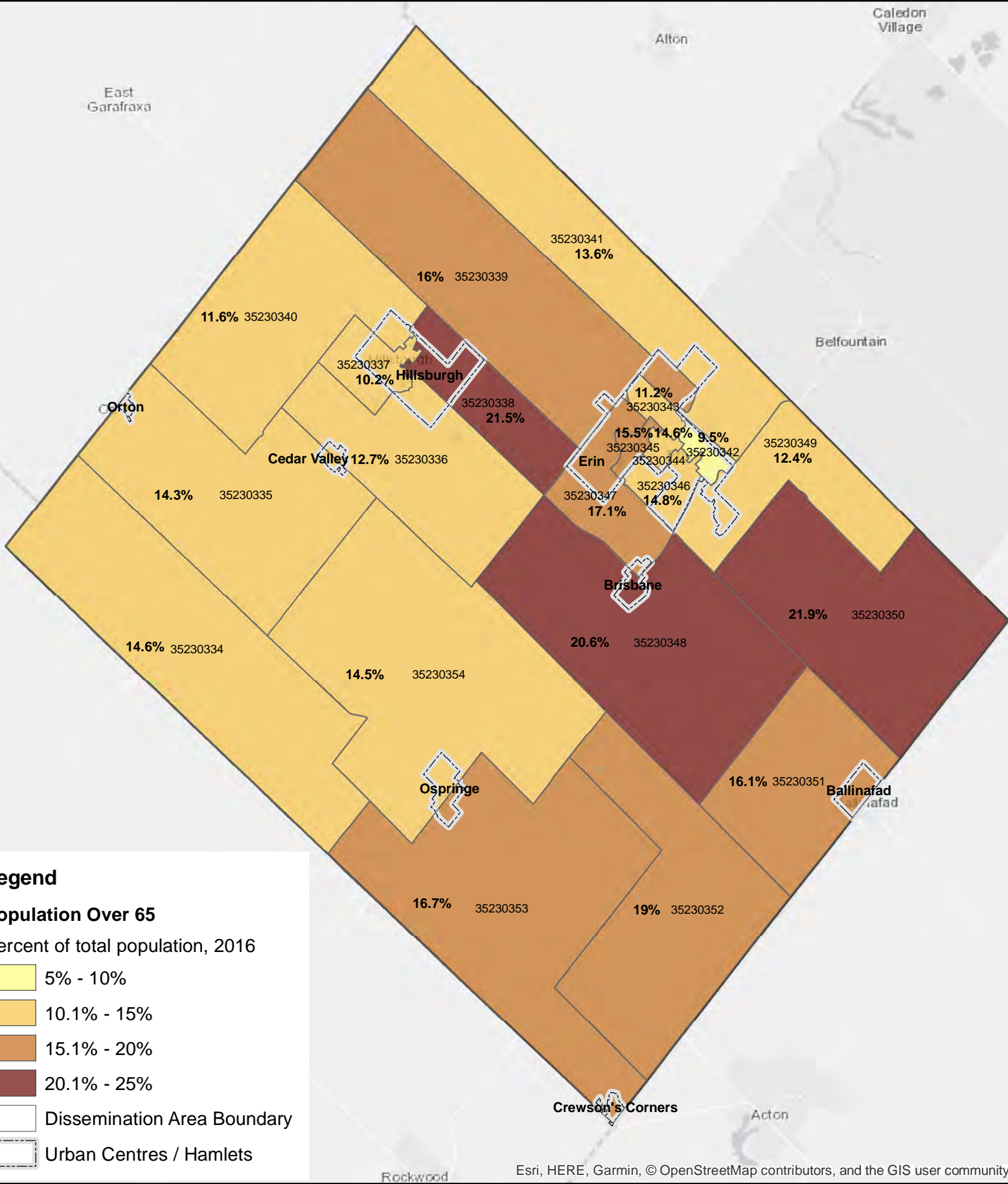
Population Under 19
Percent of total population, 2016

- 16% - 20%
- 20.1% - 25%
- 25.1% - 30%
- Dissemination Area Boundary
- Urban Centres / Hamlets

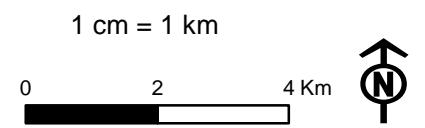
Population Under 19, 2016
Town of Erin
Wellington County, Ontario



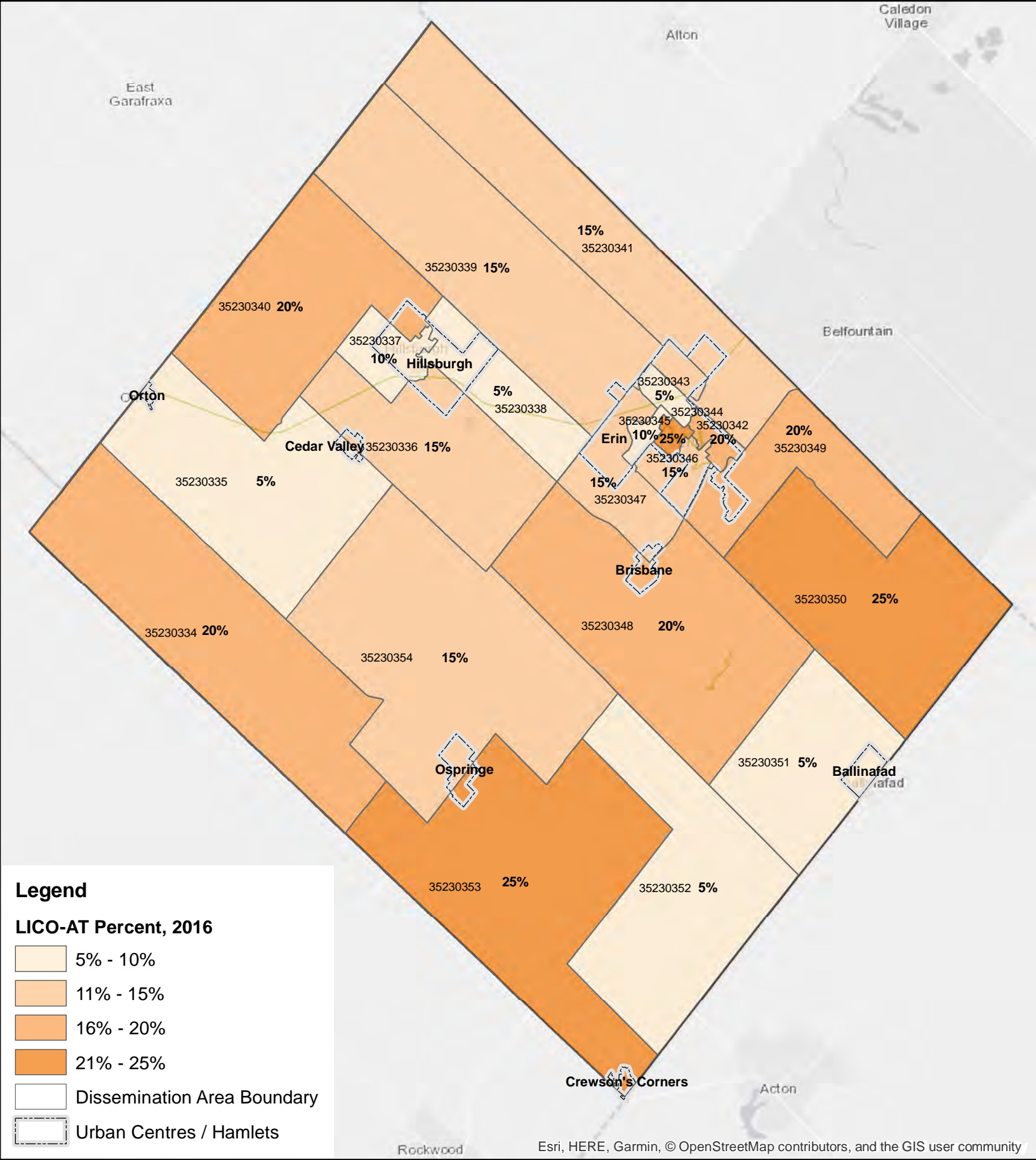
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Population Over 65, 2016
Town of Erin
Wellington County, Ontario

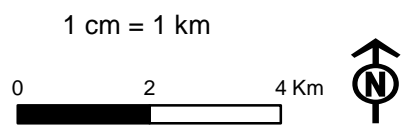


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Prevalence of Low-income, 2016

**Town of Erin,
Wellington County, Ontario**



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Appendix B: Detailed Inventory Sheets

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Hillsburgh Community Centre



Facility Type:	Community Centre / Arena
Address:	95 Main Street, Hillsburgh, ON
Map:	
Ownership:	Town of Erin
Size:	23,815 sq. ft.
User Groups:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ice Pad: Erin Hillsburgh Minor Hockey (up to age 9 – Atom level), Hillsburgh-Erin Skating Club (home ice), Men’s League • Dry Floor: garage sales, concerts • Banquet Hall: Rotary Club, Stag and Doe parties
Amenities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single ice pad (not regulation size) • Dressing rooms • Referee rooms • 2nd floor score room • 2nd floor banquet hall with kitchen • Concession

<p>Condition & Observations: <i>As per BCA Report (Pinchin, January 11. 2019)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The BCA report identified some key repairs and/or replacements that should be completed in the immediate future, including replacement of the metal fire escape, installation of a fixed access ladder for the flat roof area of the community centre building, undertaking a hazardous material and mould assessment study, as well as HVAC and electrical considerations.• Other notes from visual inspection: Building does not meet AODA requirements. Of particular note, there are tight doorways, washrooms, dressing rooms, etc., and no elevator to access the 2nd floor hall.• Additionally, it was understood from discussion with Town staff that the community centre roof experiences leaking during rain events.
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Erin Community Centre and Park (Centre 2000)



Facility Type:	Community Centre / Arena / Park
Address:	14 Boland Drive, Erin, ON
Map:	
Ownership:	Town of Erin (Community Centre portion) / Upper Grand District School Board
Size:	4.05 ha total parcel (3.63 ha park only); Building: 45,000 sq. ft.
User Groups:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ice Pad: Adult hockey leagues, Erin Hillsburgh Minor Hockey, Hillsburgh-Erin Skating Club, broom ball, ball hockey in summer. • Dry Floor: Men’s lacrosse, concerts, ball hockey birthday parties, • Erin District High School (development partner) • Erin Branch Public Library (development partner) • East Wellington Community Services (EWCS) (dedicated space through partnership agreement) – seniors day program and local foodbank. • Nursery School (dedicated space through lease). • Tennis Courts: Erin Tennis Club

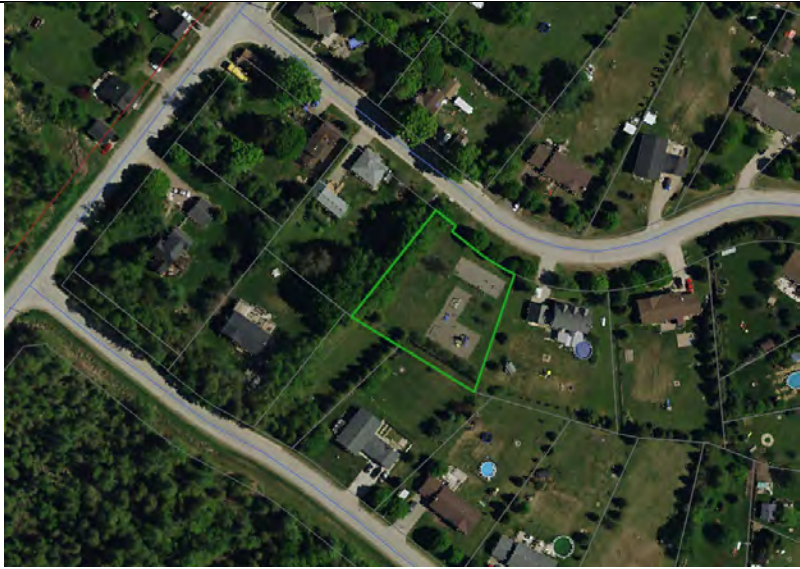
<p>Amenities:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single ice pad (NHL size) • Pro Shop / Skate sharpening • Live performance theatre • 2nd floor banquet hall • 7 meeting rooms • Concession in arena lobby (privately run) • Canteen (2nd floor) – rented to school and used as cafeteria • Outdoor amenities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 senior soccer field (unlit) • 1 senior ball diamond (lit) • 5 tennis courts (lit) • Tennis Club House Building (1,115 sq. ft.) • Skate park
<p>Condition & Observations: <i>As per ECC BCA (Pinchin, January 14, 2019) and Erin Tennis Club BCA (Pinchin, November 27, 2018)</i></p>	<p>ECC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The retractable partition walls in the banquet hall (Shamrock Room) and auditorium (Room 128) are identified to be in poor to fair condition, with an estimated 2 years of life remaining (replacement cost estimate: \$100,000). • Equipment requirements are also identified within the document, including the need for a new ice resurfacer and two ride-on mowers within the next 2 to 3 years (all are assessed to be in poor condition). • All servicing within building (including school) is intertwined and therefore complicates the partnership agreement. • Discussion with Town staff and a visual inspection indicated that the theatre seats are in need of replacement with the structural supports having worn out in many cases. <p>Erin Tennis Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tennis club house is considered to be generally in good condition. • Inspection of the tennis court surfaces identified some cracking and it was recommended to be resurfaced every two years.

Ballinafad Community Centre and Park



Facility Type:	Community Centre and Park
Address:	9382 Erin Halton Hills Townline, Erin, ON
Map:	
Ownership:	Town of Erin
Size:	Building GFA: 9,040 sq. ft. / Park: 1.96 ha
User Groups:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballinafad Ladies 3 Pitch
Amenities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banquet hall • Outdoor amenities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 senior ball diamond (unlit) • 1 senior soccer field (unlit) • Playground equipment
Condition & Observations: <i>As per BCA Report (Pinchin, November 30, 2018)</i>	All elements of the community centre building reviewed within the BCA were assessed to be in Fair or Good condition, with the exception of ceiling finishes within the mechanical room which were rated poor and identified for a further mould assessment study.

Athenwood Park

Facility Type:	Park
Address:	Elizabeth Crescent, Orton, ON
Map:	
Ownership:	Town of Erin
Size:	0.21 ha
User Groups:	N/A
Amenities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Playground• Swing set
Condition & Observations:	

Barbour Field



Facility Type:	Active Park
Address:	5808 Eighth Line, Erin, ON
Map:	
Ownership:	Town of Erin
Size:	27.22 ha
User Groups:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hillsburgh Minor Softball • Adult Baseball • Hillsburgh Ladies 3 Pitch • Hillsburgh Erin & Area District Soccer (HEADS)
Amenities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 senior ball diamond (1 lit) • 7 soccer fields: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 senior fields (1 lit); 2 junior fields; 2 mini fields • Playground equipment • Concession / Washroom Building (1,775 sq. ft.) (includes service / maintenance storage area)
Condition & Observations: <i>As per BCA Report (Pinchin, November 27, 2018)</i>	The BCA indicates that most elements of the concession / washroom building (circa 1996-1998) are in Fair to Good condition, however there is an immediate need for the replacement of the garage door for the service / storage area.

Carberry Park



Facility Type:	Passive Park
Address:	Carberry Road, Erin, ON
Map:	An aerial photograph of a residential neighborhood. A specific area of land, primarily wooded and adjacent to a water body on the left, is outlined with a green line. This area represents the location of Carberry Park. The surrounding area shows houses, streets, and parking lots.
Ownership:	Town of Erin
Size:	0.71 ha
User Groups:	N/A
Amenities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Swing set
Condition & Observations:	

Erin Lions Club Park



Facility Type:	Passive Park
Address:	Water Street, Erin, ON
Map:	
Ownership:	Town of Erin
Size:	0.35 ha
User Groups:	N/A
Amenities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picnic shelter • Playground equipment • Tire swing • Swing set • 2 x small slides • 2 x teeter-totters
Condition & Observations:	

Hillsburgh Historical Park



Facility Type:	Passive Park
Address:	103 Main Street, Hillsburgh, ON
Map:	
Ownership:	Town of Erin
Size (Ac.):	0.07 ha
User Groups:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor church services • Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, etc.
Amenities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gazebo • Small stage • Benches
Condition & Observations:	Gazebo was implemented in 2016 and is considered to be in good condition.

McMillan Park



Facility Type:	Passive Park
Address:	109 Main Street, Erin, ON
Map:	
Ownership:	Town of Erin
Size:	0.09 ha
User Groups:	N/A
Amenities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gazebo (600 sq. ft.) • Pathways (lit) • Benches • Chess / checker table • Adjacent parking
Condition & Observations: <i>As per BCA (Pinchin, November 12, 2018)</i>	The gazebo was constructed in 2008 and is considered to be in good condition. Other site elements, including walkways, are also considered to be in generally good condition.

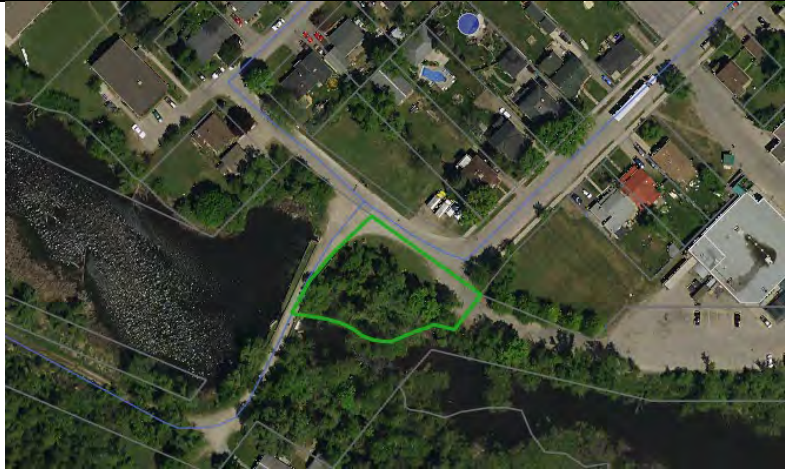
Mountainview Parkette



Facility Type:	Passive Park
Address:	13 Mountainview Crescent, Erin, ON
Map:	
Ownership:	Town of Erin
Size:	0.62 ha
User Groups:	N/A
Amenities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open lawn area • Community mailboxes
Condition & Observations:	

Riverside Park



Facility Type:	Passive Park
Address:	4 Church Boulevard, Erin, ON
Map:	
Ownership:	Town of Erin
Size:	0.15 ha
User Groups:	N/A
Amenities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Picnic tables• Trailhead signage
Condition & Observations:	

Victoria Park



Facility Type:	Active Park
Address:	Mill Street, Hillsburgh, ON
Map:	
Ownership:	Town of Erin
Size:	2.33 ha
User Groups:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hillsburgh Lions' Club
Amenities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 senior ball diamond (lit) • 1 x batting cage • Playground equipment (accessible elements) • Washroom / snack bar building (1,500 sq. ft.) • Outdoor ice rink (run by the Hillsburgh Lions Club)
Condition & Observations: <i>As per BCA (Pinchin, October 16, 2018)</i>	<p>Playground equipment was replaced in 2015 and 2016 and is considered to be in good condition. While the washroom / snack bar building, built in 1974, is considered to be in generally fair / good condition, the punched windows of the former snack bar, sloped metal / asphalt shingle roof, and ceiling finishes are in poor condition and recommended to be replaced. The septic system, presumed to be original, is recommended to be replaced in the near term.</p>

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