

Ryder Lake Community Survey - August 2020 - Summary

This survey was targeted to the residents or land owners of Ryder Lake between August 28th and September 13th. Our aim in creating this survey is to:

- Help rekindle community spirit and engagement as the COVID-19 lockdown is eased.
- Provide information on events of interest to residents to aid in future planning of activities at the hall or in the community at large.
- Increase awareness of the two institutes that own the Ryder Lake Institutes Hall in advance of the new membership year starting in October.

The Ryder Lake Farmers Institute (RLFI) and the Ryder Lake Women's Institute (RLWI), co-own the Ryder Lake Institutes Hall which has been a cornerstone of the Ryder Lake community since 1963. Most events and activities in Ryder Lake have some connection to the hall or these two institutes.

The RLFI and RLWI are responsible for all costs and maintenance of the hall, and funding for these is generated through memberships, hall rentals, donations and fund raising activities. Income is being significantly affected by COVID-19 restrictions and the furnace now needs to be urgently replaced. In the past, only one or two fundraising events were needed to raise the approximately \$8,000 to \$10,000 needed each year, but right now there is a real need for revenue to ensure the hall remains fiscally viable.

It was recommended by Andy Harrington at an RLFI meeting that a survey of the whole community be undertaken to determine interests and encourage participation. Kathy Bryce, one of the organizers of last year's Ryder Lake Ramble, and Peter Whitlock, a longtime member and past president of the Farmers Institute volunteered to create and distribute this survey.

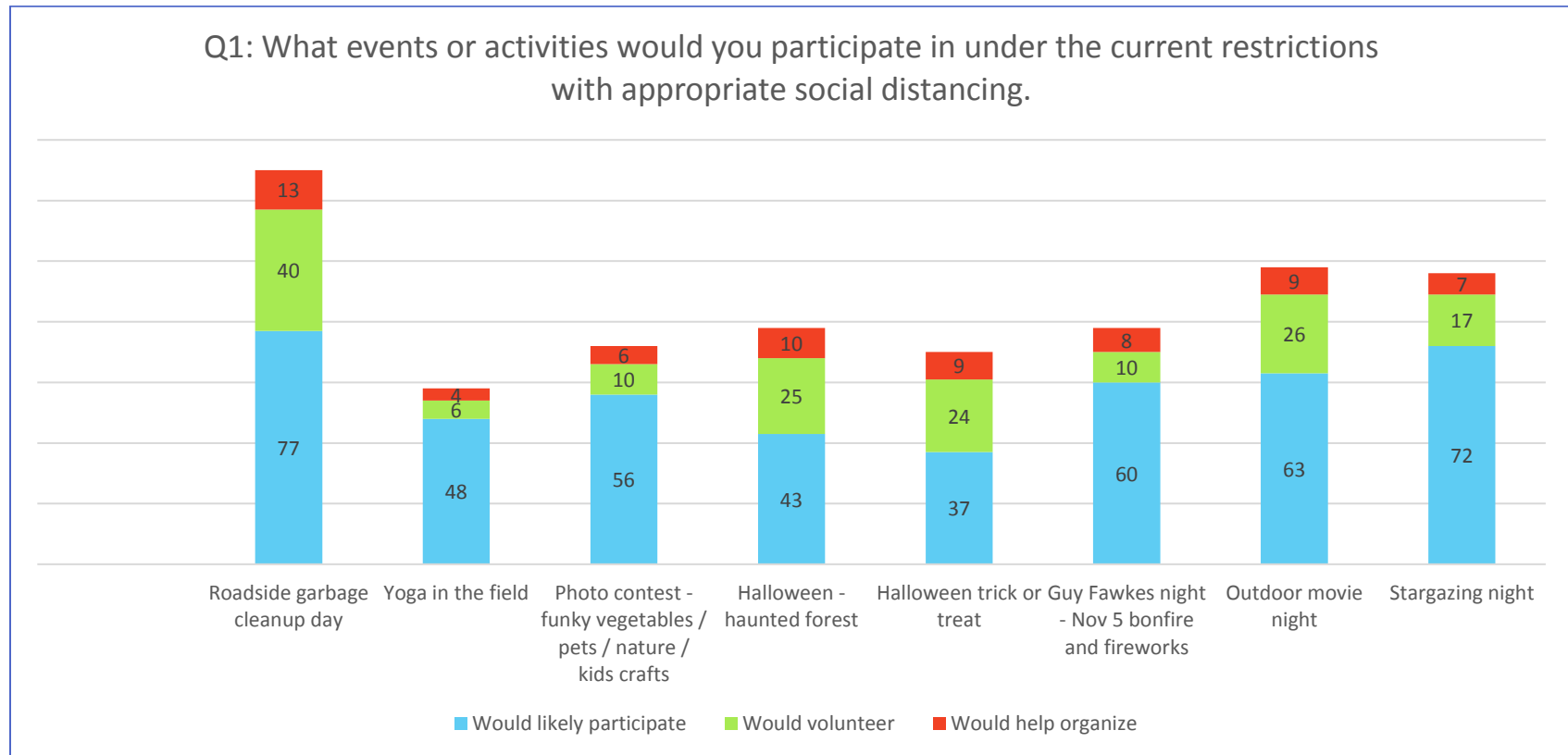
Results summary: 174 responses were received. None of the questions were required, some were skipped, and others could have multiple answers, i.e. if people would both participate and volunteer.

Not all comments and suggestions have been included to protect privacy, and to exclude those with negative views on individuals.

Names were not required but 83 people did leave their contact info including many people who as far as we are aware, have not been involved in activities or events before. It is very encouraging that there were many people willing to both volunteer and organize activities!

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Any events need to minimize risk, and meet the BC COVID-19 guidelines which limit indoor activities with multiple attendees, as well as the provision of food.

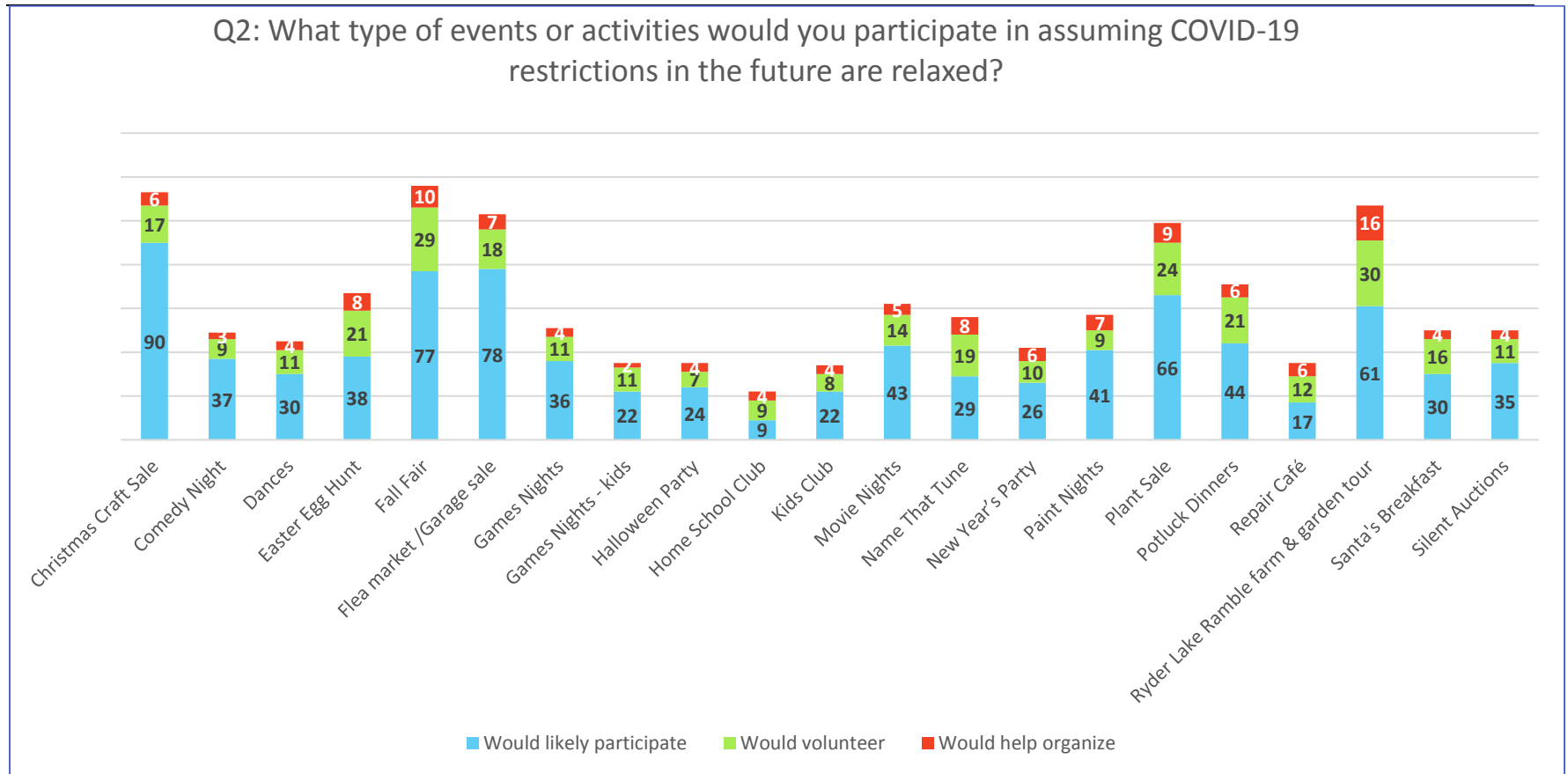


Other suggestions and comments:

Drive-by scavenger hunt for kids / musicians in the park / outdoor garage sale / resident's only ramble /yoga with goats / vegan potluck night.

Several concerns expressed re noise or dangers from fireworks.

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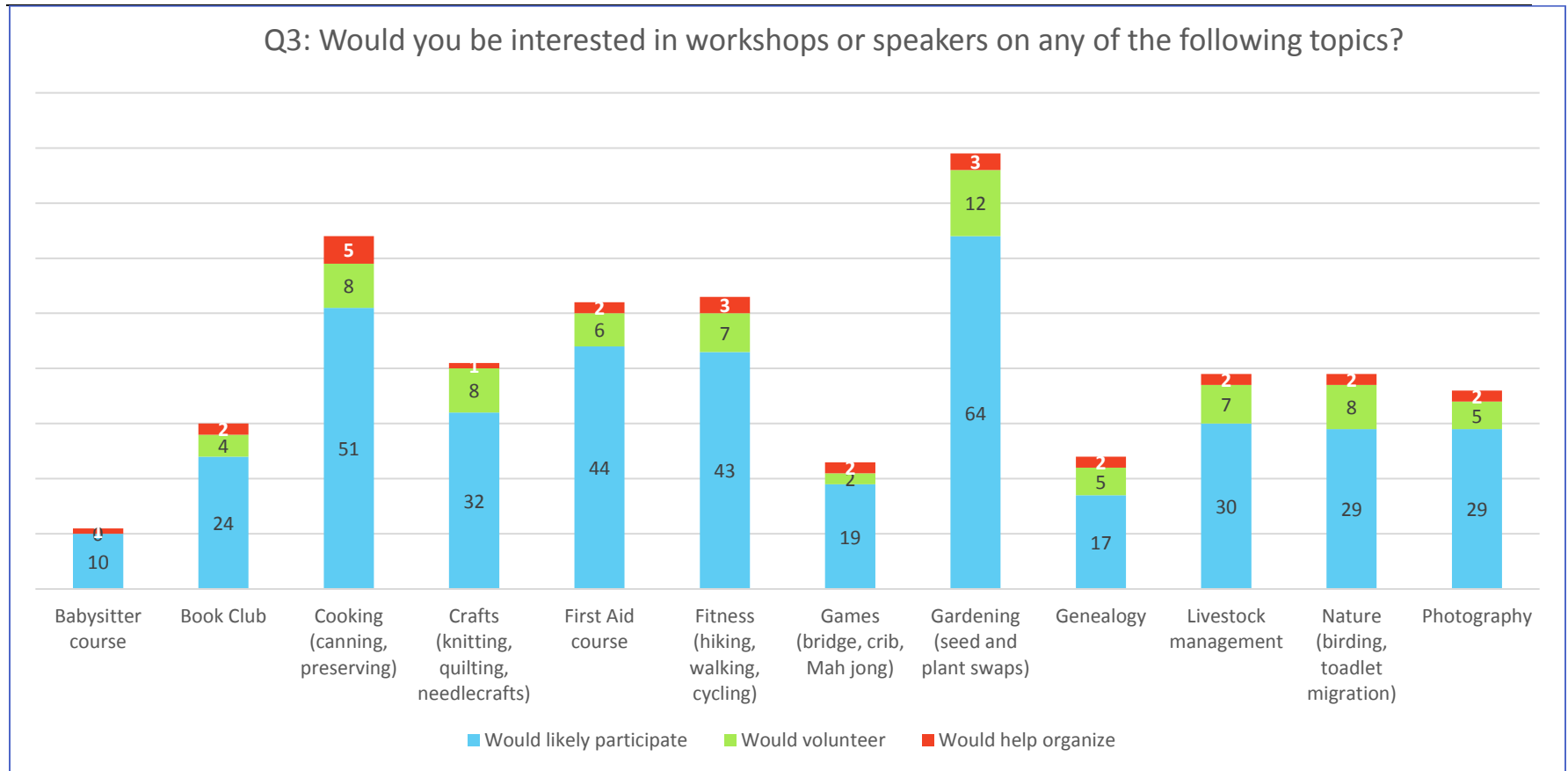


Other suggestions and comments:

Games in the park for kids and teens, eg. Capture the Flag / Ladies night meet and greet / online silent auction .

Mentions that would only participate in indoor activities if masks were required.

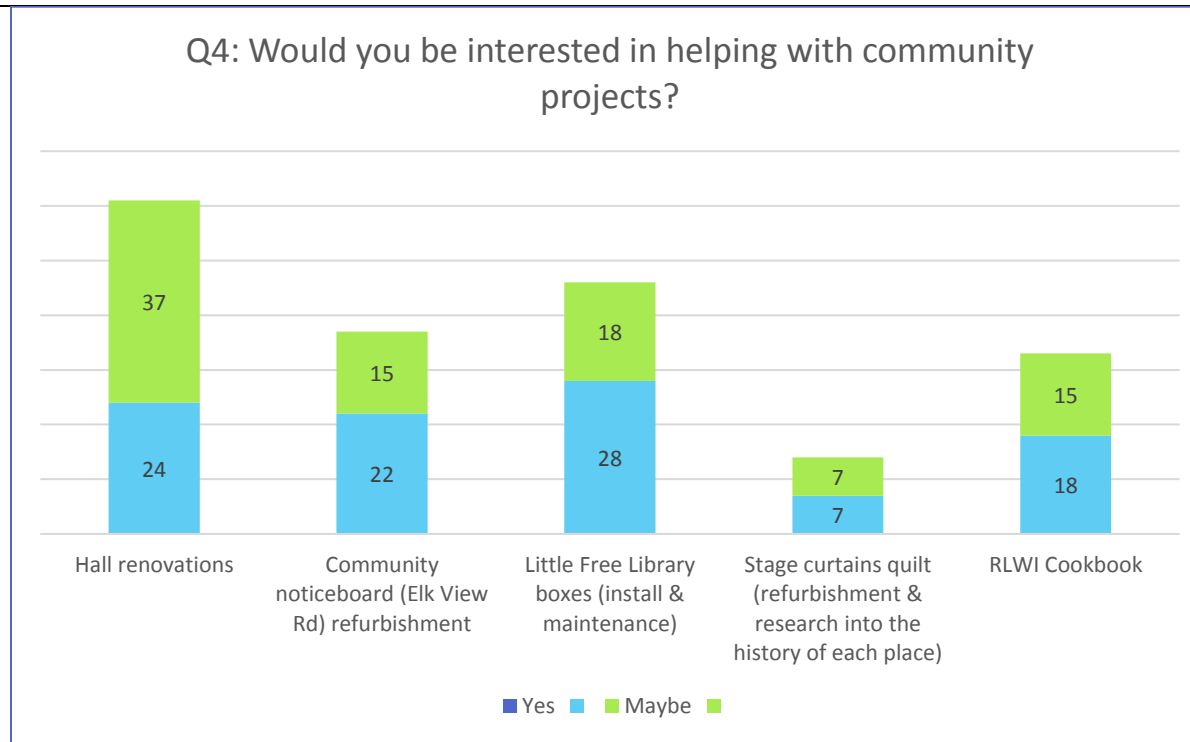
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Other suggestions and comments:

Speakers such as Brian Minter / conservation officers re co-habiting with wildlife / hunting regulations / bridge / nutrition and wellness / learning re outdoors / art classes / Germanic new medicine.

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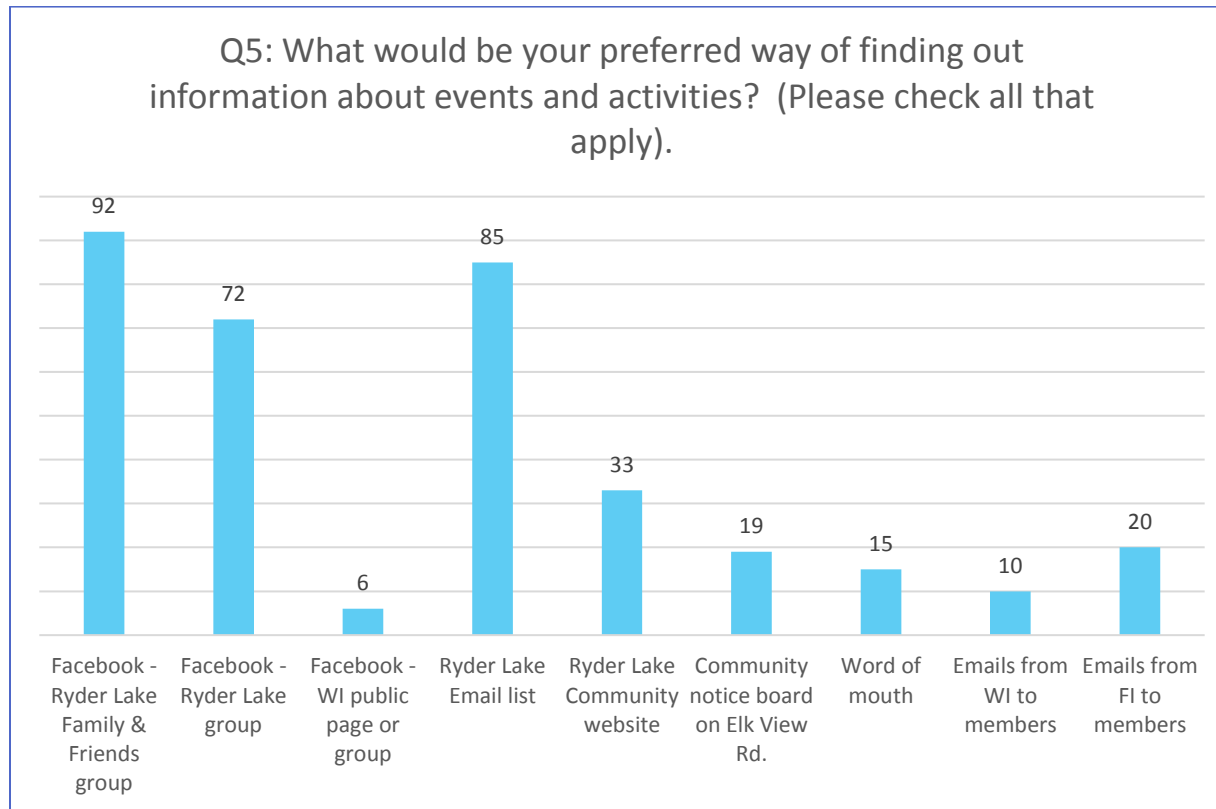


Other suggestions and comments:

Not everyone has access to Facebook / only find out at last minute / Is there an email list?

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Events and activities are currently publicized through many sources, including several Facebook groups. Please indicate how you find out about these, especially those of you who are not members of Facebook .



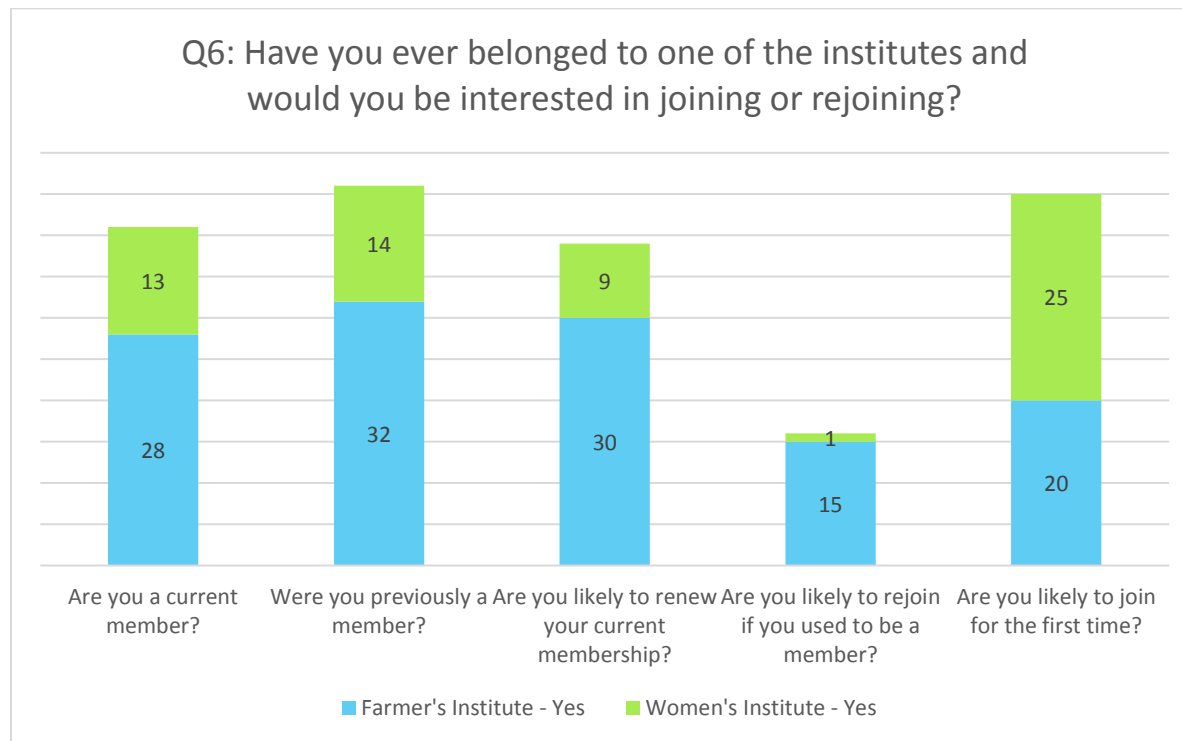
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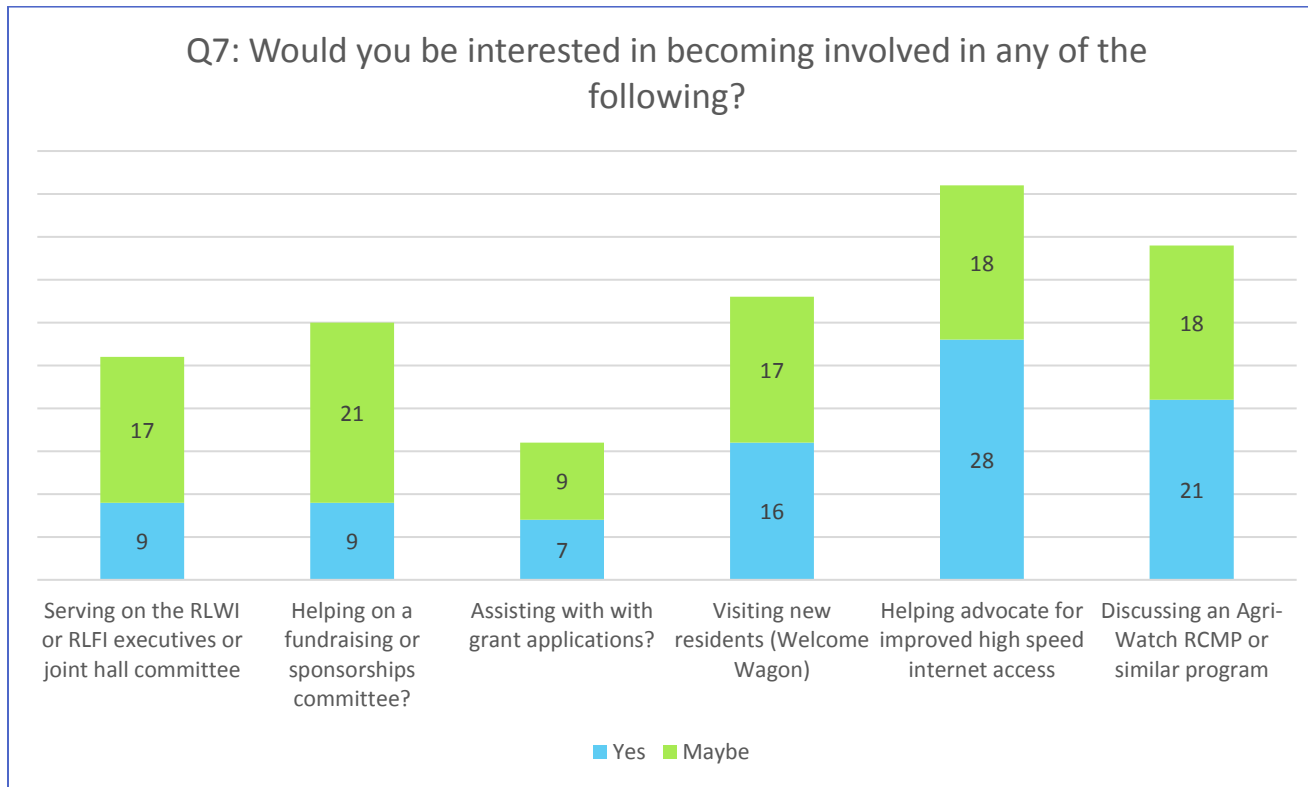
The **Ryder Lake Women's Institute** was formed in 1935 and is affiliated with the BC, national and international WI movement with a mandate to “support women and families through educational and social programs, community involvement and advocacy”. Our local group holds regular meetings and workshops at the hall.

The **Ryder Lake Farmers' Institute** was formed in 1941 through the Provincial Ministry of Agriculture to “improve conditions of rural life, to promote the theory and practice of agriculture, to promote home economics, public health, welfare and education, to act on behalf of its members in all matters related to agricultural pursuits and rural community development, and to preserve the history of the community”. The FI also holds regular meetings at the hall and organizes a range of events such as Santa’s Brunch, Christmas Craft Fair, Dew Worm Races, Potlucks and more.



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Volunteers are always needed, some for ongoing activities and others for one time events and projects. Please indicate if you have any expertise or interest in any of the following.

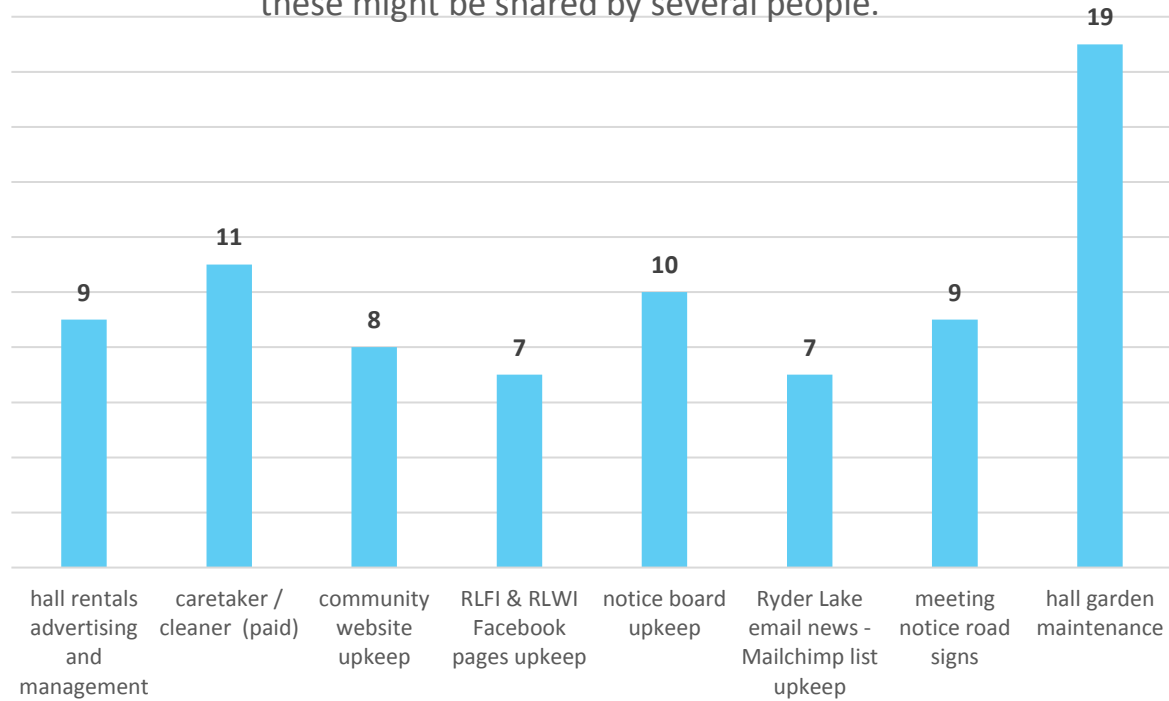


Other suggestions and comments:

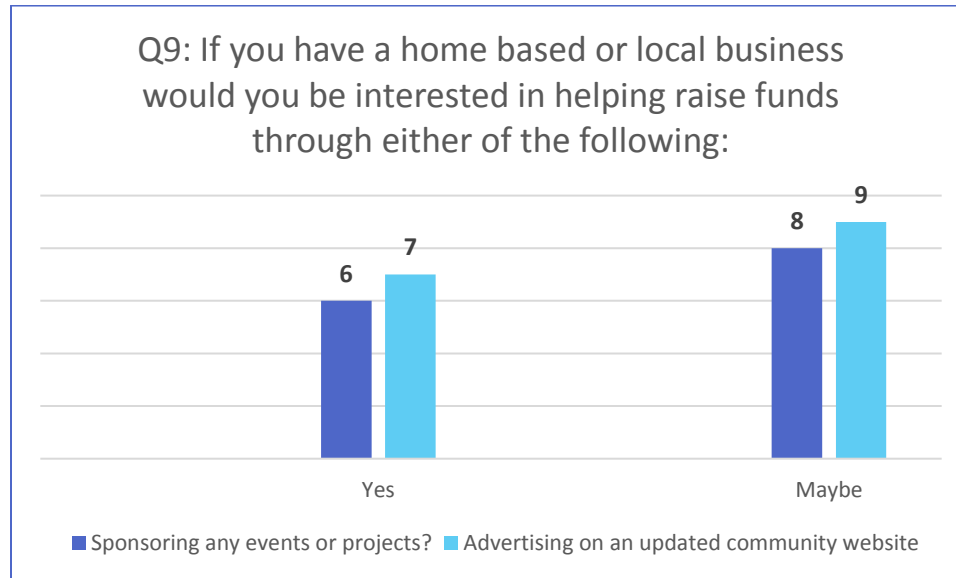
Road traffic safety an issue / high speed internet only if fibre optic / increase in burglaries and thefts a concern.

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Q8: Would you be interested in helping with ongoing jobs. Ideally these might be shared by several people.



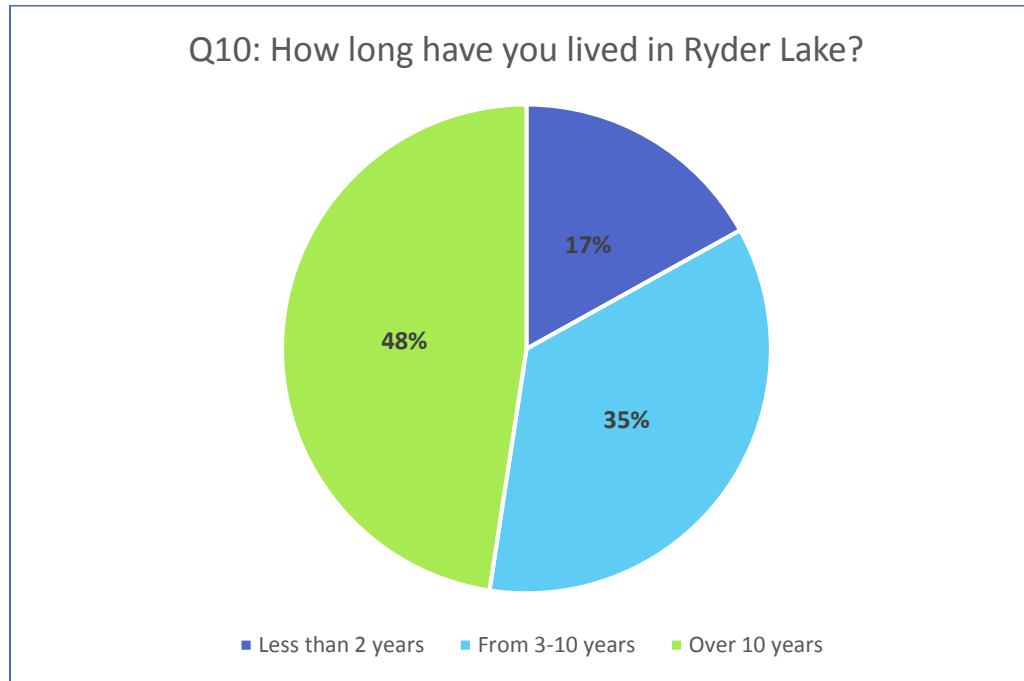
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Other suggestions and comments:

Should not exclude direct sales businesses from craft fairs / set up of donations for expenses like a new furnace.

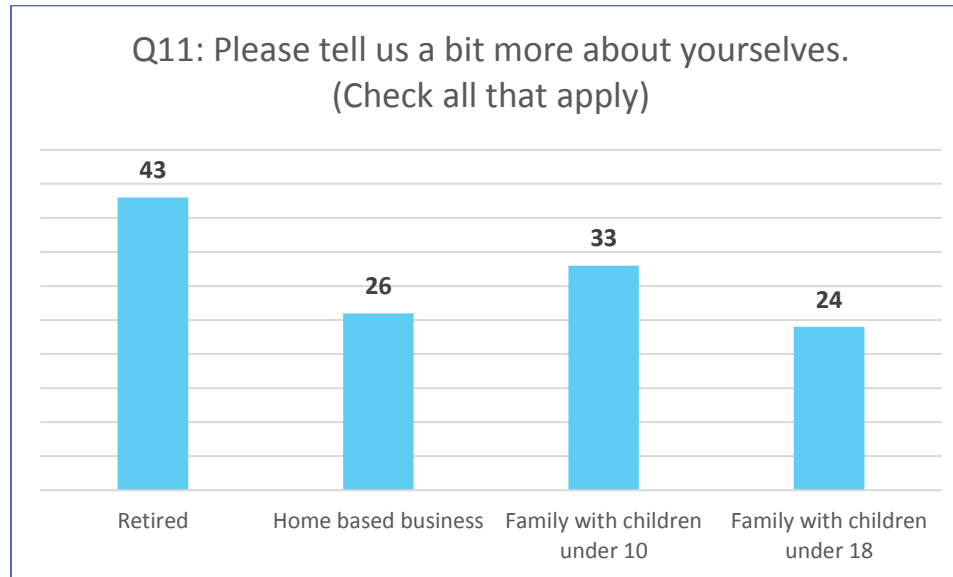
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Other comments:

Plan to stay indefinitely - love it here / just moved here / 25 years / 47 years / a lifer / new to the area and want to get involved in the community.

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Other comments:

Many comments on other combinations: Multigenerational families / Working from home due to COVID-19 / working couples / retired but working part time / disabled / almost retired.