

WASCANA CENTRE MASTER PLAN 2023
REVIEW AND RENEWAL

Stage 3: What We Heard Summary Report

January 3, 2024



credit: Greg Huszar



A branch of
the Provincial
Capital Commission

Prepared for the Provincial Capital Commission
Prepared by DTAH and Praxis Consulting





Land Acknowledgment

We acknowledge that the land on which we gathered for the conversations summarized in this report is located on Treaty 4 Territory and Home of the Métis. We also acknowledge and honour Treaties 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10 within the Province of Saskatchewan. We offer our thanks to the First Nations for their care of and teaching about our earth and our relations. May we honour those traditions.



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1

Process Overview

This report provides an overview of what we heard across the public, Indigenous, and stakeholder engagement implemented in Stage 3 of the Wascana Centre Master Plan Review and Renewal process. Stage 3 engagement activities were focused on creating public awareness about the Wascana Centre Master Plan Review and Renewal process, presenting key recommendations for proposed updates to the master plan, and gathering public and community input on those updates.

This report comprises the summarized feedback received, reflecting a consolidation of what was heard throughout all engagement activities.

1.1 Master Plan Review and Renewal

The Wascana Centre Master Plan provides a road map to guide future growth, development and sustainability. The role of the master plan is to ensure that ongoing development, both landscape and institutional, furthers the founding vision of Wascana Centre.

The vision of Wascana Centre includes the following five purposes (pillars):



The original plan for the area that now includes Wascana Centre was prepared in 1913. The first master plan was prepared in 1962. The most recent update to the master plan was completed in 2016. All Wascana Centre master plans have a 100 year, long-term vision.

The master plan is currently up for a review and renewal. The 2023 Master Plan will be the 11th Wascana Centre Master Plan. This master plan renewal will expand on the 100 year, long-term vision and include ten-year conceptual deliverables.

1.2 Public Participation Plan

Public and stakeholder engagement is a critical aspect of the Wascana Centre Master Plan Review and Renewal. All Saskatchewan residents interested in the future growth, development, and sustainability of the Wascana Centre are encouraged to participate in the review and renewal process.

Public Participation on the Master Plan

The Master Plan Review and Renewal Process includes five stages. The engagement process follows those stages and includes opportunities for the Saskatchewan public at large and stakeholders to participate in a meaningful way. DTAH and Praxis will continue to work with the Provincial Capital Commission (PCC) Administration, Master Plan Public Advisory Committee (MPPAC), and the PCC Board of Directors to confirm where the public is situated on the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) spectrum of public participation at each stage of the review and renewal process. This will ensure that engagement does not build unrealistic expectations for the process or its outcome. DTAH and Praxis will gain input and feedback from a broad range of public participants and ensure all public engagement is conducted with an IDEA (inclusion, diversity, equity, accessibility) lens.

On October 23, 2023, the PCC Board of Directors approved amendments to the Public Participation Plan based on advice from PCC Administration. The amendments are as follows:

- Revise the timing of Stage 3 What We Heard Summary report posting from the week of October 16, 2023 to early January 2024.
- Revise the timing of the Stage 4 online feedback opportunity from the weeks of October 23 and 31, 2023, to two weeks in late February or early March 2024.
- Revise the timing of the Stage 4 What We Heard Summary report posting from the week of December 4 to 11, 2023 to late May 2024.

The reasons for amending the Public Participation Plan are:

- Public and stakeholder response to engagement activities has exceeded the expectations of the PCC and the consulting team responsible for completing the Master Plan Review and Renewal.
- The high volume of responses requires additional time to analyze, consider, and address as the project progresses.
- Stage 2 engagement activities were impacted by Provincial by-election protocols during the planned Stage 2 engagement window. Stage 3 start was delayed as a result.
- The PCC Board of Directors decided to keep the Stage 3 online Public Survey open for an additional week (three weeks instead of two weeks noted in previous Public Participation Plan) to provide the public with more time to respond.
- Through a delay of Stage 4, feedback on the Final Draft of the Master Plan should avoid both the winter holidays and Family Day long weekend.
- Through the delay of Stage 5 (Approval of the Master Plan) until late May 2024, the PCC and consultant team will have adequate time to meaningfully consider feedback received during Stage 4.

The revised Public Participation Plan can be found on the Wascana Centre website here: <https://wascana.ca/pub/wc-public-participation-plan-v4.pdf>



Principles

Public participation for the Master Plan Review and Renewal is informed by guiding principles set out in the PCC *Public Participation Policy (Policy 601)*. These principles will ensure public participation occurs in a respectful and constructive manner.

The guiding principles are:

Transparent and Accountable: Public participation will be well-defined in terms of the public input to be gathered and the use of that input to guide decision-making; the results of public participation activities will be publicly accessible.

Provincial Perspectives: Public participation will incorporate a broad range of provincial perspectives—community-based, local, and regional—in the development process wherever possible.

Time Sensitive: The public will be provided with adequate notice to participate in the engagement process and will be consulted early in the process to be considered in decision-making; public notice of decisions of PCC will be shared without delay.

Meaningful: Public participation will be genuine and for the purpose of assisting PCC in decision-making before final determinations are completed.

Inclusive and Accessible: Public participation will involve as broad a range of communities, stakeholders, and individuals as possible, especially those directly impacted by a decision, and will be accessible to individuals and groups, providing multiple methods for the public to participate.

Mutually Respectful and Understandable: Public participation will be cooperative and aim to achieve a solid mutual understanding of the issues, goals, and expectations of all parties involved; it is recognized that public participation may not always end in agreement, however, the goal is to obtain a better understanding of all opinions.

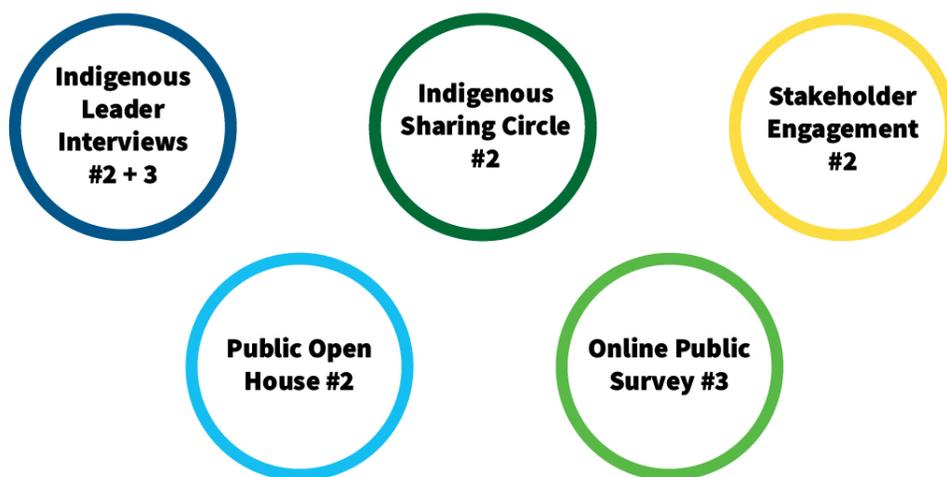
Consistent: The public participation process will seek to be consistent for all proponents; depending on the project, public participation plans may vary depending on the nature, size, and scope of the project.

Innovative and Continuously Improving: Public participation initiatives will be continuously evaluated with the purpose of improving procedures and processes.

1.3 Stage 3: Initial Draft of Master Plan

Stage 3 of the Master Plan Review and Renewal shared the key recommendations and demonstration plan updates being explored for the 2023 Wascana Centre Master Plan Update and reintroduced material informed by the previous two stages of public engagement.

Engagement events for Stage 3:



By the Numbers



Stage 3 Activities Described

Details on each of the public and stakeholder engagement activities are described below, including the methods used to generate awareness and uptake for each event.

Interviews with Indigenous Community Leaders

Eight interviews were conducted with various leaders representing local First Nations and Métis communities and organizations. The list of interviewees was developed with consideration for engaging First Nation and Métis communities and organizations with links to Regina. The PCC approved the list of interviewees. The interviews were conducted by phone, through Microsoft Teams, and in person depending on the interviewees' preference. The interviews took place between June 29, 2023 and November 2, 2023.

Stakeholder Meetings

Meetings with invited stakeholders were held from October 2, 2023, to October 4, 2023. Participants were invited to one of four events targeted at specific groups of users and partners within the Centre.

More than 60 participants provided input that represented groups ranging from community events to maintenance staff, single users to institutions within the Centre. Feedback focused on considerations to support ongoing activation and enjoyment of the Centre.

Stakeholder meetings were communicated through the following efforts:

Media	Distribution
Direct Emails	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Direct emails were distributed to more than 260 known community members and potentially interested organizations.

Project notification and event invitations for the Indigenous Sharing Circle, Public Open House, and Public Survey were communicated using the following means:

Media	Distribution
Wascana Centre website (https://www.wascana.ca)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A notice was posted on Wascana Centre website.
Newspaper Ad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newspaper advertisements were taken out in the Regina Leader Post and the Saskatoon Star Phoenix three weeks in advance of the event (September 8, 2023).
Facebook and Instagram posts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information was posted on Wascana Centre’s Facebook page and Instagram grid for three weeks in advance of the events and the week of the events.
Direct Mail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A postcard mail drop was distributed the two weeks in advance of the events to homes and businesses within a 100-metre radius of Wascana Centre (over 11,000 copies sent by mail).
Direct Emails and Faxes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct emails were distributed to more than 260 known community members and potentially interested organizations.
Posters (Sharing Circle only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posters were posted at the māmawēyatitān centre and First Nations University of Canada.

Indigenous Sharing Circle

An Indigenous Sharing Circle event was held at the māmawēyatitān centre from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on October 4, 2023. A total of five (5) participants attended and shared a meal together. Three (3) participants provided input and feedback on the Master Plan draft. Three (3) participants in attendance were engaged throughout the duration of the evening.

An Elder provided an opening and closing blessing. Following the opening blessing, DTAH presented a high-level overview of the Master Plan draft recommendations. The presentation is available for viewing on Wascana.ca. In addition to the presentation, 17 panel boards were set up throughout the room that explained the project and displayed images from the 2016 Master Plan with proposed recommendations highlighted.

Public Open House

A public open house was held at Saskatchewan Science Centre from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in a come and go style on October 3, 2023.

A total of 56 people attended and took part in the event. The open house included a presentation led by DTAH that provided a high-level review of the proposed recommendations for the 2023 Master Plan update and an opportunity for public questions, input, and feedback.

The presentation was repeated twice throughout the evening followed by a town hall style question and answer session. The presentation is available for viewing on Wascana.ca.

The open house featured 17 panel boards throughout the room that displayed images from the Master Plan with proposed recommendations highlighted. Input was encouraged from all in attendance as they circulated the room and viewed the panel boards.

Public Survey

An online public survey was developed and the link was distributed by PCC via email, and posted on the Wascana.ca website from September 26, 2023 to October 17, 2023.

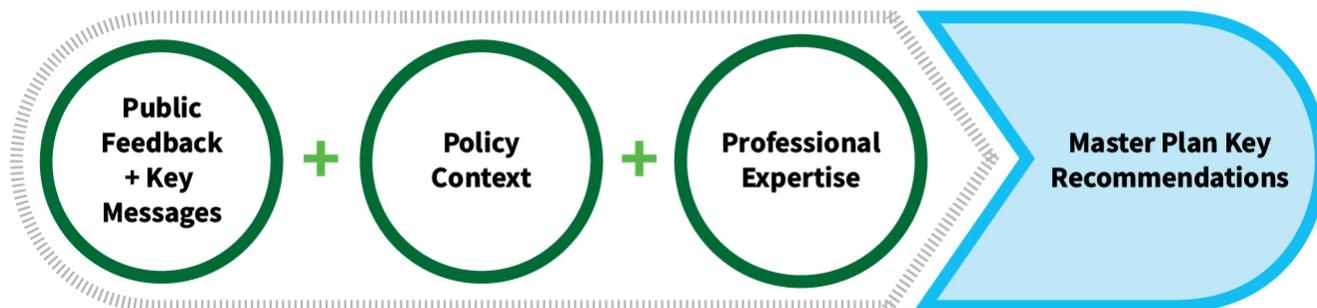
A total of 236 survey responses were received. Highlights of the survey findings are included throughout this report.

1.4 How Feedback Informs the Master Plan

Feedback provided through each public participation and engagement activity has been collected and synthesized by the project team into key themes and messages to help evaluate and identify ideas we heard throughout the stage and across diverse groups and conversations. Themed messages were then organized based on the questions and topics that formed the basis for engagement activities in Stage 3. The What We Heard summary is the record of the feedback collected.

In order to be considered for the Master Plan, feedback must also be reviewed within the context of policies that govern Wascana Centre and based on the professional expertise of the project team. This means that not everything we hear can (or should) be addressed in the Master Plan update.

The Wascana Centre Master Plan is a high-level strategic document that is used to coordinate the character, location, access and landscape setting of facilities within Wascana Centre. The Plan identifies those existing facilities and landscapes that are to remain, and sets out known or anticipated development intentions for future use.







2

What We Heard

Feedback was recorded throughout all public participation and stakeholder engagement events in Stage 3. The focus of Stage 3 was to create public awareness about the Master Plan Review and Renewal; present key recommendations for proposed updates to the Master Plan; and gather public and Indigenous community input on proposed updates to the Master Plan.

The feedback presented in this document has been categorized based on each comment's relevance for topics posed in the engagements including, key recommendations, demonstration plans, and the revised vision and principles (originally shared in Stage 2).

We extend our thanks and gratitude to everyone who participated and shared their input.

2.1 Key Messages

Heritage and Culture

The importance of monument and commemoration took a more prominent role in the discussion of heritage and cultural representation during Stage 3. Feedback reflected a desire to both move away from static expressions of history within Wascana Centre and explore opportunities to update existing commemorative elements to better reflect the diversity of Saskatchewan. Significant discussion on the role of ceremony and gathering as an act of sharing truths to build towards reconciliation were also had.

Tensions Between Uses/Users

Determining the balance between conservation, naturalization and active park use continues to be a priority for Wascana Centre. The challenge lies in how to accommodate existing uses and anticipate future needs without putting people and sensitive ecological places at risk. Many participants continued to identify issues with the intense use of the pathways and balancing increasing use in more popular areas of the Centre. Accessibility was a particular concern with respect to how to balance a need for cars to reach specific areas of the park while wanting to create car-free zones that could be havens for pedestrians.

Redefining Landscape Character

In Stage 3, consensus began to emerge with respect to shifting the overall character of Wascana Centre to a more naturalized prairie landscape character. Many cited a need to embrace sustainable management practices to better reflect the existing landscape of the prairies and reduce reliance on irrigation, pesticides and herbicides. An acceptance of a less manicured aesthetic was tied to understanding the impacts intensive maintenance practices can have on environmental and human health and well-being. The desire to maintain some more formal landscapes and gardens was still expressed, but with an understanding that those should be intentional and limited to specific sites.

Strengthen Language

Ensuring the plan clearly defines suitable uses and development within the park continues to be a priority. Additional concerns about how the plan will guide development on adjacent lands were raised, both as a need to inform the development of the city and reduce negative impacts on areas within the Centre. With the removal of Wascana South from the study area, concern shifted to how the plan could be used to anticipate opportunities for expanding protected lands to buffer sensitive habitat from incompatible uses and protect against over-development within the Centre.

Addressing Representation

Representation continued to be a priority in discussions about Wascana. The need to ensure the Master Plan reflected diverse worldviews and protocols continued to be raised. Increased interest in ensuring the Centre reflected a broader diversity and representation of Saskatchewan beyond Regina was expressed. Participants continued to identify the need for community engagement and Indigenous leadership to be integral to any future changes to Wascana Centre.

Decision Making

Several conversations identified a need for advisory bodies to participate in on-going decision making to ensure public interests and community needs were prioritized. Advisory roles could allow PCC to have an on-going dialogue with the public to build awareness, share information about projects and mitigate concerns before decisions are finalized.

There continued to be concerns about the authenticity of the Master Plan Review and Renewal process, but many expressed interest in seeing how input and updates would be realized. General confusion about the role of a master plan in guiding decisions and how it can be used persisted. Providing continuous and open opportunities for public engagement in decision making between Master Plan updates was identified as a way to build confidence in the authenticity of the decision making for Wascana Centre.

2.2 Key Recommendations Feedback

In Stage 3, Key Recommendations were developed based on previous feedback. The recommendations were organized into two categories to help inform responsibility and manage expectations regarding the process for implementation (either relating to the Master Plan or PCC operations). The feedback provided here represents a holistic summary of what was heard, regardless of whether it was in reference to a Master Plan or Operational recommendation.

As part of the preparation of the updated Wascana Centre Master Plan, all feedback will be considered along with an understanding of the policy context and the professional expertise of the project team to identify what can be address through the Master Plan and what cannot.

Theme 1: Reconciliation

In a master plan context:

Reconciliation is a process that requires ongoing commitment and work by all partners. It cannot be achieved with a single act but should be developed collaboratively through meaningful discussion.

The following key themes were derived from feedback heard throughout all engagements:

 **Designate and Create Space for Ceremonial and Cultural Use.** Different types of Indigenous cultural ceremonies are held in different locations—the surroundings must be appropriate for each event. Would like a place to be established in the Centre to help Indigenous people living in the city heal, accept, and let go. Ensure use of a pipe is accepted and Indigenous medicinal plants are accessible. Specially designated spaces for ceremony are important.

 **Create Indigenous-focused Facilities.** Develop protected Indigenous spaces and facilities in Wascana that reflect Indigenous worldviews and support access to ceremony. Examples could include a Tipi and Pow Wow facility in the Meadow, a sweat lodge, a stage for cultural events or other public spaces to share Truths in support of reconciliation.

 **Engage Communities in Developing Design and Management Practices.** Create opportunities for Elders, Knowledge Keepers and communities to inform how spaces are created and maintained. Leverage local knowledge to ensure cultural practices and protocols are reflected and respected. Create opportunities for sharing knowledge within spaces and through design processes to support of reconciliation and healing.

 **Restore and Preserve the Natural Prairie Landscape.** Restore land to a natural prairie landscape. Create space for cultural ceremonies on restored prairie landscapes to reflect traditional conditions and ensure access to plants and medicines needed for ceremony.

 **Integrate Indigenous Worldview into Planning Tools.** Engage partnerships with FNUC and other Indigenous communities and groups to authentically reflect Indigenous worldview in policy and plans. Consider how commonly used terms can imply a colonial framework.

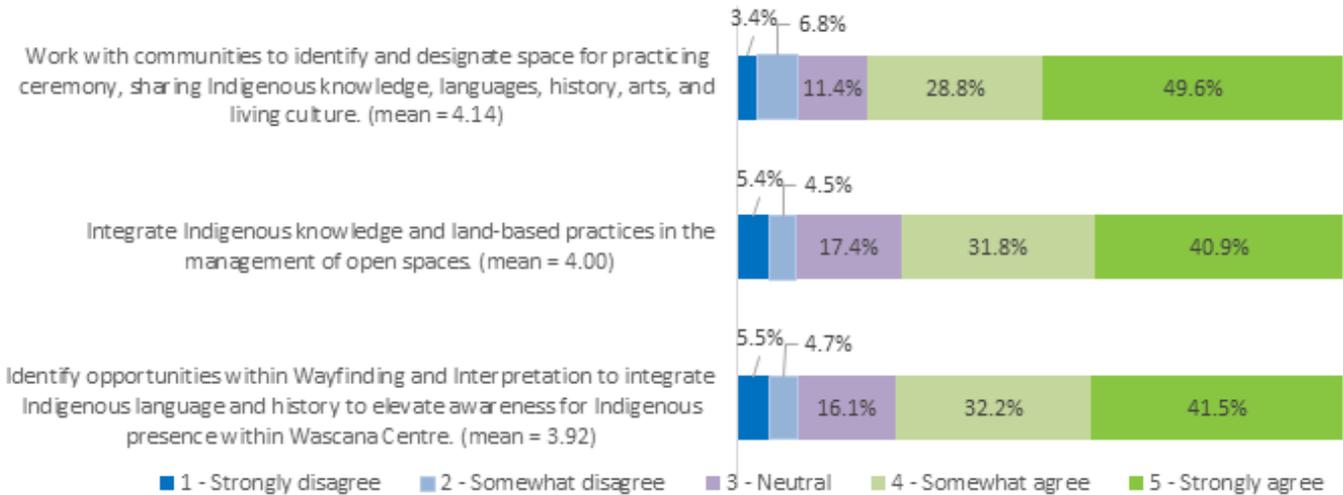
 **Ensure Indigenous Representation on PCC Board.** Ensure Indigenous representatives are part of decision-making processes that impact communities and their treaty rights on the land.

 **Create Advisory and Staff Roles for Indigenous Knowledge Keepers.** Create a standing advisory body to engage consistently on projects and practices. Develop consistent practices for engaging Indigenous community and Rights Holders, including Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and land-based educators. Provide space for Indigenous Knowledge Keepers to share practices, protocols, and inform decision-making.

 - Indicates feedback heard from Indigenous Voices

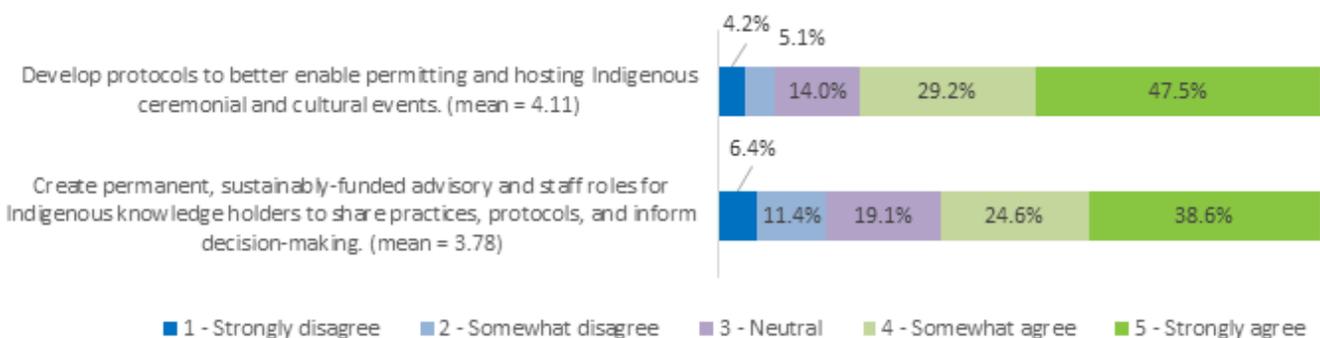
Survey results show that more than 70% of respondents agree with the three Master Plan recommendations underpinning Reconciliation, evidenced by a rating of 4 (somewhat agree) or 5 (strongly agree). Less than 18% respondents have neutral attitudes toward them and approximately 10% disagree with them.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the draft master plan recommendations for Reconciliation:



More than 60% of respondents support the two draft Operational recommendations for Reconciliation. Less than 20% of respondents disagree with them and less than 20% have neutral attitudes.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the draft operational recommendations for Reconciliation:



Theme 2: Sustainability

In a master plan context:

Sustainability impacts several aspects of the Master Plan from how spaces are designed and cared for to suitable and compatible uses throughout Wascana Centre. Sustainability prioritizes the needs, values, sounds, and benefits of the natural environment as a limited resource over the desires of users within a place.

The following key themes were derived from feedback heard throughout all engagements:

Preserve Hybrid Landscape Character. Support integration of local prairie ecologies throughout the active park and conservation areas. Ensure existing landscape character is still present.

Concerns With Pesticide/Herbicide Use. Support management practices that move to elimination of pesticide and herbicide use. Perceive pesticide use as contrary to sustainability goals. Concern for negative impacts on insect, animal, and human health and safety in relation to pesticide/herbicide use. Understanding that pesticide-free may not be realistic, consider use as part of larger plan and last resort.

Explore Alternative Landscape Management Approaches. Support for developing alternative practices using plants, animals and insects to manage weeds and pests. Consider opportunities to engage Indigenous experts in traditional practices.

Prioritize Sustainable Policies and Leadership. Adopt and champion sustainable practices and policies throughout Wascana. Identify opportunities to be leaders in sustainability and create more opportunities for active participation in communities.

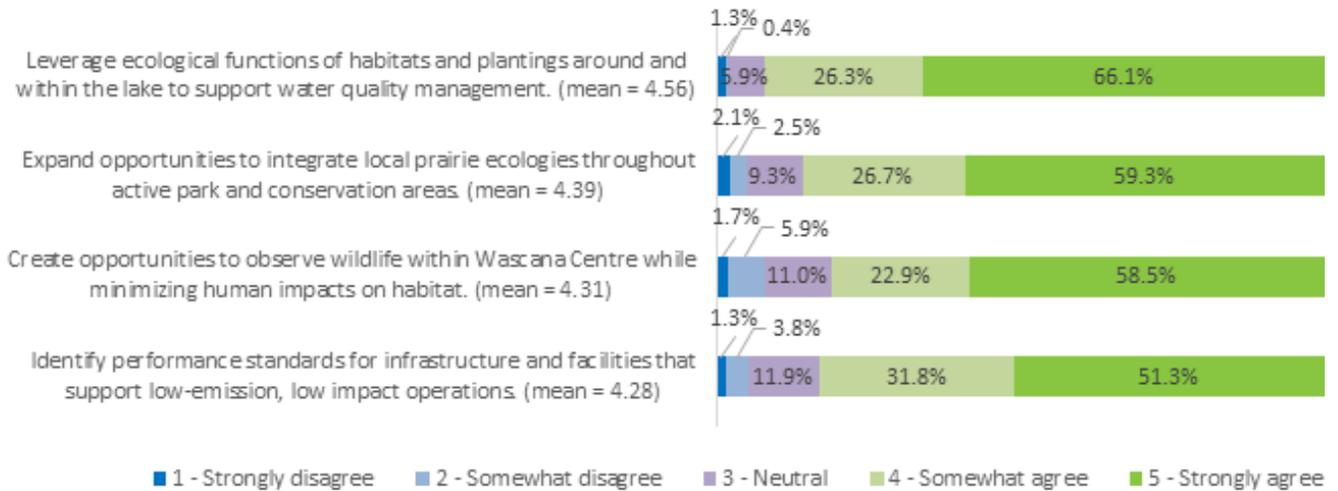
Balance Natural and Manicured Areas. Explore ecological-based landscape maintenance within areas of higher-intensity use and maintenance. Identify specific high use and high visibility areas within the Centre to receive high levels of maintenance and let other areas be more natural.

Enhance Opportunities for Wildlife Viewing. Enhance and use existing opportunities for wildlife observation throughout the park. Waterfowl display ponds are no longer functioning as intended. Consider replacing ponds with viewing platforms or boardwalks to allow viewing without disturbing the wildlife in the Pelican Island and Goose Island area. Balance opportunities with experiencing and viewing wildlife with the habitat needs of the wildlife. Prioritize the protection and enhancement of habitat for sensitive species over the opportunities for human use.

Address Goose Control. Improve and prioritize goose control in the Centre. The geese are viewed as an obstacle from enjoying the park. It is perceived that the population has increased with many areas 'over-run' by geese.

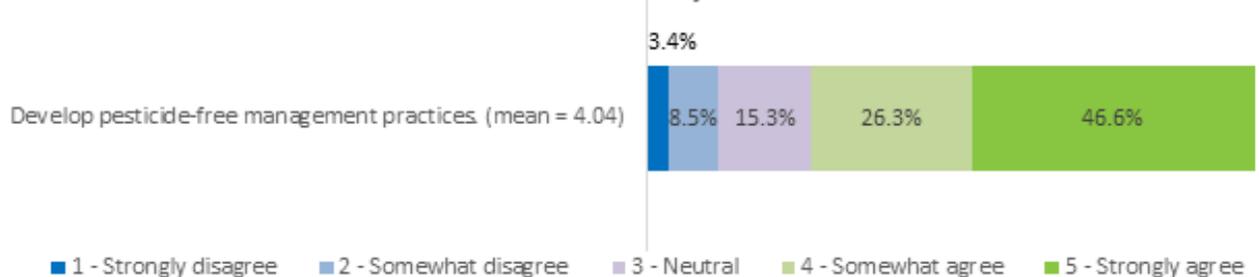
Based on survey results, more than 80% of respondents express agreement with the four draft master plan recommendations around Sustainability. Disagreement is observed in less than 8% of respondents and less than 12% are neutral.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the draft master plan recommendations for Sustainability:



The below graph provides survey result for operational recommendations provided under Sustainability. More than 70% of respondents (72.9%) agree with the draft operational recommendation to develop pesticide-free management practices, whereas 15.3% have no opinion and 11.9% disagree with it. Strong agreement is found in 46.6% of respondents and 26.3% somewhat agree.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the draft operational recommendation for Sustainability:



Theme 3: Equity

In a master plan context: Equity is concerned with creating opportunities that support users of diverse ages, abilities, socio-economic status, and backgrounds within the spaces of Wascana Centre. It considers designing for the most vulnerable users to support safety for a broad audience as well as alleviating physical and economic barriers.

The following key themes were derived from feedback heard throughout all engagements:

Create a Community Advisory Committee. Leverage interest and momentum generated by Master Plan Review process to create a standing advisory body for all Wascana Centre projects. Use advisory to help with public awareness, communications and demystifying decision-making processes. Selection of committee members should follow an equitable and open process and avoid individuals that represent corporate interests. Ensuring the advisory has meaningful involvement in decision making will support public confidence in the effectiveness and value of the committee.

Address Safety Concerns. Find balance between policing and community initiatives to enhance everyone's safety. Consider where roads and pathways could be changed to enhance safety in the Centre. Ensuring that everyone has access to safety resources and can contact them.

Accessibility. Existing conditions, both for accessible facilities within the Centre and accessing Wascana facilities on public transportation are seen as significant obstacles. Current roadway network seen as a positive for accessibility needs, but pathways connections are not consistently usable for visitors of all abilities.

Provide Paths For Specific Uses.

Rules for e-scooters and pedal-assist bikes are not consistently enforced on shared pathways. Consider providing pedestrian-only spaces in busiest areas to reduce conflicts.

Prioritize Open Spaces Over

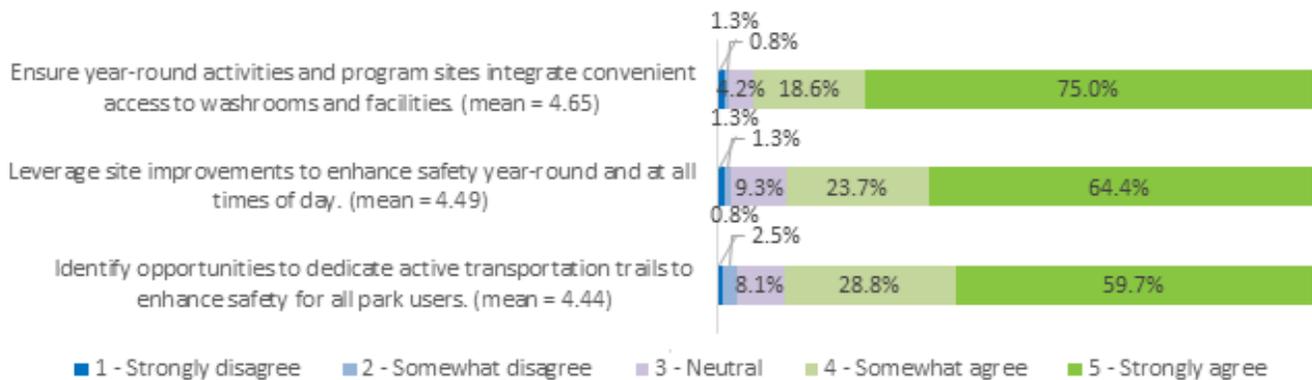
New Buildings. Secure funding, support and clear guidelines for managing and protecting the flora and fauna within the Centre. Perception that recent effort has focused exclusively on enhancing buildings and not addressed landscape needs adequately.

More Car-free Zones. Reduce car use in the Centre so that cyclists, scooter users, skateboarders and pedestrians can safely use the Centre. Consider making roads around the lake one-way for vehicles, and using other lane for bikes, scooters and e-bikes.

Year-round Washrooms. Washroom access is an issue at different times of day and throughout the year. Increase access to washrooms year-round and beyond daylight hours. Consider providing gender neutral washrooms.

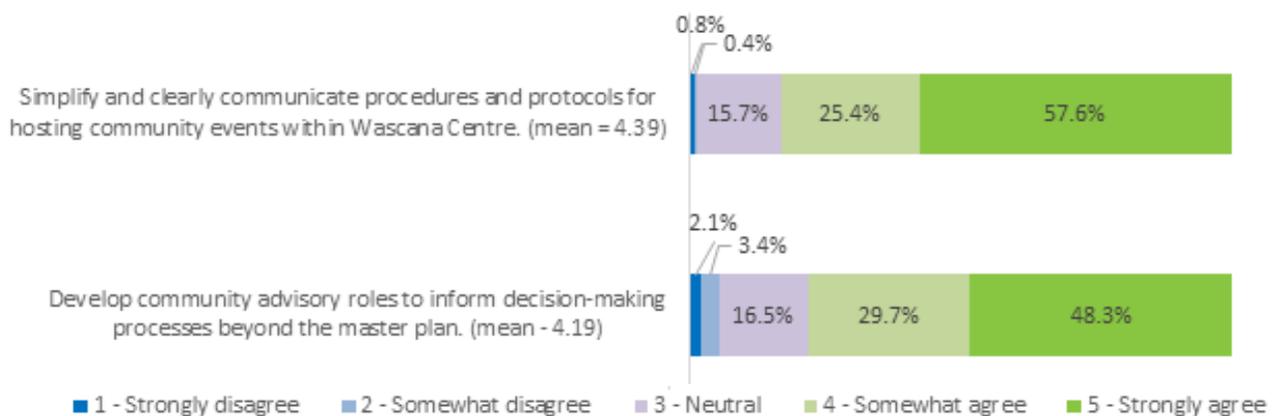
According to survey results, more than 85% of respondents agree with the draft master plan recommendations for Equity. Less than 10% are neutral and less than 4% disagree with these recommendations.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the draft master plan recommendations for Equity:



The below graph illustrates survey results for the operational recommendations contained under Equity. More than 75% of respondents agree with the draft operational recommendations for equity and about 15% have no opinion on them.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the draft operational recommendations for Equity:



Theme 4: Heritage

In a master plan context: Heritage explores what makes a site significant through physical objects and the stories of the place. It should reflect the diversity and complexity of all inhabitants as well as the rich natural history of Wascana Centre.

The following key themes were derived from feedback heard throughout all engagements:

 **Use Indigenous Language and Values.** Respect Indigenous people and reflect Indigenous values and connections in policy and spaces. Incorporate Indigenous languages into signage throughout the Centre.

 **Integrate Indigenous Knowledge.** Integrate Indigenous knowledge and practices into landscape management through employment of Indigenous ecologists and historians.

Use of Markers. Significant places need markers and options such as QR codes and tablets ensuring people can learn about the history at leisure.

Ensure Equal Access for all Cultural Groups. Ensure equal access for all cultural groups and avoid spaces exclusively for specific groups. The Centre should be a space where all individuals can practice their culture and reflect the diversity of Regina and Saskatchewan.

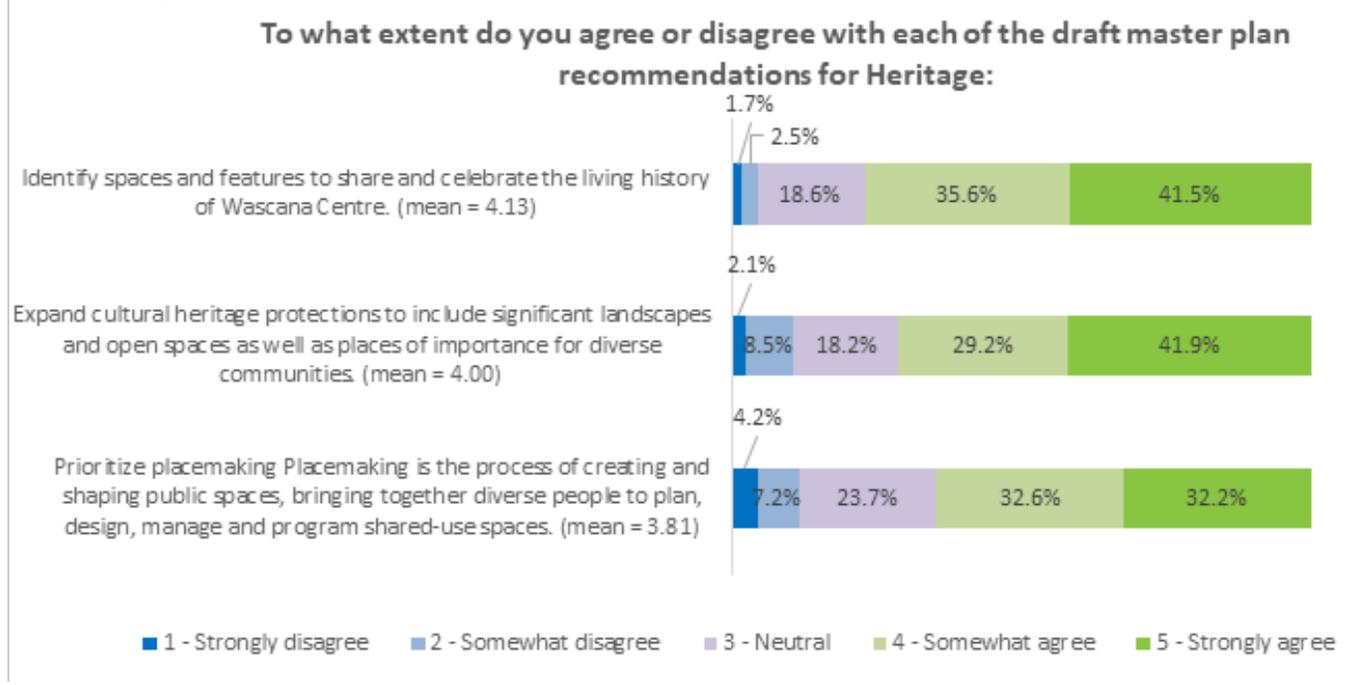
 **Focus on Collaborative Approach with Indigenous Groups.** Collaboration with First Nations, Métis, and Indigenous groups and should be prioritized over individuals to ensure the best course of action. Reconciliation involves nation-to-nation involvement. Consider co-developing and updating protocols and bylaws with Elders.

Examine Number and Type of Monuments. Review current monuments and memorials throughout the Centre. Monuments hold a place of significance in Wascana Centre, but should be selective. Move towards fewer monuments in the Centre.

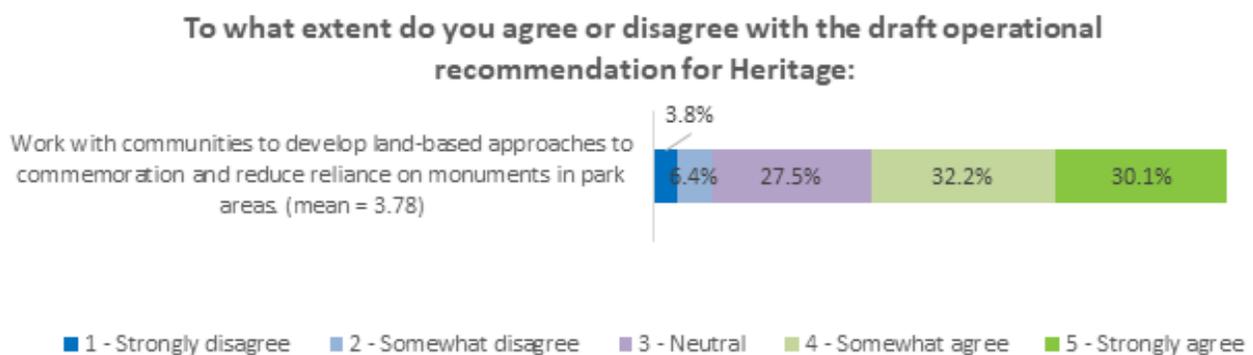
Take an Adaptive Approach to Monuments. Heritage should reflect everyone. Avoid removing all existing memorials and monuments; instead consider opportunities to add information and companion pieces to introduce diverse stories. Consider opportunities to relocate monuments within more appropriate contexts and sites. Use existing monuments to acknowledge the past and learn from it.

 - Indicates feedback heard from Indigenous Voices

Based on survey results, more than 60% of respondents agree with the draft master plan recommendations for Heritage. Compared to other topics in the master plan review, the draft recommendations around heritage garnered the most neutral responses (18 to 24%).



The below graph provides survey results for the operational recommendations relating to Heritage. More than 60% of respondents agree with the operational recommendation for Heritage to work with communities to develop land-based approaches to commemoration and reduce reliance on monuments in park areas (mean = 3.78). Of this group, 30.1% agree strongly and 32.2% agree somewhat with the recommendation.



2.3 Demonstration Plan Feedback

In Stage 3, updates to the draft demonstration plan were developed based on prior feedback and projects identified through PCC's formal project review process. These updates were shared by way of presentation boards, in-person presentations and targeted survey questions. Given the limited nature of physical changes proposed overall, changes for several planning areas were grouped together.

In general, responses to the survey noted a need for additional clarity on the specifics of the changes for all spaces. This detail was provided at the in-person events through a presentation and posted on the website as a recording midway through the survey response period. Additional effort to direct survey participants to the recording may have helped clarify the changes for participants.

South of College, Legislative Grounds, and Wascana Headland Planning Areas

Support for Cultural Use of Meadow Area. Proposed change seen as preferable to current use. Identification as a space for Indigenous uses and celebrations perceived as appropriate, but need to ensure the space is properly serviced to accommodate the proposed changes. Community should be engaged when detailed proposals for the site are brought forward.

Conexus Art Centre, Family Parkland and Douglas Park Planning Areas

Keep Trails That Are Well Used. The intention of relocating the trails is unclear. Ideally the trails would be improved instead of relocated.

Impacts to Disc Golf Holes. Identify ways to avoid impacts to the existing disc golf holes on Boot Hill and Douglas Park. Concerns over other changes within Douglas Park that have impacted course and not engaged with disc golf user group.

Add More Pathways. Confusion over rationale for relocating or removing pedestrian bridges from the plan instead of adding more. Concerns over how relocated bridges would connect and enhance existing pedestrian network along scenic drives.

Prioritize Wildlife Protection. Relocating trails and bridge locations could disturb wildlife. Keeping the landscape as natural as possible and avoiding increased human presence near waterfowl nesting sanctuary should remain a top priority.



2.4 Revised Vision and Principles Feedback

In Stage 2, a vision and updated principles for guiding the Master Plan were shared with the public. Feedback was provided as part of Stage 2 public participation activities. In Stage 3, both the vision and principles were revised and shared back out to the public to confirm that updates aligned with what we had heard.

The current Review and Renewal process has intentionally taken an open approach to feedback—acknowledging all comments received regardless of relevance to the Master Plan update. As a result, not all feedback noted here is applicable to this Master Plan or within the purview of PCC to address. Considerations through other processes and procedures or by other agencies may be needed and fall outside the scope of what can be achieved through this Master Plan update process.

A Vision for the Next 100 Years:

Wascana Centre is a place to gather, share, and celebrate the history and diversity of Saskatchewan. It demonstrates stewardship of public land for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future generations through conservation, recreation, education, and culture.

Education is Vital to the Vision.

Education should reflect the entire history of the land. From an Indigenous perspective, everything educates us including Mother Earth and the Universe. If a monument is put up in the future to represent history, education will be a vital component.

Agreement with the Vision. The vision is all encompassing and is something we should be proud of. It honours the past while acknowledging the future we want to move towards. Agreement with pieces about recreation, education, and culture. Appreciate reference to gather, share, and celebrate.

Improve Public Awareness About Wascana.

Wascana should be better marketed to illustrate what the Centre has to offer. Particularly if there are cultural and Indigenous events, how are these being promoted? How are Indigenous People supposed to know?

Clarify How the Vision Will Be Used.

Interest in knowing how the vision will guide the development of the plan including principles and recommendations, and if the vision has been approved.

Placekeeping and Placemaking

In general there was acknowledgment that the principles within Placekeeping and Placemaking reflected an appropriate level of detail for a master plan. Additional considerations that should be explored are:

Designate Space for Protest. Acknowledge protesting, including needs for overnight use, as permissible use in the Centre as part of reconciliation.

Allow Opportunities for Ceremonies.

Hold ceremonies in Wascana, such as Round Dance, Pow Wow, and winter ceremonies. Ensure ceremonies follow the protocols and traditions of the people they are for. Ceremony is important for prayer, healing, and must be repeated. Ensure access to the land for ceremonies is not interrupted.

Use and Experience

Reconsider Use of “Visitors”. Using the word “visitors” could be understood as a priority for Wascana Centre to cater to people visiting Regina. Local people may not consider themselves visitors.

Make Policies Clearer and More Accessible. Recommend better supports for existing policies and easier application processes for having cultural events in the Centre. Indigenous peoples’ gatherings are viewed differently by different communities. Consider developing policies and protocols with Indigenous peoples to help clarify and set expectations for different ceremony types for PCC staff and public.

Consider Universal Access for Signs. Ensure that signage is readable for everyone. Consider using multiple languages, including those of new Canadians.

Include Strategies to Engage Children and Youth. Integrate specific strategies to engage children and youth in the Master Plan process.

Enhance Views From Douglas Park. View from Douglas Park to the U of R and FNUC is beautiful. Include and provide guidance on enhancing it within the Master Plan.

Revisit Guidance On Viewshed Impacts. Reconsider guidance with respect to views surrounding the Centre and advising the city on the suitable heights for buildings in the area given advancements in tools and models for assessing view impacts. Perimeter of Wascana Centre faces increased development pressure and there is a need for consistent application of guidance around views.

Consider Event Uses for Open Spaces. The lawn around the Legislature Building would be very useful for events. There needs to be a space that is for people.

Movement

Consider How ‘Accessibility’ is Defined. Need to be mindful of how mobility is promoted, and how accessibility is defined. The Centre is there for everyone but realistically, it cannot be accessed by everyone depending on mobility.

Address Parking Limitations. New activities in the Centre will bring more vehicles to Wascana, and the amount of free parking availability is already limited. Additional parking and parking management are not reflected in the plan.

Address Safety Concerns Related to Traffic. Consider lowering the speed limit within the Centre to 30km/hour.

Improve Safety for People on the Pathways. Improve safety for people on the pathways. Instances noted of people being hit by bicycles from behind.

Address Noise Concerns. Consider ways to suppress noise that flows into the Centre near the bridge over the creek. The amount of noise can be disturbing.

Stewardship and Sustainability

Maintain Cleanliness of the Centre. Prioritize maintenance of the Centre for all people to enjoy. Specifically, proactively managing goose poop.

Reduce Water Use. Prioritize practices to reduce water use while finding ways to maintain green grass. Choose plants that reduce water use.

Integrate Plan for Ecological Changes. Consider and plan for ecological changes such as tree die off. Concerns expressed regarding ecological resilience and how it is being considered.

Engage the Public in Conservation. Clarify how conservation is included in the plan, and identify meaningful ways for the public to participate.

Other Discussion

Use Language to Represent Saskatchewan Residents as Stakeholders of the Centre.

The language within the plan should be more reflective of the Centre belonging to all residents of Saskatchewan.

Consider the Addition of an “Adult Playground”.

Other urban parks include an “adult playground” of workout equipment. This can be strategically placed on the paths to encourage adults to exercise and bring out their curiosity.

Define Where Programming is Represented.

From the lens of education, define which of the recommendations is most appropriate to weave educational programming into.

Use of Unclear Terms or Vague Language.

Unclear what is meant by land-based approaches. Unclear which communities specifically are being referenced. Clarify the meaning of “Mature and Developing Areas”—consider using “Developed” and “Undeveloped” Areas.

Engage with Existing User Groups to Coordinate Improvements.

Concerns over recently implemented improvements to roadways (speed humps) and lack of improvements to other areas of the Centre (marina) were shared. User groups noted that investment was needed to address safety and state-of-repair issues for public facilities. Groups noted PCC's current project identification and review process places a significant burden on community-run groups to commission costly studies to propose changes even if they are of public benefit.

Clarity Around How the Centre is Monitored.

Bring clarity to how groups of people gain access to use the Centre for gatherings, and how this is monitored.

Increase Public Engagement for Pickle Ball Courts.

Interest in finding a new location for pickle ball courts. Some pickle ball courts are under construction without any previous public engagement. Construction in Douglas Park related to the courts makes it “almost impossible to use that area of the park.”

Removal of Wascana South.

The removal of Wascana South from the study boundary of the Wascana Centre Master Plan was a decision made by the PCC Board separate from the Master Plan Review and Renewal process. Given the timing of this decision during the Master Plan review, questions were raised during Stage 3 engagement events including concern with the status of Wascana Centre as part of the “Top 10 Urban Parks” after the removal, expectations for proactive consultation regarding the removal of the parcel, and concerns regarding commercial development and future uses of Wascana South.

Other comments/questions:

- The U of R and FNUC are developing their own master plans. Have there been engagements with that and how do they work together?



2.5 Next Steps

While the Master Plan Review and Renewal process endeavours to address and integrate opportunities identified through public participation, not everything we hear can be addressed through this process.

This summary represents the full extent of what was shared across all the public participation activities and stakeholder engagement in Stage 3. As part of Stage 4, DTAH will continue to work with the PCC to update the draft master plan for Wascana Centre. All public and stakeholder input will be considered for either the updated Master Plan or PCC's operational and strategic planning as appropriate. The team will leverage DTAH's professional expertise along with PCC's policy and procedural context to determine the most suitable application for addressing feedback.

The final draft Master Plan will be shared with the public and other participants for input and feedback as part of Stage 4. Stage 4 public participation will focus on comments and feedback collected through an online comments portal. No further public participation events have been identified as part of the Public Participation Plan set out for this Master Plan Review and Renewal process.

For more information and updates, please visit [Wascana.ca](https://wascana.ca).



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