



ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ACRD enters second phase of aquatics study by launching survey

ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT – The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) is beginning the second phase of community engagement for the Alberni Valley Aquatics Outreach project with an interactive survey.

This phase will walk participants through options for building design and elements to add to their design. It will share high-level costs and will provide them with household cost estimates based on the facility they designed.

This is an opportunity for residents to *Dive into the Future* and provide guidance on future visioning, financing, and governance as the feasibility of a replacement for our current Echo Aquatic Centre is assessed. The information gathered in the survey will inform the future of aquatics in the Alberni Valley.

In the first survey, the ACRD received 1,250 responses, with 86.6 percent of respondents indicating they support a new indoor aquatic centre in the Alberni Valley to replace the existing Echo Aquatic Centre. The survey results by community were:

| Community | Respondents | Yes | No | It Depends |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Port Alberni | 873 | 90.4% (789) | 4% (35) | 5.6% (49) |
| Tseshaht First Nation | 19 | 89.5% (17) | 10.5% (2) | 0% (0) |
| Beaufort | 23 | 87% (20) | 4.3% (1) | 8.7% (2) |
| Beaver Creek | 161 | 85.7% (138) | 8.1% (13) | 6.2% (10) |
| Cherry Creek | 81 | 85.2% (69) | 4.9% (4) | 9.9% (8) |
| Sproat Lake | 67 | 85.1% (57) | 9% (6) | 6% (4) |

The results highlighted that the new facility should be family-friendly and fun, have a balanced focus on leisure, skill development, recreational swimming, and fitness, be accessible to all ages and abilities, and affordable for the community.

The survey is available on the ACRD Let's Connect page, or you can request a paper copy by emailing us or coming to the Regional District office.



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The ACRD will host another open house later this month, with more details coming soon.

More information and updated Frequently Asked Questions can be found at www.letsconnectacrd.ca or email aquatics@acrd.bc.ca for questions. To get regular updates, sign up on Let's Connect.

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