

HOUSING NEEDS QUESTIONNAIRE

Help Shape the Future of Housing in the Town of Smoky Lake!

We are conducting this survey to better understand the housing needs of our community, with a special focus on affordable housing. Your input is critical to informing the development of policies and initiatives that will ensure residents in the Town of Smoky Lake have access to safe, affordable, and quality housing.

Whether you rent, own, or are currently facing housing challenges, your responses will help guide local decision-making on issues like housing affordability, availability, and community planning. This is your opportunity to have a voice in the future of housing in our town.

This survey is completely anonymous, and your answers will be kept confidential. It should take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Thank you for sharing your thoughts and helping us build a more sustainable, inclusive community!

Completed surveys should be submitted no later than February 21, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

For any questions, please contact: Pam Routhier, Development Officer at 780-656-3674 or email development@smokylake.ca.

SECTION A – DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

1. How old are you?

- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65+

2. How many people live in your household?

- Please specify: _____

3. What is your current employment status?

- Full-time
- Part-time
- Unemployed
- Retired
- Student
- Other (please specify): _____

4. What is your total household income (before taxes)?

- Below \$25,000
- \$25,000 - \$50,000
- \$50,000 - \$75,000
- \$75,000 - \$100,000
- Over \$100,000
- Prefer not to say

5. What is your current housing situation?

- Rent
- Own
- Live with family/friends
- Other (please specify): _____

SECTION B – CURRENT HOUSING SITUATION AND AFFORDABILITY

6. How much do you pay for housing each month?

- Less than \$500
- \$500 - \$1,000
- \$1,000 - \$1,500
- \$1,500 - \$2,000
- Over \$2,000

7. How much of your monthly income goes towards housing costs?

- Less than 30%
- 30 – 50%
- More than 50%

8. Do you consider your current housing situation to be affordable?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

9. If no, what makes your current housing unaffordable? (Select all that apply)

- Rent is too high
- Utilities are too expensive
- Property taxes are too high
- Maintenance costs are too high
- I don't have enough income to cover basic needs
- Other (please specify): _____

SECTION C – HOUSING PREFERENCES AND NEEDS

10. What type of housing are you interested in? (Select all that apply)

- Single-Family Home
- Apartment/Condo
- Townhouse
- Multi-Family Home
- Shared Housing (e.g. roommate situation)
- Accessory dwelling unit (e.g. in-law unit)

11. What is the ideal number of bedrooms for your household?

- Studio/1 bedroom
- 2 bedrooms
- 3 bedrooms
- 4+ bedrooms

12. Would you be interested in affordable housing programs if they were affordable?

- Yes
 - No
 - Maybe (please explain why or why not)
-

13. What monthly rent or mortgage payment would you consider affordable for your household?

- Less than \$500
- \$500 - \$1,000
- \$1,000 - \$1,500
- \$1,500 - \$2,000
- Over \$2,000

14. What amenities are most important to you in affordable housing? (Select all that apply)

- Proximity to work/school
- Safety and security
- Parking
- Laundry facilities
- Pet-friendly
- Outdoor space (yard, park)
- Energy-efficient or eco-friendly features
- Other (please specify): _____

SECTION D – BARRIERS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

15. What are the biggest barriers you face in finding affordable housing?

(Select all that apply)

- High rent prices
- Lack of available units
- Not enough affordable housing in my preferred area
- High down payment or credit requirements (for buying)
- Discrimination (e.g. race, family size, disability, etc.)
- Lack of housing for large families
- Insufficient support for low-income households
- Other (please specify): _____

16. Do you feel that there is enough affordable housing in the Town of Smoky Lake?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

17. Do you believe there is a need for more affordable housing in the Town of Smoky Lake?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

SECTION E – SUPPORT FOR POLICY OR PROGRAM SOLUTIONS

18. Would you support the development of more affordable housing in the Town, even if it meant increased density or building on vacant land?

- Yes
 - No
 - Maybe (please explain why or why not)
-

19. What types of affordable housing initiatives do you think would best address the community's needs? (Select all that apply)

- Rent control policies
- More government-subsidized housing
- Mixed-income housing developments
- Rental assistance programs
- Financial assistance for first-time homebuyers
- Support for homeownership (e.g. low-interest loans, down payment assistance)
- Zoning changes to allow more housing construction
- Other (please specify): _____

20. Do you believe the local government should be more involved in providing affordable housing solutions?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

SECTION F – OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

21. What do you think is the most important issue when it comes to affordable housing in our community? _____

22. What suggestions do you have for improving affordable housing options in the area? _____

23. Are there any other housing-related concerns or needs you would like to share? _____

Please use the attached envelope to anonymously return your completed survey to the Town office, either using the drop box or at the front desk.

Thank you for taking the time to provide your feedback!