

GRAND MARAIS STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN



Participants at the pop-up public engagement event at the Grand Marais Farmer's Market.

PREPARED FOR:
THE RM OF ST CLEMENTS

OCTOBER 2018

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PURPOSE OF THE STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

Scatliff + Miller + Murray (SMM) was retained by the Rural Municipality of St. Clements (RM) to lead a condensed strategic planning and community engagement process in the community of Grand Marais. The focus of the exercise was to work with the Grand Marais community to take a critical look at past plans, strategies and reports and, in turn, review what actions within those documents remain relevant and feasible. Further, through discussions with key stakeholders and Grand Marais residents, the exercise also determined new opportunities for action. By bringing together these previous plans with the community's current aspirations, the exercise produced a plan to address the challenges presently facing Grand Marais.

Some of the key challenges, which are interrelated, include:

- the development of PTH 12 into Grand Beach, which effectively by-passed Grand Marais;
- the declining health of Lake Winnipeg;
- a softening cottage market within the South Basin of Lake Winnipeg;
- receding tourism numbers to the Grand Beach area; and,
- erosion of Grand Marais commercial sector, which has been affected by business closures, vacant storefronts, and deteriorating properties.

However, despite these challenges, Grand Marais retains a strong sense of community, rooted in its rich history and sustained by multi-generational cottagers. The intent of this Strategic Action Plan is to identify concrete steps that the RM can take, in collaboration with the Grand Marais community, to strengthen the local economy, stimulate new development, support reinvestment, and attract visitors.

PROCESS

The strategic planning process was divided into three (3) phases, carried out over a three-month period.

Phase 1 consisted of a background document review. The intent of the review was to gain a familiarity with the Grand Marais context, its previous plans, and past planned projects. The primary documents reviewed included:

- RM of St. Clements Grand Marais Secondary Plan (2013)
- St. Clements Destination Trails Concept Plan (2011)
- Destination Grand Marais Committee Grand Marais Redevelopment Plan Phase 1 (2007)

Phase 2 was focussed on stakeholder and public engagement – a central component of the project. A stakeholder profile was completed with assistance from RM staff to identify groups with key interests in Grand Marais. Key stakeholder interviews were held with ten individuals representing various groups, including the Grand Beach and Area Development Corporation, Grand Beach Cottage Owners Association, Southeast Regional Manitoba Metis Federation, Eastman Tourism, and Red River North Trails Association. The results of the key stakeholder interviews were used to discern the major issues affecting Grand Marais and identify opportunities to address those issues.

Two pop-up public engagement events were held, coinciding with the Grand Marais Farmer's Market held at the Grand Marais Community Central on Friday, August 24 and Saturday, August 25. The public engagement included a stall set-up at the Farmer's Market displaying a large banner map as well as smaller paper maps on a table. A one-page, double-sided survey was distributed to anyone interested (**Appendix A**). An adjacent stall was used for a separate but related public engagement on locating a public boat launch in the Grand Marais community. Both days of the Farmer's Market had a significant public turnout. Nearly 300 paper surveys were handed out and several dozen one-on-one or small group discussions were held.

The final phase was to compile the results of the surveys and develop a list of actions recommended for the RM including timelines and responsibility for implementation.

RESULTS

The public engagement events resulted in 162 survey forms being returned. Respondents were directed to either fill out a Residents section for those identifying as seasonal or permanent residents in the Grand Marais area or a Visitors section. The compiled results of the surveys are available in **Appendix B**.

The demographics of the respondents were generally 51+ years old, 1-2 person households that were seasonal residents of Grand Marais or Grand Beach, who have been in the community for 10 plus years. Respondents are attracted to the area largely by the close proximity of Grand Beach Provincial Park. Also notable in the responses, as well as indicated in the discussions was the prevalence of family history related to “the cottage” or “the beach”. Many people indicated that they were the second or third generation in their family to have a seasonal residence in Grand Marais or Grand Beach.

When asked “what is the best thing here?”, as well as “what is the one image that pops into your mind when you think of Grand Marais?”, the respondents overwhelmingly replied “the beach”. When asked to describe their future ideal community in three words, the words “friendly” and “vibrant community” were highly prevalent in the responses. When asked “what elements do you think are missing from this area”, “boat launch” was the leading response.

It was found that the results of the survey focused significantly on the presence and preferred location for a boat launch in Grand Marais. This finding was corroborated by the discussions held with attendees at the event. The tendency for participants to place an emphasis on the issue of a boat launch may have been related to the second, separate public engagement regarding the boat launch study.

After consideration of a boat launch and marina there were several other priority items that came from the survey results. When asked “where in Grand Marais the RM should focus its energy?”, initiatives garnering significant support included: attract more businesses and restaurants; bylaw enforcement; develop waterfront; improve streetscape; and park and trail development (**Figure 1**). The final five categories (hotel, water/sewer, retirement activities, medical services, and community garden) were all written in the “other” category.

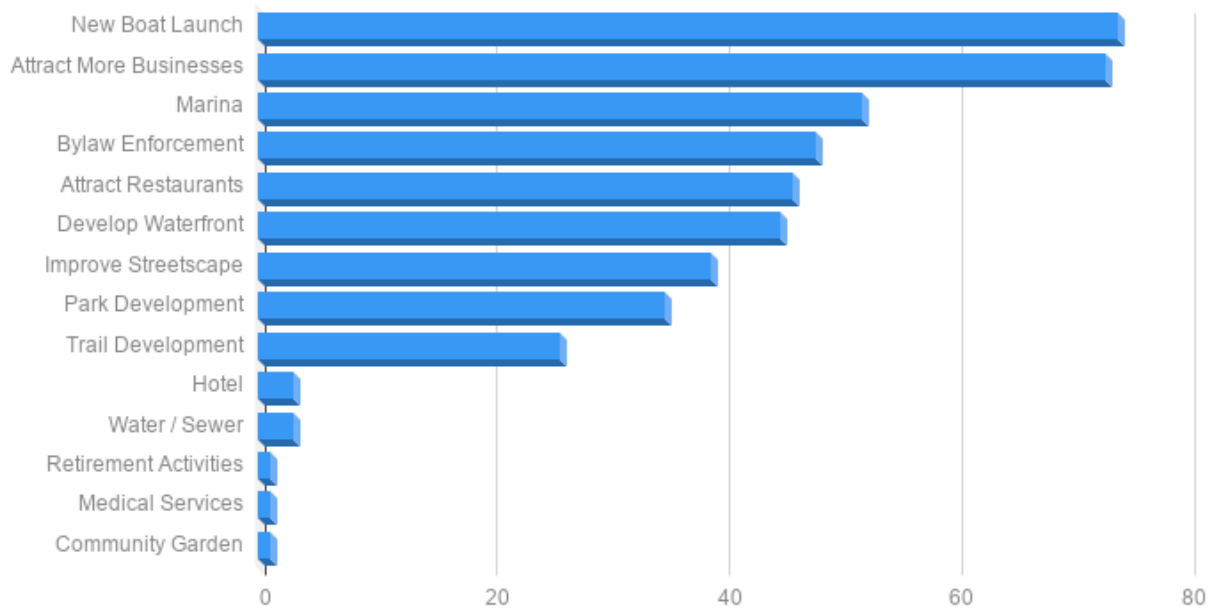


FIGURE 1: Resident's responses (143 total) to the question: "In your opinion, where in Grand Marais should the RM focus its energy?"
(choose your top 3)"

ACTIONS

Informed by the review of previous plans, an analysis of the survey results, and key stakeholder interviews, the following section outlines 22 strategic actions for the RM and the community of Grand Marais to implement. The strategies are organized under the following five categories:

- 1** Community Building and Economic Development
- 2** Places to Play – Recreation
- 3** Places to Stay
- 4** Working Together – Governance and Partnerships
- 5** Infrastructure and Planning

COMMUNITY BUILDING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

While generating new economic development opportunities will require action to attract investment from outside of Grand Marais' borders, future planning initiatives should begin by prioritizing those currently invested in the community, including residents, business owners, and land holders. By doing so, a greater sense of ownership over the community can be generated amongst these key stakeholders, allowing a more positive perception of Grand Marais to be conveyed to others. For this reason, community building and economic development are presented as a unified category, for which six (6) strategic actions have been identified.

ACTION 1: Establish an Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) to work directly with the Economic Development Officer (EDO).

The intent of the Committee will be to advise future policy and program decisions to encourage and support economic development not only in Grand Marais, but across the entire RM.

Key Considerations:

- Offer regional perspectives by including members from various areas across the RM.
- Ensure different interest groups are represented, including local businesses, residents, and community groups.
- Balance current needs with future objectives by establishing annual targets, such as number of operating businesses or seasonal revenue increases.
- May require budget allocation to cover costs associated with: commissioning research/studies, developing marketing materials, and undertaking community engagement initiatives.

ACTION 2: Develop and implement a storefront improvement program on a pilot-basis to offer modest matching grants to businesses and commercial building owners to offset design and capital costs.

The intent of the pilot program is to test its efficacy in inducing private reinvestment in commercial properties, with the overall goal of renewing Grand Marais' commercial area and increasing property values.

Key Considerations:

- The pilot program could be developed and administered by the EDO or prospective EDAC.
- The program would provide matching grants to cover hard costs for eligible storefront improvements, such as enhanced signage, exterior lighting, awnings, patio fixtures, exterior cladding, new doors/windows, etc. In addition, a portion of funds could be allocated to offset professional design consulting fees.
- The value of grants will be subject to available funds for the pilot program. Typically, storefront improvement programs provide matching grants up to 50% (to a maximum upset limit) of eligible costs.
- Program should be evaluated after one year to measure outcomes and determine future implementation.

ACTION 3: Explore the establishment of a business incubation program to help local entrepreneurs launch their businesses, and at the same time, reactivate underutilized commercial spaces in Grand Marais.

The intent of a business incubator is to help match owners of underutilized commercial properties with new business operators, in addition to supporting the establishment and stabilization of those new businesses.

Key Considerations:

- The implementation of this sort of program will require partnership with local property owners.
- Identification of potential businesses should be done through a public Expression of Interest process.
- Grants for this sort of programming may be available through the Provincial Government via the Community Development Branch of the Municipal Relations Department.

ACTION 4: Create and maintain an inventory of properties in Grand Marais that have redevelopment potential.

The intent of the inventory will be to identify and track the location of underutilized properties to prioritize redevelopment and investment efforts.

Key Considerations:

- The inventory should focus on properties:
 - ✓ Owned by the RM or other public entities;
 - ✓ Underutilized or vacant properties;
 - ✓ Properties in disrepair or with outstanding by-law infractions; and,
 - ✓ Currently in tax arrears.
- Engage prospective EDAC to assist with inventory.
 - ✓ Develop a strategy for marketing and supporting the redevelopment of identified properties.

ACTION 5: Develop the Grand Marais Ambassador Program.

The intent of the program will be to create a more welcoming, positive, clean and safe community.

Key Considerations:

- The Program – if introduced on a seasonal basis – may include hiring summer staff or volunteers (e.g. students).
- The role of the Ambassadors could include:
 - ✓ Assisting visitors with wayfinding
 - ✓ Hosting nature / walking tours
 - ✓ Running recreation programming
 - ✓ Leading community clean-up (graffiti, litter, etc.)
 - ✓ Providing a safety presence
 - ✓ Reporting by-law infractions
 - ✓ Offering a concierge service to visitors and residents
 - ✓ Promoting the local area and local businesses
- The Ambassador Program may be an activity coordinated by the prospective EDAC or EDO.
- The Ambassador Program would require an annual operating budget.

ACTION 6: Organize and promote an annual festival or event in Grand Marais.

The intent of introducing an annual occasion will be to facilitate greater social cohesion within the RM, help define the community's identity, and attract outside visitors.

Key Considerations:

- Staffing and volunteer support will be important for running successful events.
- Consider the timing of other annual festivals and events in nearby communities, as to not compete for attendees.

PLACES TO PLAY - RECREATION

Recreation and active living amenities contribute to the wellbeing of communities by generating social, environmental, and economic benefits. In regards to social benefits, these types of spaces provide a common destination for residents and visitors to take part in passive and programmed activities. As for the environment, they encourage people to use active modes of transportation, as well as offer opportunities to implement green space that absorbs greenhouse gas emissions. Finally, although difficult to quantify, these types of places can provide economic benefits by increasing property values and creating travel destinations. This section offers five (5) strategic actions for enhancing places to play in Grand Marais.

ACTION 7: Continue to explore options for the development of a boat launch within Grand Marais.

The development of a boat launch would provide direct boating access onto Lake Winnipeg from Grand Marais, which in turn, could help attract more visitors and generate more demand for local services.

Key Considerations:

- The RM should continue the current boat launch study and bring further information back to the public when it is available.
- The RM should consider how the boat launch can be strategically located to support other local development initiatives.

ACTION 8: Develop a linear parkway along the waterfront.

The intent of introducing a waterfront parkway will be to provide residents and visitors with greater access to the Lake, providing additional outdoor recreation space and supporting the expansion of additional activities in the community.

Key Considerations:

- Grand Marais Boulevard could periodically be closed to vehicles to serve as recreational space.
- Identify opportunities to enhance views to the Lake along the parkway.
- Grand Marais Pier could be re-introduced as a complementary component of the parkway.
- Adequate space for cyclists and pedestrians should be provided along the parkway.
- Depending on the preferred location of the boat launch, opportunities for connectivity between the parkway and the boat launch should be considered.

ACTION 9: Consider the establishment of a Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) to work directly with the Recreation Director for the RM.

The intent of the Committee will be to guide decisions related to recreation programming and amenities to ensure all residents of the RM have access to a range of recreational opportunities.

Key Considerations:

- Consideration for membership of the committee should include equal regional representation from across the RM, and include both residents and representatives from community groups.
- Committee members should assist in identifying community priorities and potential gaps in recreation programs and amenities.
- When possible, the committee should help locate funding opportunities and coordinate application efforts.

ACTION 10: Conduct a recreation needs assessment.

The intent of the needs assessment will be to identify gaps in current recreation services and establish direction for future investments in recreation programs and facilities.

Key Considerations:

- Conducted by Recreation Director with guidance from the prospective RAC.
- Identify under-represented recreation options desired by the community.
- Assess the condition of current recreation infrastructure (e.g. playgrounds, parks, Recreation Centre, etc.).
- Review the accessibility of recreation infrastructure to current communities and areas planned for future development.
- Determine recreation programs that may be offered to meet the community's needs using existing infrastructure.
- Develop a plan for introducing new recreation infrastructure.

ACTION 11: Develop a Trails Master Plan for Grand Marais.

The intent of a Trails Master Plan will be to promote active lifestyles for residents of Grand Marais and attract more visitors into the community.

Key Considerations:

- Draw on lessons learned from the previous St. Clements Destination Trails Concept Plan.
- Consider recent trail enhancements made by Red River North Trails Association.
- Continue to facilitate development of The Great Trail as a separated trail from the road through Grand Marais.
- Consider implementing traffic calming measures on roads where no separate pathways exist.
- Consider development of further trails throughout community, which may include signage, constructed pathways, and maps.

PLACES TO STAY

For any community to prosper, it is necessary to accommodate a variety of residents by offering a range of housing types. Specifically, as current residents age or members of households multiply, they require different sizes of dwellings with various types of amenities. Further, to attract new residents into the community, it is important to understand population and household trends. As such, this section identifies three (3) strategic actions for improving Grand Marais' options for places to stay, which not only considers current residents, but prospective community members and seasonal visitors as well.

ACTION 12: Initiate an RM-wide Housing Study.

The intent of the study will be to establish the current state of housing within the RM and project future needs to ensure growth can be facilitated.

Key Considerations:

- Study should include an assessment of current residential types and conditions.
- Cost of providing municipal services should be taken into consideration.
- Consider need and feasibility for dedicated Senior's Housing.
- Cottages/seasonal residences should be included in the study.

ACTION 13: Determine the level of support for a Cottage Rental Marketing Agency to coordinate cottage rentals in the region.

An agency or service dedicated to Cottage Rentals could bolster the cottage rental market in the RM and attract a greater number of visitors throughout all seasons.

Key Considerations:

- Coordination of cottage rentals may be possible through the existing infrastructure and staff of the Grand Marais Community Central and RV Park, or could be led privately.
- A small-scale pilot program could be introduced to determine demand and gauge market conditions.

ACTION 14: Initiate a Hotel Market and Feasibility Study.

The purpose of the Study would be to determine the market demand and overall feasibility of developing a new hotel in the Grand Marais area.

Key Considerations:

- As an initial step, the EDO should meet with hospitality industry representatives to determine current market needs and trends.
- Subject to the Study's outcomes and determination of market demand, a site selection study should be conducted.

WORKING TOGETHER — GOVERNANCE AND PARTNERSHIPS

Coordinating the efforts of community groups, elected officials, and government agencies is an important aspect of planning ahead. Such coordination allows resources to be used most efficiently, which is not only more effective for achieving short-term objectives, but also for building capacity to ensure progress is sustained on a long-term basis. While Grand Marais is fortunate to have a number of community groups engaged in local initiatives, working in a unified – as opposed to compartmentalized – manner can translate into greater results and attract more external support. The following section identifies four (4) strategic actions for strengthening governance and building partnerships in Grand Marais.

ACTION 15: Engage a neutral facilitator / management consultant to work with community associations and groups in Grand Marais.

The intent of engaging a neutral facilitator or manager would be to rationalize the focus of local groups and associations, as well as optimize the efficient use of resources, including the possible amalgamation of organizations.

Key Considerations:

- This initiative should be undertaken collaboratively with the various community groups and associations.

ACTION 16: Continue to lobby the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) to have a greater presence in Grand Marais.

Increased RCMP presence would contribute to the positive perception of safety and security within Grand Marais.

Key Considerations:

- Ask RCMP to have staff and regular office hours at the Grand Marais office.
- Preference is for greater presence during the summer months (July and August).
- Communicate specific areas of concern in Grand Marais to the RCMP.

ACTION 17: Continue collaboration with Travel Manitoba and other tourism industry partners to develop a cohesive regional tourism marketing strategy.

Key Considerations:

- Promote discussion between Eastman and Interlake Tourism Association on issue of boundaries and representation between RM and Grand Beach Provincial Park.

ACTION 18: Continue to engage Provincial departments and elected officials on issues identified by the public and stakeholders related to Grand Beach Provincial Park and Manitoba Infrastructure.

The intent of continued engagement with Provincial representatives is to keep them apprised of ongoing issues and enhance political support for greater collaboration between the RM, the Ministry of Infrastructure, and the Provincial Park on matters of shared interest.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND PLANNING

Building a successful community requires physical infrastructure and deliberate planning to ensure a high quality of life is provided and maintained. It is valuable to consider these elements jointly, as plans guide decisions related to the basic infrastructure people rely upon. However, similar to roads and water systems, community plans and enforcement mechanisms need to be accessible to residents in order to have a clear application to everyday life. As such, this section outlines four (4) strategic actions related to enhancing infrastructure and planning in Grand Marais, which will better serve residents, elected officials, and potential visitors on such matters.

ACTION 19: Review effectiveness of By-law Enforcement (for Unsightly Properties and Noise) and consider establishing a reporting system accessible to the community via the RM website.

The intent of the review will be to identify the limitations of current enforcement practices and opportunities for improving them in a transparent and effective manner.

Key Considerations:

- Consideration of unsightly properties may include the development of the inventory of properties for future development described in Action 4.

ACTION 20: Continue to work with the Red River Planning District on community outreach activities.

The intent of these activities will be to inform and educate the public on planning and permit processes.

Key Considerations:

- Consider hosting pop-up sessions during the summer at the Grand Marais Farmer's Market to maximize exposure to the general public.
- Host themed events such as "Deck Day", "Building a Shed", or "Renovations to your Home or Cottage", etc.
- Ensure materials clearly explaining such processes are easily accessible on the RM website.

ACTION 21: Develop a strategy for providing public washrooms in Grand Marais.

The intent of providing public washrooms will be to encourage residents and visitors to spend more time in public areas by facilitating more comfortable experiences.

Key Considerations:

- Work with area businesses on developing a marketing campaign for businesses that are “Open For You to Go”.
- Consider developing public washroom facilities in consultation with local residents and businesses.

ACTION 22: Enhance highway signage for Grand Marais.

The intent of enhancing the signage is to increase motorists’ awareness of the location of Grand Marais and services offered within the community.

Key Considerations:

- Develop highway signage plan.
- Consider purchasing promotional highway signage on Highways 59 and 12.
- Design and construct a new “Welcome to Grand Marais” sign (consider concepts presented in previous plans).
- Provide wayfinding signage that includes directions to area businesses, recreation amenities, and tourism destinations.

SUMMARY ACTION PLAN

Table 1 on the following page provides a summary action plan with actions and timelines for their implementation:

Short timeframe is 1-2 years;

Medium timeframe is 3-5 years;

Long timeframe is 5+ years; and

Ongoing is continuous until the desired result is achieved.

TABLE 1: Summary Action Plan

| ACTION | TIMEFRAME |
|---|-----------|
| 1 Establish an Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) to work directly with the Economic Development Officer (EDO). | Short |
| 2 Develop and implement a storefront improvement program on a pilot-basis to offer modest matching grants to businesses and commercial building owners to offset design and capital costs. | Medium |
| 3 Explore the establishment of a business incubation program to help local entrepreneurs launch their businesses, and at the same time, reactivate underutilized commercial spaces in Grand Marais. | Medium |
| 4 Create and maintain an inventory of properties in Grand Marais that have redevelopment potential. | Medium |
| 5 Develop the Grand Marais Ambassador Program. | Long |
| 6 Organize and promote an annual festival or event in Grand Marais. | Medium |
| 7 Continue to explore options for the development of a boat launch within Grand Marais. | Short |
| 8 Develop a linear parkway along the waterfront. | Long |
| 9 Consider the establishment of a Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) to work directly with the Recreation Director for the RM. | Short |
| 10 Conduct a recreation needs assessment. | Medium |
| 11 Develop a Trails Master Plan for Grand Marais. | Medium |
| 12 Initiate an RM-wide Housing Study. | Short |
| 13 Determine the level of support for a Cottage Rental Marketing Agency to coordinate cottage rentals in the region. | Short |
| 14 Initiate a Hotel Market and Feasibility Study. | Short |
| 15 Engage a neutral facilitator / management consultant to work with community associations and groups in Grand Marais. | Short |
| 16 Continue to lobby the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) to have a greater presence in Grand Marais. | Ongoing |
| 17 Continue collaboration with Travel Manitoba and other tourism industry partners to develop a cohesive regional tourism marketing strategy. | Ongoing |
| 18 Continue to engage Provincial departments and elected officials on issues identified by the public and stakeholders related to Grand Beach Provincial Park and Manitoba Infrastructure. | Ongoing |
| 19 Review effectiveness of By-law Enforcement (for Unsightly Properties and Noise) and consider establishing a reporting system accessible to the community via the RM website. | Short |
| 20 Continue to work with the Red River Planning District on community outreach activities. | Ongoing |
| 21 Develop a strategy for providing public washrooms in Grand Marais. | Medium |
| 22 Enhance highway signage for Grand Marais. | Medium |

APPENDIX A

PLEASE FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING:

DEMOGRAPHICS

A. Please select your age range:

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 18-30
- ☐ 31-40
- ☐ 41 - 50
- ☐ 51 - 65
- ☐ 66+

B. Including yourself, how many people currently live in your household?

- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5+

C. How many are under the age of 18?

- ☐ 0
- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5+

BOAT LAUNCH

D. If there was a boat launch in Grand Marais, would you use it?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

E. How often?

- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Monthly
- ☐ A couple times a year
- ☐ Once a year

IF YOU ARE A VISITOR TO GRAND MARAIS / GRAND BEACH AREA, PLEASE FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING SECTION:

01. Where are you visiting from?

- ☐ Winnipeg
- ☐ East Beaches Region
- ☐ Other: _____

02. What attracted you to visit Grand Marais/Grand Beach? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Family Visit
- ☐ Renting a Cabin
- ☐ Visit Friends
- ☐ The Beach
- ☐ The Market
- ☐ Camping
- ☐ RVing
- ☐ The Provincial Park
- ☐ Other: _____

03. Have you visited Grand Beach / Grand Marais before?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

04. If yes, what brings you back?

05. What activities do you participate in while visiting Grand Beach/Grand Marais? (check all that apply)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Swimming | <input type="radio"/> Canoe / Kayak |
| <input type="radio"/> Biking | <input type="radio"/> ATVing |
| <input type="radio"/> Hiking | <input type="radio"/> Paddleboard |
| <input type="radio"/> Tennis | <input type="radio"/> Cross Country Ski |
| <input type="radio"/> Fishing | <input type="radio"/> Snowmobile |
| <input type="radio"/> Motor Boating | <input type="radio"/> Ice Fishing |
| <input type="radio"/> Bird Watching | <input type="radio"/> Other: _____ |

06. What are your impressions of Grand Marais?

07. Are there any services/amenities that you feel are missing from Grand Marais? If so, which ones?

08. Do you have any additional comments?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this comment form. You may send your comment form directly to Scatliff+Miller+Murray by fax (204.927.3443) or via email to edickson@scatliff.ca no later than Friday, August 31, 2018.

PROJECT CONTACT:

Erik Dickson Scatliff+Miller+Murray
204.927.3444 ext. 242 edickson@scatliff.ca

Please remember to leave your completed form in the drop-box. Thank you!

The Personal Information on this Comment Form is collected under the compliance of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used solely for the purpose of providing information regarding the Grand Marais Strategic Action Plan Project.

GRAND MARAIS STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE

page 2

IF YOU ARE A **SEASONAL OR PERMANENT RESIDENT** IN GRAND MARAIS / GRAND BEACH AREA, PLEASE FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING SECTION:

01. I am a _____ resident:

- ☐ Permanent ☐ Seasonal

02. I have a home or cottage in:

- ☐ Grand Marais ☐ Whitesand Estates
☐ Grand Beach ☐ Lakeshore Heights
☐ Lester Beach ☐ Balsam Bay/Harbour
☐ Belair ☐ Other: _____
☐ Sunset Beach

03. For how long?

- ☐ < 1 year ☐ 10-20 years
☐ 1-5 years ☐ 20+ years
☐ 5-10 years

04. If you are employed in the East Beaches area, which community?

- ☐ Grand Marais ☐ Whitesand Estates
☐ Grand Beach ☐ Lakeshore Heights
☐ Lester Beach ☐ Balsam Bay/Harbour
☐ Belair ☐ Other: _____
☐ Sunset Beach

05. What attracted you to this area?

(check all that apply)

- ☐ Family ☐ The Beach
☐ Affordability ☐ Friends
☐ The Park ☐ Other: _____
☐ Close to Home

06. In your opinion, what is the best thing here?

07. What is the one image that pops into your mind when you think of Grand Marais?

08. What 3 words best describe your future ideal community?

09. What elements do you think are missing from this area?

10. What activities do you do in the area?

(check all that apply)

- ☐ Swimming ☐ Canoe / Kayak
☐ Biking ☐ ATVing
☐ Hiking ☐ Paddleboard
☐ Tennis ☐ Cross Country Ski
☐ Fishing ☐ Snowmobile
☐ Motor Boating ☐ Ice Fishing
☐ Bird Watching ☐ Other: _____

11. Are there activities that you would like to do but they are not accommodated in Grand Marais?

12. In your opinion, where in Grand Marais should the RM focus its energy? *(choose your top 3)*

- ☐ New Boat Launch
☐ Marina
☐ Trail Development
☐ Improve Streetscape
☐ ByLaw Enforcement
☐ Attract More Businesses
☐ Attract Restaurants
☐ Park Development
☐ Develop Waterfront
☐ Other: _____

13. Do you rent out your cottage/home?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

14. If yes, when? *(check all that apply)*

- ☐ Summer ☐ Fall
☐ Spring ☐ Year-round

15. How many weeks per year?

- ☐ 1-4 ☐ 9-12
☐ 5-8 ☐ 12+

16. How do you advertise? *(check all that apply)*

- ☐ Online (Kijiji/Airbnb/Facebook/other)
☐ Word of Mouth
☐ Flyers
☐ Only Rent to Friends + Family
☐ Other: _____

17. Do you think there is enough available permanent housing to meet the community's needs?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

18. If not, what type of housing is needed?

(check all that apply)

- ☐ Single-Family ☐ Seniors
☐ Multi-Family ☐ Assisted Living
☐ Rental ☐ Other: _____

19. Do you have any additional comments?

APPENDIX B

GRAND MARAIS STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN
SEASONAL AND PERMANENT RESIDENT QUESTIONNAIRE

FINAL DRAFT COMPILED RESULTS

SEPTEMBER 2018

SCATLIFF + MILLER + MURRAY

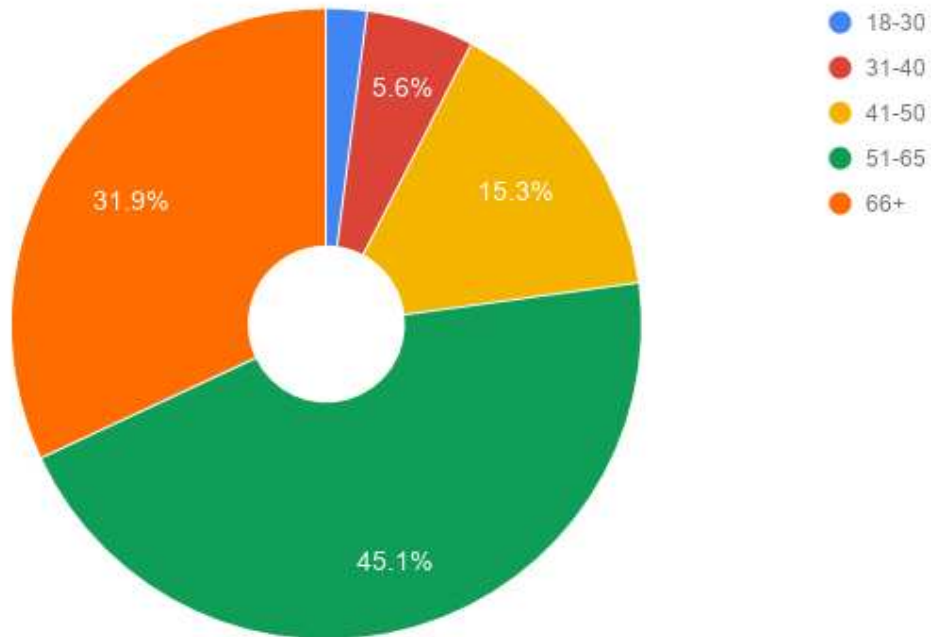
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GRAND MARAIS STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE

IF YOU ARE A **SEASONAL OR PERMANENT RESIDENT** TO GRAND MARAIS / GRAND BEACH AREA, PLEASE FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING SECTION:

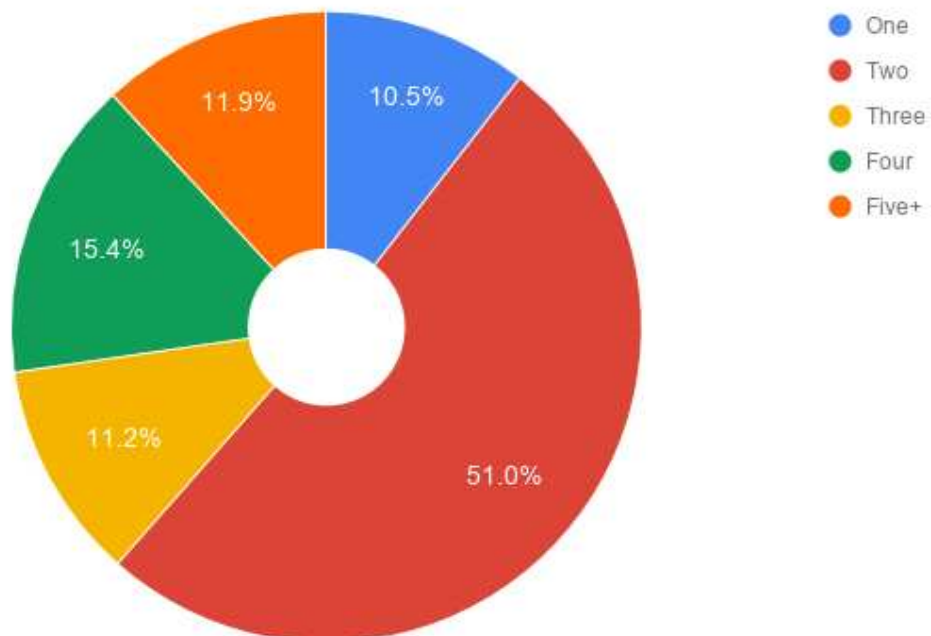
A. Please select your age range:

144 Responses



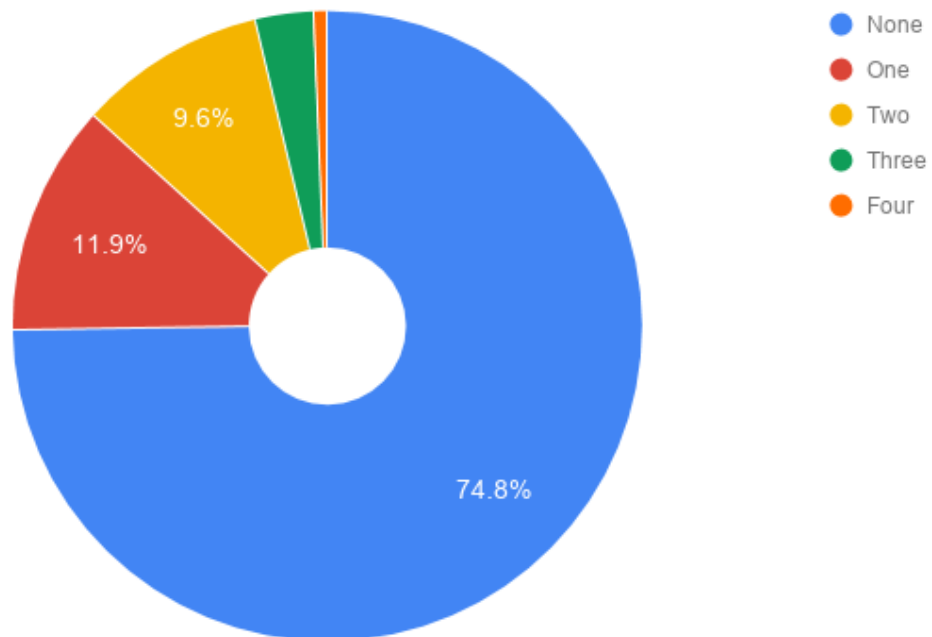
B. Including yourself, how many people currently live in your household?

143 Responses



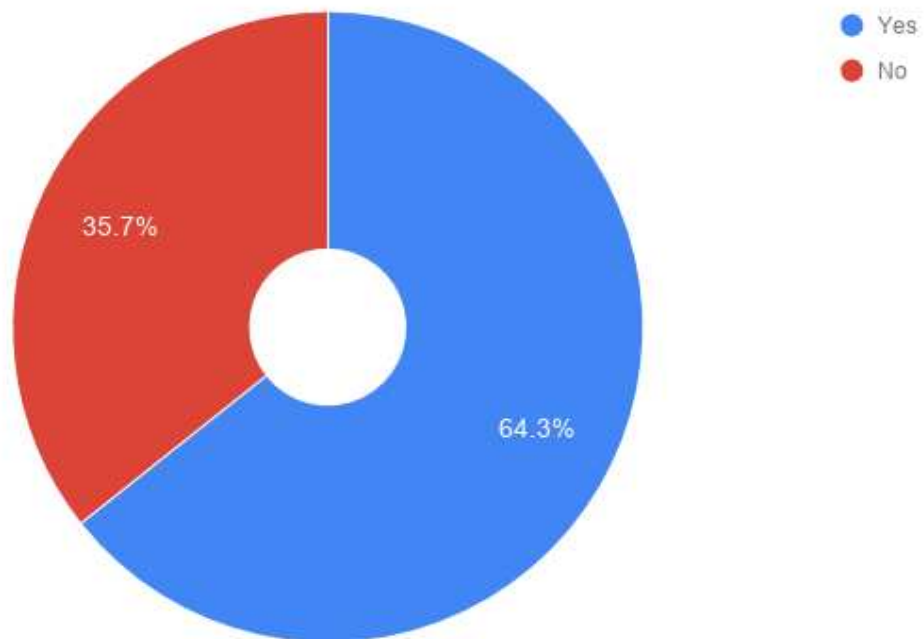
C. How many are under the age of 18?

135 Responses



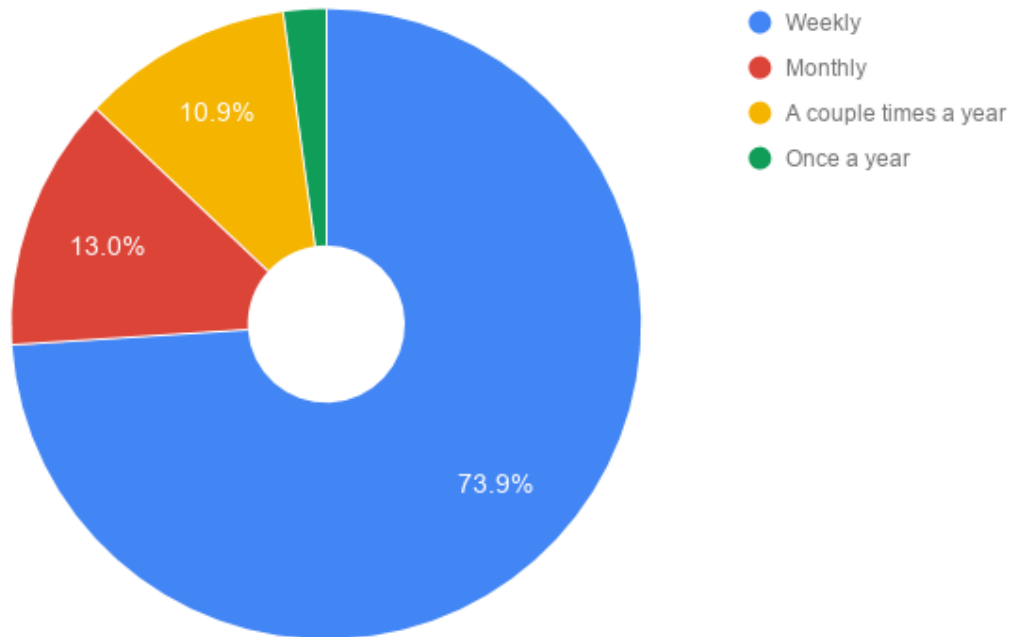
D. If there was a boat launch in Grand Marais, would you use it?

140 Responses



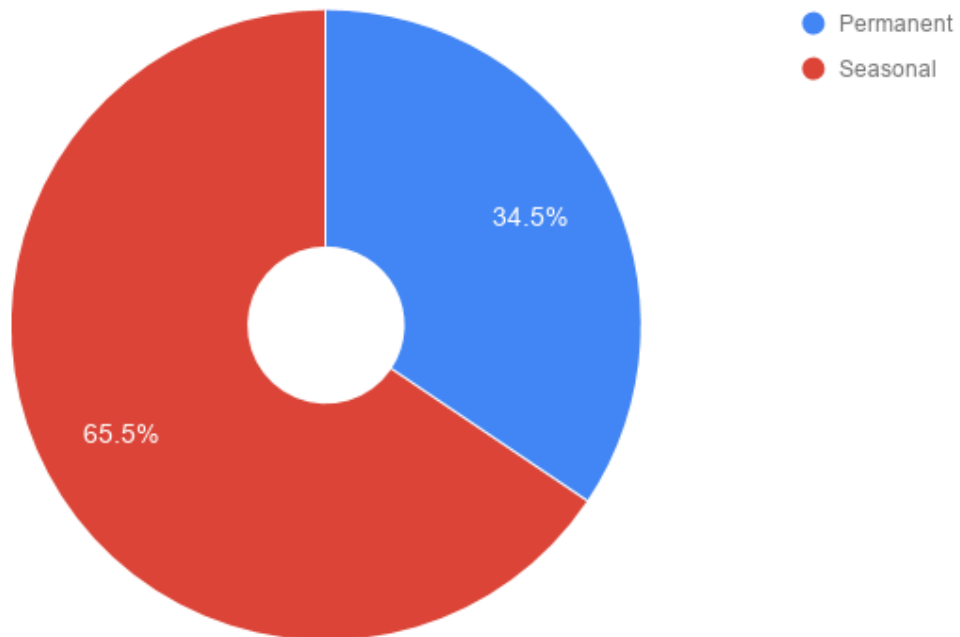
E. How often?

92 Responses



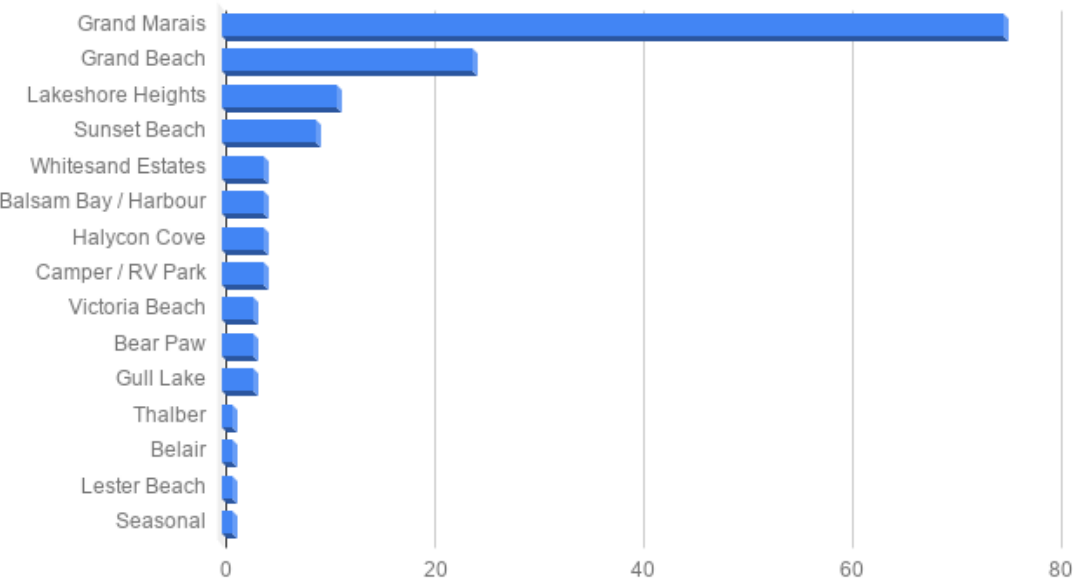
1. I am a _____ resident:

148 Responses



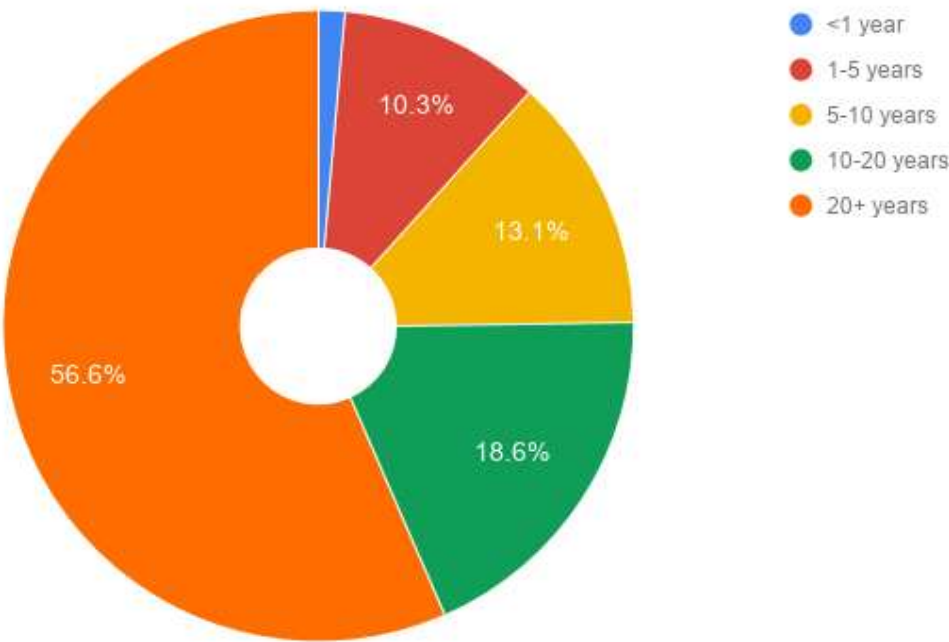
2. I have a home or cottage in:

148 Responses



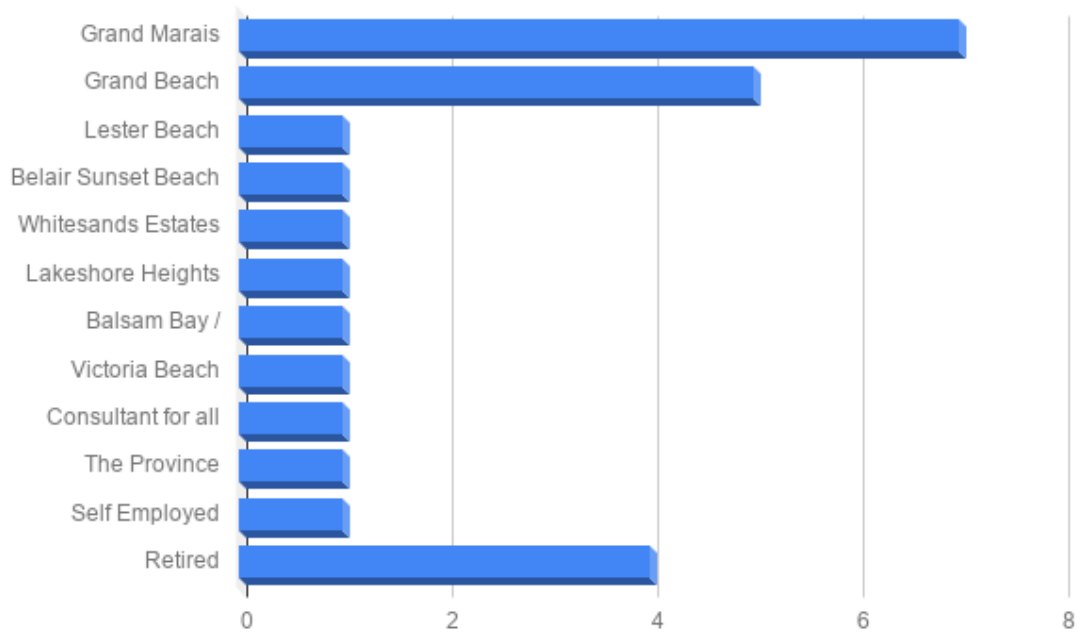
3. For how long?

146 Responses



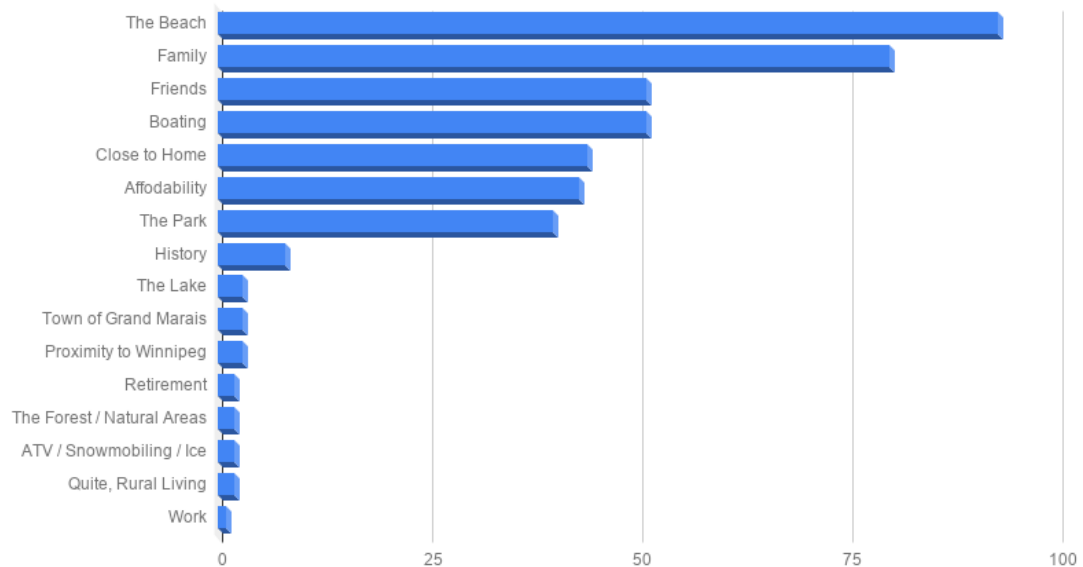
4. If you are employed in the East Beaches area, which community?

25 Responses



5. What attracted you to this area? (check all that apply)

146 Responses



6. In your opinion, what is the best thing here?

126 Responses

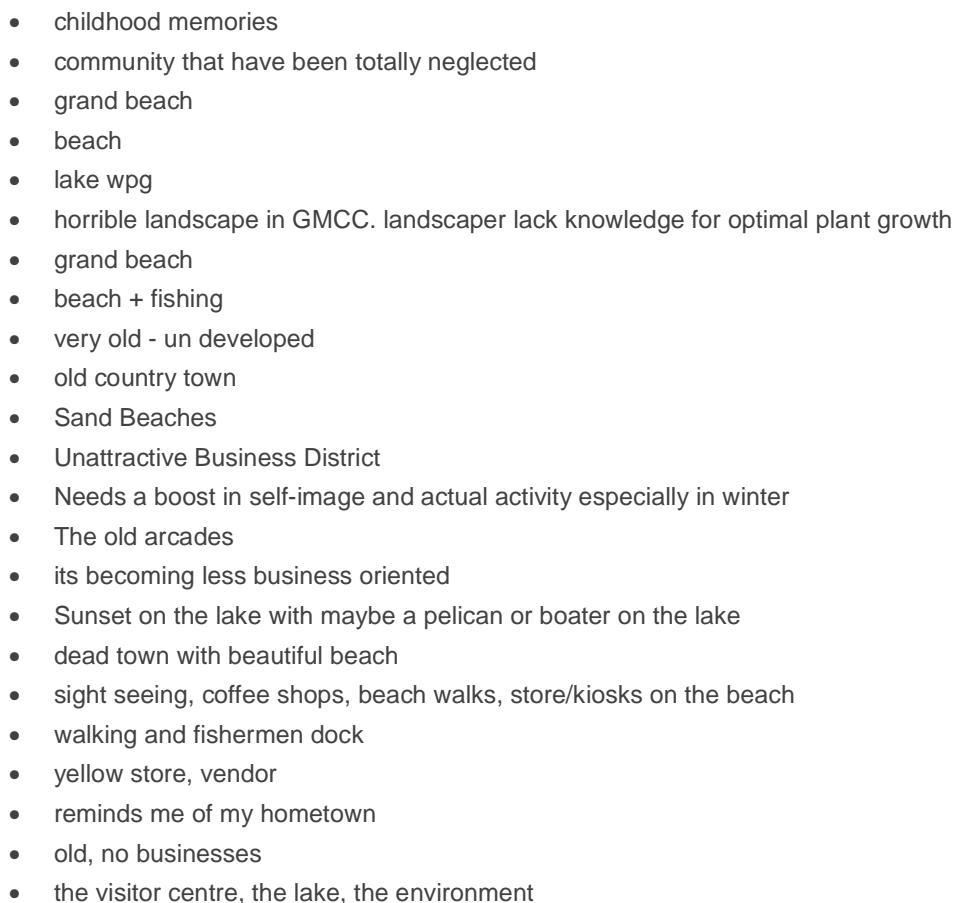


- beach (11)
- the beach (11)
- the lake (4)
- family ties, the beach, boating (4)
- The people (3)
- family ties, the beach and boating (3)
- lake (2)
- beaches (2)
- community (2)
- lake wpg & area
- nature
- people, community
- niture
- not much
- grand beach itself
- The beach
- close proximity to wpg
- The lake and vistas
- the beautiful beaches in the area
- forest / lake / saffies store
- sand beach
- beach - lake
- everything! the beach, the community
- being close to the water / beach
- access to water/trails

- wildlife
- clean water, low taxes, good snow removal
- the beach / the people
- beach and swimming
- water, beach
- beaches / quiet
- quiet
- beach and park
- environment
- Lake
- natural beauty, quiet wildlife
- peace and quiet
- main beach
- sunsets
- bike and ski trails / beach
- beach, peacefulness nature
- boating but it needs to be dredged
- beach + 50x100 ft lot
- grand beach - used to be the water , now full of algae, not safe for us.
- affordable and not a long drive
- the lake and the beach
- the beaches communities
- rural, friendly and affordable
- beach/sand
- family oriented
- the lake, the beach
- nature/solitude
- the beach at grand beach
- the beaches
- quiet life
- location
- green space, family, recreation
- the beach, sand
- the lake
- plan c
- beach communities
- beaches, lake
- view of the lake from our deck
- the lake fishing
- the park and the beach
- beach environment
- atmosphere - beach - boating - lake
- store right now
- beach / water
- serenity and friendliness
- beach and boating

- beach/boating
- the endless opportunities for things to do
- lake family
- weather
- beach and close location
- beach, quiet
- the people
- lake and the cottage
- main beach in park
- nature, lake, Grand Beach
- BEACH
- great beach, laid back life
- walking the beach
- ecosystem, peace, quiet
- i like the natural areas. its not too busy
- main strip with the restaurants
- the beach, the lake
- the beach is the driving force for the area
- lake, activities, nature
- the lake, countryside
- beautiful beach
- fishing/boating
- family ties, the beach, friends and boating
- activities
- small community warmth
- community + beach
- our own cabin
- country life - simpler
- grand beach

127 Responses

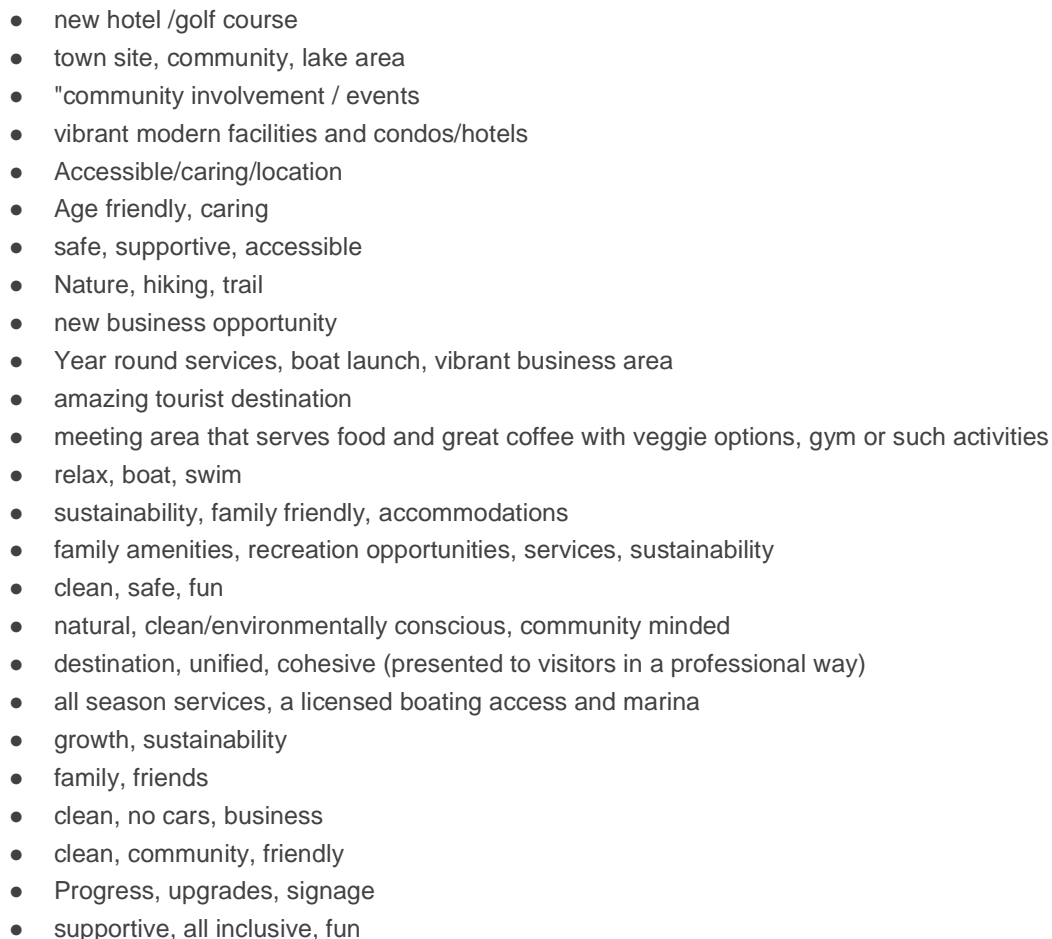


- The gateway to Grand Beach
- beach
- needs investment in seasonal attractions
- Sand
- quiet
- nature, community
- how it used to be. It is dieing- needs more attractions
- run down
- run down
- quiet times, beach, friends, family "PEACE"
- aging
- decline - empty businesses and poorly maintained properties
- forest and beach
- sunsets
- Lankys
- the lake
- the lagoon access to park
- lake
- fishing on the lake
- needs a facelift, lots of derelict properties
- quiet
- sandy beaches, water, relaxing (sometimes if the neighbors are quiet)
- waves / sand dunes
- grand beach
- quiet, slow the traffic down
- peaceful, lovely cottages, friendly neighbors
- sunsets
- summer + the beach
- wildlife
- business and bigger lots
- economically deprived, no support from levels of government
- dying
- growth potential
- friendly
- peaceful, friendly
- spirit rock
- relaxing lifestyle
- a neglected community on highway 59 north. there is no highway sign that mentions grand marais, only victoria beach and grand beach.
- fun, beach, potential growth
- located just before Grand Beach
- the cottage
- run down
- sunsets, sand, quiet especially in the off-summer season

- nothing to do
- community
- family time, walks, beach, fishing and community
- beach
- beach town
- how busy it used to be
- im sad to say, it looks very run down
- beaches
- beach
- escaping the city for some place
- many residences
- lake life
- underdeveloped
- small village
- the lack of effort on the part of residents to make this a visually attractive place
- the mess of the dike on Grand Marais boulevard
- the place before the park gates
- old, need help
- the beach
- green space
- great beach accessibility, viability of Grand Marais
- the beach / lake
- family and friends
- family, food missing things for kids to do. no mini golf etc
- sandy boardwalk
- a lovely community that has so much more potential
- the village store pelican
- beach/lagoon/Grand Marais Boulevard
- beach
- the sunsets
- the beach community
- home
- the sand (food)
- the beach
- history ,beach
- run down
- playing in water and sand dunes as a child
- Peaceful
- busy main drag from the past
- little here and not much happens- lack of funding perhaps???
- beautiful beach
- the beach is close and there are never too many people there
- my nice campfire in the back yard and a beer
- water, peace, shoreline = walking

- being able to walk to a nice calm like from my cottage and watch the sunset. hearing the birds
- lake front
- the concessions (those that were those that left)
- the doorway into grand beach
- right now it is a dying town
- beach/lake/quiet
- dumpy / run-down
- peaceful winter days
- sun and sand and friends
- GM blvd
- Grand Marais BLVD
- GM Blvd
- Gm Blvd
- Stretch of road with Lankys on it
- the stretch of road with Lankys on it
- the stretch of road with Lankys on it
- the stretch of road with Lanky's on it
- our view of the sunset
- happy feet
- a dying community that used to be SO ALIVE!
- Ghost Town, businesses closing, 'for sale' signs everywhere
- needs something to attract more people
- too many run down cottages and very messy (unkept) properties
- lankys
- our little piece of heaven, our cottage.

113 Responses



- more businesses and health care
- vibrant with lots of people
- active, vibrant
- safe (RCMP needed), active, clean
- has a doctor, has a gym, has a nice restaurant on the beach with alcohol
- more user friendly
- ATV friendly, additional business, better gravel on roads
- diversity / commerce / amenities
- environmentally friendly, sustainable including sustainable economic/development and possibly eco-tourism
- safe / friendly / fun
- Kid friendly activity
- respectful neighbors - no loud music blaring, vibrant, activities, nightlife
- more amenities, health care, more bike paths and trails
- garbage disposal area (bins), community, nature
- being able to take the channel with my boat to go on both sides of the lake
- a few more restaurants
- keeping it peaceful/quiet with great neighbors
- more restaurants, bakery, boat launch
- plan to retire here
- sustainable, viable tourist community
- economically viable, family activity focus, better organized with accountability and better communication
- vibrant, family-oriented, well kept
- vibrant, young, active
- active, vibrant, a place to vacation
- diverse, family friendly, active
- shopping gift stores, hotel, water park, miniature golf, amusement park
- lake access and paved main streets
- economically sound, growing, and sought after
- safe, vibrant, prosperous
- clean, active, inclusive
- amenities, medical services, vibrant all year
- quiet, family, open space between people
- small town with plenty of shops
- playground, water access, boating
- activity, people, business
- quiet, activities for children
- ATV friendly, small stores for amenities, friendly
- future development bring the people back
- home town proud
- family, beach
- "nice" hotel, clean up derelict buildings and garbage in yards
- peace quiet lakeness
- beaches boating BBQ
- thriving community, inviting to tourism/visitors, economically viable

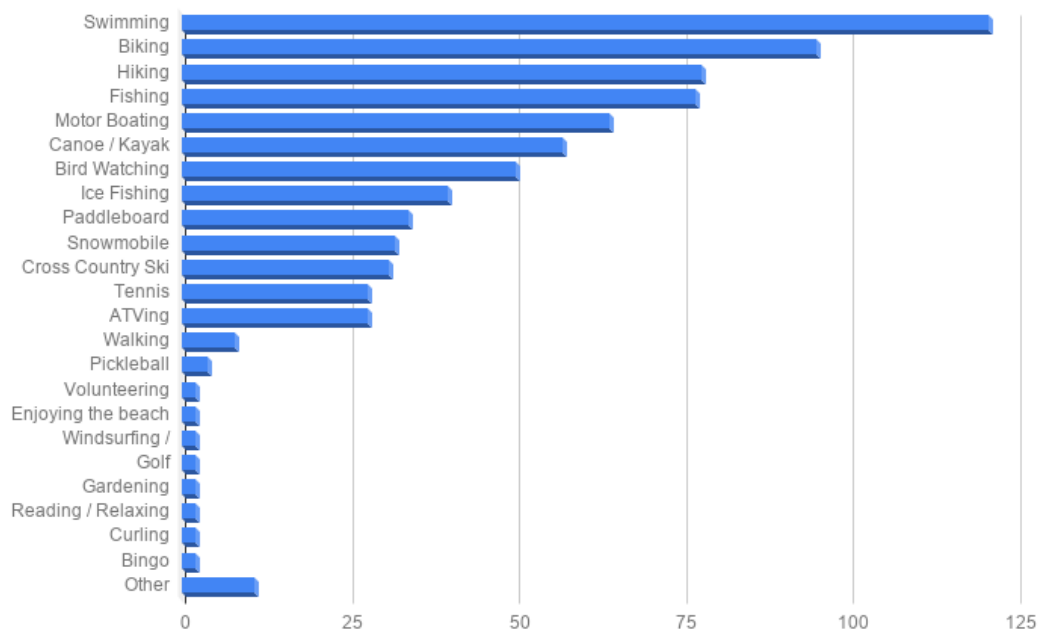
- need more amenities
- a corporate sense of community, friendly and inviting, create a reason to come
- clean/accessibility to lake/police patrol in summer
- unified looking, groomed, compact
- active
- more family oriented
- community oriented, friendly, activity oriented for residents (seasonal and permanent)
- marina in park - boat launch accessible to lake, more shops / restaurants, maintaining lake / boat launch and lagoon, RCMP reinstatement - police presence
- having things for everyone example mini-putt etc.
- vibrant - people walking to attractions, mini golf, cafes, boating
- vibrant, accessible, fun
- accessibility
- boat launch/marina on lake
- more people
- safety, beach, boating
- vibrant, recreational year-round activities, self-sustaining
- change council
- more attraction (movies), community club activities
- thriving
- safe, clean , fun
- Peaceful, Scenic, self-sustaining
- busy economic, viable community
- wellness centre
- food and bike paths, maintain the beach area, restaurant on the beach
- good restaurant, something at the front beach
- keep the beach clean, get rid of stupid ATVs on the roads
- respect, wildlife, shoreline, people, no ATVs or dirtbikes
- I think the community is very nice at this time so I cant think of any future other than the way it is
- boat launch, park area, marina
- a strong seasonal community
- thriving, amenities, tourism
- active, social, beautiful nature
- supportive community gathering place
- vibrant, diverse, lots of amenities
- safe peaceful comfort
- clean safe friendly
- well kept beaches, parks, roads, boat launches, restaurants
- well kept beaches, parks, roads, boat launches, restaurants
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- advertising- best kept secret in MB and Canada
- more amenities, good restaurants with outdoor patios and entertainment, tourist attractions, a hotel on the waterfront like gimli
- swimming pool, games for kids and grandkids
- boat launch, marina
- dog park
- medical facility
- night life
- boat launch, better business opportunities and more restaurants
- boat launch, visible waterfront commercially
- maintenance of boat launch and lagoon needs a boat launch in town. a restaurant to boat to! marina?
- people, businesses, restaurant
- bringing in day trip traffic to support town
- garbage pick-up
- development on lake
- signage, advertising, tourist draws
- definitely a boat launch and/or marina
- lakefront hotel and restaurant
- marina, private enterprise
- festivals, things to do (i.e. minigolf), movies
- RCMP! dust control
- bike paths/trails, boat launch and docking for kayaks and canoes, rentals
- health care, gym facility
- see above
- law enforcement
- Off-road ability, business, tourism (focus is on conservation)
- more commercial competitive business
- Municipal services (garbage and recycling) and co-operation with the GBPP
- access to the lake
- gym, library, medical
- hotel and beach bar on the beach - like there used to be, street lighting - streets are too dark! nightlife!
- communal garbage bin, community activities, fishing area
- more activities we really need a station near the water to wash boats with hot water
- I walk I would like to see hard top shoulders along grand beach blvd and along the lake
- keeping our lake algae free
- businesses
- decent restaurants, recreational / gym
- business
- water and sewer, boat launch, tourism services (bar, restaurant on beach)
- major resort hotel, enclosed waterslide, permanent medical doctor and/or nurse practitioner
- boat launch, something to attract people + businesses
- accessibility, centralization, youth
- destination resort with a waterpark or other activities, amusement park
- infrastructure that supports economic activity

- not much to do for kids
- lake access, summer and winter
- festivals, services, hotel, bar on beach
- children's activities
- a nice clean pub entertainment such as mini putt, coffee shop
- medical services, community services for young and old
- none
- businesses
- playground, water access to beach in grand marais
- presence of local enforcement and care about declining community
- more hiking trails/bike; organized activities for children
- ATV Trails to get around town
- a sense of community, people and business that work together
- "nice" hotel
- boat launch
- central business district with tourism in mind
- better internet access- preferably wifi
- evening summer activity to bring people out developing a sense of community
- boat launch, curling
- dining with alcohol overlooking water, weekly events, boat launch/marina, gym/wellness
- services
- business sustainability
- boating, policing, municipality monitoring ditches - backlanes, water drain off coast line
- marina in park - boat launch accessible to lake, more shops / restaurants, maintaining lake / boat launch and lagoon, RCMP reinstatement - police presence
- everything there is nothing going on here
- good marina, boat launch, restaurant with lake view
- upkeep of existing playgrounds and a few more
- boat launch near park with lake access
- well known hours
- boat launch, access to lake, rcmp reinstated
- public awareness
- boat launch
- an indoor recreational centre, a boat launch to the lake
- retirement accommodation
- people
- restaurants, hotel
- access to lake with a boat near by
- full time restaurant, laundromat, pickle ball courts with access for all
- accommodations, dining, night life
- things get started and they peter out perhaps lack of funding
- full service restaurant on the beach, foot and bike paths, very few businesses
- its pretty good the way it is now. maybe control off road traffic, fireworks scared my dogs
- id like to have a beer at the park beach once in a while and bring visitors there
- representation from the RM + provincial grand beach park
- a nice place to eat perhaps. being at the cottage is like camping, we bring everything we need

- boat launch and marina
- something to attract visitors here: boat launch, beach bar, area beautification
- hotel at beach with restaurant, patio, pools. businesses that work together. better organization of committees and resources.
- a supportive community gathering place
- variety of businesses, pride in ownership (business looks run down)
- boat launch, marina, safe walking areas
- a decent boat launch, clean lagoon, open channel and Laundromat in the beach area
- decent boat launch, clean lagoon, open channel and Laundromat in the beach area
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- a decent boat launch, clean lagoon, open channel and a Laundromat in the beach area
- maintenance of several run down properties
- paved roads
- consistent development in a timely manner
- good gathering places to socialize, arcade, dancing, a restaurant that serves more than burgers... there is zero activity in the evening, a beach front hotel
- defined downtown, services (water, sewer), intuitive connection to grand beach
- marina and dock. rental boats
- Laundromat, water station to fill our big blue jugs, Garage and recycling

145 Responses



145 Responses

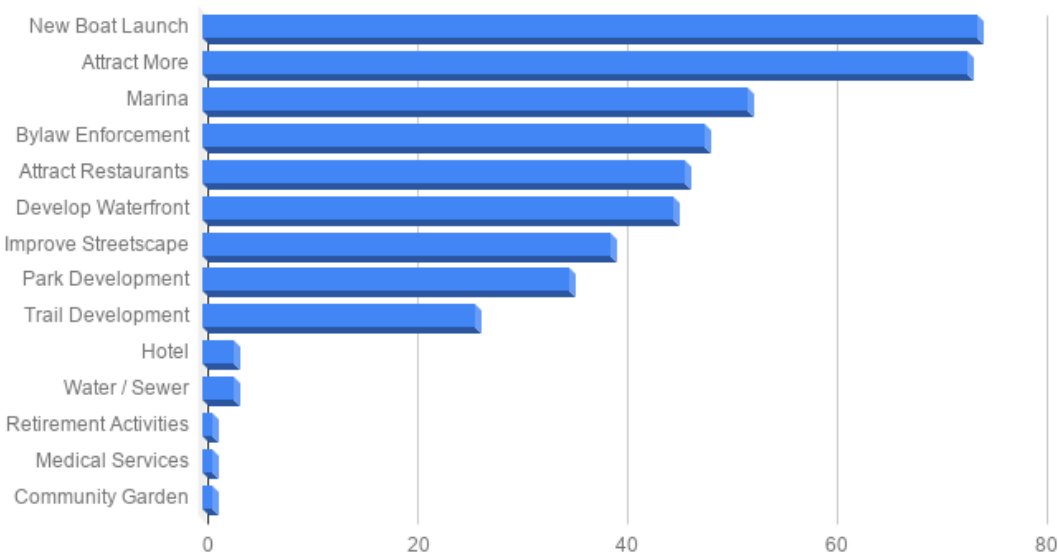


- boating (6)
- gym (2)
- yes (2)
- no (2)
- golf
- homemade French fries
- ATV trail system
- a gym facility
- indoor pool
- better facilities, gym
- seadoo rentals, parasailing
- trail rides
- launch the boat
- a quiet dinner overlooking the waterfront and Lake
- boat launch
- pickleball and year round gym
- workout facilities
- rentals, bike and walking paths
- gym, beach, restaurant, doctor
- boat launch!! 4 boating
- No ATV trails, no winter restaurants, no race to fill it fish in summer or winter
- I would buy a boat if there was a convenient place to launch it
- non-motorized water sports
- we need a baseball diamond and better access to the ATV Trails
- kid day care
- boating - no proper launch or marina
- community activities (e.g. spirit rock evening music was good)
- boat wash station to clean boat with hot water
- family fun, miniature golf, video games
- the park now has pickleball - yes!
- have friends come but no place to stay, have a cold beer on the beach
- pickle ball - indoor, 9 hole golf course, indoor fitness centre and track and full scale gym.
restaurants with music/dancing
- mini golf, bring back arcade
- all listed above
- trails
- boating because of lack of lake access
- festivals/golfing
- no longer can use beach due to land fill rocks due to erosion
- gym, decent hotel facilities, more recreation at the beach
- mini golf, movie theatre
- boating, yoga/gym, activity
- would be great to have access to lake for physical activities
- mini golf, playgrounds, arcade
- more ATV trails from cottages to town
- would like curling rink to stay open

- virtually no wheelchair access
- boat docking / launching
- entertain visitors ie restaurant, hotel accommodations
- ZIP Lining
- n/a
- yes, launch my seadoos cannot access lake - lagoon taken over by weeds
- ATV paths into grand marais from the developments on 500
- yes, boating/kayaking
- yoga or exercise classes
- fish on lake in summer
- as above- pickleball, group board games (daily), boating
- miniature golf, bike rentals
- not really Selkirk is only 30 minutes away, Winnipeg is just an hour
- I really come here for the peace and quiet. don't need a lot of outside activity. if I want something more I can go to the city.
- more for the younger crowd: splash park - entertainment
- restaurants on water
- better community places to meet
- activities for kids like mini golf and arcade. bakery / coffee shop that is actually open
- bike path or walkway not on road or closed roadway. (grand Marias blvd sundays!)
- bridge, pool, sewing/quilting group
- year round pool, year round doctor
- swimming indoors, gym
- cycling - no good trails in Grand marais and the TCT is not maintained. Trails in park are so so and you have to drive to get there.
- water park, sailing regattas
- rent a boat

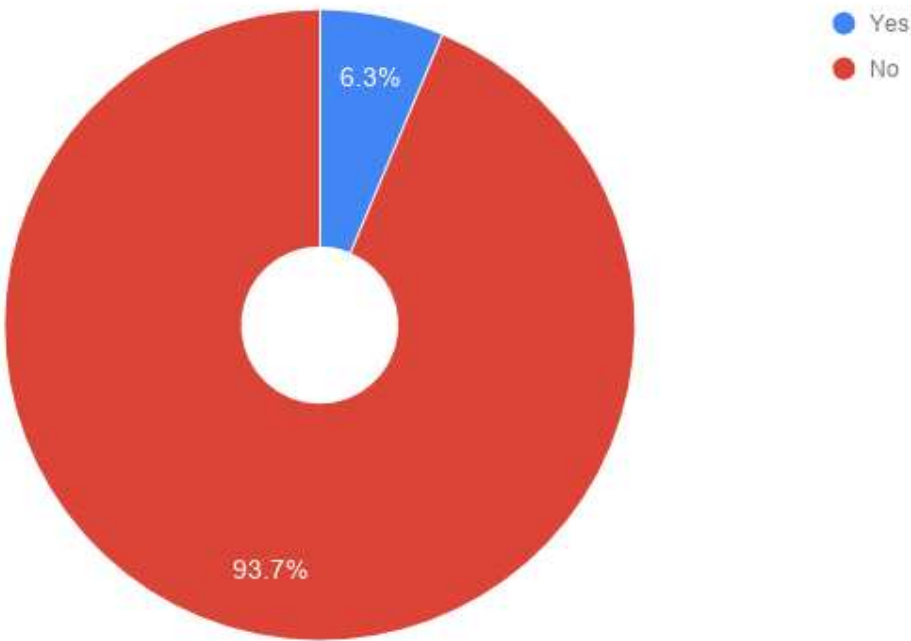
12. In your opinion, where in Grand Marais should the RM focus its energy? (choose your top 3)

143 Responses



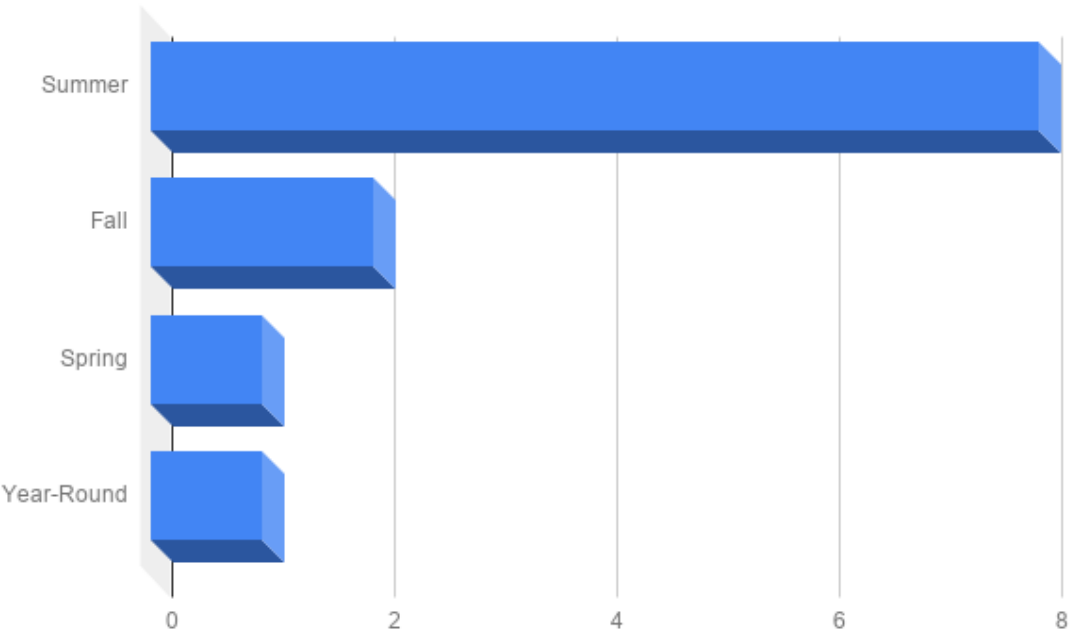
13. Do you rent out your cottage/home?

142 Responses



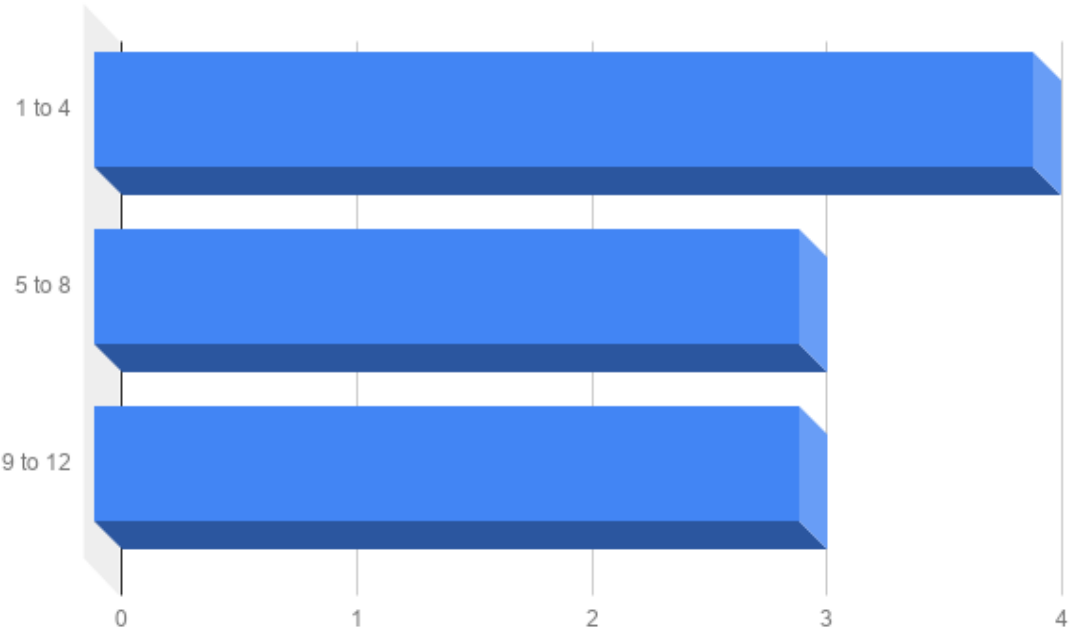
14. If yes, when? (check all that apply)

9 Responses



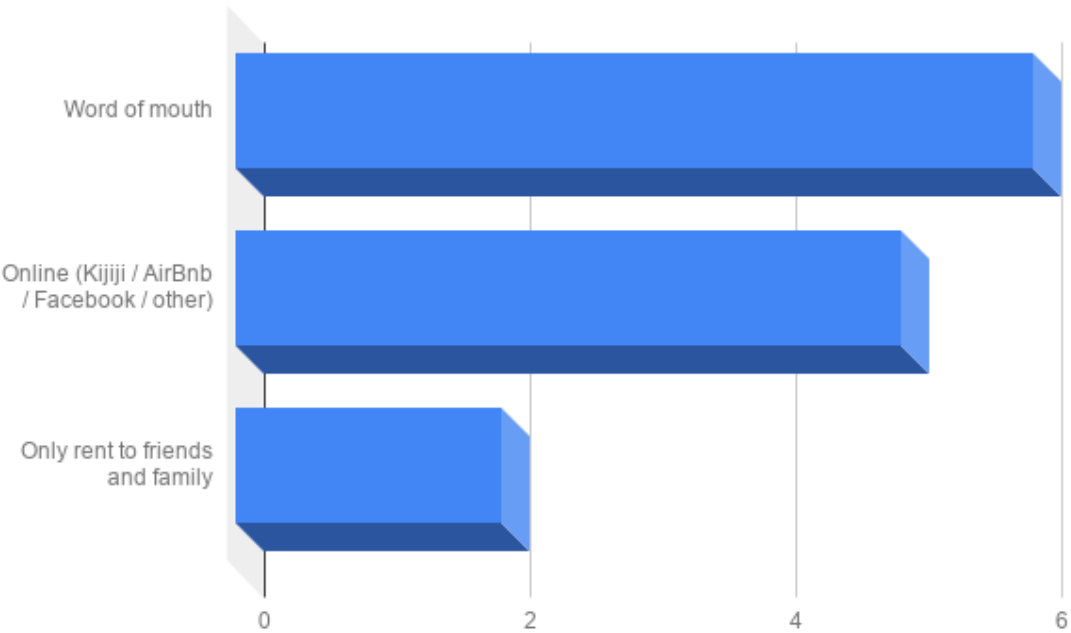
15. How many weeks per year?

10 Responses



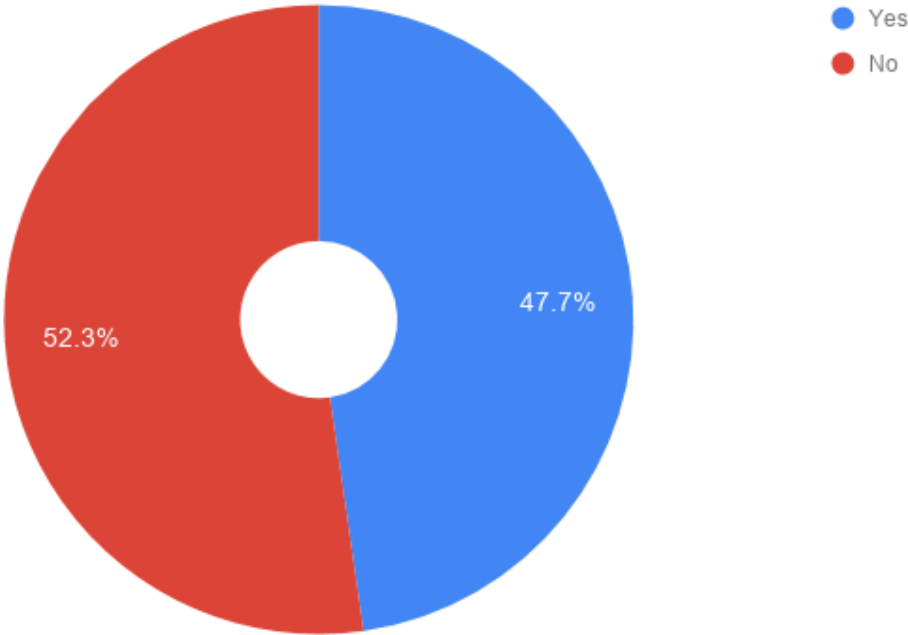
16. How do you advertise? (check all that apply)

10 Responses



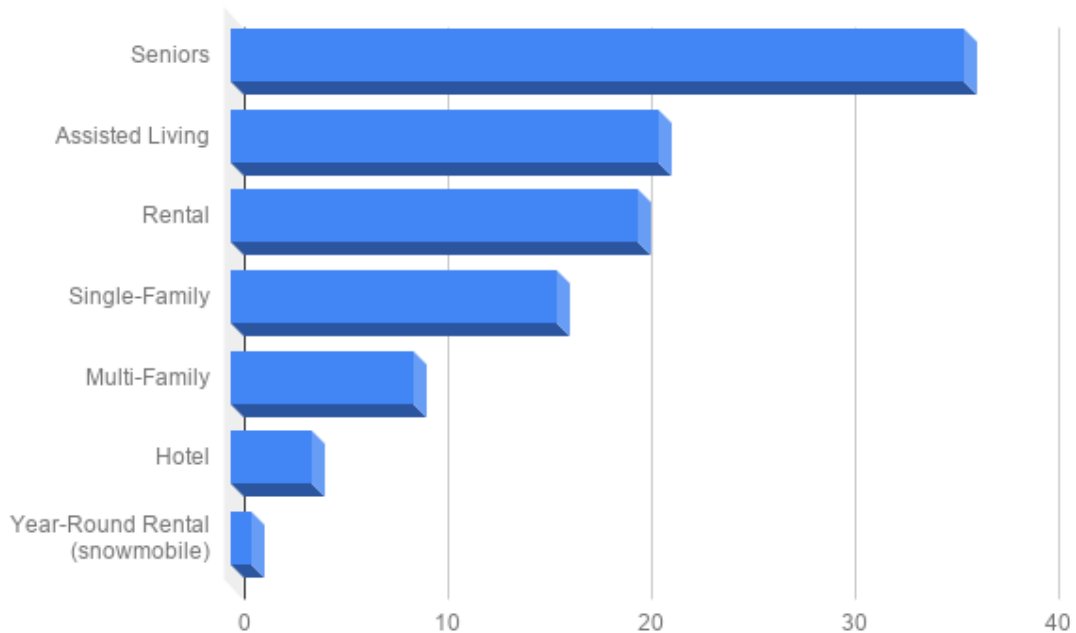
17. Do you think there is enough available permanent housing to meet the community's needs?

88 Responses



18. If not, what type of housing is needed? (check all that apply)

57 Responses



19. Do you have any additional comments?

76 Responses

- sad that after September long weekend this place is a ghost town. more needs to keep park open and get people here
- bylaw enforcement weak. ie. burning garbage
- would like to have full service at the RV Park (sewer, wifi)
- derelict property should be cleaned up by the municipality and property confiscated
- second hand/ thrift store
- garbage pick up in grand marais
- #17 & #18 should not be on this form
- We live in such a beautiful area it is a shame that there is not more things to keep people in their homes in winter
- I'll email you about my trail idea
- the area lacks new development. need more community involvement and new ideas for growth
- Truly a fantastic place to live and work
- privatizing a portion of the park would bring new opportunities and development to the area. Grand marais area is a hidden gem, waiting to be developed
- friends and family often mention they wish there was a resort (like in Gimli) where they could stay when they come out
- a beautiful destination lacking boat launch for more activities and local businesses. 1.antique stores 2.esthetician
- there is loads of potential here that needs development. Twinning the highway (59N) should be done immediately for safety reasons

- I have been a permanent resident from 2001 until just a few months ago. I am now a seasonal resident in the park.
- healthy lake /lagoon extremely important! doesn't matter how nice the sand at the beach is... if you don't have water. park boat launch and lagoon is an environment mess! needs to be regularly dredged out to allow fresh water. no boat wash?! at launch
- A place for recycling right in town i.e. GMCC
- several :)
- the grand marais community central is doing a great job adding amenities to the area
- walking around in grand marais we are often confronted with overgrown yards, unkept properties, having many visitors its often embarrassing!!! looking forward to the new gym !
- maintain, support the lake/lakeshore
- ensure access to health services at least on a weekly basis. attention to the health of lake Winnipeg is very important!
- free for grand marais and change for others, concerned about area and people using but not in area (i.e we pay for others), environment concerns.
- Develop this area like Lake Winnipeg is. Put our tax dollars back in our town
- we pay unreasonable tax's for our cottage property considering the lack of services we receive from the RM
- dredge entrance to GB Lagoon
- we really need a central location, maybe by the RV park - to deposit garbage and recycling - just like in Victoria beach. so we don't have to take the stinky garbage home as the transfer station is not always open!!!
- stop having free weekends and use the money to improve the park. clean up the zebra mussels. new boat launch at Parkview ave
- the boat launch should have a hot water station to prevent zebra mussels
- the school bus goes 60 in 30 miles per hour - slow the traffic down, this is not the city . 30 - give out tickets where is the RCMP?
- clean the beaches up, build a decent hotel
- recently the stores / bar / restaurants have gone downhill
- a major focus needs to be on infrastructure and utilities. advertising gets people to come but services keeps them coming back
- need more recycling depots
- the boat launch is the first step to increase tourism and a major step towards economic growth in the community and area
- We have so much potential to grow and be a 'destination' for people. We need to think growth- not stay as is!!
- I was impressed by the previous plan approximately 10 years ago with the railroad theme, streetscaping, transportation into Grand Beach via a small railroad from Grand Marais
- glad for the medical clinic, roads are good, new playgrounds excellent, community centre great
- would like PTH Sod paved
- Boat launch is a waste of tax dollars? Improve bylaw enforcement on weekend evening when the 'wild west' mentality often takes over. ORVs on beach, fireworks, ORVs (Off Road Vehicles) up and down the streets. Quiet is good, not dead.
- we need to give people a reason to come back to the beach. more business less restrictions on the beach. make it a fun place to come

- services lacking public washroom garbage, recycling, playground for children, playground for adults
- would like to know more about how to get involved in the community
- boat launch available in park or 10 minutes south of Grand Marais. There will be noise pollution as I live close to water, who will police? Garbage? Taxes will increase. All ready pay to much especially school taxes. Don't feel it will be used.
- Joint economic development working committee that has accountability to growth- both BIZ and occupancy
- I would like the speed limit into the village of grand marais to be 50km. cars race by at 65-70km and miss what is available
- need wheelchair access for post office
- large scale development is not attractive to me. If the community became too busy (like the city) I would likely leave it permanently
- more lake access, attract more people to the area with amenities, regular grass and road maintenance
- internet (service) access is poor and will be necessary to attract today's businesses and young families to area
- we miss the mini golf and also the waterslides- grandkids loved both
- appreciate your effort to try to make the community more functional /vibrant
- it would be nice to see a 55 plus trl court
- we are at the end of road and St. Clements treats us like this
- no
- green space is a concern - don't ever want a mini city. we pay for park pass. boat launch would be good to get access to lake but government should dredge channel at grand beach and upgrade boat launch at park.
- for boat launch area - could you look at possibility of boat launch revival at provincial park in Grand Beach- parking etc, etc is already available
- we have boat launching in park, at Balsam Bay water access at Sunset Beach- we do not need an expensive marina!
- the lagoon is a disaster. we used to use it weekly and only launched twice this year. easy launch access is needed for the front beach. dredge the channel!!!
- better hours for the dump, the ability to bring construction debris to the dump
- always conversations never anything done
- I have been coming here for 38 years. this town is dying. it was a busy booming place when I was a child. lets bring it back
- with the best natural tourist attraction in Manitoba this area has been ignored and neglected by all levels of government
- heritage centre- great BIST. We sent in a large number of photos that NEVER appeared in the very good historical computer which is common. Things start and then go nowhere
- this is a nice quiet escape from the city, except for when the all terrain vehicles run up and down the streets. more enforcement of that would be nice.
- put some money into getting rid of the noisy boneheads who cut all the trees and ride RVs. If you want grass move back to the city. Go birds and skunks!
- grand beach provincial park needs to develop if grand Marais is to develop in business. Grand marais needs the park to be more aware of the needs of people visiting daily. example - restaurants with alcohol, marina. we of grand marais no longer have garbage pickup, water

pumps and night soil pickup and our shorelines are eroding, how are we to pay for a marina (and why) when we cant even keep these properly maintained? I am not prepared to pay more for less.

- people always comment that the beach is dying. they just don't like the quiet lifestyle. the beach has been this way for a long time, calm except for those who come to ruin it because they want more or they bring things because they cant be still.
- good process
- the provincial government needs to direct the parks to be more accommodating to tourism. this is probably the only 1st class beach in the world that doesn't have a bar along the beach. it doesn't have to be open until 1am. open at noon and close at 8pm. dredge the channel or the lagoon will die.
- tourism & PR for the area. a destination resort hotel would bring people all year. ice fishing, etc use waterfront, as we have a big jewel in MB going to waste. Change all boards in area to committees and have 1 board for all area. senior community development.
- GM needs more community gathering places for winter and summer. can anything be done about large ditch that divides community on HWY 12? please consider local residents if considering boat launch marina.
- none of businesses ever last. need to get more business in grand marais to attract more people to support the businesses. such a beautiful area but underserved and developed as compared to other beaches
- multifamily rentals on residential zoned property should never be allowed
- been going to GM since very young and would love to see a pier or marina by the south side with walkways along the lake / park cars and walk to!!
- the community lags behind in assisted developments such as Gimli (West side of lake Winnipeg) - Park Development would assist this growth.
- its heartbreaking to see a community on life support. so many businesses have closed / sold / failed in the last 15 years. it does not feel like the community people support the businesses. park people stay on their side. grand marais people stay on their side. the beach needs to appear welcoming to all, not just park cottage owners. what the whole area could use is a vibrant place for young people (20s) to gather, people who don't have cottages. they are the ones who spend money. cottage owners just hangout on their decks or sit inside and watch TV. Grand Marais needs to be marketed as a destination for people who don't own cottages. as a destination vacation, people spend money. they don't spend it going to their 2nd home. imagine a beach front hotel, balconies facing the water, with a great restaurant and bar. you get lots of visitors and it wont take up a lot of space. grand marais could be a great resort town instead of a cottage clique.
- we love it here but there is something missing - people here don't seem to want to change the area
- connected 'business sector' to grand beach at Parkview/grand beach road. Low capital cost but could make a number of businesses viable. Redo HTFC's master plan and incorporate heavy public engagement. Plan for GM & GB together. Pedestrians first, cycle second, vehicle last.
- we have a small cottage and rely on the well system for water. wells in the area were de commissioned recently. a central water source would be a good thing. the RM should make tearing down cottages and getting a permit to rebuild on land an easier process.

- I'm glad to see there's going to be a gym. Ever thought of a webcam so we can see what it looks like when we are away? I like the Gimli webcam. Garage and recycling is important to me. I don't have a home in Winnipeg to take my garbage to. Can we get the overgrown branches and foliage removed from Grand Marais Blvd and Poplar? It's a bit of a blind corner. The stop sign on Vassar Lane heading west should be replaced with a yield sign. A full stop is not necessary. I travel to Beconia for spring water. It would be nice to have a proper water station to fill our big blue jugs.

GRAND MARAIS STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN
VISITORS QUESTIONNAIRE

FINAL DRAFT COMPILED RESULTS

SEPTEMBER 2018

SCATLIFF + MILLER + MURRAY

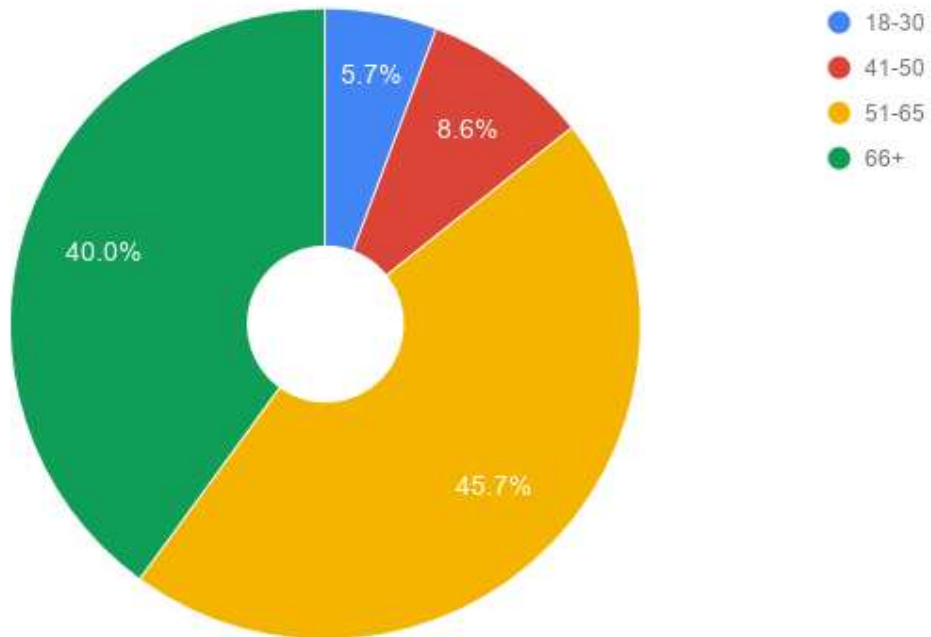
visionary urban design + landscapes

GRAND MARAIS STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE

IF YOU ARE A **VISITOR** TO GRAND MARAIS / GRAND BEACH AREA, PLEASE FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING SECTION:

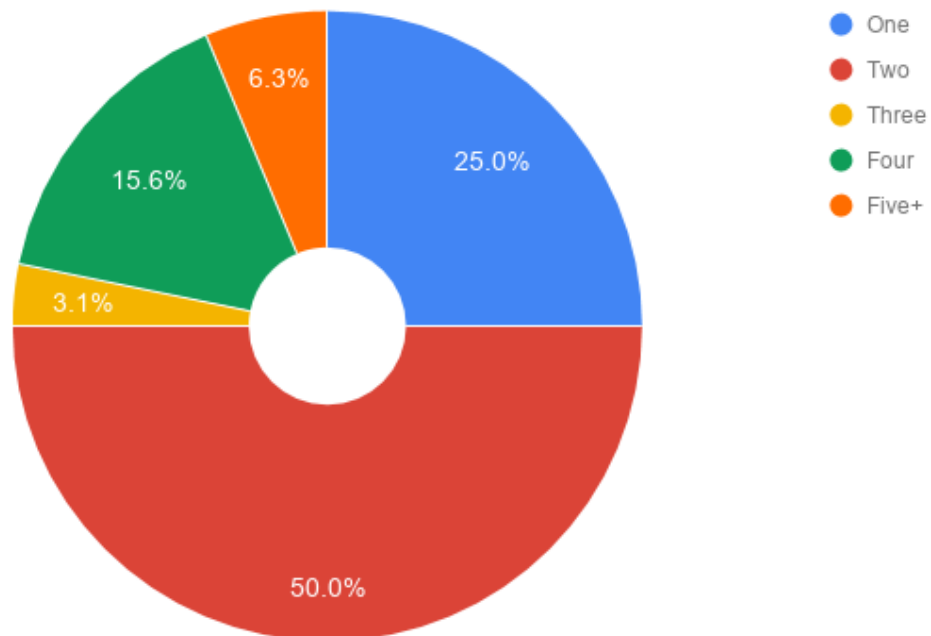
A. Please select your age range:

35 Responses



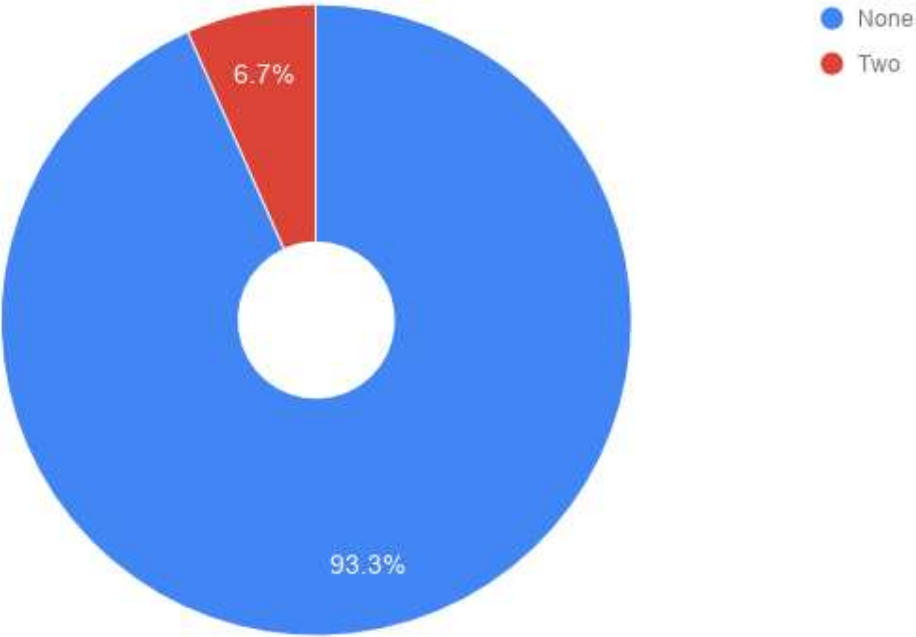
B. Including yourself, how many people currently live in your household?

32 Responses



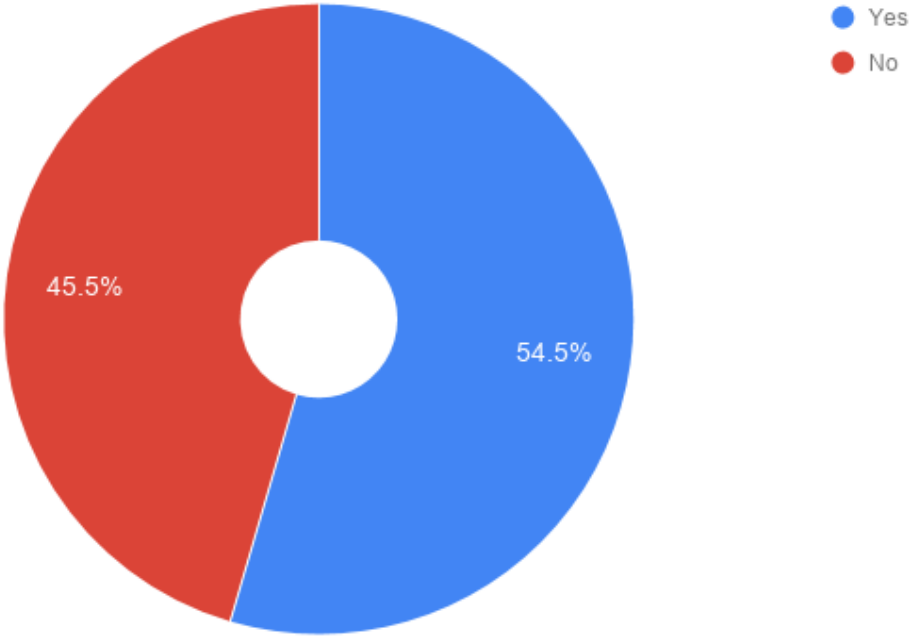
C. How many are under the age of 18?

30 Responses



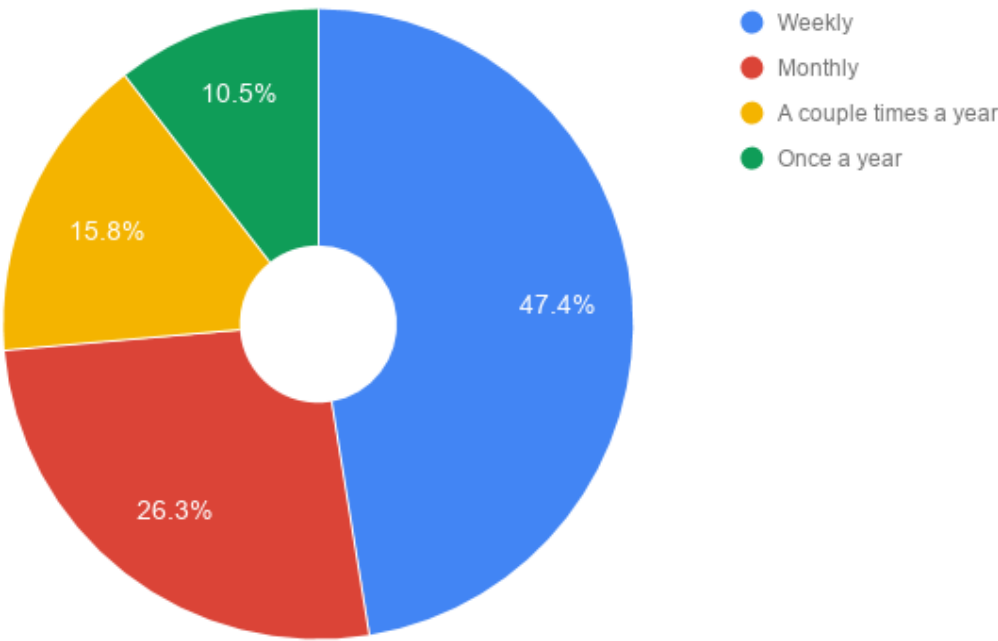
D. If there was a boat launch in Grand Marais, would you use it?

33 Responses



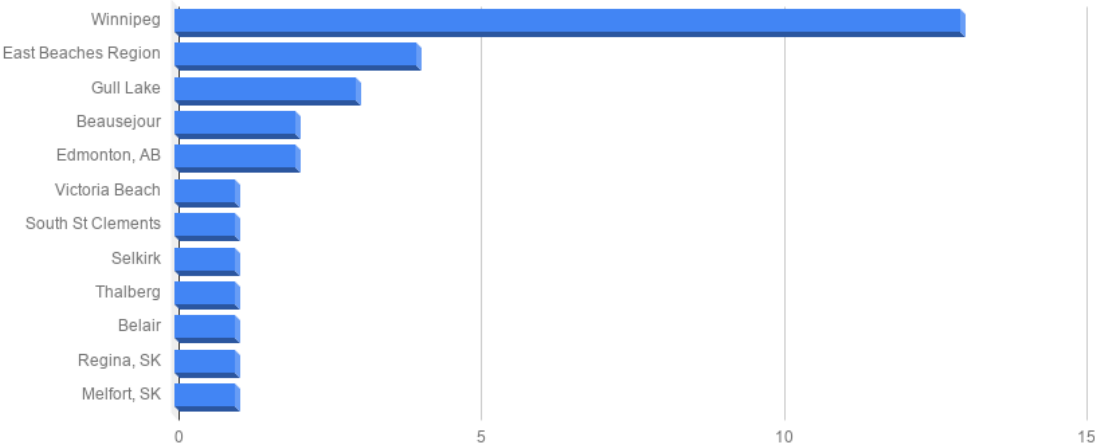
E. How often?

19 Responses



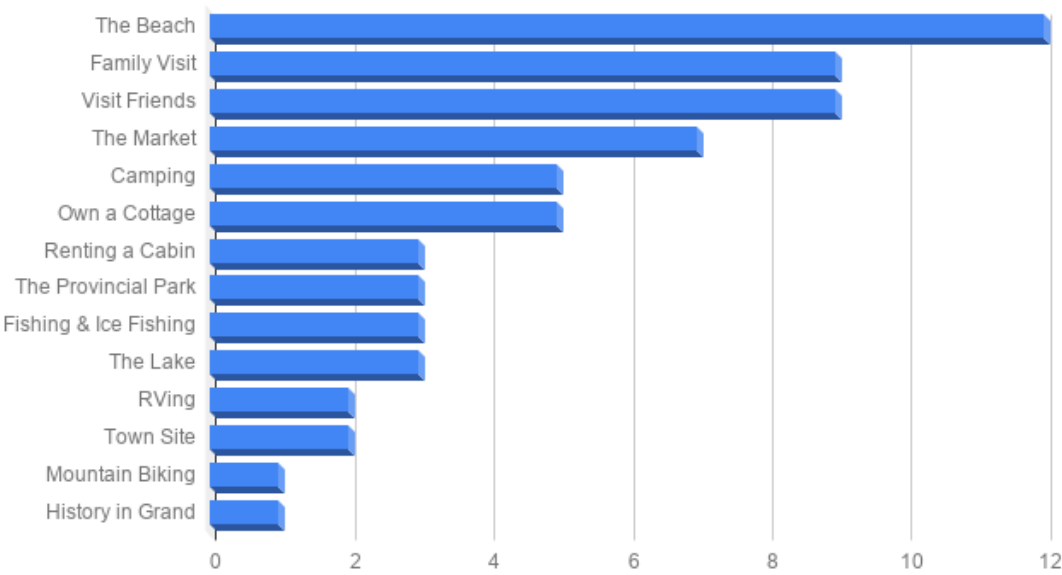
1. Where are you visiting from?

31 Responses



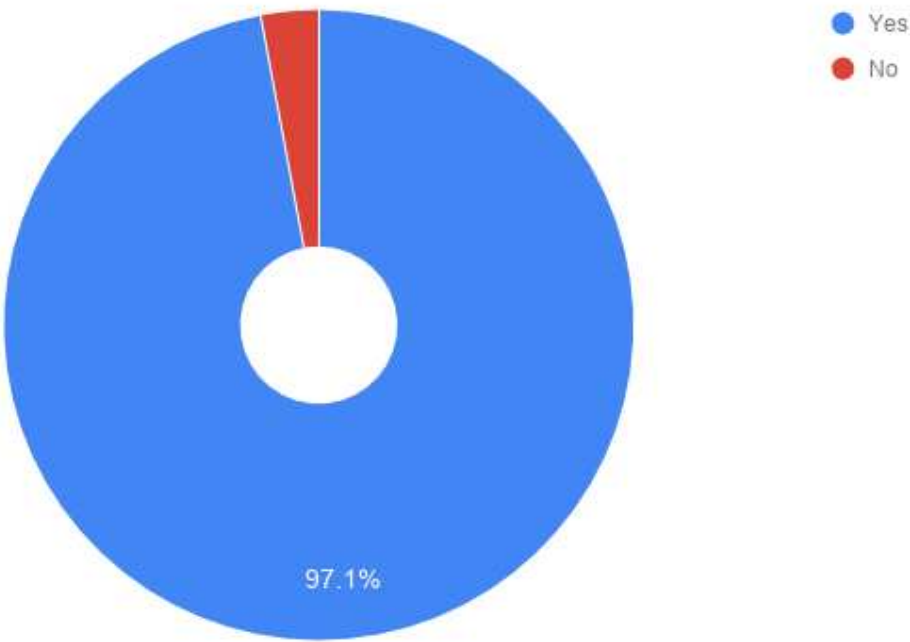
2. What attracted you to visit Grand Marais/Grand Beach?
(check all that apply)

34 Responses



3. Have you visited Grand Marais/Grand Beach Before?

34 Responses



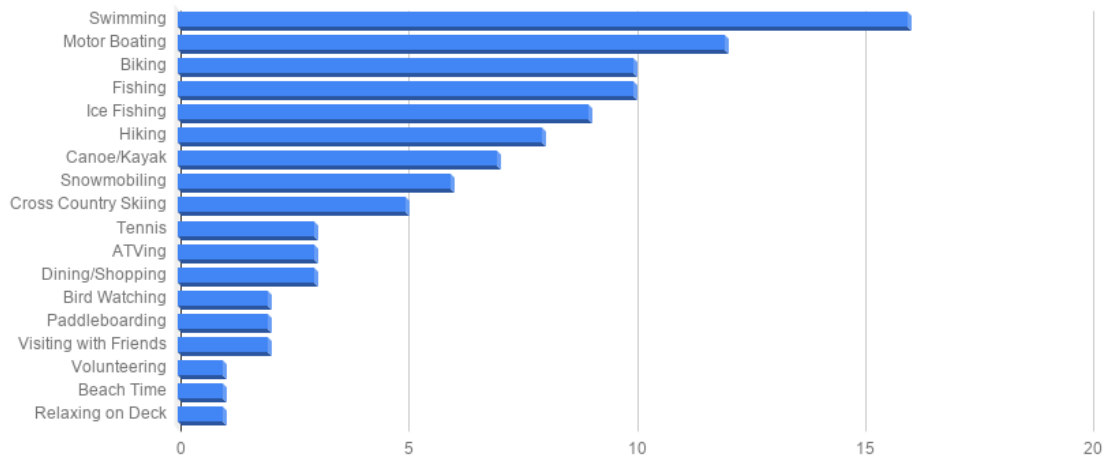
4. If yes, what brings you back?

29 Responses

1. Community
2. Visit Friends, go to Grand Beach, get out of Winnipeg
3. Friends and the beach
4. The lake, ice fishing, summer fishing
5. Friends and family
6. Friends and the beach
7. Proximity to home
8. Interest
9. Friends and family
10. My sister has a cabin, family, memories, first visited at age 6
11. Sell at the market
12. A different place to dine out where service is good
13. Mountain biking
14. The beach and renting a cabin
15. Cottage, family, friends
16. The lake, beach, social life
17. Boat launch, restaurants, seeing the lake, seeing who went out of business this week
18. The beach and fishing
19. The beach, groceries, sand bar
20. Farmers market, wifi, mom is the GMCC accountant
21. Restaurants and the market
22. Friends and the beach
23. Cottage owner
24. The lake, friends, family
25. Seasonal campground
26. Summer camping, proximity to home
27. Volunteering and I feel this area could be so much more
28. The beach and the lake
29. I have a cottage at Halcyon Cove
30. Build a house to retire here
31. Purchased a cottage in Grand Marais

5. What activities do you participate in while visiting Grand Beach/Grand Marais? (check all that apply)

30 Responses



6. What are your impressions of Grand Marais?

28 Responses

1. Bring more activities for kids, arcade, boat rentals
2. Love it - so close to Winnipeg
3. A little run down, need economic boost
4. Needs economic boost, looks like a shanty town or village
5. Needs economic uplift, looks like a neglected outpost
6. Badly needs an economic boost
7. Good
8. Underdeveloped, not many attractions, no parks for public use, especially a playground
9. Lovely, fabulous sunsets on back beach
10. It's nice, but needs more development like Gimli has
11. Lovely spot, many shops and eateries
12. The commercial properties seem run down. The main drag should be cleaned up to show better
13. Underinvested
14. Sad
15. Underinvested, no public transit, no hotels/little accommodation for visitors
16. Needs a lot of work
17. Love bench, swimming, fishing
18. Overly frugal to the point of diminished survival
19. One of a kind
20. Needs updating, looks run down
21. Run down beaches area
22. Needs more people and business
23. Needs economic boost. Has deteriorated in the more than 20 year I have come here
24. Love it!
25. Town lacks proper grocery store and amenities for locals. Nice, peaceful.
26. Poor design does not encourage people to go where stores / restaurants are
27. It is a weird place. There is no central shopping area. It seems scattered and disconnected

28. Nice little town but could use some modern updating
29. Needs more to attract people and more conveniences for people who live here and have cottages here
30. Small community, friends, people but no true bylaw enforcement and noisier late at night

7. Are there any services/amenities that you feel are missing from Grand Marais? If so, which ones?

29 Responses

1. Arcade closing, bakery, nothing to do activities for kids
2. RCMP Station Here
3. Boat launch - Lake Access
4. Lake access both summer and winter, paved streets (Grand Marais Blvd should be paved)
5. Access to the lake is a must
6. Boat launch, access to the lake
7. Sit down restaurants
8. A better grocery store
9. Form of transportation from Grand Marais to grand beach and back for older people. Parking lot in Grand Marais
10. More restaurants
11. Music festival, live entertainment
12. Bike path from Grand Marais to the boardwalk. health care services, trendy shops, boat launch, rentals (boats, bikes)
13. Accommodation, transportation
14. Restaurants, coffee shop, boat launch
15. Accommodation for visitors, bus service from Winnipeg
16. Outside swimming pool, large like resorts
17. Bakery, arcade
18. Butterfly garden
19. Weed chipping at dump, many would buy for garden and landscape. Plus revenue gardens
20. Bad owners with run down properties are the cause of devaluing the good owners
21. Coffee shop
22. Good restaurant
23. Wifi. It would be nice if it was a full service site (sewer)
24. Boat launch - lake access - is the first step to increase tourism. Summer/winter. No place to do laundry
25. Need more options for grocery store. Current store is not as good as the previous store that was here
26. Grocery store
27. Medical office, proper tourist assistance, signage
28. A quaint shopping - eating - hanging out area in sight of the lake
29. Gym facilities, more modern shopping facilities
30. Coffee shop, car wash, laundry, hotel or Inn
31. 24/7 police presence year round. Wifi and better cell service.

8. Do you have any additional comments?

14 Responses

- Boat launch should be done same with grand beach and grand marais, dredge lagoon how it's been in old days
- Grand marais needs identity - no highway signs anywhere on 59 north that indicate Grand Marais
- Grand Marais Blvd must be paved to complete a hardtop loop with Grand Beach Rd
- Thanks for asking questions. Grand Marais has a lot of potential for growth and development to bring it up to the 21st century
- Have the park free at all times
- Embrace active living, develop trails, open boat launch on main lake and close lagoon to motorized boats. Develop main highway, clean up so it 'feels' like a resort town.
- Summer bus transportation from Winnipeg would be great
- Build a pool, water the grass at the farmers market, de weed, cut side grass more often
- Water quality. Water night control
- Clean up the town residents who are derelict. These places are fire traps
- Bylaw enforcement is weak. i.e. burning garbage prevalent
- Hard services of GM Blvd and other streets
- Everything shuts down on Mondays - no place to buy a meal
- There is so much potential for Grand Marais as it is a gorgeous spot on the lake. You should check out Grand Marais MN for inspiration! (on Lake Superior)
- Grand Marais needs a new Rec Centre for different activities along with what they have now
- Better control of loud music from late night partying (2am) from residences and private businesses