



Sustainable Sackville

Resident Survey Report

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1.0 Introduction

In October 2009, the Sackville Town Council invited the Tantramar Planning District Commission (TPDC) to coordinate the Town's Integrated Community Sustainability Plan process; the project was named Sustainable Sackville. A workplan was set out including a preliminary phase meant to establish baseline information on economic, social and environmental realities in the community, as well as gauge initial community thoughts on the topic of sustainability.

The Sustainable Sackville Steering Committee - led by the TPDC and including representatives from Council, municipal staff, the non-profit sector, youth, and the business community - prepared a one-page resident survey. The purpose of the survey was to be one of the ways of gathering certain baseline information from the community; but perhaps, more importantly, it was a first opportunity for community-participation in the process. It should be noted, that the intent of the survey was not necessarily to achieve a statistically significant response rate at the end of the process, but to encourage dialogue and discussion from the outset of this project on the issues of sustainability.

2.0 Methodology

The survey included 24 questions and was one page in length (double-sided). It was printed on bright orange paper and 2200 copies were delivered to all mailboxes within Town limits on December 2nd, 2009. At the same time, the survey was also posted on-line with its main link on the Sustainable Sackville website (www.sackville.com/community/sustainable_sackville/). An article appeared in the Tribune on December 2nd introducing the survey and an announcement was made at the December 14th Town Council meeting. The electronic survey link was sent out to many distribution lists across the Town's groups, including churches, non profit groups as well as to Mount Allison students, faculty and staff. Drop boxes for the paper survey were placed at Town Office, TPDC, the Post Office, SaveEasy, Sackville Co-op, Royal Bank, and Scotia Bank. The survey closed on December 18th, 2009, at which time the drop boxes were collected and the link removed from the Town's website.

3.0 Survey Returns

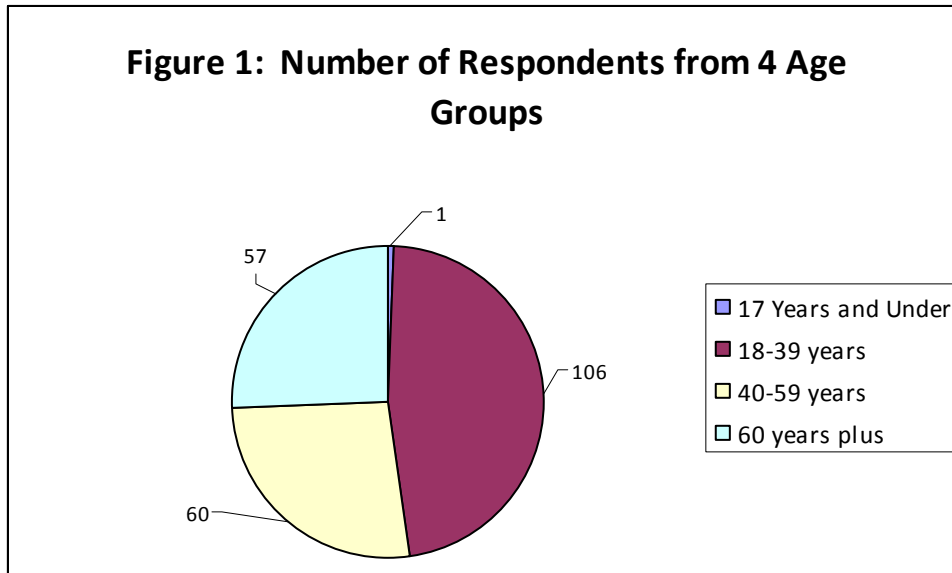
There were 115 paper surveys returned, and 130 electronic surveys completed. The response rate is difficult to calculate, because only one survey was sent to each mailbox (which could include 4+ residents). As well, it is not known how many email addresses the survey was sent to, or how many individuals logged onto the Sustainable Sackville website and responded following other media attention. Suffice to say, the survey responses give the Steering Committee direct input from 245 people who might not have otherwise participated in the process.

4.0 Survey Responses

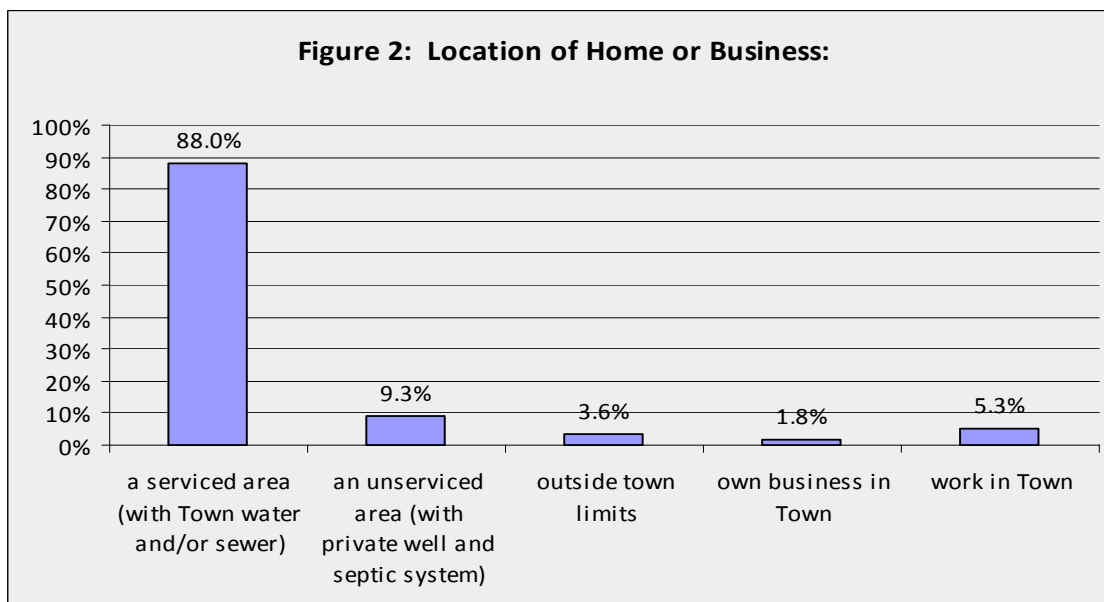
The following section includes an analysis of results from the survey. Due to formatting issues, the questions on the paper survey were presented in a different order in the on-line survey. A copy of the survey is presented in Appendix A of this report for reference. Corresponding questions are noted following the subtitle to each section of this report.

4.1 Who Responded to the Survey? (Qu. 6, 7, 10, 11, 21)

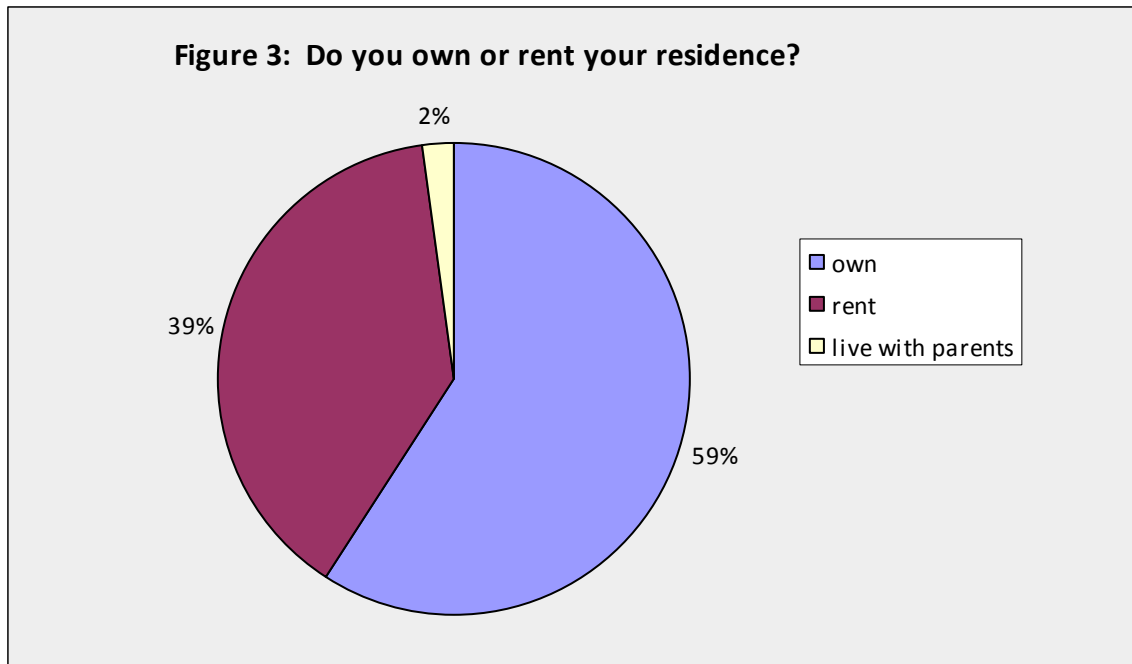
Survey respondents represented the adults in the town, with almost half of all respondents being 18-39 years. While no direct information was collected on if respondents were students, it is assumed that some of the respondents were Mount Allison students. Only 1 person 17 years and under responded to the survey. Figure 1 outlines the response distribution by age group.



Only 40 people who responded to the survey (19% of respondents) had children under the age of 12 years in their household. The average number of children in the household for those respondents was 2. The average number of people per respondent household was 3.3 (this number excludes responses by university students living in residences). As shown in Figure 2, the majority of respondents live or work in the serviced area of town (with water and/or sewer). Less than 10% of respondents were from the unserviced area of Town.



Respondents were also asked about home ownership. The majority (59%) owned their own homes, with 39% renting, and 2% who still live at home with parents.¹

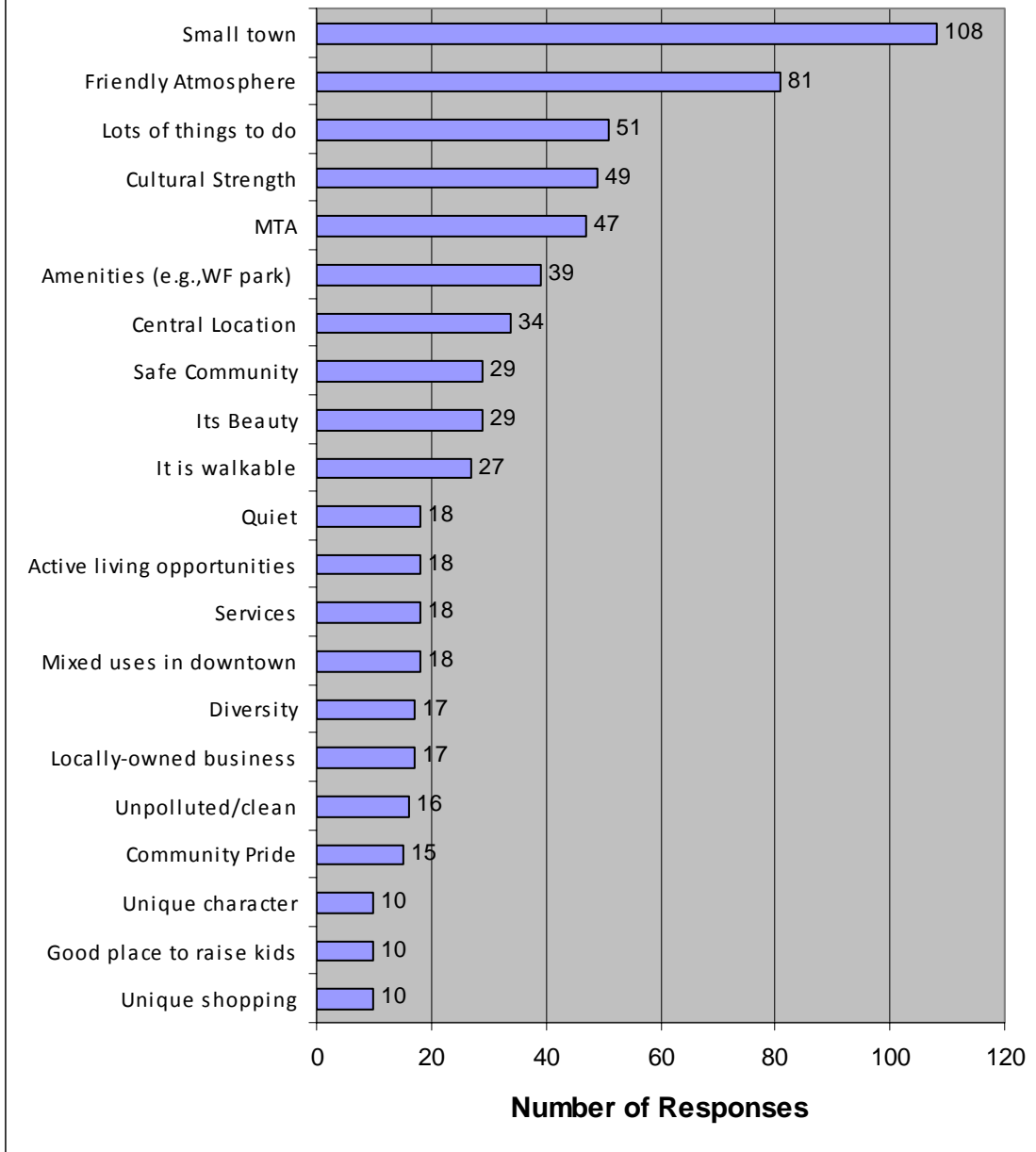


4.2 What do you like most about Sackville? (Qu. 1)

The broad range of responses can be classified into five broad categories: quality of life, economic opportunities, environmental quality, social amenities, and other. Overall, the quality of life of the small, friendly town was the most frequent quality that respondents liked about the Town. While there was an interest in seeing the town prosper, significant community growth (population-wise) was not a priority. The cultural strength of the community as well as the natural beauty of the surrounding area figured prominently in responses. It was acknowledged by many that Mount Allison University's presence in the town provided for a more richer and diverse quality of life than would be possible without this nationally-recognized leader in post-secondary education. Figure 4 highlights the top responses.

¹ The "living with parents" option was only provided on the on-line survey.

Figure 4: What Respondents Like About Sackville



4.3 What would you change about the town? (Qu. 2)

While there are many good things respondents recognized in the town, there were also a number of suggestions for improvements and changes. From a sustainability perspective, many of these responses reflect what is needed in a sustainable community. The most frequent response was the need for more restaurants and businesses in the downtown core. Increased business and service presence in the central area of town would require less travel outside the community for basic necessities. The majority of respondents identified a preference for more local, independent businesses, as opposed to large franchises or retail chains. Improvement to infrastructure was another frequent response; these

improvements would be related to water lines, wheelchair accessible curbing, improved road conditions, street lights at King and Main Streets, and additional street lighting along certain roads. The third topic most reported was the need for public transportation – both for within town limits, as well as between Sackville and Amherst and/or Moncton for commuters.

Table 1 outlines the overall responses from 210 survey respondents.

Table 1: Responses to What People would Change about Sackville	Number of Responses
More restaurants/businesses in downtown	67
Improved infrastructure	26
Public Transportation (local and regional)	24
More active living opportunities	22
More activities for children and youth	14
More seniors and affordable housing	11
Improve natural environment	10
More and better services	10
Community attitude	10
Improve options for energy reduction	9
more jobs (green or other)	8
Relations with MTA	8
Community safety	8
Better governance	8
More festivals/activities	7
More access to local food & products	7
Pedway over TCH	6
Less waste of public resources	5
More amenities	5
Designated space for farmers market	5
By-laws	4
Lower Taxes	4
Improve Accessibility	3
Better signage	3
Increased Density	2
Town-led green initiatives	2
Habitat conservation	2

4.4 What does sustainable living mean to you? (Qu. 3)

Respondents were asked to check off what meant “sustainable living” to them. A range of responses were provided, meaning that community members have different ideas of what sustainability refers to. In the Sustainable Sackville project, it is important to note that we have a balanced approach to sustainability – which includes environmental AND economic AND social components. In essence, all the definitions listed on the survey, except for the last two, (see chart 2), are components of a sustainable community. The last two (“Allow all kinds of development if it provides jobs,” and “Use land and resources to benefit the economy first”) do not fit within the sustainability mandate because they consider the economy more important than social or environmental items. Chart 2 outlines the most frequent responses (with 1

being the response more people gave than any other; and 10 being the response that was given the fewest times).

Chart 2 – Order of Responses to Defining Sustainable Living – from highest to lowest	
1	Reduce, reuse, recycle
2	Make sure we don't make the environment worse
3	Buy local products
4	Make sure our grandchildren have a healthy environment
5	Local businesses providing local employment
6	Ensure all children have a chance for a good education
7	Provide access to affordable housing to all residents
8	Reduce poverty in our community
9	Ensure all residents have equal access to health care
10	Allow all kinds of development if it provides jobs
10	Use land and resources to benefit the economy first

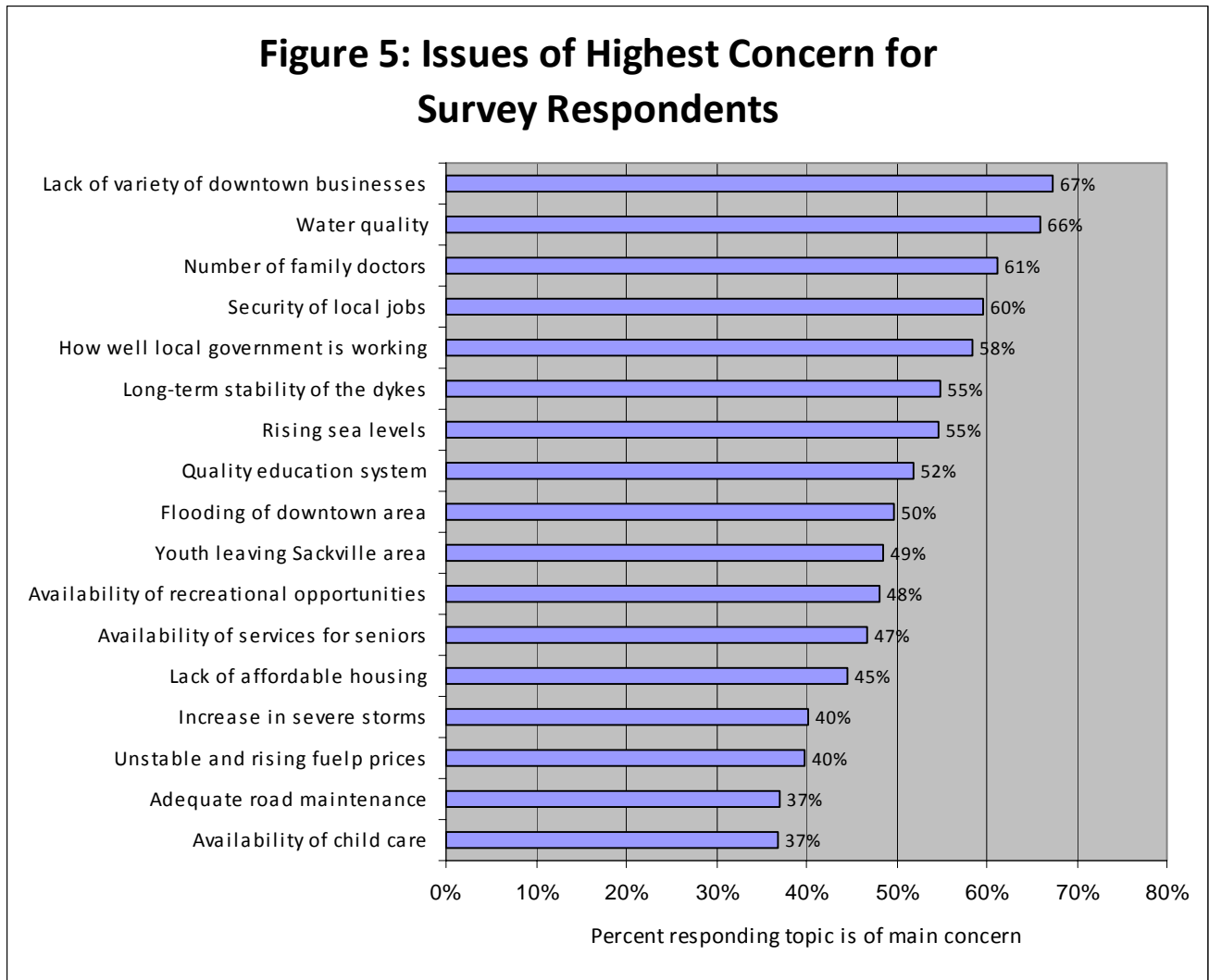
Respondents were also given the opportunity to include their own definition of Sustainable Living in the survey. Following are some of those definitions:

- The creation of a localized community less dependent on oil. On the local scale this actually translates into a community which has high density, mixed usage, and interdependence. On the note of interdependence, economically, the key to this community is that it is small enough to rely on, and benefit from, each other economically and socially. This means it is all about people being within a short distance, and having a lifestyle, that creates interaction.
- Resilience of the community to withstand major environmental, technological and economic changes.
- Land and resources can be used to benefit the economy while still being socially and environmentally progressive. In fact, sustainable projects will likely yield the highest economic returns overall.
- Living in such a way that sustains earth's creatures and ecosystems without compromising the ability of future creations & ecosystems to meet their own needs.
- For more than a generation, we have been living in a global village. To think solely in local terms is to deny that fundamental reality. Therefore, as we attempt to invent and practice sustainable living we need to blend local and global viewpoints in ways that will:
 - a) minimize or eliminate the depletion of non-renewable resources;
 - b) minimize or eliminate the production and discard of non-biodegradable substances;
 - c) use renewable resources moderately and sustainably; and
 - d) ensure that all may meet their needs without compromising the needs of others.

4.5 What issues are of greatest concern in Sackville? (Qu. 4)

Survey residents felt the range of issues presented were of varying degrees of concern. Some responses depended on circumstance (eg. need for child care was only responded to by parents with young children in the home). Figure 5 illustrates the issues which are of strongest concern for those who responded to the survey. The lack of variety of downtown businesses was rated a high concern by the largest proportion of respondents (67%), followed closely by water quality (66%). Availability of medical services was identified repeatedly in the overall survey results, including in this question with the limited

number of family doctors being a main concern for 61% of respondents. Concern for the security of local jobs was a main concern for 60%. Effectiveness of local government was a concern for 58%, followed by the long-term stability of the dykes and rising sea levels both being a main concern for 55% of respondents.



Some respondents added additional concerns to the list provided. Comments include the following:

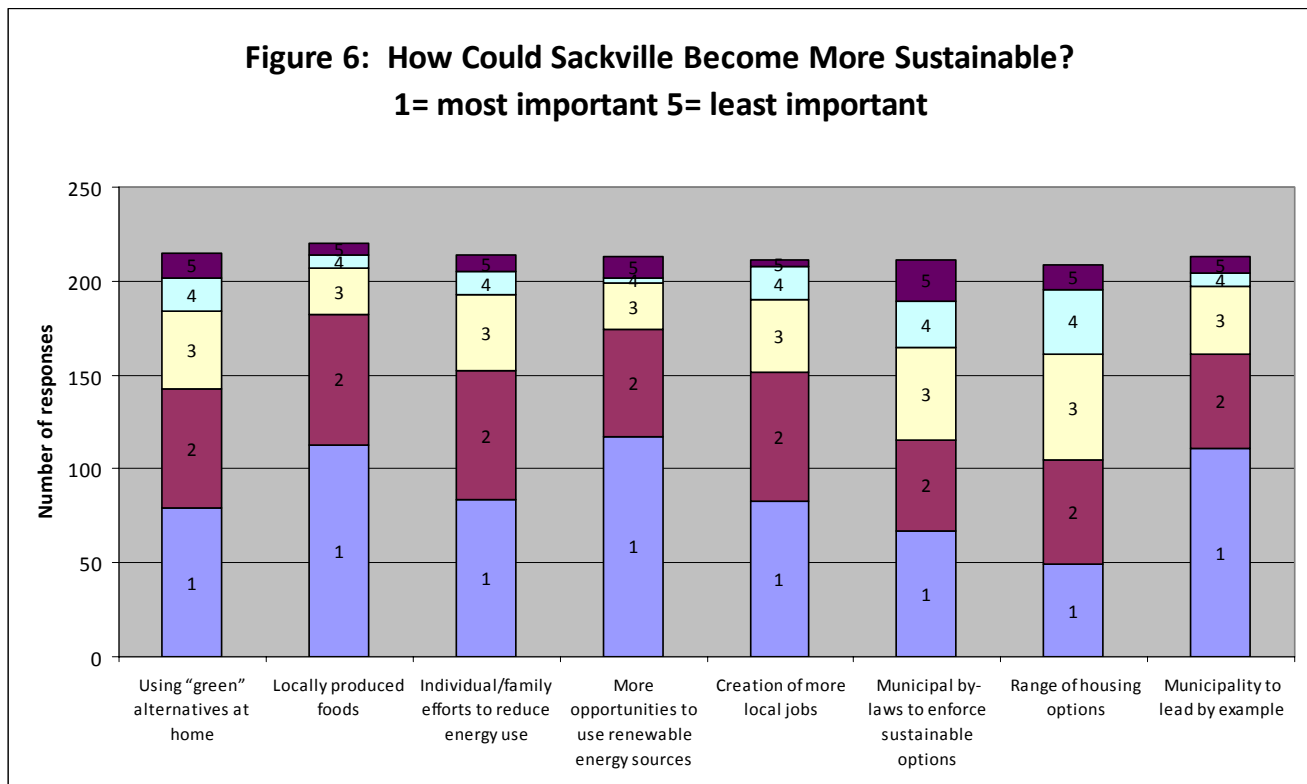
- Gap between town and university
- Lack of well-defined and effectively implemented standards of quality, appearance, and environmental protection in the approval of construction and infrastructure projects.
- The possibility of an industrial wind farm being built on the Tantramar marsh ... big concern about the negative impact on environment, social and aesthetic issues.
- Lack of recognition that educational, cultural, historical, and environmental initiatives are central to economic sustainability in the so-called "creative economy" in which Sackville must, increasingly, learn to participate.
- Lack of any very specific information about some of the projected environmental effects of climate change. Specifically, what information is there that supports the proposition that rising sea levels pose a short- to mid-term threat to Sackville?
- Survival of local businesses. One of the reasons they struggle is that they are competing in an economy which favours the economy of scale that rewards large scaled ordering. (Local

businesses have to pay more for products they wish to sell and so have to pass on the higher prices to consumers.)

- The local consumer has to be educated about this and told that they are not being "ripped off" when they pay higher prices in town. They are investing in their business community so that it will still be there when the consumer is too old to drive to Moncton or Amherst to shop or transportation becomes too expensive. The premium the consumer pays to shop locally is actually an insurance premium to ensure the future viability of the Sackville business community.
- Lack of affordable AND suitable housing options.
- Availability of recreational opportunities for adults.

4.6 How Could Sackville Become More Sustainable? (Qu. 5)

This question asked what approaches would have the greatest impact on making the community more sustainable. Again, there was a range of feedback provided by survey respondents as presented in Figure 6. As can be seen in Figure 6, survey respondents indicate that there is no one answer to becoming sustainable, but that it is a combination of individual, governmental, and private sector responses that together will make this community more sustainable in the long term. However, the three top responses for becoming more sustainable were to have more locally produced food, have more opportunities to use renewable energy sources, and for the municipality to lead by example.



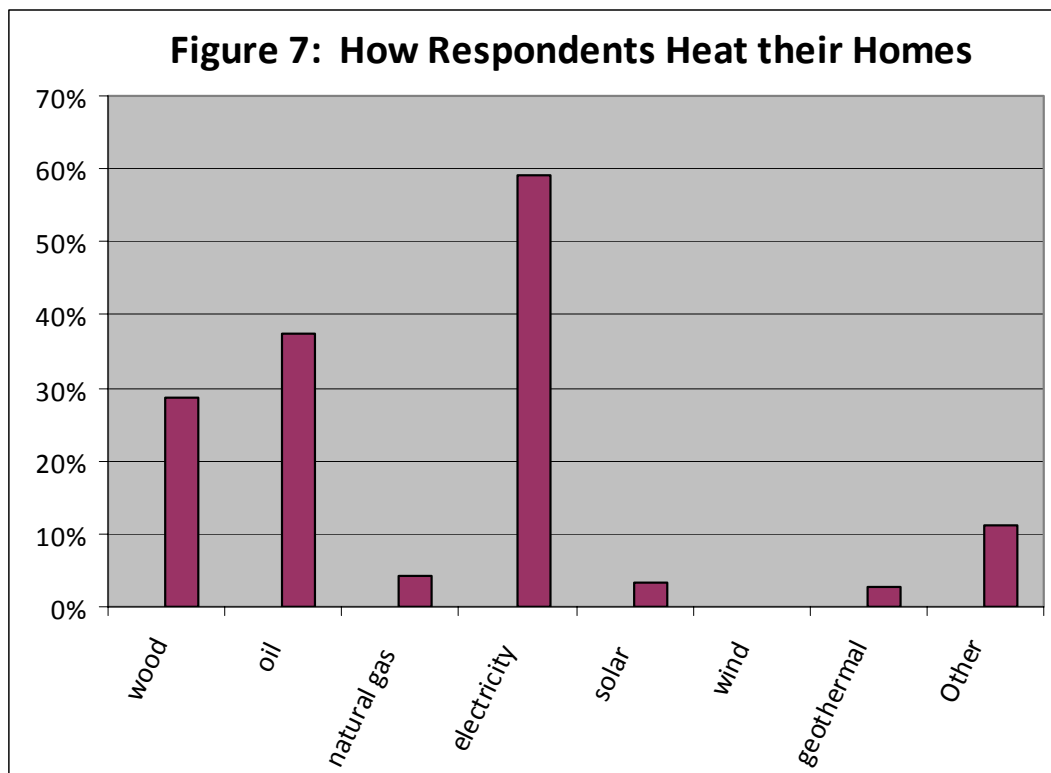
Respondents also provided additional suggestions on how Sackville could become more sustainable. These included the following:

- Banning bottled water and plastic bags in Sackville are ways the municipality can lead by example.
- Right to farm legislation.

- Leadership by example....I'll look for that in town council!
- Information, resources, encouragement (lead by example), and setting standards (bylaws) will help.
- Low cost housing options for those in need.
- Change will come as a result of economic incentives, not from fear or altruism. Sustainable lifestyle choices need to be economically attractive, easily accessible, and there needs to be an emphasis put on the fun that comes with them.
- It's easy to say green at home and individual families reduce energy, but some families work full time all the time, and time, regardless of our efforts is a factor. There are times we are just unable to do things at home, like unplug appliances, hang clothes out all the time etc...
- Wind Power please!
- Adopting the above suggestions will not automatically make Sackville sustainable. That will depend on how well the community can learn (or be inspired) to voluntarily adopt and/or demand a much wider range of sustainable practices.
- The biggest challenge is to find ways for local citizens to feel engaged in their community and in frequent contact with their fellow citizens.
- Implement the ICSP (Sustainability plan)

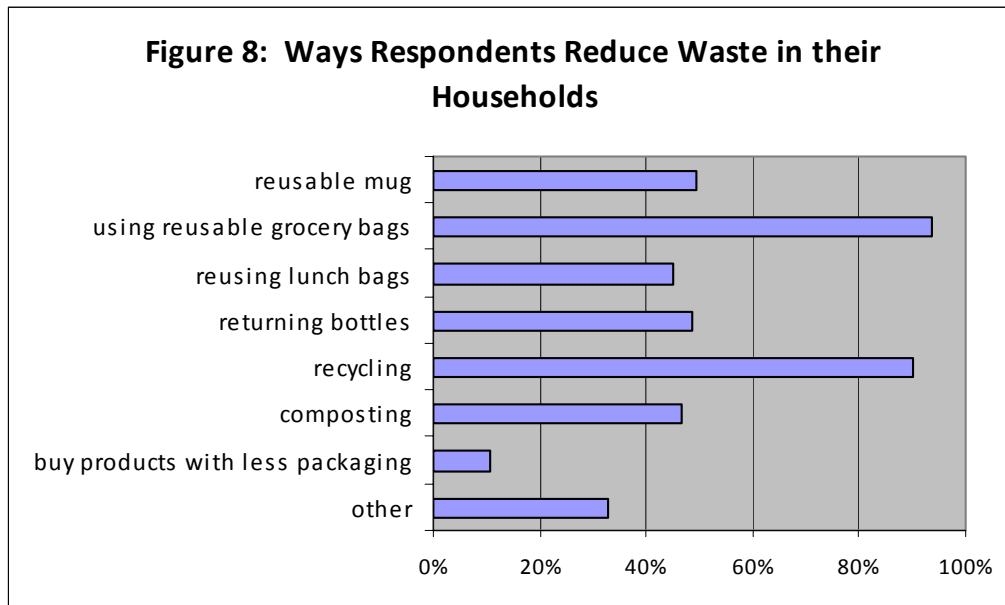
4.7 How do you heat your home? (Qu 12)

In many cases, respondents identified two or more sources of heat for their homes. These choices almost always included electricity as either a main source or supplemental source (almost 60%), with oil (37%) and wood (29%) the most common heating sources used at the present time. "Other" types of heating sources listed in responses include propane, biomass, and heat pumps. As illustrated in Figure 7, renewable sources are still far outnumbered by traditional fossil fuels as home heating choices.



4.8 Activities to Reduce Waste in Respondent Households (Qu. 13)

Respondents were asked what types of things they did to reduce waste in their households and they responded with more than 850 activities. Figure 8 shows that of the 210 respondents to this particular question, 90% recycle (use blue bags) and 94% use reusable grocery bags. Almost half of all respondents also use reusable mugs, lunch bags, return bottles and compost (green bags or backyard system).



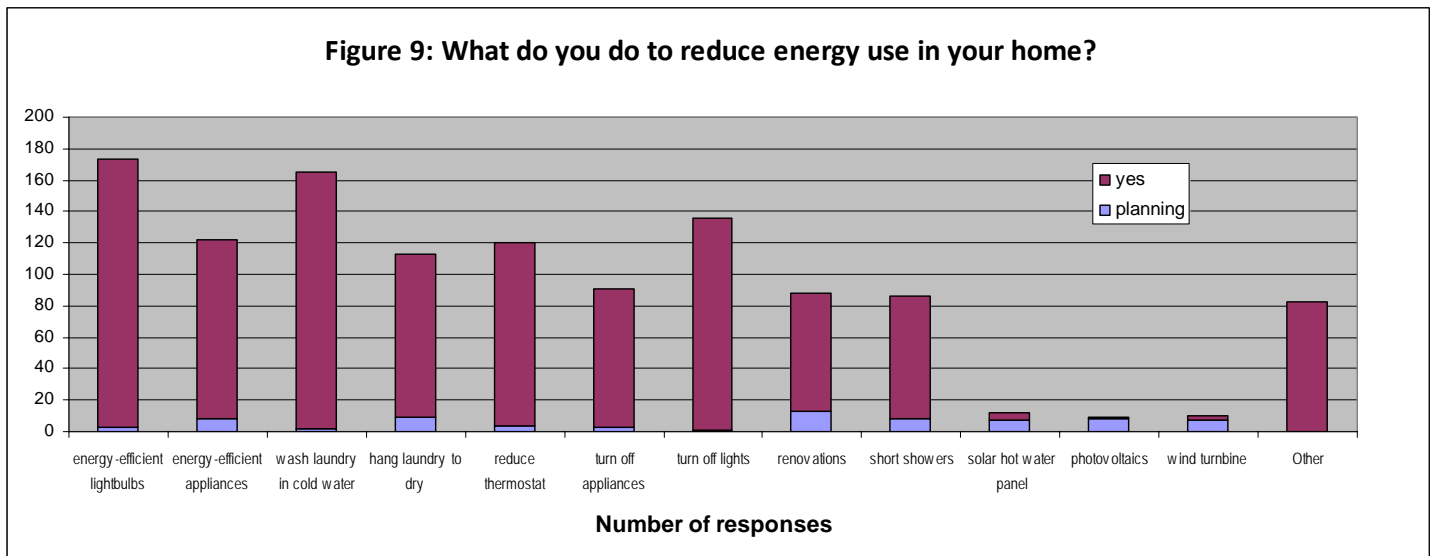
Some respondents listed “other” activities that they do to reduce waste such as:

- Use reusable containers (not baggies or plastic wrap)
- Re-use plastic containers
- Grow a garden to reduce packaging requirements for vegetables
- Reuse containers to create something new - garbage can be used for making bags, presents, crafts and containers
- Donate clothes and other items to charities
- Cook from scratch instead of buying pre-packaged goods
- Buy in bulk
- Re-use paper
- Take litterless lunches, hemp shower curtain (10 year life span), carbon block water filter (no brita cartridges)
- Keep toilet paper rolls etc for crafts,
- Wash and reuse plastic ziplock bags
- Use cloth rags (instead of paper towels)
- Make homemade cleaning products

4.9 Activities to Reduce Energy in Respondent Households (Qu. 14)

In their efforts to reduce energy use at home, 214 respondents undertook almost 1700 energy-reducing activities all combined. The most popular energy saving activities were buying energy efficient light bulbs and washing laundry in cold water. Many respondents also turn lights off when not in use and reduce their thermostats, particularly at night time. On-line respondents were also given the opportunity

to note if they planned to undertake any identified activities. Of the 73 activities planned, many were related to renovations that to increase energy efficiency. Many of the renovations already completed included installation of new windows, doors and insulation. Figure 9 illustrates the range of activities.



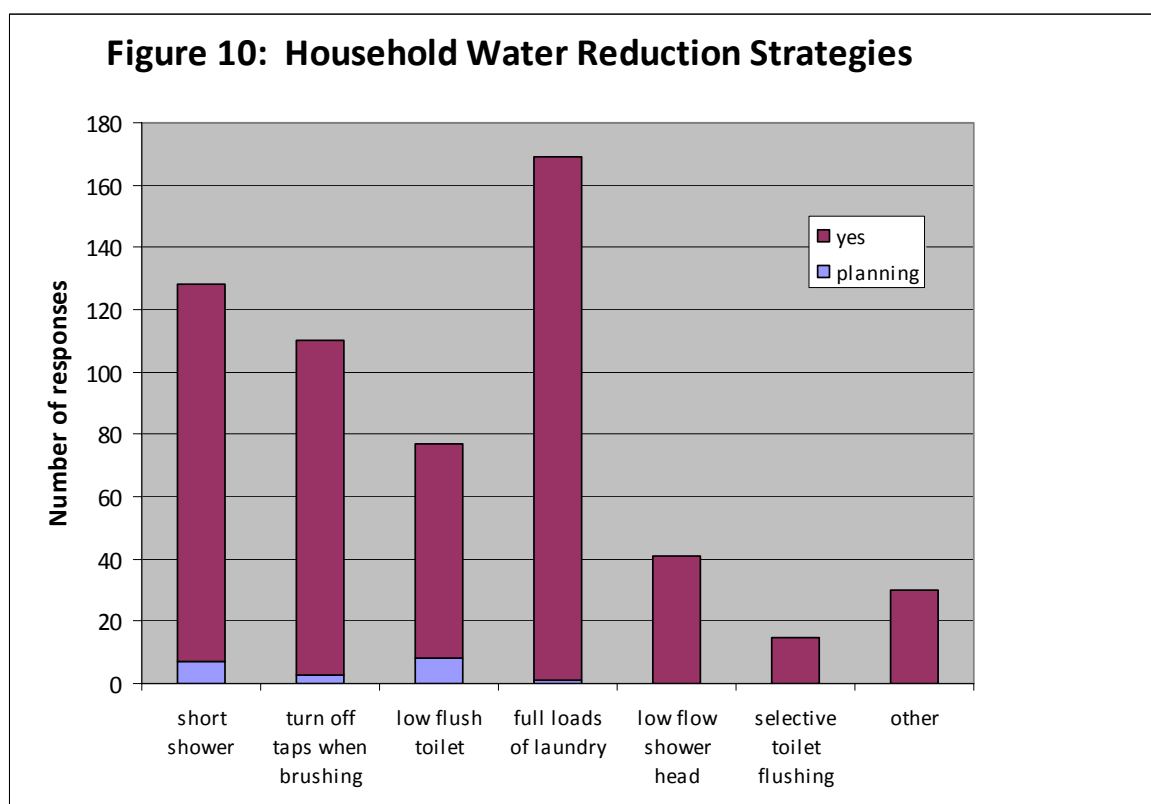
Respondents also undertook “other” activities which were identified as:

- Use of motion-sensitive outdoor lighting
- Unplugging small appliances when not in use
- Close off extra rooms and do not heat them
- Use geothermal heat pump to heat house and pre-heat hot water
- Keep house temperature low day and night
- Hand wash dishes
- Use energy efficient power bars and cords
- Put plastic on windows in winter
- Don't idle car to warm up for more than 30 seconds
- Reduce stand by power, by turning off appliances
- Reduce number of days holiday lighting is on (use timer)
- Build an R2000 house
- Put floor coverings over concrete
- Use a reel mower to cut lawn
- Use a snow scoop instead of a blower
- Shut off hot water at night
- Increase insulation to R20
- Insulate basement walls and attics
- Ensure electric furnace runs on energy efficient mode
- Put on extra clothes or long underwear instead of cranking the heat
- Do not use an air conditioner
- Install new energy efficient furnace
- Lowered temperature of hot water heater
- Seal air leaks on exterior walls
- Buy small cars instead of 4X4
- Bake full oven of food and freeze leftovers
- Bake on cold days as a heat source in home
- Install insulated drapes
- Don't install Christmas lights outside

- Adjust fridge thermometer to minimum setting
- Keep thermostat low (below 20C)
- Use sustainably harvested wood for heating
- Turn off heated dry option on dishwasher

4.10 Activities to Reduce Water in Respondent Households (Qu. 15)

191 people responded to this question providing 652 ways they reduce water use in their homes. 88% of respondents only wash full loads of laundry and a further 63% of respondents take short showers. More than half (56%) turn the tap off while brushing, and 36% invested in a low flush toilet. Figure 10 outlines the frequency the types of strategies were reported by survey respondents. As well, the on-line survey allowed people to identify if they were planning to undertake energy reduction strategies and 19 respondents indicated they were.



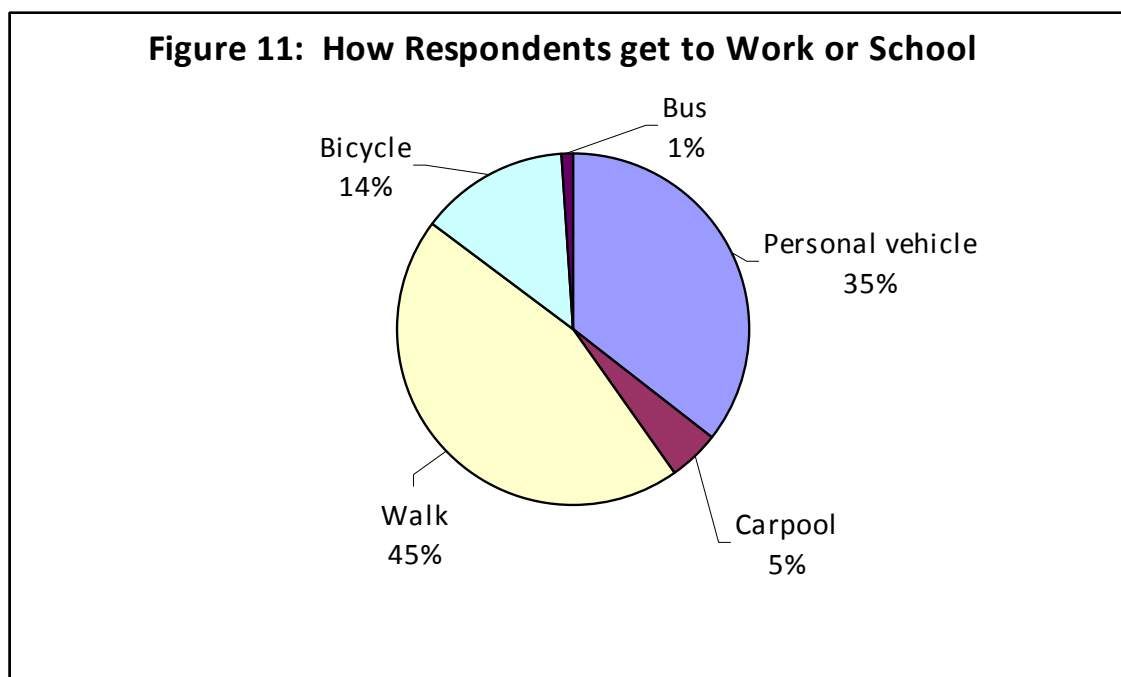
Respondents also identified “other” water use reduction strategies, and they are as follows:

- Use a small sink bucket to wash the dishes so that you don't waste loads of water filling the sink.
- Use stream water to water plants
- Do not water the lawn or garden
- Use dishwater to water potted plants
- Share bath water or shower time
- Use efficient dishwasher, which uses less water than washing by hand
- Catch excess shower and bath water (grey water) and use to flush the toilet
- Reuse water for plants (from dehumidifier and sink)
- Collect rainwater for gardens

- Do not use hose or pressure washer to "sweep" outdoor areas
- Don't wash your car
- Reduce or eliminate running water
- Use leftover drinking water to water plants
- Don't water lawn
- Use front loading washer
- Install dual flush toilets
- With a top-loading washer, don't use washing machine in automatic mode so you can wash several loads of laundry in same water (also saves detergent)
- Fix leaky taps
- Reduce flushing - if it's yellow let it mellow, if its brown flush it down
- Add a jug full of water in large capacity toilet tank to reduce water usage
- Put aerators on faucets
- Add mulch to gardens
- Reuse water that I've boiled to steam veggies.

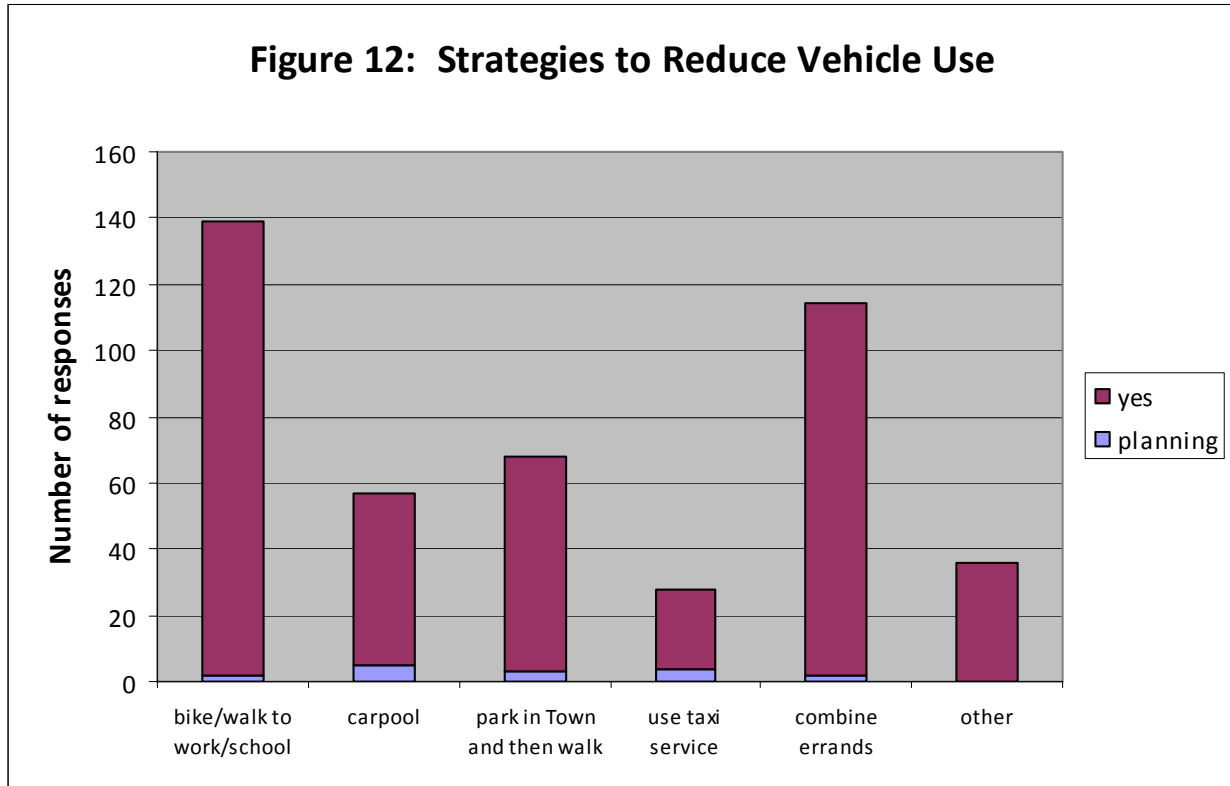
4.11 Activities to Reduce Use of Motorized Transportation by Respondents (Qu. 8, 9, 16)

As noted earlier, most respondents to the survey live within the serviced area of the Town of Sackville. It is not surprising then, that most respondents do not have far to travel to work. The median² "commute" to work or school for respondents was 1 km. The average commute was 8.3km per day, which includes 5-10 respondents who commute to Amherst or Moncton on a regular basis. Figure 11 summarizes how respondents choose to get to work or school. Again, because the average "commute" to town was so low, it is not surprising that 45% of respondents can walk to work or school. 35% use a personal vehicle, and 5% carpool. 14% use a bicycle (except in winter).



² The "median" takes out the very high and very low numbers and arrives at the most common number.

Figure 12 illustrates various strategies used by survey respondents to reduce their dependence on motorized vehicle use. 181 respondents provided over 400 strategies they use in this matter. 76% (137 respondents) choose to walk or bike to their destination. 62% (112 respondents) choose to combine errands in a single trip. 36% (65 respondents) find a place to park in town, then walk to their various destinations. Carpooling and use of taxi service are other options.



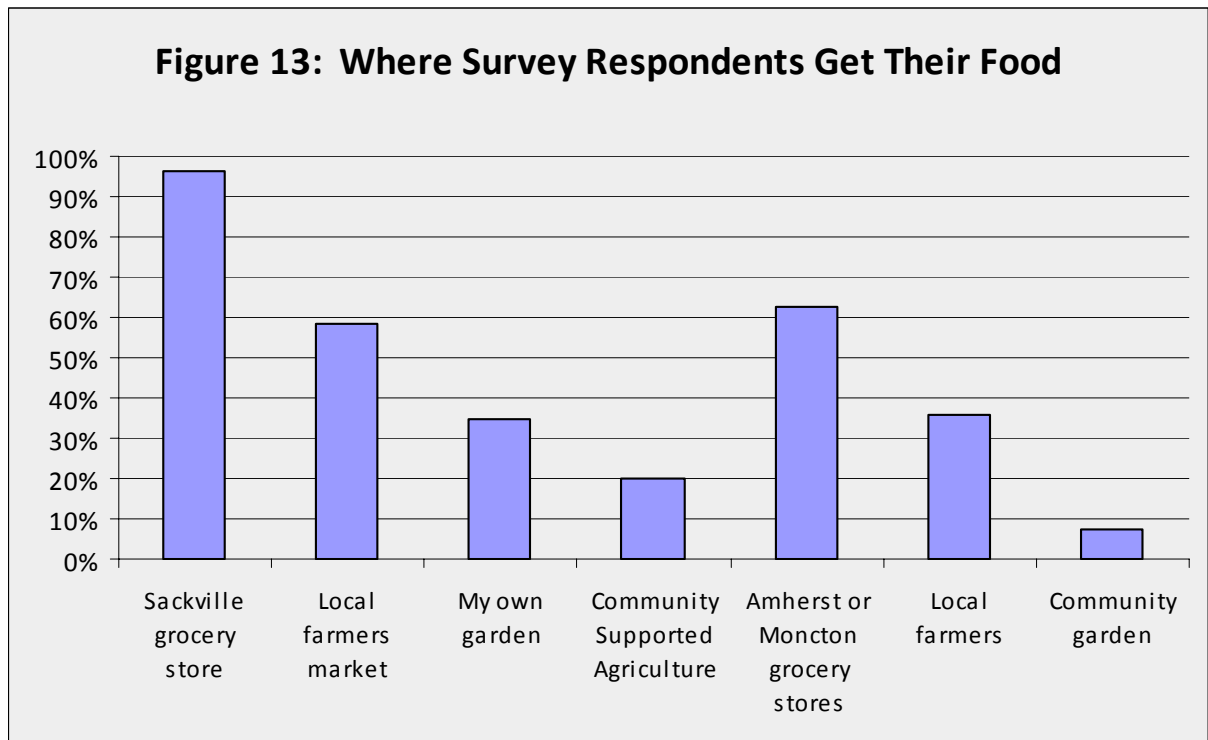
Respondents again provided “other” responses as well. These other strategies to reduce vehicle use include:

- Work from home (telework) when possible
- Drive a fuel efficient vehicle (or hybrid)
- Take the train for out-of-town meetings
- Shop from the Internet, instead of driving to Moncton
- Drive 100 km/hour on highway to average 42 mpg
- Organize conference calls instead of face to face meetings
- Have one car instead of two
- Offer rides to neighbours
- Car share with others
- Shop locally so we don’t have to drive

4.12 Where Respondents Get Their Food (Qu. 17)

One of the principles of sustainability is related to food – where it comes from and how far it travels to get to your plate from the plant/animal is something many of us rarely consider. The other question related to sustainability and food, is how far we travel to buy our food. Respondents were asked where they

purchased their food. As shown in Figure 13, 96% of all survey respondents buy some of their groceries from Sackville grocery stores, but 62% also travel to Amherst or Moncton for groceries on a regular basis. The reasons for going to these stores outside of town include better selection, more and better quality organic produce, and better prices. Further 58% of respondents frequent the local farmers market. There were many comments provided throughout the survey that more frequent farmers market or a permanent location for the market would be an excellent initiative. Respondents also grown their own food in private gardens (35%), or in the community garden (8%), 20% take part in the Community Supported Agriculture, and 36% buy direct from local farmers.

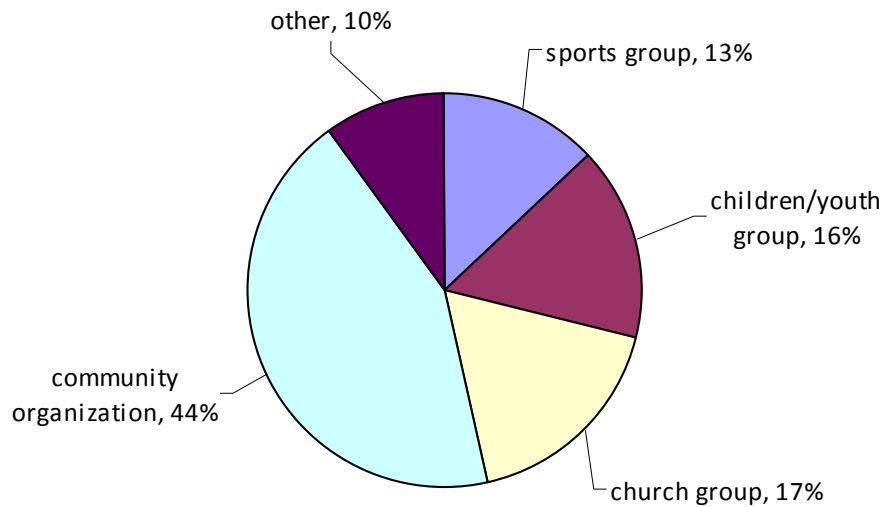


4.13 Volunteerism (Qu. 18, 19)

Volunteerism is an important indicator for community engagement. Sackville citizens have a long history of community involvement. The survey results show that the vast majority (72%) of survey respondents volunteer in some way in the community and a further 6% are planning to volunteer in some manner.

Figure 14 identifies the specific types of volunteer activities undertaken by survey respondents. 44% of respondents volunteer for various community organizations, including groups related to health, food, families, and the environment. 17% volunteer for church-related organizations, 16% for children and youth organizations, 13% with sports groups, and a further 10% for other organizations. Some of these other organizations include: school groups, music/radio, cultural events, political organizations, humanitarian groups, seniors services, and Town committees.

Figure 14: Types of Volunteer Efforts



4.14 Active Living (Qu. 20)

Active living is a key indicator of a healthy population and therefore a sustainable community. One of the most basic indicators is how much activity people take part in regularly. Survey respondents were asked: “What types of recreational activities do you or your family members take part in on a regular basis?” 146 people responded to this question identifying almost 800 different activities that they take part in regularly. 68% of the activities were unorganized (including such things as running, skiing, walking, canoing/kayaking, biking, and swimming). 32% of the activities were “organized” and include such things as martial arts, dancing (lessons), hockey, volleyball, ice skating, basketball, soccer, curling, etc. Only 2% of respondents indicated that they did no kind of activity at all. The on-line survey included a list of possible activities which people could check off. Less than 3% of respondents in the on-line survey included motorized sports (ATVing, snowmobiling, and boating) as activities.

4.15 Making Sackville a more sustainable Place to Live (Qu. 22)

More than 150 responses were provided to this question. In summary, respondents suggest the following:

- The municipality needs to lead the community through the development of policy and regulations (and enforcement of regulations), such as densification of downtown, idling policies, environmentally-friendly businesses (large and small), and stricter building standards for energy efficiency.

- Community members need to be provided with viable options in order to change their activities – more local food buying or growing opportunities are desired, separate green/blue garbage cans throughout town to encourage people to separate, more stores and services so community members don't have to go out of town, and public transportation alternatives to personal vehicles.
- Community Education is key to success of any sustainability plan – to build support for the direction, and to show residents why it is so important to change our old ways of doing things. There is a cost both to action and non-action (economically, environmentally, and socially). Respondents suggested the following specific topics for education: garbage separation, supporting local businesses, renewable energy, and climate change.

Examples of specific recommendations were:

- Energy efficient street lights, Town vehicles not allowed to idle, get rid of street cleaner, add bike lanes, build ped-way across TCH
- By providing the community with better connections to local farmers, developing renewable energy options, pass a by-law about car idling
- Make the downtown block of Main St. and Bridge St. a pedestrian-only area.
- Grass roofs, solar panels and wind turbine options
- The first step in our renewal as a civilization is admitting that we face a global crisis and talking about what we can do.
- Encourage greater diversity in local food sources including more "backyard" gardens and community gardens. A larger farmers' market and more local foods at the grocery stores.
- Encourage more renewable energy that allows a greater self-reliance in energy in the local area, like Solar, Wind, and Tidal. Along with staying on top of the latest information and best practices with regards to what can be done to improve energy efficiency.
- Position ourselves to attract jobs that are environmentally positive (green) utilizing the academic community and resources of the community. Encourage artistic community to live in Sackville and area. Promote tourism by emphasising the community, its culture and physical attributes. Sackville has the possibility of becoming an IT hub because of location and access to university.
- Stop encouraging businesses to move out to the commercial area by the highway, or make owning commercial property downtown more lucrative.
- Shuttle services to Moncton & Amherst & outlying areas (or encourage Acadia lines to increase bus service, such as to Port Elgin) and to Beech Hill park for winter recreation.
- Permanent location for farmer's market.
- Provide incentive for small family farms in the area.
- Look at and implement alternative heating & cooling for municipal buildings.
- Allow Sackville residences to manage small backyard chicken flocks.
- Have bicycles for use by town residents.
- Offer youth more. There is nothing for them to do after they turn 12. Also in the evenings and on weekends. The town needs to have a place for them to hang out at - volunteer run.
- People seem to think that the only thing they can do are simple measures at home, and many then figure that it doesn't really make a difference, so they don't bother. In our schools we need to educate students not just on how to do it, but WHY. Then, when they go home they can educate their parents about why they should rinse out a yogurt cup and put it in blue, rather than put it in green because it has "food waste". Our schools, businesses, and municipality need to lead by example. Identify, clearly, how much electricity/oil/gas was used from year to year, and what actions were taken to reduce it. We need to get rid of Drive Thrus!
- Support local businesses over chains
- Support local food producers and farmers

- Educate the population about consumer issues around food production
- Regulate and run our own water system
- Support not-for-profit community groups through provision of space and some funding
- Co-ordinate community organizations and resources for access and info
- Allow smaller housing options, paths between streets to encourage walking safely, rear walking entrance to civic centre, more complete sidewalk network, informed marketing of Town's assets by ALL parties, more after hours use of schools and university, flood plain knowledge, flood/runoff plan for Town
- Don't tax people out of their homes! Get a business or two in town for jobs. One you don't have to pay to build it, then they leave town with the cash!
- If it can be done safely, cut back on snow clearing and removal; don't plow barely used roads (eg. end of Walker Road or White Birch Road, top of Mount View, etc.)
- Reduce or remove minimum billable water usage amount (there is no incentive to use less - we use less and still get charged).
- Start picking up separated garbage from rental properties.
- Better by-laws to mandate energy efficient housing - especially for new student housing
- Give incentives for alternative energy and install bicycle lanes.

4.16 Other comments (Qu. 23)

The final question of the survey asked people to provide any other comments they have on life in Sackville. The topics of the 84 responses were far ranging. The following is a representative sample:

- I think Sackville is an amazing place to live and raise your children. There seems to be a lot more offered now for seniors but it seems to be the teenagers that are left to fend for themselves. Those are the years they need to have mentors, someone to look up to. They will be more likely to stay as adults or to return after their education - to be part of a community they loved growing up in.
- We need to work harder to break down the town-gown rift
- We should work towards development of an early child development / family centre
- Engage people in constructive dialogue about what sustainability is and how it will benefit them.
- Use motivational techniques. DON'T PREACH ABOUT IT!
- Recognize that sustainability is partly a green initiative, but is also about sustaining culture, heritage, community, economy and regional engagement.
- Don't feel that arts and culture was mentioned in here, but feel it's very important for community sustainability.
- It is not a matter of either environmental quality or economic growth and people's well-being - it is a matter of understanding that with a reduced environmental quality, people's quality of life (health, etc.) gets reduced automatically. We cannot afford to pollute water or air, we drink the water, and breathe the air...
- Need more cooperative businesses to keep wealth in community, public venues for events, larger farmers market, etc. year round, local (green) energy production, more energy efficient housing, multi unit buildings, improve railway for freight and public transportation, encourage neighbourhood parties, and festivities to build trusting relationships.
- Encourage intergenerational events (street parties), encourage community development in affordable housing, new forms of energy, plan to reduce poverty, encourage us to NOT plant lawns, to let wild spaces flourish.
- The rents for empty buildings are ridiculously high; to keep business here we have to get real with rents.
- I believe Sackville has an opportunity to be a NB leader in "green initiatives" as there are a lot of active people in our town.

- The town of Sackville in recent years has commissioned other "plans" (greenspace, recreation) which have seen minimal or no implementation; if Council is sincere it should use the recommendations from its plans to steer the directions and actions it moves in.
- Sackville needs more seniors housing that people can afford also with easy access for people in wheelchairs and disabilities.
- All of the items surveyed and fashionable (e.g., grocery bags) are virtuous and probably necessary as public awareness, but are mere gestures until packages, marketing, and manufacturers with their associated spin doctors and media mouth pieces get on board with less excessive-desire creation. Eg. A new, large energy efficient town hall is a step backwards if it was not really needed in the first place. Location chosen will require that more gas be used in town hall as stops will not longer be part of grocery/mail parking.
- Place any "wind farm" well away from any dwellings - well over 1.5km
- RCMP - we would like to see more police presence in our area - there are a lot of speeders and no sidewalks - a dangerous situation!
- I would like to say that I agree with new fire hall, police station and town hall. I agree that it would be wasted money to renovate and still have old buildings.
- People need to get out of their cars. More accessible outdoor recreation options.
- Organized sports are too expensive for low income families
- Unsightly premises by-law needs to be strengthened, especially with respect to absentee landlords.
- Municipality should lead by example and see that commercial, industrial, and educational institution get on the stick long before any legislative measures which are not good.

5.0 Summary and Next Steps

This survey resulted in a wide range of contributions from community members for the Sustainable Sackville initiative. While there is not 100% agreement about what sustainability means, it is apparent that community members are interested in maintaining and/or improving the quality of life in our small town for decades to come. The local economy, range of human services and amenities, and the natural environment all play key roles in our quality of life in Sackville – if any of them fail, our community members will feel the impact. Many thanks go to Sackville residents who took the time to respond to the survey, and to the many others who read through the survey and are still thinking about the questions.

The next step in this process is the community engagement phase. The first order of business is to celebrate what is here through the 7 Wonders of Sackville campaign. If there is something in the community you feel is worth celebrating, send in your nomination to the Planning Commission at 2 Bridge Street, or SustainableSackville@gmail.com.

The second opportunity for people to get involved is by participating in the many discussions that are being held on the FOUR QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why did you come to Sackville? Why do you stay?
- 2) When you think about the future, what concerns you?
- 3) Imagine you are 30 years in the future and you are telling your grandchildren why Sackville is a great place to live. What do you tell them to prove it? What do you see in your vision?
- 4) As a member of this community, what do you think is your responsibility in achieving this vision?

Talk to your colleagues at work, your volunteer groups, or your neighbours over tea about these issues. Let us know what you think! As well, a community breakfast will be held in February at the Fire Hall to discuss these questions. Stay tuned to the Tribune Post for details.