# Moss Park Park Improvements & John Innes Community Recreation Centre Replacement

# Online Survey #4: Preferred Designs Summary Report

June 27 to July 17, 2023

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#### 1.0 About this Report

This report was prepared by SAFFY, third-party community engagement consultants hired by the City of Toronto to facilitate the community engagement process for the Moss Park Park Improvements and John Innes Community Recreation Centre (CRC) Replacement project.

This report summarizes the key findings that emerged through the fourth and final online survey as part of the community engagement process to inform the design of the park improvements and new CRC.

More information about the project, including an overview, timeline, and summaries of previous engagement activities, is available on the project webpage.

#### 2.0 Survey Overview

#### 2.1 Survey Objectives

The objective of this survey was to provide community members with an opportunity to review and provide feedback on the preferred design options for the park improvements and new CRC. The results of this survey will be combined with feedback received from other engagement activities to refine the preferred designs. The preferred design options shared in this survey were informed by input gathered in early phases of community engagement.

#### 2.2 Who We Engaged

The survey ran between June 27 and July 17, 2023, and received 433 submissions from at least 601 respondents of various ages and backgrounds, including members of the same household who completed the survey together. A demographic summary of participants is available in <a href="Appendix C">Appendix C</a>.

#### 2.3 Survey Promotions

The survey was promoted to the local community through various channels, including:

- Posters on utility poles in the neighbourhood
- Postcards to 14,300 homes around the park
- Large-format on-site signage
- Organic and paid social media ads
- Email updates to community members who signed up for project updates as well as stakeholders and local community groups
- At the public meeting and community pop-ups
- Through the support of Youth Mentees, Project Champions and the Local Advisory Group, who are local residents and connected to different community groups and organizations

#### 3.0 What We Heard

The following section contains a summary of the feedback received through the fourth public survey. See <u>Appendix A</u> for a full list of questions included in the public survey. <u>Appendix B</u> provides a list of the open-ended responses received.

#### 3.1 General Comments

There is notable enthusiasm for the project. Respondents appreciated the potential benefits, such as improved amenities, expanded programming opportunities, and the creation of more seating, program areas, and gathering spaces.

Safety and accessibility remain as recurring themes in the feedback, with many participants emphasizing the importance of ensuring the park is welcoming and inclusive for all community members. Recommendations and questions primarily focused on ensuring the change room facilities, as well as the park grounds are safe throughout the day/night for all users. Additionally, there was a strong emphasis on making the facilities and programs responsive to the needs of the local communities, with a particular focus on prioritizing the needs of unhoused individuals, families, children, and women.

Other key points raised included the need to plan for future population growth in the area, and requests for more barrier-free facilities to accommodate various needs and populations.

#### 3.2 Key Insights

Key insights that have emerged from the public survey are consolidated by themes below.

#### Park and CRC Safety and Maintenance

Survey responses emphasized the importance of considering safety and maintenance on par with the design aspects. There were calls for increased maintenance in both the CRC and park areas to ensure cleanliness. Respondents stressed the need for safety measures to protect all members of the community, including those experiencing homelessness, children, women, and seniors. Suggestions included implementing 24/7 security and supervision to prevent issues like vandalism and unsafe conditions. Maintaining lockers, change rooms, and washrooms for cleanliness was also a prevalent concern. Safety in the pool area, catering to different swimmer needs, and ensuring well-equipped and well-maintained gyms and weight rooms were crucial points of discussion, as these newer features must be well maintained. Lobby visibility and sightlines were also mentioned as safety features to consider in the new CRC.

#### **Space and Programming for All Ages**

In the open-ended feedback for both the park and CRC designs, a recurring theme was the importance of ensuring that the new designs cater to the needs of seniors as much as they do for youth and children. Responses emphasized the necessity of dedicated spaces for youth as well as providing senior and intergenerational programming so that the programs accommodate various age groups. Respondents also expressed the need to incorporate barrier-free access to washrooms and showers, allowing for easier access, and to include senior play structures in the playground area to ensure inclusive play areas.

#### **Unhoused and Street-Involved Population**

Consideration of the needs of people who are unhoused, precariously housed, or residing in shelters was a prominent theme in the feedback for both the park and CRC designs. Respondents stressed the importance of creating an inclusive space that serves the diverse community, including those who are unhoused. Respondents note that the park serves as an important gathering and socializing space, and the CRC provides many essential services, allowing unhoused individuals with access to washrooms and showers. The feedback also highlighted the value of integrating areas for service providers to offer frontline services and care to the unhoused population. This supports the potential integration of Shelter, Support, and Housing Administration (SSHA) offices in the new CRC.

#### 3.3 Detailed Summary

Below is a detailed review of survey responses. See Appendix A for full survey questions.

#### **Preferred Park Design**

Participants were asked to use a scale (Strongly agree/Agree/Disagree/Strongly disagree) to provide feedback indicating their overall satisfaction with the proposed park Improvements. Respondents were also asked about their satisfaction with specific park elements concerning pathways and pathway direction, seating, planting beds, the splash pad, and the off-leash dog area.

Responses for the different park elements are listed below, with the highest response rate indicated in bold.

#### Level of satisfaction with the proposed park pathways and circulation:

- 5% very unsatisfied
- 5%- unsatisfied
- 14% neutral
- 47% satisfied
- 28% very satisfied
- 2% Choose not to answer

# Would you like the western-most pedestrian pathway (from Shuter St to Queen St) to remain in the design?

- 73% Yes, the western-most pedestrian pathway from Shuter St to Queen St is important to keep.
- 15% No, this pathway on the west side of the park is not required.
- 12% Choose not to answer

#### Level of satisfaction with the proposed park seating:

- 6% very unsatisfied
- 11% unsatisfied
- 14% neutral
- 44% satisfied
- 23% very satisfied
- 2% Choose not to answer

#### Level of satisfaction with the proposed planting plan:

- 5% very unsatisfied
- 3% unsatisfied
- 7% neutral
- 46% satisfied
- 37% very satisfied
- 2% Choose not to answer

#### Level of satisfaction with the proposed park play area and splash pad:

- 3% very unsatisfied
- 5% unsatisfied
- 16% neutral
- 43% satisfied
- 27% very satisfied
- 6% Choose not to answer

#### Top three (3) play features to include in the new playground:

- 20% Climbing structures
- 19% Senior play structure for ages 5 to 12
- 19% Swings

#### Level of satisfaction with the proposed off-leash area design:

- 5% very unsatisfied
- 6% unsatisfied
- 21% neutral
- 37% satisfied
- 25% very satisfied
- 7% Choose not to answer

#### Level of satisfaction with the proposed design for the Moss Park improvements:

- 3% very unsatisfied
- 5% unsatisfied
- 10% neutral
- 40% satisfied
- 40% very satisfied
- 2% Choose not to answer

Overall, the feedback from most respondents regarding the proposed park elements was positive, with a significant number expressing satisfaction. There was an emphasis on the need for more water fountains for people and dogs. Accessible, outdoor public washrooms should be open year-round, and safety concerns emphasize better lighting and clear sightlines on paths. Some respondents disagreed with the ground material for the off-leash area, preferring natural materials like sand, gravel, or woodchips. Respondents provided feedback on specific plants and more bike racks in the park, and suggested canopies or more shade around the children's play area and throughout the central lawn. Securing an upkeep and maintenance budget was expressed as a priority. There needs to be more park furniture, that is also comfortable and accessible. Sports facilities should be adaptable for multi-use. Respondents urge the City to address homelessness in the Moss Park neighbourhood.

The number of comments related to each theme is shown in parentheses.

#### **General Park Design:**

- Great overall park design (5)
- Designated non-smoking areas (1)
- Obvious park entrances to draw people in (1)
- Nice green space to pass through (1)
- Not a destination (1)
- Doesn't understand the point of honouring a creek that no longer exists (1)
- No stones, they are a health hazard (1)
- Less fencing (1)
- Lack of parking (2)
- Accessible parking could replace the community garden, which is probably not needed
   (1)

#### Arena:

- The existing arena is deteriorating and could be removed (3)
- The park feels disconnected from Sherbourne Street because of the arena (3)

#### **Bike Racks:**

- More bike racks (1)
- Not enough bike racks areas to encourage people to get to Moss Park by bike (1)
- Keep the Bike Share station (1)
- More bike parking that can be sculptural and artistic like at Lawrence Heights CRC (1)
- Collaborate with Bike Share to include a powered Bike Share station by the CRC or the new station (1)

#### **Central Lawn:**

- More tree areas on the grand lawn for shade (3)
- Helps young families (1)
- Helps older adults experiencing isolation (1)
- Supports young people new to the area (1)
- Add CityTrees, green air filters that also act as noise buffers (1)
- Seems like less green spaces and more trails (1)
- Allow programming for the fields, e.g. sports camps and leagues (1)
- Concerned about dogs taking over the park, making it unhygienic for children to play on the grass (1)
- Prevent diminishing of green space (1)

#### **Community Garden:**

- Should not have allotment gardens, sometimes it's not well maintained and an eye sore for most of the year (1)
- Supports programming and growing food (1)
- Community gardens are fun but don't contribute to food security (1)
- Questioning the expansion of the community garden, as it appears to be underutilized now (1)

#### Dog Off-Leash Area:

- Wood chips on the ground of the off-leash dog area (1)
- Ensure maintenance of off-leash dog area (1)
- Make the off-leash area bigger (1)
- Confused about why the off-leash area is astroturf (1)
- Eliminate the off-leash area, leashed dogs can use the entirety of the park (1)
- Small dogs area in the off-leash area (1)
- Not the place for off-leash (1)
- Artificial turf does not drain nor assist with filtration during rain events, gets hot in the summer (1)
- Use sand for the off-leash area, e.g. the one in High Park (1)
- Remove the artificial turf in the off-leash area (1)
- Sand/gravel mix for the off-leash area (1)
- Artificial turf is bad for the environment (3)

#### Horticulture:

- Add cherry tress (1)
- Ensure that trees are native and suitable to Toronto's changing climate (1)
- Inquiry about the number of trees in the design (1)
- Black walnut trees has very mess fruit and should be excluded from the plan (2)
- Include four-season plants, inadequate winter options (1)
- Sugar Maple is not suitable for stressful urban locations (1)
- Flowers (1)
- More berries and wild foraging (1)
- More culinary, medicinal and ceremonial plants to Indigenous residents (1)
- Concerned about maturity of the new trees (1)
- Landscape design is great (2)
- Hedges and bushes provide hiding places (1)
- No more mature trees should be removed for the construction (1)
- Do not plant cherry blossom trees, as they cause overcrowding during blooming season
   (1)
- Hope that native trees are also orchard trees (1)
- Remove fencing around planters (1)

#### Lighting:

- Lights from the baseball diamond are super bright to neighbours (1)
- More ambient lighting in the park, less light pollution (1)
- Remove flood lights that are on all night and shine into homes nearby (2)
- Use lighting that's lower to the ground (1)
- Utilize solar-powered lighting (1)

#### **Maintenance:**

- Secure budget for garden maintenance (1)
- Prioritize park maintenance and cleaning (3)
- Concerns about people experiencing homeless gathering at the park (3)
- Concerns about people experiencing homeless sleeping at the park (3)
- Maintained lighting (1)

#### **Neighbourhood Issues:**

- Questioning how street-involved folks can engage with the park for harm reduction and access support in the CRC (1)
- City needs to address homelessness in the area (9)
- Prevent encampment (2)

#### Park Furniture:

- Concern about vandalism or theft of loose bistro chairs and tables (3)
- Ensure benches are comfortable and ergonomic (7)
- Seating needs backrest and arm rests, e.g. to assist seniors and people with disabilities
   (3)
- More seating (8)
- One more bench at the corner of Sherbourne Street and Shuter Street (1)
- Wheelchair accessible furniture and pads (1)
- More seating on the north end of the park (1)
- Avoid hostile architecture (1)
- Concern about benches used as beds (3)
- More moveable furniture (1)
- Have gaps in seating for wheelchairs (1)
- Do not place garbage cans in between seating gaps or at the end of seats (1)
- Use natural and organic materials for park design elements (1)
- Well-designed waste disposal that is large and accessible (2)
- Some strategically located seating with between 60 cm and 70 cm seat height for people with certain muscle diseases to be able to sit in the park (1)
- Well-designed waste stations with regular attention by park personnel (1)
- Have some benches inside the park that face up and outward, for a view of the architecture surrounding the park (1)
- Add artificial shade tools, e.g. umbrellas at Sugar Beach (1)
- Add seating to north and south of the tennis courts (1)

#### Park Signage:

- Interpretive signage (1)
- Using QR codes to access additional information in other languages (1)

#### Pathways:

- Tactile paying for people who are visually impaired (1)
- Direct route from northeast corner to the southwest corner (3)
- No tall objects blocking the view on the west side walkway, it can feel dangerous walking through there at night (1)
- Needs a direct, covered connection from the CRC to the new subway station (1)
- Clear sightlines of pathways through the park (1)
- Lots of lighting of paths (1)
- Paths for walking and running (1)
- Keep the west path that connects George Street (1)
- Use cobblestone for a few paths (1)
- Accessible pathways (1)
- The west path is too narrow (1)

#### Playground Area:

- Canopies for shade and picnic tables for eating, gathering and resting by the children's playscape (2)
- More seating by playground (1)
- Plant trees directly in the children's play area and/or along its southern edge (1)
- Accessible playground for kids who use wheelchairs (1)
- Separate the splash pad from the playground (1)
- Rubber surface for the playground (1)

#### **Public Washrooms:**

- Outdoors 24/7 year-round public washrooms (3)
- Separate bathroom facilities away from children's playground (1)
- Outdoor public washroom to make the park more accessible (1)
- Include diaper change tables (1)
- Well maintained public washrooms are a necessity (1)

#### Safety:

- Emergency call stations (2)
- Show how the walkways and lighting focus on safety (1)
- Visibility is key for public safety (2)
- Safety is a concern (6)
- Minimize disturbances to existing tents and homes in the park (1)
- Need clear guidelines for using the Sacred Fire (1)
- Inquiry about security measures in the park (1)
- Fence around the west path makes it feel unsafe (1)
- Ensure safety especially at night, with ample lighting and eliminating potential hiding spots (1)
- Regular visit from bylaw enforcement (1)
- Frequently finds needles in the park (1)
- Concern for safety of young kids or seniors (1)

#### **Sports Facilities:**

- Lighting appears low near the basketball courts (1)
- More tennis courts (1)
- Flexible shared spaces for different recreational activities (1)
- Appreciate reorienting the basketball courts to be north-south to avoid interference by the sun (1)
- Ensure basketball courts are high quality and levelled (1)
- Make the basketball courts multi-functional as free outdoor skating pads in the winter months (1)
- Include a skateboard park (1)
- Maintain common sports areas (1)
- Outdoor exercise equipment, e.g. pull up bars (1)
- Add two more tennis courts (1)
- Remove the dedicated soccer pitch, it allows one activity to dominate the park (1)

#### **Water Fountains:**

- Add water fountains for dogs, inside and outside the off-leash area (5)
- More outdoor water fountains that can refill bottles (4)

#### **Preferred Community Recreation Centre Design**

Participants were asked to use a scale (Strongly agree/Agree/Disagree/Strongly disagree) to provide feedback about the overall satisfaction of the proposed design of the Community Recreation Centre. Respondents were also prompted to select which design features they would like to provide further written feedback on.

#### Level of satisfaction with the proposed design for the John Innes CRC replacement:

- 4% very unsatisfied
- 2% unsatisfied
- 10 % neutral
- 35% satisfied
- 45% very satisfied
- 4% Choose not to answer

The responses indicate a high level of satisfaction with the preferred design for the John Innes CRC replacement.

The following provides a summary of written responses provided about the different CRC elements. Complete responses can be found in <u>Appendix B</u>.

This written feedback provided by respondents highlights several recurring themes regarding necessary upgrades, programming needs and overall maintenance in the CRC. The most frequently asked questions and comments were about the changerooms. Opinions were split between those in favor of universal changeroom facilities and those advocating for more private showers to ensure comfort during nude showering. Privacy concerns were raised, particularly regarding the practicality of showering with bathing suits on, especially for unhoused individuals who might not always have access to bathing suits. The community's feedback emphasized the importance of ensuring the CRC addresses safety concerns and creates an inviting space where all members of the community feel welcome to enjoy and use.

The number of comments related to each theme is indicated in parentheses.

#### **Connection between the CRC Building and the Park:**

- Move proposed location of CRC building away from Sherbourne Street (1)
- More prominent entrance way (1)
- Move the building further into the park (1)

#### Lobby:

- Make sure lobby is well lit (1)
- Ensure clear sightlines (1)
- Include greenery and natural wood in the design (1)

#### Pool:

- Include play features in the pool (1)
- No diving platforms (1)
- Ensure appropriate pool depth and width (1)
- 6 swim lanes (2)
- Hot tub (1)
- Starting blocks for competitive swimming (2)
- Cooperation with swim clubs (1)
- Therapy pool (2)

#### Changerooms/washrooms:

- Avoid white finishings (1)
- Accessible, barrier free showers (1)
- Preference for private gendered showers (3)
- Safety/Privacy (2)
- Make sure changeroom lockers are clean (1)

#### Woodshop:

- Have it available for public use for household repairs, sanding, painting (1)
- What equipment will be provided? (1)
- Must have this in the new CRC (1)

#### **Dance Studio:**

- Make sure room is equipped with audio-visual equipment (1)
- Must have this in the new CRC (1)

#### **Rooftop Terrace:**

- Ensure there is comfortable seating (1)
- Can function as a place to relax and gather (2)

#### Gymnasium:

- Rendering looks dark and uninviting (1)
- More volleyball courts for tournaments (1)
- Include squash court (2)
- Must have this in the new CRC (1)

#### **Building Façade:**

- Lighting from the east will make the building façade attractive (1)
- Be ambitious with the design (1)
- Concerns about a concrete wall (2)
- Include outdoor mural (1)
- Building is oversized (1)
- Use of colour for the building (1)

• Lights out policy for the CRC at 9:00pm (1)

#### **Accessibility:**

- Include parking (1)
- Ensure AODA best practice is met not just Ontario Building Code standards (1)

#### Other:

- Add Ping-pong tables (2)
- Include rooftop terrace (2)
- Cleanliness and upkeep of facilities (3)
- New program equipment (e.g. Sewing machines, fitness equipment) (2)
- Seniors and intergenerational programing (2)
- Programming (1)
- Keep running track (1)
- Shelter, Support & Housing Administration operation times (1)
- Safety/Inclusion (3)
- Address the needs of unhouses people in the community (2)
- Create an inviting space (2)
- Building should blend with natural surrounding (1)
- Make sure there is enough natural light (1)
- Indigenous representation (1)
- Renaming the community centre, perhaps Moss Creek Park and Community Centre (1)

#### **Appendix A: Survey Questions**

#### PARK PREFERRED DESIGN

#### 1. Pathways

How satisfied are you with the proposed pathways and circulation?
 [Response options: Strongly agree/Agree/Disagree/Strongly disagree]

 Would you like the western-most pedestrian pathway (from Shuter St to Queen St) to remain in the design?

[Multiple choice]

- Yes, the western-most pedestrian pathway from Shuter St to Queen St is important to keep.
- No, this pathway on the west side of the park is not required.
- Choose not to answer.

#### 2. Seating

How satisfied are you with the proposed seating?
 [Response options: Strongly agree/Agree/Disagree/Strongly disagree]

#### 3. Planting Beds

How satisfied are you with the proposed planting plan?
 [Response options: Strongly agree/Agree/Disagree/Strongly disagree]

#### 4. Playground & Splashpad

- How satisfied are you with the proposed play area and splash pad? [Response options: Strongly agree/Agree/Disagree/Strongly disagree]
- Rank the top three (3) play features you would like included in the new playground. [Checkbox]
  - Climbing structures
  - Senior play structure for ages
  - Swings
  - Junior play structure for ages 2 to 5
  - Slides
  - Spinning play
  - Stand-alone play panels
  - Spring toys
  - Other, please specify [open comment box]

#### 5. Off-Leash Dog Area

• How satisfied are you with the proposed off-leash area design? [Response options: Strongly agree/Agree/Disagree/Strongly disagree]

#### 6. Preferred Park Design

Overall, how satisfied are you with the proposed design for the Moss Park improvements?

[Response options: Strongly agree/Agree/Disagree/Strongly disagree]

 Please provide any suggestions on how to ensure the park design is welcoming and accessible for a wide range of community members, or any other feedback.
 [open comment box]

#### **COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTRE**

**1. How satisfied are you with the preferred design for the John Innes CRC replacement?** [Response options: Strongly agree/Agree/Disagree/Strongly disagree]

# 2. Please select any elements of the CRC you have written feedback on. [checkmark]

- Changerooms and/or washrooms
- Pools
- Lobby spaces
- Rooftop Terrace
- Gymnasium
- Connection between the building and park
- Wood Shop
- Façade
- Dance Studio
- Accessibility
- Multipurpose rooms
- Kitchen
- I have no additional feedback
- Other [open comment box]

#### 3. Please provide your feedback on any other element of the CRC design.

[open comment box]

#### **Appendix B: Open-Ended Text Responses**

\*As per the City's Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination policy, xenophobic, misogynist, homophobic, transphobic, anti-Indigenous, ableist, ageist or other forms of discriminatory, prejudicial, exclusionary, or hateful comments or questions have been removed in this document.

Some responses were edited for clarity and typos.

## Suggestions on how to ensure the park design is welcoming and accessible for a wide range of community members, or any other feedback:

- How will you manage all the homeless tents that will be set up?
- I don't think a community garden presents a good use of space unless it comes with actual programming or use for food- if not it just becomes a mess where rodents gather.
- More seating at north end of park.
- My biggest concern is safety in this area for the general public and particularly young kids or seniors.
- Try to contain over development as our parks deteriorate into sandboxes full of unused toys. The downtown is drifting into a general malaise by diminishing green space.
- Will there be some pull up bars? Or an exterior gym? That would be marvelous.
- Good benches and flowers
- No artificial turf. Not hygienic at all and plastic: can cause injuries through abrasions. Gives off polluting scents in summer heat. Plantings: Sugar Maple not suitable for urban stressful locations. Black Walnut: very messy fruit. More of a berry- and other wild-foraging corridors. More plants of cultural (culinary, medicinal, ceremonial) to Indigenous residents and visitors. Overall plantings are a little boring, but then. Hopefully, dog owners and professional dog walkers will not take over most of the park, and small children can safely crawl, play, romp without getting barked at or covered in feces here (as is usual elsewhere).
- Where is the parking? And accessible parking? It could take the place of the community garden, which is probably not needed.
- Perhaps regular visits from bylaw or law enforcement. As a resident of the area, I frequently find used needles as the current nearby playground. It is very unsafe.
- This can be an unsafe area especially at night. Design the park to ensure safety example ample lighting, eliminate areas that may be used as hiding spots.
- Well maintained public washrooms are a necessity.
- Maintained lighting. Park is close to multiple shelters. Park should be designed to keep safety in mind.
- There is a lack of parking not everyone is able to walk or transit to this location.
- Install a dog water fountain both outside and inside the off-leash area as well, for those who don't plan to use the off-leash area but opt to walk through the park instead.
- Is fencing around planters necessary? I would prefer not to have them in the park.
- It needs more public washrooms that are open 24/7.
- Maintaining and cleaning the park will be critical. Structures that avoid staying in the park overly long as well. There should be additional consideration on how to maintain greenspace and public spaces by providing affordable housing and mental health support for those in need.
- I'd prefer if there was NO dedicated soccer pitch on the big lawn as it will be taken over by this one activity to the exclusion of everything else. 22 soccer players can easily exert their will over everyone else. One sees the same thing with ice surfaces. Hockey players take over, leaving everyone watching from the side lines.
- The western north-south path (adjacent to the Armoury) is currently too narrow it should be wider, and I would add seating facing BOTH directions on both north and south of the tennis courts (the plan seems to show benches only on north side) so people can watch people playing and just sit and look at the park.

- Please provide gaps in seating for wheelchairs and do not place garbage cans in these gaps or at the end of seats.
- Artificial grass is terrible for the environment. Sand/gravel mix is better for the off leash area.
- Even more trees would be nice and movable furniture.
- Less fencing, more accessible pathways, separate the splash pad and playground, rubber surface for playground, no artificial turf in off-leash area and utilize solar lighting.
- Not big on the artificial grass in the dog park. Look at, for example, the Sandy base of the off leash in high park. A preferred choice.
- Love this!
- The old flood lights shine way too brightly into the condos in the area. I'm hoping they go in place of more that are low to the ground.
- Additional tennis courts would be a lovely addition to the park, preferably from 2 courts to 4.
   Unfortunately, tennis courts aren't as accessible in the central/east downtown. The closest
   courts are Jimmie Simpson Park and Riverdale Park. Tennis has been an increasingly popular
   sport during the spring/summer and adding 2 extra courts would reduce player wait times and
   allow more people to play throughout the day!
- Move the building from the current location further into the park. Sherbourne Street is not safe and there is not enough room for people.
- Please increase the amount of bench seating, and make the benches have proper, full backrests. Also include picnic tables as alternate seating options. Please do not include cherry blossom trees as this will overcrowd the park with tourists or people traveling from far edges of the city to see the trees during the blooming season – this will take away from the local community who uses the park regularly. I hope a large amount of the native trees being replanted will be orchard trees. Please also include multiple water fountains where park goers will be encouraged to refill reusable water bottles and stay hydrated.
- Please don't use the red tables and chairs. They will be stolen, vandalized, and broken. Consider artificial "shade" tools like Sugar Beach, as a complement to the trees.
- It would be nice to see a few paths using cobblestone.
- What is the security presence? Patrolling, blue lights with alarms, etc?
- This park looks beautiful and spacious. Please ensure that the architecture for the two buildings
  you will build is modern and unique and not cheap and value engineered.
- looking. The renders look nice. Ensure there is also use of colour for the buildings as well as the city looks dull in the winter.
- No further mature trees should be removed during construction of the new CRC. The off-leash dog park should contain grass, not artificial turf (which does not drain nor
- assist with filtration during rain events, gets hot in the summer, and is generally not as sustainable as grass). The community gardens seem to be underutilized currently, so why expand their footprint at the expense of other potential park use?
- The current landscaping with flowers, hedges, and bushes has created some safety concerns for the community. It is important to address these concerns while still maintaining the beauty and functionality of the park.
- Seems nice overall. Would prefer more seating. Community gardens are fun but a waste of useful public land, contributing almost nothing at all to food security.
- Safety is important. Maintenance shouldn't be overlooked as it's often more important than initial design.
- Accessible roads, bike share nearby, paths for walking and running, water fountains + dog fountains.
- More seating by playground for tired parents, and allows them to chat. Kids space is so tiny compared to huge off leash area. And has less seating! Keep west path!
- Connects George streets, such an important transportation link. Don't cut off access to TTC stop at Jarvis or further south. Much nicer and more direct route than diverting to Jarvis next to speeding loud cars. Ask Transportation if they might consider a ped crossing in the future on Queen at George. Also ask TTC to consider moving Queen EB stop at Sherbourne to the west side. Add entry from the west path or make the dog park shorter. The long fence closes off the

west path and adds a security risk for people walking alone at night. Before it was open field so it wasn't so scary. View of building skyline is a huge perk, allow benches to face UP and outward to the view of the tall buildings west, NW and south. Space them further inside the park not at street edge only to look at traffic or path edge to look at the path. Add More and better bike parking please. It can be sculpture/art that functions like bike parking by like at Lawrence Heights CRC. Please talk to bike share about including a powered bikeshare station by the CRC or near station. Ideally one spot each on Shuter and another on Queen. Can be phased in with development.

- Free standing seating will be stolen and or destroyed. Curved fixed seating needs dividers to
  prevent people sleeping on them. No camping signs need to be posted to prevent encampment.
- A separate area for small dogs in the off-leash area.
- Please include a skateboard park.
- These plans only work if these are accessible by the local community. If the park remains dangerous and laws are not enforced the park will continue as is, unused by the community. There is no point in making improvements if safety is not included in the plan. The flood lights that are on all night must also be removed.
- I am thrilled at the overall improvements to the park. I have been a resident in Moss Park area since 2007 and have been saddened by the decrease in usage of the park over time. The one item I would comment on is the long benches proposed. Given the large number of homeless in the area I would assume these long flowing benches would be used as beds by the many homeless and pose both a safety and sanitary issue.
- Interpretive signage about the planted tree/shrub/plant species, maybe QR codes for different languages common in the area. Perhaps tactile paving for those who are visually impaired to create paths throughout the park (similar to tenji blocks in Japan). Public washroom and drinking fountain that are separate from the arena/rec centre if those centres are going to be open solely during regular hours public washroom/fountain outdoors will make the park more accessible for folks who visit during off-operating hours.
- See Pam McConnell Aquatic Centre, adjoining soccer and track fields, and giant off-leash being built at Sumac Park. Not stones, they reek and are a health hazard! Zero drainage. Must be natural and organic surface areas. How can you promote environment and well-being with stones?
- Very good way for the citizens to have access back to this park. But I noticed that there is only
  one bike parking space. There are not enough bike racks areas to encourage people to get
  there by bike, mostly along Shuter St. bike lane.
- My only concern is the loose bistro chairs/tables might be vandalized or stolen quite quickly.
- I'd like to see additional seating and benches that are designed in such a way that you can sit for more than a few minutes without being uncomfortable. The movable chairs are great, but the proposed bench designs seem to be designed to encourage people to not stay for long.
- I think that the grand lawn requires more central tree areas. If you've ever ventured to a park, you would know that people gravitate towards shaded areas, all the open area will just end up being avoided in the summer which is when the park is busiest.
- Well-designed waste stations with regular attention by park personnel to keep the park clean.
- Please ensure that there is money budgeted for upkeep I have seen so many park and other
  public realm improvements that are not maintained: after a few years all the plants have dies
  and the planting beds are full of weeds!
- It would be nice to have a more direct route from the top East corner to the Southwest corner (as you do on the other diagonal). Also, more seating would be nice too! Otherwise, fabulous!
- Big off leash area, but ok. Will there be community duress buttons/stations, water fountains and dog fountains? Not a huge fan of the space taken by the community garden but as long as its truly wanted.
- This looks amazing. Much needed improvements for the community to help young families, older adults experiencing isolation, and young people new to the area enjoy the park all together. Great work please try your best to move it forward ASAP!
- Looks like the lighting is a little low near the basketball courts.

- Not the place for off leash dogs! Maintenance of grounds and washrooms is priority with a bylaw officer present every day during peak usage and available 24-7! This is the most important factor maintenance and security. Please replace those trees! And with a new station soft green (planted) surfaces to buffer the noise and clean the air. Have you looked into ""City Tree" used in Europe to clean the air and buffer noise please consider this! Seating consider senior needs and disabled! Those flat seats are no good. Need backrest and arms to get up and down. Thanks for your efforts.
- Concerned about how we are ensuring safety for park users, might be helpful moving forward to denote how the walkways and lighting have a safety focus / where that shows up in design.
- I was hoping for 2 more tennis courts.
- I'm curious about the design elements related to the inclusion of residents using the shelter system. They are part of the community. How will they engage in the park for: washroom use, drug use, chilling and getting any support in the CRC. I always wished for a marrying of much needed parks and recreation amenities and also space designed for the right staff to co exist with recreation to support this community and support young recreation staff. The staff have a good rapport often with street involved folks and yet there seems to be some lack of acknowledgement in this section of the survey around these pieces.
- Design is fabulous the enforced sharing of the space will determine success. ex) Will signage
  be posted directing tennis/basketball court users to share the space with roller skaters or street
  dancers etc?
- Too much brick and fake turf. We need green living ground more. Building is extremely over sized, was told same footprint not true. Tables and chairs are potentially weapons and will be damaged. Stick with wood better to sir on when it's cold out. Wood chip best for dog environment not fake turf that's so easily damaged in weather.
- The NE to SW (Shutter/Parliament to Queen/George) path is missing. Moss Park is quite large, and the access from Cabbagetown towards downtown/queen/king st is not present. This should be included and thought of as part of the design/layout.
- The proposed bench seating encourages the homeless to sleep there. I see the arena will be kept. Some sort of ice surface should remain, whether an indoor arena or outdoor skating pad.
- Throughout this series of consultations many have repeatedly questioned why the integration of the arena has not been considered as part of the design of the new community recreation centre. And I have not heard a clear answer to this repeated question. The existing arena structure appears to be reaching its end of life and could both open up a significant new amount of open space for the park and further open the park to Sherbourne Street.
- Maybe one more bench at the corner of Sherbourne and Shuter. Please make sure that there are no tall objects blocking the view on the west side walkway as it can feel dangerous to walk down this space at night. Having a full line of . throughout that walk is important.
- Please consider incorporating trees directly into the childrens' play area and/or along its southern edge. See the market playground at St. James Park for an example of trees directly in the play area. Kids need shade. Please also consider tree species for the entire park that are likely to do well in Toronto's changing climate, if you haven't already.
- benches may just encourage vandalism and sleeping in the park, benches need to be designed to prevent sleeping and living in the park. I have used the park several times a day for over 16 years. It is mainly used by dog walkers and unhoused people. The more hidden nooks you create, the more people will use it as places to do drugs and sleep. Visibility is key, we cannot have places people can hide away from public view. There is already zero police presence in the park, so please make sure visibility is key for everyone safety. Please protect the garden beds, every time the city has planted there, the users have destroyed them. It's a rough park, I love the idea of the upgrade, but we need to understand the reality of what really goes on in that park, especially at night, if you want to public to trust the space and use it, you're going to need to be pretty smart about it, this is not your average location. I hope you will design the park to encourage its use. Please make the off-leash area bigger, with all the new building going up, it's going to be needed, there should be plenty of space to play fetch for medium to large dogs, if

not people will move out to the open park. The corner you have for the park is way is too small, there are a lot of large dogs that play fetch in that park. Don't make it harder for them, it will also endanger smaller dogs who may get trampled if the space is too small. Remember dog walkers are the main users of the park, please ensure they are not robbed of space.

- It seems that there are less green spaces and more trails.
- Provide wheelchair accessible furniture and pads similar to those of St. James Park to be more inclusive of all residents.
- Plenty of water drinking fountains that offer bottle filling and dog access.
- Great design!
- There is currently a large homeless population that frequents the park and makes it feel unsafe
  to visit. I'm not sure how to address this exactly, but it would be great if there were some
  security measures in place in the new park.
- Make Moss Park safe and entertaining again.
- Right now, people gather to socialize, drink and eat along the perimeter ledge of Sherbourne St. fronting the homeless shelters. If the perimeter ledge is removed, the proposed bench seating design will become their messy gathering place. Who will police this area to keep it clean and tidy?
- I noticed that in the description of the three original designs this design did not have the most trees. Will this design really have 200+ trees?
- Black walnut is messy and should not be included in the plan. I would like to see a 4 season rather than 3 season solution. does not include adequate winter options.
- Accessible, 24/7, year round toilets. Old-school picnic tables? With the redesign and rebuilding, is it perhaps time to think renaming? With all respect to Mr. Innes, given the obvious attention to inclusivity, something else might be wanted. Like Moss Creek Park and Community Centre or such, something that gets us away from the old positions of privilege.
- Is the off-leash area design, intended for dogs to be off leash? If so, that is very dangerous and bad. Thanks.
- More areas for seating would be good.
- Please ensure safety in some way as the area surrounding is extremely unsafe due to a large homeless population.
- Garbage cans that are large enough & accessible. Separate Dog Poop cans. Diaper change
  tables in public washrooms. Are the public washrooms open all year or seasonally? Seating
  should be ergonomically friendly for seniors and people with disabilities (i.e. handles) Can the
  park space be permitted? Canopies (structures) for shade by the children's playscape with
  picnic tables (adults & children needed a place to sit, rest and eat their snacks together away
  from the sun. Designed non-smoking areas.
- Allotment gardens do not have a place here. Park space is a rare and precious commodity and the puny gesture of providing a small number of people with free land to farm represents the privatization of public property. We have seen enough of that in Allan gardens where the public park has turned into a campground. Parks are for all of us -- parks are not concessions for people to grow carrots a few weeks of the year, leaving the space an eye-sore for most of the year. The intention to provide the allotment gardens does not follow City Parks policy for allotment gardens or its policy for community gardens. Suggest you review this. I would prefer to see the complete removal of the ice arena building. If anything makes the park unsafe, it is this building -- it is a windowless bulk that screens illicit activity.
- Thank you for considering my feedback and re-orienting the basketball courts in a north-south fashion. This will ensure playing at 5pm will not conflict with the glare of the sun. For the b-ball courts please do ensure the court is off high quality, levelled, and the rims and poles are of utmost quality. The current state of the courts is very poor. Also, regarding lighting, I live adjacent to the park and the lights from the baseball diamond are super bright and cause a lot of 'light pollution.' I hope the lights in the new park are more ambient and do not create light pollution to adjacent buildings. Also, please ensure there is space to accommodate a BIXI station. Thank you, and great work!

- More seating would be nice, similar to the benches found at The Grange park. I also hope
  attention will be paid to the park entrances so that they are obvious and draw people in.
  Unfortunately, the park feels entirely cut off from Sherbourne St. because of the bunker-like
  arena.
- It's disappointing, like the recreation staff have given up on programming the fields. No soccer camps, baseball camps, no leagues for adults. It's basically a duplication of Allen Gardens, which is not attached to a rec centre. You've provided a nice green space to pass through on a walk (and btw, no one is eager to get from Jarvis/Shuter to Queen/Sherbourne) You've not made a destination. You've not made a space for community building. There's nothing for teens or young adults. There's nothing to support sports leagues or tournaments. You've sacrificed any current practicality for a big step back to honour a creek that doesn't exist anymore, watershed that was disrupted by hardscaping from the past 4 decades, and imposing ancient traditional spiritualism onto a space that has evolved into something different.
- I'd like to see cherry trees added to the food forest.
- It would be a wonderful addition to make the basketball courts multi-functional as Outdoor Skating Pads in the winter months. Many low income newcomers to Toronto want to Learn to Skate. There isn't an outdoor, free ice pad anywhere within walking distance of the area. Moss Park Arena has a fantastic free House League Hockey program for kids, but for those adults and kids who just want to pleasure skate or play shinny, this basketball court area would be a wasted space in the winter...why not make it part of the Healthy Lifestyle by making it an outdoor rink.
- It would be helpful for materials to include an explanation of why the off leash area is astroturf, because I'm not used to dogs feeling very comfortable on it.
- Eliminate the off leash area so more of the park is accessible to all people. Leashed dogs can use the entirety of the park, an off leash area takes up space from all people.
- The lack of a direct connection to the new subway station is a serious fail. One should not have to cross lanes and car parking and another structure unprotected and uncovered to get from the community centre to the subway. The subway is a significant gateway to the park and should be embraced and not just brushed off as "by others". Get that old arena out of the way of an otherwise great project.
- I think all these ideas and designs are great, but only if you deal with the safety and security issues first. I refuse to walk by there today, and actively go blocks out of the way go to avoid it, let alone take my kids or dog there. It's scary and dangerous.
- Make sure hostile architecture is avoided at all costs. The primary people who spend time in that park are those who need places to stay and exist without being pushed to the edge of society. It is also important to minimize disturbances to existing tents and homes in the park. I'm really happy with the bench design and am excited to see how it looks.
- Alongside with this project, the city must have something related to the homelessness in the
  area. I would love to visit Moss Park since it is crossing the street from where I live, but the
  quantity of homeless makes me avoid the area as much as I can. I'm extremely interested in
  this renovation; however it will be pointless since I won't be able to enjoy without the
  homelessness issue being addressed at the same time.
- An accessible playground for kids who use wheelchairs, for example minimum amount of open space to avoid a tent community - lots of lighting & no trees to block sight of pathways, so that people feel safe walking through the park.
- Benches should not be able to be slept on by homeless. Splash pad will just become showers for homeless. No one uses the tennis courts so they are a waste of green space.
- I am concerned about the introduction of a sacred fire to the park. The sacred fire at Allen
  Gardens has resulted in other fires in the park, the burning of a teepee, and the promotion of my
  tents. This would be problematic. I do support Reconciliation, but this park is now the only green
  space for local citizens in an incredibly densely populated community, so if introduced needs to
  be done with guidelines and strict enforcement if needed.
- There should be some strategically located seating with between 60 cm and 70 cm seat height for people with certain muscle diseases to be able to sit in the park, just like everyone else.

- I am very concerned about the trees being cut down. These trees are mature. My question would be regarding the new trees and their maturity. Will they be new seedlings taking years to grow, or will they be mature trees?
- The kids area needs shade, please!
- I'm concerned about the homeless and drug users in the area and their needs for private bathroom facilities and chance to talk easily to counselor. I would like a separate bathroom area away from children's playground but one for the kids and eyes on them someone who is working at the community centre to be at a reception area there. Perhaps Metrolinx could include an outdoor bathroom. The loop idea is great as well as landscaping design and selections. My only concern is the loitering that will occur when the surrounding shelters vacate at 8 am. Lighting is also my concern as I live in a nearby condo that steams light into our building. With the extra height, I'm hoping there is a lights-out policy after 9 pm or whenever the centre closes as this will be right in line with my unit and I love looking at the trees. I love the parks at Regent Park and St. James great design. I just want to include the social issues we experience as well.

#### Connection between the building and the park

- It needs to be moved further into the park from its current location. It's too close to Sherbourne and it's not safe or provides a good meeting place.
- It is way too modern for a park, multi-use facility and way too large the neighborhood it resides
  in is a low-income neighborhood does not do a lot of social activity together no matter how
  beautiful the space might look a pool is not needed and will cost quite a bit to maintain And
  totally unnecessary work of space a meeting space a space for children to do activities.
  Fantastic but adults not so much.
- Can the doors please be more obvious? It looks like a concrete cone with glass peekaboo windows and no way to get inside.
- Fluid.

#### Lobby

- Need more light from the east and warmer lighter colouring.
- Lobby and Aquatic Corridor What is that space use for behind the two elevators (5 and 6) and the SSHA Office (8)? What is the purpose of the aquatic corridor separating the lobby from the pool changerooms? By removing this built corridor, space is freed up that can be used to widen the width of the 6 lanes of the swimming pool.
- I'm hoping the lobby space or area that someone working at the Centre has eyes on the bathroom areas or children's playground facing the inner park. I understand the need for privacy, but I don't want theft or vandalism or loitering or drug use in the park.
- Incorporation of wood into the lobbies/gyms etc. is visually appealing. Incorporating a living
  green wall will also improve the aesthetics and further soften the look of the building (as most of
  it looks to be stale/dark colours).

#### **Pools**

- Please get innovative and put something fun into the pool! Our spaces are so sterile and boring.
- From my research, many public pools in the U.S. have removed the racing/diving platforms, which are actually dangerous.
- Please ensure that the depths of the shallow and deep ends are similar to John Innes and Wellesley swimming pools. The shallow end at Pam McConnell pool is too shallow, posing safety concerns for tall swimmers and potential head injuries during flip turns. Additionally, the

<sup>\*</sup>Six open-ended responses omitted from this section.

deep end at PMAC is extremely deep compared to other community pools. Please consider the lane width, as the proposed 2.1m width may not provide enough space for multiple swimmers sharing a lane, increasing the risk of collisions. A minimum width of 2.5m, like the current 3 swim lanes at John Innes, would improve safety. Lastly, the location of benches in the Aquatic Hall Floor Plan should be more centrally located for easy access to showers and swim aids.

- Please add a hot tub it makes a huge difference in making a space communal and focused on relaxation and rest.
- I do believe the pools are unnecessary as there is a pool on Dundas, which is quite large. Another pool is just going to cost an exurban amount of money to upkeep. I do believe that it is also making the construction take up too much of the park.
- Consider investing in small scoreboard for community aquatic competitions Ensure blocks are conducive to community swimming, such as Spectrum Xcellerator.
- Single Post or Spectrum Fusion Single Post or Spectrum Grizzly/Growler Single Post starting blocks Ensure that lane ropes are of reasonable quality for both lane swimmers and community competitions, and add the option to line edges of pool with lane ropes (i.e. seven lane ropes for six lanes) Ensure that backstroke flags can be put in at proper distance (5m from end walls) Ensure that pool depth complies with Swimming Canada Rules for diving (at least 1.35m, ideally >2m at deep end, ideally 1.2-1.35m or deeper at shallow end Ensure communication and collaboration with local swim clubs about training and competition scheduling, as well as needs with regard to pool space FINA indicates a lane width of 2.5m instead of the proposed 2.1m. A wider 2.5m width makes for a safer gap between two swimmers approaching each other, avoiding the likelihood of a collision. (Some swimmers may veer towards the centre. Some have a wide sweep of their arms.) Additional space to accommodate a wider lane for the proposed 6 lanes can be obtained by eating up some of the space of the changerooms (which has lots of room to spare). The current 2.1m lane width feels TIGHT when two swimmers are positioned side by side. Having 6 lanes that are wider provides an equitable two-lanes each for slow-medium-fast swimmers.
- Excellent design. Please ensure soap in showers is always filled.
- It would be nice for the windowed walls to be openable, much like the ones in the regent park pool on Dundas. It's one of the best features of that pool.
- I look forward to the pools, I also hope that the pool access with be free similar to other centres nearby.

#### **Changerooms/ Washrooms**

- Please pick better quality finishing from regent park and Wellesley- the white in those facilitators looks filthy and unkept.
- Changing only occurs inside private stalls--not in my experience at Pam McConnell. This facility
  has a stupid arrangement where they only use one changeroom at a time. Very uncomfortable
  unless you are taking a Women Only session. And showers near the pool area (again, like Pam
  McConnell's) are not much good. Why not have designated washrooms and 1 or 2 general
  ones.
- The exits to the pool from each shower should be located close to the entry points of the lane pool and shallow pool, between entry points 1 and 2. In the Wellesley pool, one shower exits at the deep end of the lane pool, which is not ideal as it is near the diving platform and pool ropes. The entry points (ramps) of the lane and shallow pools, 1 and 2, are oddly located on the other side of the pool, along with the swim aids. The design at Pam McConnell Aquatic Centre (PMAC) is more suitable, with showers exiting at the entry points of the lane/shallow pools and

- where swim aids and benches are located. In a Universal Showers setup, there is a lack of privacy, making it challenging to wash private parts properly while wearing a swimsuit. The current John Innes men's shower consists of several universal showers along with stalls that have shower curtains for privacy, but it may not offer sufficient privacy for some individuals.
- If possible, more washrooms need to be accessible/ barrier-free in the case that people with disabilities can use bathrooms without having to wait for just 1 barrier-free option. I would recommend doing a 3/3 split of "standard" washrooms vs barrier-free/ accessible washrooms.
- For the high number individuals of the homeless community that currently only uses the shower facilities, the option to shower with a bathing suit is NOT FEASIBLE. The City does not provide bathing suits for these individuals. A design which uses both gender specific and gender neutral changerooms has been implemented recently by The City of Toronto. You may refer to the Beaver Creek Recreation centre, which has done this, as an example which would service the community more appropriately.
- I'm curious to know why the showers are designed so "showering only occurs with bathing suits on". I have seen this at regent park's aquatic centre and thoroughly dislike it. It allows no opportunity to fully wash one's body of the chlorine and pool chemicals.
- Prefer showers where you can fully disrobe; direct access from the park could be problematic.
- Please ensure that they aren't exposed to street level pedestrians like at Regent park. It feels invasive having people from the street being able to stare into a change room from outside.
- I'm hoping that another bathroom can go in maybe at Metrolinx corner of the park. Or another one separate from children's playground.
- The centre is adjacent to a men's shelter. Many of the men who access the shelter have significant mental health and drug issues. How will change rooms and washrooms be safe places for children, seniors and women if men now have access to this space? I think you are inviting issues and conflict with this plan. As a senior I already feel unsafe on the TTC during late hours. I think this plan will make the centre unsafe for many in the community.
- Are the changerooms large enough for family use? Or will the accessible change room often be filled by families with multiple children? Important that some be accessible from the park.
- In Pam McConnel and Wellesley pools, there are always plenty of changerooms to spare whenever I use them, so I can afford to sacrifice some of its space in your design for the widening of the swim lanes for all of the 6 lanes of the pool. Also, add one open men's urinal for men to use for a quick relief, instead of having to wait and/or occupy an enclosed washroom, which could be better relegated for women to use. Also, maybe create just one stall, with a bench for accessibility purposes with privacy curtains, while the rest can be open concept rows of showers, like in Pam McConnell (much cleaner and tidier to use, since plastic curtains develop molds and look grungy. Well, they could always be removed. At least there is an option for privacy, like in John Innes right now.) Install vertical and horizontal safety handlebars which Pam McConnell and Wellesley pools lack. Install ledges (or a continuous hole/cave on the wall) to hold personal bath toiletries.
- There should be gendered changerooms (3).
- Clean lockers.
- If you are providing outdoor access to washrooms for the homeless, then that's great, make sure the shower is well monitored and maintained.
- A bit worried about how we plan to protect privacy and comfort for individuals in shared change rooms do we have precedent in the City of Toronto for how this has worked historically? If not, would expect to see additional details on signage, policies, and staff support at the centre to make sure this is a safe space for all.

#### **Wood Shop**

- It now has restricted use. With so many apartments in the area, it would be helpful if simple repairs, sanding + painting of furniture items was allowed.
- What equipment will be provided? Hand tools only?
- Must have.

#### **Dance Studio**

- Provide audio-visual facilities to enable video-led (in lieu of live) instructions for dance aerobics.
- Must have.

#### **Rooftop Terrace**

- I hope for lots of comfortable seating and tables as well as room for community gardening and a green rooftop.
- This would provide views and a great perspective of the park. Would be cool to have a cafe up there as well.
- Looks great!
- Adult gathering spot. place to unwind, relax, take in sunset, congregate, communicate, interact, study, etc...with beverages.

#### **Gymnasium**

- Rendering looks glum and stark.
- Only having 1 volleyball court means the facility could never be booked for a tournament.
- Include a squash court (2).
- Must have.

#### **Building Façade**

- Looks a bit monolithic, but with maximum light on east side will be a gem.
- More ambition! Unique design by renowned architect. This area has a reputation, without something big and bold I fear it will retain this reputation and avoid being visited by most people.
- I am not a fan of the view looking south from Shuter. Many people walk along Shuter (me with kids from the Gabrielle Roy school). The idea of walking past a long blank concrete wall incites fear and feeling of desolate ignored back side of the building where I will not be seen. Can the windows be taller? Or skylight-like openings push through the wall so there's a feeling of eyes on the street. It would be nice if a mural was planned.
- The rendering shows it as a massive concrete block. Perhaps the use of wood panels, cladding to break it up and give it a bit more of the heritage looks it deserves.

#### Accessibility

- Parking is important.
- Ensure AODA best practice is met not just Ontario building code standards.

#### Other elements of the CRC

- Green roofs where available! Living green space wherever possible. Consider "City Tree" for rooftop seating.
- First, make the park safe and then build or retrofit the centre for the public to use.
- Security/Cleanliness

- The swimming pool might be less inviting than the present one.
- Based on the pace of growth in the Moss park area this facility will be undersized when its
  opened. realistically it needs to be double the size to accommodate future growth driven by the
  Ontario Line.
- Bravo. Office for SSHA staff. Please ensure this is a Monday to Sunday operation reflective of the centre's operation. Inclusive of evening and weekend hours.
- Security at reception desk needs to be considered and balanced with welcoming environment.
   Wide desk and some consideration should be considered for staff safety the design calls out specific youth spaces but no specific seniors' spaces. this is a missed opportunity.
- Street Edge.
- Washrooms changerooms and showers should be gendered. Otherwise, women are not safe.
- Lack of parking for accessibility.
- rooftop terrace would be brilliant to get views of the park!
- Sewing machines for sewing led classes. Yoga studio space would be ideal too.
- Weight room should have new and quality equipment.
- I would maybe rethink the gender neutral change room as it may put off potential users. I would also want security to be considered in the change rooms given the large amount of drug addicts and mentally ill people at that corner.
- Is there an area with retractable tiered seating so that an audience can watch a performance or game?
- Youth spaces (3).
- Ping-pong tables.
- In the lobby, a counter to purchase coffees/teas should be included in the plan for the parents to sit and wait there for their kids.
- Ensuring cardio fitness equipment available.
- Weight room.
- Move and connect the centre to the new subway station. To not do so will be a serious failure for generations to come.
- The front of the community centre is currently a sitting area for the homeless. . .is this what the inside will be? what about a public library branch? plenty of security.
- What will happen to the lions at the front?
- There are many seniors in the community who are not integrated in the community, and they
  also need a place to meet, congregate and participate. Intergenerational activities would help
  the community.
- Building takes park space away. Move your sports extra stuff elsewhere please.
- Please add signage and emergency bells in changing areas for vulnerable females who may encounter issues.
- Light from the east side will make the building a success, plan to access light from the east.
- Be more ambitious! Should be a legacy building with a renowned design to change the reputation of the area.
- Thank you so very much for creating this beautiful plan. I am sooooo excited for this pool.
- Showers: allow users to modify water temp. The 'new' showers at Pam McConnell pool are
  often dangerously hot (as are JI showers). If you can't give us appropriate water temp allow us
  to mix it ourselves. Also, no more water fountains like Pam McC where you can't refill a water
  bottle.
- Outdoor washrooms.

- It is way too modern for a park, multiuse facility and way too large the neighborhood it resides in is a low-income neighborhood does not do a lot of social activity.
- Again, these designs look great but only if the safety and security issues are dealt with first.

# Suggestions on how to ensure the CRC design is welcoming and accessible for a wide range of community members, or any other feedback:

- Open spaces/ more spaces for people to meet and gather/ places for strollers!
- Same comment as previous... keep it safe for the public with security and/or a law enforcement station.
- Please add more wheelchair lanes, keep the natural sunlight coming in + brighter LED lights to be welcoming for people of all ages. Solar roof panels also a possibility at all?
- It should have a library and coworking spaces!
- Multilingual signage, pictograms, artwork from a variety of artists (incl. local, emerging, Indigenous), maybe a posting of a Charter outlining shared values over a wide spectrum of users.
- Parking for disabled users.
- Ensure safety of children first.
- Provide additional budget for cleaning and maintenance, and consider graffiti resistant finishes .
- Again... lack of parking. Not everyone is able to walk, cycle or transit to access these facilities and the park, which is a pity.
- Include a Dog fountain/water fountain.
- Have public washrooms available 24/7.
- Maintenance and cleaning are important (2)
- Include flags: Maple Leaf, Pride Flag, Indigenous Flag
- Remember to include dimensions for wheelchair scooters and any other larger mobility devices
  please do not put change tables in disabled washrooms unless they cannot impede access
  when in the down position. Please remember to consider vulnerable females in all plans that
  use multiple use designs.
- Include as much natural light as possible.
- Please ensure wheelchair users are able to fully traverse the neighboring park and access this building from every single pathway a non-wheelchair user could.
- Ensure width of corridors or pathways are wide enough for all motorized tools people with
  disabilities use. All doors should have motion-sensored options for accessibility. If corridors
  have handrails, they can be lower for all people to utilize, including children. Ramps at
  entrance/exits should be mandatory. Braille should be incorporated at all doors, entrances +
  exits community centre map/directory should also include Braille or text-to-speech capability. Textured floor strips in front of doors/exits/entrances should be incorporated for people who use
  guide sticks.
- There is a large homeless/community in the area. Currently the facilities cannot be used before 1pm on weekends if you are not a child accompanied with an adult. Not aware of any other City Recreation Facility that restricts the homeless/shelter individuals' access to the building at certain times.
- Please provide lots of places to stop and sit in the building and have lots of public water fountains.
- CRC It should cater to individuals of all age groups, not just youth.

<sup>\*</sup>Three open-ended responses omitted from this section.

- Smaller less intimidating, in its appearance I would prefer to blend in with its surroundings, and not be so obtuse or so large.
- Inclusion is important but shouldn't be at the expense of safety.
- communication with community aquatics organizations (e.g. swim clubs/teams) ensure that maintenance of both facilities and relationships is ongoing and maintained.
- The building could blend in more to the natural surroundings by incorporating different materials besides just concrete grey and glass. Add colour, or living walls, or trees on the balcony and make it so all the internal beauty of the building is more visible at street level to passersby.
- Availability of seating with 2o' 22' seat height for people who are disabled because of a rare degenerative muscle disease called Inclusion Body Myositis.
- Safety must be the main priority (3)
- Space to display the art made by neighbourhood residents would be great.
- Connect it directly to the subway.
- Complete the project with an open mind. Be prepared to adapt features like the wood shop and youth spaces based on community demand once the building is in use. Make spaces flexible to accommodate community needs.
- With lots of specific spaces dance studio, wood working, etc. I hope there's programming to go with it.
- Lock rentals. Satellite Library -resources & space for TPL young family programs.
- I would just like to say that it would help to put a wooden bar in the flat seating area so that
  people would not sleep on them at night. There are a lot of homeless people in the
  neighbourhood.
- Looks very good and inviting.
- Is it time to consider renaming the centre during the redesign and rebuilding process? Perhaps a name like Moss Creek Park and Community Centre would better reflect the focus on inclusivity and move away from outdated names and privilege. It would be beneficial to involve social services in the discovery and review process.

<sup>\*</sup>One open-ended response omitted from this section.

#### **Appendix C: Survey Respondent Demographics**

The majority of survey respondents (32%) were adults between the ages of 30-39, followed by adults ages 40-55 (24%), older adults and seniors aged 56-74 (23%), and youth or young adults between the ages of 19-29 (13%). A small proportion (11%) of respondents were adults ages 65 and over.

Indigenous community members made up 3% of respondents, Black community members made up 7%, and 24% of respondents self-identified as other races. 13% had a preference not to disclose their race. Most respondents were white (57%).

48% of survey respondents were men, 34% were women, 3% were gender non-binary (including gender fluid, genderqueer, androgynous) and 1% identified as Two-Spirit. 32% of respondents identified as being Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer or Two-Spirit and 53% identified as heterosexual.

17% of respondents identify as having a visible or invisible disability. The majority of respondents (93%) reported that English was their preferred language.

48% of survey respondents are homeowners, while 42% are renters and 1% live permanently with parent(s) or other family member(s).

Most respondents (49%) have access to private outdoor space like a balcony, while 24% have access to semi-private/shared outdoor space. 24% of respondents only have access to public spaces like parks. Only 17% have access to private outdoor space like a yard.

Nearly all survey respondents were Moss Park community members. 4% of respondents represented local groups or service provider, such as Toronto Community Housing, resident/tenant associations, recreation and sports, housing or shelter services, and youth services.