

# WHAT WE HEARD: WELLINGTON TOWN HALL EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

## Engagement Summary Report

### Objective for Engagement

*The Wellington Town Hall Expression of Interest Working Group consulted with the community to learn more about the community's ideas and vision for the Wellington Town Hall*



### Outline of Engagement Process

The following engagement methods were used to connect with members of the community:

- An information page was created on the County's Have Your Say engagement platform [www.haveyoursay.thecounty.on.ca](http://www.haveyoursay.thecounty.on.ca)
- An open house was held at the Wellington Town Hall on December 7, 2024
- A public workshop was held at the Wellington and District Community Centre on February 4, 2025
- A public survey was open until March 19, 2025 and was available online on Have Your Say. Paper copies were also available at Shire Hall

### Promotion of Engagement Opportunities

County staff promoted engagement opportunities to the public through the following:

- Engagement opportunities were advertised in the December 2024; January 2025 and February 2025 Municipal Community Newsletters
- Public Service Announcements (PSAs) were sent out on November 30, 2024; January 22, 2025 and February 2025
- Engagement opportunities were promoted on the County's social media platforms throughout December 2024 – March 2025
- The Have Your Say engagement page is currently still live, giving the public up-to-date information on the project

## What We Heard

- Approximately 30 people attended the Wellington Town Hall open house on December 7, 2024
- 24 members of the public attended the public workshop held on February 4, 2025 at the Wellington and District Community Centre
- The public survey received 33 responses
- 3 questions were asked to participants at the in-person sessions as well as the online survey

### Question 1: "What are the community space needs in Wellington? What is missing?"

#### Top answers include:

- Community hub for community events/activities such as farmers' markets, social events, or a place for health and wellness activities
- Arts programming space, arts studio, gallery, etc.
- Space for small groups to rent to gather to host meetings, small events, etc.
- Tourism or information centre

### Question 2: "If money was not a factor, what would you do with the Wellington Town Hall?"

#### Top answers include:

- Art gallery that features local artists, or offers programs related to the arts
- Community programming such as yoga, dance classes, youth events, health and wellness initiatives such as pop-up clinics etc.
- Farmers' market or place for local vendors to set up booths
- Fix up, restore and turn into a daycare centre

### Question 3: "What do you not want to see for the future use of the Wellington Town Hall?"

#### Top answers include:

- Do not want to see a private sale/purchase
- Do not want to see it torn down
- Do not want to see it turned into an exclusive commercial space
- Do not want it used as a hotel, Air BnB, etc.

## Question 4 (Survey Only): "Do you have any additional thoughts, ideas, or feedback that you would like to share with the Wellington Town Hall Expression of Interest Working Group?"

### Comments include:

- "I think we are really missing services for children in Wellington. If we are trying to encourage families to move here, we need to provide services/entertainment for children."
- "It is crucial to preserve our heritage, our sense of history and a sense of belonging to that heritage and history That's what creates a sense of place."
- "I am new to the area and noticed the town hall immediately. It's such a classic southern Ontario building that adds character to Wellington. I was curious about what it was used for and initially thought it may be a "community hub" of sorts. I was disappointed that it was not being used."
- "I believe the Town Hall is a beautiful building that should be preserved. It is an ideal location to be beneficial to local groups for gathering and building community. Because of its central location, it is a perfect location to bring the community together."

### Who We Heard From

- Residents from all over Prince Edward County
- Community groups / organizations within the County



### Next Steps of the Project

- The community engagement portion for this project is now closed
- The Wellington Town Hall Expression of Interest Working Group will review the feedback from the community
- The release of the Expression of Interest in May 2025
- Public meeting where proponents can pitch their ideas and share information. Coming in Fall 2025