

This Affects You!



Supergraphics and Murals

Public Consultation

October 5, 2020

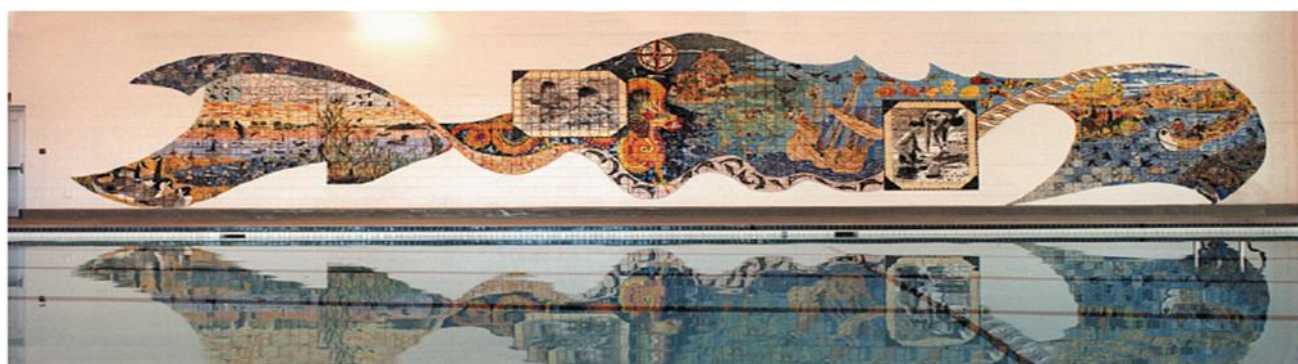


WHAT WE
HEARD:
A REPORT
TO THE
COMMUNITY

Supergraphics and Murals – What We Heard: A Report to the Community

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Clay Tile Mural by Valerie Hostetler, Nan McKernan and the Community, located at the Olds Aquatic Centre.

Cover page: Blue Heron and Koi Fish, both by Artist Kevin Johnson, Olds Town Square, Team of Horses, Anne Burchill, located at Centennial Park.

THIS AFFECTS YOU: Supergraphics and Murals Survey

Introduction

The purpose of this engagement is:

- to gauge public opinion about murals in the Town of Olds;
- to seek opinions regarding mural locations and future maintenance;
- determine if municipal resources should be allocated for a mural program;
- and, to gauge citizen expectations regarding the regulation of murals.

The Town of Olds is committed to transparent and inclusive processes that are responsive and accountable while striving to engage residents when planning the future of our community. Understanding the views of our residents is a fundamental value for the Town of Olds.

‘Mural’ is not a term that is specifically defined in the Town’s current regulations. The Town uses the word ‘supergraphic’ instead of the word ‘mural’. ‘Supergraphic’ is viewed as a broader term that includes ‘mural’. Amendments to the LUB are required to clarify the definition and regulation of murals.

Background Information

Bylaw No. 2019-31 is an amendment to the Administrative section of the Land Use Bylaw under s2.1 *Purpose of Development Permits*. The purpose of this amendment is to clearly indicate that, if a use is not listed as either permitted or discretionary in the applicable Land Use District, the Development Authority shall not approve that application. The intent of this clause is to prevent any use from being approved which Council has not considered appropriate within the District.

Determining use and where it is applied within the municipality is the sole purview of Council. The ability of the Development Authority to grant variances does not extend to use definitions or use provisions, as set out in *Municipal Government Act*. Section 640(6), which sets out the test required for granting a variance:

“(6) A land use bylaw may authorize a development authority to decide on an application for a development permit even though the proposed development does not comply with the land use bylaw or is a non-conforming building if, in the opinion of the development authority,

(a) the proposed development would not

(i) unduly interfere with the amenities of the neighbourhood, or

(ii) materially interfere with or affect the use, enjoyment or value of neighbouring parcels of land, and

(b) the proposed development conforms with the use prescribed for that land or building in the land use bylaw.”

This public consultation did not address guidelines outlined in the Uptowne Olds Area Redevelopment Plan (Bylaw No. 2013-08). Area Redevelopment Plans (ARPs) provide a framework for future development in an established area of a municipality with policies to achieve a defined vision for the community.

The current vision within the Uptowne Olds Area Redevelopment Plan states “Uptowne Olds is the historic commercial heart of Olds. It is walkable, has a diverse mix of uses, housing, parks, and public spaces. It is rich in heritage with a proud sense of community.” This guiding principle was a factor that raised public concerns resulting in utilizing the appeal process for the Uptowne Square murals.

This public consultation did not address existing guidelines outlined in redevelopment plans or areas that have architectural standards in place.

Survey – Highlights

The primary function of murals included beautification, support for the arts and inspiration, tourism, and neighbourhood identity. Respondents indicated an equal preference for commercial areas and public recreation facilities, with parks also being favoured as appropriate areas for the placement of murals.

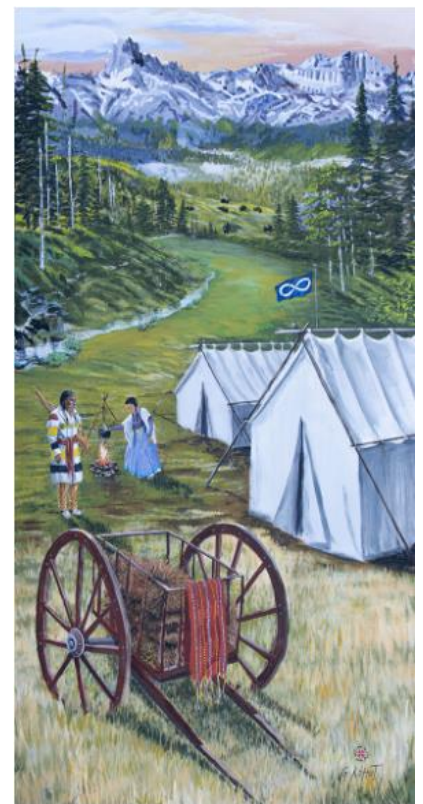
Regarding the most appropriate way to put a mural on a surface, 49% of respondents felt that installation requires a flexible approach depending on the project.

74% of respondents indicated that murals should require an application and review and based on the majority of comments, the use of a community-based Advisory Committee is more favorable than relying on the Municipal Development Authority to provide recommendations to Council.

The individual(s) or organization(s) that commissioned the mural should be responsible to maintain a mural once it has been completed, although from a municipal perspective, legally the responsibility of a mural is the property owner on title. In future guidance documents, the Town could highlight that private agreements between parties are the responsibility of the property owner.

While the majority indicated they were not in support of municipal revenues going towards funding mural development and maintenance, several respondents pointed out that this question should have differentiated between private and municipal property and projects. Some indicated if it was on private property then the owner should be responsible, if it is on Town property and a Town commissioned project, then the Town should be responsible.

Although there were diverse opinions about the content and imagery, the majority of respondents (90%) indicated that Olds should have more murals.



MÉTIS LIFE

Artist: Gayle Kohut,
Located at Cornerstone Art
Commons

Consultation Timeframe

- A survey was available online or in print version from August 5 to September 15, 2020. 455 online surveys and 1 paper copy was submitted during this time period.
- 15 questions were asked with an average completion time of 5 minutes, 35 seconds.
 - 456 surveys were collected which exceeded the initial goal of 350. Based on the Town of Olds 2016 Stats Can adult population, a response rate of 350 surveys represents validity within a 5% margin of error.
- Town of Olds staff met with the Uptowne Committee for additional feedback.
- Feedback from the survey was presented to Council at the October 5, 2020 Policies and Procedures meeting.

Advertising and Social Media Promotion

- Newspaper Ads (Olds Albertan) – August 4, 11, 18, September 1 and September 8, 2020.
- Town of Olds Connector Newsletter – August and September editions.
- 96.5 Radio Interview with the Mayor Muzychka – July 13, 2020.
- Posters and paper copies of the surveys at the Town of Olds Administration Office.
- Surveys were promoted at the September 3, 2020 Community Showcase.
- Town of Olds Facebook pages: 10 posts, 16629 views.
- Town of Olds Twitter: 10 posts, 2342 views.
- Town of Olds Instagram: 7 posts, 36 views.
- Direct costs associated with the engagement was \$427.55.
- Survey information was posted on the electronic sign and Community TV channel.



Survey Results

Question One

What do you believe is the primary function of a mural? (Check any that apply)

▼ Beautification	88.13%	401
▼ Community Development	47.69%	217
▼ Economic Development	25.05%	114
▼ Inspiration	61.98%	282
▼ Neighbourhood Identity	52.31%	238
▼ Social Change	25.27%	115
▼ Supporting the Arts	74.29%	338
▼ Tourism	52.97%	241
▼ I don't believe murals serve a function	2.64%	12
▼ Unsure/Undecided	0.66%	3

Other (please specify) or additional comments:

Please note: As per Town of Olds Social Media Policy 111C the Town of Olds has the right to redact comments that could identify a specific individual(s), is slanderous or defamatory, contains obscene language, sexual content or promotes fosters or perpetuates discrimination for presentation in this report. Comments that were completed unrelated or off topic to the subject matter may have also been removed.

LOVE our Uptowne murals!
If done well and suitable, the murals create character and a unique sense in a town. Olds could use more of this.
Memorializing our history as a town
They also show pride and caring for the community. Taking time to create interesting and beautiful artwork shows support for all different aspects of a community. They can also show history of the area.
Supporting our local talent and artists.
Murals should be reflective of the aspirations and identity of the community
Should be Family friendly and Tasteful
I hesitate to include beautification as the aesthetic sensibility varies from group to group. Our murals, must not reflect exclusivity such as religious, ethnic, and racial iconography. Inclusion is key, and not tokenism. Merging key aspects of our history with a look to the future (hope) seems a fair balance. Any focus on any one particular group = the marginalization of another. Balance is key.
Tells history of town
A mural certainly should not be intended to bring about social change. They should reflect the history or significant events that are specific to the town.
I see only the positive benefits to having beautiful murals painted throughout our town. If we want to encourage the arts and find ways to encourage people to live and/or shop in Olds, let's make it a warm & inviting atmosphere. Seeing & appreciating murals painted in other communities have always impressed me... it had impressed me that a forward-thinking council wanted to draw people to their fabulous community. Why wouldn't we in Olds show the same initiatives and desire the same goals?
Paintings can beautify spaces such as parking lots, and it attracts people. eg. Lacombe, Vernon.
I like the showing of the arts in our town, it gives us something unique that feels good and gives us an identity.

It is an ongoing process, it is not just a one time commission, it has to be upkeep, and I don't believe the town is in any financial position to make this commitment
Keep murals neutral; no politics/interest groups (eg. BLM). This is not racist. Black lives do matter but so do other groups.
Saying that, any mural needs to be beautiful - something that appeals across all ages, and cultures - not something that could otherwise be classed as "graffiti"
I feel that a well done tasteful mural that is kept up help make the town look nice
I have travelled a lot over the years and realized, as a result of this survey, that I can remember certain communities because of their murals. It give a place an identity, especially a small town.
The current murals we have in town are beautiful and show care toward local artists. They are wonderful
Love the murals already done. It livens up our Uptowne. I see lots of people taking pictures of them and with them.
History reflected through paintings of times past, landscape, wildlife, our community.
I support this as long as any art murals are done only by LOCAL ARTISTS no outsiders
I love that olds is starting to have murals downtown - gives the town character.
The beautification of some otherwise very drab buildings around the town, as well as portraying an element of history on some buildings which could be seen as inspirational, showing the progress and advancements we have made in lifestyle since arriving here on the prairie.
Sets the town apart from other communities.
Public art is the key to celebrating community and beautifying our town.
Murals have a multidisciplinary function.
I believe that this town is full of evil and anger and that we need more happiness and art to brighten up the dark cloud that looms over this town. Conformity is what is ugly, removing joy and painting it over with creams and whites for the sake of the generations that won't be around much longer. We've had a world of black and white, it is time for the rainbows. Get in or get out, but quit holding back the progress of the future for the small minds of the few.
Murals could also show community history
Make the area feel welcome, developed
Murals and other artwork serve only to beautify the town. Who could ever be against this??
Enhance the down town area since we are trying to encourage shopping down town
I believe art can serve maybe different purposes and functions and mean many things to different people
Murals should reflect our community & surrounding areas not a what is it mural
They're amazing!
Murals add life to our town. They support local businesses and you get generations absolutely appreciate them!!!
Sets our town as being different and worth coming to visit.
Murals are a way to add life and vibrancy to a town or city while supporting the arts, inspiring conversations about the content of the mural and creating energy in a place that we live.
Question is worded with a leading bias

Question Two

**In your opinion where would be the most appropriate areas for the placement of murals?
(Check all that apply)**

▼ Abandoned Buildings/lots	64.81%	291
▼ Back Alleys	40.98%	184
▼ Commercial Areas	83.07%	373
▼ Yard appearance	20.49%	92
▼ Fences	42.32%	190
▼ Industry Areas	47.66%	214
▼ Parks	74.39%	334
▼ Public Recreation Facilities	83.07%	373
▼ Residential Areas	20.49%	92
▼ Schools	56.35%	253
▼ None	2.45%	11

Other (please specify):

Anywhere Uptowne Olds
Main street and surrounding area, such as 51st ave
Private business in view of main roads
Place murals where they are most visible. Back Alleys, Industrial Areas and Abandon Buildings for example suggest suppression of the entire idea. Embrace the idea of community, and possible tourist interest as well.
Definitely not in personal yards, or residential areas.
Areas that have a blank appearance. etc Cow Palace / agriculture cattle mural
Not necessarily abandoned buildings but definitely parking lots.
Not on personal property. If the resident wants to put us something that is considered in acceptable taste by the neighbors, they should be allowed. However nothing considered immoral or hateful.
Again - it needs to be quality art - not just graphic art
I think that should be left to the town council WITH recommendations and guidance from the Arts Committee.
Community gathering areas, anywhere you want to drive foot traffic I.e. uptown olds.
I would love to see more art throughout town
More in Uptowne first before spreading out.
Dressing up a bland empty area such as been done at the Uptowne Square. Is the present artwork really distressing to someone???
You want people from out of town to see them. Why would you want them in low traffic area. "Back alleys" for Pete's sake!
The back alley walls of commercial businesses. This creates a space where people can have a neat place to explore without being in heavy traffic.
We need art and a reason to go on everywhere we look.
On barren downtown business buildings.
Abandoned buildings will either be demolished, sold, etc... so no point in putting them there

It would be nice to see murals and statues/sculptures along pathways thru town. As well as within the community not just downtown and along Highway 27.
On older ugly sides of buildings but not nice new ones like the credit union
Uptown Olds
There is no perfect place that all will agree upon. Communication and Consultation through a committee set up for all "art projects" within the town could be a starting point. "Art Projects" should not be decided by Town Council
It really depends on the content of the mural... one could be appropriate in any of these settings or none of them.
Wherever it can be seen and, or serve its specific purpose ... whether it be to inspire students in education or to inform and beautify town history
Wherever!
Anything to make this town prettier - planters are a waste of money...(hanging baskets are beautiful) plant some trees!!!
Anywhere.
Places near businesses. It brings people in and makes the shopping areas look great
On buildings in the downtown area, parks, schools, businesses
All- I love them
Businesses- like Lacombe & you could have bus tours if a convention was held.
Since tax dollars will be spent, if the murals are in lower traffic areas they may be prone to vandalism. Consequently, more money needed to remove graffiti and fix the artwork. An area like an alley is not a good choice. I like the idea of art in the parks but may be an area prone to vandalism as well.
Entrances of neighborhoods
If anything other than public buildings you create a legal nightmare from maintenance/restoration
Your own property
Uptown Olds

Question Three

In your opinion, what would be the most appropriate way to put a mural on a surface?

▼ Painted or apply directly to the surface/building	36.12%	164
▼ Painted or placed on a panel that is then attached to the surface/building	6.39%	29
▼ Installation requires a flexible approach dependent on the project	48.68%	221
▼ Unsure/Undecided	5.07%	23
▼ No new murals	3.74%	17

Other (please specify):

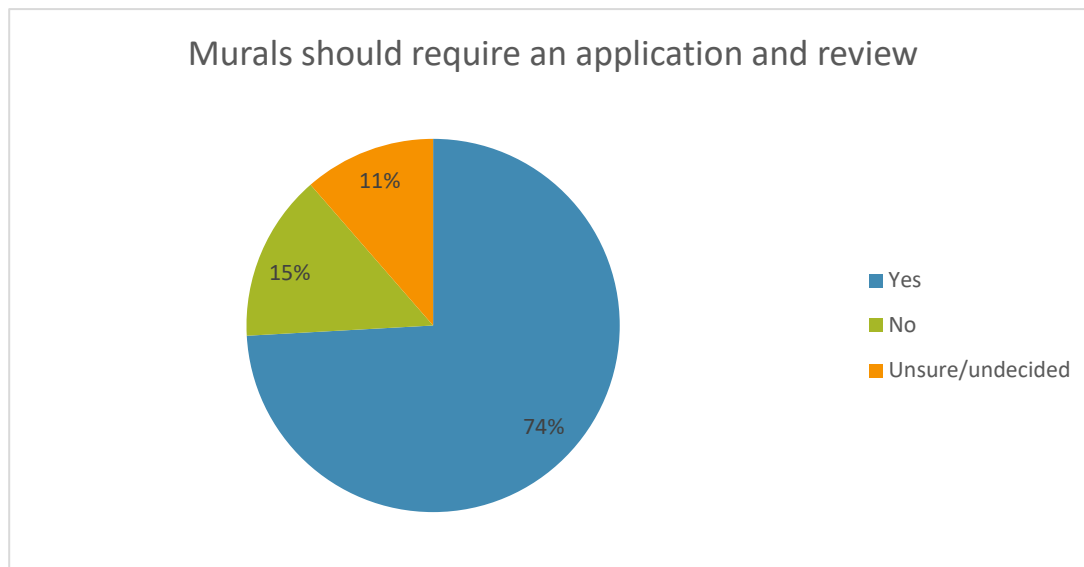
Up to the building owner
Let the artist and building owner decide on the most appropriate application. It will depend on the surface to be covered.

Let the wall of a building be the canvas for the artist...if it's awful well It's paint - it can always be covered up with more paint....
At the discretion of the property owner & funder of the mural
It depends on what type of art it is.
Depending on the type of art. It could either be applied directly or fixed on...
Painted or placed on a panel that is attached to the surface/building would be suitable as well
You know you live in a small town when you have to send out a survey regarding murals. I'm laughing.
I recently assisted in the installation of plasticized wrap in Airdrie City Hall. Changeable, super looking, quick to install and cost efficient wraps
It must be able to be taken down and replaced when necessary or completely deleted or put someplace else if/when the building is demolished. Also, for ease of repair.
Logic: Consult with artists. They are more qualified to advise on methodology. And, stop sticking with the same artists. We need some fresh blood. Hence, merging tradition with contemporary.
If they are painted on a panel, they can be moved if a building is moved or replaced.
Depends on the project as well as the maintenance of the artwork.
Don't cover the town with murals; it looks tacky
I wanted to vote for 2 selection. The second one is "installation ... flexible
Painted murals must be inspected a regular intervals to ensure that they are not degrading due to the elements. Keep them attractive.
I personally think that many painted on buildings bring down the tone of the town- unless they are recognizable scenes/ people; professionally done; in keeping with the town / environment they are in, and of high quality, and kept in excellent state of repair.
Again, decided but Town Council with recommendations from The Arts Committee.
Installation might require a flexible approach dependent on a project.
Painted panels would be an option if you think there would be a chance the property owner would decide he doesn't want them anymore.
This is the area for the professionals to decide. The less permanent allows for easier change (due to perception of the time, vandalism, repainting, sale, etc...)
Depends on the surface material. A panel may have to be painted first then attached.
Probably painted right on the building, but I don't really know the implications of maintenance and future salvage/demolition.
I am not a professional muralist so I am guessing at this one. The paint could fade over time and need to be reapplied? But painting right on the surface should cause no damage.
Attached would make it easier to change out when it becomes faded out. If painted who is responsible to repaint the mural when faded out or has to cover it up. Whoever painted it are they still going to be around?
Would be up to the artist and their experience to determine the best medium. Exposure to elements will also determine the best material to use. Average resident is not going to know what will work.
Painted or posed on a panel that is then attached to the surface or building this would need to be the discretion of the property owner
However the owner would prefer
Depends on the location.
Needs to be moved is required: say social keyboard warriors complain about an artist? New elected officials don't like A vs B
Where is the option for no murals?

Question Four

With the purpose to review criteria, such as content (e.g. potentially offensive images such as nudity or racist connotations) and locations of a proposed mural, do you agree murals should require an application and be reviewed to ensure certain conditions/criteria are met?

Currently, murals must adhere to rules set out in the Land Use Bylaw (LUB). The Development Authority defers evaluating mural applications to the Public Arts Advisory Committee (PAAC). This committee was formed in 2019 and includes 2 Councillors, the Town of Olds Heritage Advisor and 3-5 public volunteers who have experience and understanding of art and culture. Unless there is a request for an appeal, mural applications are typically processed within 6 weeks. The terms of reference for this committee can be found at [here](#).



Additional Comments:

Let building owners decide the subject matter and design. The advisory committee is unnecessary.

I believe art is in the eye of the beholder. However nothing racist or pornographic

Where do I start with you on this one!?! Firstly, is Botticelli's "The Birth of Venus" offensive? Michelangelo's "David"? The topic of nudity in art is not controversial – ignorant people make it so. And artists are not likely to propose nudes for a public mural. Secondly, you are asking a leading question. "Do you agree..." means you've already made up your mind that you are going to require an application. The question itself suggests it's already decided, your opinion is irrelevant. Thirdly, having TWO Councillors on any committee is redundant... having back-up Councillors on committees is exponentially so. The fact that 1/3 of the current council is sitting on a committee that is supposed to advise on decisions to the council means that you are NOT being objective in this process. You already have people on that Advisory Committee who are experienced at art and culture. Councillors should be guided by the advisors, IN COUNCIL, NOT attending the meetings in order to influence outcome and decisions. As long as imagery does NOT depict anything violent, politically charged, or otherwise graphically disturbing, there should be no reason for it to NOT be approved, especially if the building owner and artist have worked together to agree on subject, style and installation/presentation. And while I'm tearing into you...one more thing. This whole survey has been skewed. The links to communities with

murals were provided for reference were to those who focus ONLY - or majorly - on HISTORICAL themes! In doing so you are attempting to influence the answers on the subject to lead them to your preferences. That is called topical bias in the realm of surveys. No, who would decide these "restrictions"? This is so limiting.
I do not believe that councillors should be involved in deciding what is appropriate mural content, nor should they be on the public art advisory committee.
It's important the murals are created to please all...no offence should be taken by anyone when they look at a public painting
No doubt
I believe this is true as long as the criteria does not stifle the creativity of the individual artists. Murals should be allowed to be bold and exciting within that criteria.
No more murals
Art is subjective. Yes it should be appropriate (non racist etc), but I worry a committee might get too restrictive on the type of art they want /don't want. I wouldn't want to see art as a form of censorship
However, the committee judging the content should be educated on it. It can not be decided by just a few individual opinions. Having a committee of a variety of stakeholders in the area would be important.
However if the mural does not show offensive nudity or racism then there is no reason to deny the mural, differing tastes is not offensive.
Murals should be non-political, art only.
Obviously racism or offensive images should not be allowed.
Obviously racism or offensive content should not be allowed. But allowing artist to be creative is also important!
I don't think the town should get final decision on where and what art can be put up.
I the case of main street yes however personal businesses and owners should be allowed to paint what they want
If the community reacts harshly to the subject matter. Then make the change to the piece in question . Policing art before its even created is highly inappropriate imo
Yes, as long as we acknowledge that murals that are historical in nature and portray our western Canadian history of European settlement are not deemed ineligible because attitudes and actions towards people of Indigenous and visible minority backgrounds a century ago are acknowledged to be racist according to our standards today. We must be proud of our local history and the people who built this community and country, as well as open about the discrimination that people of many ethnic backgrounds faced in Canada during what was then a less enlightened period in history. Erasing history because it doesn't adhere to a progressive narrative is not acceptable.
Obviously all public art should be appropriate for all ages, genders, nationalities. Although there is a statue on 27 that suggests a man and women sitting on each other that I see as inappropriate.
However, the selection panels MUST not be made up exclusively of those who chronically make weak decisions when it comes to (so-called) promoting of art. I say so-called as, art should not alienate. That how the public loses more interest in the visual arts. Art needs to be understood by the viewer. The vast majority of people do not quite grasp what, for example, the sculptures along the highway are all about. The Celtic cross suggests that Olds is an exclusively Christian town. Some, modified/appropriated from famous artists may not have all been the best choices for Olds. Location, I believe detracts from the idea of art to engage with - less people walking by, drivers speeding by. We could use any art park with varying styles of work. We need fresh blood on the committee.
I feel art work in our town should suit our heritage. I have a hard time appreciating the artwork (sculptures) along highway 27. They don't depict our western heritage, except the buffalo, but then a white buffalo?? Drive-by art is not effective, especially along a busy noisy highway.
Depends on the location and who owns the building

I believe ordinary citizens with no experience in understanding art should be on the committee, I don't understand the sculptures or carvings on highway 27 at all, so I don't believe experience relates to the understandability of the art, Let the average person understand it not the art educated.
No taxpayer money to be used. If the artist(s) feel that their work is worthy of being displayed as a mural then they should be responsible for the costs.
Absolutely. murals should be attractive and clearly depict the scene / era/ place that the artist wants to portray - and not "stylized graffiti" some I have seen, really cheapen what could be a beautiful area. They should also be limited in number, and to certain areas of a town.
The art for the mural should be posted on the town website so community members can approve or disapprove before the art is completed.
The review should be conducted by local business and property owners, not someone with no connection and not town council.
No Nudity No religious or political opinion based I guess you need some but I think it should be relaxed as long as it's not offensive or Inappropriate
But only to prevent nudity and profanity We need to allow for freedom of the artist and not dictate what can be painted
I believe murals provide an opportunity to reflect on our town and surrounding agriculture, landscape and wildlife.
There should be a review, but there needs to be careful thought as to if its approval on the eye of the approval group or if it is ensuring that it is not offensive.
Yes, but you guys need someone who is actually qualified to be making that decision. A volunteer board maybe. The opinion of one man or woman should not decide if placement and content is "acceptable".
PAAC should be adequate
Current LUB will used to ensure only uninteresting and unimaginative murals are submitted
I think that it is ridiculous that there there is more than 1 councilor on the public art advisory committee. This committee should be made up of community members, not town representatives!
Review yes, social control no.
Only if proposals are fairly criticized. Of course there shouldn't be anything offensive or inappropriate; nudity (the human form) being seen as something to be censored is very sad and detrimental to society. Shame on you.
It all depends on who is on the art committee, I would like to see names. Also, art is so personal to each person and how can someone else be the deciding factor for someone's art to be displayed publically? Art is suppose to inspire and evoke emotions of ALL kinds, so I think it should be open to all forms of self expression.. good & bad.
Perhaps a sketch could be shown showing the contents of the mural.
Approval not necessary, but a clear bylaw about what type of content is not allowed. Murals can be reviewed if complaints are made.
Absolutely! Should have a review and approval
I think there should be an advisory board, & an approval process, but I think the board should include different demographics of Olds citizens, so that the subject matter is seen from different points of view. ie; Olds business owner, someone under the age of 30, a local artist... 3 Town of Olds employees can out number the voice of the citizens easily especially if there are only 6 on the committee.
I think there should also be option for community vote. To have a very short (2 weeks) window for the community to have input. The community vote shouldn't necessarily be the deciding factor but should be taken into consideration. For example the new fish mural the community supported it but by the sounds of it the town committee was against it. Obviously art is subjective but I would think giving the community a choice will ultimately lead to fewer complaints and increase the feeling of being heard.

Application and review is a good idea. But the panel/people reviewing should be done by the Mountain View Art Society. This should not be reviewed by town council as we already know their negative thoughts on the “dreaded murals”
As long as it is reviewed by open minded people
As long as it is decided on by people of all ages.
yes but, only to ensure that its not racist or offensive ie: swearing, nudity or anything like that. I think that personal preference on an individual on said committee or council should not play a factor in the decision at all.
Obviously any art work that goes up can't be vulgar or offensive but I also don't want to see boring, drab murals either. Murals should be used to liven up our downtown therefore attracting more people to the local business' as opposed to the large box stores.
Absolutely. Even the ones on main street by the Tracks are a bit questionable. They're fairly pretty once you sit and look at them, but I totally thought they looked a bit ghetto for Olds. I did NOT go into the building for the longest time because I thought it was a trashy bar. Turns out it's a Yoga studio. Who knew?
would like to see more community and uptown olds input!
I think it is important for a general rule of having a tasteful and non offensive mural. I don't feel counsel or the heritage advisor should have to be involved and I do not feel the mural needs to be historical as we should be a community looking forward.
But not just by a small committee. I think those who's business or home is around the mural should also have a say
I would like to see the murals indicative of our history, and nature. But I would not like us to look like just a western town - as we are so much more.
The review process for murals on private land should be less involved than the process for choosing art for public spaces. I think some level of review is required to ensure the content is not offensive or explicit and adjacent properties should also be consulted on the nature of the mural.
I believe that murals should not require approval. All that need to be asked is does it contain profanity, hate of any kind. If not, then let the artist create. Art is subjective.
Unbiased approval would be necessary. Simple, clear guidelines could be created to ensure murals are acceptable to all ages and ethnicities, but not impeding the artist's voice, or the intended message.
Yes and no. Who is reviewing it? Are they culturally slanted? Do they view the same things as art? Will they only approve paintings of older generation subject matter etc? It's a slanted question....
Not sure what the current rules and guidelines are so I don't know if I agree with them or not
Town can also set themes for mural projects. Look back in time the history of the town. The people that built this town. Look to the future: the people that are help build the future community.
I believe that there should be a process for reviewing content and location; however my concern is that the beauty of the content will be discarded because of age and possible gender bias.
Should be approved only for inappropriate nudity or violence. It should not be the committee deciding the art type. We don't want old farmer murals with hay bales and covered wagons. We want modern day art by local artists. Let the community decide on that.
Perhaps, to stop art that is offensive. However, this should not waste tax payer money. Have a volunteer group?
Murals should stay neutral, I think the ones in Olds hold up to this
Only if the committee reviewing it are well rounded and have no bias.
Freedom of speech/artist expression. No one is going to paint a racist mural. If they do, paint over it
If it is on private property and not a historical building, non offensive in anyway then I see no problem with it.

There should be a process, but not with the intention of stifling art and creativity. If the mural is on private property and is in good taste there is no reason why it should not be allowed.
I agree that murals should require an application process however, I'd be concerned with who was on the board to decide whether that mural would be approved. The board should include a diverse group of people, from the community including art educators, members of businesses that will be affected etc. Otherwise setting up a board is pointless if they are all single minded about the content one way or another.
But if there is no offensive material in the application there should be no reason to not approve the application.
Can we make the bylaw say no nudity or racism or coarse language and leave it at that
While it is important to be able to assess murals to ensure that imagery and language are within the norms of "public decency" and cultural sensitivity, I feel that this process should take place in context of location and the intent of the mural. I also feel that the artist/s should be given an opportunity to address the committee to present that intent as part of the application.
It by definition is vague: 3-5 members? Who write your terms of reference?
Again, you have forgotten the no murals option.
A committee works if the committee is diverse, and doubt that happens in this community
I think they should be reviewed by a non-political third party entity
Should be decided by the ppl of the town on what they would like. A survey. Not cranky town council

Question Five

Who should be responsible to maintain a mural once it has been completed?

▼ Property Owner	30.77%	140
▼ Artist	6.15%	28
▼ Organization (s) or individual (s) that requested or commissioned a mural	43.52%	198
▼ Town of Olds	7.91%	36
▼ Unsure/Undecided	3.30%	15

Should be negotiated in the application phase and enforced by the Town of Olds
Property owner or commissioning organization....depending upon who will be able to keep it up forever.
One would think that would be written into the contract with the artist as to who would be responsible for maintenance.
This depends...does the town want the wall art - if so, it should be a partnership between the town and the artist.
No more murals
Decided between, property owner, artist or organization, and community
Decided on by individual project discussed by artist, property owner or organization
Dependent on the project, decided on between property owner, artist, and organization
This responsibility should be decided between the land owner, artist and/or the organization that commissioned the mural.

I think this can be decided on between the property owner, the artist or the organization that commissions it. I do not think it is a Town of Olds responsibility.
Employ a local contractor - economic development - MSP / GFT can pay for it.
If it on a private property it should be maintained be between the property owner and artist to be maintained. If it is on public property and approved by the town board it should be maintained by the town.
Definitely not the town.
And artist
Property owner, artist and organization need to collaborate on long term maintenance and for how long.
Organization requesting as well Artist ensuring the quality of mural
The artist or a competent volunteer and the Town of Olds..
Both the property owner and whoever commissioned it
Town of Olds, because these murals are for tourism & economy and should be taken care of for the town by the town.
Who is responsible for maintaining the appearance of buildings? Is there a guideline about this?
Organization that took the responsibility to request/create it. This could be more than one group if there is a collaboration.
For washing and keeping clean, the property owner as they would need to keep the wall clean with or without a mural. Any touch ups should be done by artist.
A fund should be created, which could be used to deal with all issues as the art project ages.
It depends on what the original plan was. The responsibility should be discussed before contract is signed.
Probably dependant on the purpose, who requested, who did it and other factors
Both property owners and organizations who commissioned the work
A combination of the organization or individual that requested or commissioned a mural and the Town of Olds dependent on location and costs.
If on private property, the owner. If on Town property, then the Town.
The artist and the owner cooperatively.
What are other communities doing?
Joint effort between the artists/property owner and town depending on the building. Say the first mural becomes run down the owner could choose a coverup/new mural or have the artist come and fix/touch up the previous one
There is as much beauty and power in a faded mural as a new mural. I believe that the responsibility of upkeep is something that should be undertaken by whomever commissioned the mural as well as the artist.
This may need more than one group.
Collaboratively maintained by all of the above.
Agreed mutual responsibility of the owner and the town.
Street art can be changed out. Once it is starting to wear, it can be replaced by another one

Question Six

What level of enforcement should the Town use to ensure upkeep of murals on private property?

▼ None, leave it to the property owner like other maintenance or upkeep measures of a building exterior	48.11%	216
▼ Use escalating enforcement principals, verbal warning, written notice, fines with the final step to be having the Town remove or replace a deteriorating or poorly maintained mural at the cost of the responsible party.	36.53%	164
▼ Unsure/Undecided	15.37%	69

Simple answer is do not allow them.
If they paid good money to have a mural done chances are that person is going to want to maintain its beauty
The level of deterioration before a mural needs upkeep should be made clear and be understood by responsible party to ensure no grey area.
Tickets issued
Remember that even graffiti is a form of art. I have traveled to many cities where graffiti /art murals are an integral part of tourism, providing a message. If they become dilapidated, could current bylaws not already force the upkeep, just like keeping your yard clean and grass mowed?
It should be treated the same as unkept properties
Combination of the above...
Verbal or written advisement when the mural is beginning to need upkeep. Not fines.
Or paint over an uncared for mural
When art is approved by the town for private properties there should be a contract with stipulations of life expectancy and upkeep of the mural lands on the artist or property owner.
I do not agree with situating public art at private residences. It is PUBLIC art.
This is a tough one! Property owners do not need any extra costs added for upkeep. it won't work to have the Town 'policing' the maintenance of the mural. Maybe part of our taxes should be directed towards maintenance of artwork. Scale back our seasonal flower pots and use some of that money towards art work maintenance.
If the individual owns the property that the mural is painted on, it is their responsibility. Just like everything else is / eg a fence.
Unsightly business bylaw. Kinsmen, Elks, Museum, Town, and Businesses could take ownership of murals.
If left to the owners discretion, upkeep may never get done - and if left to deteriorate, they would bring down the areas appeal. They should be artwork that a community should be proud of, not something that they regret ever allowing to be done.
Encourage the property owner to participate in other community art decisions/development. Instilling pride as to how the town looks instead of enforcement.

If someone wants to put up a mural on their property then I guess that's fine but you can almost guarantee there will be some group offended by whatever content is painted.
This is a tough one. At first the property owner should want to and have to maintain it. It really is like painting ones property and maintaining it. Doesn't the town get involved eventually when private properties are becoming derelict?
If you are going to be worried about enforcing the up keep you better book some time off and tour the town with me and we can action item many things that enforcing
With help from the Town where something is popular and deemed a desirable, and worthy of some limited public support
If the murals are done right there should be no maintenance. Take a trip to Three Hills and check out the murals and then talk to the town.
We don't need to govern everything. Allow people to have some of their own volition.
Add the upkeep to the property owners tax roll
The town should have a committee to look after the arts and culture and the town should not have to waste their time doing this survey. For example were the residence of Olds informed and given a choice in a survey on the sculptures, and town maintained building.
I think If the town of olds can spend copious amounts of money on over kill with flowers I am sure they can up keep murals
An "Art Committee" properly funded could deal with the up-keep or removal of an Art project the fund could be a cost percentage of the art. This fund would be like a deposit.
Somewhere in between. I think there should be fines if property owners don't maintain them, but I don't want to see taxpayer dollars going into removal or replacement. I'd rather see a lien go on the building.
Unless it becomes a health issue.
There must be another option or something in between these two. I'm not sure what the other option would be though
A written agreement from the start indicating maintenance has got to be performed every year in some way.....
What do other communities do?
The content should maybe be monitored on private property as to not infringe on rights or religion..... That's when the town should step in
Unless it is a Town owned building/property OR the mural was commissioned by the Town, I don't think the Town should be trying to enforce anything; especially since there could be a bias for those in power and it could be abused.
People own property, let them do what they want in regards to the maintenance. For example, the mural by the train tracks. Why are we SO concerned about the maintenance? Did you see the building before? What an eye sore. I am sure a mural that starts peeling would not look any worse.
Definitely give a notice and warnings if needed but I think fines is a bit too far. How can they afford to keep the mural pretty if you are charging them?
It should be at the same expectations of other property maintenance and upkeep.
Agreement of responsibility signed by the owner. Polite reminders when its6time for upkeep. Then followed by enforcement
Property owners should be in charge of upkeep. However, defacing of said murals would be a crime and then police would step in
If it's on private property: it's PRIVATE. So only on gov't buildings
No murals

Question Seven

Would you support municipal revenues going towards funding mural development and maintenance? (Check any that apply)

▼ No, murals should not be a rate payer responsibility	42.48%	192
▼ Yes, through a tourism tax	17.70%	80
▼ Yes, through a business revitalization assessment tax (based on areas)	23.45%	106
▼ Yes, through property taxes	11.50%	52
▼ Yes, through % of a municipal construction project	17.92%	81
▼ Yes, through % of a private construction project	11.73%	53
▼ Unsure/Undecided	15.71%	71

If tourism is created by a mural which contributes to the economy of the Town then that is a benefit to our Town
I support municipal revenues going towards funding mural development and maintenance, but am unsure where that support should come from.
A business or organization should fund and maintain the murals.
My understanding is the town of olds currently collects a tax on certain rooms and dorms facilities...olds destination tax. Funds from this room tax could be allocated to murals. No incremental property taxes to fund murals
Would you support municipal revenues going towards funding mural development and maintenance? NO In an ideal scenario, it would be nice to see some support from the Town on projects like these. Let the community find the funds for these projects on their own, or get back into a cooperative space with other organizations in the community to make positive things happen.
I'd far rather see murals than those atrocious Bergen Rocks.
I believe the benefit of murals to the community of Olds can be immense. Therefore backing from the town and residents would be extremely helpful to push forward new murals and maintain old ones.
If it is between business owners and artists no it should not be taxed. If the town wants to get involved they should of use the fund that was spent on overpriced statues that are put in an unwelcoming location without input from the town for the upkeep of murals.
Yes just not sure which option is best
And by donation. Plus a portion of any monies set aside for art, and the abundance of planters. There are too many crowding the median on the highway.
If the murals are going to represent the history of the Olds area, I would be in favor of some type of taxation, if they are going to be marketed as a tourist draw.
Not to increase taxes though, but re-distribute (use our tax money more efficiently).
Maybe a mural funding ticket sales then you would know if the public really want and support the idea.
Partial Funding would be acceptable by the taxpayers.
I believe for unnecessary expenditures like murals, it should be paid for by donation, if the will of the community and citizens are for it, they should be able to fund raise more then adequate funds, and there should be enough funds for ongoing maintenance as well
Case in point: the statues on highway 27. More people dislike them than like them.

With two different answers: I do not want to see taxpayer dollars used on projects, but I don't mind a small percentage of municipal construction project funds used.
If they become a ratepayers responsibility, then the rate payers should have some input into type, placement, budget etc and there should be a cap on the amount. They should not be at the expense of other more necessary budget items. Our town already has a lot of art work around it, why do we need more?
It's not the towns place to worry about silly murals until they can get the basic services right. What a waste of tax money this is.
Part of community art budget.
I like towns with historical murals. Moose Jaw has many its really interesting as a example
Is this really considered to be an expansive enterprise in this little Town, requiring public Megabucks to continue by throwing in a certain degree of public support?
I'd rather have seen the money that was put toward the Bergen Rocks put toward a mural/Uptowne revitalization project
The main reason for murals is to bring in visitors (shoppers).
If a business wants to erect a mural it should be their responsibility to pay for it.
At this time my answer is no. The town has way to much debt to have murals as a priority.
It should depend on whether it is going on a privately owned property or municipal property
The town are willing to spend tax payers money on flower pots, sculptures and other things without sending out surveys why do we need a survey for murals?
Being that their tax dollars have already been spent on flowers and statues without their input
All forms of government support many public activities. Eg. Sports If "I" do not like "Sports" then why do I need to pay for them. Seems like a double standard in the making.
Yes, but not sure if any of the above alone should be responsible
It feels like we're in a political climate of austerity right now. Although murals are kind of pretty and do provide photo-ops that might boost Olds' image, it hardly seems like higher priority than snow removal or incentives to keep the downtown core populated with businesses.
I do not know enough about how funds are raised through the city to vote on this accurately.
I don't know enough in this area to comment.
Why don't you use the grants you get for beatification?
If it is on private property then the owner is responsible. If it is on Town property, then the town.
Building that are public funded might have issues getting the money to have a mural, but private property or buildings should pay the rates themselves
If the mural is commissioned by the Town to revitalize business in town, then I don't mind having a small amount of my tax dollars go towards maintaining them. Otherwise, whatever murals or art the Town would like to showcase should come out of the Town budget to maintain.
If on private property, no. If on public, and commissioned by the Town of Olds, then yes.
We should also ask businesses to help.
Please do not waste tax payer money.
I think the answers need further clarification.
Grants if any money is available
If the mural is paid for with private money and put on a private building the building owner is responsible for maintenance. If the Town commissions a mural (paid or not) and it is placed on a public building the Town should be responsible for upkeep.
Really, this is a priority?

Question Eight

Are there other funding sources that you feel should support developing murals and future maintenance?

▼ No, murals should not be a rate payer responsibility	42.48%	192
▼ Yes, through a tourism tax	17.70%	80
▼ Yes, through a business revitalization assessment tax (based on areas)	23.45%	106
▼ Yes, through property taxes	11.50%	52
▼ Yes, through % of a municipal construction project	17.92%	81
▼ Yes, through % of a private construction project	11.73%	53
▼ Unsure/Undecided	15.71%	71

Other (Please specify)

Any of the above that is available to a business or organization.
Private/sponsor funding, arts grants are all viable options, as is crowdfunding (don't see that listed, honestly, what decade are you living in?)
No money given
Any form of funding could be pursued.
Grants and AFA may apply
No
no public money from any level of government: ie no grants, or utility franchise fees
Provide or Grants (not utility fees)
All of the above
I believe several are good options.
There are Grant's, and public art donations that can be used as well as utility franchise fees.
My response is that the town should access a y and all sources of funding as listed above
All of the above

Question Nine

Please choose the statement that resonates with you the most:

▼ Olds should have more murals	58.90%	268
▼ There are enough murals in Olds	5.71%	26
▼ Olds should have more murals, but the town should not allocate resources or tax money toward them	32.97%	150
▼ Unsure/Undecided	6.15%	28

Question Ten

Do you have any other Comments about murals in the Town of Olds?

Some towns, cities, villages, municipalities have attracted attention through well done murals on buildings, water towers, bridges etc. and they can be very beautiful.
The murals that the town already has are spectacular works of art. They are a very popular location for photo ops. Community members and visitors of all ages visit the murals and photograph. What if we worked together to create a destination for tourists to visit the murals. Maybe theses murals (think Vegreville- giant egg etc) The murals are a way of beautifying the town, why not promote that instead of referring to them as the "dreaded murals" as one of elected officials did. Use this as an opportunity to promote our town as a vibrant community supporting the arts. Why not use it to revitalize the dying downtown core.
Murals should be limited to local/municipal artists.
I like murals and I think they could give character to Olds. I always enjoy seeing murals in other communities.
I feel a vote throughout the town should be done to ensure the morals sit with the entire towns morals/ values/ taste
No
Do not allow anything that will cause or promote divisiveness amongst the local population. ie: political statements of any kind. Would stick to local artists that promote the town's history in agriculture and development.
These murals should not come at any cost to the Tax Payer. If more are to be installed the artist/owner should have to apply against a set criteria and pay an application fee to receive a permit similar to what is required for any other development in the town (accessory buildings, sheds, new homes etc.) If these are to be implemented, the Town needs to have a set of guidelines developed with enforceable criteria that must be followed by the artist/owner and these must be developed before any more murals are to be placed in any area of the Town.
The right mural in the right place can have positive effect and impact and revitalize an area. The question is what is the right mural. This past summer Deerfoot city in Calgary embarked on a large sidewalk art project. There are many resources available to access for ideas.....cost is a factor. I think some of the people associated with the Deerfoot city project were Rhys Douglass Farrell; sydonne warren and Kara Chomistek. The organization I believe is PARK. They did some great work with roadway murals, picnic tables and such. Global Tv Calgary had a feature on July 17. The initiative was titled public art with a purpose. If carefully planned and throughout public art can be tasteful and have mass appeal. It can also be very polarizing. Accessing individuals who have experience in this area is critical to a successful project.
they are beautiful
No
A community is a collection of all living and working residents. Freedom of choice and expression should be encouraged especially within the arts. Let residents show their colors, it is just a little paint.
Murals should not display political ideologies. Keep murals as neutral and free of political commentary so they can be enjoyed by all
Most of the murals should be from Olds and surrounding residents.
No
You don't get it. And I don't have the time, patience, or the crayons to explain it to you.
Nope
The Town should support them without overregulation
The town council needs to listen to the people and stop following out dated old school ideals of what they think the town of olds should be. We are not a people to be shoved into a box

but we the people define our culture and our community and this should not be dictated by the town officials. This art and murals are our culture and should be represented in our community
Uptowne is dying. Why not invest some time and energy into revitalizing it rather than focussing on new development and big box stores?
I think they (murals) should be allowed...as the rock sculptors along hwy 27 and the murals downtown Olds...all of that is welcome to the eye. why not have local artisans show off their talent and improve the looks of a blank brick wall...we support so much in this town...lets also support those who care enough to put their personal efforts into adding some color!
Please don't allow them to become activism or politically focused. I would be 100% opposed to social activism through murals.
Murals are beautiful and look great however they need to be funded by the artist or building owner and maintained. We are in for rough times in coming years and we don't need to burden the tax payer (business or personal) with "fluff" such as murals. It's time to buckle down, attract business investment that brings jobs, reduce public spending and find efficiencies.
I fully support murals and clearly, this survey is here because there seems to be a dispute among residents as to whether or not they do. My thoughts are that the town should look to other communities where murals have been very successful, as well as some that have failed to have murals, for guidance on these issues. Why start from ground zero when there are communities with plenty of knowledge on the subject. In category 12 there is no mention of business owners who should be a very strong voice in this debate. I own a business in Olds.
No more, no funding, no taking care of
No
There aren't enough!
Why limit it to murals? How about photo installations? Sanctioned graffiti on abandoned buildings and temporary fences. Look at places like NYC and San Francisco. So much can be gained from public art, and there's nothing to say an installation couldn't be for a set amount of time and changed. A rotating gallery of sorts. Eg, student art/photography could be installed in places like chain link at Ag society, and changed out quarterly. Reach out to groups, I bet there's ways to fund these projects, promote art, tourism, support community and youth.
I love the current murals! Please don't take them away
Having too many becomes tacky, overdone and creates more maintenance issues for the town.
No
As an Artist I absolutely love traveling around Olds to see the art that has been showcased and installed
The murals are beautiful and I would like to see more of them. Our downtown needs more attention and focus to keep our small businesses afloat.
As with all art, not everyone will appreciate and value in the same manner. Thus, the Town can only regulate obscene or offensive subject matter.
Absolutely love the two current murals downtown!!!! Just because we are an agricultural community does not mean we cannot expand into other explorations. After all artists are the keepers of our culture!!! Public exposure and awareness is vital!!!
The 2 murals in The Town Square, that have been created are incredibly beautiful, and connect to the history of Olds along with different cultures. The artist is very talented. They are a wonderful conversation piece and attraction.
Honestly it's blown out of proportion and the time and money taken to complain about art should be used in a better way.
They are amazing and make Olds stand out from other communities.

Murals bring colour and life to buildings that are looking shabby, without taking away the historical features. I think they would be a great thing to bring more of into the town of Olds. It's a great tourist attraction as well, it would definitely bring more people into the town to look around rather than just driving through. And for the younger generation (and other generations too) that are brought up in and around Olds, like myself, would for sure take photos in front of these murals then posting on social media. This again advertising Olds as a fun and enjoyable place to visit and stay.
They elevate the atmosphere and aesthetic in Olds making us comparable to that of bigger cities and more desirable to spend time in
They bring a much needed vibrance to the town and will draw in more tourism. Murals also provide the town exposure online
no.
The murals in Uptowne Olds are fantastic!!! Great for business and the area's identity. I am a business owner.
I love the idea of increasing art (not at the cost of tax payers), but I think no historical buildings should be used for murals and the murals should be more relevant to Olds. Koi fish and a crane seem to be out of place.
I think the murals are awesome. Everyone sees Art with different perspectives. We need to focus on the Artist rather than the Art. We should celebrate the Artists in our community. Olds is not the first community to have a mural. Our councilors should collaborate with other communities as to bylaws and maintenance of murals. Then have community discussion and make final bylaws regarding same.
They create a uniqueness. You don't have to love them but it's great for the community
I love the idea of increasing art (not at the cost of tax payers), but I think no historical buildings should be used for murals and the murals should be more relevant to Olds. Koi fish and a crane seem to be out of place.
No
Our Murals are very Attractive. I've had many positive comments on the two on Main Street.
N/A
I do not think murals in Uptowne Olds should be limited to a 'historically significant' theme. Although there is nothing wrong with celebrating our past, we should also recognize that the people of today and of the future have equal importance to our community. And there is nothing wrong with creating art for the mere beauty of it. Not all murals in Uptowne need to have an underlying message. Putting up something just because it is pleasant to look at is ok too. Creating a diverse, inclusive, interesting neighbourhood in Uptowne should be the goal.
Murals inspires others and gives the area a fresh look. Keep them coming
Murals and art are something that attracts a younger generation which I believe to be vital to the future growth both economically and socially that this town needs.
The town has put a huge emphasis on sculptures that, while beautiful, are situated along a busy highway and would be far better suited to a park such as centennial. (I also don't recall much public consultation on these compared to the mural issue). These sculptures might be considered by some to be more controversial in their content than the 2 murals in uptown Olds that seem to be causing such an uproar (mostly among town representatives it seems). I'm certain that while murals may (and that is an assumption) require more maintenance than sculptures, the same funding model for installation and maintenance of the sculptures could be applied to the murals. Art is art, be it a sculpture or a mural, and art can only add to a space or community by being though provoking, inspirational, or simply beautiful.
no
looks great - keep going.....please make sure it reflects a collective, objective and inclusive history of our area

The town of Olds should be taking any opportunity it can to encourage and support arts and culture. A ban or heavy restriction on murals is a preposterous use of municipal authority that stifles the culture, character, and expression of the town and it's residents.
Murals beautify our town and add interest. I am in favour!
The town of olds needs to keep up with the rest of the world. We are a diverse community and There is no need to keep pretending it's only a western town. Allow other art and viewpoints to be accepted and show. People are tired of the clear suppression of diversity and culture in this town
In my opinion, the fish mural by Tasty Thai should NOT be removed. It is beautiful and the artist did a lot of work on it and deserves for it to still stand.
I like them, and give the right incentives, and as long as the town doesn't throw up to many barriers, they will happen organically.
no
I have already submitted a survey but wanted to add another couple comments. 1. I want to reiterate that I like the addition of the statues and art in our town however I feel like the public should have had input in the location. Very few people will say that they leisurely walk the stretch with statues when you have industrial businesses and a trailer park on one side and the busiest road in olds on the other. No tourist or town resident is going to come here for a family picnic or stop when there is no good place to park and quietly experience the art. Since its too late to change this decision I feel the town needs to make an attempt to increase foot traffic to this location by increasing the vegetation in the area to break up the busy roads and try and minimize traffic noise. I think we have an amazing opportunity north west of olds with the new recreational area being established. There is parking and great walking trails. A nice greenspace with statues, art and areas welcoming areas for foot traffic including picnic tables and pathways will be better received. 2. Olds Is a great town with beautiful parks, all the local amenities needed, a great school system, and plenty of activities for all residents of olds. I think the murals are a great way to promote art that can be a bridge between an older and younger demographic. I also fully believe that if you promote these murals as works of art with a positive image, the individuals that generally vandalize will have a positive role model, goal, and output for their energy.
The murals in town are beautiful. We have a city core that is dying and if art can attract people to the downtown then we should embrace that. We also have many local artists we should be celebrating and promoting. I think a great way for the town to be involved would be to put a bid out for a location and have artists submit a draft of what they want to create for a mural. This way the town board can review if the content is appropriate and even put the top contenders up for vote to the residents of Olds. Otherwise let the artists and business owners maintain the murals with regulations on how long a mural can stay until it needs to be replaced due to deterioration. Some towns do the ice sculpture carving, others the wood carving. If you really want to bring tourism for art this could be Olds thing. Mural competitions.
No
Have you ever been to Chamainus BC ? Wow is that tastefully done
No
No
NO
I believe our town needs to step up and support more visual art initiatives and not leave it to small independent organizations. Beyond painting, drawing, photography, printmaking, and sculpture... inclusion of artisans who work in alternative media. just look to Didsbury. It has many visual art events annually. I believe we need a gallery in uptown Olds, on-going rotating exhibits, in-house programs, education, even classes. progressive approaches that do not deny the past, but balance with the present to move on to the future.
I feel they are an asset to the town as a point of interest for tourism & community.
No

no
I would be in favor of more murals depicting the history of the Olds area. I am not in favor of any murals that support racial, or individual causes
I can only think of 3 murals in Olds. We could have a couple more if there is an empty space for one. We do not need murals like Stony Plain or Lacombe, or it will look like we are trying to compete with them.
Keep them inspirational - no reference to race
A couple of murals add to the town's uniqueness, but don't be putting them everywhere. I makes the town look tacky
I find it extremely frustrating that Town Council feels that such town beautification should be blocked. Sport facilities are important to Olds, why should supporting the arts be any different.
no
This a very sensitive regarding arts, religion, business, etc. Murals should relate to the towns past and future and kept to tastefull number.
The murals should represent area around town or town off achievement or events. Nothing religious or racial just causes problems.
Love the ones downtown
There are "sculptures" on the highway coming into town from the west, some of which I find offensive. We as residents were never asked about these eye sores, so thank you Town of Olds for at least ASKING about the murals
I would like to see some historical murals.
Love the ones we have
no
No more murals
I like the murals they beautify the site.
please no allocation of any taxpayer money for murals
Enough with the political statements
The murals that are currently done in Olds are fantastic. Kevin Johnson should be more celebrated for his talent. I don't believe there has been enough done to show case our awesome local artist, Kevin and other artists should be given more space to do murals, and make a big deal of it. Out local artists are our best assets
I like the ones I've seen and, if utilized carefully, can really revitalize certain areas.
Murals are fine as long as it depicts something regarding the community....modern art is fine for some of the snobby people but most residents don't relate to it. The majority want to see something they can relate to and not have to stop and read the artists interpretation.
Ever visit Lacombe? They've done a great job in the past but I also feel art attaches a sense of community to an area that is failing like the uptown Olds area may be
I LOVE the murals in Olds. They are beautiful & unique. I'm so glad they're modern & not old-timey like the ones in your examples. History has its place, but why would we want to do what everyone else is doing? The murals we have are so interesting & draw people here! I'd love to see more of this type of mural in Olds.
Ensure that murals portray good taste, are not political in nature, and are not controversial.
I am not a fan of the current murals but love the ones in other communities that portray their history.
I love all our Murals. I think they add life to the community.
I like the murals we already have and would like to see more of them if done in a tasteful manner
They should be something that's fun and provides a view into our history
No
I don't think they need to be theme related but there are a lot of blank walls and spaces that could use some colour and interest.

no
Please stop. Fix the streets first.
LOVe the ones we currently have
Stop wasting taxpayers money on art/statues/flowers/etc. It is a ridiculous way to spend money when so many other areas need attention/up keep/replacement.
No
I don't mind the murals around Olds, but I don't really love any of the designs. Don't seem to speak about what Alberta is about. I would like to see murals of wheat fields, pumpjacks, etc. things that really show off our culture
They add character and diversity to our town.
The murals downtown are amazing. They are beautiful and unbelievable works of art. I hope we can see more of them.
This should apply to all public art installations.
They are wonderful, keep it up and keep the artists locals. We have such a wonderful community of people who have such pride in our town. They need to continue to be the ones producing the art. I do not support non locals producing the art.
First of all Thank You for putting the surveys together and allowing residents to be heard. I am a born and raised Olds resident and absolutely love this town and am proud to live in our beautiful town. As long as I can remember the area where the two current murals are looked like a dump. Although the current murals are not 100% my own personal art preference I do think they give a bright beautiful welcoming up beat charm that I now feel is an inviting area to our down town core. I would love to see a few more in certain areas down town as well as in back alleys down town. Lacombe is a prime example of this their Main Street entrance of the highway is beautiful (Olds could us a little work on this) and back alley parking cleanliness and parking is amazing.
No
They're stunning. Amazing pieces of art that can transform a dreary and bland wall into a fantasy.
Any art that is appropriate to all ages should be welcomed with open arms
Olds is about agriculture. Town should should be proud of its heritage and remain within that moral and its pioneers
They bring pride and beauty to our community
No
I like the country or farming murals more particularly then the ones we currently have. Thank being said I don't mind the ones, I just like Alberta farming scenes better
These should be located at areas that will be seen by all whom visit, pass through or to improve an area.
i like the sculptures along # 27
should be based on olds history or our areas history and people
They can be a great draw to the business community. We are striving for uptown revitalization and this could be a part of that. Make people to want to be down town and look around. more restaurants and small shops
Beautiful and inspirational.
They liven up the community - we need more!
I like what is up now
I would like to see public art that embraces our Alberta history. It would be nice to see the Uptown area have an identity that reflects our heritage, instead it just looks like a mess of different ideas and styles. Other small towns have wonderful historic areas.
The ones already done are so beautiful and had so much to this town.
I don't think the murals need anymore regulations other than the PAAC
Don't be sticks in the mud

Paint the dumpsters too if artist want it looks nice when you see them in other towns. Artist that want to do murals should be able to apply through town for free and run it by everyone to see if it's satisfactory for location and desirable to the community.
They are doing just fine as they are. The added life and decorative improvement on some buildings is an asset to the community...
People love the murals - show the community that you actually care and are listening and support them!
I would prefer historical murals. Abstract art isn't of any interest to me personally.
Murals need a theme to be most effective in enhancing the area of town in which they are placed. Putting up murals just because you can leaves a disjointed appearance. Murals that tell the story of the town and its citizens are educational as well as beautiful.
I have concerns that a vocal minority will attempt to exert moral control of public art. This cannot be allowed to happen.
I feel murals should fit into a theme or direction that the town would like to go in. Random art may not be the best direction.
They are beautiful!
Murals in the Town of Olds should reflect the history and depict the Town itself. They should not be random pieces of artistic graffiti.
The ones here are beautiful, although I know some residents of Olds do not like them. Perhaps combining our unique history in town with new age art may create murals that everyone can love.
Promote them on social media to attract viewing
no
The murals in the downtown core of Olds have brought interest to the downtown of this community when renewed support of the local merchants was needed.
I enjoy seeing the ones that are already here...as well as other art that is on display (statues on Highway 27). It just brightens my day to see it, and it makes the town of Olds very unique. I am very proud of these art works.
No
I think the Town needs to be more open to these kind of changes and be open minded and supportive of its communities choices for these art projects. I was confused and upset about the "dreaded murals" comment made in the paper and I think that in this time of Covid where it seems like everything is falling apart, the town and community should be working together towards these kind of uplifting and community gathering projects. It bring people together in person and conversation. I've seen the existing murals bring people from other provinces and professional photographers as well as amateur photographers to the area specifically for these murals. They spark joy and hope and I hope the town realizes how important these art pieces are to MANY people in the community. Working together and not always thinking negatively first about these kind of projects would be great. Communication is key.
Murals should be socially acceptable (artistic freedom should not be an acceptable argument) they should be maintained by the person or business that commissioned them.
Love the art murals as well as flower pot beautification along highway and uptown
They should be nice, no more horses, cows, cowboys, etc
The murals are such a great way to bring folks to Uptowne Olds. I see people taking photos there all the time. They are beautiful & memorable. I hope more come to town!
I think it is a relatively easy way to help beautify the town. I would hope priority would be given to local artists therefore supporting the shop local ideal. I think it is a great way to show support for the arts.
Done by local artists would be a nice community engagement
Please- how can we go wrong as a community with more art?

Many come to down town to take pictures in front of murals ,wedding pictures and Photos taken at the car show .Like the many areas of our town that are creatively created for our residence in Olds to enjoy.Art is in the eyes of the beholder , please don't trash creativity.
No
Not really a "mural" town, many other communities do murals, what can Olds do that will stand out as unique? The sculptures along the highway are 3 different. Are we keeping those? That is different and artsy and unique.
I love the murals in uptown Olds, they give the space so much character.
The murals are beautiful. I know of people who have travelled to Olds, just to see the murals. The murals enhance and bring together the community of Olds. Let's not kill the beautiful uptown that the small businesses/people have worked so hard to improve.
Why would anyone not want to beautify their town with something so lasting
I think it's unfair that the already existing murals are being decided upon now. Where was this before the persons who painted these put all the work and effort into making these beautiful pieces of art
Murals should reflect sense of place- past, present and future. The fish mural is a colourful well done painting but it does not reflect the community of Olds.
It seems the Town of Olds is spending more time discussing "Murals" than they did on a "Million" dollar Maintenance Facility that I did not get as much say in through a "survey"
Murals look amazing and really show how great a town is. The ones in Vancouver are beautiful and amazing to look at.
They should pay the Artist if they said they would.
Take care of the tax payers who are having a hard time making ends meet. Lower taxes may be a solution!!!!!!!!!!
no
No
no
knowing the diversity that is here in Olds, there should be a mixture of murals representing all the different people of this town.
Beautiful! One of my favourite parts of olds
enjoy the ones that i have seen
No
Murals should reflect the community, and should be vetted through an ad hoc Municipal committee. They should have a term, after which new murals can be painted over top of them. The city of Melbourne, Australia has beautiful ever changing murals which are a tourist attraction. Check out their policy and promotion.
I think they enhance the appearance of the building
Love the murals that are existing in Uptown Olds, it brought a fresh feel and attraction to Uptown! I think that what the Town should be considering is forced maintenance of the exterior of buildings in Olds, there are many in Uptown that are looking quite decrepit.
Can't tell you how much I love the murals! They have livened up the downtown area so much already! Great for the business' and great for the people who live in this town.
love them a lot!
Local artists should be involved. The artists who painted the Olds Fashioned Christmas displays would be an obvious choice. Art is subjective -- it should be carefully thought out with a theme -- ideally paying homage to the heritage of the Uptown area. It might even require public engagement. Painting walls without a plan, theme, consultation or permission will backfire.
The Town of Olds is so progressive by allowing our community to display our beautiful artworks in our beautiful Uptown Community.
No

I have loved seeing the town place more priority on the arts; I love the art walk and the murals in town square. They are enjoyed by many and hope to see more privately funded, if individual art such as this is requested. If the art is to show town history, on the other hand, I would fully support helping fund these
The current murals in town are amazing and beautiful.
They're beautiful and make us unique.
I love the current murals. I would even love to see some in the parks (as long as there's a way to protect it from vandalism). I believe it's important to encourage all artists to continue what they do, and to let them know that what they do is important and valuable.
I really do think that art is a great way to express a creative society in a tasteful way. I do think that you can express what the town stands for in those. I do love the idea of murals I really do think it is very childish of the town & the people to have this continual fight over the murals downtown when they have put up statues that are quite frankly tasteless. Do the murals express Olds in anyway "no" do they statues express Olds in anyway "no". Could the two parties possibly get together & maybe come to an agreement on a tasteful creation that would benefit the town in a whole downtown absolutely. Instead this continual fight is childish & needs to be resolved & left alone, they are there & not going anywhere so move on. It could be worse we could stare at a blank wall let people express themselves there are so many bigger things to worry about in this world right now.
No
I do enjoy the murals that are already established in town square
No
No
I love them
The conservative opinions of some do not represent all. Art is for everyone and murals are art. Open your minds
They look amazing
I love the murals. They add character, beauty and draw people to the area
No
I think the current murals are beautiful and a huge positive in uptown Olds. I hope there will be more!!
The ones we have are very unique and beautiful
I believe they are a huge draw for people to come visit Olds, which helps out local businesses.
I really dig the murals. Any town that I've visited that has murals impacts me with its character. It's a way to say that people actually live here. People who do art and feel ways about things and make their environment beautiful. Otherwise it's almost a certainty that the towns all blend together.
Keep up with the times, murals improve the looks of a town...travel anywhere outside of Olds and murals are actually common. Why can't we spend our time and energy on more important issues?
No
I love murals! And cities even have tours of murals so I'm pretty sure an extremely large percentage of society appreciates the value of murals.
They have attracted myself and many other younger people in Olds to our downtown area. I even met someone from Trochu there that came just to see them and ended up shopping and enjoying town. If we aren't going to allow murals and things that cater to younger crowds are we planning for Olds to be a ghost town? There needs to be voice given to those under 60, there needs to be a shift outside of retirement centres and back into the long term life and joy of the community. The murals of town square and the liquor store bring life to an otherwise stagnant downtown, they bring a reason to come back for people from other communities and a sense of belonging to younger generations. They have to stay or you will see a migration of

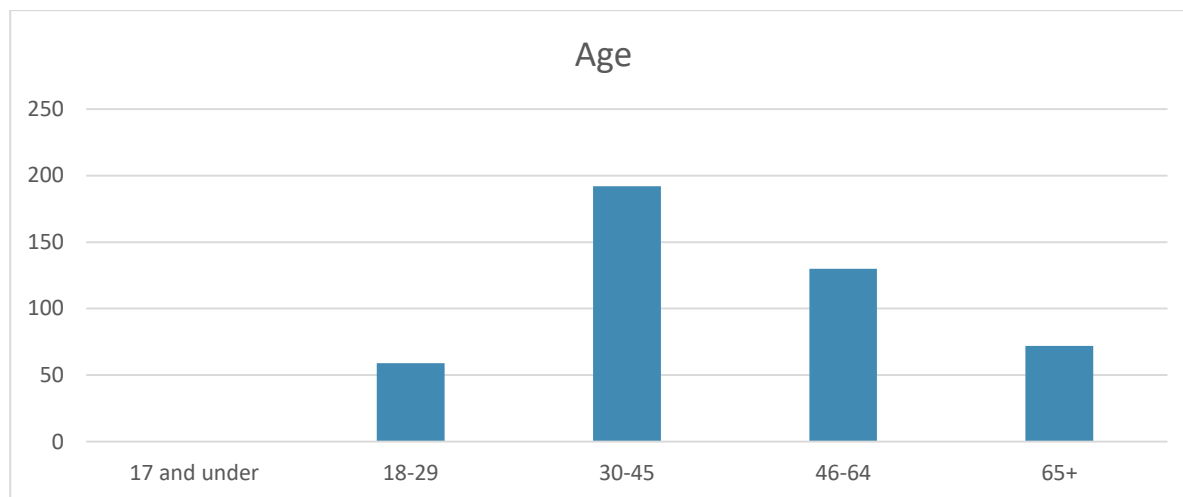
younger populations away from Olds. Removing murals or forcing owners to pay for the “upkeep or removal” will show the many that love the artwork that they are no longer welcome in Olds. The younger people need room to breathe, the murals have given that.
The 2 we have are amazing
I think it should be kept as is not a whole lot around town.
The current murals are attractive and indicate an engaged and active communities. The murals have beautified otherwise unattractive or unnoticed walls. I believe that anything that beautifies a municipality adds to the culture and quality of life of the community.
Not sure that any property owner is going to pay to have a mural put on their building that would be offensive to anyone. We are currently and have paid, way too much monies in developing the concrete pads and “so called art” on the highway, west end of town; without prior survey. Waste of tax payer monies
The beauty is in the eye of the beholder BUT some artsy people are not really artist just cause they say so, an application with a preliminary drawing should be submitted
I love them. They are beautiful, they become a part of our community and and also part of the town's identity
I love the koi fish and blue heron murals on the main street. They're wonderful. I don't know who paid for them, but going forward I would hope the Town isn't using tax money for that especially when art is at the bottom of my list for social aid during this slow work time and pandemic.
Not at this time
The murals add to an otherwise somewhat bland exterior of the downtown core. I would much rather look at a mural done by a local artist than some of the decrepit buildings and back alleys of Olds.
Keep the murals coming. They bring in tourism and add beauty to our town
No
The koi fish mural by the tracks has been stated it does not represent the local heritage but it is on the Doi building and the Doi's were a vital part of Olds' heritage. If "heritage" is referring to Olds' "preferred" outward appearance then I strongly advocate for it staying in town.
I believe that the Asian themed ones in Uptown Olds are beautiful. They are a testament to the Towns heritage, culture and history.
The murals are a great attraction to our town and make it more beautiful and inviting
I love them! Unique & beautiful art. So cool to see on social media people travelling through olds to get a picture taken with the murals.
The current Uptown Olds murals are wonderful, vibrant pieces of public art and showcase a local artist. Continuation of public art Uptown could be just the revitalization the uptowne area needs.
I believe that there can be a balance of modern and historical art throughout our town. I think it should be encouraged, I grew up in Stony Plain and our murals were and still are a hge source of pride and identity for the community
The murals at olds town square are in recent years the most upkeep and revitalization Ive seen in the core. Some building owners do nothing to upkeep their buildings. Take a look at the state of the old touchstone gallery. What a shame!! That building was beautiful and now its run down. Support local art and revitalization
I really feel that our two new murals are a beautiful, colourful welcome addition to the downtown. I also feel that the owners of the property have the right to display whatever they want (within the criteria of no nudity, offensive images).
No
Let us embrace art and also let people have freedom with the property they own.
They bring freshness and a new life to uptown Olds. I believe they bring a smile to most people faces.

These murals are so awesome for this little city ! Generally Olds is boring and changes very slow - these murals brighten up the town, and bring some life and excitement to a rather bland downtown
I love the murals we have - adds such flavor to our town and shows community spirit & pride. Please keep on!!
Think outside the box. Art inspires. Let people become inspired in this town. Something different then you expect from small town agriculture based Olds is just wonderful in my opinion.
Let our town stand out and become one of beauty — the arts are needed here. And it will draw people into the community. There are a # of local artists here too... its time to show that the town cares!!
These murals are a gift. With many people traveling to take photos and thus bringing in money to local businesses as people wander in the ever shrinking town town Olds.
no
No
We enjoy them.
Love them
No
I love the murals and I think they contribute in making Olds an amazing and interesting place to live. They also beautify our downtown and help with tourism.
I would prefer that the murals somehow represent the town. Not sure why we have a giant fish mural. (Lacombe has cool murals in their back alley of the downtown area)
No
Love them- support the arts!
The murals in Lacombe, High River or Okotoks are super & very attractive. We don't need murals like those terrible sculptures that are already here!
No
I love them, I understand over time they will deteriorate, then it's time for a new one. The current murals are a breath of fresh air
The murals around our town show our individuality, and devotion to local artists. There is nothing I would love to see more than beautiful art all around our town.
The murals on main street are stunning. Artwork, especially if funded and supported by individuals and businesses only stands to improve the town image.
No
No.
The ones we have are beautiful and tasteful. It shows willingness towards change and acceptance of differences.
I think they bring tourists into our town which in turn boosts our economy. While I don't particularly love the designs of them, I do understand the need for them, especially in our downtown business sector.
I'm not sure what the big deal is. The mural downtown is incredible art and way nicer than the plain white wall that was there before. I feel Town Council has more important matters to worry about at this time.
I am from Moose Jaw and the murals there are known throughout the country. Great for tourism!
Murals are an excellent way to make a dreary back alley or boring side of a building much more appealing.
They are beautiful
The murals in town have beautified some ugly looking buildings. Would love to see more.
No
The ones we have are amazing and I'm glad the citizens of Olds fought for them.
No

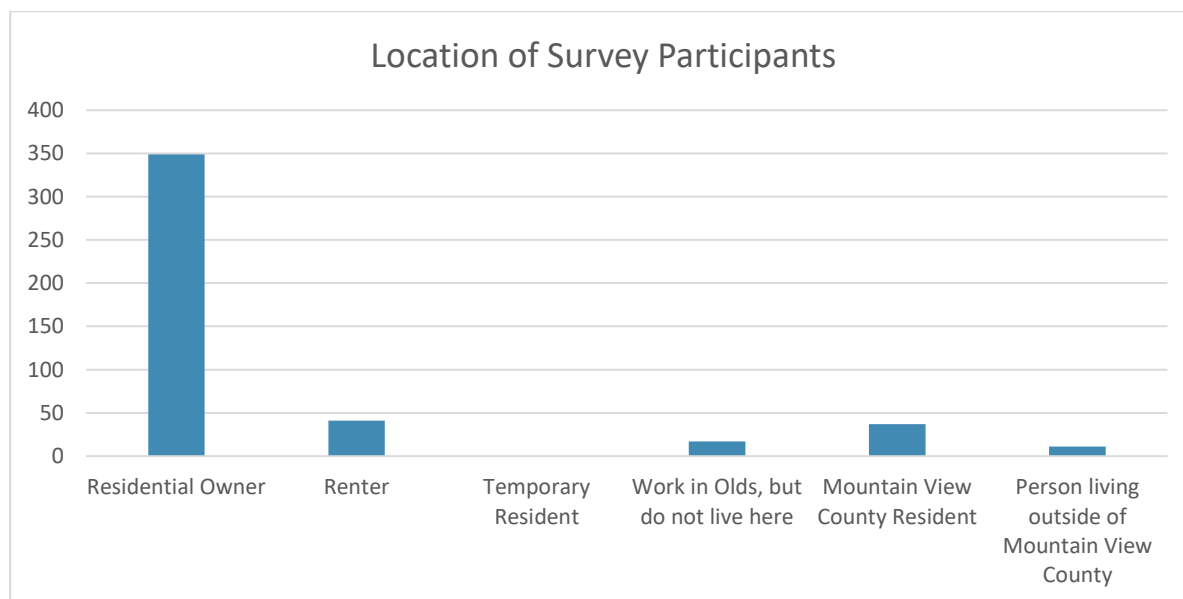
I love the murals in uptown Olds, I also loved the mural painted by a high school student for the Rotary sports area.
The murals should actually be up to the property owner, not the town council. Everyone's idea of art is different and should be supported. Honestly, who wants to just see historic landscapes of old Olds. Not me. I love the murals at the town square and the liquor store. I wouldn't want to see elevators.
I'm fine with them as long as they don't come with an increase to my taxes. With so many other needs in town, I would hope these are on the bottom of the list of the "wants" list.
The murals already in this town have improved the appearance of our Uptown area. Much better than looking at chipped and faded paint... I'd like to see a chicken mural.
Murals enhance the visual spaces of the town of Olds, provide opportunity for exposure to visual art outside the commercial gallery/storefront space that is not otherwise readily available in a rural setting like the Town of Olds. Murals and other public art spark discussion and critical discourse in the community that is otherwise not readily available. Can transform a neglected or dull space into something beautiful and thought provoking.
No
I think the murals we have are beautiful! The creativity of them is wonderful and uptown would benefit from more of them
Public art is an important feature in any community. It supports community pride and revitalization, as well as reflecting the cultural depth of that community. Murals are a relatively inexpensive and accessible form of public art. It is vital that public art exist in all of its forms, regardless of the aesthetic objections of a few noisy citizens.
They are beautiful!!! Please paint more! It brightens up our town
The murals are beautiful and the younger generation loves them. It's time to embrace it.
In a time of sadness a mural brings joy, something beautiful outside of us, a talking point.
Hopefully, my tax dollars did not pay for any murals or statues that look like people having sex.
Leave them alone! They are a beautiful and welcome addition to an otherwise boring town.
I love the current murals in town!
no
Don't be scared. Change is good
No
A Facebook friend of mine who was doing work in the area posted about the mural in the Uptown Olds area. It garnered a lot of positive feedback. Murals are a more accessible type of art and thusly are often more appreciated than other types of art.
I love the current murals and that they were done by a local artist. They help revitalize uptown instead of letting it die and moving all art along the highway.
The murals are a fantastic addition to our town, and provide us with a sense of identity not previously seen. With downtown in such dire straits, it would be excellent to see more of these adorning walls and alleys, to provide our downtown with a much needed identity boost. With all public art currently designated to a pathway into corporate oblivion, it would be nice to see the heart of our town see some revitalization in the form of more publicly funded art projects.
I think the murals in front of Olds Town Square really brighten the place up and make Olds look like a modern, progressive town. I definitely think there should be more murals and public art.
No
I like the current murals and would love to see more I am not a fan of the stone carvings, or the art corner along highway 27. I am dismayed that this survey didn't include other forms of public art. It all contributes to a community, and it was shortsighted to omit that
If murals are done right they are beautiful. High River is the perfect example! The murals speak the rich history and draw tourism.
No

Demographic Questions

What age group do you belong to?



Which category best defines you?



Thank You

Town of Olds would like to thank those who participated in the consultation process. Feedback received from the public will be taken into consideration by Council and incorporated into amendments to the Land Use Bylaw, or other existing or new bylaws or policies that may be required.

Next Steps

Based on the results of this report, Town of Olds Administration is recommending amendments to the Land Use Bylaw (LUB) and Council Policy 120C - Public Art to bring back to Council. Administration will seek advice from Council on conducting a future public engagement regarding the Uptowne Olds Area Redevelopment Plan.