

# Municipal Opportunities for Physical Activity

2015 SURVEY OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY OPPORTUNITIES IN CANADIAN COMMUNITIES



## Financial barriers for physical activity or sport facilities

The Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute's 2015 Survey of Physical Activity Opportunities in Canadian Communities was developed to examine factors associated with physical activity and sport at the local or community level. In the survey, municipal administrators (in communities with at least 1,000 residents) were asked about barriers associated with funding of facilities to support physical activity among citizens. More specifically, they were asked to indicate the extent of difficulty for obtaining funding to develop and/or maintain facilities in support of physical activity. This bulletin describes these findings with respect to community characteristics. **Table 1** summarizes the level of agreement among municipal administrators with the difficulty in obtaining funds for physical activity facilities in the community, such as trails, parks, and sport and recreation facilities.

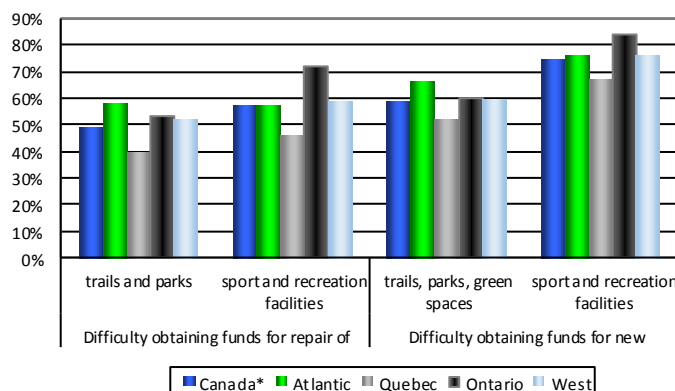
### Region

Regional differences exist with respect to municipal administrators' perceptions of the level of difficulty in obtaining funds for the development and/or maintenance of community facilities. Compared to the national average, a greater proportion of administrators in the Atlantic region agree to a great extent that it is difficult to obtain funds for the repair/maintenance of trails and parks; and to develop new trails, parks and green spaces.

Fewer administrators in Quebec indicate that they agree to a great extent that it is hard to find funds for repairs, maintenance, and development of trails, parks as well as sport and recreation facilities, compared to the average. More administrators in Ontario find it difficult (to a great extent) to obtain funding for the repair/maintenance of existing, and development of new sport and recreation facilities.

FIGURE 1

Accessibility of funds for community facilities, by region (% agreeing to a great extent)



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\*Sample size limits individual release of data in the North.

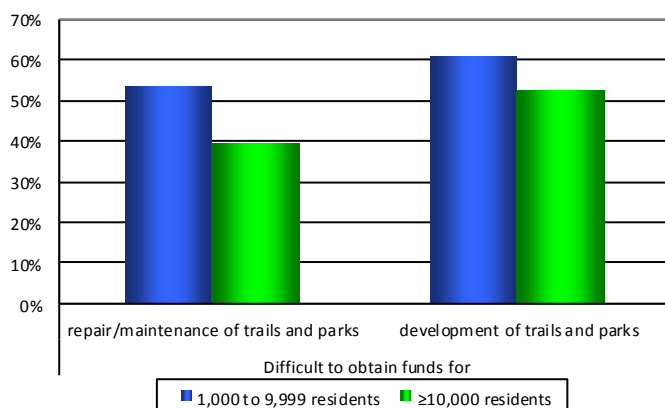
Difficulty in obtaining sufficient funding to		Level of agreement (%)		
		Not at all	Moderately agree	Agree to a great extent
Repair/maintenance of	Trails and parks	9%	42%	49%
	Sport and recreation facilities	7%	36%	57%
Develop new	Trails, parks, green spaces	5%	36%	59%
	Sport and recreation facilities	3%	22%	75%

## Community characteristics

There are generally very few differences in administrators' perceptions regarding the level of difficulty in obtaining funds in support of community facilities, by community size. More specifically, small communities (1000 to 9,999 residents) are more likely to agree to a great extent that it is difficult to obtain funds for the repair and new development of trails, parks and green spaces compared to large communities ( $\geq 10,000$  residents). Despite this finding, there are no significant differences by community size regarding the repair or development of sport and recreational facilities.

**FIGURE 2**

Accessibility of funds for community facilities, by community size (% agreeing to a great extent)



*Survey of Physical Activity opportunities in Canadian communities, 2015, CFLRI*

### CANADIAN FITNESS & LIFESTYLE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

201-185 Somerset Street West • Ottawa, ON K2P 0J2 • (613) 233-5528 • [info@cflri.ca](mailto:info@cflri.ca) • <http://www.cflri.ca/>



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