

## News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Survey launches to determine future of World's Largest Hockey Stick at Cowichan Community Centre**

**DUNCAN, BC** – The Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) has begun public engagement to determine the future of the World's Largest Hockey Stick, a 205-foot wooden replica adorned to the east side of the Cowichan Community Centre.

The World's Largest Hockey Stick (WLHS) is approaching the end of its serviceable life. First constructed for Expo 1986 in Vancouver, the structure has resided as a prominent landmark of the Cowichan region for the past 35 years. Ongoing maintenance and extensive repairs in the early 2000s have extended its life, but the glulam Douglas-fir structure of the stick is showing evidence of advanced decay. In 2022, the CVRD retained qualified consultants to assess the stick, with results of their work indicating that the CVRD should prepare for replacement by 2025.

"We have a good idea of the extent of work required to replace the stick, but what we don't fully understand is the intrinsic value that residents may have for it and the overall community support for possible replacement," said Rob Williams, Manager of the Cowichan Community Centre. "Over the course of the summer we will be collecting and assessing feedback from the community to help us determine the future of this iconic structure."

CVRD staff have posed several options for consideration in regards to the future of the WLHS, including replacing the stick with a similar or different design and materials, keeping it the same size or making it bigger, or removing the stick and not replacing it at all. These options likely have varying levels of public support, and the CVRD hopes to solicit a wide range of input from residents to assist in making this important decision.

The [survey](#) is now available at the CVRD's [Plan Your Cowichan website](#), and is open to anyone who may wish to participate. Registration is not required to complete the [survey](#), but the CVRD encourages residents to create a Plan Your Cowichan account to participate in and become aware of other ongoing and future projects.

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