



Kinsmen Park

Playground Upgrade

May 2026



WHAT
WE
LEARNED



Background

Upgrades Bring New Life to Neighbourhood Park

Kinsmen Park is home to a number of soccer fields, a play structure that was installed in 2007, and provides access to pathways that connect to the regional trail network. This park serves the Heritage Okotoks neighbourhood and is located close to Downtown Okotoks.

Kinsmen Park is a designated Neighbourhood Park, which means it's designed for the people who live nearby as a welcoming spot for families and kids to gather, play, and enjoy the outdoors close to home.

The current playground has been a well-used part of the park, but with aging equipment, limited replacement parts, and the need for updated safety surfacing, it's time to renew and reimagine the space for today's families.

The existing swing bays will remain, continuing to meet safety standards and are performing well, allowing us to focus on introducing new, dynamic play elements and creating a more engaging, inclusive experience for everyone who visits.

Kinsmen Playground Design Survey

An online survey was used to gather feedback on two proposed playground design options for Kinsmen Park Playground, along with preferred play components and colour schemes. Door hangers with a QR code linking to the survey were delivered to 325 nearby homes by Town of Okotoks Parks staff. Signage was also installed at all park entrances during the survey period to engage park users and encourage participation.

Our Goal

To deliver a safe, inclusive and durable neighbourhood playground that reflects the neighbourhood's preferences and creates a fun and engaging experience for all playground users.

2026

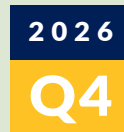
TIMELINE



Gather input through an online survey from residents who live in proximity to Kinsmen Park on their preferred playground design option, components and colour options.



Construction scheduled to start in August 2026 and be completed by October 2026.



Grand opening to follow once construction is wrapped up.

Community Engagement

Through our Community Engagement Policy, we're committed to making sure residents and businesses have a chance to share their thoughts on decisions that matter most to them.

Who did we engage?

As a neighbourhood park primarily serving nearby residents, engagement focused on those living closest to the park and regular park users.

LEVEL OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This project falls within the **CONSULT** level.



325

Neighbouring residents were engaged through hand-delivered door hangers with a QR code linking to the survey.



43

Community members provided their input through the online survey.



	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
GOAL	To provide balanced and objective information to assist the public in understanding the problem, alternatives and/ or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, issues, alternatives, and decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to make sure that concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.
PROMISE	"We will keep you informed."	"We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge your concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision."	"We will work with you to ensure your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision."	"We will look to you for advice and recommendations into the decision to the maximum extent possible."	"We will implement what you decide."
	INPUT ZONE		ENGAGEMENT ZONE		

Kinsmen Park Classifications



Neighbourhood Park

Kinsmen Park is a designated neighbourhood park, as established by the Town of Okotoks Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan, as well as the Town of Okotoks Landscape Design and Construction Specifications. The guidelines for a neighbourhood park include:

- A variety of features for different ages and abilities.
- Play opportunities for kids aged 2–5 and 5–12.
- A main play structure with at least five play elements (like slides, swings, and climbers).
- An inclusive play feature to help everyone join in the fun.



Play Equipment for Neighbourhood Parks

The Town of Okotoks Landscape Design and Construction Specifications provides high level guidance for playground equipment:

- The layout of the playground is designed so children can move easily between play elements, creating a natural flow that allows them to explore the space in different ways.
- To help ensure long-term durability and reduce vandalism, slides are constructed from metal rather than plastic. Metal slides are more resistant to damage and help the playground remain safe and functional for the community over time.
- All playground equipment installed in Town parks must meet or exceed the current Canadian Standards Association safety standards for playground equipment and play spaces (CAN/CSA-Z614) to help ensure a safe and enjoyable play environment.
- The playground will use Engineered Wood Fiber surfacing, which provides a cushioned surface to help reduce the risk of injury from falls. The surfacing depth will meet or exceed CSA safety standards and is regularly inspected and maintained by the Town.



Play Experiences for Neighborhood Parks

Guided by the Town of Okotoks Recreation, Parks and Leisure Master Plan and the Landscape Design and Construction Specifications, playground equipment is chosen to support a wide range of play experiences, including:

- Quiet and relaxed play
- Active play such as running, climbing, sliding, swinging, and balancing
- Social play with friends and family
- Imaginative and creative play
- Opportunities for both independent and group play



Kinsmen Park Design Option 1

Playground Design Option 1

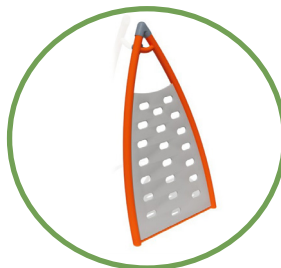
- Existing Swingset Area
- Tic-Tac-Toe Panel
- Duo Spinner
- Stainless Steel Straight Chuter Slide (x2)
- Ladder Wall
- Stretched Loop Ladder
- Connectscape Climber
- Space Race Panel
- Exuma Climber
- Horizontal Ladder
- Nature Sensory Play Panel
- Pod Climber (x4)
- How Tall Am I
- Pine Climber



Climbing wall options open for input:

- Oval Climbing Wall
- Bubble Climbing Wall
- Rock Climbing Wall

Climbing Wall Options



Oval Climbing Wall



Bubble Climbing Wall



Rock Climbing Wall

Interactive Play Panel Options Open for Input:

- Steering Wheel Panel
- Flower Spinner Panel
- Puppy Maze Panel

Interactive Play Panel Options



Steering Wheel Panel



Flower Spinner Panel



Puppy Maze Panel

Kinsmen Park Design Option 2

Playground Design Option 2

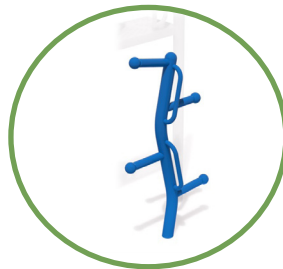
- Existing Swingset Area
- Stainless Steel Straight Chuter Slide (x2)
- Counter Panel with Telescope and Count & Spell
- Rung Enclosure with Solid Steering Wheel
- Scramble Up Climber
- Pod Climber (x3)
- Single Link Cross Beam
- Fun Seat
- Metal Climbing Wall Link
- Shadow Play Flower
- Flower Spinner
- Tree Climber
- Connectscape Climber



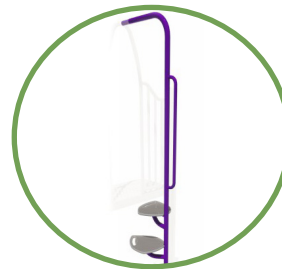
Tree climber options open for input:

- Pine Climber
- Spiral Step Climber
- Bubble Climber

Tree Climber Options



Pine Climber



Spiral Step
Climber



Bubble
Climber

Kinsmen Park Playground Design Options

Q1

Which of the following playground designs do you like best? Vote for your favourite!

Design Option 1



Design Option 2



52.5%

Survey respondents voted for **design option 1** as their preferred playground design.

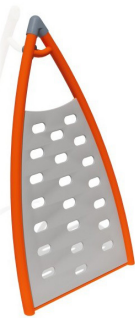
Design Option 1

Climbing Wall Options

Q2

Which of the following Climbing Wall options do you like the best? Vote for your favourite!

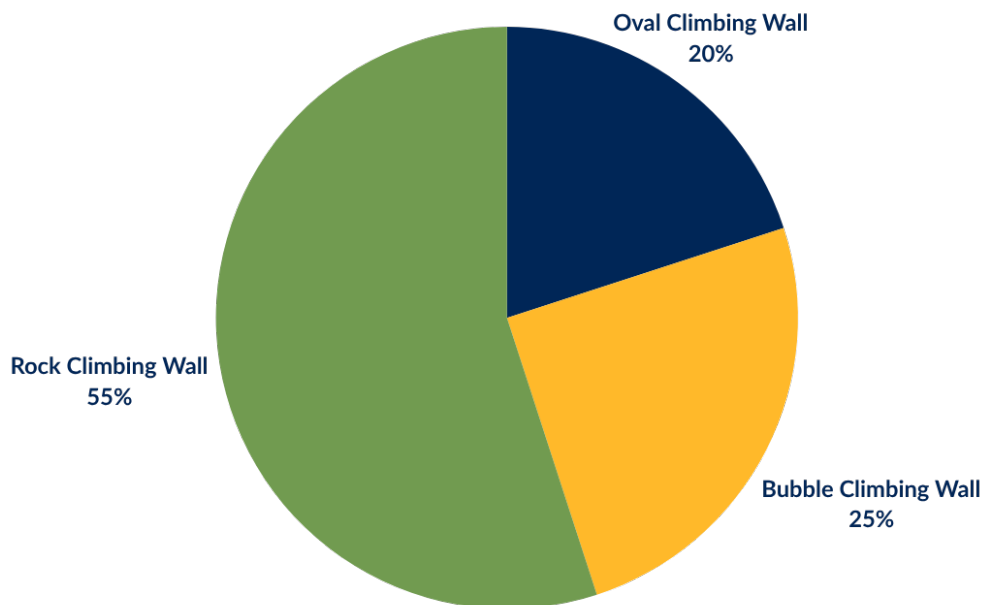
Oval Climbing Wall



Bubble Climbing Wall



Rock Climbing Wall



★ **55%**

Survey respondents voted for the **Rock Climbing Wall** as their preferred climbing wall option for design option 1.



SURVEY NOTE*

These three playground components were only available for input if survey respondents voted for Playground Design Option 1. As survey results indicated a preference for this option, the preferred component will be included in the final playground design.

Design Option 1

Interactive Panel Options

Q3

Which of the following Interactive Play Panel options do you like the best? Vote for your favourite!

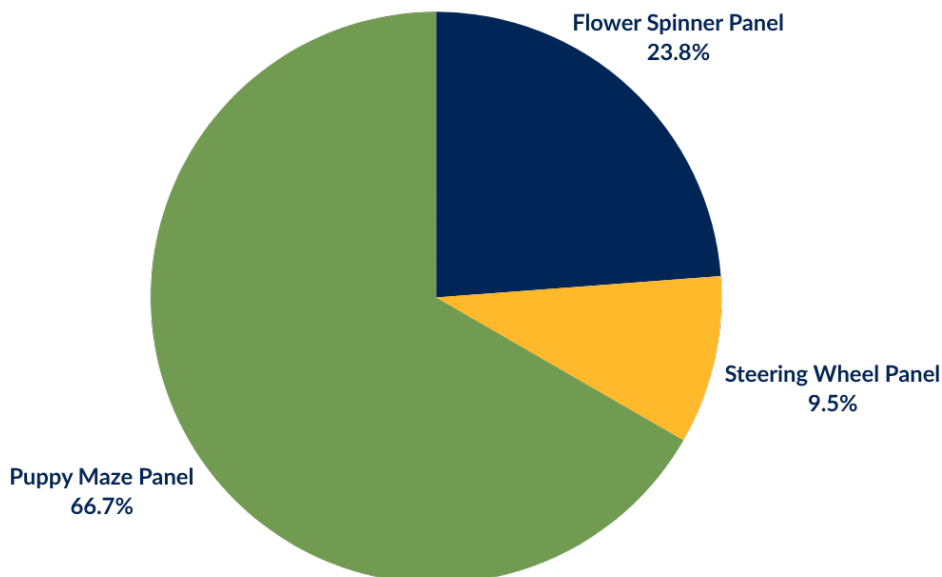
Flower Spinner Panel



Steering Wheel Panel



Puppy Maze Panel



★ **66.7%**

Survey respondents voted for the **Puppy Maze Panel** as their preferred interactive play panel for design option 1.



SURVEY NOTE*

These three playground components were only available for input if survey respondents voted for Playground Design Option 1. As survey results indicated a preference for this option, the preferred component will be included in the final playground design.

Design Option 2

Tree Climber Option

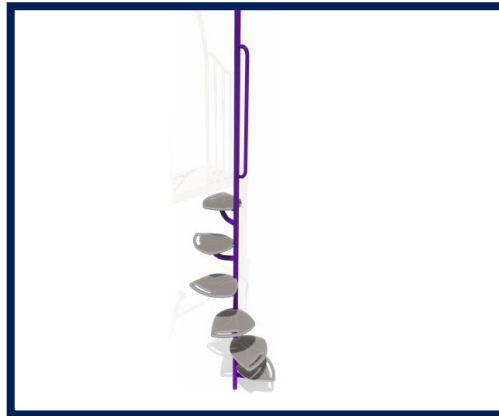
Q4

Which of the following Tree Climber options do you like the best? Vote for your favourite!

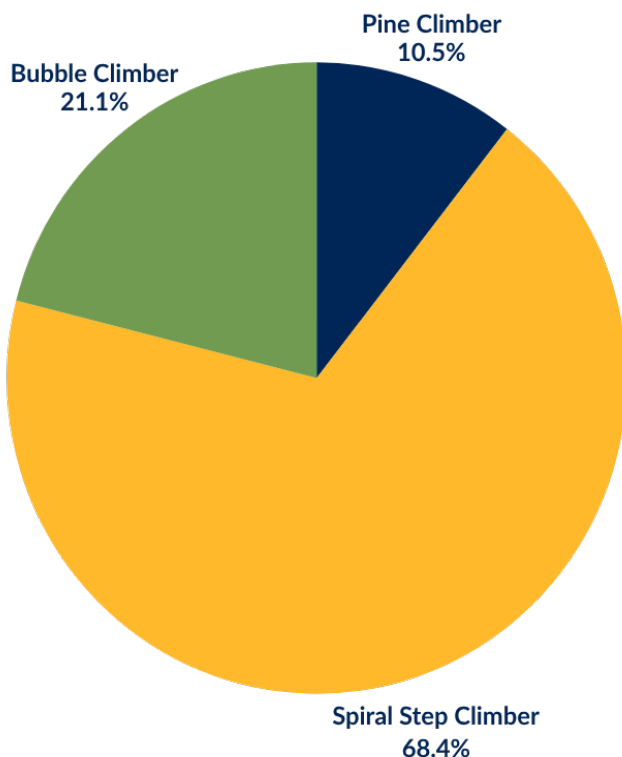
Pine Climber



Spiral Step Climber



Bubble Climber



68.4%

Survey respondents voted for the **Spiral Step Climber** as their preferred tree climber option for design option 2.



SURVEY NOTE*

These three playground components were only available for input if survey respondents voted for Playground Design Option 2. As survey results indicated a preference for Playground Design Option 1, these components won't be included in the final playground design.

Kinsmen Park Playground Colour Options

Q5

Which of the following Playground Colour Options do you like the best? Vote for your favourite!

Gum Drop



Lemonade



Old Dominion



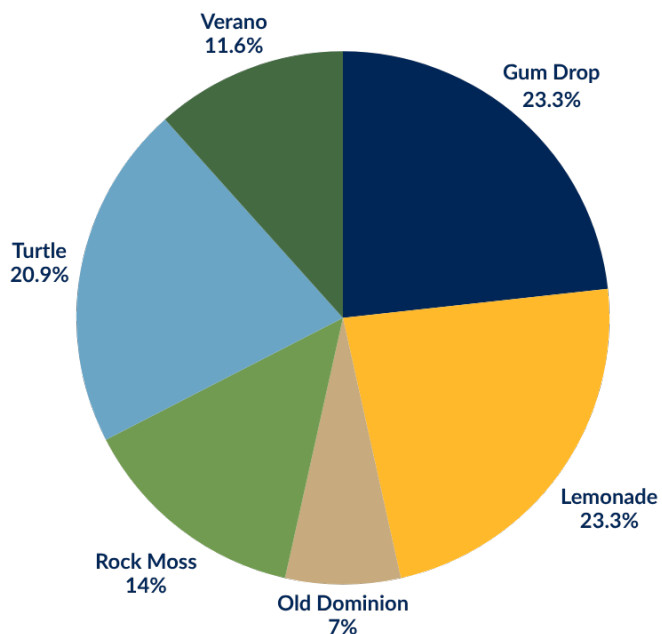
Rock Moss



Turtle



Verano



COLOUR SELECTION UNDER REVIEW

Gum Drop and Lemonade are **tied as the top colour choice (23%)** among survey respondents for the final playground design so the final colour choice is under review and will be determined by Town staff.

Recommendations

Based on the input from the Kinsmen Park Playground Upgrade Survey, the final playground design will incorporate:

- ✓ Playground Design: Option 1
- ✓ Climbing Wall Option: Rock Climbing Wall
- ✓ Interactive Play Panel Option: Puppy Maze Panel
- ✓ Colour: To be finalized based on tied survey results.

The final playground concept reflects the preferences shared by participating residents and park users through the online survey.



Next Steps

2026**Q3**

Construction is scheduled to begin in August 2026 and be completed by October 2026, pending weather and final design approval.

2026**Q4**

Grand opening of Kinsmen Park Playground upgrade. Stay tuned for grand opening details.

