

### A cultivated experience for the mind, body, and soil.

Public Survey: Parking

### Parking Survey 2015

**Survey Title:** Parking Survey Question

### **Responses By Question Analysis:**

# The charts and information provided below is a summary of public reponses to our Public Parking survey. © Town of Wolfville

**1.** What is the primary reason for visiting downtown Wolfville?

	Response Total	Response Percent
Work	93	36%
Live	30	12%
Shop/Dine	90	35%
Recreation/Tourism	8	3%
Business/Finance Services	12	5%
University Student	23	9%
Total Re	espondents	256
(skinned this	s question)	195

**2.** What is the secondary reason for visiting downtown Wolfville?

	Response Total	Response Percent	Points	Avg
	26	10%	n/a	n/a
	9	4%	n/a	n/a
	121	48%	n/a	n/a
	46	18%	n/a	n/a
	43	17%	n/a	n/a
	8	3%	n/a	n/a
<b>Total Respondents</b>	253	100%		

(skipped this question) 198

**3.** Are you a resident of Wolfville?



**4.** Which category best describes your occupation?

	Response Total	Response Percent
Construction/Maintenance	7	3%
Management/Financial	26	10%
Professional/Technical	56	22%
Sales	31	12%
Secretarial/Clerical/Administrative	24	9%
Services	31	12%
Transportation	1	0%
Student	32	12%
Other (Including homemaker, not employed, or retired	48	19%
Total Re	spondents	256
(skipped this	question)	195

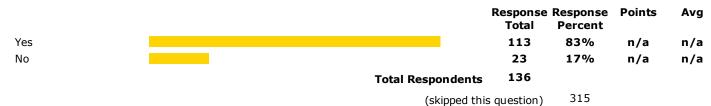
**5.** What travel mode do you use to visit Wolfville?

	Response Total	Response Percent
Vehicle	225	88%
Transit	1	0%
Carpool	0	0%
Walk	27	11%
Bike	3	1%
Other	0	0%
	<b>Total Respondents</b>	256
	(skipped this question)	195

**6.** If you work in Wolfville: does your employer offer employee parking?

		Response	Response	Dointo	Avg
		Total	Percent	Politics	Avg
Yes		60	33%	n/a	n/a
No		120	67%	n/a	n/a
	Total Respondents	180			
	(skipped this	s question)	271		

**7.** If you answered no, is it difficult to find sufficient all day parking?



**8.** Do you think that all day parking users should have parking permits in designated areas?



**9.** Do you know where the all day parking lots are located?

		Response	Response	Dointe	Avg
		Total	Percent	Politics	Avg
Yes		143	59%	n/a	n/a
No		99	41%	n/a	n/a
	Total Responder	nts 242			
	(skipped	this question)	209		

**10.** How many times per week do you visit the downtown?

	Response Average
	5.84
<b>Total Respondents</b>	237
(skipped this question)	214

**11.** What is the average length of time that you require for parking?

	Response Total	Response Percent
Less Than 30 mins	15	6%
Less Than 1 Hr	26	10%
1-3 Hrs	126	49%
Up to 12 Hrs	81	32%
More than 12 Hrs	7	3%
	<b>Total Respondents</b>	255
(:	skipped this question)	196

**12.** On average, how long does it take to find a parking space?

	Response Total	Response Percent
Less than a minute	16	6%
1-5 minutes	128	50%
5-10 minutes	76	30%
More than 10 minutes	16	6%

Other, please specify	20	8%
	<b>Total Respondents</b>	255
(sl	kipped this question)	196

**13.** On the weekdays, how would you rate finding available parking in the downtown?

	Response Total	Response Percent
Very Easy	10	4%
Easy	42	18%
Moderate	89	37%
Difficult	69	29%
Very Difficult	29	12%
	<b>Total Respondents</b>	239
	(skipped this question)	212

**14.** On weekends and on holidays, how would you rate finding available parking in the downtown?

	Total	Percent
Very Easy	12	5%
Easy	48	20%
Moderate	90	38%
Difficult	52	22%
Very Difficult	33	14%
	Total Respondents	235
	(skipped this question)	216

**15.** Do you find parking easier when Acadia University students are on summer break?

	Response Response		Points	Avg
	Total	Percent	t Points A	
Yes	111	47%	n/a	n/a
No	125	53%	n/a	n/a

4.

5.

6.

7.

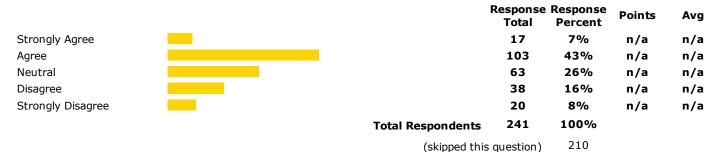
8.

#### **Total Respondents**

215 (skipped this question)

(skipped this question)

### **16.** Do you feel that on street parking and public parking lots are safe, clean, and conveniently located?



## 17. Do you feel that parking is an obstacle to visiting downtown Wolfville?

		Response	sponse Response	Points A	Avg
		Total	Percent		Avg
Yes		146	62%	n/a	n/a
No		88	38%	n/a	n/a
	Total Respondents	234			
	(skinned this	question)	217		

18. Do you have any suggestions on potential parking locations that could enhance parking in Wolfville?

The current lots appear sufficient, most of the time. There is not enough parking around Pete's & Save 1. Easy on the weekend, especially with snow.

Outside of town? Perhaps near the skate park or further in that direction?

2. Alternatively, perhaps in the direction of the Home Hardware. I'm not sure of which areas would be valid for the town to use, but many of them are packed into a very small area.

There is no place to overnight park. If you come into town for dinner or pub time and decide to take a 3. cab home, you'll have a parking ticket by morning. Is there anywhere to overnight park?

> As a female worker I usually park at rail town but do not get off work until 8.00pm each day I do not feel safe walking to my car by myself as this parking lot is not well lit and is so far off main street that if someone were to mug you or like this winter if you fell on the ice and hurt yourself you may be there a long while before someone found, I don't think the town of Wolfville really care about the working women who have to enter these parking lots on their own in the dark thanks guys for making us park so far away.

> There is no need for more parking space in Wolfville. Wolfville needs to encourage its citizens to walk to downtown, and leave their cars at home. The amount of traffic on Main Street for a town of Wolfville's size is absolutely ridiculous. Get people out of their cars! The only people who should need to park downtown are from outside of the town.

Less street parking and shorter stays in the main lots. Longer term parking a short walk away.

Wolfville has loads of parking (I live in Sydney, which does not have loads of parking). You don't need any more parking areas. You need to encourage people to use public transit and active transportation, so that car parking needs are minimized. And you can do it, because a lot of A/T infrastructure is already there, lots of people live within reasonable walking and cycling distance - don't give up space that could be used as green space or small business development for parking!

Perhaps opening up a lot, even temporarily, between the Home Hardware lot and the garage where there is currently just a dead end.

9. Paint actual lines in the parking lot so daily parking habits/spaces are consistent.

10. Acquire more dyke parking

Parking for shoppers needs to be near shopping and there doesn't seem to be room to accommodate 11. that need. Perhaps relocate all day parking to an area further away to open up less than 1 hour parking.

Main Street and Front Street could be one way, allowing for proper bike lanes and angled parking along 12. the side the street.

A parking garage could be useful to increase parking capacity in current lots.

13. The old skate board park should be all parking with permit.

The wolfville subway parking lot NEEDS to have the lines put in the parking lot to indicate parking 14. spaces. That parking lot is absolutely horrible to park in. People park so close together and try to cram as many cars as possible. My car has many dents and scratches from this parking lot

5/12/2015	survey.amans.ca/CustomReport.aspx?CReportID=884Hm
15.	On the former site of the old PetroCanada station and the former Power Corp site. All that area adjacent to the skatenoard park. Paved with curbing, grass and trees planting to make it more attractive for Main ST
16.	No idea
17.	If employees parked did not park in the "prime" spots. This may be already happening. The two problem areas for me are going to Pete's and going to businesses where EOS is located
18.	sorry, no
19.	N/A
20.	Either clear off the snow on the side of main street or implement a parking ban when snow fall is expected, Main street tends to go down to a one lane road because people can't park properly.
21.	Keep the shenanigans trimmed down
22.	What about reclaiming some of the dyke next to the Home Hardware and making it parking for Farmers' Market visitors? OR for all-day parking? People may have to walk further to get to the Market and/or their place of business, BUT more people could shop at the OTHER places in Wolfville if there were more parking spaces available for short-term parking.
23.	All day parking from gaspereau avenuetowards willow park
24.	make the areas closer to downtown (tim hortons/ groceries/ farmers market) all day parking. no one wants to walk alone in the dark to the skate park due to insufficient all day parking (more than 3 hrs)
25.	Hire back the parking enforcement officer and tick
26.	More on-campus parking for one. The absolute worst part of coming to Wolfville is trying to attend an event on Acadia's campus. I know they're trying to discourage vehicle travel and be environmentally friendly, but the reality is most people here in the Valley have no reasonable choice but to drive their own vehicles to Wolfville, and they need parking to do it.
27.	i AM A DISABLED SENIOR. I THINK ONE SIDE OF MAIN STREET PARKING SHOULD BE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND THE OTHER SIDE FOR 30 MINUTE PARKING ONLY.
28.	Larger parking space, perhaps expand the space near skate park.  Not to have timed parking on sides of the streets.
29.	During the winter there were many parking spaces (20-30 in the downtown core alone) that were basically used as snow repositories for days and weeks after the snow events. If these parking spaces had been available there would not have been a parking problem. On several occasions, after driving around town trying to find a space I simply gave up and went to new Minas or back home.
30.	Not at this time.
31.	the streets are narrow and when there's cars parked on the side of the road it's hard to maneuver!!
32.	Get rid of that ridiculous clock park off of main!
33.	The prime times are tough. In the last few years I be decided to avoid Wolfville on Saturdays. I think you are doing the best you can with the space you have.
34.	The lot behind Save Easy is in very poor condition, many people stay a log time at Tim's parking lot and that area is always difficult, markets days are very difficult and there needs to be more parking around that area if parking was made available near clock it would help but would have to be appealing not an eye sore
35.	The area past the skate park. Or down by the railtown building.
36.	Once the snow is cleared away, I think the existing parking is adequate most days. There will always be people who want parking 10 metres from where they are going. This should only be a priority for the handicapped.
37.	Add to parking by annexing the property across from Willow Park onto the existing lot.
38.	Make larger parking areas, especially if you don't remove the snow in the winter. This significantly reduces spaces in some areas. Also, make the post-office increase parking spaces. There are times where it is impossible to pick up your mail without parking by willow park or by rail town! That is simply unacceptable - we pay enough taxes
39.	Its the smae in every small town
40.	We need to find alternate parking facilities for students and we need to educate and enforce the posted time limits for local business owners and employees from parking on Main Street which inhibits potential visitors from enjoying our beautiful town. One other thought would be install a meter system which could be sourced out for installation and monitoring and could generate additional revenue for the town.
41.	Someone sold too much lad to Railtown and too many spots are for the NSLC. We have a real issue at the Wolfville Animal Hospital with many of the other tenants taking up all the parking and no close spots for clients with sick animals. Get rid of the red stones out front and have a few pull up parking spots.
42.	More public parking in Acadia parking lots!

5/12/2015	survey.amans.ca/CustomReport.aspx?CReportID=884Hm
43.	Expanding the existing lot by the skate park in the East end of town? If possible.
44.	reservoir park needs a bigger parking lot!
45.	It's hard to say, there's not much room for more parking lots!
46.	That stupid clock that nobody sits at and the skate park full of cigarette butts and beer cans
47.	Parking on both sides of street in downtown core causes increased traffic congestion and dangerous. On street parking should be banned in winter months (parked cars blocking traffic)
48.	Having the Acadia Theatre lot available on Saturday's really helps. Otherwise, in my opinion there is a nice balance of parking availability, shops, parks, etc. We don't want to turn into a parking lot. I'm happy to have to walk to my vehicle in a beautiful community.
49.	Any additional land that could be used between Front Street and Railtown?
50.	Sorry, I am not familiar enough with the open land areas for additional parking locations.
51.	We need to optimize what we have and that includes street parking. Narrowing side streets close to downtown for cost purposes has the negative effect of reducing parking to one side of the street. We know we have limited space to park now and with any improvement to business and recreational traffic we will need more, not less, parking capacity. In the winter the effect is there is not enough room on either side of the street to park. More Rail town parking could be designated all day public parking from the look of the number of spots used by residents and businesses of Railtown.
52.	More free overnight parking
53.	Perhaps where the skate park used to be?
54.	Wish I did
55.	Beside Home Hardware (The Dyke area)
56.	The house in front of the bev arts centre should be moved.
57.	No obvious potential parking locations
58.	Enlarge lots near Railtown, Elm, and near the skateboard park
59.	Parking Garage by Subway.
60.	the skate park takes up a lot of room and I do not feel comfortable when parking there. IT is unsightly and the people there make me uncomfortable. I recommend removing it or moving it to a location where police and others can keep a better eye on it. That parking area is my last choice due to the nature of the people and activities around the skate park.
61.	Potential to increase parking along the dyke between rail town and home hardware.
62.	Dykeland between Railtown and Homehardware
63.	One way streets with parking along one side.
64.	behind save easy behind the market
65.	Shuttle bus?
66.	Second level parking in curling club lot or west entrance of the Market. Expanded lot on West Entrance of the Market and behind the West Part of the Market. Perhaps  There looks like an empty Lot behind the Baptist Church on Main and Highland- could that be bought?
67.	or a deal made for public parking Mon throu' Sat.? WHy not tear daown that old building on Elm-the Market uses the back end of it but surely the part that is on Elm could be gotten rid of and used as a perking lot-this would get rid of the hard feelings between Market and Curling Club members, as well as giving more convenient parking for Business Ownwrs and their workers.
68.	If Acadia had more parking lots it would "level the parking field" for the rest of us. Suggest west of BAC. Students. staff and students often opt not to buy parking passes. If Acadia charged less or made it mandatory it could help. Or Acadia and Wolfville could go in on a " on the tens" shuttle loop from the BAC to free parking up the hill- where Acadia has lots of land. A shuttle could be extremely helpful. Also Wolfville school needs their own staff parking ( it could be off site and they could walk a bit) and merchants need to be required to park away from the the grocery stores!! I don't mind walking a distance for most errands. But when I am grocery shopping I need to have my car close by because I buy a lot at once. When I can't find a space by the grocery store I go to New Minas. Consider connecting Robie Tufts lot with west end of Railtown lot. Better advertising/signage of Railtown lot and better walkway from Front street to Railtown lot east of Harris building. Consider purchase of former Cavanagh property on Gaspereau for parking.
69.	The empty lot on Gaspereau avenue would be great for a few extra parking spaces.
70	Atlantic Theater Festival lot. Is this permit only or free to the public? It's 1/2 block from downtown and

plenty of spaces.

70.

5/12/2015	survey.amans.ca/CustomReport.aspx?CReportID=884Hm
71.	No
72.	Railtown 3 hour parking area should be converted to all day and expanded.
73.	One more parking lot for all day users would make a huge difference or expand and or improve on the lots you already have.
74.	Stop giving tickets to out of province cars. They should be able to track them and give a few warnings first.
75.	Parking at Post office should be monitored as employees or other shoppers should not use it for long time parking
76.	More in Railtown, there are often a lot of spaces open but they are in the railtown parking only section. I have rarely seen this lot full.
77.	no suggestion for additional locations, but wonder if perhaps lots on the periphery (like behind Pete's) could be changed to all day parking instead of three hour parking.
78.	i have not familiar enough with the area to comment. New to the valley.
79.	No. Current parking is sufficient.
80.	In my opinion there are no parking issues in Wolfville. Spots are always available, many times right on Main Street in front of the business I am visiting. Even with the massive snow piles eliminating numerous parking spaces beside NSLC (not the NSLC designated lot) and the Library, parking has not been an issue at all.
81.	There should more all day parking especially at Railtown. Or even longer term such as 5 hours as a lot of people like to park in one spot and walk around town.
82.	Acadia University needs to accommodate it's people for free. They take up a lot of the extra parking during the week in Wolfville downtown area.
83.	The need is for more all day public parking spaces. Could some of the 3 hour parking spaces become all day to facilitate those who work in the Town and have to drive as they live elsewhere?
84.	Deal with acadia parking first
85.	Provide incentive and/encouragement not to park right in front of shop e.g., central long-session parking lots with safe attractive walkway to central area. Make the walk part of the experience. better marking of disabled parking so it is not used when not needed.
86.	Old petro can
	Total Respondents 86
(skipped this	question) 365
<b>19.</b> Thank downtown you	you for completing the town of Wolfville public parking survey. Please share any additional thoughts on parking in the may have?
1.	Take it easy on the towing of vehicals. Maybe they are parked overnight for a safety reason
2.	A lot of potholes need fixing.
3.	Although I can usually find parking, I have left Wolfville on a few occasions because I couldn't find a spot and gone home or to New Minas.
4.	We need more and closer to main street!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
5.	Something needs to be done with the Subway lot. Maybe paint lines or something so people know where they should park. It gets very messy and often have to back out of the lot because you cant turn around. Also the CJs cab vans make it a lot more difficult by parking the opposite way.
6.	There needs to be better direction of traffic in the parking lots around the farmer's market on Saturday. It would probably be best to ban parking in the curling rink parking lot once the market is open. There are too many cars trying to drive down the narrow route between the rink and the market, while there are many pedestrians walking there too. There is plenty of space for these cars to park somewhere else on Market Days. The curling rink parking lot should be reserved only for vendors who arrive before the market opens.
_	

8. Create more bike parking and more cycle friendly infrastructure, particularly on Main St. N/A

7.

9.

12.

13.

Have no limit parking for customers shopping in Wolfville, 10. Parking limits discourage people from coming to Wolfville.

Residential parking permits for on street parking.

It's simply limited and the street parking is dangerous. The old Petro Can site would be good to expand for 11.

parking if that is doable. My employer offers some parking but not enough for the staff who are employed. That was not an option

on the survey.

Since most of the public parking spaces in town have a 3 hour time limit which is insufficient if you are having dinner and then taking in a show at the theatre or if you are a tourist wishing to park the car and spend the time enjoying Wolfville. I think the time limit should be longer so that people who are visiting

I own a business in wolfville and I feel that us as business owners should be able to have a close parking

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5/12/2015 survey.amans.ca/CustomReport.aspx?CReportID=884Hm 64. spot for us even if we had to pay so much a year Parking is only ever a problem because some are abusing the privilege. I'd like to see much stricter 65. enforcement of the current time limits, including guicker towing of repeat offenders. Largest obstacle is currently awareness as regulations are not clear as to what constitutes all day parking 66. and 3 hour parking. 67. If the all day parking areas are full every weekday then it may be time to designate more all day parking. Need better snow plowing and snow removal 68. 69. need more handicapped parking on main street The old designated parking places worked better. There was only confusion when the town put up signs> those of us that had the parking passes knew where we were to park-the signs just confused customers. 70. The "Clock Park" on Main St. would have better served the public and business as a parking lot-other then a couple times a yr. there is hardly anyone using it. Tim Horton's parking lot should be "In only" from Main Street. No left turn from parking lot by subway. parking is a challenge on sat. morning but not so much in the pm or Sunday. Would be helpful if Acadia 71. would post that the Festival Theatre lot was free on Saturdays. Summer street is a popular street to park on, however I find that people tend to leave an awkward 72. amount of space between their car. If parallel parking lines were painted on the street I feel as though more people could park there as people would have to park in a more organized way. All employees should have easy to spot permits so parking authority can see when they park in non all day 73. lots. Many employees abusing the 3 hour lots, License numbers may work best if permits can be hidden. The Elm Ave. lot and the Farm Market lot have a lot of Acadia parkers in them. These are usually people 74 who don't want to pay for Acadia's permit 75. no main street parking during the busy summer period this would enhance our beautiful downtown core Parking in Wolfville is currently very disorganized with inadequate (and in some cases unsafe) space for all day parking. As a person who works in Wolfville I would like to have the opportunity to park in a safe, and 76. reasonably close location to my office without negatively impacting access for retail customers etc. our employer has 6 parking spots which are intended for our and client use. more than once a week i have 77. to park elsewhere as other people use them on a regular basis. If the sidewalks were better maintained all throughout Wolfville....not just the main streets, parking 78. further away from the office wouldn't be as big of a deal. Not sure why, when newly paved this past year, the street from fire hall to willow park was narrowed to 79. prevent parking. When large apartment buildings move into the downtown ie microboutique they must have enough parking spots for their tennants they are filling the parking lots during the day and night. On street parking has been virtually eliminated on the east side on main st following the road narrowing. The east side is also 80. expecting 2 large renovations i hope the town has thought about how they would accomodate the additional parking required there in the near future. In #9 I answered yes but only if those designated areas are close to my place of employment. Currently, the all day lots located close to my employment are full very early in the morning. I sometimes get off 81. work late / after dark and do not like walking to my car when I park behind the market in the all day lot. The snow removal in the lots on Front Street is slow and is taking up what little spaces there are there. some of your questions do not provide enough options for responding, i.e. it is not always a yes or no 82. response. I actually drive to work in the winter and walk in the summer, but only had the option of choosing one response. Permits would be a great idea providing it is not cost prohibitive to those of us on incomes that restrict us 83. from having additional high costs associated with getting to our jobs. 84. If people were prepared to walk more there would be fewer parking complaints. To be honest one of the reasons I do not shop in Wolfville is parking. This week alone I have two serious problems with parking. I have a blue disability sign. (for a good reason) I went to try to get a spot by Pete to do some shopping. On several occations I find people without a sign using up the blue zone next to Petes. Normally I just leave or try to find another spot. Well this time I decieded to try to find the person parked there. I did. Working in one of the shops near the spot. The shop owner told me that it was no longer a blue zone for disabled people, that it had been several times been "ground"off but the snow kept 85. bringing it back. The spot is very clearly shown as a disabled zone. I was frustrated and so I told them I would check with Pete's and they then said never mind they would get the fellow to move. Well as you can expect it was not long before others were looking for the space as well and it was a struggle to secure the space. Today it took me over twenty min to find a empty spot "reserved" as it was I was desperate. It then saw someone moving, asked them to wait for me to move so I could get out of that space an into the one they were vacating. They "very reluctantly" obliged thank goodness. But it certainly is making me not to want to make any more attempts to park in town. 86. I love that parking is free! Main Street parking pass Tim's needs to be better supervised. People are parking all day in 3 hour parking

and parking on the crosswalk and in no parking areas. This makes it very dangerous for drivers and people

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walking.

87.

88. Acadia University should supply free parking for its employees 89. There should not be time restrictions on parking spots other than no overnight parking. 90. maybe put some lines on the pavements in the parking lots 91. it is quite annoying when people park on the sides of the road (especially on front street) RE Q18 - parking is difficult sometimes; it depends upon events and weather. Parking was more difficult this past winter with all of the snow. If we know it is going to be busy, or too much fuss with snow, we walk, carpool, or don't go unless we really need/want to. When grocery shopping we usually drive b/c walking up the hill with heavy bags is a bit much. 92. Generally speaking we love that there is free public parking unlike cities! If there were paid parking that would be great hindrance. Related, designated parking for all-day parkers means the may not park in close proximity spaces (assuming) but it may also mean that empty spots are unavailable b/c of restrictions for more transient parkers. I'm sure you're considering this! Just not aware of how many all-day parkers there to warrant such a permit and designated area. Good luck! **Total Respondents 92** 

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