



SMITHS FALLS

RISE AT THE FALLS

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF SMITHS FALLS

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

March 27, 2023, 5:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Mayor S Pankow, Councillors, J Brennan, C McGuire, P McKenna, J Miller, D Quinn, S Robinson

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Clerk K Costello, Chief Administrative Officer M Morris, Manger of Economic Development J Crowder, Director of Public Works and Utilities P McMunn, Senior Planner K Grenke, Director of Community Services S Clark, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer M Baumann

Guests:

A virtual meeting roll call was completed to confirm who was present at the meeting by video or teleconference.

1. AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Chairperson Miller called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgement.

2. DISCLOSURE OF MONETARY INTEREST: None noted.

3. DELEGATION

Dr. Linna Li, Medical Officer of Health (Acting)
Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit
Topic: Introduction to Council

Dr. Li advised that she has had her current position since September and has made similar introductory presentations around the Counties.

Health Unit will be doing monthly municipal calls going forward with a refocus away from COVID 19. P McKenna is Chair of the Board and will Chair these meetings. Health Unit will be going through a Strategic Planning process and will be seeking feedback from municipalities. A lot of their membership is from municipal councils.

Dr. Li advised that numbers regarding COVID are looking stable right now and have been throughout the fall/winter. There continues to be transmissions in our region. Severity of cases is not as bad as it was. Age continues to be a risk factor. Continue to have non-COVID viruses around as well. Health Unit continues to have a response to COVID 19.

Dr. Li noted that the Health Unit is undergoing Strategic Plan process to have a bigger picture of long term goals. Currently there is a lot of work at the Health Unit as they are looking at programs that were paused during the pandemic and reviewing the needs and interests of the community now and how to move forward.

P McKenna reminded all that much of the work that local Health Units do is mandated by the Province.

Andrew Lynch, Planet Youth Lanark County Update March 2023

Topic - Update on Planet Youth Lanark County including a presentation of key findings from the youth survey conducted last year.

Presentation attached as Appendix A

P McKenna requested that this item be brought back to Committee of the Whole as a Priority Item at a future meeting to discuss how Smiths Falls can contribute as significant investment is needed and to get updates on a regular basis.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

No minutes to be adopted.

5. C.A.O. / DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Myra Baumann, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer

M Baumann advised that the 2022 yearend has been delayed and will be scheduled for July.

Karl Grenke, Senior Planner

Reminded all that the deadline for Community Improvement Plan applications is March 31st. 11 of 15 incentives were activated in January 2023. Second intake

will occur in the Fall. Staff have pre-consulted on 11 applications so far in 2023. Report end of April/early May with staff recommendations.

Dillon Consulting is conducting the Land Needs Study. Consultants presented the findings last week to stakeholders. Staff report forthcoming in the coming weeks. This will form basis of long-term planning.

Paul McMunn, Director of Public Works & Utilities

Update on annual one year contract extensions was given. Extensions given to the following:

- Acculine and Signs Inc. - Pavement Marking Program
- Aqua Drain Sewer Service Inc. - Sewer Cleaning and CCTV Inspections Program
- G. Tackberry and Sons Construction - Supply and Delivery of Winter Sand

All these are within 2023 budget.

Julia Crowder, Manger of Economic Development

A successful job fair was held on March 22, 2023. About 400 participants. Great feedback and was well received by the community. Thanked all the partners for the successful event.

6. CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

Resolution from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent

Topic: Reducing Municipal Insurance Costs

M Morris encouraged Council to pass a similar motion and support this. Bring forward to the next meeting of Council.

Resolution from the Town of Cobourg

Topic: Homeless and Unsheltered Persons

P McKenna noted that this is a very thoughtful and well written resolution however was lacking in some balance as it left the impression that there is not a lot of work happening on this issue when there is a lot of energy, work and investments going on. Not supported by majority to bring forward as written.

Letter from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County

Topic: Thank you letter for Council for funding and updates.

For information only.

7. PRIORITY ISSUES

7.1 Former Water Treatment Plant Redevelopment - Request for Agreement Extension Report 2023-043 (J Crowder)

Council previously provided direction to staff with regards to the request for an extension of the Exclusivity Agreement between the Town of Smiths Falls and Guy Saumure & Sons Construction Ltd, for the redevelopment of the former water treatment plant. An agreement was executed through By-law 10369-2022 in September 2022, which allowed the proponent 180 days of exclusive permission to undertake due diligent activities with the expectation of developing and submitting a redevelopment proposal and offer to purchase. Staff received written request from Saumure Group requesting a 12-month extension to the current agreement to allow further time to complete due diligence and submit a proposal.

ACTION: Majority supported a 9-month extension with reporting every 3 months. The Town to conduct a risk assessment. Retain exclusivity with Guy Saumure & Sons Construction Ltd

7.2 Confederation Bridge – Parks Canada Discussion Update Report 2023-045 (P McMunn)

P McMunn advised that he is seeking direction from Council with respect to the selection of the preferred location for a pedestrian crossing to allow staff to advance the bridge replacement project to the detailed design stage. Council considered a report in January respecting proceeding with Confederation Bridge and direction was given to staff at that time with a caveat directing staff to pursue opportunities with Parks Canada to enhance their current river crossing structure that would permit pedestrian and bicycle traffic as an option. As per Councils direction, staff met with 3 representatives from Parks Canada on site on March 7, 2023. During the meeting, two potential areas for possible installation of a 3-meter-wide cantilevered pedestrian crossing structure was discussed, however staff is seeking approval of the location in the current location of the existing Confederation Drive River Crossing. P McMunn also noted he is seeking direction to advance the Confederation Drive River Crossing project to the detailed design phase for a pedestrian bridge application.

S Robinson noted that he cannot support this as he feels it would be hypocritical as he was not in favour of it in the first place.

S Pankow noted that he wished to see an active transportation crossing. Likes the concept that P McMunn had shared to have some concepts and then go to Request for Proposals for some solutions. Opportunity for a place of gathering.

P McKenna felt that the best way to proceed would be to come back to Committee of the Whole for options regarding look and feel. Any of the proponents who would be bidding about what it would look like would submit a proposal for detailed design as well.

J Miller supports the recommendation but would like to hear about required design elements / requirements and then go to a Request for Proposals process.

D Quinn advised that since the vehicle bridge is not happening, she does have concerns. Go out and see what designs could be. The whole area needs to be redeveloped. Likes the idea of something without a centre support system.

ACTION: Staff's recommendation supported. Approve the location of a new pedestrian bridge in the current location of the existing Confederation Drive River Crossing and direct staff to advance the Confederation Drive River Crossing project to the detailed design phase for a pedestrian bridge application.

7.3 Updates to the Code of Conduct for Members of Council and Local Boards Report 2023-044 (K Costello)

In September, 2018, Council adopted a legislated Code of Conduct for Members of Council and Local Boards. The Town has historically had a Code of Conduct since 2004 voluntarily. As a matter of due diligence, the Clerk's of Lanark County met with our Integrity Commissioner, Tony Fleming in February 2023 to review the current Code of Conduct and discuss any updates the group felt appropriate. Minor updates to the Code of Conduct were discussed.

K Costello updated Council on Bill 5-Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act. This Bill would require the Code of Conduct for Members of Council and Local Boards to include a requirement to comply with workplace violence and harassment policies and permit municipalities and local boards to direct the Integrity Commissioner to apply to the court to vacate a member's seat if the Commissioner's inquiry determines that the member has contravened this requirement. This Bill was circulated to the Town's Integrity Commissioner, Tony Fleming, to advise if the Town's Code of Conduct should be amended. At this time, we have been advised that the Town has most of what this Bill requires currently and the Town should await the decision of the Province on the Bill. T Fleming recommended holding off on any amendments at this time until/if the Bill passes. J Miller questioned if Council could endorse Bill 5 at this time.

ACTION: Amending Bylaw to come forward to the next meeting of Council. Bill 5 to be added to an upcoming Committee of the Whole.

7.4 Court Security & Prisoner Transportation Program (C McGuire)

C McGuire informed Council that the Mayor and Clerk are required to execute the agreement for the Court Security & Prisoner Transportation Program. The funding is for an estimated \$2000. C McGuire requested that Council authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign all future agreements for this program so that it does not have to come back to Council.

ACTION: Bylaw to be prepared for the next meeting of Council.

8. IN-CAMERA ISSUES: None noted.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by J Brennan

Seconded by S Robinson

THAT the Committee adjourn its proceedings 6:50 p.m. and stand so adjourned until the next duly called Committee meeting.

Carried

Mayor

Clerk

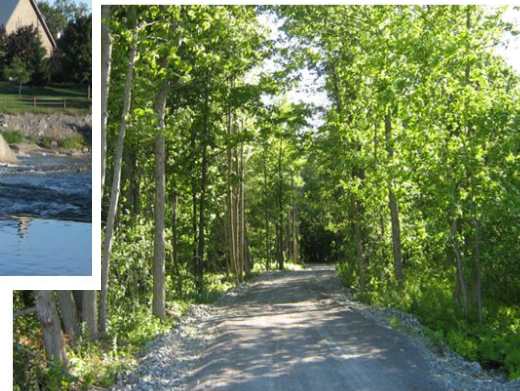


PARTNER *Lanark County*

<https://planetyouthlanark.ca/>



APPENDIX A
March 27, 2023
Committee of the Whole Minutes
Delegation Presentation

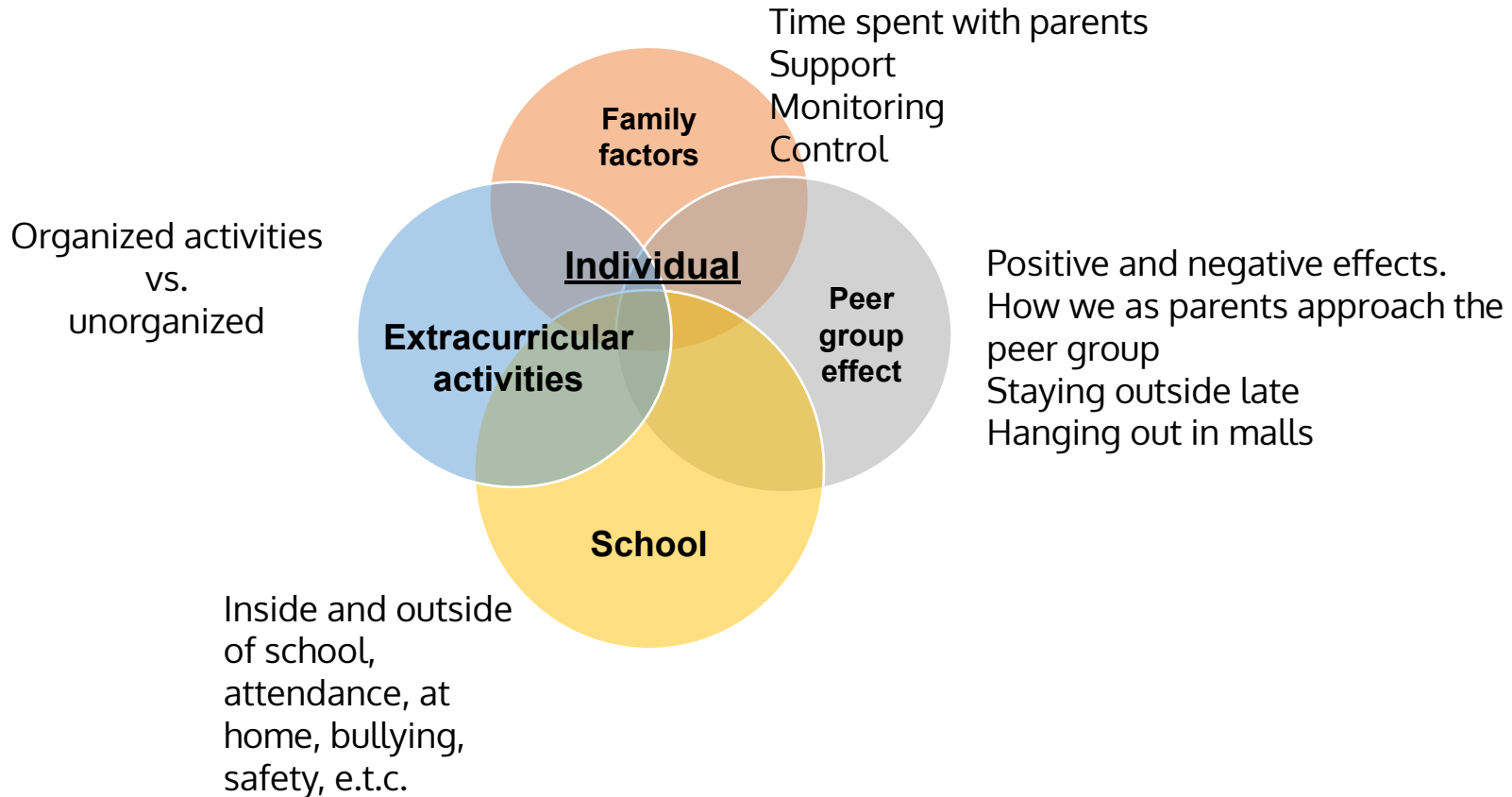


Planet Youth Lanark County Update March 2023

Planet Youth evolved in Iceland as a response to significant use by youth use of harmful substances.

- Traditional primary use prevention: “This stuff is harmful, bad for you. Don’t use it.”
- Based on their own research and a review of global literature, ICSRA (The Icelandic Centre for Social Research and Analysis) developed a community-based approach to deter substance use
- Planet Youth - identify factors that contribute to healthy development and wellbeing and engage stakeholders in developing a network of supports.

The Icelandic prevention model - Four Domains





ICELAND

PLANET
Youth®

Then

VS

Now



42%

Drunk in the past 30 days

5%



23%

Smoke daily

1%



17%

Lifetime cannabis use

7%



37%

Time spent with parents
during weekends

74%



25%

Sport participation 4x a
week or more

41%



Then = 1997-2000

Now = 2022

The Five Guiding Principles of The Planet Youth Guidance Model

1

Apply a **primary prevention approach** that is designed to enhance the social environment.

3

Engage and empower **community members** to make practical decisions using local, high quality, accessible data and diagnostics.

2

Emphasize **community action** and embrace public schools as the natural hub of neighborhood/area efforts to support child and adolescent health, learning, and life success.

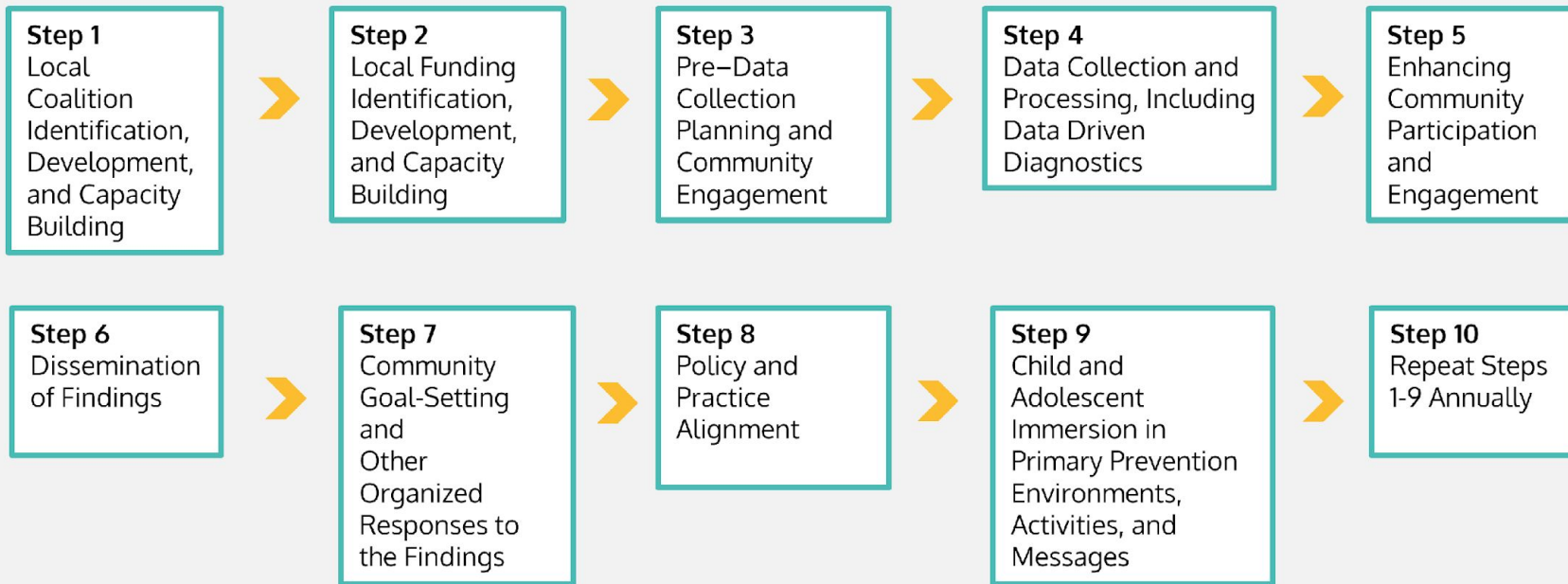
4

Integrate **researchers, policy makers, practitioners, and community members** into a unified team dedicated to solving complex, real-world problems.

5

Match the scope of the **solution to the scope of the problem**, including emphasizing long-term intervention and efforts to marshal adequate community resources.

The Planet Youth Guidance Model: The 10 core steps of the Icelandic Prevention Model



Method and Data collection

Participants were high school students that attended school on the day of the survey. In 2022, 7 schools across 4 regions in Lanark took part in the survey.

The surveys were conducted from February to March 2022. The total response rate for Lanark was 70%.

Using a process developed by ICSRA data was collected with an online questionnaire in the Alchemer software. The survey was conducted during classroom hours. Participation was voluntary, and students were free to answer the survey in whole or in part, to skip any question at will, and to change their mind about participation at any time.



Substance Use

29%

Tried alcohol at the age 13 or younger

20%

Have been drunk in the last 30 days

24%

Drink alcohol at their own home

19%

Get alcohol from a family member



E-cigarettes

40%

Have smoked an e-cigarette in their lifetime

28%

Smoked an e-cigarette in the last 30 days

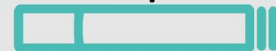
Cigarette Smoking

10%

Tried cigarette smoking at the age 13 or younger

7%

Smoke cigarettes daily



Cannabis Use

23%

Have used cannabis in their lifetime

14%

Used cannabis in the last 30 days



Family - Key Findings

92%

Of parents disapprove of cannabis use



74%

Of parents disapprove of drunkenness



88%

Of students say it's easy to receive caring and warmth from their parents



*Disapprove of = are totally or very much against

Time with parents on weekends

62%



Of teenagers often or always spend time with their parents on weekends

Time with parents on weekdays

49%

Of teenagers often or always spend time with their parents on weekdays



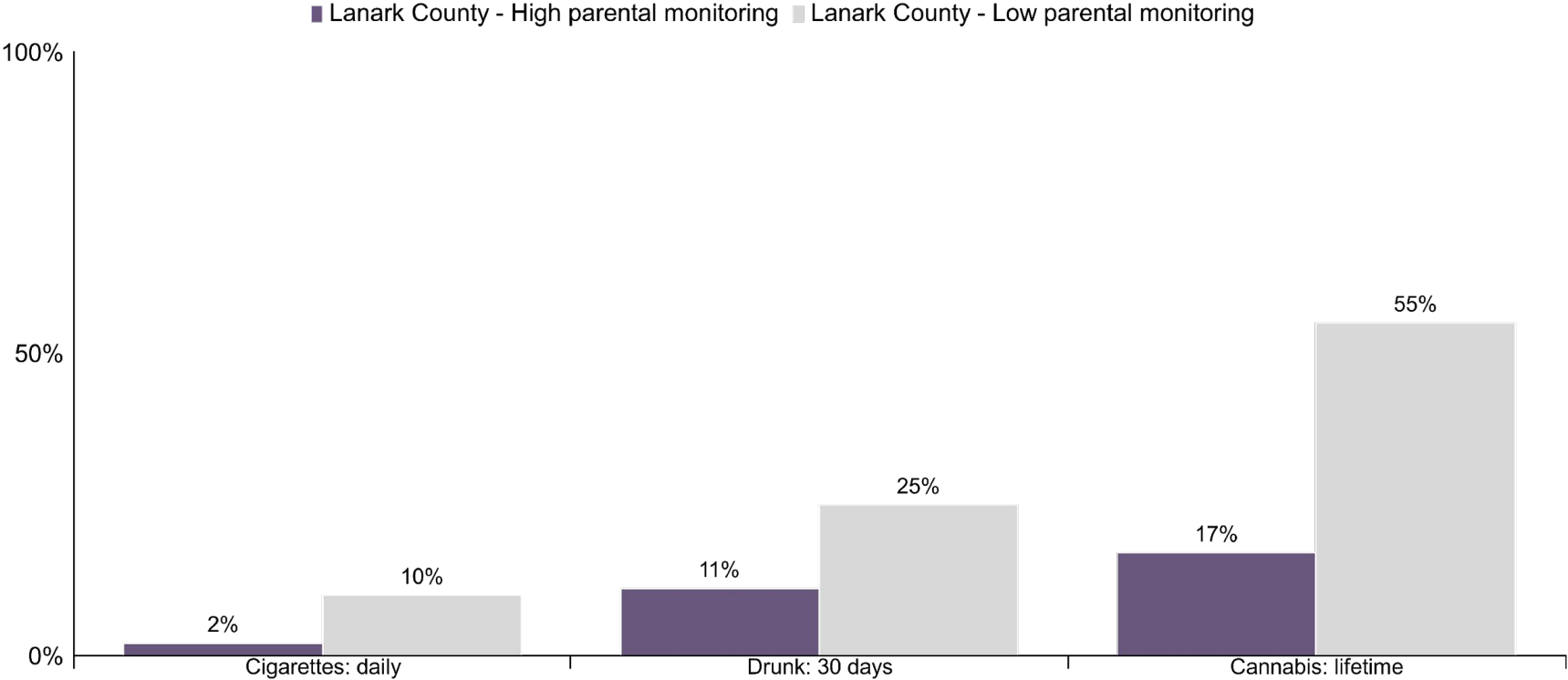
Parental Monitoring

92%



Of parents know where their teenagers are in the evenings

Substance use against parents knowing adolescent's whereabouts in the evening



Peer Group Effects

Adolescents who agree or strongly agree that they need to do the following in order not to be left out of the peer group

13%

Drink Alcohol



5%

Smoke Cigarettes



10%

Use Cannabis



6%

Vape

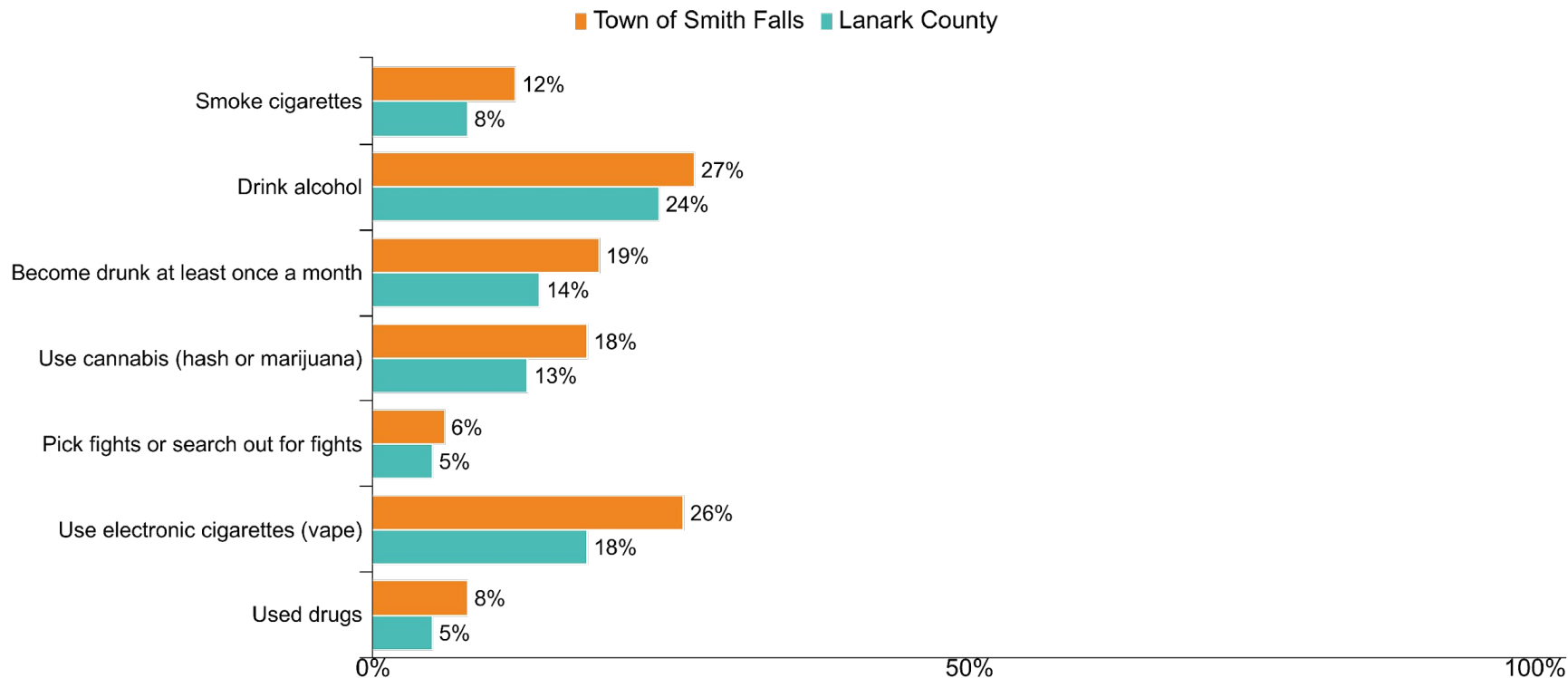


11%

"Skip" or "Cut" Classes



Proportion of adolescents in Town of Smith Falls who report that most/almost all of their friends:



School- Key Findings



Girls

Bored

33%

Are often or always bored with the studies

Feel Bad

34%

Often or always feel bad at school

Skipped School

26%

Skipped school once or more in the past month



Boys

Bored

33%

Are often or always bored with the studies

Feel Bad

22%

Often or always feel bad at school

Skipped School

26%

Skipped school once or more in the past month

69%

Feel safe at school



16%

Want to change schools



74%

Get along with the teachers



Leisure activities

48%

Of boys spend
3 hours or
more a day
playing video
games



11%

Of girls spend
3 hours or
more a day
playing video
games



29%

Of boys spend
3 hours or
more on social
media a day



74%

Of girls spend
3 hours or
more on social
media a day



15%

Of teenagers were outside
after 10 PM three times or
more in the past week

24%



Of teenagers were outside
after midnight once or more
in the past week



21%

Of teenagers play sports with
a club or a team three times
a week or more

Wellbeing


Females


Males



Next Steps -

- We will continue to reach out to municipalities, school boards and youth organizations to share the data from the 2022 survey.
- We invite you to visit <https://planetyouthlanark.ca/> and read the survey findings for The Town of Smiths Falls.
- You will receive an invitation to an upcoming Planet Youth goal setting workshop. We are hoping to have councillors or staff representatives from each municipality present.



PARTNER *Lanark County*

<https://planetyouthlanark.ca>