



# What We Heard - Town Hall Meeting Summary

## Town of Small Point to Adams Cove

The first town hall following the wildfires was held on September 29, 2025, bringing together 84 participants (54 in person and 30 online), including residents, Council, and community partners, to share updates, discuss challenges, and identify recovery priorities. Participants also completed a short survey on communication preferences to help guide future engagement. The following highlights some of the key themes from the town hall and survey.

### Key Themes

#### Safety and Security

Safety and security are key concerns, with community members noting challenges around RCMP response times and confidence in reporting outcomes.

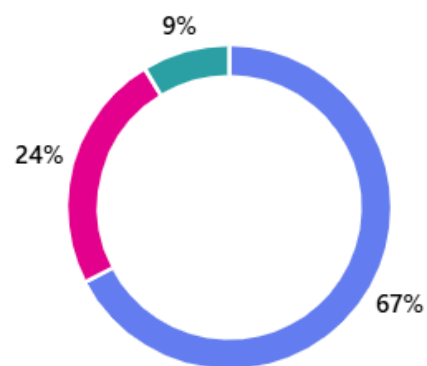
- Many opportunities for improved security were presented:
  - Increased police/RCMP presence; more RCMP representation at town meetings
  - Improved lighting, more visible patrols, and use of surveillance cameras
  - Setting up a temporary satellite RCMP office
  - Strengthened follow-through in the justice system to ensure accountability
  - The creation creating citizen-led safety or watch groups, with caution to avoid vigilantism

#### Community Trust and Communication

Attendees expressed a desire for regular, transparent updates from authorities, with suggestions for structured communication channels (e.g., dedicated meetings, online updates). Residents also want clear recovery timelines and coordinated planning and some raised concerns that discussions may not translate into action. There were also calls for clear accountability and coordination among municipal, provincial, and federal partners.

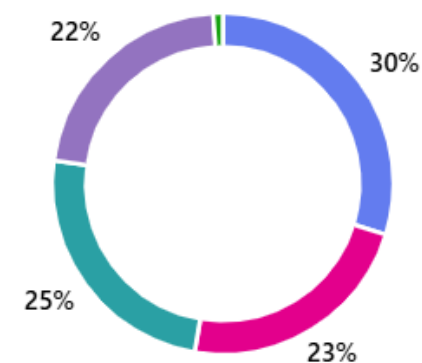
### Recovery Communication Preferences Survey Results

#### 1. How often would you like to receive information about community recovery?



Bi-weekly (every 2 weeks)	31
Monthly	11
Only when there are major updates	4

#### 2. What methods of communication do you prefer? (Select all that apply)



Town website or dedicated recovery page	34
Facebook	26
Email newsletters	28
Town hall meetings or in-person sessions	25
Other	1

## Housing, Insurance, and Financial Strain

Rebuilding primary homes is a top priority, with seasonal residents also seeking inclusion in available supports. Insurance coverage and rebuilding remain significant challenges for many residents. Ongoing concerns also include water, waste, and debris management, as well as hazards from ash and unstable trees.

Participants called for government-led financial support, subsidized insurance programs, and affordable housing solutions, while also raising concerns about funding gaps and transparency in distribution processes.

## Mental Health and Wellbeing

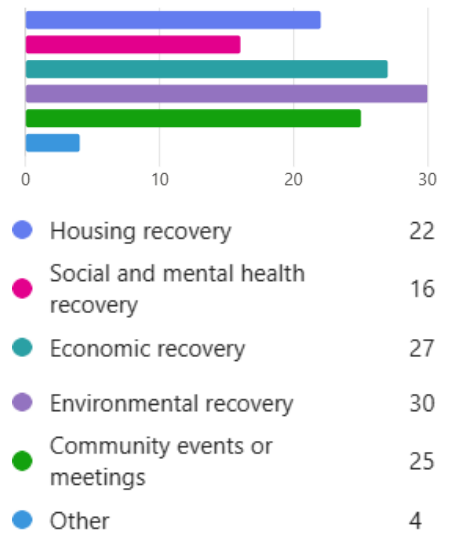
The need for accessible mental health and addiction supports was emphasized; anxiety, insomnia, and fear linked to safety concerns and fire trauma. Calls were also made for continued youth supports and school-based counselling.

The loss of community hubs (stores, gathering places) was deeply felt, with some residents wanting to see these prioritized in recovery efforts. Transportation to larger centres for groceries and essential services was viewed as helpful.

## Closing Note

Participants spoke with honesty and urgency about their fears, needs, and hopes for the future. The Council and partners committed to carrying these messages forward into planning and action. This is the first of a series of conversations to ensure recovery is shaped by the community, for the community.

### 3. Which types of recovery information is of interest to you?



#### Common themes in the additional comments section:

**Accountability & Safety:** Calls for RCMP action and community security.

**Communication & Support:** Requests for regular updates, accessible meeting times, and visible local leadership.

**Recovery & Wellbeing:** Emphasis on mental health and concerns about addiction, access to communication services, support for firefighters, and preserving community history.