

Town of Gander: Community Safety Plan

Public Session

August 20, 2026



Today's Goals

- Share the research
 - Co-create solutions
-

Our commitments to each other:

- Treat each other with respect
- Work towards solutions

Share your perspective.



Understanding Community Safety in Gander

More than

10+

Stakeholder Interviews

Community Survey

262

Citizen responses

OUR PRIORITY AREAS

Personal Safety

Neighbourhood Safety

Management of Spaces and Public Places

Emergency Preparednes

Thank you for helping make
Gander a safer community



Resident Perceptions of Safety

How safe residents feel by time of day

80%

Feel safe during the day



48%

Feel safe at night



We asked residents to rate their perception of safety during both the daytime and evening.

Resident Perceptions of Nighttime Safety

"More nighttime patrol around neighborhoods known to have vehicles and sheds broken into."

"Improved town enforcement. More staff and randomized patrols. Current enforcement have predictable schedules and routinely park in the same spots."

Safety concerns rise at night.

Nighttime enforcement is frequently mentioned as a concern.



KEY QUESTION

1. What can the Town do to improve **nighttime safety**?

Neighbourhood Safety

80% Satisfaction



**Street
Lighting**



**Cleanliness
& Upkeep**



**Parking &
Traffic
Management**



**Snow Clearing
& Road
Maintenance**

Neighbourhood Safety

KEY DATA



56% concerned
vehicle speeds in school & residential zones



52% concerned
road (potholes) and sidewalk (walking) conditions



25% concerned
property maintenance (esp vacant homeowners)

Neighbourhood Safety

“Please add bike lanes or shared use paths! Many residential streets are plenty wide for this purpose - narrowing streets has a traffic calming effect.”

Please fix the potholes when they get bad. People can't afford to keep up with their maintenance because of the roads.”

“Make our sidewalks safe and accessible for all to utilize all year around. There are so many unsafe sidewalks due to major cracks, etc. and many that are not accessible for wheelchairs, walkers, etc. Being able to walk all year round is one of the best things that can be done for our community's health.”

“Clean up the vacant buildings in Gander. They are an eyesore.”



KEY QUESTIONS

1. How can the Town **curb speeding?**
2. What can the Town do to improve **road and sidewalk maintenance?**
3. What can the Town do to address **vacant lots?**

Town Managed Places and Spaces

SATISFACTION RATES



86.6%
**Cobbs Pond
Rotary Park**

Highest-rated
public space
among
respondents.



71%
**Recreation
Centre &
Facilities**

Satisfaction with
recreation
programming and
access.



**69.5% Trails &
Walking Paths**

Trail maintenance
and accessibility
noted as priorities.

Town Managed Places and Spaces

AREAS OF CONCERN

Lighting



Family Friendly spaces



Walkability



Town Managed Spaces & Places

“Add lighting to the Cobb’s Pond walking trail around the pond as well as add lighting to the Old Town Site roads and trails. Adding bike lanes into the existing main roads would be a huge addition to safety in the town, especially for those that use bicycles for regular commuting, and it would help recreational bicyclists as well.”

“Sidewalks and walking trails to amenities (such as Wal-Mart) for those without vehicles, or just those wishing to not use a vehicle.”

“Make the town more walkable/likeable for families at all times of day and seasons - in residential areas and to the commercial areas. Active transportation is important for everyone, but especially important for those without vehicles as they get their groceries, etc.”

② KEY QUESTIONS

1. What are the priority areas for **better lighting**?
2. What specific **Town buildings** need the most work, and what do they specifically need?
3. How can we help **calm traffic** in school and residential zones?
4. What might new **family-friendly places** look like?"

Emergency Preparedness

13.3% feel prepared | 59.16% feel somewhat prepared

16.41% feel neutral | 11.07% feel not at all prepared



Most residents feel only somewhat prepared for emergencies.



Knowledge of the Town's Emergency Preparedness Plan remains low.



Strengthen coordination with partners and community groups.



Share timely, accessible information before, during, and after emergencies.



KEY QUESTIONS

1. How can the Town **encourage** more of its **residents to be prepared** for an emergency?
2. How can the Town and Fire Department better **inform** its **residents** of Gander's **Emergency Preparedness Plan**?



IMAGINE it's 2031...

The Town of Gander is conducting the next Community Safety Plan audit:

1. What does **success** look like?

1. What are we **measuring**?

Community Safety

You've shared what **matters most**.

We're using your input to **guide our plan**.

Your **involvement** makes our community safer.

Thank you for being part of this initiative.



Let's keep building
a **safer Gander**.