

# Investing in Recreation:

## The Recreation User Fee & Cost Recovery Policy

May 26, 2025

C 2

Communication

Age-Friendly Vaughan

Advisory Committee – May 26, 2025

Item No. 2





# Agenda

1. Purpose and key features
2. Community feedback
3. Benchmarking
4. Supporting the community



# Purpose of the Policy



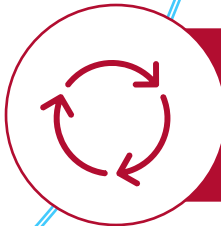
**Framework** for transparency, consistency & accountability



**Fiscal sustainability** to secure long-term financial health

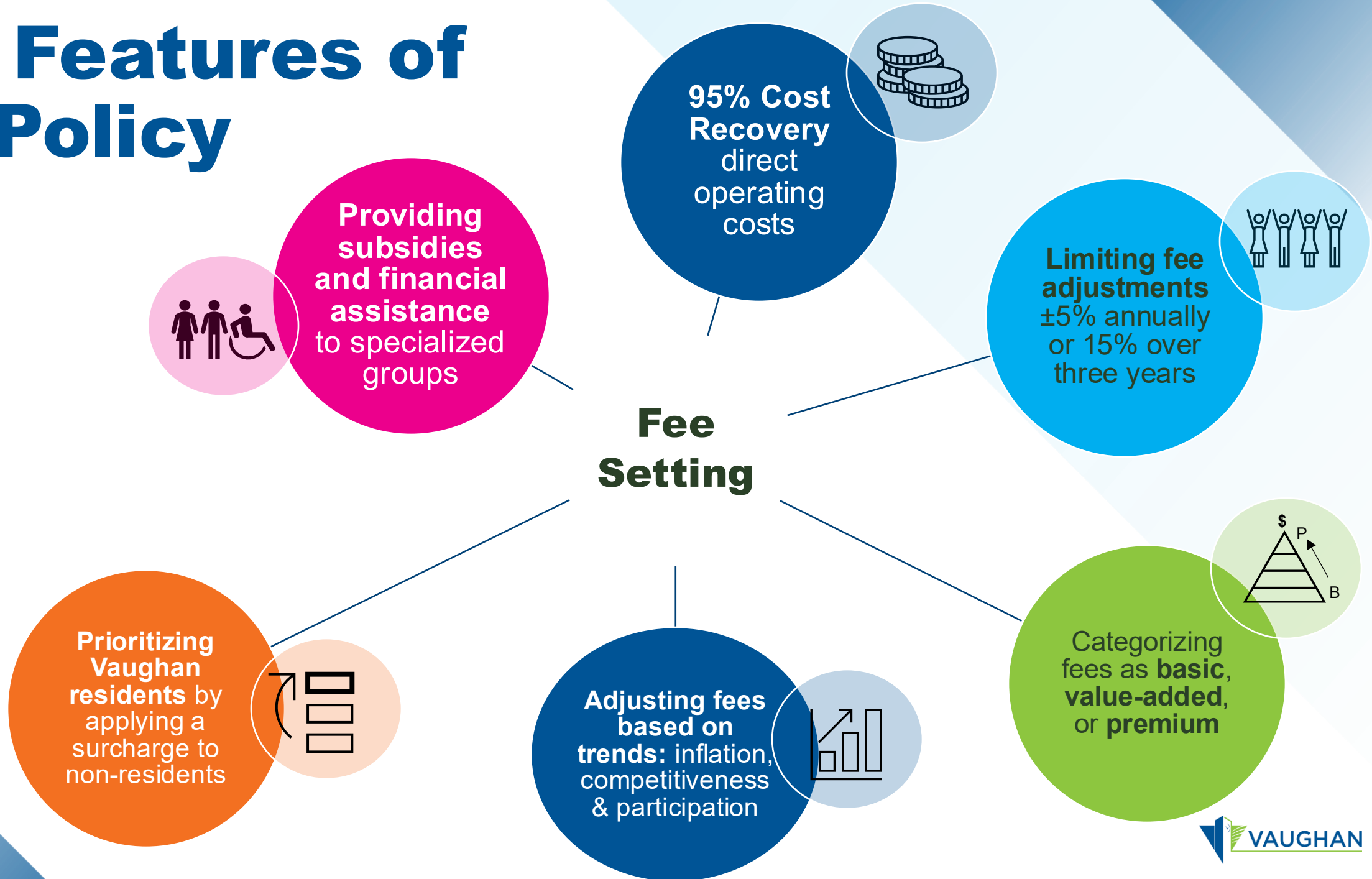


**Balance** affordability, inclusivity & accessibility



**Regular reviews** to ensure relevancy

# Key Features of the Policy



# Public and stakeholder consultation: overview



3

well-attended open houses with older adult clubs, user groups and the general public



50+

staff interviews + Mayor and Members of Council



2,746

record # of online survey responses received from public and user groups




# What we heard:

## Community Feedback & Engagement



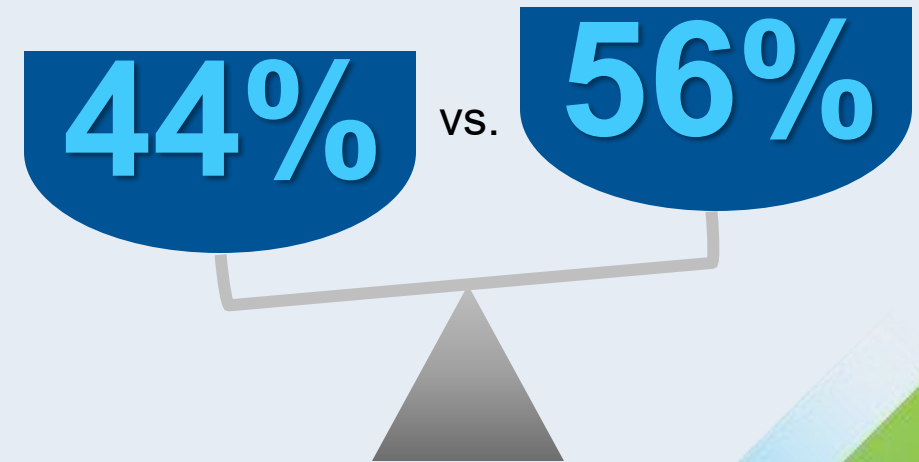
**78%**  
 fees offer good value for money

**53%**  
 fees are similar or higher than in other municipalities

 **top priorities**  
affordability, access and quality

  
maintain or reduce fees even if it means cuts to services

  
increase fees to expand or maintain service levels



# How We Compare: Municipal Benchmarking Insights

5

municipalities

Brampton

Mississauga

Markham

Oakville

Richmond Hill

-1%

Aquatic & Rec  
Programs

+7%

Memberships

+53%

Resident Facility  
Rentals

70%  
lower



Vaughan older adults at Garnet A. Williams Community Centre

21%  
lower



Young Vaughan Rangers at the Rogers Hometown Hockey event

Although fees are generally priced above the benchmark average, there are notable exceptions where they are significantly lower

# Putting People First: Supporting Older Adults and the Community

Limiting fee adjustment  
±5% annually or  
15% over  
three years

Subsidize  
specific  
user groups  
to promote  
participation

Promote  
and provide  
financial  
assistance

Seek  
alternative  
funding &  
implement  
cost saving

Monitor the  
impact



# Thank You

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