

Quadrangle Newfoundland and Labrador Community Needs Assessment

Objectives

1. To understand aspects of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community in Newfoundland and Labrador (NL), including demographics, access to supports and services, and need for more accessible supports and services.
2. To collect thoughts on Quadrangle NL and the creation of a 2SLGBTQIA+ community centre.

Practice Points

1. Quadrangle NL was created in 2015 in St. John's as the provincial 2SLGBTQIA+ charity aiming to create social connections, provide resources, and advance all aspects of health and the quality of life for the community through inclusion and diversity, community development, collaboration, and recognition.
2. Quadrangle NL offers a variety of programs designed to meet the needs of the community including a neurodivergent peer support group, one-on-one peer support, short term counselling, community outings, a health training and leadership program, and social gatherings.

Methods

1. Quadrangle conducted online needs assessment surveys of the community in 2015 and 2021.
2. In 2015 the survey was advertised solely through Facebook. In 2021, a variety of social media platforms, including Facebook, and newsletters were used to advertise the survey.
3. These surveys served to understand the 2SLGBTQIA+ population in NL – the demographics, access to supports and services, and needs of the community including feedback on Quadrangle NL and the creation of a 2SLGBTQIA+ community centre.

Results

- 751 community members completed the 2015 needs assessment survey and 255 completed the 2021 needs assessment survey.
- Both needs assessment surveys asked about needs of the community – framed differently in 2015 versus 2021 based on the level of development of the organization. Many respondents used this question to comment on the good work being done by Quadrangle NL. Responses were categorized with the most common categories being:
 - ◇ Location and need for province-wide outreach
 - ◇ Education
 - ◇ Aligning to ideals held by Quadrangle NL
 - ◇ Desire to build community
 - ◇ Advocacy

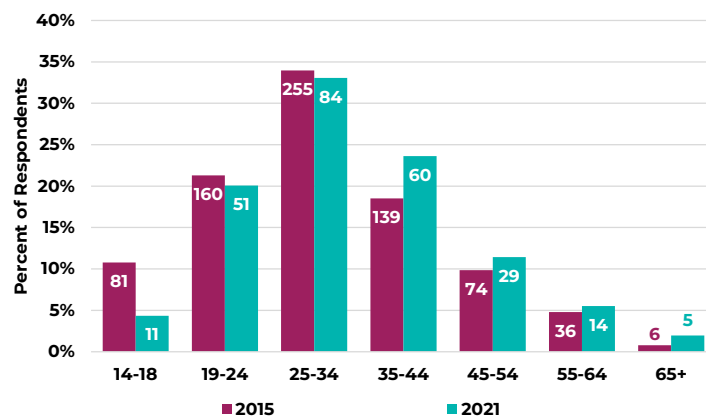


Figure 1. Age of Respondents Who Completed Quadrangle NL's Needs Assessment Survey, 2015 and 2021

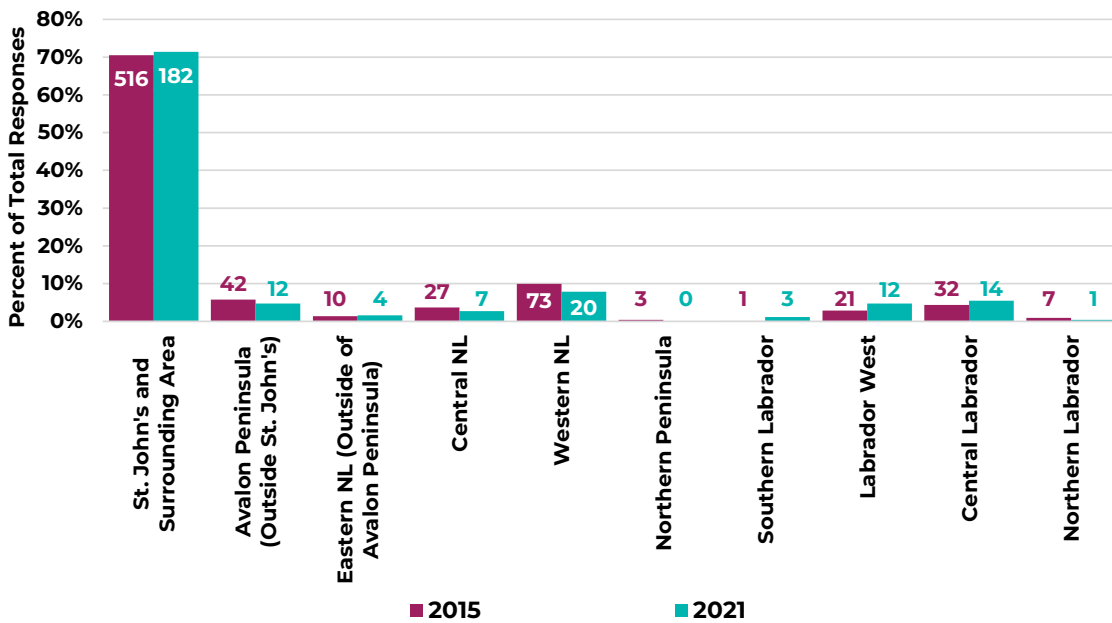


Figure 2. Geographical Location of Respondents Who Completed Quadrangle NL's Needs Assessment Survey, 2015 and 2021

- In 2015, 71% of survey respondents lived in St. John's and surrounding areas and 8% lived in Labrador.
- In 2021, 76% of survey respondents lived in St. John's and surrounding areas and 12% lived in Labrador.

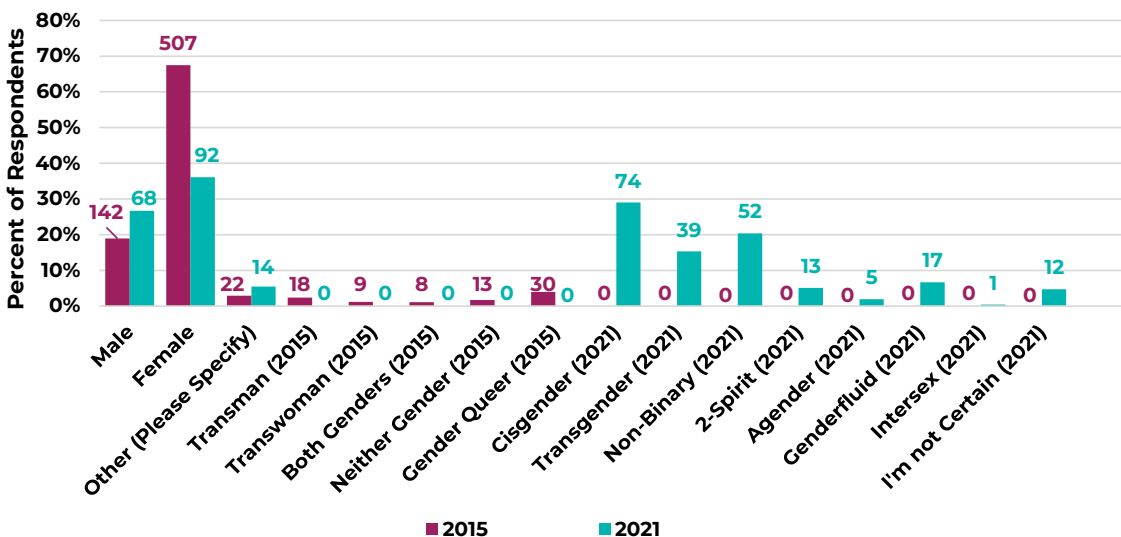


Figure 3. Gender of Respondents Who Completed Quadrangle NL's Needs Assessment Survey, 2015 and 2021

- The question on gender identity used in the survey differed in 2015 and 2021 with additional response options added in 2021.
- In 2021, most respondents selected cisgender (n=74), however 52 respondents selected non-binary and 39 respondents selected transgender.

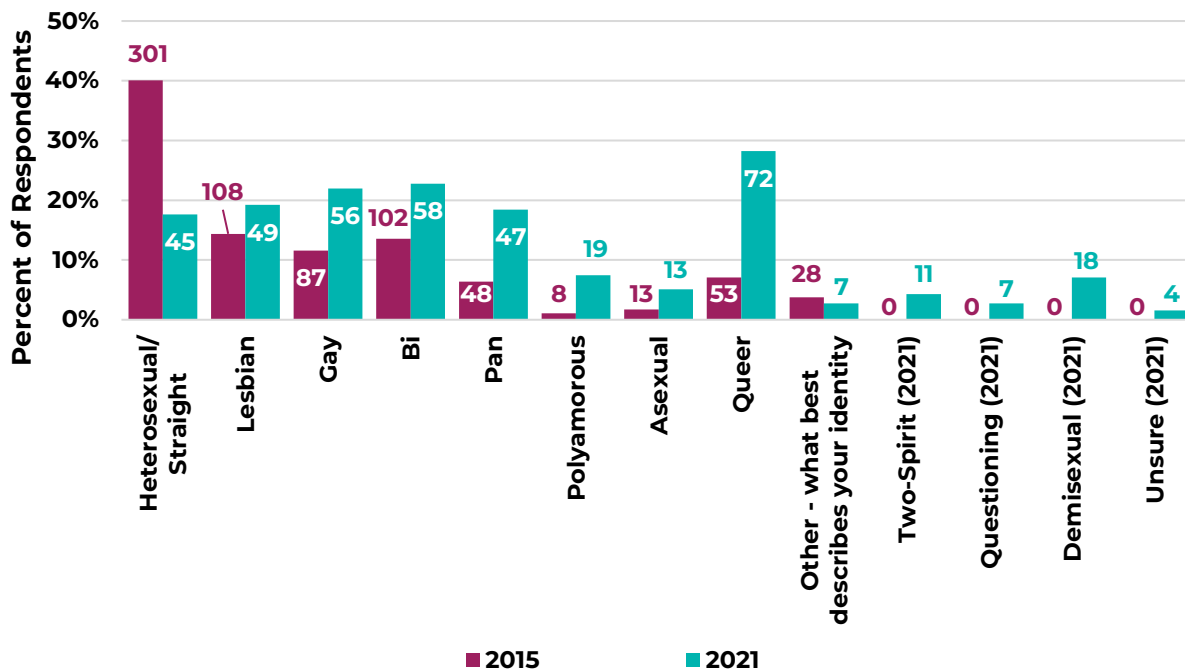


Figure 4. Sexuality of Respondents Who Completed Quadrangle NL's Needs Assessment Survey, 2015 and 2021

- The question on sexuality used in the survey differed in 2015 and 2021 with additional response options added in 2021. Only one response could be chosen in 2015, whereas in 2021 multiple options could be selected.
- In 2021, the most prevalent response was queer (n=72). Other common responses included bisexual (n=58), gay (n=56), lesbian (n=49), pansexual (n=47), and straight (n=45).

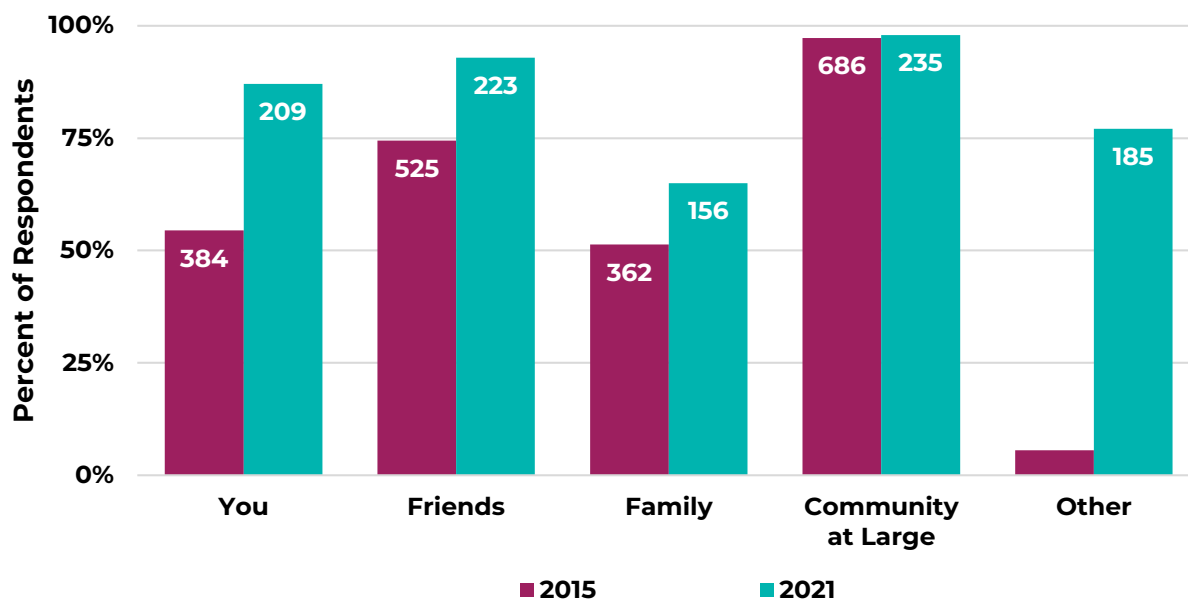


Figure 5. Respondents' Views of the Benefit of a 2SLGBTQIA+ Community Centre for Various Groups, 2015 and 2021

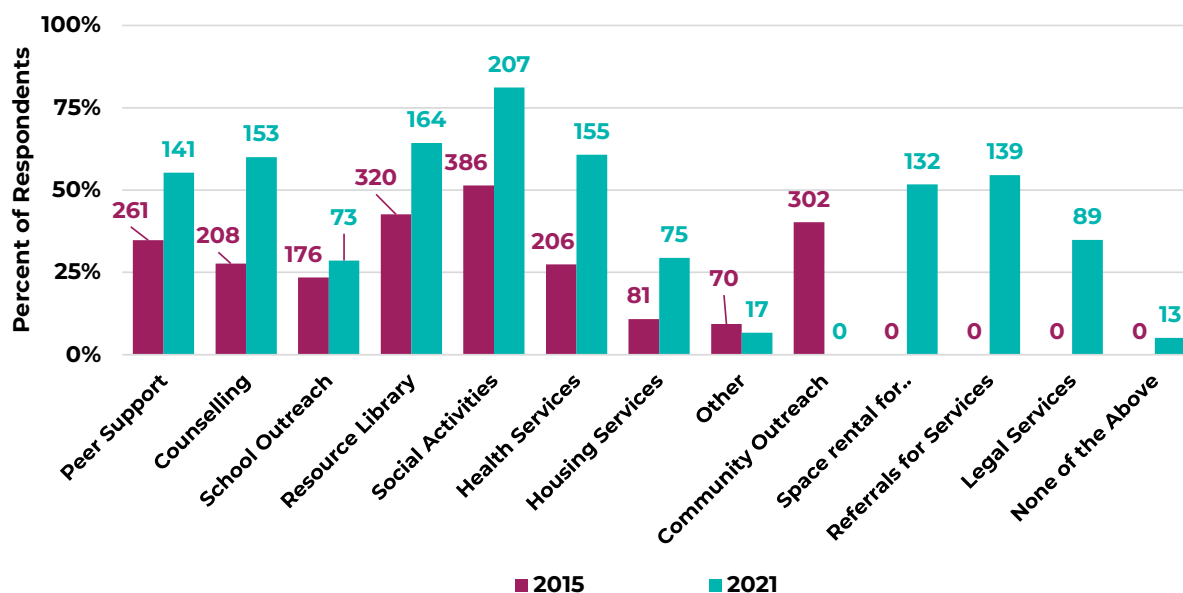


Figure 6. Respondents' Views on 2SLGBTQIA+ Community Centre Services they Would Use, 2015 and 2021

- Both surveys asked about a 2SLGBTQIA+ community centre and responses were overwhelmingly supportive of the benefit of a community centre to themselves, friends, the community and, to a lesser degree, family.
- When asked about what services they would use at a community centre the most common responses were socialization, resources, health services, counselling, and peer support.

Conclusions

Key recommendations from the needs assessment report:

1. Ensure the safety of members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.
2. Live up to the ideals of inclusion, diversity, and accessibility.
3. Build a central 2SLGBTQIA+ community centre.
4. Host or support more events in Labrador and outside of the St. John's area.
5. Advocate for informed health care providers who can meet the unique needs of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, especially those of transgender individuals.
6. Build a social space for people to make connections with their community.

For more information about Quadrangle NL, please visit: <https://www.thequadnl.com/>.