

# Old Grace Housing Co-operative

## Report to Members

### Survey of Residents on Use of Basement Rooms, April, 2019

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#### Preamble

**In preparation for open discussion of potential uses of basement rooms**, an online survey was carried out from March 25 to April 5, 2019. Responses were received from 41 members representing 36 suites.

Following analysis of multiple-choice items, all text responses were sorted by theme. They are available online via [www.oldgracehousingcoop.ca/common-area-proposals](http://www.oldgracehousingcoop.ca/common-area-proposals)

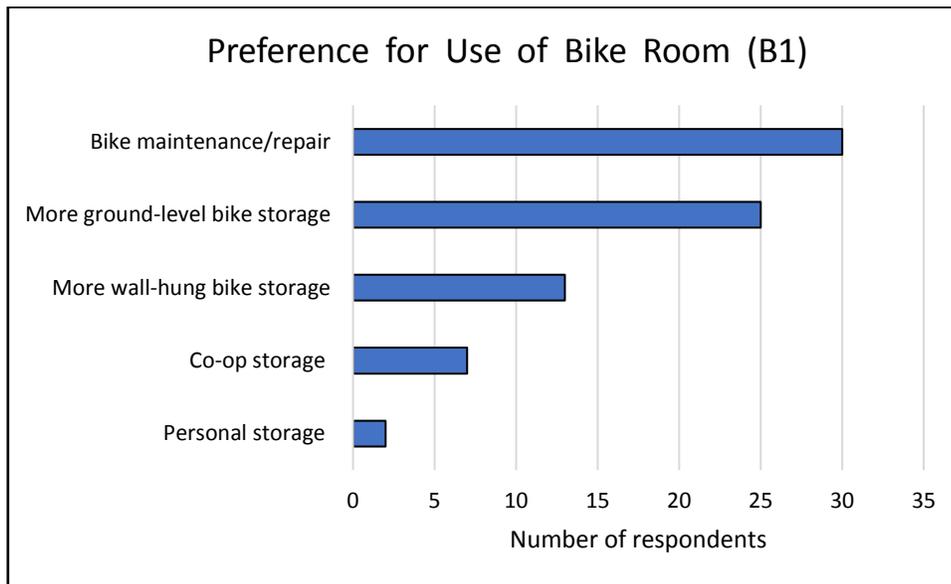
These results were reported to the OGHC Board on 17 April 2019.

A printed copy of this report is posted on the bulletin board over the mailboxes.

A spreadsheet containing the raw, unsorted responses (with names and unit numbers removed) is also available for examination via the above web link.

Sandra Hardy  
Carl von Baeyer

## Bicycle Room (B1)



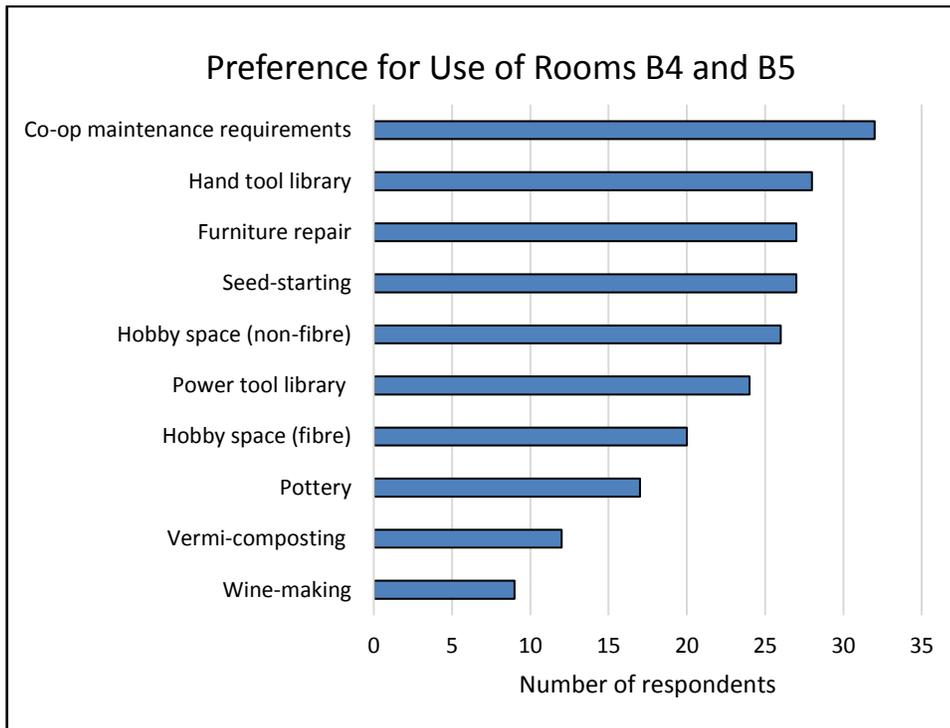
### Interpretation

- Promotion and support of cycling is seen as consistent with our co-op's goals.
- There is lots of interest in use of the room for bike maintenance and repair.
- There is support for more floor-level bike storage for those who have trouble lifting their bikes up to the wall-mounted racks, and support for more bike storage in general.
- Many people are concerned about security of the room and some have suggestions about improvements.
- There is very little support for use of the Bike Room for storage of any other items, either co-op or personal

### Themes of respondents' comments on Bike Room

1. Our co-op's goals
2. Storage
3. Security
4. Other activities in the Bike Room
5. Other comments

## General Purpose Rooms B4 and B5



This section addresses (1) Other uses of Rooms B4 and B5, and (2) Concerns about all uses.

All respondents' comments on both questions are shown (page 9), sorted into themes.

Subsequent to the survey, the Maintenance Committee concluded that the storage lockers for the townhouse residents (currently in room B4) could be moved to the storage locker room. This will increase the range of possible uses for room B4.

### Interpretation

- There is strong support for maintenance, repair and carpentry workspace and tools in one room or the other.
- There is support for seed-starting with a proviso about lighting and space requirements.
- There is support for numerous forms of other arts and crafts, but with concerns raised about dust, lighting, and security for items such as sewing machines.
- Pottery has some support but we would not be able to provide the space, power, or fire safety arrangements required for a kiln, so it is probably ruled out.
- Vermicomposting is of interest to a minority of respondents, but there are concerns about space required, odours, and necessary maintenance. It is probably ruled out.
- Wine-making was the activity selected by the smallest number of members and drawing the largest number of negative comments. All but one of the comments on wine-making express

concerns about odours, fruit flies, space requirements, and especially about making and storing alcohol in a common area accessible to youth and people with alcohol dependency. It can probably be ruled out.

- The Board might consider for approval those activities for which there is an identified group of interested members and one or two contact people willing to coordinate and plan shared use of space and to generate any required policies.

### **Themes of respondents' comments about other uses and concerns in relation to Rooms B4 / B5**

#### **(A) Comments on suggested uses**

1. Bike repair
2. Carpentry and repair
3. Fabric and other arts and crafts
4. Gardening and composting
5. Storage
6. Wine making
7. Other suggestions

#### **(B) Concerns about uses of the rooms**

1. Gardening and composting
2. Pottery
3. Security
4. Winemaking
5. Messiness, dust, and noise
6. Organization of activities
7. General and other comments