A sense of belonging...  
...is one of the building blocks of healthy, vibrant communities. *Belonging, in a community sense, is how connected and valued people feel.* Vital Signs draws links to how our sense of belonging—and our individual and community wellbeing—are influenced by factors such as safety, income, educational attainment, recreation and cultural opportunities, and much more.

We invite you to look through the report and decide what needs to be prioritized. Vital Signs should spur conversations—encourage all of us to share our ideas about how we can work individually and collectively to shape communities where people feel welcome and have a strong sense of wellbeing.

Anything we do locally impacts us globally. We are proud that by aligning the work of our Vital Signs with the SDGs, our report can be a tool for making that link between the local to the global. While the SDGs are ambitious goals, it is when we work together—one step at a time—with those beyond our local borders, that we can create a sustainable future that includes us all.

Tracey Vavrek, CEO   Natasha Collins-DeCoste, Board Chair

Find the SDG colour wheels on pages 6 to 31 as they relate to Vital Signs
Sustainable Development Goals: Targeting economic, social & environmental development

In 2015, the United Nations launched 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with the aim of shifting the world toward a more sustainable and resilient path by 2030. This year, we are measuring our communities’ wellbeing with the help of the SDG lens. The goals align well with Vital Signs. By connecting our actions here at home with those occurring at a global level, we’re better able to understand our work as part of a larger effort.

A greater sense of belonging . . .

. . . has the capacity to transform our lives and the places we live. It translates into safer, more resilient and inclusive communities; is integral to our health and well-being; creates a flourishing and diverse culture; and inspires relationship-building and community participation.

What is Northwestern Alberta’s Vital Signs®?

Northwestern Alberta’s Vital Signs brings together research – statistics and community perceptions – along with community action to provide a snapshot of our communities and the people who live here. This knowledge-driven tool highlights where our strengths are as communities and where the gaps lie. Vital Signs invites every citizen and leader to identify priorities, start conversations, and make informed decisions to drive positive change – where no one is left behind.

How to use this report

Become More Informed
Join citizens and leaders who use Vital Signs as a tool to better understand life in Northwestern Alberta to shape resilient vibrant communities.

Spark Dialogue
Behind each number is a story. Talk to those around you about the real impact of the data on our communities.

Make Informed Donor Choices
Vital Signs connects donors to local needs, so you can direct your support where it is most needed.

Take Action
What issues matter most to you? Vital Signs is a knowledge-tool aimed at supporting informed action to improve our collective quality of life.

The Methodology: How did we develop the report?

Vital Signs Leadership Committee
A volunteer panel of community representatives provides expertise and guidance throughout the production of the report.

Online Citizen Opinion Survey
Conducted in Spring 2019, the voluntary survey targeted citizens ages 15 and older in the City of Grande Prairie, County of Grande Prairie, and the MD of Greenview. It was promoted in schools and through email, media and social media, community newsletters and local organizations.

Indicator Data Sources
Data was collected from national, provincial and local sources. Community Foundations of Canada retained the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) to undertake national research.

Indicator Selection
Factors that determine indicators are:
• Credibility of the source
• Availability of up-to-date data
• Potential for future updates
• Relevancy to communities
• Perceived public interest

For the purposes of this report:
We use the term ‘Indigenous’ to be an inclusive term that encompasses all who identify as First Nation, Métis, or Inuit, while recognizing their unique cultural identities.

We use the terms City, County and Greenview to refer to the City of Grande Prairie, County of Grande Prairie and MD of Greenview respectively.

View the full report with all data and sources
www.buildingtommorwtoday.com
Land Acknowledgements

Why we recognize we are on Treaty 8 Territory
When you attend public events, it’s likely you have heard it acknowledged that we are on the traditional territory of Treaty 8. You may not, however, understand what this means. In preparing this Vital Signs, we are grateful for the guidance and support of the Grande Prairie Friendship Centre. We also appreciate the opportunity to share with you the Land Acknowledgement Resource created by the Grande Prairie Aboriginal Circle of Services (GPACOS).

As noted in this resource: “GPACOS recognizes that this area is full of wonderfully diverse and unique Indigenous peoples and histories, and respects that this resource may not suit everyone. We encourage those utilizing this resource to reflect on the wording and engage in dialogue with other Indigenous folks.”

Please see the Vital Signs sources on the CFNWAB website for a link to this document.

The following can help us better understand the Land Acknowledgements:

Homeland for First Nations & Métis:
Often, homeland is used only for Métis peoples within the area. However, the term homeland also encompasses the various First Nations people of the area. As such, it has been used for both First Nations and Métis acknowledgement.

Homeland before Treaty:
Often, acknowledgement of the Treaty is first within a Land Acknowledgement. However, the Treaty is an agreement that was made with settlers later in history - the Indigenous peoples had been on this land since time immemorial. As such, we feel it is important to recognize the homeland before the Treaty.

Acknowledging our Ancestors:
While certain groups of people continue to live on this land, there are many no longer present today that have a strong history and tie to the land. Thus, we acknowledge the people and the Ancestors.

First Nations:
Sometimes specific First Nations are acknowledged within the area, such as Cree and Beaver. However, this potentially leaves out important groups. Instead, we have chosen the term First Nations to encompass the various peoples of this area.

Métis Region:
Sometimes the Métis Region is acknowledged for Métis peoples. However, some Métis peoples are tied to their settlements not the region. Instead, we have chosen the term homeland to encompass the lands in which the Métis peoples whose land we are on.

Acknowledging Treaty:
In some cases, Indigenous people reject the term Treaty due to the oppressive and colonial history of treaties. While this is an educational piece to share, Treaty 8 still exists and continues to affect the lives of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people today. Thus, we feel it is important to acknowledge and recognize that we are in traditional territory of Treaty 8.

Gratitude:
We have added that “we are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Treaty 8.” This ties the past to the present and recognizes where we stand today. It also expresses necessary gratitude and brings a good feeling to the acknowledgement.

A treaty is a historical agreement between First Nations people and the Canadian government that outlines how the land would be shared by all. It was agreed by all parties that the terms of Treaty 8 would be followed for “as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the rivers flow”. On June 21, 1899, the eighth treaty between the Indians of North America and the Queen of England was signed. The signatories of Treaty 8 agreed to its terms for reasons of peace and friendship – ensuring what they thought would be a partnership.

http://www.treaty8.ca/
POPULATION SNAPSHOT

Recognizing the unique socio-demographic profile of a region is an important first step in understanding the needs and circumstances of its residents.

Alberta
Population 4,067,175
Median Age 36.7
Population Growth 11.6%***

Canada
Population 35,151,728
Median Age 41.2
Population Growth 5.0%***

City of Grande Prairie
Population Growth*** 13.5%
Population (federal census) 63,166
Indigenous Identity 10.6%
Visible Minority 11.9%
Immigrant 10.7%
Median Total Income* $118,026
Average Household Size 2.6
Median Age 31.9
Male: 50.8% Female: 49.2%
Age 0-14: 21.7% 15-64: 71.2% 65+: 7.1%
Top Places of Birth:
Immigrants Philippines, India, United Kingdom
United States, Germany
Recent Immigrants Philippines, India, Nigeria, Mexico, United States

County of Grande Prairie No.1
Population growth*** 13.5%
Population 22,303
Indigenous Identity 6.9%
Visible Minority 2.0%
Immigrant 4.6%
Median Total Income* $134,049
Average Household Size 2.9
Median Age 36.7
Male: 51.5% Female: 48.5%
Age 0-14: 23.3% 15-64: 67.7% 65+: 9.0%
Top Places of Birth:
Immigrants United States, Germany, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Philippines
Recent Immigrants Philippines

MD of Greenview No. 16
Population growth*** 5.4%
Population 5,583
Indigenous Identity 13.4%
Visible Minority 1.3%
Immigrant 4.0%
Median Total Income* $102,016
Average Household Size 2.6
Median Age 39.9
Male: 52.1% Female: 47.9%
Age 0-14: 20.4% 15-64: 66.0% 65+: 13.6%
Top Places of Birth:
Immigrants United States, Germany, Belize, Mexico
Recent**

On January 1, 2019, the former Town of Grande Cache became designated as a hamlet administered by the MD of Greenview.

Hamlet of Grande Cache
(based on 2016 federal census)
Population 3,571
Median Age 36.5
Learning

Communities that thrive encourage a thirst for knowledge – at every age and stage of life. As the world changes, education at all life stages helps Canadians adapt to new challenges.

Investing in our Communities

The YMCA of Northern Alberta’s After School Learning Adventure provides a fun, comfortable social environment for youth to complete their school work, which encourages peer tutoring and promotes the importance of literacy and skill-building through educational initiatives.

Grande Prairie Regional College (GPRC) Enrolment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Full-time</th>
<th>Part-time</th>
<th>Indigenous (self-identified)</th>
<th>Apprenticeship</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>1,155</td>
<td>989</td>
<td>1,149</td>
<td>2,491</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017-2018</td>
<td>1,155</td>
<td>989</td>
<td>1,149</td>
<td>2,242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-2019</td>
<td>1,155</td>
<td>989</td>
<td>1,149</td>
<td>2,177</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mean age of students: 25.2 years (2018-19)

Canadian Youth & Current Affairs

Canadian youth (ages 15-30) who stated they rarely or never follow news & current affairs:

12% (2003)  23% (2013)

Of those youth who follow the news/current affairs, 77% use the Internet, more than 2X the rate of older Canadians.

Fact:

91% of Canadians believe sports participation teaches children important life skills.

Investing in Students to Help Them Achieve their Post-Secondary Goals

Since 2005, the Community Foundation of Northwestern Alberta has invested in 252 post-secondary students to assist them with costs of education. In 2018, 33 post-secondary students were recipients of

$34,990 in financial support.

Did you know?

Research suggests that children who experience a greater sense of holistic well-being are more likely to

learn effectively, engage in healthy social behaviours, and invest in other’s well-being.

School Mental Health Support

County of Grande Prairie Community School Liaison Counsellors provided service to 839 students (2018-19) and 668 students (2017-18) either one on one or in a group setting. Themes centre around issues creating increased anxiety for students.
Building Relationships and Understanding

The KAIROS Blanket Exercise program is a unique, participatory history lesson – developed in collaboration with Indigenous Elders, knowledge keepers and educators – fostering truth, understanding, respect and reconciliation among Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.

This past year, the Grande Prairie Friendship Centre hosted several Blanket Exercises, including a barrier-free exercise in partnership with Spinal Cord Injury Alberta.

Sleep Boosts Brain Health

Approximately ¾ of Canadian school-aged children & youth meet the sleep recommendation within the Canadian 24-Hour Movement Guidelines for Children and Youth. 84% of 3-4-year-olds meet the sleep recommendation.

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In a Canadian workplace study, volunteer activities were cited by managers as boosting employee morale. What’s more, volunteering often augments the skill sets and experience of volunteers, helping their own labour market success and the business success of their employers.

Investing in our Communities
Low literacy skills are directly linked to poverty, poor health and high unemployment. Frontier College’s network of volunteers provides excellent and effective programming to improve literacy in communities.

Local Food in Alberta:

$1 billion growing market
- Farm retail purchases: $303.7 million (2016), up from $154.3 million (2012)
- Farmer’s market purchases: $924.5 million (2016), up from $724.0 million (2012)
- Market value of restaurants chosen for serving Alberta food ingredients: $395.6 million (2016), up from $373.9 million (2012)

Local food purchases Alberta households, 2016
- 78% purchased at a farmers’ market
- 36% purchased at a farm retail
- 23% chose restaurants because they use Alberta food ingredients

Women in Trades (Canada)
20.7% of female apprentices were in male-dominated programs. In contrast, 0.5% of male apprentices chose a female-dominated program.

Factors associated with female apprentices selecting a male-dominated apprenticeship:
- Canadian-born
- Older in age
- Father with a trades certificate
- Participant in Youth Apprenticeship program or trade, vocational or technical program in high school

Indigenous Businesses
As of Jan 2017, there were 1,725 businesses in Alberta Indigenous communities (9% of total Indigenous businesses in Canada).

Alberta’s share of total revenue generated by businesses in Indigenous communities:
- 26% ($390 million) non-employer businesses
- 3% ($1.1 billion) businesses with employees

Economic Impact of Alberta’s Charitable Sector
Charitable organizations in Alberta spend approximately $18.4 billion on salaries and other compensation, and contribute a total of $33.4 billion in total expenditures to our economy. Sector employees are well educated, with 70.0% having a post-secondary education.

Entrepreneurial City
Grande Prairie was named the 6th most entrepreneurial community in Canada (2018) by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business.

Unemployment Rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Canada</th>
<th>Alberta</th>
<th>Grande Prairie City Greenview Economic Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 2018</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2019</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2019</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
One half of Canadian youth ages 25-30 conduct transactions on the Internet at least weekly – almost twice that of older Canadians.

Debt and Canada’s Youth
Millenials are now the largest generation of people in Canada. They’re the most educated and diverse generation, but they face unique challenges. They have higher assets and net worth than young Gen-Xers, but they also carry more debt.

Growing Trade Area, 2018
The Grande Prairie area’s total market size exceeds $4.7 billion in retail spending, mainly due to its large and growing trade area population of almost 290,000.

More Community Organizations Face Higher Risk of Stress
Almost 2/3 of community organizations in Grande Prairie have 10 or fewer employees.

Research shows that organizations with fewer paid staff (< 10) are more likely to experience stress, compared to those with larger numbers of employees, or those that are entirely voluntary.

81% of Albertans that died of opioid poisoning (2017) were employed in the following occupations:
53% Trades, transport & equipment operators
16% Sales & services
8% Natural resources & agriculture
4% Business, finance & administration

About 18% of employed Albertans worked in the trades, transport & equipment operators category (2016).

2019 Vital Signs Survey of those survey respondents who are post-secondary students, Employment Opportunities 65% was their top choice when selecting community strengths, Recreation 47% was their second choice.

Drilling Rig Moves
County of Grande Prairie
Drilling Rig Moves are a helpful tool to measure exploration activity.

Service Rig Moves
County of Grande Prairie
Service Rig Moves are a good indicator of the service industry overall, such as wells completed, maintaining operating wells, etc.

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2019 Vital Signs Survey of those survey respondents who are post-secondary students, Employment Opportunities 65% was their top choice when selecting community strengths, Recreation 47% was their second choice.
Indigenous knowledge—including language, traditions and ceremonies—contributes in significant ways to Indigenous people’s sense of identity and belonging. It’s an important activity and key aspect of well-being.

First Nations Information Governance Centre, National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health

**Investing in our Communities**

The Elder’s Caring Shelter Society of Grande Prairie Youth and Elder Retreat connects Indigenous elders with youth locally, facilitating a connection between the generations and sharing of the heart of their community with each other through arts and culture.

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**Arts, Culture & Recreation**

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**Breaking Records in 2019**

Art Gallery of Grande Prairie

The recent exhibition Itchiku Kubota: What Do the Mountain Spirits Ponder?

November & December 2018

Record breaking attendance

January 2019

Highest attendance in gallery’s 44-year history

Best selling exhibition catalogue in gallery’s 44-year history

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**Sports for people with developmental disabilities reduces isolation**

for athletes and their caregivers alike.

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**Walking With Our Sisters (WWOS)**

In June 2018, the Art Gallery of Grande Prairie worked with the Grande Prairie Aboriginal Circle of Services and the Walking with our Sisters Committee to host a 9-day memorial exhibition honouring missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and two-spirited individuals.

---

**Parks, trails and greenspaces** provide opportunities for residents to be active, connect and strengthen feelings of belonging.

Local: In a local recreation survey, 91% of respondents agree that recreation brings the community together.

National: 98% of Canadians believe that recreation and parks are essential services.

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**Gap:**

According to Statistics Canada, children who live in unsafe neighborhoods, children of new immigrants and children coming from low-income families are less likely to participate in sports.

**Opportunity:**

For children, joining a sports team is an opportunity to learn, create new friendships, and develop fundamental skills.

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**Lakes, Rivers and “Catch” Opportunities**

A diverse set of waterways throughout Greenview offers anglers a fishing experience for walleye, whitefish, jackfish or rainbow trout. The area offers catch and release fishing for bull trout, Arctic grayling, walleye, pike and Rocky Mountain whitefish.

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**Alaska Culture & Sport Sector Employment**

66,584 Albertans were employed in the Culture & Sport Sector in 2017.

Between 2014 & 2017:

- **Culture sector jobs** decreased by 8.4%
- **Recreation sector jobs** increased by 4.4%
More “Urban” Fishing Opportunities
The County Sportsplex Pond, new in 2018, offers all-ages recreational angling. The catch and release pond, a partnership with the Alberta Conservation Association, is annually stocked with about 2,220 rainbow trout.

The Muskoseepi Pond, located in Grande Prairie, is stocked seasonally with trout by Alberta Fish and Wildlife.

Camping Popular Among Locals
68% of Grande Prairie Area Recreation Master Plan survey respondents indicated their household participates in camping.

Moving the Body in Mindful Ways
Green View FCSS partners with the schools in Valleyview and surrounding areas to offer students in Grades 3 and 6 a MindUp program that bring awareness to issues such as healthy relationships, coping with challenging emotions, broadening perspectives, and moving the body in mindful ways.

Art Gallery of Grande Prairie visits increase 2018/19 season
24,600 visitors (15% increase over year prior)

Physical Activity and Canadian Children and Youth
Only 35% of 5-to-17-year-olds are reaching their recommended physical activity levels as outlined in the Canadian 24-Hour Movement Guidelines for Children and Youth.

Just 62% of 3-to-4-year-olds are achieving the recommended activity levels for their age group.

Philip J Currie Dinosaur Museum Visitors, 2019
26% Greater Grande Prairie area
30% rest of Alberta
25% British Columbia
13% rest of Canada
6% outside of Canada.

Record Visitor Numbers, 2019
On International Museum Day (May), a free admission day was held in cooperation with two City of Grande Prairie museums. The PJCDM had 1,930 visitors, the single most number of visitors in one day since the soft opening in September 2015.

Annual Canadian Death Race, Grande Cache Alive and Well
1,100 runners in 2019
Up from 800 in 2018 & 600 in 2017
(Not including child participants.)

Building Relationships Through the Arts
People who frequent arts venues have high rates of volunteering - up to 2x higher than non-attendees - report better physical and mental health, and report higher satisfaction with life.
Environment

From the resources that fuel our economy to the medicines that heal us, and the happiness of outdoor enthusiasts to the lessons that guide many religious or spiritual beliefs, the wellbeing of people depends on the state of the environment.

Investing in our Communities

A GPRC student research project currently underway, in collaboration with the Community Foundation of Northwestern Alberta, is building knowledge of the environmental sector in Northwestern Alberta by creating an inventory report to address environmental issues, educate citizens and identify local opportunities for change through stewardship and action.

Waste to Power

In 2018, Aquatera’s Bioreactor Landfill produced enough electricity to power 926 homes and heat 90 homes for one year.

Alberta’s first commercial-scale geothermal facility, to be located in the MD of Greenview, will generate 5 megawatts of electricity annually (enough to power about 6,800 homes) and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by about 20,000 tonnes per year.

Bottle Donation Program 2018

Keeping bottles out of the landfill and putting dollars into the community. Bottles donated raise funds to support community organizations.

Aquatera

$56,000

Paleontological Activity

Philip J Currie Dinosaur Museum

2019

Over 250 fossil specimens collected at 4 major sites + Pipestone Creek Bonebed

2018

238 fossil specimens collected at 3 major sites + Pipestone Creek Bonebed

Eco-Industrial Park in Greenview

The Tri-Municipal Partnership (TMIP) is a proposed world-class heavy eco-industrial park - a partnership between Greenview, the County, and the City - that aims to responsibly & sustainably blend industrial development with the natural environment.

Aquatera Total Residential Per Dwelling Recycling & Garbage Collected
Connecting Science Class to the Real World
1,200 local Grade 6 students visited Wapiti Ski Trails in 2018 to learn about the forest industry & sustainability practices.

Planting Livable & Edible Communities
272 fruit trees, bushes & plant varieties planted by City staff (2018)
110 trees/shrubs planted by City volunteers on TD Tree Days (2018)
TD Tree Days Goal: 1 million trees planted in Canada & the US by 2030

Urban Litter Increasing
In 2018, the City Parks Department disposed of 219 tonnes of litter found around parks & public areas.
Up 32% from 2017.

Roadside Clean-Up
In 2019, 30 non-profit organizations participated in the County Roadside Clean-up, helping remove several tonnes of garbage over several hundred km of ditches. $50,000 was raised for their programs.

Energy Efficiency
Since the creation of Energy Efficiency Alberta in 2017, nearly 8% of Grande Prairie homes have been upgraded with energy-efficient products.

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Did you know?
Every year, over 20 eagles spend the winter at the Aquatera Landfill, leaving in late Spring.

Grande Prairie City Council set emission reduction targets of 20% for the organization (to be reached by 2019) and 6% for the community (to be achieved by 2030).

Change in GHG emissions:
City Operations
11% reduction from a 3-yr average (2014/15/16) to 2017
Community
3% reduction from a 3-yr average (2014/15/16) to 2017

National Honey Bee Health Survey
From 2014-18, the National Bee Diagnostic Centre in Beaverlodge conducted a National Honey Bee Health Survey, the first study of its kind in Canada. The study will provide baseline data for bee health for use in future analysis.

A substantial part of Canadian agriculture, honey bees contribute approximately $4.6 billion annually from pollination services and bee products. Over recent years, the declining health of honey bees has resulted in some beekeepers losing up to 25%-35% of their colonies over winter.
**Health & Wellness**

According to the Journal of Public Health, an increased sense of community belonging is just as important as developing healthcare policies and programs that meet the needs of individuals.

A 2018 Conference Board of Canada report showed a link between positive health outcomes and volunteering. Researchers found that people who volunteered showed improvements in health issues like mortality, mental health and life satisfaction.

**Investing in our Communities**

The Suicide Prevention Resource Centre’s Breakfast Club is a co-ed program for youth ages 9-17-years-old that helps participants deal with mental health issues. The fun and interactive program gives them tools and strategies to cope with feelings such as stress and anxiety, and the opportunity to interact with peers.

**Persons Living with Disabilities**

22.3% of Canadians* 15 years & over have a disability. The most common types of disabilities are pain-related, flexibility and mobility.

*Disability information is not currently available at the community level for our area.

**Proportion of Population 12 years and over without a Regular Medical Doctor 2015-16**

Access to a family doctor is a more effective means of sustaining good health than is the episodic use of emergency care.

North Zone 27.3%
Alberta 18.7%
Canada 17.5%

**Sexually Transmitted Infections**

3,405 STI/HIV cases were reported in the AHS North Zone.

**% Increase or Decrease compared to 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North Zone</th>
<th>Alberta</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chlamydia</td>
<td>NO CHANGE</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gonorrhea</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>13.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infectious syphilis</td>
<td>324.5%</td>
<td>187.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Most Common Types of Disabilities in Canadians**

Seniors: pain, mobility and/or flexibility, and hearing

Ages 15 & over: mental health disabilities (7%) are ranked 4th in prevalence.

Youth: mental health-related (8%) are the most common type, followed by learning (6%) and pain-related (4%)

**Births - Grande Prairie**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1171</td>
<td>1217</td>
<td>1249</td>
<td>1171</td>
<td>1169</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Vaping in Canada (2017)**

23% of youth (15-19), 29% of young adults (20-24) & 13% of adults (25+) had tried vaping.

Youth vaping rate remained the same compared to 2015. Adult vaping increased from 11% (2015)

**Youth Accessing Walk-In Clinics**

48% of Alberta youth rely on walk-in clinics for their health care needs.

3/4 of youth were “uncomfortable” or “very uncomfortable” discussing their trans status and trans specific health care needs with doctors at a walk-in clinic.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDG): Refer to page 2
Support in our Homes
Local Home Support programs provide services like light housekeeping to assist people when it becomes difficult to manage their homes, increasing overall wellbeing and independence, and improving quality of life.

As our senior population grows, so does service demand. Seniors are a large percentage of local program clients.

86% County Home Support
70% City Home Support
89% Green View Home Support

More Options for Childbirth
In November 2018, Grande Prairie became the first area in the Alberta Health Services North Zone to contract midwives.

Currently, three resident midwives serve the area.

Number of Suicide-Related Calls to Alberta Health Services Health Link Alberta (2015-2018)

Cyberbullying on the Rise
Nearly 100% of Canadian youth ages 15-30 use the Internet daily or own a smartphone.

(17%) of youth ages 15-30 said they were cyberbullied or cyberstalked within the past 5 years.

Accidental Fentanyl Related Poisoning Deaths in Grande Prairie
Jan 1 to Mar 31, 2019
The City of Grande Prairie had the highest rate of accidental fentanyl-related poisoning deaths at 59.0 per 100,000 population, followed by the City of Lethbridge (36.7).

Cyclists ages 12 and over Who Always or Most of the Time Wear a Helmet While Cycling

Supervised Consumption Site
This year, Northreach Society opened Grande Prairie’s first site, and Alberta’s only mobile supervised consumption site.

March 11 to June 30, 2019:
• 2,326 visits by 129 individuals
• 287 referrals to health & social services
• 57 overdoses responded to by staff with 0 fatalities
• 2,158 needles dropped off for disposal
Belonging & Leadership

Belonging can perhaps be best understood as something people experience when they feel accepted and valued for who they are, regardless of the norms by which our culture assigns worth, such as income level, educational attainment, ethnicity, and/or health status.

Investing in our Communities

The Centre for Creative Arts Society of Grande Prairie Healing Arts program is designed to enrich the lives of local community members that face a variety of barriers. Through art instruction, discussion, studio time and exhibition opportunity H.A.P.I allows individuals a chance to express themselves, build self-esteem, find hidden talents and experience a sense of positive accomplishment.

Vital Signs Survey 2019

Respondents ages 65 & over:
88.4% always vote in elections (compared to 74.1% of all respondents 18 & over)
31.6% volunteer at least once per week (compared to 11.4% of all respondents)

Canadian Youth and Civic Engagement

Canadian youth (15-30) are less likely to vote but still socially & civicly engaged:

- 67% are members of a group or association vs. 65% for the general population
- 48% volunteer
- 71% gave to a charitable or non-profit organization
- 45% have confidence in Canadian Parliament vs. 38% for the general population

Giving

The proportion of people who give is shrinking each year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>% of people who donate:</th>
<th>Average annual donations:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

However, those donors are giving larger amounts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Average annual donations:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Did you know?

Charitable donations are more common among people who take part in cultural activities.

2019 Alberta Provincial Election Voter Turnout (%)

Voting is a sign of being connected to community.

Elections Alberta Unofficial Results

Did you know?

People involved in activism rate higher on several indicators of well-being. It’s more than just agitating for change—it’s also about building stronger connections to community through people and causes.
A Culture of Helping Out
Indigenous people have strong cultural traditions of sharing and caring for each other without expectations of payment. The term volunteer does not even exist in most Indigenous languages, because helping out – people’s responsibility to each other – is such an inherent part of life.

Volunteering
More than 8 in 10 Canadians provided unpaid help to others who were on their own (2014). However, since the 2008 recession, formal volunteering is on the decline (49.1% in 2014).

Faith and Sense of Belonging
Religion and faith can be an important source of belonging, maintaining social relationships, and a feeling of interconnectedness. People who have a strong connection to a spiritual community are more likely to have positive mental, physical and emotional health outcomes.

Community Helpers
Mental health peer support training to enhance the helping skills of youth who are natural helpers.

In 2018-19:
394 Community Helpers were trained or partially trained at 5 schools

Regular Attendance in Group Activities Leads to Closer Connections
77% of Canadians who took part in group activities or meetings at least once per month have more than 10 friends or acquaintances compared with 59% of those who had participated less often and 45% of those who never participated in group activities.

Leadership Program for Local LGBTQ Youth
About 5% to 8% of Canadian youth (15-30) consider themselves to be either homosexual or bisexual.

Volunteering can be a measurement of community engagement.

% of Population 12+
Community Belonging
In 2015-16 in the Alberta Health Services North Zone, 71.9% of the population 12 and over reported a strong or somewhat strong sense of community belonging. This is higher than the national rate (68.4%), and the provincial rate (69.5%).
Gap in Standard of Living

As communities become more socially inclusive, they support resilience in their citizens, resulting in individuals, families and communities that have the means to cope with both the ups and downs of day-to-day life, but also with the additional stresses that arise from larger disruptions.

City of Grande Prairie Social Sustainability Framework 2018

Investing in our Communities

The Society for Support to Pregnant and Parenting Teens provides support programming for adolescent parents and their children offering a wide range of services with the goal of empowering pregnant and parenting teens to make positive decisions.

The Salvation Army Grande Prairie

Demand for the Salvation Army’s meals and hampers continue to rise (2018).

29,378 meals served
(increase of 16.6% over 2017)
2,950 hampers (increase of 15.7%)

Served
3,800 families
1,300 children
5,670 individuals

Food Insecurity in Alberta

1 in 10 households experience food insecurity

Communities Addressing Food Insecurity

The Grande Prairie Friendship Centre provides hot meals to individuals at risk or in need.
Beaverlodge Food Bank usage has increased. The food bank and Christmas Hamper program support local families in times of need, especially during the holidays.
Food drives are an opportunity to donate healthy non-perishable items.

Low Income: Barrier to Accessing Sustainably Grown Foods

Canadians and Albertans living with low-incomes are less likely to access smaller specialty grocers and farmers markets, where sustainably grown foods are more likely to be readily available.

Persons Living with Disabilities: Income Levels & Employment (Canada)

Almost 1/3 of working age adults with more severe disabilities are living in poverty, compared with 14% of those with milder disabilities and 10% of those without disabilities.

The highest rates of poverty (for those ages 15-64 years) were among those with more severe disabilities who were living alone or were lone parents. Regardless of disability, 8 in 10 lone parents were women.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDG): Refer to page 2
Food Security

Indigenous Populations

There is limited research into the unique life circumstances and experiences of both on- and off-reserve Indigenous peoples (First Nations, Métis and Inuit) who live in food insecure households.

However, there is strong evidence to show a much greater prevalence and severity among Indigenous populations compared to the general public.

Did you know?

PARDS (Peace Area Riding for the Disabled Society) uses equine therapy to offer a wide range of programs that seek to impact lives in many positive ways.

Reducing Financial Barriers to Active Lifestyles

The City’s Recreation Access Program and the County’s Recreation Fee Assistance Program both help ensure that qualifying low income residents have access to recreation & fitness.

Aboriginal Community Activity Fee Assistance

The program removes financial barriers for residents of the Cooperatives and Enterprises to access the Recreation Centre in Grande Cache and participate in activities.

About 40 family, 15 adult and 15 youth 3-month passes are distributed annually by FCSS Green View.

Volunteer Low Income Tax Program Lessening the Gap

In 2019 (YTD July), Green View FCSS, with trained volunteers, completed 605 returns, bringing $3.1 million back into the community.

In 2018, the Seniors Outreach program completed 1,536 tax filings that helped return $10.1 million to community members in the Grande Prairie area.

AGE (OLDER SENIORS USE THE INTERNET LESS OFTEN), EDUCATION AND INCOME ARE FACTORS IN INTERNET USAGE

- 89% (2016) of university educated seniors were Internet users, compared with 46% of seniors without a high school diploma.

Probability of Internet use was:
- 73% for seniors with household income $60,000 to $79,999, compared with 54% among seniors with incomes under $20,000
- 79% for seniors with incomes of $100,000 and over

Did you know?

PARDS (Peace Area Riding for the Disabled Society) uses equine therapy to offer a wide range of programs that seek to impact lives in many positive ways.
Housing

A home is built on more than just housing. Connection to the community and a sense of belonging are important aspects of making a house a home. There needs to be a future in which cities provide opportunities for all, with access to basic services, energy, housing, transportation and more.

Investing in Our Community

The Wapiti Community Dorm Society, operating Rotary House, offers 24/7/365 accommodation to a wide range of clients. The Women's Mat Program has recently added an additional outreach worker to better serve the vulnerable individuals that find themselves in the mat program.

Household Characteristics as Proportion of Households in Core Housing Need, Grande Prairie (Average), 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of households:</th>
<th>City of Grande Prairie</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lone-parent</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One-person</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household where at least one person has an activity limitation</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant Household</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

House Sales in Grande Prairie

July 2019 YTD
1,523 homes have sold in Grande Prairie to date, down 6.0% in the same period in 2018.

Average Sale $ City of GP Homes
July 2019 YTD
$308,537 (2019)
$305,386 (2018)
$301,372 (2017)

Single Family Housing Starts

June YTD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City of Grande Prairie</th>
<th>County of Grande Prairie</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Multi Family Housing Starts

June YTD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City of Grande Prairie</th>
<th>County of Grande Prairie</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Types of households: County of Grande Prairie

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant Household</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Types of households: MD of Greenview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of households:</th>
<th>City of Grande Prairie</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lone-parent</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One-person</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seniors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Household where at least one person has an activity limitation</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant Household</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Hotel Occupancy Rate**
In June 2019, the average hotel occupancy rate in Grande Prairie was **65.9%**. Year-to-date average occupancy was 63.2%, second highest occupancy rate in the province, with Banff the highest at 68.9%.

**Housing First**
Housing First supports people experiencing homelessness to find, maintain & increase independence in permanent housing.

After 6 months in housing (2018-19), statistics showed a reduction in people's use of health and justice systems:
- 73% ↓ use of Emergency Medical Services
- 77% ↓ visits to an Emergency Room
- 92% ↓ interactions with the Police

**Housing First**
1,290 people housed since 2009. 46% of people housed (2018 & 2019) identified as Indigenous.

**Increasing Demand at Sunrise House Youth Shelter**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Bednights</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1,276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1,595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>1,778</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Rural Homelessness Count**
In 2018, Alberta Rural Development Network conducted rural Alberta’s first homelessness count.

The following summaries are based on surveys with unstably housed individuals.

*Unstable Housing: Difficulty paying rent, spending a major portion of the household income on housing, frequent moves, living in overcrowded conditions, or doubling up with friends and relatives.*

**Percentage of Senior Families with Debt (Canada)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>30</th>
<th>40</th>
<th>50</th>
<th>60</th>
<th>70</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grande Cache**
- 20% were employed
- 56% were men
- Median age 36
- Top 3 services requested: Basic Needs, Health & Wellness, Transportation

**Greenview**
- 45% were employed
- 65% were women
- Median age 38.5

Greenview ranked high for number of women seeking support with legal services (31%) and for domestic violence (19%).

**Young Adults Living with Parent(s)**
% of young adults (25-34) living with at least one parent:
- **Grande Prairie City** 13.0%
- **Grande Prairie County** 24.2%
- **Greenview** 23.0%

Canada is seeing an increase in young adults living with parents.

**County of Grande Prairie**
- 32% were employed
- 72% were women
- Median age 43
- Highest % of men reporting inability to pay rent/mortgage as at least one reason for their housing instability (60%) & who reported camping as where they were staying in the past week (20%).
Getting Around (Transportation)

Lack of transportation is an obstacle to obtaining fresh food, maintaining employment, completing education, staying socially connected and generally being involved in the community.

Investing in our Communities

Seniors’ Outreach is a “One Stop Shop” support for seniors. Offering assistance with a wide range of issues from pensions to home care, snow removal and Meals on Wheels, Seniors Outreach services improve quality of life for our senior population.

Transportation Poses a Barrier for Low Income Canadians

Low-income Canadians are 3X more likely to report challenges getting to stores, due to greater reliance on public transit and health-related walking/mobility challenges.

Getting Around in Nature

Research has proven that access to natural environments around communities improves quality of life.

2,700 km of outdoor trails in Greenview for hiking, biking, horses, ATVs & snow machines.

20 km paved & 6 km natural surface walking/cycling trails in the City’s Muskoseepi Park.

5.6 km paved walking/cycling trails at the County’s Wapiti Dunes Trail.

Grande Prairie Regional Tourism Centre

Number of visitors in 2018

104,940

(down 8.1% from 2017)

Visiting Groups (%)

Alberta 68.4%
Canada 15.8%
USA 10.0%
International 5.8%

Grande Cache Visitor Centre

Saw an Increase in Travellers

The Visitor Centre had

25% more visitors

(Jan to June 2019) over the same period in 2018.

Total number of visitors in 2018:

17,063

Valleyview Visitor Centre

19,339 total visitors (2018)

Who visited the Centre?

Top 5 countries (outside North America)

Germany
UK/England
China
Switzerland
Australia

Top 5 states

Alaska
Michigan
Minnesota
Texas
Wisconsin

Access to Transit

The City Transit Access Program is a program aiming to ensure low income individuals have access to transit.

537 Adults
877 passes 50% subsidy
149 Students
191 Seniors

Sustainable Development Goals (SDG): Refer to page 2

Northwestern Alberta’s Vital Signs 2019
### Getting Around

**City of Grande Prairie Transit Ridership (% change from 2017)**

- **3.7%** ↑ **8.7%** ↓
  - Adult increase
  - Student decrease

- **15.7%** ↓ **11.9%** ↑
  - Child decrease
  - Seniors increase

Total Riders 2018 **636,363**

May be a 3-5% variance due to changes in data collection process.

**Grande Prairie Airport Passenger Travel**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Number of Passengers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>360,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>380,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>438,975</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In a recent study, the Grande Prairie Airport earned #1 airport in Canada for flights leaving on time (81.9% of flights).

**Collision & Casualties Northwestern Alberta Highways 2012-2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hwy 40</th>
<th>Hwy 43</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collision Severity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatal Collisions</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injury Collisions</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Highway 40: 190 km between Grande Cache & Grande Prairie

Highway 43: connects Edmonton to Whitecourt, Valleyview & Grande Prairie

**15% (2019)** of cannabis users (675,000) in Canada with a valid license reported driving within 2 hours of using.

**Net Social Benefit of Proposed Highway 40 Twinning**

**$483.7 million**

The proposed 19-kilometre twinning project is located on the north portion of the highway. 10,000 vehicles per day travel this stretch of highway.
Safety

Commonly shared feelings of trust, belonging, and feeling safe are markers of inclusive societies.

Investing in our Communities

The John Howard Society of Grande Prairie EUREKA program is a two-day alternative to violence workshop aimed at Grade 7 students. The workshop focuses on character-building, community-building and conflict resolution.

Emergency Wildfire Support

In response to fires in the High Level area this year, GPREP, a regional emergency management partnership of local municipalities offered support to those affected.

Over 800 evacuees registered locally

Food & lodging provided locally for over 4 weeks

GPREP fire departments sent 93 personnel to assist (front line firefighting & other support)

Vital Signs Survey 2019

56% of respondents who have lived in their community less than 5 years know their neighbours well enough to ask for help.

Domestic Violence on the Rise: Odyssey House

2018/19: 25% increase (women) & 61% increase (children) seeking safe emergency shelter accommodation over the year prior.

778 women with 524 children requested accommodation. Space only available for 297 women and 164 children.

Domestic Violence Files on the Rise: Grande Prairie & District Victim’s Services

United Way Emergency Fund, 2018

In 2018, the United Way Emergency fund provided $15,000 in assistance to individuals/families within the United Way Alberta Northwest Region requiring support in exceptional cases not covered by other funding sources.

Firebreaks Going Green

A 20-hectare firebreak north and south of Grande Cache acts as a barrier to slow or stop a bushfire or wildfire. Fire resistant plants planted in the firebreak create a “green” firebreak.

Removing Wildfire Fuel: FireSmart County of Grande Prairie

(removal of dead & MPB infected trees)

2010-16

16,000 trees removed
1,150 hectares treated

2017-18

10,000 trees removed
82.5 hectares treated
2018 Crime Rates compared to 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>City of Grande Prairie</th>
<th>County of Grande Prairie/MD of Greenview NW*</th>
<th>Alberta</th>
<th>Canada</th>
<th>Canada</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Theft Rate (per 100,000)</td>
<td>994.3 (up 35.6%)</td>
<td>965.2 (up 21.7%)</td>
<td>545.8</td>
<td>232.4</td>
<td>232.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime Severity Index</td>
<td>City of Grande Prairie</td>
<td>County of Grande Prairie/MD of Greenview NW*</td>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>172.7 (up 11.1%)</td>
<td>114.2 (up 16.4%)</td>
<td>112.1</td>
<td>75.0</td>
<td>75.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Property Crime Violations (per 100,000)</td>
<td>9,130.2 (up 9.8%)</td>
<td>5,361.4 (up 22.3%)</td>
<td>5,434.6</td>
<td>3,339.0</td>
<td>3,339.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Assault (per 100,000)</td>
<td>City of Grande Prairie</td>
<td>County of Grande Prairie/MD of Greenview NW*</td>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>117.7 (up 36.3%)</td>
<td>18.3 (down 70.5%)</td>
<td>81.3</td>
<td>77.6</td>
<td>77.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Crime Rate (per 100,000)</td>
<td>City of Grande Prairie</td>
<td>County of Grande Prairie/MD of Greenview NW*</td>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3,435.1 (down 10.9%)</td>
<td>733.0 (down 32%)</td>
<td>2,090.3</td>
<td>1,718.6</td>
<td>1,718.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Cannabis Act became law on October 17, 2018 legalizing recreational cannabis.

More users (Canada) obtaining from legal sources; fewer from illegal sources since legalization (first quarter 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Legal %</th>
<th>Illegal %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Users could select more than one category. Family, friends, grow, other not shown.

Cannabis Use in Canada
Males (21%) were almost twice as likely to have used cannabis in the 1st half of 2019 as females (12%).

Cannabis Use in Canada 2nd quarter 2019
The number of Canadians ages 65+ reporting cannabis use increased from 3% to 5% (over the same period in 2018 prior to legalization), while cannabis use among 15-64-year-olds remained stable (ranging from 10%-25%, depending on the age group).

Discrimination and Canadian Youth
Canadian youth ages 15-30 are more likely to report that they experienced discrimination than those ages 30 and over.
In the spring of 2019, the Community Foundation of Northwestern Alberta invited citizens (ages 15 and over) across the City of Grande Prairie, County of Grande Prairie and MD of Greenview and the surrounding area to BE HEARD and share their thoughts on quality of life.

Survey methodology: The volunteer electronic survey was distributed via email and social media through the Community Foundation and with the support of community partners, including media, local schools and educational institutions.

Here’s what 2,138 citizen respondents had to say:

**How do I identify?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Greenview</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Length of time in community**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Greenview</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 yr or less</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 10 yrs</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Respondents born:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Greenview</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outside of Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenview</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In another province or territory</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Age**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Greenview</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-17</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-30</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31-44</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-64</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Employment (all municipalities)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employment</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Greenview</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full time</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time/casual</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Top 10 Greatest Strengths of Your Community

### City of Grande Prairie respondents
- Employment: 64%
- Parks & Green Space: 48%
- Walking/Bicycle Paths: 41%
- Recreation: 40%
- Post-Secondary Education: 25%
- K-12 Education: 34%
- Festivals & Events: 30%
- Shopping: 26%
- Arts & Culture: 23%
- Sense of Community: 17%

### County of Grande Prairie and area respondents
- K-12 Education: 46%
- Feeling Safe: 42%
- Recreation: 40%
- Employment: 39%
- Parks & Greenspace: 37%
- Walking/Bicycle Paths: 35%
- Sense of Community: 29%
- Festivals & Events: 19%
- Shopping: 19%
- Public Transit (City/County): 17%

### MD of Greenview and area respondents
- Recreation: 54%
- K-12 Education: 50%
- Feeling Safe: 38%
- Parks & Greenspace: 37%
- Sense of Community: 33%
- Employment: 31%
- Walking/Bicycle Paths: 31%
- Walkability*: 20%
- Festivals & Events: 16%
- Seniors Housing: 15%

## 10 Most Important Issues Facing Your Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Greenview</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality of Roads</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of Living</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordable Housing for all Ages</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of Time to See Physician</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to a Regular Physician</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to affordable Child Care</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of Roads</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>51%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>44%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>42%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Access to a Regular Physician</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to affordable Child Care</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>26%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of Roads</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of Living</td>
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<td>42%</td>
<td>39%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>52%</td>
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<td>30%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to a Regular Physician</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<td>Access to affordable Child Care</td>
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<td>Crime</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cost of Living</td>
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<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>27%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to affordable Child Care</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## “I feel I know my neighbours well enough to ask for help or offer assistance.”

City: 63%
County: 74%
Greenview: 73%

## “How do I usually connect with my neighbours?”

City: Chats in the yard, Neighbourhood parks, Visiting in homes, Social media
County: Chats in the yard, Visiting in homes, Social media, School
Greenview: Chats in the yard, Visiting in homes, Community events/facilities, School
Northwestern Alberta’s Vital Signs Engagement Survey 2019

There are many factors that influence community connectedness.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>15-30</th>
<th>31 &amp; over</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95%</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top reason for not volunteering

“I don’t have enough time.”

Respondents (%) who did not engage in formal volunteering last year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ages 15-30</th>
<th>Ages 31+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top three reasons for volunteering

**Ages 15-30**
1. To contribute to a particular cause
2. To improve community quality of life
3. To gain new skills or improve job opportunities

**Ages 31 and over**
1. To contribute to a particular cause
2. To improve community quality of life
3. Someone asked me

Respondents (seniors) ages 65 and over:

- **76%** say their community is a good place to retire
- **96%** always or almost always vote
- **69%** feel they are receiving the care/supports they require

Top three reasons people donated to charity or non-profit

1. Support a cause I personally believe in
2. Contribute to the community
3. Compassion towards people in need

How connected do you feel to Canada?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Ages 15-30</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31 &amp; over</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very</td>
<td></td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat</td>
<td></td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardly</td>
<td></td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not at all</td>
<td></td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Top three reasons for voting
1. It is my right/duty/privilege
2. To voice my opinion
3. To support a candidate/party

## Top reason people choose not to vote some or all of the time
“I didn’t know enough about the candidates/party/issues.”

## How connected do you feel to your community?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Ages 15-30</th>
<th>31 &amp; over</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardly</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not at all</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Truth and Reconciliation:
Do you feel you have a role to play in reconciliation?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ages 15-30</th>
<th>Ages 31+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure</td>
<td>Unsure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# The Truth and Reconciliation Commission made 94 calls to action in its report on Indian Residential Schools.

Respondents (%) who are Somewhat or Very Familiar with the calls to action:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ages 15-30</th>
<th>Ages 35+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>52%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Community participation

Top five groups respondents are most active in (random order):
- Sports/recreation
- Cultural, educational, arts
- Faith affiliated
- Community organization
- School group

## Respondents (%) who are unaware of where to access community information about services, or initiatives to address the opioid crisis

| City   | 26%       |
| County | 17%       |
| Greenview | 17%   |

## Respondents (%) who think their community is a good place to raise a family

| City   | 73%       |
| County | 82%       |
| Greenview | 77%  |

## Respondents (%) who feel they have a role to play in reconciliation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ages 15-30</th>
<th>Ages 35+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>52%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Very       | 34%       |
| Somewhat   | 50%       |
| Hardly     | 12%       |
| Not at all | 4%        |
Your word is the last word . . .
Respondents share their thoughts on community and connection.

Local block parties and apartment events are great for getting to know neighbours.

I just moved into the neighbourhood. It would have been nice if neighbours had welcomed us.

There’s great opportunities for leadership roles here.

I feel we all have a role in reconciliation, but I’m not necessarily sure what that role is.

People here step up when others are in need.

It is important to me as a Plains Cree First Nations woman to help support the relationship between non-Indigenous and Indigenous peoples.

I believe that awareness of reconciliation is crucial in education systems & communities so as not to repeat the past.

I feel no one cares about struggles with being out of work and over fifty.

I feel the Canadian landscape is changing so quickly that it’s hard to feel connected.

You can bike for fifteen minutes and be in a forest.

Meeting neighbours is a two-way street. I could do more.

I have no family here. I rely on friends, co-workers and neighbours.

I find childcare expensive and a barrier to volunteering.

I want to use the trails, but I’m afraid to.

Excellent place for young families!

Sometimes people mock me because of my accent.

I like the easy access, minimal traffic, small town feel & lots of services.

I’m worried about theft and safety.

I like living in a small community with an airport close-by.

My same-sex husband and I rarely, but occasionally encounter discrimination. This has changed significantly over the years.

I feel the Canadian landscape is changing so quickly that it’s hard to feel connected.

You can bike for fifteen minutes and be in a forest.

There’s more to do for seniors, especially reaching out to older adults who are isolated.
Vital Signs leadership committee
Angela Sutherland – City of Grande Prairie
Brittany Trudeau – Aquatera Utilities
Connie Korpan – Grande Prairie Regional College
Greg Towler – RCMP
James Robinson – Grande Prairie Public School Division
Jamie Craig – United Way Alberta Northwest
John Respet – RCMP
Karen Rosvold – County of Grande Prairie
Kathleen Turner – County of Grande Prairie
Kerrie Taylor – MD of Greenview
Kevin Keller – MD of Greenview
Kim Gravengard – Pomeroy Lodging
Leanne Beaupre – County of Grande Prairie
Miranda Laroche – Grande Prairie Friendship Centre
Melissa Beyers – Northreach Society
Patricia Nordstrom – Alberta Health Services - North Zone
Peter Kim – Salvation Army
Rebecca Leigh – City of Grande Prairie
Tanya Oliver - Grande Prairie & District Chamber of Commerce

Community Foundation of Northwestern Alberta
We build community today and forever. Together we can create a legacy.

Mission:
Connect people.
Build community.
For good, and forever.

Community. Connecting. Belonging

Production team
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Tracy Zuk
Rhonda Reichert
Devon Potter

Researcher and Project Manager:
Regatta Communications
April Weavell

Design and Production:
Mohammad Haidar

Thank you to our funding partners

Thank you for providing the space for Together Alberta - Sustainable Development Goals Mapping Project (Grande Prairie Area)

Vital Signs is a community check-up conducted by community foundations across Canada that measures the vitality of our communities and identifies significant trends in a range of areas critical to quality of life. Vital Signs is coordinated nationally by Community Foundations of Canada.
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