FORT ST. JOHN COMMUNITY INDICATORS PROGRAM

REPORT

December 2018

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

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Acknowledgements

The Community Development Institute at the University of Northern British Columbia wishes to express its deep gratitude to the volunteer members of The Forge Advisory Committee as well as the Executive Leadership Team of the City of Fort St. John for its involvement in the design and delivery of the Fort St. John Community Indicators Program.

This Report was prepared by Michael Lait. He wishes to acknowledge the guidance and feedback provided by the CDI Co-Directors, Greg Halseth and Marleen Morris, as well as the help and support of The Forge's Senior Facilitators, Jennifer Moore and Renée Laboucane.

Organization of Reports

The reports developed for the Fort St. John Community Indicator Program include:

- An Introduction to Community Indicator Programs
- Fort St. John Community Indicator Program Report

The reports are available on the Community Development Institute website at www.unbc.ca/community-development-institute and the City of Fort St. John website at http://www.fortstjohn.ca/.

About the Community Development Institute

The Community Development Institute (CDI) at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) was established in 2004 with a broad mandate in community, economic, and regional development. Since then, it has worked in partnership with communities across north and central BC to help them identify and adapt to the changes, opportunities, and challenges emerging in the new global / rural economy.

The CDI Office and Research Program in Fort St. John, located at The Forge, was established to work with the community to identify and take action on strategies for economic diversification and community resiliency. The CDI works in partnership with the City of Fort St. John and in collaboration with the community, industry, local business, community organizations, First Nations, and all levels of government with the objective of achieving greater impact in research, planning, and innovation at the regional, community, and program levels. This community-based work will focus on enhancing the quality of life and growing a sustainable economy in Fort St. John.

For further information about this program, feel free to contact Greg Halseth or Marleen Morris, Co-Directors of UNBC's Community Development Institute.

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Purpose of the Fort St. John Community Indicators Program

The Community Indicators Program (CIP) is a monitoring tool that tracks topics linked to the vision, principles, and strategic goals of the City of Fort St. John. In addition to assisting the City of Fort St. John with planning and decision-making, the CIP could also assist in the future development of key performance indicators. While this is only its first year and first report on the selected indicators, the CIP is expected to become a key resource for the community. Through data collection and reporting, the CIP aims to encourage community dialogue and collective action on pressing local issues. For the CDI, the CIP will inform an update of the Community Profile of Fort St. John and will be useful in the preparation of the economic and social frameworks for Fort St. John.

CIP Design Process

This first iteration of the Fort St. John CIP has proceeded in five stages. In the first stage, CDI staff prepared background data collection instruments. These included: the "Indicators Basket" and the *Your Voice Fort St. John*, a community survey. The Indicators Basket was based on those prepared by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Quality of Life Reporting System and the 'PEG', a CIP in Winnipeg.

The second stage of the Fort St. John CIP consisted of the review of both data collection instruments by members of the Forge Advisory Committee, the City of Fort St. John Executive Leadership Team, and the City of Fort St. John staff. CDI staff then made a number of revisions to the Indicators Basket and community survey based on the feedback from these stakeholders.

In the third stage, the CDI staff finalized the Indicators Basket through further engagement with The Forge Advisory Committee, the City's Executive Leadership Team, and City staff.

The fourth stage consisted of the data collection. The methodology section describes the data sources and how the data was obtained.

The fifth stage involves reporting on the data that has been collected. From this, the CDI staff have produced a report on the baseline data. *This Fort St. John CIP Report* will be shared widely within the community and will be available to inform planning and decision making.

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Data Collection Methodology

The Fort St. John Community Indicator Program Report furnishes data from the first iteration of the Fort St. John CIP, and is complemented by *An Introduction to Community Indicator Programs*, a report which discusses the key principles, best practices and common challenges of 'community indicators' in general.

The Fort St. John Community Indicator Program Report is structured according to the six domains of the Fort St. John CIP. The introduction to each domain highlights how the data does or does not align with the City of Fort St. John's strategic priorities and goals.

Before proceeding with the domains, however, it is first necessary to describe the primary and secondary data collection sources that were used for the indicators, noting the strengths and limitations of the various primary and secondary data sources in the Fort St. John CIP.

Primary Data Source

Several indicators are subjective measures that are meant to gauge the views and attitudes of residents in Fort St. John. The CDI's *Your Voice Fort St. John* community survey was designed to provide the data for these indicators. *Your Voice Fort St. John* was delivered and managed by CDI staff using the Survey Monkey online survey tool. The survey was administered from August 13 to October 22, 2018. Residents could complete the survey on any computer with internet access. To encourage participation, CDI staff attended public events and places in order to deliver the survey to a wider cross-section of people in Fort St. John. A communications plan was designed and implemented by the CDI. The communications plan included press releases, social media posts, and other forms of media engagement such as newspaper articles, radio interviews, and notices in email distribution lists. Staff were equipped with internet enabled tablet devices to conduct the in-person delivery of the survey. Paper copies of the survey were also available for those who were not comfortable with completing the survey online.

The survey questionnaire took approximately 15 to 20 minutes to complete, and asked questions concerning the quality of life, community amenities, municipal services, and satisfaction with programs and services in Fort St. John. Given that Fort St. John has a population of 20,155 (Census of Canada 2016), at least 1,014 surveys were needed for a representative sample. The survey received a total of 1,018, meaning that survey results are statistically significant with a 95% confidence level.

Secondary Data Sources

There were a variety of secondary information sources (meaning data compiled by other groups or organizations) that provided data for the CIP. They can be organized into government and non-governmental data sources. This section comments on the data frequency and accessibility. It notes any changes to the original Indicators Basket made by CDI researchers in the indicator definition to ensure that the data collected from the governmental and non-governmental sources represents what has been measured.

Government data sources

Statistics Canada

One of the main data sources for the Fort St. John CIP is Statistics Canada, which administers the *Census of Canada* every five years. This *Fort St. John CIP Report* utilizes data from the 2016 *Census of Canada* at the Census subdivision level. The subsequent Fort St. John CIP Report is scheduled for 2021, at which time Statistics Canada will begin releasing data from the next population census. Not all the census data will be available by the next CIP reporting cycle. Census reporting occurs every five years while CIP reporting occurs every two years, such that there will be CIP reports where the indicator data does not change.

One issue to be aware of with population data from Statistics Canada, especially when comparing population over time, is that the geographic area encompassed by the City of Fort St. John has expanded to a wider area through processes like municipal amalgamation. Another issue with relying on census data over an extended period of time is the fact that census categories sometimes do change, as evidenced by the changes in educational attainment and the classification systems for profession and type of employment. Also, the change to a voluntary census in 2011, with the National Household Survey, adversely affected the quality of the census data. Statistics Canada has since returned to the mandatory census. In general, census data is considered very reliable. Census data is public and is accessible online from the Statistics Canada website.

In the Health Domain, several indicators have data supplied by the Canadian Community Health Survey, which is administered by Statistics Canada in co-operation with Health Canada, the Public Health Agency of Canada, and the Canadian Institute for Health Information. This data is published every two years and is available online on the Statistics Canada website. Data from the Canadian Community Health Survey is collected for the Northeast Health Service Delivery Area, which encompasses three of Northern Health's Local Health Areas: Peace River South (059), Peace River North (060), and Fort Nelson (081)

There is one major change that was made between the original Indicators Basket and this report concerning the definition of the "Active leisure time" indicator. Initially, this indicator was defined as "[t]he percentage of the population who spend some of their leisure time being physically

active." To align with the data from the Canadian Community Health Survey, the definition of the "Active leisure time" indicator has been changed to "[t]he percentage of population (aged 18 years and over) that does physical activity for 150 minutes or more per week."

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)

CMHC publishes cross-tabulated data from the Census of Canada on several housing indicators. The *Fort St. John CIP Report* utilizes cross-tabulated data for the "Seniors housing affordability" indicator. This data can be access online using CMHC's Housing In Canada Online (HICO) tool.

Provincial Agencies

Data for the *Fort St. John CIP Report* is also obtained from ministries, crown corporations, and agencies of the Government of British Columbia. BC Assessment provides data for the "Average assessed value of properties" indicator. Property assessment data is published annually and is accessible online at the BC Assessment website.

BC Transit provides data for the "Public transit use" and "handyDART use" indicators. This data is collected regularly. Yearly ridership totals for Fort St. John were obtained by CDI researchers who contacted BC Transit staff by phone.

The BC Ministry of Education provides data for "High school completion rate" and "Aboriginal high school completion rate" indicators. This data is reliable, published on a yearly basis, and is available online from the BC Ministry of Education website.

Data for the "Voter turnout in municipal elections" indicator is obtained from Elections BC, which publishes the data following every municipal election. As municipal elections are held every four years in BC, the next election will occur in 2022, such that the subsequent Fort St. John CIP report will not have new data for this indicator.

The Peace River Regional District (PRRD) is responsible for managing solid waste disposal. The PRRD calculates a per-person solid waste disposal rate. This is calculated at a regional level and waste disposal rates include waste sent from residential, commercial, institutional and light industrial sources. This data is available online from the website of Environmental Reporting BC.

Northern Health provides data for the "Licensed childcare spaces" indicator. This data is available online, is regularly updated, and can be considered reliable. For this indicator, CDI researchers counted the maximum capacity of child care spaces in the Community Care Facilities section of the website under Fort St. John. This indicator was originally defined as follows: "The number of licensed child care spaces available per 100 children aged 0 to 12 years." Census data does not measure age cohorts so as to determine the number of children aged 0 to 12 years in

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Fort St. John. For the purposes of simplification, then, CDI researchers have redefined this indicator as: "The number of child care spaces available in Fort St. John."

Northern Health periodically publishes Community Profiles. Data for the "Doctors per capita" and "Specialists per capita" indicators are obtained from Northern Health's latest *BC Community Health Profile of Fort St. John* (2014), which is available online. The Northern Health *BC Community Health Profile* collects and publishes data at geographic level of the Local Health Area. Fort St. John represents about 60% of the Local Health Area population. The main difficulty with relying on this Northern Health publication is that it is not clear when the next Profile will be published.

City of Fort St. John

The data for several indicators comes from different departments of the City of Fort St. John. The data from the City of Fort St. John is considered to be reliable and is available on a yearly basis. In the *Fort St. John CIP Report*, calculations on a per capita basis, e.g. per 1,000 residents, use population data from the latest Census of Canada. Data from the City of Fort St. John is made public and is accessible online at the City of Fort St. John website. The *Annual Report* of the City of Fort St. John is a key data source for several indicators and this document is available online.

Non-governmental secondary data sources

The *Fort St. John CIP Report* has also benefited from the data collection agencies of non-profit organizations operating in Fort St. John. Data for the "Food bank use" indicator is from the Fort St. John Women's Resource Society. It collects this data on a monthly basis and provides an average for the year. This data is obtained through a request by CDI researchers to the Fort St. John Women's Resource Society. This data was obtained by CDI researchers upon request. The seniors advocacy group, Save Our Northern Seniors (SONS) has been tracking data for "Seniors housing waitlist" indicator. SONS collects waitlist data for seniors housing and long-term care such that the latter has been subtracted for the purposes of the Fort St. John CIP. SONS' waitlist data is reported on annually. It is provided by the Executive of SONS upon request.

For the "Child development" indicator, data is obtained from the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP), which is a research institute based at the University of British Columbia. HELP has designed the Early Development Instrument (EDI) to measure and track the childhood vulnerability rates of the kindergarten population of school districts across British Columbia. The specific measure used for the "Child development" indicator is the percent of children vulnerable on one or more scales of the EDI. EDI data for Fort St. John is an average of the rates for Fort St. John North and Fort St. John South. Data from the EDI is available online in the profile of School District 60, Peace River North.

1. Population Domain

Indicators in the population domain track changes in the ethnic diversity, age, migration patterns, household size, and marital status of Fort St. John residents.

As with other municipalities in northern BC, the City of Fort St. John actively encourages population growth. Following several population projection studies, the City has adopted an annual population growth rate of 2.2% for planning purposes (City of Fort St. John, *Official Community Plan*, pg.20).

Among its guiding principles, the City has "Embracing Our Diversity" which is linked to two indicators in this domain, the "Visible minority population" and "External migration" indicators (City of Fort St. John, *Official Community Plan*, pg.30). The City has proposed developing a framework to establish an Urban Reserve which could increase the Aboriginal population in Fort St. John (City of Fort St. John, *Strategic Plan: 2018-2023*, pg.15). The City has also stated that it seeks to improve integration with neighbouring First Nations and Métis communities by, among other things, considering the use of Indigenous place and street names (City of Fort St. John, *Official Community Plan*, pg.71).

Indicators in this domain will help the City determine its progress towards addressing local population issues in Fort St. John.

POPULATION

Indicator	Data	Source (year)	Definition
1. Population	20,155	Statistics Canada Census Program (2016)	The number of people residing in Fort St. John.
2. Aboriginal population	2,180 (11%)	Statistics Canada Census Program (2016)	The number of people residing in Fort St. John who self-identify as Aboriginal (First Nations, Métis, Inuit).
3. Visible minorities	2,370 (12%)	Statistics Canada Census Program (2016)	The number of people who identify as a visible minority.
4. Internal migration	4,205	Statistics Canada Census Program (2016)	The total number of migrants from other places in Canada (intra-provincial and inter-provincial migration).
5. External migration	1,965	Statistics Canada Census Program (2016)	The total number of immigrants from countries outside of Canada.
6. Household size	1 person: 2,105 (27%) 2 persons: 2,580 (32%) 3 persons: 1,410 (18%) 4 persons: 1,840 (23%)	Statistics Canada Census Program (2016)	The number and proportion of households of different sizes in the community.
7. Age	Median age: 31.5 years Average age: 33.4 years	Statistics Canada Census Program (2016)	The age structure of the population according to five-year age cohorts.
8. Sex	Male: 10,405 (52%) Female: 9,755 (48%)	Statistics Canada Census Program (2016)	The number of males and females in the community.
9. Marital status	Married or living common law: 9,125 (57%) Not married and not living common law: 6760 (43%)	Statistics Canada Census Program (2016)	The number and proportion of the population that is married, living common law, or unmarried.

AGE COHORTS, BOTH SEXES		
Age Group	**Num.**	**Per. (%)**
0 to 4 years	1610	8%
5 to 9 years	1465	7%
10 to 14 years	1200	6%
15 to 19 years	1160	6%
20 to 24 years	1725	9%
25 to 29 years	2240	11%
30 to 34 years	2120	11%
35 to 39 years	1650	8%
40 to 44 years	1415	7%
45 to 49 years	1195	6%
50 to 54 years	1180	6%
55 to 59 years	1005	5%
60 to 64 years	735	4%
65 to 69 years	485	2%
70 to 74 years	325	2%
75 to 79 years	225	1%
80 to 84 years	215	1%
85 to 89 years	130	1%
90 to 94 years	55	0%
95 to 99 years	15	0%
100 years and over	5	0%
Total population	**20155**	100%

Source: Statistics Canada (2016) "Fort St. John (CY)." *Census of Canada*

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2. Economic Domain

The economic domain tracks changes for indicators including building permits value, housing starts, average assessed value of properties, business licenses, and air traffic. These indicators are markers of activity in the local economy.

The indicators related to education, income, and housing tenure provide insight into the economic stability of residents. Such indicators include median household income, households below the low income cut-off level, participation rate, high school completion rate, Aboriginal high school completion rate, and educational attainment.

Part of the vision of the City of Fort St. John is for a community where "businesses prosper" and the City is guided by the principle of increasing economic opportunities (City of Fort St. John, *Official Community Plan*, pg.31). To this end, the City will be working with business owners to identify economic development opportunities (City of Fort St. John, *Official Community Plan*, pg.109). The success of this initiative could prompt an increase in the number of business licenses in Fort St. John. The City will also be looking to encourage entrepreneurship opportunities which could influence the participation rate as more people (re)enter the workforce.

The City of Fort St. John has recognized that some families in the community are enduring difficult economic situations. The City intends to promote the development of affordable homeownership and will be looking into establishing incentives for affordable housing and secondary forms of housing (City of Fort St. John, *Official Community Plan*, pg.103-4).

ECONOMIC

Indicator	Data	Source (year)	Definition
1. Housing tenure	Owners: 4,830 (61%) Renters: 3,105 (39%)	Statistics Canada Census Program (2016)	The percentage of owned and rented residential dwellings in Fort St. John.
2. Building permits value	$30,767,000	City of Fort St. John Integrated Services Department	The total value of residential building permits.
3. Housing starts	95 units	CMHC Starts and Completions Survey (2017)	The number of new housing units in a community.
4. Average assessed value of properties	$387,667	BC Assessment (2017)	The average assessed value of residential and commercial properties in Fort St. John.
5. Business licenses	1,855 licenses	City of Fort St. John, Integrated Services Department (2017)	The number of business licenses in effect in Fort St. John minus the number of businesses retired per annum.
6. Air traffic	252,828 passengers	North Peace Regional Airport Society (2017)	The number of passengers using commercial airlines in and out of Fort St. John.
7. Median household income	$104,366	Statistics Canada Census Program (2016)	Total income of all people living in the same residence. The median is the halfway point in a population.
8. Households below the low income cut-off level, after tax (LICO-AT)	1,555 persons (7.8%)	Statistics Canada Census Program (2016)	LICO-AT refers to economic families that spend 20 percentage points or more of their after-tax income than average on food, shelter, and clothing.
9. Workforce participation rate	79%	Statistics Canada Census Program (2016)	The percentage of working-aged people (15 years and older) who are in the labour force working on a full-time or part-time basis.
10. High school completion rate	68%	BC Ministry of Education (2017)	The proportion of students graduating high school within six years of entering grade nine.
11. Aboriginal high school completion rate	44%	BC Ministry of Education (2017)	The proportion of Aboriginal students graduating high school within six years of entering grade nine.
12. Educational attainment	See next page	Statistics Canada Census Program (2016)	The highest level of formal education that an individual has completed.

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EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, BOTH SEXES	
Total - Highest certificate; diploma or degree for the population aged 25 to 64 years	11425
No certificate; diploma or degree	1410
Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate	3825
Postsecondary certificate; diploma or degree	6190
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	1695
Trades certificate or diploma other than Certificate of Apprenticeship or Certificate of Qualification	560
Certificate of Apprenticeship or Certificate of Qualification	1140
College; CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	2185
University certificate or diploma below bachelor level	320
University certificate; diploma or degree at bachelor level or above	1985
Bachelor's degree	1500
University certificate or diploma above bachelor level	85
Degree in medicine; dentistry; veterinary medicine or optometry	40
Master's degree	325
Earned doctorate	35

Source: Statistics Canada (2016) "Fort St. John (CY)." Census of Canada

3. Social Domain

Indicators in the social domain measure and track changes in the welfare and quality of life of Fort St. John residents. This domain includes indicators for quality of life, sense of belonging, neighbourliness, perceptions of safety, licensed childcare spaces, food bank use, shelter use, core housing need, rental housing affordability, homeowner affordability, seniors housing affordability, and seniors housing waitlist.

The "Quality of life" indicator is significant as enhancing quality of life for residents is a key principle for the City of Fort St. John (City of Fort St. John, *Official Community Plan*, pg.29). There are a number of subjective indicators in this domain that speak to the the quality of life of residents, such as "Opportunities for belonging," "Neighbourliness," and "Perception of safety." These indicators will be tracked through the *Your Voice Fort St. John* survey. The welfare of residents is also reflected in objective indicators such as "Food bank use" and "Shelter use."

The housing indicators in this domain are objective indicators of the welfare of residents. The City has adopted the goal of providing adequate and affordable housing options (City of Fort St. John, *Official Community Plan*, pg.57). Changes in the "Core housing need," "Rental housing affordability" and "Homeowner affordability" indicators will reflect progress towards this goal.

Because seniors are the fastest growing demographic in Fort St. John, there are two indicators focusing on persons aged 65 years and older: "Seniors housing affordability" and "Seniors housing waitlist" will help measure and track the welfare of seniors in Fort St. John.

SOCIAL

Indicator	Data	Source (year)	Definition
1. Quality of life	36%	Community survey (2018)	The percentage of people who rate the overall quality of life in Fort St. John as excellent or very good.
2. Opportunities for belonging	34%	Community survey (2018)	The percentage of people who rate opportunities to belong to community organizations and institutions as excellent or very good.
3. Neighbourliness	12%	Community survey (2018)	The percentage of the population who rate support for opportunities to get to know their neighbors as excellent or very good.
4. Perception of safety	48%	Community survey (2018)	The percentage of the population who strongly agree or agree that neighbourhoods in Fort St. John are safe.
5. Licensed childcare spaces	452 spaces	Northern Health (2018)	The number of licensed child care spaces in the community.
6. Food bank use	498 clients	Fort St. John Women's Resource Society (2017)	The average number of people using a food bank and meal/snack programs on a monthly basis.
7. Shelter use	[Data not yet available]		The number of people who use the emergency shelter in a month.
8. Core housing need	745 households (10%)	Statistics Canada Census Program (2016)	The percentage of households meeting any of the three conditions: 1) housing costs are more than 30% of household income; 2) housing requires major repairs; 3) housing is not sufficient in size.
9. Rental housing affordability	30%	Statistics Canada Census Program (2016)	The percentage of renter households spending 30% or more of household income on shelter costs.
10. Homeowner affordability	9%	Statistics Canada Census Program (2016)	The percentage of owner households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs.
11. Seniors housing affordability	11%	CMHC Housing in Canada Online (2017)	The percentage of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal seniors (aged 65 years and over) spending 30% or more of their income on shelter costs.
12. Seniors housing waitlist	246 persons	SONS (2018)	The total number of seniors (aged 65 years and over) on a waiting list for seniors housing.

4. Health Domain

The indicators in the health domain measure and track changes related to the health and wellbeing of Fort St. John residents, and the capacity of the health care system to care for the growing number of Fort St. John residents.

As mentioned in the Methodology section, Northern Health does not collect data at the community level at this time. Rather, health data are collected at the geographic level of the Local Health Area (LHA), and Fort St. John is situated in the Peace River North LHA. Northern Health officials have informed CDI researchers that the regional body is currently preparing to measure health indicators at the community level.

As a northern region, the Peace River North LHA has challenges with recruiting and retaining medical health professionals. Indicators for "Doctors per capita" and "Specialists per capita" will help monitor this longstanding issue in health care capacity in northeastern BC. The City of Fort St. John intends to develop partnerships with health care providers (City of Fort St. John, *Strategic Plan: 2018-2023*, pg.15). The City can use this data to help look for ways to encourage health care professionals to work in Fort St. John.

HEALTH

Indicator	Data	Source (year)	Definition
1. Doctors per capita	86 per 100,000	Northern Health BC Community Health Profile (2014)	The total number of medical doctors per capita who are providing services in Fort St. John.
2. Specialists per capita	23 per 100,000	Northern Health BC Community Health Profile (2014)	The total number of medical specialists per capita who are providing services in Fort St. John.
3. Dentists per capita	54 per 100,000	Online public directories	The total number of dentists per capita who are providing services in Fort St. John.
4. Perceived health	56.9%	Canadian Community Health Survey (2015/16)	The percentage of population reporting that their health is either good, very good, or excellent.
5. Perceived mental health	64.3%	Canadian Community Health Survey (2015/16)	The percentage of population reporting that their mental health is either good, very good, or excellent.
6. Life expectancy	79.8 years	Northern Health BC Community Health Profile (2014) NB data is for 2011	An estimate of the average lifespan that a newborn is expected to live.
7. Birth rates per capita	20 per 1,000	Northern Health BC Community Health Profile (2014)	The number of births by mothers residing in Fort St. John.
8. Heart attack and stroke rates	[Data not yet available]		The number of hospitalizations or deaths due to heart attacks and strokes per 1,000 people aged 40 and older.
9. Diabetes prevalence	5.6%	Northern Health BC Community Health Profile (2014)	The percentage of people who have been treated for diabetes.
10. Immunization rate	[Data not yet available]		The percentage of 7-year-olds who have had vaccinations for measles, mumps, and rubella.
11. Fetal Alcohol Syndrome	[Data not yet available]		The proportion of newborn babies that have been diagnosed with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome.
12. Teen pregnancy rate	[Data not yet available]		The number of female pregnancies aged 15 to 19 years per 1,000 females of the same age.

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HEALTH

Indicator	Data	Source (year)	Definition
13. ADHD among children	[Data not yet available]		The proportion of children (aged 18 years and under) who have been diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.
14. Children with autism	[Data not yet available]		The proportion of children (aged 18 years and under) who have been diagnosed with autism.
15. Child development	33.5%	Human Early Learning Partnership (2016)	The percent of children vulnerable on one or more scales of the Early Development Instrument (EDI).
16. Smoking rate	29.8%	Canadian Community Health Survey (2015/16)	The percentage of population reporting as "occasional smoker" or "daily smoker."
17. Substance abuse	[Data not yet available]		The number of people who have been diagnosed as having substance abuse problems.
18. Active leisure time	67.6%	Canadian Community Health Survey (2015/16)	The percentage of population (aged 18 years and over) that does physical activity for 150 minutes or more per week.

5. Civic Engagement Domain

Indicators in the civic engagement domain are meant to track changes in the performance and vitality of local government and public institutions, as well as the voluntary sector in Fort St. John. For the former, there are indicators of "Voter turnout in municipal elections," "Women elected to municipal council and school board," and "Satisfaction with Input into decision-making." Indicators such as "Civic Engagement in the Community" and "Volunteerism" will be helpful in assessing the strength of the voluntary sector in Fort St. John.

Resident satisfaction indicators in this domain will also be of interest to decision-makers in the City of Fort St. John, the School District, the Fort St. John Public Library, the local arts and cultural scene, and more generally across the community's voluntary sector.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Indicator	Data	Source (year)	Definition
1. Voter turnout in municipal elections	19%	Elections BC (2018)	The percentage of registered voters who turn out to vote in municipal elections.
2. Volunteerism	48%	Community Survey (2018)	The percentage of the population who rate opportunities for volunteering as excellent or very good.
3. Civic engagement in the community	34%	Community Survey (2018)	The percentage of the population who rate opportunities to belong to community organizations and institutions as excellent or very good.
4. Women elected to municipal council and school board	Council: 4/7 School Board: 5/7	Online (2018)	The proportion of female to male council and school board members in Fort St. John.
5. Satisfaction with input into decision-making	49%	Community Survey (2018)	The percentage of the population who strongly agree or agree that Fort St. John is a community where residents are encouraged to get involved with municipal decision-making processes.
6. Satisfaction with recreation opportunities	30%	Community Survey (2018)	The percentage of the population who rate recreation opportunities in Fort St. John as excellent or very good.
7. Satisfaction with education/ schools	26%	Community Survey (2018)	The percentage of the population who rate access to a quality school system as excellent or very good.
8. Satisfaction with arts/culture	21%	Community Survey (2018)	The percentage of the population who rate arts and culture opportunities in Fort St. John as excellent or very good.
9. Satisfaction with public libraries	40%	Community Survey (2018)	The percentage of population who rate public libraries in Fort St. John as excellent or very good.

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The Energetic City

6. Environmental Domain

The quality of the local environment is among the key determinants of individual and population health. The indicators in this domain tracks changes in the local environment. There are indicators for the air quality in Fort St. John, water use and waste generation, the number and extent of community gardens, parks, sidewalks, and measures of public transit use.

The City of Fort St. John has adopted the guiding principle of "Being Environmentally Sustainable" (City of Fort St. John, *Official Community Plan*, pg.31). The indicators in the environmental domain provide a way of measuring and tracking the community's progress towards sustainability. As part of such efforts, the City will be promoting sustainable household practices such as recycling and composting with the goal of increasing solid waste diversion to 50% (City of Fort St. John, *Official Community Plan*, pg.122). The City has also proposed a yard waste and compost collection program (City of Fort St. John, *Strategic Plan: 2018-2023*, pg.9). As mentioned in the methodology section, the Peace River Regional District is responsible for collecting data on this indicator, and only reports for the region as a whole.

Having access to outdoor green spaces is important to the health and quality of life of residents. The City of Fort St. John intends to continue developing parks, trails, and other outdoor spaces for public use. The City has set the goal of having all new residential dwellings within a 400m radius of a neighbourhood park (City of Fort St. John, *Official Community Plan*, pg.71). It has also stated that it will be encouraging urban agricultural opportunities in order to promote community food security.

The City's Transit Strategy has called for improvements to pedestrian infrastructure, especially in the vicinity of transit routes (City of Fort St. John, *Official Community Plan*, pg.115), such that the "Kilometers of sidewalks per capita" indicator will be of interest in the context of the implementation of the City's Transit Strategy. In terms of increasing public transit use, the City has stated that it will be working with BC Transit to review and upgrade the City's transit system (City of Fort St. John, O*fficial Community Plan*, pg.115). The indicators "Public transit use" and "Satisfaction with public transit" will gauge the impact of these efforts.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Indicator	Data	Source (year)	Definition
1. Air quality health index	January: Low: 1.64 High: 3.87 Avg.: 2.1 July Low: 0.86 High: 1.73 Avg.: 1.37	AQHI Initiative (2017)	The concentration of outdoor air pollutants in the community.
2. Water use	380L/day	City of Fort St. John, Public Works (2018) NB Data is for 2016	The amount of water used per capita on a daily basis (litres/day).
3. Waste	685kg/person per year	Peace River Regional District (2016)	The annual amount of waste sent to landfills and incinerators.
4. Number of agricultural/ community gardens	1	City of Fort St. John (2018)	The total number of community gardens, community orchards, and urban agricultural lands.
5. Area of managed parks per capita	12.9ha / 1000 persons	City of Fort St. John, Recreation Services (2017)	The number of hectares per 1,000 people of parks that are managed by the municipality.
6. Satisfaction with park space	28%	Community survey (2018)	The percentage of population who rate parks in Fort St. John as excellent or very good.
7. Kilometers of trails per capita	0.74km / 1000 persons	City of Fort St. John, Public Works (2017)	The number of trails in kilometers per 1,000 people that are managed by the municipality.
8. Kilometers of sidewalks per capita	1.94km / 1000 persons	City of Fort St. John, Public Works (2017)	The number of sidewalks in kilometers per 1,000 people that are managed by the municipality.
9. Kilometers of maintained sidewalks in winter per capita	[Data not yet available]		The total distance of sidewalks that are maintained by the City during the winter.
10. Kilometers of cross-country ski trails per capita	[Data not yet available]		The total distance of cross-country ski trails that are maintained by the City during the winter.
11. Public transit use	127,085 rides	BC Transit (2017)	The annual number of rides taken by passengers on the bus transit system.

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Indicator	Data	Source (year)	Definition
12. Handy Dart use	26,015 rides	BC Transit (2017)	The annual number of rides taken by passengers on the Handy Dart.
13. Satisfaction with public transit	14%	Community survey (2018)	The percentage of population who rate public transit as excellent or very good.

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