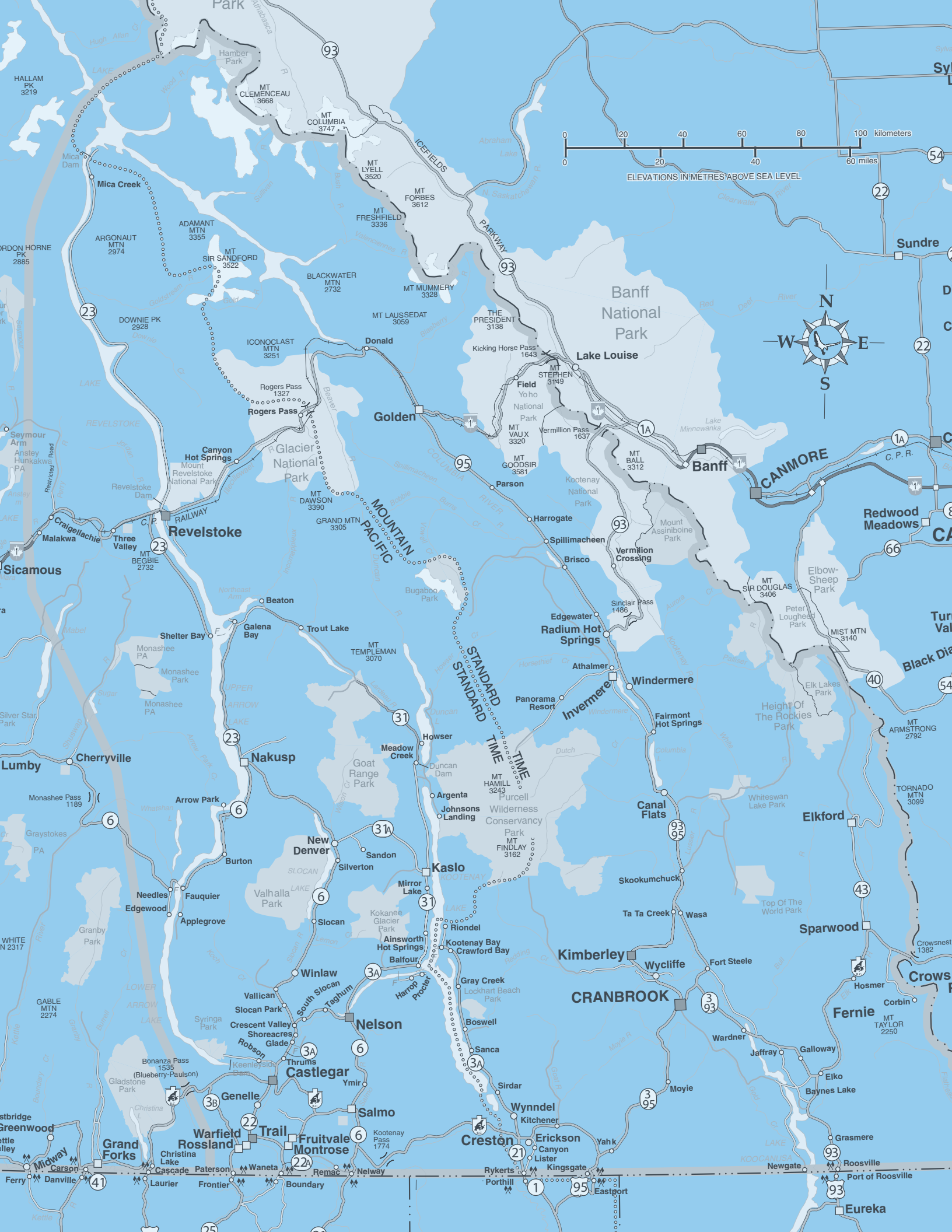UNDERSTANDING THE EARLY YEARS
COMMUNITY MAPPING STUDY
WEST KOOTENAY

2007
-
2009

PRESENTED BY

WEST KOOTENAY EARLY YEARS COMMITTEE
&
KOOTENAY BOUNDARY COMMUNITY SERVICES CO-OPERATIVE

Map of Southeastern British Columbia / Kootenay Region

Parks & Regions: Banff National Park, Yoho National Park, Kootenay National Park, Glacier National Park, Mount Revelstoke National Park, Mount Assiniboine Park, Hamber Park, Goat Range Park, Valhalla Park, Kokanee Glacier Park, Bugaboo Park, Monashee Park, Monashee PA, Purcell Wilderness Conservancy Park, Height Of The Rockies Park, Elk Lakes Park, Peter Lougheed Park, Elbow-Sheep Park, Top Of The World Park, Whiteswan Lake Park, Granby Park, Gladstone Park, Syringa Park, Christina L, Seymour Hunkakwa PA, Anstey Hunkakwa PA, Black Diamond

Time zones: STANDARD STANDARD TIME / STANDARD TIME MOUNTAIN PACIFIC

Mountains / Peaks (elevations in metres)
- HALLAM PK 3219
- GORDON HORNE PK 2885
- MT CLEMENCEAU 3668
- MT COLUMBIA 3747
- MT LYELL 3520
- MT FORBES 3612
- MT FRESHFIELD 3336
- MT MUMMERY 3328
- MT LAUSSEDAT 3059
- THE PRESIDENT 3138
- MT STEPHEN 3149
- MT VAUX 3320
- MT GOODSIR 3581
- MT BALL 3312
- MT SIR DOUGLAS 3406
- MIST MTN 3140
- MT ARMSTRONG 2792
- TORNADO MTN 3099
- ADAMANT MTN 3355
- ARGONAUT MTN 2974
- MT SIR SANDFORD 3522
- DOWNIE PK 2928
- BLACKWATER MTN 2732
- ICONOCLAST MTN 3251
- GRAND MTN 3305
- MT DAWSON 3390
- MT BEGBIE 2732
- MT TEMPLEMAN 3070
- MT HAMILL 3243
- MT FINDLAY 3162
- MONASHEE PASS 1189
- MT TAYLOR 2250
- WHITE MTN 2317
- GABLE MTN 2274
- SILVER STAR PA

Passes
- Kicking Horse Pass 1643
- Vermillion Pass 1637
- Rogers Pass 1327
- Sinclair Pass 1486
- Vermilion Crossing
- Monashee Pass 1189
- Bonanza Pass 1535 (Blueberry-Paulson)
- Kootenay Pass 1774
- Crowsnest 1382

Towns & Communities
Mica Creek, Mica Dam, Revelstoke, Revelstoke Dam, Craigellachie, Malakwa, Three Valley, Sicamous, Lumby, Cherryville, Graystokes PA, Donald, Golden, Parson, Harrogate, Spillimacheen, Brisco, Edgewater, Radium Hot Springs, Athalmer, Invermere, Windermere, Panorama Resort, Fairmont Hot Springs, Canal Flats, Skookumchuck, Ta Ta Creek, Wasa, Kimberley, Wycliffe, Fort Steele, CRANBROOK, Elkford, Sparwood, Hosmer, Corbin, Fernie, Galloway, Elko, Baynes Lake, Grasmere, Roosville, Port of Roosville, Newgate, Eureka

Lake Louise, Field, Banff, CANMORE, Redwood Meadows, Sundre

Beaton, Shelter Bay, Galena Bay, Trout Lake, Arrow Park, Nakusp, Burton, New Denver, Sandon, Silverton, Needles, Fauquier, Edgewood, Applegrove, Winlaw, Vallican, Slocan Park, Slocan, Crescent Valley, Shoreacres, Glade, Robson, Thrums, Ymir, Salmo, Castlegar, Genelle, Warfield, Rossland, Trail, Fruitvale, Montrose, Waneta, Remac, Nelway, Boundary, Frontier, Laurier, Paterson, Cascade, Christina Lake, Greenwood, Grand Forks, Midway, Carson, Danville, Ferry

Howser, Meadow Creek, Duncan Dam, Argenta, Johnsons Landing, Kaslo, Mirror Lake, Ainsworth Hot Springs, Balfour, Riondel, Kootenay Bay, Crawford Bay, Gray Creek, Lockhart Beach Park, Boswell, Sanca, Harrop, Procter, Taghum, South Slocan, Nelson, Boswell, Sirdar, Wynndel, Kitchener, Creston, Erickson, Canyon, Lister, Kingsgate, Yahk, Rykerts, Porthill, Eastport, Moyie, Wardner, Jaffray, Wasa

Highways
23, 93, 95, 31, 31A, 6, 3A, 3B, 22, 22A, 1, 1A, 40, 41, 43, 66, 54, 21

Rivers & Lakes
Columbia River, Kootenay River, Kootenay Lake, Slocan Lake, Upper Arrow Lake, Lower Arrow Lake, Revelstoke Lake, Duncan L, Lake Minnewanka, Kinbasket Lake, Whatshan, Christina L, KOOCANUSA, Abraham Lake, Clearwater River, Red Deer River, Bow R, Icefields Parkway

Map features
- ELEVATIONS IN METRES ABOVE SEA LEVEL
- Scale: 0–100 kilometers / 0–60 miles
- C.P.R. RAILWAY
- Compass rose: N E S W

Canyon Hot Springs, Rogers Pass

Monashee Park, Monashee PA

UNDERSTANDING THE EARLY YEARS
RESULTS OF THE COMMUNITY MAPPING STUDY

WEST KOOTENAY, BC

2007 - 2009

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report may also be found on the internet at www.thekoop.ca and at www.wkearlyyears.ca.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Without the assistance of the following community partners, the West Kootenay UEY Mapping project would not have been possible.

- The Kootenay Boundary Community Services Co-operative (host agency)
- Kim Adamson, UEY Project Coordinator from July 2007-July 2009
- West Kootenay Early Childhood Advisory Council
- UEY Mapping Research Sub-Committee:
    - Susan Olheiser, Blueberry Creek Community School Coordinator
    - Joan Exley, Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy
    - Laverne Booth, Early Years advisor
    - Deanna Holitzki, Principal of Rosemont Elementary, School District 8
    - Tanji Zimpano, GIS Consultant
- Kootenay Lake School District No. 8
- Arrow Lakes School District No. 10
- Kootenay Columbia School District No. 20
- Selkirk College Geospatial Research Centre, with special thanks to Chris Gray
- George Penfold, M.Sc. MCIP, Rural Innovation Chair, Selkirk College
- Early Years Community Tables
    - Nelson Early Childhood Advisory Council
    - Castlegar Early Childhood Advisory Council
    - Greater Trail Success by 6 Community Table
    - Salmo Valley Early Childhood Advisory Council
    - Slocan Valley Early Childhood Community Advisory Council
    - Kaslo Early Childhood Coalition
    - Crawford Bay Community Advisory Council
    - Talking Little Feet Aboriginal Early Childhood Council

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The West Kootenay region of south central British Columbia is nestled amidst lakes, rivers and the scenic Selkirk Mountains. It covers a geographical area of approximately 22,000 square kilometers, and was home to approximately 62,000 people in 2006. In 2008, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada provided 2006 Census data that was conveniently aggregated into ten distinct West Kootenay neighbourhoods. This community mapping study has revealed important demographic and socio-economic information about this region. The following points represent some key findings of the research.

As of 2006:

- The overall population of West Kootenay region dropped by 2000 residents from 2001-2006.
- In 2006, there were 3930 children ages 0-6 years living in the West Kootenay, representing approximately 6.3% of the total population.
- There were approximately 640 Aboriginal children ages 0-9 years in the Regional District of Central Kootenay and the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary.
- In most West Kootenay neighbourhoods, fewer than the provincial average number of residents were faced with moving house.
- A large proportion of West Kootenay residents owned the dwelling in which they resided. The lowest rate of home ownership and the highest housing prices were found in Nelson.
- In the West Kootenay, 12.4% of adults ages 25-64 years did not have a high school diploma. This was similar to the provincial rate of 12.3%, and was lower than the national rate of 15.4%. The rate of high school non-completion varied considerably from a low of 6.3% in the Rossland/Warfield neighbourhood to the high of 23.8% in the Salmo neighbourhood.
- The average unemployment rate in the West Kootenay was 7%. There was a range in unemployment rates from the lowest rate in Nelson of 5% to the highest in Salmo of 11%.
- There was a range of over $30,000 in median family incomes from the highest income neighbourhood of Rossland/Warfield to the lowest income neighbourhood of Salmo.
- The highest income neighbourhoods had the highest percentage of adults ages 25-64 years with at least a high school diploma. The lowest family incomes were found in the neighbourhoods with lower education levels and higher unemployment rates.
- Of all families with children, the Nelson neighbourhood had the highest proportion of lone parent families. The Kootenay Lake had 115 lone parent fathers, the highest number in the region.
- The majority of programs and services for children and families are located in the larger communities of Trail, Castlegar and Nelson. Families living in more remote areas have limited access to outreach services and are faced with challenging and costly travel.
- In smaller communities like Kaslo, Nakusp and Salmo, efforts are being made to co-locate community services in centralized "hubs" in order to reduce the cost of service provision as well as recruit and retain service providers.

PART 1: UNDERSTANDING THE EARLY YEARS

PROJECT BACKGROUND

A growing body of literature indicates that a child's first six years of development significantly affect learning, behavior, physical and emotional health throughout the rest of their lives. Due to this growing knowledge base, as well as the limited finances available to support the early years, communities are becoming increasingly interested in learning what factors, resources and initiatives best support the optimal growth and development of children (and conversely which factors do not). In response to the demand for knowledge and the expectation of sound evidence to guide decision making and resource allocation, the Understanding the Early Years (UEY) Initiative was developed in 1999 by Human Resources Development Canada.

The UEY West Kootenay Initiative is a three year project to empower communities with evidence to make responsive program, policy and investment decisions to give their children the best possible start.   It examines the role that families and communities play in the lives of children by providing communities with important and objective information, including:

- The socio-economic characteristics of communities;
- The family and community factors that influence children's development;
- The availability of local resources to support young children and their families; and
- The "readiness for school" of young children.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR REPORT INTERPRETATION

All Census data used in this report are from the 2001 and 2006 Census, obtained from Statistics Canada through HRSDC. This information provided a socio-economic picture of West Kootenay neighborhoods in the two time periods 2000-2001 and 2005-2006.

For the purpose of this report, the geographic unit of study is called a "neighbourhood". The UEY neighbourhood boundaries do not represent a community's traditional concept of neighbourhood. Rather, they align with the neighbourhood boundaries used by researchers working with the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) at UBC. The eight inventories of neighbourhood resources represent a "snap shot" of the types of programs and services available in the West Kootenay. Information for the inventories was gathered during 2008 and early 2009. When reviewing maps of neighbourhood resources, it is important to be aware that a dot on the map indicates the location that a program or service is situated.

The mapping information does not include program details such as the number of participants or hours of service.

In many of the maps in the neighbourhood resources section, several dots or symbols will appear to be situated very close together, and even layered on top of each other. This is a typical pattern, particularly in rural communities, where rural service "hubs" with several programs and services tend to develop. Though efforts have been made to ensure map legibility, given the large geographical area of the West Kootenay, it may be challenging to discern some of the symbols for services in small communities. In order to accommodate this challenge, readers are encouraged to visit the comprehensive community services directory available at the Trail Family & Individual Resources Centre Society website, http://www.trailfair.ca/ServiceDirectory.html.

At the time the maps were created, every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of the inventories. Due to the evolving nature of community based programs however, there may be some inaccurate information. The results of this study should be interpreted within this context and within the limitations imposed by these factors.

INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNITY MAPPING

Community mapping is an interactive and participatory process that engages community members in identifying an issue, gathering information, analyzing results and presenting solutions. The UEY West Kootenay Community Mapping project includes a description of six socio-economic characteristics of each neighbourhood and the distribution of programs, resources and services for young children and their families. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology was used to create visual representations of this information. Using a mapping approach to data analysis allows community members and stakeholders to see data in new ways; and supports the engagement of more segments of the population. By their visual nature, maps help to break down literacy and cultural barriers, and help to involve more stakeholders in decision making. The Community Mapping Study in the West Kootenay was conducted in the fall of 2007 and winter of 2008-09 and was based on a framework developed by Human Resources and Social Development Canada.

MAPPING METHODOLOGY

In the spirit of participatory research, community members were engaged early in the research process. At various times, citizens were involved in identifying issues, gathering information, reviewing and assisting with the interpretation of results, and disseminating the report. Human Resources and Social Development Canada provided 2001 and 2006 Census data that was conveniently aggregated into ten distinct West Kootenay neighbourhoods. Using the mapping software ArcMap 9.2 (ESRI), the following social and economic characteristics of each neighbourhood were mapped:

- Residential Stability
- Home Ownership
- Education
- Unemployment
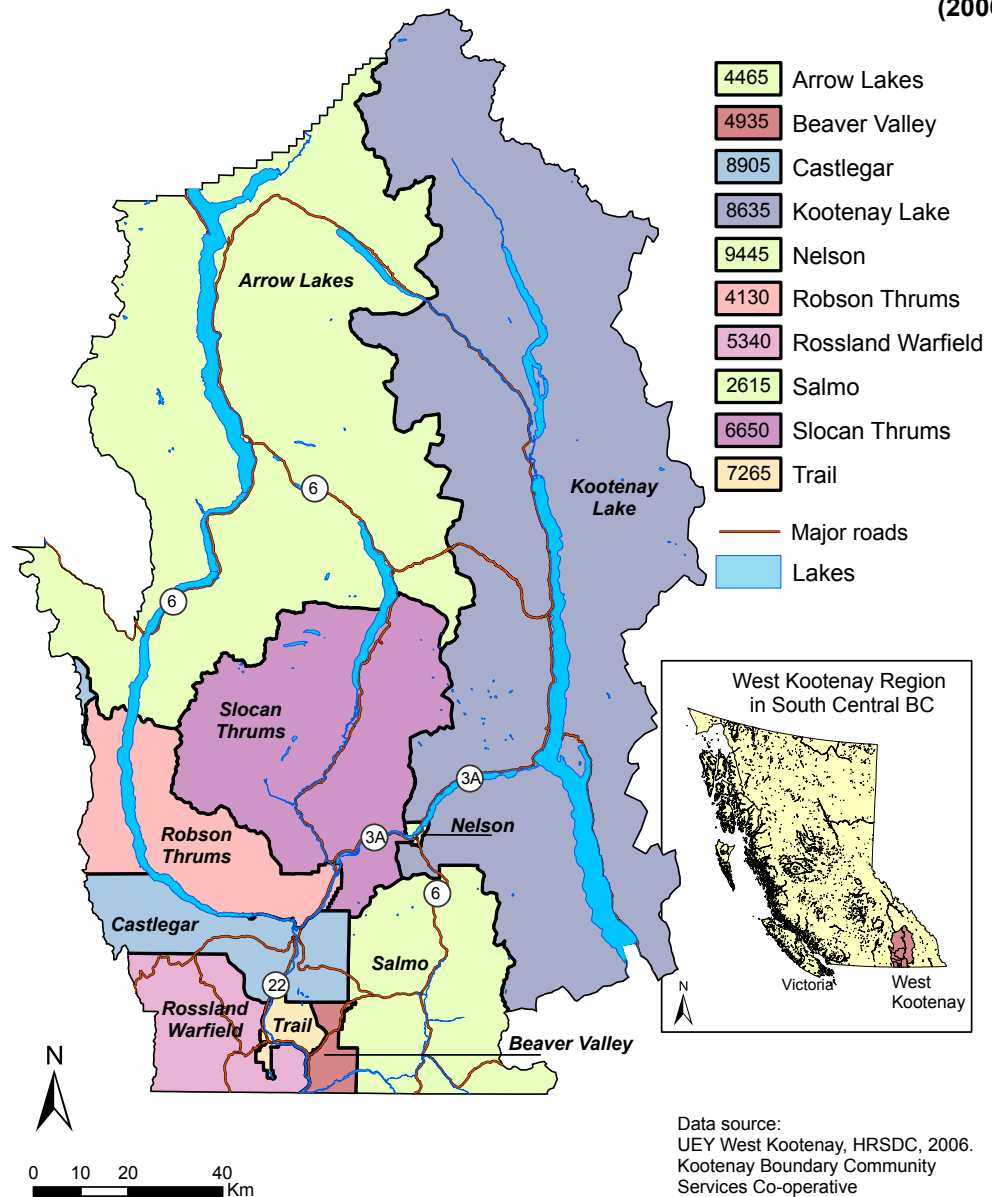- Family Income
- Family Structure

Eight inventories were developed that represented a "snap shot" of the types of programs and services available in each neighbourhood to support young children ages birth to six years. In keeping with UEY methodology, programs were classified according to their primary objectives into the following categories:

- Services for Child Health and Safety
- Services for Special Needs Children
- Services to Meet Basic Needs
- Services for Education, Literacy and Parent Support

- Services for Early Learning and Childcare
- Services for Recreation, Arts, Entertainment and Culture
- Services for Aboriginal Children and Families
- Faith Based Services

PART 2: WEST KOOTENAY LANDSCAPE

The West Kootenay is located in the south central region of British Columbia. It is characterized by many small and medium sized villages and towns nestled amidst lakes, rivers and the scenic Selkirk Mountains. The West Kootenay region makes up almost 22,000 square km and was home to approximately 62,000 people in 2006.

Map 1: Ten West Kootenay Neighbourhoods with Total Populations (2006)

4465	Arrow Lakes
4935	Beaver Valley
8905	Castlegar
8635	Kootenay Lake
9445	Nelson
4130	Robson Thrums
5340	Rossland Warfield
2615	Salmo
6650	Slocan Thrums
7265	Trail

Major roads
Lakes

West Kootenay Region in South Central BC

Victoria West Kootenay

Data source:
UEY West Kootenay, HRSDC, 2006.
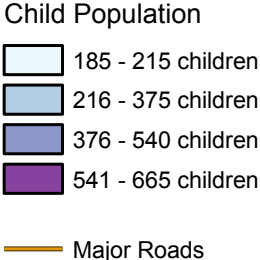Kootenay Boundary Community
Services Co-operative

POPULATION

In 2006, the three cities, Nelson, Castlegar and Trail, had populations between 7,600 to 9,600 people each. The smaller communities have populations ranging from a few hundred to 2,500 and include Nakusp, Kaslo, Salmo, Rossland and Slocan City.

There was a large rural population living in communities of 300 or less. The spirit of entrepreneurship, independence and innovation remains strong throughout this region.

Map 2: Population concentrations of children (birth to 6 years)

Child Population

- 185 - 215 children
- 216 - 375 children
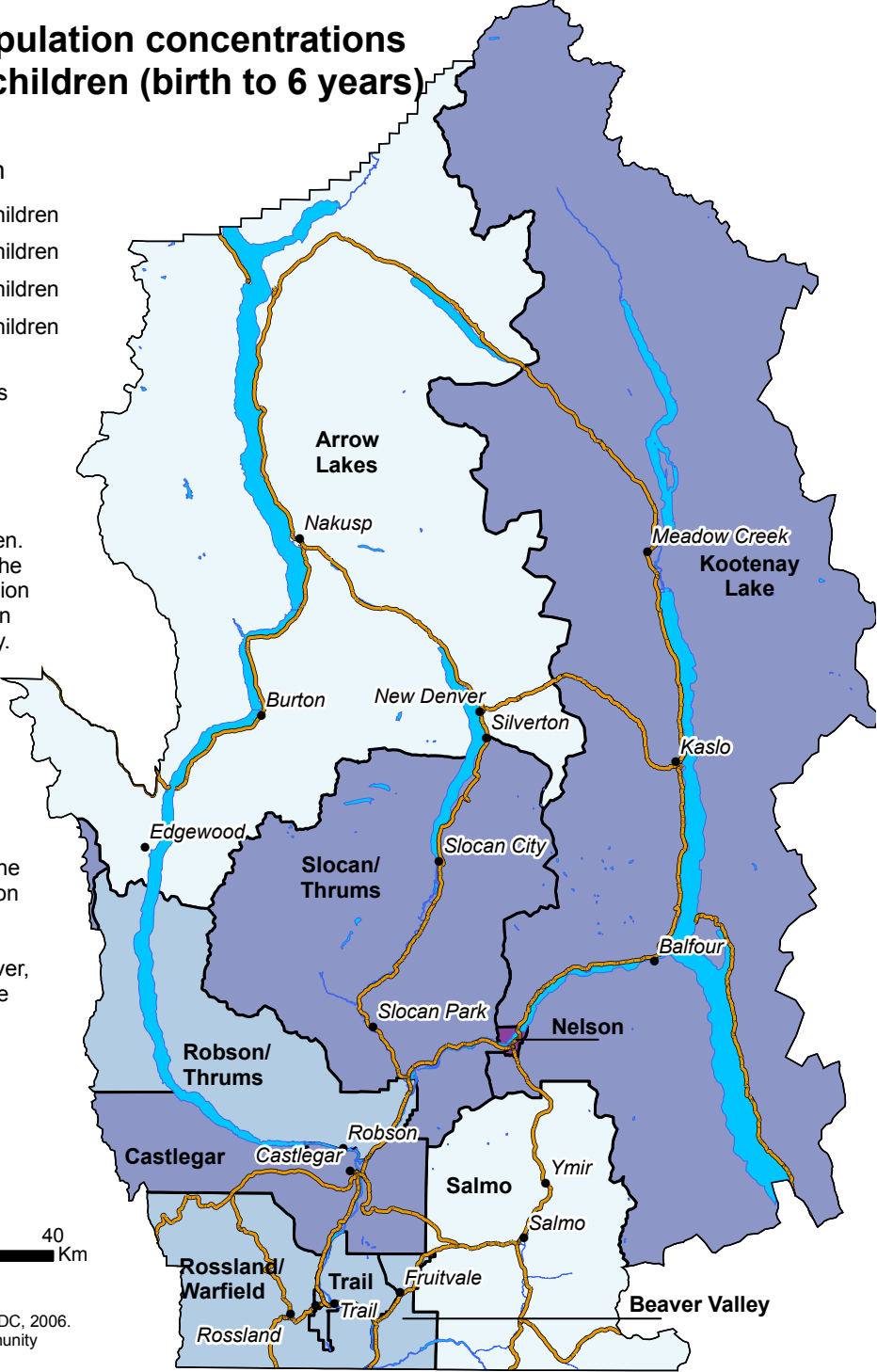- 376 - 540 children
- 541 - 665 children

— Major Roads

In Slocan/Thrums, 8% of all residents were young children. This represented the highest concentration of young children in the West Kootenay.

Arrow Lakes had the lowest concentration of young children at 5% of the total population. However, these children were widely dispersed over a large area.

N

0 10 20 40 Km

Data Source:
UEY West Kootenay, HRSDC, 2006.
Kootenay Boundary Community
Services Co-operative

Arrow Lakes
Nakusp
Meadow Creek
Kootenay Lake
Burton
New Denver
Silverton
Kaslo
Edgewood
Slocan City
Slocan/Thrums
Balfour
Slocan Park
Nelson
Robson/Thrums
Robson
Castlegar
Castlegar
Salmo
Ymir
Rossland/Warfield
Trail
Fruitvale
Salmo
Rossland
Trail
Beaver Valley

Table 1: Population of Young Children in West Kootenay Neighbourhoods			
Neighbourhood	Population		% of Neighbourhood Population Aged 0-6 Years (2006)
	2001	2006	
Kootenay Lake	535	515	6%
Slocan/Thrums	430	505	8%
Nelson	715	665	7%
Salmo	160	185	7%
Arrow Lakes	365	215	5%
Rossland/Warfield	420	375	7%
Beaver Valley	365	290	6%
Trail	450	365	5%
Robson/Thrums	365	275	7%
Castlegar	675	540	6%
West Kootenay	4480	3930	6%

(Source: Statistics Canada Census 2006, UEY West Kootenay)

CHILDREN, 0-6 YEARS

In 2006 there were approximately 18,480 households in the West Kootenay. This number included Census families of married couples and common-law couples (with or without children) and lone parent families. Approximately half of these West Kootenay households had children at home. Lone parent families comprised between 21-36% of all families with children in the West Kootenay.   There were 3,930 children ages 0-6 years living in the West Kootenay, representing 6.3% of the total West Kootenay population.

Between 2001 and 2006, the population of young children in the West Kootenay dropped by 550.

Between 2001 and 2006, the Slocan/Thrums and Salmo neighbourhoods saw an increase in the number of young children. This may have been due to the more affordable housing prices in these neighbourhoods, causing some young families to re-locate to these areas.

THE POPULATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ABORIGINAL CHILDREN

According to Statistics Canada (2006):

> The Aboriginal identity population comprises those persons who reported identifying with at least one Aboriginal group, that is, North American Indian, Métis or Inuit, and/or those who reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian, as defined by the *Indian Act of Canada*, and/or those who reported they were members of an Indian band or First Nation.

For this study, the Regional District was the smallest geographical area with Aboriginal population numbers available. It is important to note that the two Regional Districts listed below include all of the communities within the scope of the West Kootenay UEY project. However the following communities within these Regional Districts were outside of the UEY West Kootenay project boundaries: Creston, Yahk, Christina Lake, Grand Forks, Greenwood, and Beaverdell. Statistics Canada uses the 0-4 years and 5-9 years age groups in the Census. In 2006, the population of Aboriginal children in the Regional Districts was:

Table 2: Population & Distribution of Aboriginal Children		
Age Groups:	Central Kootenay Regional District	Kootenay Boundary Regional District
0–4 Years	150 children	65 children
5–9 Years	250 children	175 children
Total	400 children	240 children

(Source: Statistics Canada. 2006 Community Profiles)

PART 3: SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF

WEST KOOTENAY NEIGHBOURHOODS

Children do better when their families are strong and families do better when they live in communities that help them succeed. (Partners for National Family Week).

Children's health outcomes are influenced by a variety of complex and interwoven factors. These factors affect development before and during pregnancy as well as following birth during the critical early years. Some of these factors include mother's age, health and health behaviors, nutrition, whether a pregnancy was planned or not and the level of emotional support. Other factors affecting child development include birth weight, family income, family structure, and availability of safe and secure housing. Also essential for child development are opportunities for early learning, nourishing food, clean air and water, and access to medical care.

Supportive communities help children reach their potential. Young children are more likely to experience positive outcomes when they grow and develop in a stimulating and nurturing environment. Providing young children with quality learning environments enhances their physical, social, emotional and cognitive development. In contrast, scarcity of resources or an impoverished environment challenges young children and can result in reduced opportunities for positive child development.

The following section of the report looks at six key socio-economic factors that play a significant role in the lives of young children. Statistics Canada describes these factors in the following ways:

- **Residential Stability**: the relationship between a person's usual place of residence and his or her usual place of residence one year earlier.

- **Home Ownership**: the proportion of residents owning their own home.

- **Education**: the proportion of residents who have met the requirements to graduate from high school.

- **Unemployment**: Persons who, during the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006), were without paid work or without self-employment work and were available for work and either: (a) had actively looked for paid work in the past four weeks; or (b) were on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job; or (c) had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.

- **Median Family Income**: the income level where half of households earn above it, and half earn below.

- **Family Structure**: the proportion of families headed by two parents or by a single parent.

RESIDENTIAL STABILITY

Neighbourhoods in which community members know and support each other have stronger social networks than neighbourhoods with frequent turnover of residents. Well connected neighbourhoods have a positive effect on children's development and well-being, especially in terms of behavior and learning.

High rates of residential mobility can weaken personal connections, lessen trust, reduce social supports for children and families, and have been associated with increased behavioral problems in children. If a family moves house within a community, the child and family may be able to maintain their existing social and emotional networks including friends, childcare providers and preschool. However, more distant moves and frequent moves challenge families with changing social and emotional support networks.
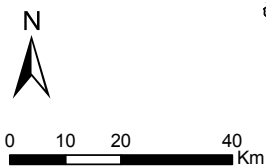
Map 3: Residential Stability

Percentage of residents in each neighbourhood that moved house between May 2005 and May 2006.

- 11 - 13%
- 14 - 15%
- 16 - 18%
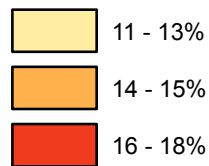
— Major Roads

14% of the West Kootenay population moved residence between May 2005 and May 2006. It is not known what proportion were young children.

The provincial average was 17%.

Arrow Lakes

Nakusp

Meadow Creek

Kootenay Lake

Burton

New Denver

Silverton

Kaslo

Edgewood

Slocan City

Slocan/Thrums

Balfour

Slocan Park

Nelson

Robson/Thrums

Robson

Castlegar

Castlegar

Ymir

Salmo

Salmo

N

0 10 20   40
                 Km

Rossland/Warfield

Trail

Trail

Fruitvale

Beaver Valley

Rossland

Data Source:
UEY West Kootenay, HRSDC, 2006.
Kootenay Boundary Community
Services Co-operative
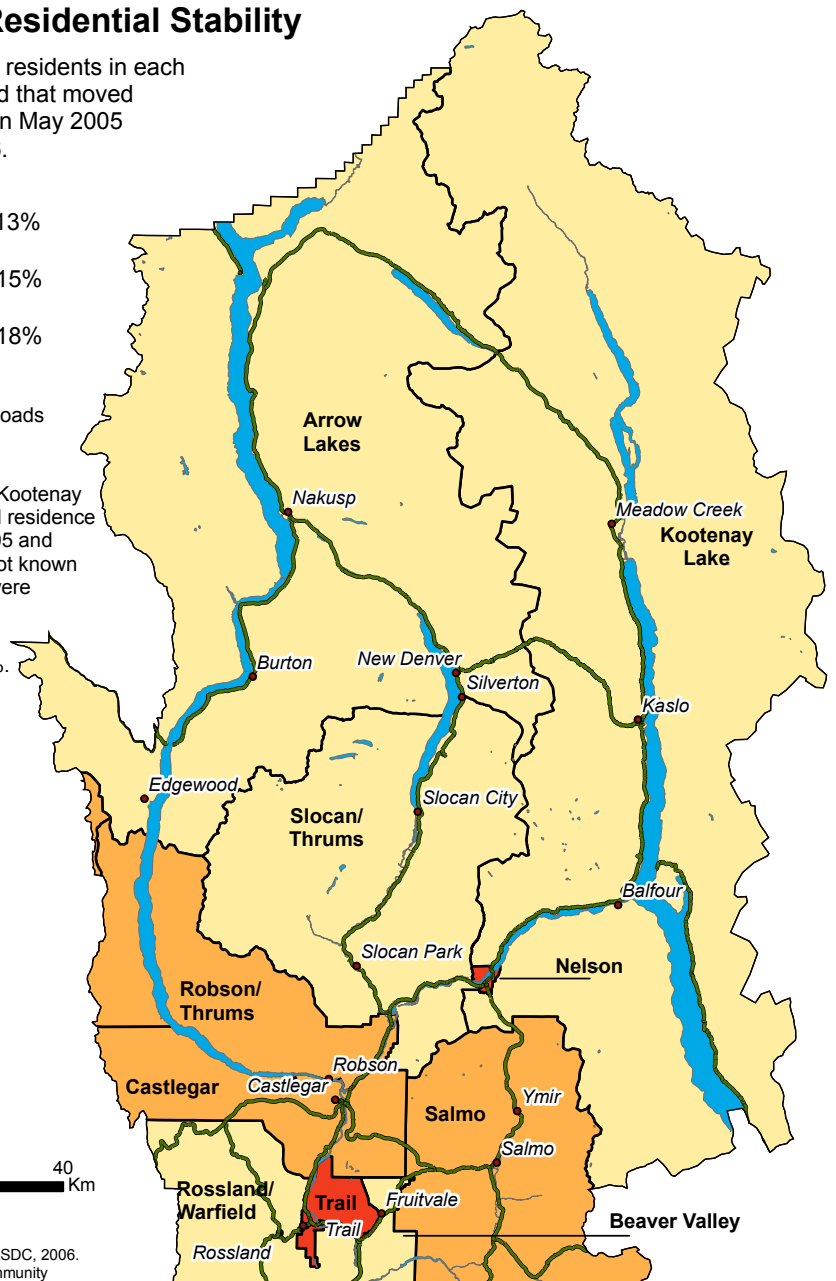
HOME OWNERSHIP

According to Statistics Canada, insufficient income represents the major obstacle to home ownership. Due to lower house prices in rural areas of the country, rural residents are more likely to be home owners than those living in larger metropolitan cities. The following table reveals the percent of households in 2006 where some member of the household owned the dwelling.

Table 3: Proportion of Home Ownership by West Kootenay Neighbourhood		
Neighborhood	2001	2006
Kootenay Lake	81%	82%
Slocan/Thrums	79%	84%
Nelson	63%	64%
Salmo	79%	80%
Arrow Lakes	74%	82%
Rossland/Warfield	83%	86%
Beaver Valley	88%	86%
Trail	73%	73%
Robson/Thrums	86%	86%
Castlegar	77%	81%

(Source: Statistics Canada Census 2006,

UEY West Kootenay)

Table 4: Changes in Average Residential House Price by West Kootenay Community		
Community	2001	2006
National average	$171,600 (2002 data)	$332,442
Nelson	$142,427	$309,963
Kaslo	$104,902	$286,897
Castlegar	$128,453	$192,972
Nakusp	$109,888 (2002 data)	$188,300
Rossland	$131,731	$185,139
Fruitvale	$119,153	$172,310
Montrose	$104,868	$165,861
Warfield	$90,812	$145,757
Trail	$72,078	$113,771
Salmo	$69,030	$86,475

(Source: Kootenay Real Estate Board)

An average of 79% of households in the West Kootenay owned their own home.   The provincial average was 62% and the national average (in 2007) was 61%.
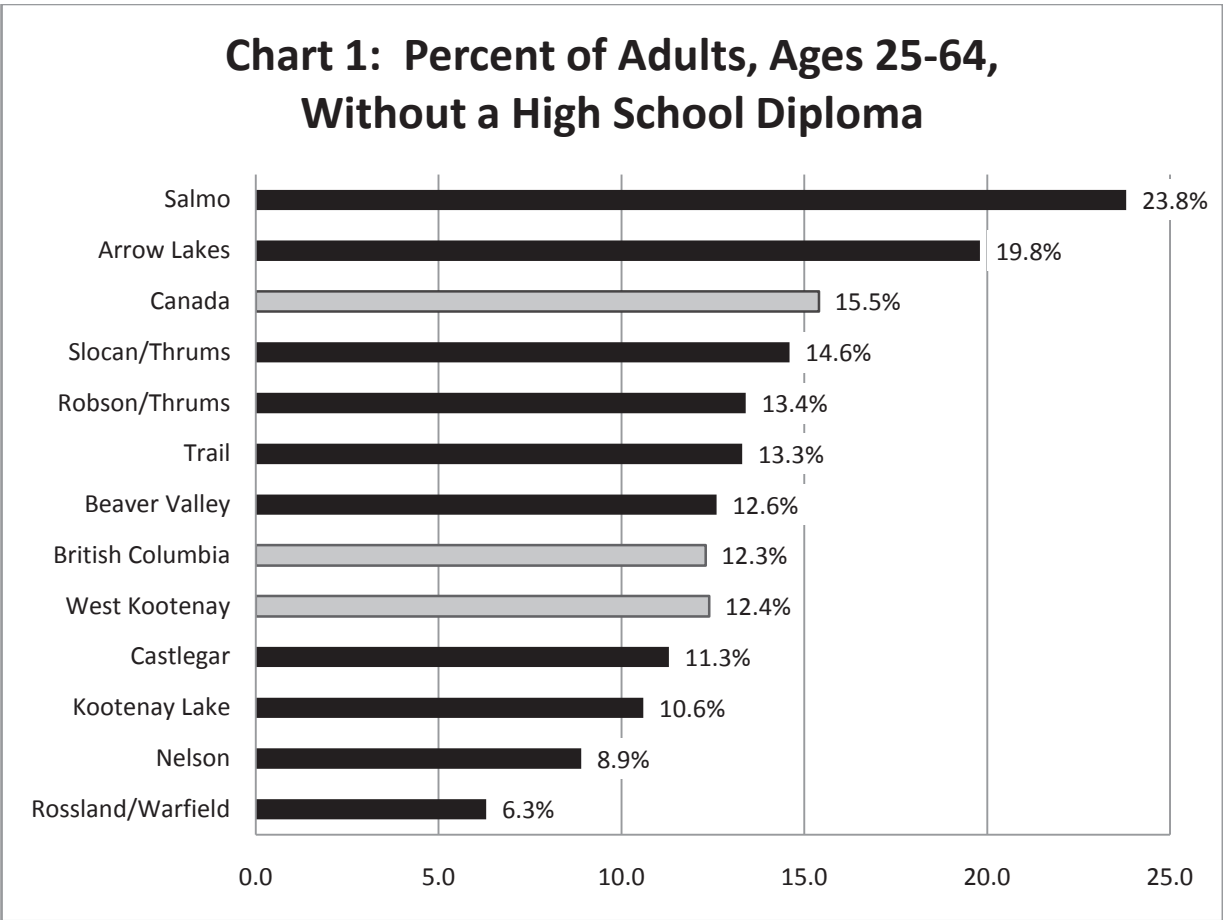
In 2006, British Columbia had the most expensive housing in Canada, with an average residential resale price of $418,703. The national average house price was $332,442.

Nelson and Trail had the highest proportion of their population moving residence and had the lowest proportion of households owning their own homes. According to the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, almost one in three households in BC spend more than 30% of their gross income on housing costs. Forty-four per cent of renters in BC spend more than 30% of their income on shelter.

EDUCATION

While parental level of education has been related to child developmental outcomes, the education level of the residents within a child's wider community is also a crucial factor in the socio-economic environment in which a child grows and develops. Adults in a community with high levels of education are more likely to be employed, less likely to live in poverty, and more likely to serve as positive role models and mentors to their own children and others.

Statistics Canada defines high school education as having earned a high school graduation certificate.

Chart 1: Percent of Adults, Ages 25-64, Without a High School Diploma

Community	Percent
Salmo	23.8%
Arrow Lakes	19.8%
Canada	15.5%
Slocan/Thrums	14.6%
Robson/Thrums	13.4%
Trail	13.3%
Beaver Valley	12.6%
British Columbia	12.3%
West Kootenay	12.4%
Castlegar	11.3%
Kootenay Lake	10.6%
Nelson	8.9%
Rossland/Warfield	6.3%

(Source: Statistics Canada Census 2006, UEY West Kootenay)

UNEMPLOYMENT

Research has shown that neighbourhoods with high levels of unemployment, with associated higher poverty rates and lack of resources can negatively impact children's environments and their overall well-being and behavioral outcomes.

Statistics Canada defines "unemployed" as: Persons who, during the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006), were without paid work or without self-employment work and were available for work and either: (a) had actively looked for paid work in the past four weeks; or (b) were on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job; or (c) had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.

The highest unemployment rates were found in Salmo (11%) and Arrow Lakes (10%).

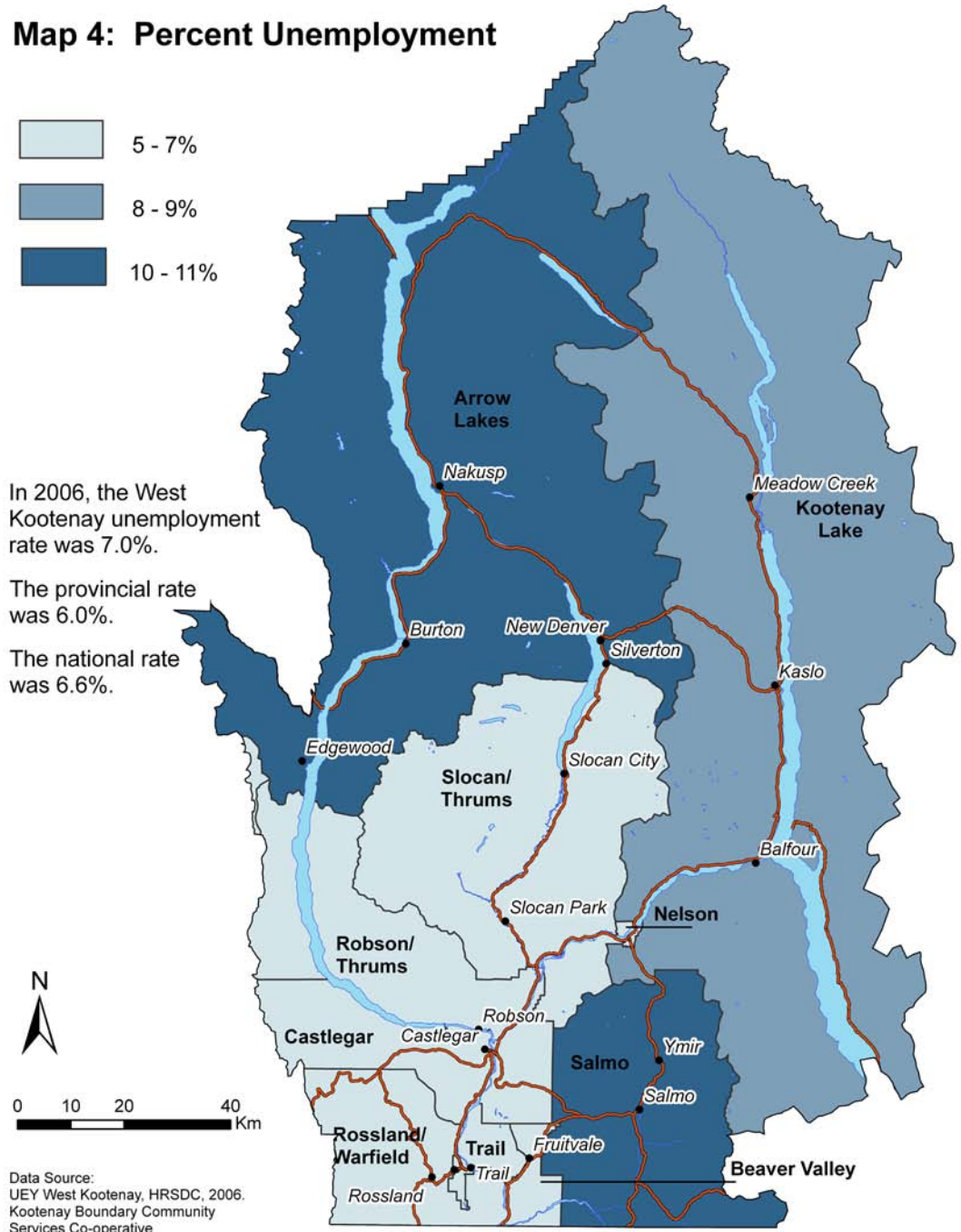The lowest unemployment rates were found in Nelson (5%), Trail (6%) and Rossland/ Warfield (6%).

Map 4: Percent Unemployment

- 5 - 7%
- 8 - 9%
- 10 - 11%
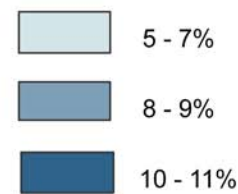
In 2006, the West Kootenay unemployment rate was 7.0%.

The provincial rate was 6.0%.

The national rate was 6.6%.

Arrow Lakes

Nakusp

Meadow Creek

Kootenay Lake

Burton   New Denver   Silverton   Kaslo

Edgewood   Slocan City

Slocan/ Thrums

Balfour

Slocan Park   Nelson

Robson/ Thrums

N

Castlegar   Castlegar

Robson

Ymir

Salmo

Salmo

0 10 20   40
Km

Rossland/ Warfield   Trail   Fruitvale

Trail   Beaver Valley

Rossland

Data Source:
UEY West Kootenay, HRSDC, 2006.
Kootenay Boundary Community
Services Co-operative

FAMILY INCOME

Adequate household income is essential for purchasing goods and services and accessing resources. Neighbourhoods where a high number of residents live in poverty can pose challenges to families and children. Residents of lower income neighbourhoods may experience lower levels of safety, less-desirable physical environments, and a scarcity of resources. Residents could also experience isolation from mainstream social networks and role models.   According to Statistics Canada, low family income is "a widely used measure of children at risk".

In 2009 BC had the highest child poverty rate in Canada for the 6th year in a row. In his 2008 report on the state of public health in Canada, Dr. David Butler—Jones, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer reported:

> There is evidence that a health gradient in childhood development exists according to social and economic factors. Generally, children from families with lower income and lower levels of education have poorer overall health and higher rates of cognitive difficulties, behavioral issues, hyperactivity and obesity through childhood.

Median family income is defined as the level where half of all households earn incomes above it and half earn incomes below it.   Many statisticians prefer using median family income as an indicator as it is not dramatically affected by unusually high or low income values.

Table 5: Median Family Income in West Kootenay Neighbourhoods		
Neighbourhood	**2001**	**2006**
Salmo	$44,093	$42,872
Slocan/Thrums	$47,991	$45,662
Arrow Lakes	$41,149	$49,716
Kootenay Lake	$43,551	$51,762
Nelson	$53,307	$57,184
West Kootenay	$51,990	$57,700
Trail	$54,320	$58,141
Canada	$55,016.	$58,300
BC	$54,840	$60,300
Robson/Thrums	$55,614	$66,105
Beaver Valley	$60,250	$66,705
Castlegar	$56,292	$67,452
Rossland/Warfield	$63,333	$74,077

Map 5: Median Family Income

- [ ] $42,872 - $45,194
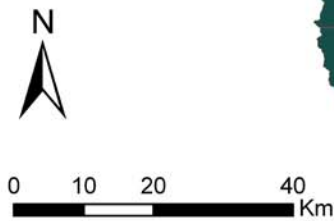- [ ] $45,195 - $51,360
- [ ] $51,361 - $57,488
- [ ] $57,489 - $74,077

—— Major Roads

Family incomes varied by $30,000 between highest income neighbourhood (Rossland/Warfield) and the lowest income neighbourhood (Salmo)

2100 young children lived in the six neighbourhoods with family incomes below the provincial and national averages.

Arrow Lakes

Nakusp

Meadow Creek

Kootenay Lake

Burton

New Denver

Silverton

Kaslo

Edgewood

Slocan City

Slocan/Thrums

Robson/
Thrums
(6%)

Slocan Park

Balfour

Nelson

Robson/Thrums

N

Castlegar

Robson

Castlegar

Salmo

Ymir

0   10   20   40
Km

Rossland
Warfield

Salmo

Rossland   Trail

Fruitvale

Beaver Valley

Warfield

Data Source:
UEY West Kootenay, HRSDC, 2006.
Kootenay Boundary Community
Services Co-operative
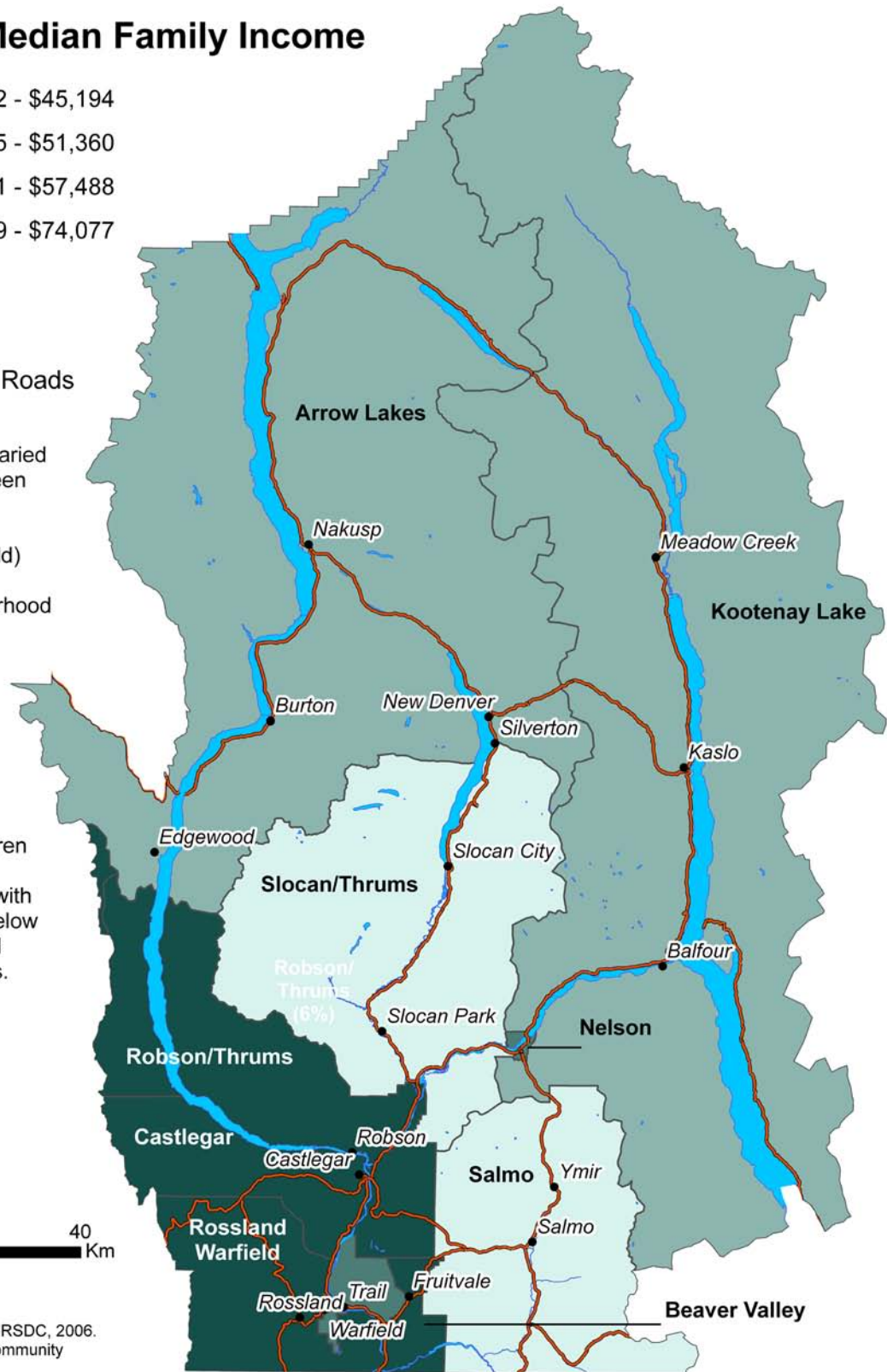
LONE PARENT FAMILIES

According to the Vanier Institute of the Family, research has shown that a higher proportion of children with cognitive, behavioral and educational problems come from lone parent families - although this is not usually the case for widowed families.

On average, the "profile" of children in one parent families is similar to that of children who have spent their childhood in poverty in a disadvantaged area. The reason for this similarity lies in the high rates of poverty among lone parent families, especially those headed by a woman, and the consequent negative effects of poverty on children.

Map 6: Population Concentration of Lone Parent Families

% Lone Parent Families

- 21 - 24
- 25 - 29
- 30 - 36
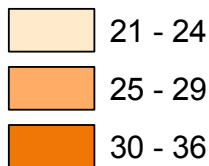
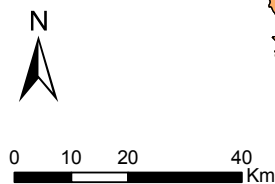—— Major Roads

In 2006, approximately 28% of all families with children in the West Kootenay were headed by a lone parent.

In the Nelson neighbourhood, 36% of all families with children were headed by a lone parent.

The Kootenay Lake neighbourhood had 115 single fathers, the highest number in the region.

Data Source:
UEY West Kootenay, HRSDC, 2006.
Kootenay Boundary Community
Services Co-operative
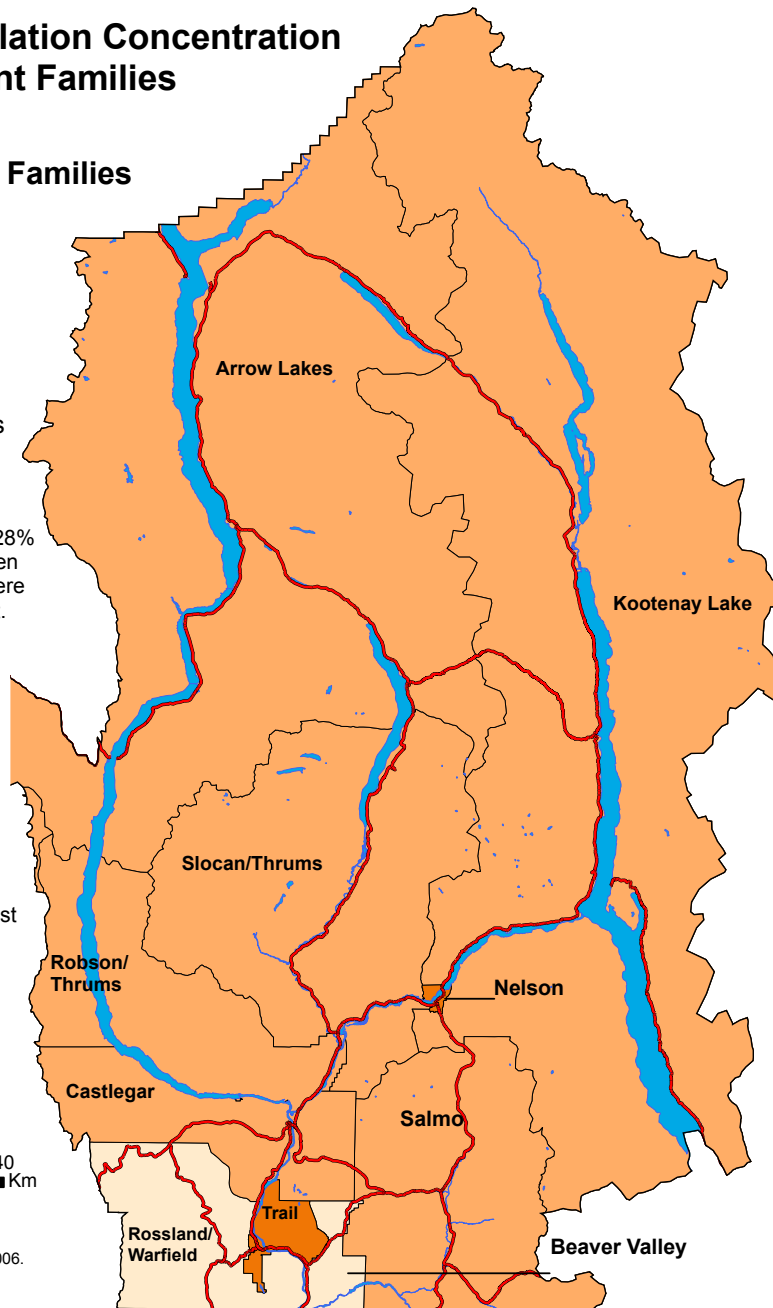
On average, 75% of all lone parent families in the West Kootenay were headed by a female parent. When all lone parent families were examined, Kootenay Lake had the highest number of single fathers (115), followed by Castlegar (100) and Trail (85).

Table 6: Structure of West Kootenay Families with Children					
West Kootenay Neighbourhood	Total Families	Lone Parent Families	% Lone Parents	Total Female Lone Parent	Total Male Lone Parent
Kootenay Lake	1240	315	25%	205	115
Slocan/Thrums	1095	300	27%	240	60
Nelson	1505	545	36%	475	65
Salmo	405	115	28%	100	15
Arrow Lakes	560	165	29%	140	25
Rossland/Warfield	885	190	21%	135	55
Beaver Valley	840	190	23%	120	75
Trail	1015	305	30%	215	85
Robson/Thrums	665	175	26%	105	70
Castlegar	1330	360	27%	265	100
West Kootenay	9540	2660	28%	1995	655

Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2006. UEY West Kootenay.

Table 7: Summary of West Kootenay Neighbourhood Characteristics in 2006

West Kootenay Neighbourhood	Total Population	Total Child Population (0-6 years)	Childcare Spaces (licensed, license not required, group, preschool) *Source: CCRR*	Proportion of Home Owners	Adults (ages 25-64) without a High School Diploma	Unemployment Rate	Median Family Income	Proportion of Lone Parent Families
Kootenay Lake	8,635	515	18	82%	18%	8%	$51,762	25%
Slocan / Thrums	6,650	505	41	84%	22%	7%	$45,662	27%
Nelson	9,445	665	144	64%	17%	5%	$57,184	36%
Salmo	2,615	185	30	80%	33%	11%	$42,872	28%
Arrow Lakes	4,465	215	28	82%	26%	10%	$49,716	29%
Rossland/ Warfield	5,340	375	71	86%	15%	7%	$74,077	21%
Beaver Valley	4,935	290	43	86%	21%	6%	$66,705	23%
Trail	7,265	365	104	73%	23%	6%	$58,141	30%
Robson/ Thrums	4,130	275	18	86%	24%	6%	$66,105	26%
Castlegar	8,905	540	167	81%	23%	7%	$67,452	27%

Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2006. UEY West Kootenay
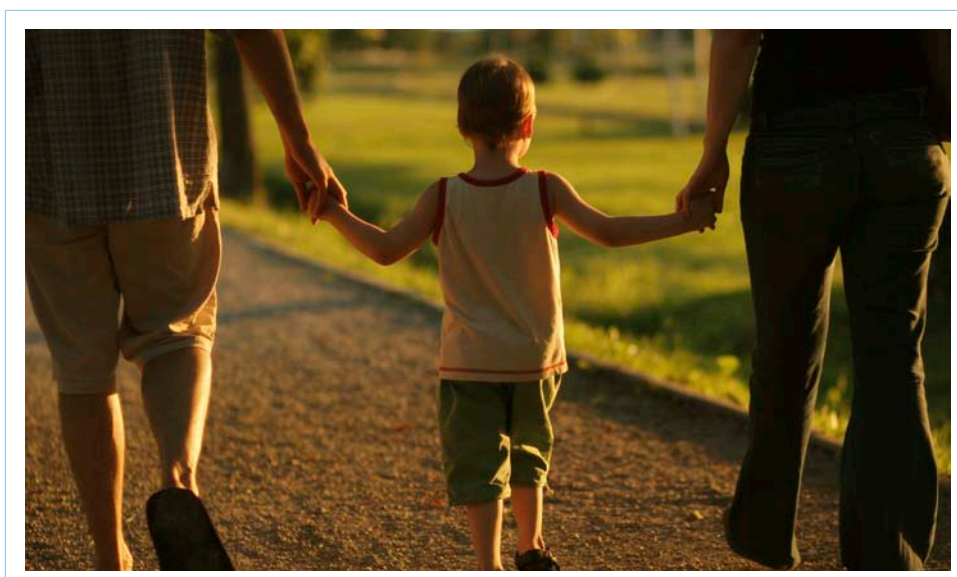
PART 4: WEST KOOTENAY NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCES

INTRODUCTION

The ever-changing nature of community programs and services adds extra complexity and some limitations when reporting on the characteristics of a community.   The resources collected for this report are not considered to be an exhaustive listing but rather are recognized as an important first step in understanding the physical and social environments of the West Kootenay and the composition of programs and services in the region. Issues of the quality and effectiveness of programs listed are beyond the scope of this study. The Understanding the Early Years group did its best to ensure the collection of an accurate and current inventory of services during the fall of 2007 and winter of 2008. Any omissions or errors due to incomplete data are not intentional. Recognizing that this study and the inventory represent a single "snapshot" in time, ongoing updates and tracking of the characteristics of the West Kootenay neighborhoods is recommended to allow for this body of knowledge to grow and be observed over time.

Theories based on neighborhood resources view the community itself as a resource for human development; supporting families and residents by complementing their efforts to raise their children. Such theories imply that increased and appropriate availability of programs and services enrich children's experiences and increase opportunities for optimal child development and social networks of support for families, while decreasing the chances of children developing problems. Conversely, scarcity of resources can result in reduced opportunities for enrichment, lack of supportive environments, and higher need for preventive and corrective action.

As the provision of services can be expensive and labour intensive, it is essential to have the best mix and right coverage of services based on their impacts on families and children. Investigating the links between services available for children (such as parks, recreation, and health and social services) and child developmental outcomes (such as emotional and cognitive development) can help communities determine how best to distribute resources.

The Community Mapping Study compiled an inventory of the neighborhood resources in the West Kootenay to examine the types of programs and services available to children 0-6 years of age and their parents, as well as the location of these programs in relation to where children live. In keeping with UEY methodology, community resources were classified according to several program categories deemed important for young children and their families. These program categories are listed here and described in the subsequent sections:
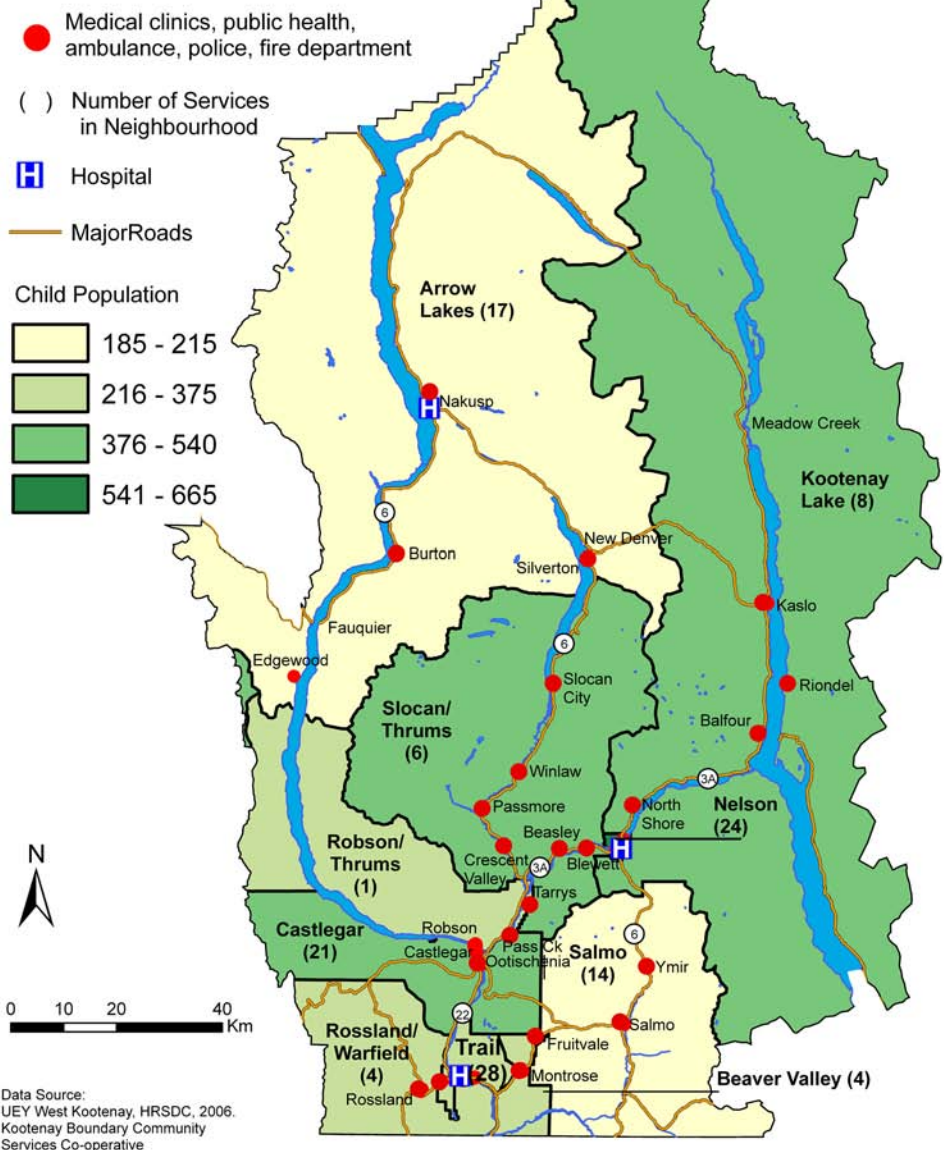
- Services for Child Health and Safety
- Services for Special Needs Children
- Services to Meet Basic Needs
- Services for Education, Literacy and Parent Support
- Services for Early Learning and Childcare
- Services for Recreation, Arts, Entertainment and Culture
- Services for Aboriginal Children and Families
- Faith Based Services
- Elementary Schools

Resources were classified according to the primary objective of the program. Some programs, due to the nature of their services were placed into more than one category. An example of this was a family center that provides literacy programs, a hot lunch to participants and offers prenatal support to high risk women. This family center was therefore placed into three categories: "Education, Literacy and Parent Support, "Services to Meet Basic Needs" and "Child Health and Safety".

SERVICES FOR CHILD HEALTH AND SAFETY

The availability of services to support child and family health are an essential feature of healthy communities. This category includes medical clinics, hospitals, public health services, pre-natal services, and pregnancy outreach type programs. Also included are police, fire and ambulance. There are hospitals in Trail, Nelson and Nakusp and Community Health Centres in Castlegar, Kaslo, and Salmo.

Map 7: Locations of Child Health and Safety Services and Child Population

● Medical clinics, public health, ambulance, police, fire department

( ) Number of Services in Neighbourhood

H Hospital

— MajorRoads

Child Population

- 185 - 215
- 216 - 375
- 376 - 540
- 541 - 665

Arrow Lakes (17)
Meadow Creek
Kootenay Lake (8)
Nakusp
Burton
New Denver
Silverton
Kaslo
Fauquier
Edgewood
Slocan City
Riondel
Slocan/ Thrums (6)
Balfour
Winlaw
Passmore
North Shore
Nelson (24)
Beasley
Robson/ Thrums (1)
Crescent Valley
Blewett
Tarrys
Castlegar (21)
Robson
Castlegar
Pass Ck
Ootischenia
Salmo (14)
Ymir
Rossland/ Warfield (4)
Trail (28)
Fruitvale
Montrose
Beaver Valley (4)
Rossland

N

0 10 20 40 Km

Data Source:
UEY West Kootenay, HRSDC, 2006.
Kootenay Boundary Community
Services Co-operative

SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

For children with special needs, accessible and effective programs and services need to be available in order to enhance children's social environments and learning experiences. These services include specialized therapies and respite care, Infant Development Program, Supported Child Development, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists and regional outreach services.

Map 8: Services for Children with Special Needs

★ Service or Program

( ) refer to number of services

Child Population

- 185 - 215
- 216 - 375
- 376 - 540
- 541 - 665

— MajorRoads

Though many services are clustered in the larger centres, some programs such as the Infant Development Program provide outreach to smaller communites.

Arrow Lakes (2)

Nakusp

Kootenay Lake (1)

Kaslo

Edgewood

Slocan City

Slocan/ Thrums

Balfour

Robson/ Thrums

Nelson (5)

Castlegar (11)

Salmo (2)

Ymir

Rossland/ Warfield

Trail (7)

Beaver Valley (1)

N

0 10 20 40 Km

Data Source:
UEY West Kootenay, HRSDC, 2006.
Kootenay Boundary Community Services Co-operative

SERVICES TO MEET BASIC NEEDS

For families facing hardship for financial or other reasons, it is important that communities make available resources to help meet basic needs. This category of resources includes food, clothing, emergency shelter, transportation and employment/financial services.

Many of the services that support family's basic needs are clustered in the larger communities. The lower income Kootenay Lake neighbourhood has a high proportion of young children, but residents are challenged in accessing services due to travel distances and isolation.
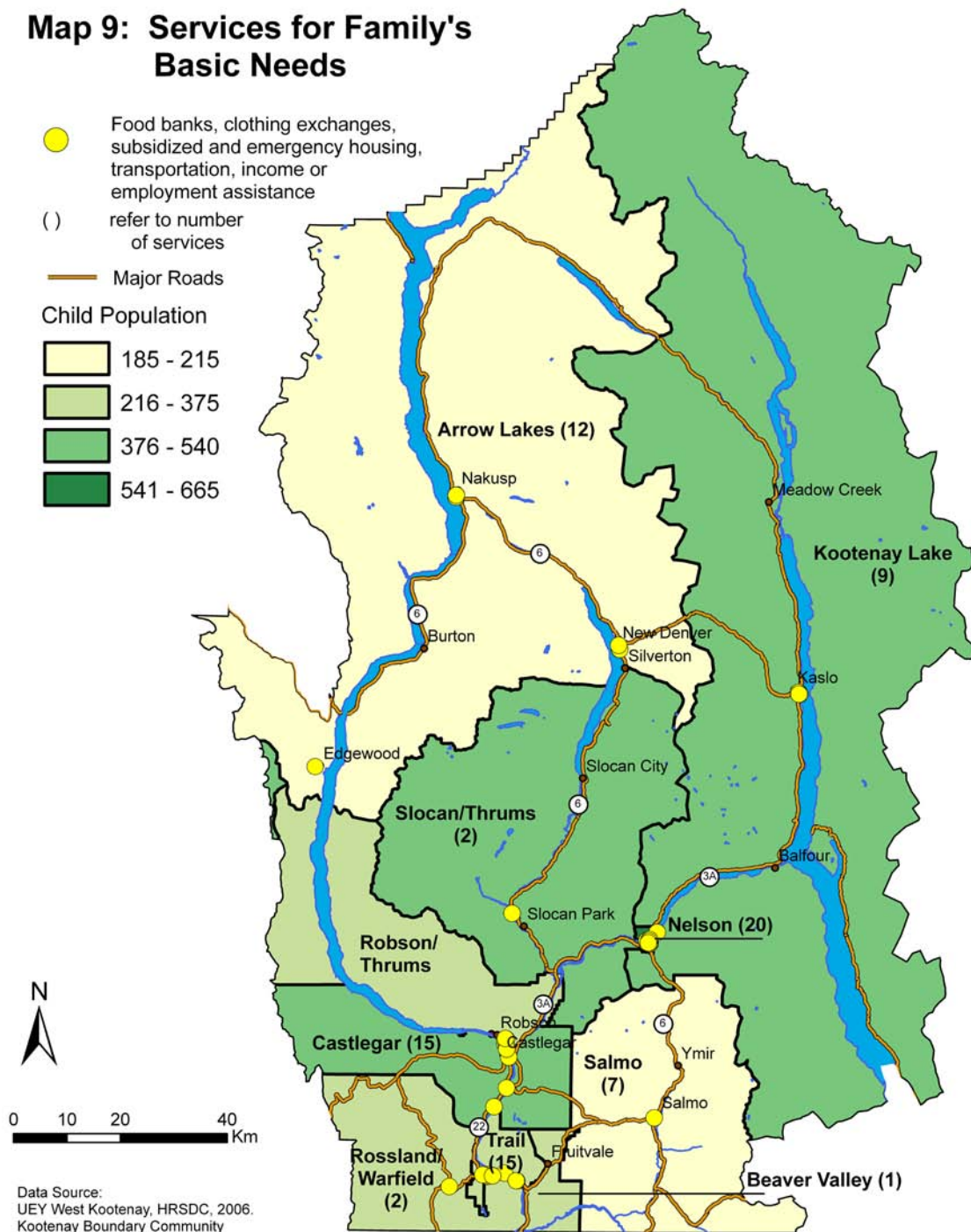

Map 9: Services for Family's Basic Needs

Food banks, clothing exchanges, subsidized and emergency housing, transportation, income or employment assistance

( ) refer to number of services

— Major Roads

Child Population

185 - 215
216 - 375
376 - 540
541 - 665

Arrow Lakes (12)
Nakusp
Meadow Creek
Kootenay Lake (9)
Burton
New Denver
Silverton
Kaslo
Edgewood
Slocan City
Slocan/Thrums (2)
Balfour
Slocan Park
Nelson (20)
Robson/Thrums
Robson
Castlegar (15)
Castlegar
Salmo (7)
Ymir
Salmo
Trail (15)
Fruitvale
Rossland/Warfield (2)
Beaver Valley (1)

N

0 10 20 40 Km

Data Source:
UEY West Kootenay, HRSDC, 2006.
Kootenay Boundary Community

Table 8: Distribution of Resources to Meet Basic Needs

Neighbourhood	Food	Clothing	Emergency and/or Subsidized Housing	Transportation	Employment Assistance
Kootenay Lake	✔	✔	✔	✔	
Slocan/Thrums	✔			✔	
Nelson	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Salmo	✔		✔	✔	✔
Arrow Lakes	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Rossland/Warfield	✔			✔	
Beaver Valley	✔			✔	
Trail	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Robson/Thrums				✔	
Castlegar	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔

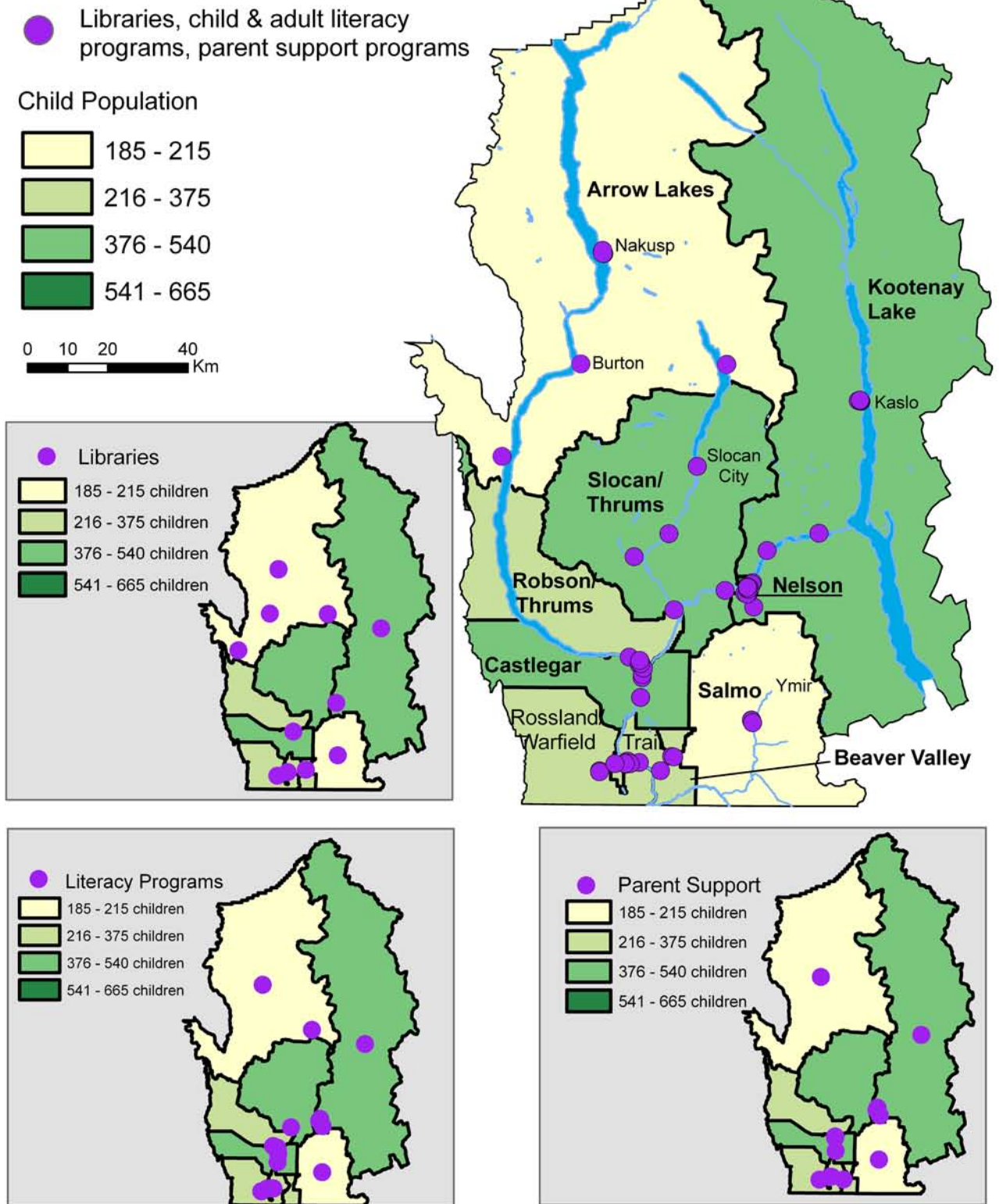# SERVICES FOR LITERACY AND PARENT SUPPORT

Positive parenting practices are related to how often parents praise their children, how often they talk and play with their children, and how often they laugh together. A number of studies have shown that children have better developmental outcomes when their parents monitor their children's behaviour, are responsive to their needs, and encourage independence with a democratic approach.6 This category includes services for parent support, as well as literacy resources such as libraries and child and adult literacy programs.

Many of these services are co-located and often operate out of family centres and elementary schools.

Programs offering information, drop-in time, and support to families are available through many agencies in the West Kootenay, including the following:

- Salmo Family Resource Centre
- Kootenay Kids (Castlegar)
- Kootenay Family Place (Nelson)
- Kaslo Family Centre
- Blueberry Creek Community School
- Trail Family & Individual Services Society
- Arrow & Slocan Lakes Community Services (Nakusp)
- Ten StrongStart Centres
- Slocan Valley Networks for New Parents
- Robson Community School
- Brent Kennedy Learning Centre (South Slocan)

Map 10: Libraries, Literacy and Parent Support

⬤ Libraries, child & adult literacy programs, parent support programs

Child Population

▢ 185 - 215
▢ 216 - 375
▢ 376 - 540
▢ 541 - 665

0 10 20   40
Km

N

Arrow Lakes

⬤ Nakusp

Kootenay Lake

⬤ Burton

⬤ Kaslo

Slocan City

Slocan/ Thrums

Robson/ Thrums

⬤ **Nelson**

Castlegar

Salmo Ymir

Rossland Warfield Trail

Beaver Valley

Libraries

▢ 185 - 215 children
▢ 216 - 375 children
▢ 376 - 540 children
▢ 541 - 665 children

Literacy Programs

▢ 185 - 215 children
▢ 216 - 375 children
▢ 376 - 540 children
▢ 541 - 665 children

Parent Support

▢ 185 - 215 children
▢ 216 - 375 children
▢ 376 - 540 children
▢ 541 - 665 children

RESOURCES FOR EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE

Research from all over the world clearly indicates that investment in the early years of life, before children enter the formal school system, gives the greatest return.   An adequate supply of affordable, stable and quality child care is one of the necessary factors in enabling the economic well-being of families. The following table includes several categories of childcare resources and providers, according to the following legend:

LNR (License not required)
LFDC (Licensed Family Day Care)
Group (Group Daycare)
Preschools
School Age Care

Table 9: Distribution of Childcare Spaces in West Kootenay Neighbourhoods

Neighbourhood	LNR	Spaces	LFDC	Spaces	Group	Spaces	Pre-schools	Spaces	School Age	Spaces
Trail	10	20	6	42	1	42	1	10	1	10
Rossland/Warfield	1	2	2	14	3	55	1	10	2	20
Beaver Valley	2	4	3	21			1	18	1	20
Robson/Thrums	3	6			1	12				
Castlegar	7	14	4	28	3	93	2	32	1	20
Nelson	5	10	4	28	6	106	2	40	5	87
Kootenay Lake	3	6					1	12		
Slocan/Thrums	1	2	1	7	3	32				
Salmo	1	2			1	16	1	12	1	10
Arrow Lakes					1	16	1	12		
TOTALS	33	66	20	140	19	372	10	146	11	167

Ref: Childcare Resource and Referral Program, 2009

RESOURCES FOR RECREATION, ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT AND CULTURE

Children and youth with the opportunity to participate in recreational activities are more likely to do well at school, have good social skills and have a high self-esteem. It is reported that children who participate in the arts were 30% less likely to experience impaired social relationships, emotional and behavioural disorders. This category includes activities, recreation centres and commissions, galleries, museums and subsidy programs throughout the West Kootenay.
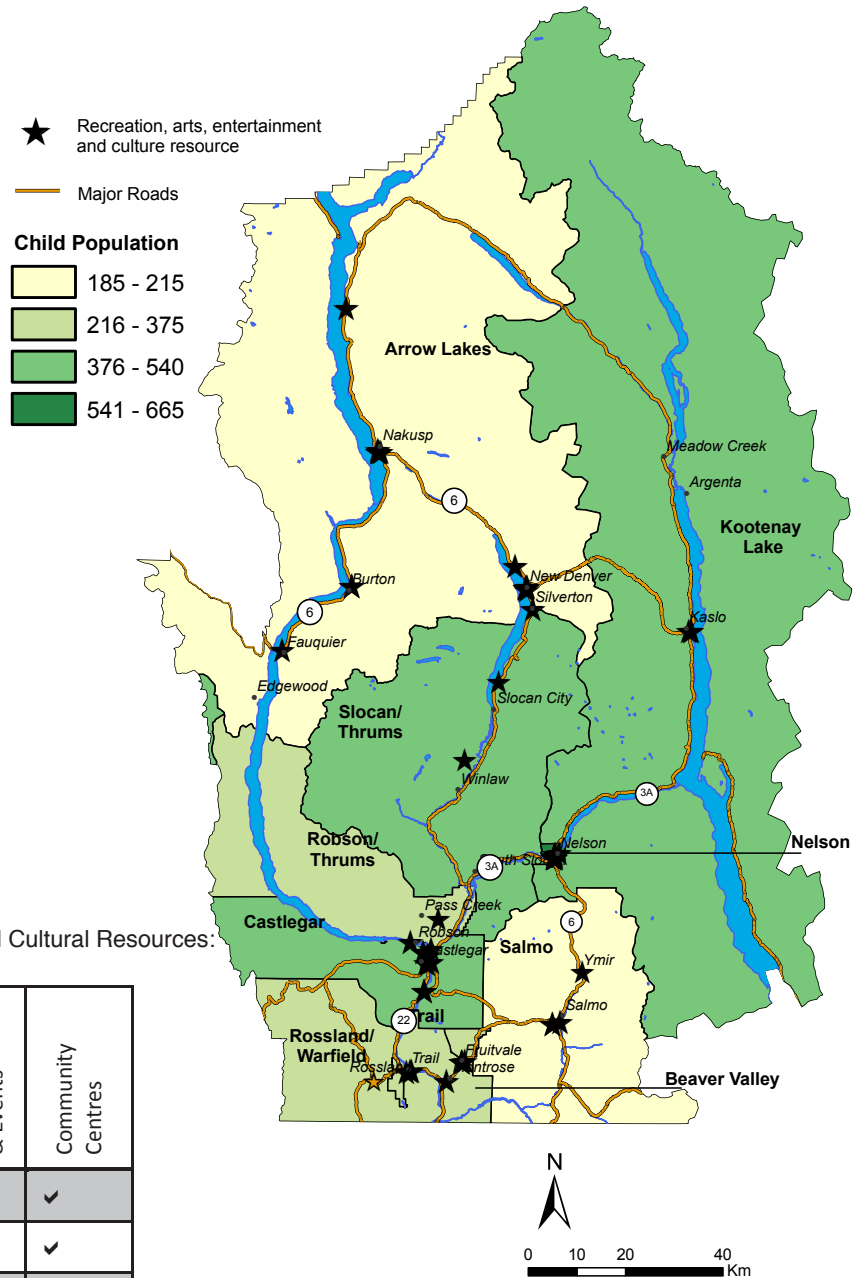
Map 11: Recreation, Arts, Entertainment & Culture

★ Recreation, arts, entertainment and culture resource

Major Roads

Child Population

- 185 - 215
- 216 - 375
- 376 - 540
- 541 - 665

Data Source:
UEY West Kootenay, HRSDC, 2006.
Kootenay Boundary Community
Services Co-operative

Table 10: Distribution of Recreation, Arts, Entertainment and Cultural Resources:

Neighbourhood	Swimming Pool	Arena	Playgrounds	Arts Councils	Galleries, Museums, Theatre	Family Festivals & Events	Community Centres
Kootenay Lake		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Slocan/Thrums			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Nelson	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Salmo	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Arrow Lakes		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Rossland/Warfield	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Beaver Valley	✔	✔	✔				✔
Trail	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Robson/Thrums	✔		✔				✔
Castlegar	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔

The following subsidy programs are available throughout the region to support lower income families in accessing recreational opportunities for their children:

- Canadian Tire Jumpstart is a charitable program that helps kids in financial need aged 4 to 18 participate in organized sport and recreation activities. Canadian Tire Jumpstart accepts applications from eligible families twice per year at the end of January and the end of July. The application process is handled through a central toll free call centre (1-877-616-6600).

- KidSport™ is a community-based sport charity that provides grants for Canadian children age 6 to 18 to participate in a season of sport of their choice. www.sport.bc.ca

- Regional District of Central Kootenay Leisure Access Program provides up to 50% off a regular admission to the Aquatic Centre, Arena, and Fitness Classes accessed by regular admissions only. http://www.rdck.bc.ca/publications/pdf/Leisure%20Access%20 Program%20brochure.pdf

- Stars for Success provides financial support, up to $200 per year, for children in need to attend recreation, arts, music, preschool and early learning community programs. http://www.successby6wk.com/stars.html

SERVICES FOR ABORIGINAL CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (2009)

Culturally appropriate and accessible services are important for Aboriginal identity and strengthening of communities. Throughout the region, different organizations provide programs that serve Aboriginal clients. Not all these programs are delivered in a culturally relevant manner, and much work is underway to make Aboriginal programs and services more culturally appropriate.

On the following map, the population of young children is not indicated. It was not possible to separate out the population of young Aboriginal children from the total population of young children in the West Kootenay UEY study area.

Efforts are underway to identify programs and services that are delivered in a culturally relevant manner to Aboriginal people.

In the future, these services will be identified with the following symbol:

Map 12: Aboriginal Programs and Services

● Includes locations of Aboriginal child & family supports, education, information and cultural gatherings

—— Major Roads

Arrow Lakes

Kootenay Lake

Nakusp

Meadow Creek

Burton

New Denver
Silverton

Kaslo

Edgewood

Slocan City

Slocan/
Thrums

Winlaw

Balfour

Slocan Park

Nelson

Robson/
Thrums

Robson

Castlegar

Castlegar

Salmo

Ymir

Rossland/
Warfield

Salmo

Trail

Fruitvale

Beaver Valley

N

0   10   20   40
Km

Data Source:
UEY West Kootenay, HRSDC, 2006.
Kootenay Boundary Community
Services Co-operative

ABORIGINAL PROGRAM AND SERVICE DETAILS

Aboriginal Advisor, Selkirk College: Provides support to all prospective and current aboriginal students and works closely with staff, students and communities to enhance aboriginal learner's participation and success rate in Selkirk College programs.   Services can include information, advocacy and support during the semester, assistance with the application process, help with funding, First Nations and Metis scholarship and bursary forms. http://www.selkirk.ca/services/student-support/.

Aboriginal Early Intervention Program, Kootenay Kids Society: A joint program with the Ktunaxa / Kinbasket Child and Family Services. The program meets the needs of and offers support to families and children 0 to 6 years whose heritage in First Nations, Metis or Inuit living in the West Kootenay (Trail, Castlegar, Nelson and surrounding areas) through home visits and groups. Program staff develop culturally relevant resources such as the Little Robes playgroups, to meet the needs of families. Staff promotes child health through parental support, education about child development, advocacy and referrals. Program offers information and support around prenatal care, nutritional needs of children, and access to medical, dental, speech, language, hearing and optical services for children. http://www.kootenaykids.ca/

Aboriginal Education Programs, (School Districts 8, 10, and 20). School districts operate Aboriginal Education programs that focus on providing support to Aboriginal students and their families.   This includes: cultural awareness and enhancement; career planning; goal setting; personal counselling and academic support/counselling

　　School District 8: http://www2.sd8.bc.ca/abed/
　　School District 10: http://www.sd10production.bcelearner.ca/
　　School District 20: http://www.sd20.bc.ca/dist_progs/aboriginal/ab_ed.shtml

Aboriginal Family Support program, Castlegar & District Community Services Society: Staff person provides support, education, cultural information and consultation to Family Support Counsellors and others who work with Aboriginal families. http://trailfair.ca/directory/Description.php?id=1331

Aboriginal Health Program Advisor and Patient Navigator, Interior Health: Initiates and maintains a working relationship between the Interior Health Authority (IHA), Aboriginal Health Service agencies, communities and other key stakeholders in order to support and advocate for improvements on behalf of the Aboriginal populations in the health service area. Provides educational sessions to Interior Health care providers, participates in an inter-disciplinary care team and is a resource for both health care providers and Aboriginal patients to ensure care is culturally specific and ethno sensitive. Assists in the early identification of patients' needs and participates in discharge planning. http://trailfair.ca/directory/Description.php?id=1056

Ktunaxa Nation Website: http://www.ktunaxa.org/index.html

Lower Columbia All First Nations Council provides Aboriginal health information, a resource centre, employment and training services, mentorship and support for infant and child development. http://www.lcafn.ca/

Metis Nation of BC Website: http://www.mpcbc.bc.ca/

Mir Centre for Peace, Selkirk College: A collaborative initiative of Selkirk College, the Doukhobor, Aboriginal and other local communities. This initiative is committed to education for peace and building communities of peace. The centre houses programs for healing, reconciliation, cooperation and understanding within communities and nations.   The centre offers educational programs to create positive social change locally and globally including seminars and Institutes, public forums and presentations, volunteer service projects and workshops and gatherings for healing and reconciliation. Website www.selkirk.ca

Sinixt Nation Website: http://sinixt.kics.bc.ca/index.html

Smum Iem Society exists to implement models and programs which promote healing, reconciliation, cooperation and understanding within communities and between cultures. The Board is comprised of Aboriginal Women leaders who have devoted themselves to 'Building the Community Circle' in the Upper Columbia River Region. Membership includes women, men, youth and elders. Smum Iem means The Woman in the Sinixt Language.

Talking Little Feet is the newly formed Aboriginal Early Childhood Council, created as part of the Success By 6 Aboriginal Engagement Strategy.   Success by 6 is working to enhance the lives of Aboriginal children age 0-6 and their families. In partnership with West Kootenay Success by 6, the Council initiatives and provides financial support for Aboriginal Gatherings in Kaslo, Salmo, Castlegar, Slocan Valley and Nelson. http://www.successby6wk.com/table_tlf.html

Talking Little Feet Website will provide a variety of information and resources with an Aboriginal focus. The site is currently under construction.

Yaqan Nukiy Website: http://www.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/exhibits/journeys/english/water_2_2a.html

FAITH BASED SERVICES

Religious resources provide a community for worship activities to local residents, and may also provide linguistic, social and spiritual support to newcomers to communities.   The following map shows the locations of various centres of faith throughout the West Kootenay.

Map 13: Centres of Faith

● **Centres of Faith**

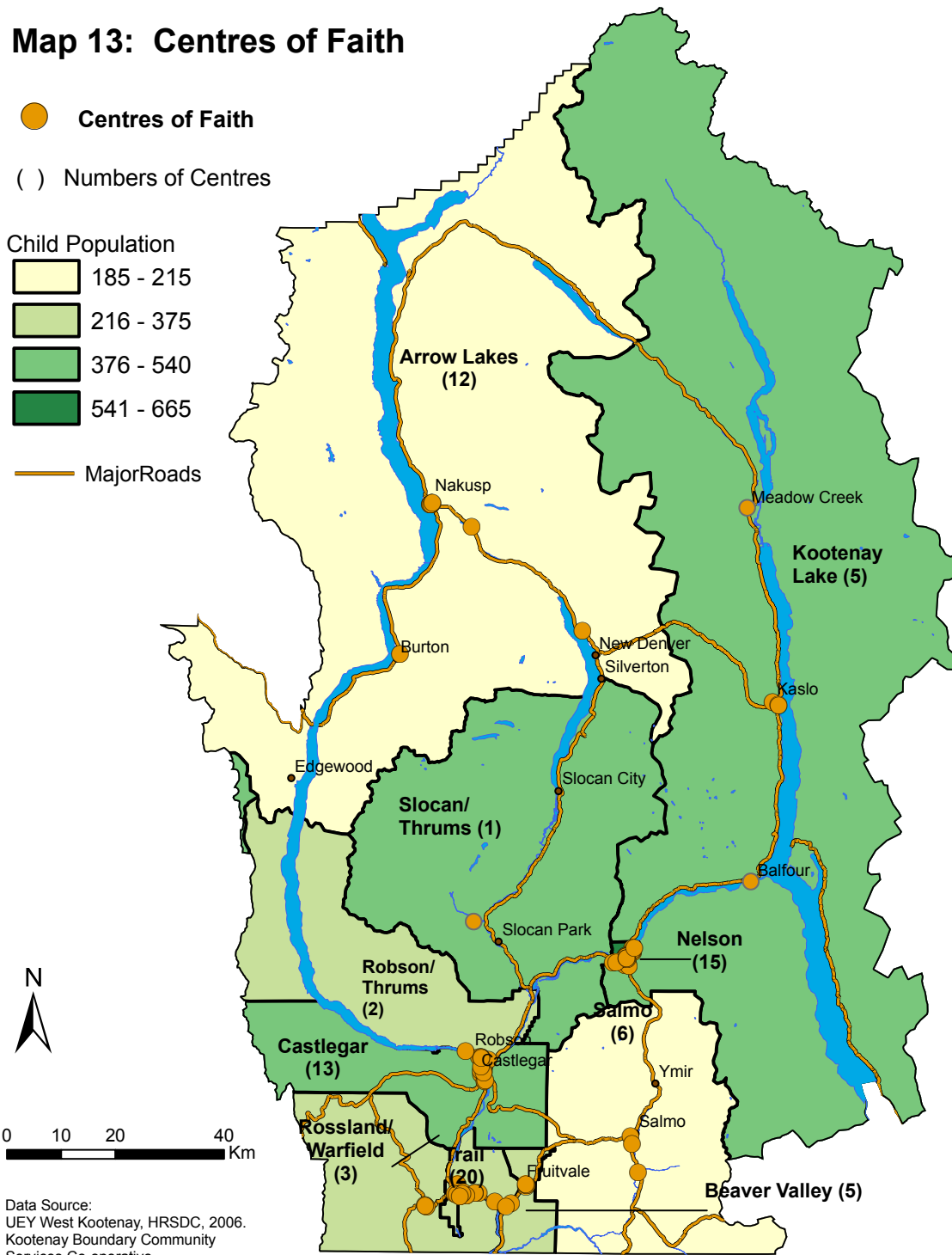( )   Numbers of Centres

Child Population
- 185 - 215
- 216 - 375
- 376 - 540
- 541 - 665

— MajorRoads

Arrow Lakes (12)

Nakusp

Kootenay Lake (5)

Meadow Creek

Burton

New Denver
Silverton

Kaslo

Edgewood

Slocan City

Slocan/ Thrums (1)

Balfour

Slocan Park

Nelson (15)

Robson/ Thrums (2)

Robson
Castlegar

Salmo (6)

Castlegar (13)

Ymir

Rossland/ Warfield (3)

Salmo

Trail (20)

Fruitvale

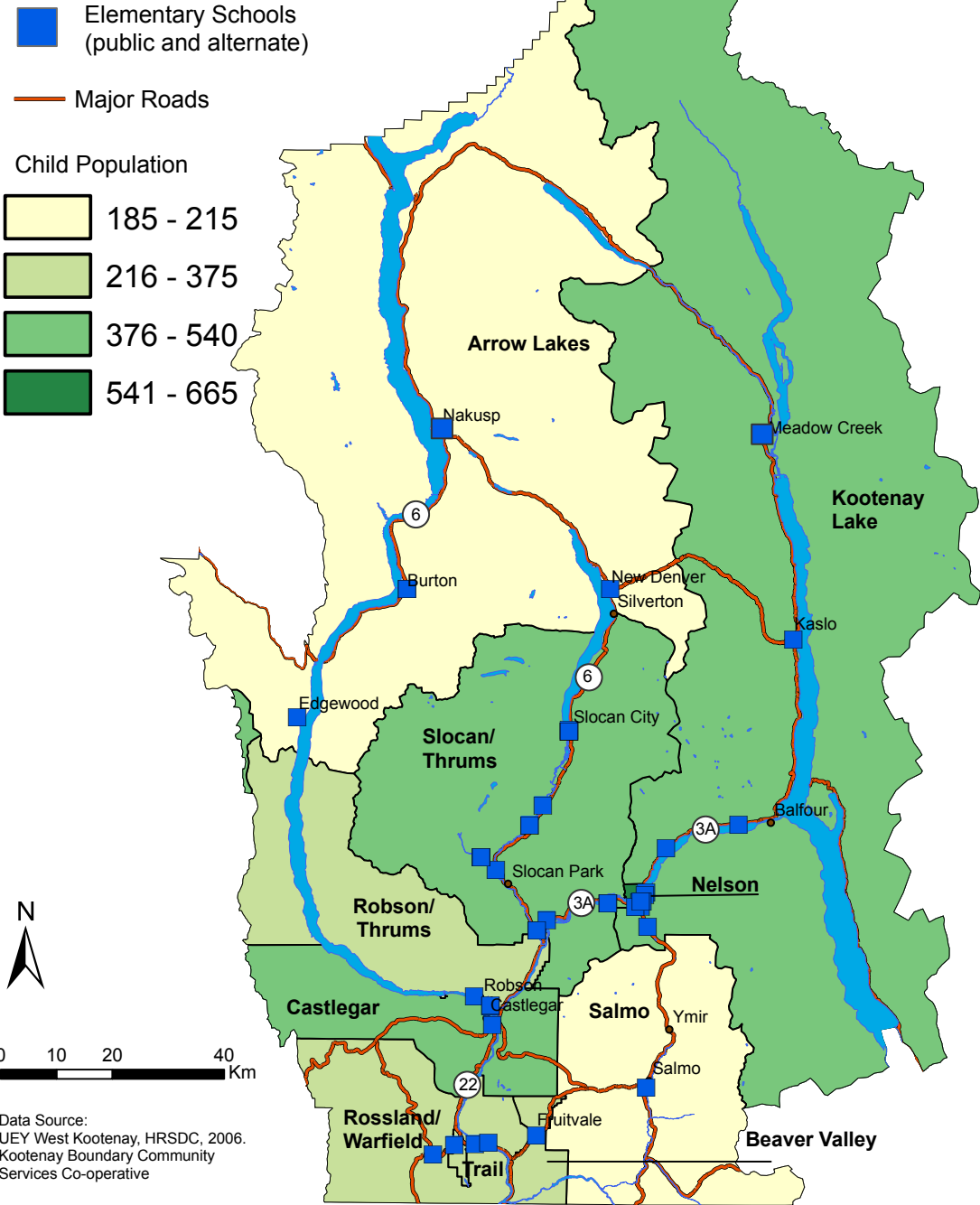**Beaver Valley (5)**

N

0   10   20   40 Km

Data Source:
UEY West Kootenay, HRSDC, 2006.
Kootenay Boundary Community
Services Co-operative

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Schools are one of the most important resources in a community for children and families. Schools are more than educational facilities — they are a public space used by children, teachers, parents and the community at large. The following map shows the locations of elementary schools throughout the West Kootenay.

Map 14: Elementary Schools

■ Elementary Schools
(public and alternate)

— Major Roads

Child Population

- 185 - 215
- 216 - 375
- 376 - 540
- 541 - 665

Arrow Lakes

Nakusp

Kootenay Lake

Meadow Creek

6

Burton

New Denver
Silverton

Kaslo

Edgewood

6

Slocan City

Slocan/
Thrums

Balfour

3A

Slocan Park

Nelson

3A

Robson/
Thrums

Robson
Castlegar

Salmo

Ymir

Castlegar

22

Salmo

N

Rossland/
Warfield

Fruitvale

Beaver Valley

0   10   20   40
Km

Trail

Data Source:
UEY West Kootenay, HRSDC, 2006.
Kootenay Boundary Community
Services Co-operative

PART 5: USING THIS REPORT TO INFORM PLANNING AND POLICY

This report highlights important community and neighbourhood information related to early child development in the West Kootenay region of south central British Columbia.   The availability, affordability and access to key community resources for children and families create a positive and enriched environment for child development. The information in this report provides a snapshot of what is happening now and enables people to make evidence based decisions for the future. As a planning tool, the information in this report can help to identify the following:

- Neighbourhood demographics and socio-economic characteristics
- Location and distribution of community and neighbourhood resources
- Relationships between socio-economic data, demographic data and early childhood programs and services
- Variety of services in neighbourhoods
- Equitability
- Gaps in services and
- Neighbourhood strengths and resiliencies
- Barriers for families to access services
- Barriers for agencies to provide services

The information is further meant to complement other research findings, such as the Early Development Instrument (EDI) that measures early childhood vulnerabilities.   Also the Community Research Report will identify children's developmental readiness for school and parents reactions/ attitudes to providing opportunities to maximize that development. The EDI will be completed again in the West Kootenay in 2009 and will allow the correlation of socio-economic data, demographic data and availability of programs and services with the EDI results.

For more information about the EDI, go to www.earlylearning.ubc.ca/EDI.

REFERENCES

Ambert, A.M. (2006). *One-parent families: Characteristics, causes, consequences, and issues.* Vanier Institute of the Family. Downloaded from: http://www.vifamily.ca/library/cft/oneparent.html#Consequences

BC Campaign 2000. *2008 Child poverty report card.* (Fact Sheets 1 and 2). Downloaded from: http://www.campaign2000.ca/rc/rc08/BC_ReportCard08-colour.pdf

Butler-Jones, D. (2008). *The chief public health officer's report on the state of public health in Canada.* Downloaded from: http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/2008/cphorsphc-respcacsp/cphorsphc-respcacsp07e-eng.php.

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. (August 16, 2007). *Canada's house-price escalator pauses in July: Report from the Canadian real estate association.* Downloaded from: http://www.cbc.ca/money/story/2007/08/15/house-prices.html.

Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. (2008). *The time is now. A poverty reduction plan for BC.* Downloaded from: http://www.policyalternatives.ca/~ASSETS/DOCUMENT/BC_Office_Pubs/bc_2008/ccpa_bc_poverty_reduction_summary.pdf

Canadian Church Directory. www.churchdirectory.ca

Canadian Council on Social Development. (2002). *The progress of Canada's children.* Downloaded from: http://www.ccsd.ca/cpsd/ccsd/i_recreation.htm

Chao, R.K. & Willms, J.D. (2002). *The effects of parenting practices on children's outcomes. In Vulnerable Children: Findings from Canada's National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth.* University of Alberta Press, Edmonton, AB.

Dewit, D.J., Offord, D.R., & Braun, K. (1998).   *The relationship between geographic relocation and childhood problem behavior.* Human Resources Development Canada, W-98-17E. Hull, Quebec.

Kershaw, P., Irwin, L., Trafford, K. & Hertzman, C. (2005) The British Columbia atlas of child development. Human Early Learning Partnership.   Western Geographical Press, Vol 40.   Figure calculated from an average of West Kootenay data taken from figures on page 110.

Kershaw, P., Irwin, L., Trafford, K. & Hertzman, C. (2005) The British Columbia Atlas of Child Development. Human Early Learning Partnership. Western Geographical Press, Vol 40.   Table 4.5.3, p. 110.

Kohen, D.E., Hertzman, C., & Brooks-Gunn, J. (1998). *Neighbourhood influences on children's school readiness.* Hull, Quebec: Human Resources Development Canada, W 98-15E.

Royal Bank of Canada. (March 6, 2007). *Majority in BC say "buy now", according to RBC homeownership survey.* Downloaded from: http://www.rbc.com/newsroom/pdf/20070306ownership-bc.pdf

Royal LePage. (2001). *National average house price holds firm in 2002.* Downloaded from: http://www.royallepage.ca/CMSTemplates/AboutUS/Company/CompanyTemplate.aspx?id=291

Statistics Canada. (2006).   2006 Census. Aboriginal Peoples Highlight Tables. Downloaded from: http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census06/data/highlights/Aboriginal/index.cfm?Lang=E

Statistics Canada. 2006 Census Dictionary. Downloaded from: http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census06/reference/dictionary/index.cfm.

Statistics Canada (2006). Non Medical Determinants of Health. Downloaded from: http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/82-221-XIE/2005002/defin2.htm#45.

Offord, D.R., Lipman, E.L., & Duku, E.K. (1998). *Sports, the arts and community programs: Rates and correlates of participation.* Human Resources Development Canada, W-98-18E. Hull, Quebec.

United States Census Population Survey. (2007). Downloaded from: http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/mobility_of_the_population/index.html

Wikipedia. Downloaded June 4, 2009 from: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Median_household_income