

# Socio-economic and Cultural Overview and Assessment Report for the Pacific North Coast Integrated Management Area: Appendix Report

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*Submitted to:* Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
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*Submitted by:* Robinson Consulting and Associates Ltd.

*In Association with:* Lions Gate Consulting Inc.  
Peak Solutions Consulting Inc.  
Black Coffee Consulting

2013 Revisions Completed by: Kelly Wozniak

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# 1 Appendix A: Socio-Economic and Demographic Information for PNCIMA Regional Districts and Communities

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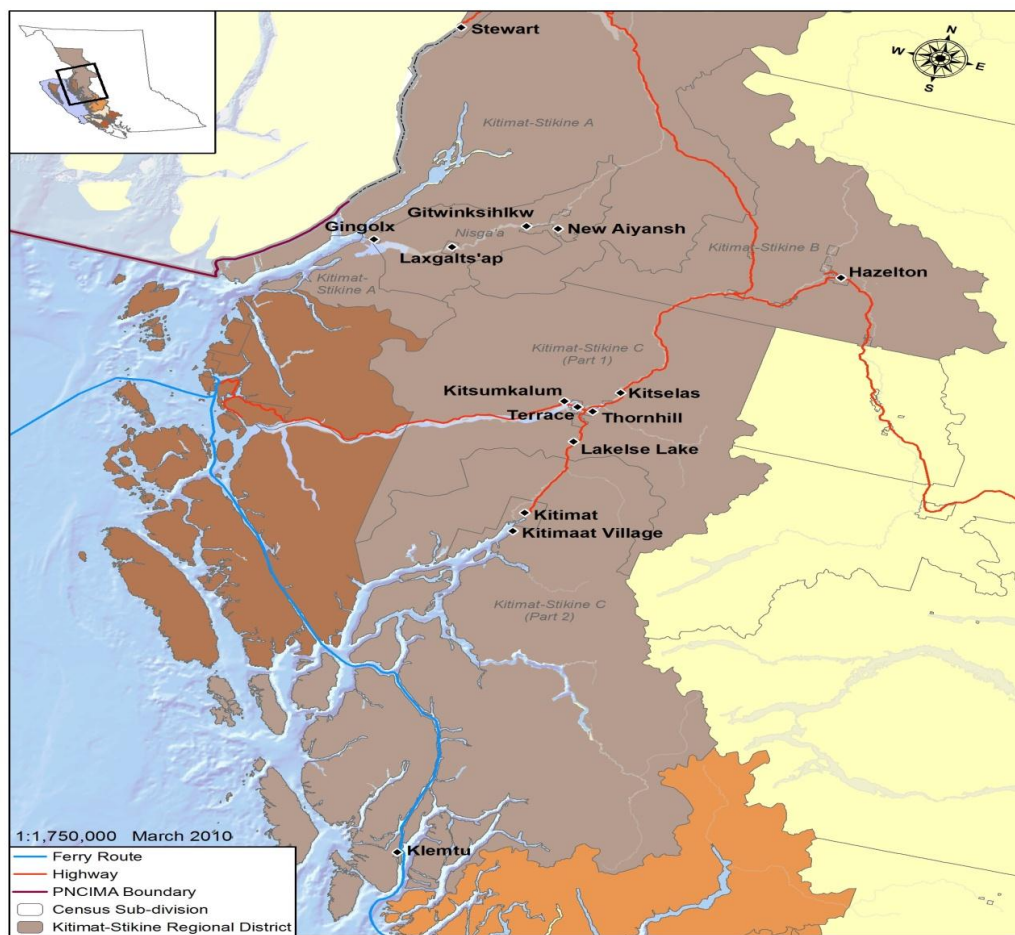
## 1.1 Kitimat-Stikine Regional District and Community Profiles

### 1.1.1 Overview of Regional District

The Kitimat-Stikine Regional District (KSRD) is located in the northwest portion of British Columbia and includes the northernmost lands in PNCIMA. The KSRD borders Alaska and the Skeena Queen Charlotte Regional District (SQCRD) to the west, the Yukon in the north, and the Central Coast Regional District (CCRD) in the south. Not all of the Regional District falls within PNCIMA, only the Nass Valley and Stewart area and the Klemtu to Terrace corridor are within PNCIMA. This corresponds to the communities within the Kitimat-Stikine Electoral Area A and Kitimat-Stikine Electoral Area C (Part 1 and 2).

Map 1 shows the area and communities in the KSRD that are included in PNCIMA.

**Map 1 Kitimat-Stikine Regional District, 2009**



## 1.1.2 Socio-Economic

### Population Change

Table 1 summarizes the 2001, 2006 and 2011 populations of incorporated communities, unincorporated areas, Nisga'a Villages, and First Nation communities in the Kitimat-Stikine Regional District. Overall, the population decreased by 9.82% between 2001 and 2011.

**Table 1 Kitimat-Stikine RD Population by Community: 2001, 2006 and 2011**

	Population			Change 2001-2011	
	2001	2006	2011	Number	%
<b>Incorporated Communities</b>					
District of Kitimat	10, 285	8, 987	8,335	-1, 950	-18.96%
City of Terrace	12, 109	11, 320	11,486	-623	-5.14%
District of Stewart	661	496	494	-167	-25.26%
<b>Unincorporated Communities -</b>					
Thornhill <sup>1</sup>	4,475	4,002	3,988	-487	-10.88%
Lakelse Lake to Rosswood Area <sup>2</sup>	2, 998	2, 822	2,696	-302	-10.07%
<b>Nisga'a Communities</b>					
Gitlaxt'aamiks (New Aiyansh)	716	806	758	42	5.87%
Gitiwinksihlkw	212	201	184	-28	-13.21%
Laxgalts'ap	467	474	378	-89	-19.06%
Gingolx	339	341	408	69	20.35%
<b>First Nation Communities</b>					
Kitamaat Village (Haisla)	511	514	514	3	0.59%
Kitsumkaylum (Kitsumkalum)	265	251	302	37	13.96%
Kulspai (Kitselas)	75	98	95	20	26.67%
Gitaus (Kitselas)	n/a	78	220	n/a	n/a
Endudoon (Kitselas)	58	10	0	-58	100.00%
Klemtu (Kitasoo/ Xai'xais)	295	282	322	27	9.15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33, 466</b>	<b>30, 682</b>	<b>30,180</b>	<b>-3, 286</b>	<b>-9.82%</b>

Source: BC Stats (2006), and BC Stats (2011).

### Population Migration

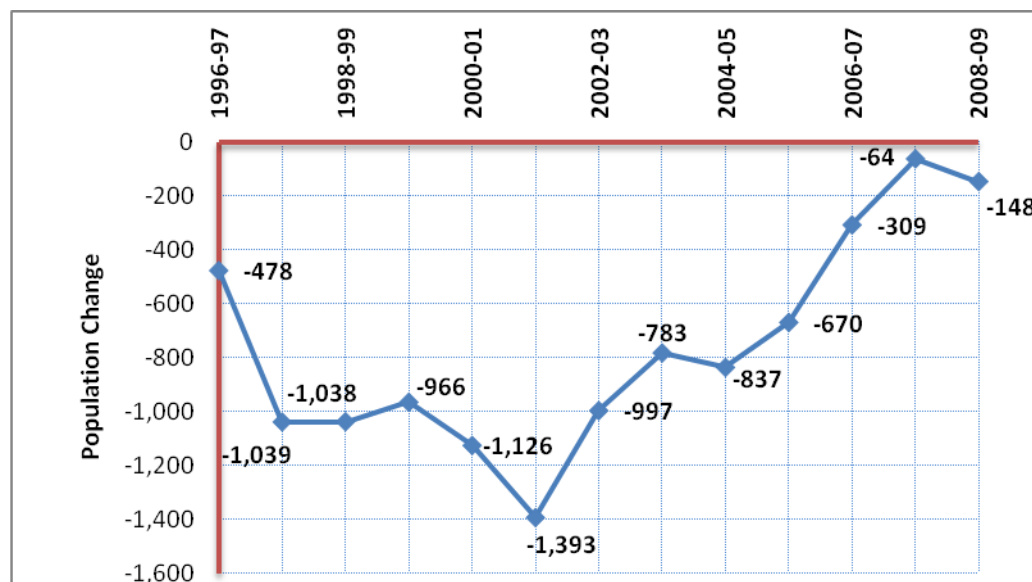
Figure 1 highlights that in recent years there has been a steady out-migration of population from the KSRD. Between 1997-98 and 2002-03, the outflow of residents

<sup>1</sup> Kitimat Stikine Regional District Electoral Area E used to represent Thornhill

<sup>2</sup> Kitimat-Stikine Regional District Electoral Area C (Part 1) used to represent Lakelse Lake to Rosswood Area

averaged over 1,000 annually. In more recent years the outflow has continued, but at a slower rate.

**Figure 1 Kitimat-Stikine RD Population Migration, 1996 to 2009**



Source BC Stats (2009b)

### Age Characteristics

Table 2 presents the age characteristics for the Kitimat-Stikine population and compares this to the BC average. Overall, Kitimat-Stikine has a younger population with a larger percentage of residents under 19 years of age and a smaller percentage over 65 years of age when compared to the province. The median age in the Kitimat-Stikine Regional District is 38.2 years, while for BC it is 40.8 years.

**Table 2 Kitimat-Stikine RD and BC Age Characteristics, 2006**

Age Categories	Kitimat-Stikine RD		BC
Age 0 to 19	11,265	29.6%	23.2%
Age 20 to 44	11,875	31.3%	33.8%
Age 45 to 64	11,005	29.0%	28.4%
Age 65+	3,855	10.1%	14.6%
Total	38,000	100.0%	100.0%
Median Age	38.2 years		40.8 years

Source: Statistics Canada (2006b)

### Education Characteristics

Table 3 outlines the educational attainment for the KSRD and the corresponding BC averages. Overall, a larger percentage of KSRD residents between 25 and 64 do not have grade 12, while the share with high school certificates and college diplomas is similar to the BC average. With just over 9% of the population having a university degree, this is approximately half the share observed at the provincial level.

**Table 3 Kitimat-Stikine RD Education Attainment, Ages 25 to 64 years in 2006**

By Highest Level Attained	Kitimat-Stikine RD		BC
No certificate; diploma or degree	7,565	29.1%	17.1%
High school certificate or equivalent	7,435	28.5%	28.8%
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	3,400	13.1%	10.4%
College; CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	4,265	16.4%	17.4%
University certificate or diploma below the bachelor level	975	3.8%	5.5%
University certificate, diploma or degree	2,360	9.1%	20.8%
Total	26,000	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Statistics Canada (2006b)

### Incomes

As illustrated in Table 4, the median income for men in the KSRD is slightly higher than the median income than for men at the provincial level. However, the median income for men in KSRD has not increased nearly as quickly as that observed provincially. Median income for women in the KSRD is below the provincial median income level, but has been tracking increases at a similar level as those observed provincially.

**Table 4 Median Income for Male and Females in KSRD and BC, 2000 to 2007**

Year	Kitimat Stikine		BC	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
2007	\$37,730	\$18,415	\$36,350	\$23,005
2006	\$36,905	\$16,880	\$34,585	\$21,030
2005	\$34,390	\$15,930	\$32,430	\$19,980
2004	\$32,960	\$15,190	\$30,995	\$18,845
2003	\$32,595	\$14,660	\$29,990	\$18,195
2002	\$32,230	\$14,520	\$29,480	\$17,850
2001	\$33,670	\$14,495	\$29,395	\$17,765
2000	\$34,170	\$14,035	\$28,880	\$17,315
% Change (2000- 2007)	+10.4%	+31.2%	+25.9%	+32.9%

Source: BC Stats. Neighbourhood Income and Demographics (2002-2009d).

### 1.1.3 Economic Base Analysis

#### Labour Force

The experienced labour force for KSRD is outlined in Table 5. Manufacturing is the largest goods-producing sector with manufacturing employment being led by primary metal manufacturing. The second largest goods-producing sector is construction.

**Table 5 Kitimat-Stikine RD Experienced Labour Force by Industry, 2006**

Experienced Labour Force	2006	% Distribution 2006	
	KSRD	KSRD	BC
Agriculture	210	1.1%	1.7%
Logging & Forestry	580	3.0%	1.0%
Fishing, hunting and trapping	175	0.9%	0.1%
Supporting serv. agric. & forestry	215	1.1%	0.3%
Mining/Oil and gas	205	1.1%	0.9%
Utilities	105	0.5%	0.5%
Construction	1,135	5.9%	7.5%
Manufacturing (incl. seafood man., wood, and metal)	2,980	15.4%	8.5%
• Seafood Products prep. and packaging	50	0.3%	0.2%
• Wood products manufacturing	415	2.1%	1.7%
• Paper manufacturing	635	3.2%	0.6%
• Primary metal manufacturing	1,565	8.1%	0.2%
<b>Total Goods-producing Sector</b>	<b>5,605</b>	<b>29.0%</b>	<b>20.5%</b>
Wholesale	315	1.6%	4.1%
Retail	1,905	9.8%	11.2%
Transportation & Warehousing	1,000	5.2%	5.2%
• Water Transportation	15	0.1%	0.3%
• Scenic & Sightseeing Transportation	20	0.1%	0.0%
• Support Activities for Water Transportation	40	0.2%	0.2%
Info & cultural industries	315	1.6%	2.6%
Finance & Insurance	375	1.9%	3.8%
Real Estate & Rental/Leasing	180	0.9%	2.3%
Prof., Scientific & Technical Serv.	570	2.9%	7.3%
Admin & Support, Waste Mang./Manag companies	550	2.9%	4.5%
Education Services	1,730	8.9%	6.9%
Health care & social assistance	2,075	10.8%	9.6%
Arts, entertainment & recreation	320	1.7%	2.3%
Accommodation	1,350	7.0%	8.1%
Other Services	755	3.9%	4.9%
Public Administration	1,545	8.0%	5.0%
<b>Total Services-producing Sector</b>	<b>12,985</b>	<b>67.1%</b>	<b>77.8%</b>
Unclassified	755	3.9%	1.7%
<b>Total Labour Force</b>	<b>19,345</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

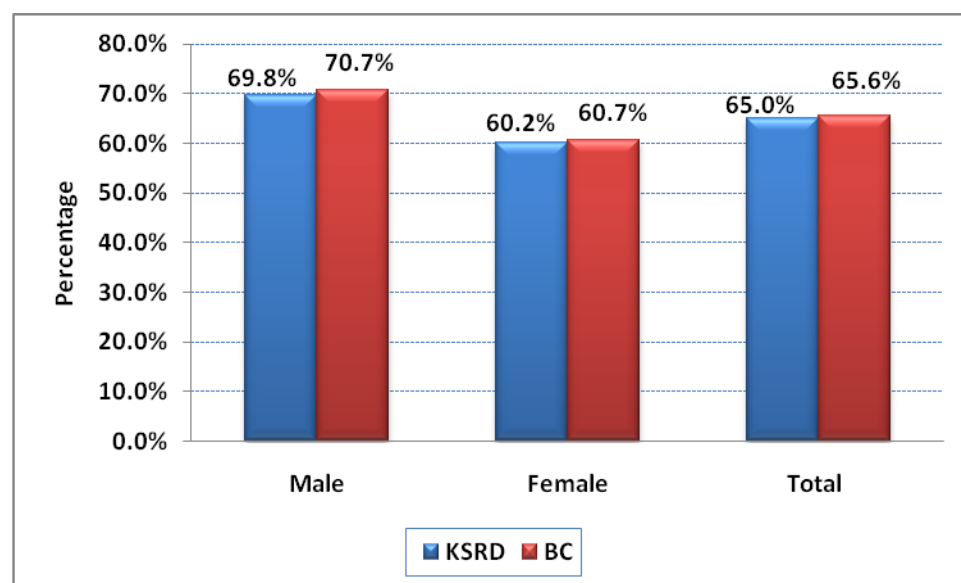
Source: Statistics Canada (2006a)

Note: Manufacturing number includes seafood processing, ship building and wood processing which is a subgroup of manufacturing.

In the services-producing sector, health care and social assistance and retail are the largest components of the experienced labour force. This is followed by education services and public administration. Of the four largest sectors, the three government sectors of health care and social assistance, education services, and public administration all had larger percentage shares than generally observed at the provincial level. Water-related transportation services in KSRD make up a very small portion of the experienced labour force and closely track the shares generally observed at the provincial level.

As illustrated in Figure 2, the labour force participation rate for men and women in the KSRD is slightly lower than the provincial rate. However, the difference between KSRD and the province is less than one percent in each comparison.

**Figure 2 Kitimat-Stikine RD and BC Labour Force Participation Rates<sup>3</sup>, 2006**



Source: Statistics Canada (2006b)

### Economic Dependencies

Table 6 highlights the income dependency for the Kitimat-Terrace and Stewart local areas in SQCRD.<sup>4</sup> The Stewart local area includes the Nass Valley portion of PNCIMA. The local area income dependency data highlights the importance of the basic sectors within the local economy. In general, basic sectors are those activities that result in

<sup>3</sup>Labour force 2006 participation rate is the ratio of the labour force (employed and unemployed) as a percent of the non-institutional population. % full-time, full-year is a percent of the labour force.

<sup>4</sup> Kitimat-Terrace Local Area consists of District of Municipality of Kitimat, City of Terrace, Kitimat-Stikine Electoral Area C and E, Kitasoo IR 1, Kitamaat IR 2, Kitsumkaylum IR 1, Kshish IR 4, Kulspai IR 6, and Kitselas IR 1. Stewart Local Area includes District of Stewart, Nisga'a, Kitmat-Stikine A and D, Telegraph Creek IR 6, Telegraph IR 6A, Kluachon Lake IR 1, Gitzault IR 24, Iskut IR 6, New Aiyansh, Aiyansh, Laxgalts'ap, Gingoix, Guthe Tah IR 12.



income flowing into the area from the local area. Basic sectors are generally viewed as those sectors that drive the local economy, creating the community wealth.

In 2006, the Terrace-Kitimat Local Area was largely dependent on the public sector, and mining and mineral products which collectively represented 48 % of income. The dependency of the area on mineral products was primarily a reflection of one employer – the aluminum smelter. Between 1996 and 2006, the public sector has been increasing in importance and the forest sector decreasing in importance. This trend is anticipated to continue, and the importance of forestry is anticipated to decline noticeably in the future as the income associated with the recent pulp mill closure in Kitimat becomes apparent in the economy. The Stewart Local Area has lost much of its forest sector dependency over the same period. Conversely, the Stewart Area has seen a steady rise in dependency on the public sector.

**Table 6 Kitimat-Stikine RD Income Dependencies, 1996, 2001 and 2006<sup>5</sup>**

	FOR	MIN	Fishing	AGF & Food	TOU	PUB	CONST	OTHER	Trans <sup>1</sup>	ONEI <sup>2</sup>
<b>Kitimat-Terrace Local Area</b>										
2006	14	22	1	0	4	27	5	3	14	10
2001	19	20	0	0	5	26	6	4	13	7
1996	25	17	0	1	5	23	8	5	11	5
<b>Stewart Local Area (including Nass Valley)</b>										
2006	3	8	4	0	7	52	7	3	12	3
2001	9	7	3	0	5	41	6	2	22	5
1996	25	9	3	0	7	35	3	12	5	2

Source: BC Stats (2009c, 2004,1999)

Notes: 1. Transfer Payments (Trans) includes income from senior governments including: welfare payments, OAS, CPP, employment insurance, federal child tax credit, guaranteed income supplements and others.  
2. Other Non-Employment Income (ONEI) includes investment income, such as dividends and interest; retirement pensions, superannuation, annuities, alimony, etc.

It is generally thought that communities with a diversified economic base will be more stable during challenging economic times. To address this issue and quantify it in the BC context, BC Stats produces a diversity index for each of its local areas. At one extreme, a value of zero would indicate that the community was entirely dependent on one sector, while at the other extreme, the diversity index of 100 indicates the local area is well diversified. Table 7 presents the diversity index for the two local areas and compares it to the mean value for all local areas in BC.

<sup>5</sup> Kitimat-Terrace Local Area includes District of Kitimat, City of Terrace, Kitimat-Stikine C (Part 1 & 2), Kitimat-Stikine E, Kitasoo IR 1, Kitimaat IR 2, Kitsumkaylum IR 1, Kshish IR 4, Kulspai IR 6, and Kitselas IR 1. Stewart Local Area Includes Stewart, Nisga'a, Kitimat-Stikine A and D, Telegraph Creek IRs 6 and 6A, Kluachon Lake IR 1, Gitzault IR 24, New Aiyansh, Gitwinksihikw, Laxgalts'ap, Gingolx, Guhthe Tah IR 12.

**Table 7 Kitimat-Stikine Local Area Diversity Index, 1996, 2001, 2006**

	1996	2001	2006
Kitimat-Terrace	70	70	71
Stewart	51	59	62
Mean Values in BC	67	67	69

Source: BC Stats (2009c)

Overall, the diversity index has remained steady for the Kitimat-Terrace local area between 1996 and 2006. In 2006 the Kitimat-Terrace local area was slightly more diversified than the mean for other local areas in the province. The diversity of the Stewart local area has actually increased over the period but reflects an area that is still less diverse than the mean for other local areas in the province.

### 1.1.4 Community Summary

#### Portland Channel and Nass Valley Area

The Nass Valley Area includes the lands and communities encompassed in the Nisga'a Final Agreement<sup>6</sup> while the Portland Channel includes the community of Stewart.

#### ***Nisga'a Nation:***

**Overview --** There are four Nisga'a Villages in the Nass Valley: Gingolx, Laxgalts'ap, Gitwinksihlkw, and Gitlaxt'aamiks. Nisga'a government is comprised of the national Nisga'a Lisims Government and the four Nisga'a Village Governments (Nisga'a Lisims Government. Nda).

Gingolx is located on Portland Inlet, approximately 170 kilometres northwest of Terrace and 75 kilometres southwest of New Aiyansh. In 2011 it had a registered population of 408 (Statistics Canada. 2012f).

Laxgalts'ap is located the Nass River estuary, approximately 150 kilometres north of Terrace and 45 kilometres southwest of New Aiyansh. In 2011 it has a registered population of 378 (Statistics Canada. 2012g).

Gitwinksihlkw is located on the right bank of the Nass River, approximately 100 kilometres from Terrace and 10 kilometres west of New Aiyansh. In 2011 it had a registered population of 184 (Statistics Canada 2012h).

Gitlaxt'aamiks is the capital of the Nisga'a Nation. It is located on Nisga'a Highway 113 approximately 100 kilometres northwest of Terrace and is adjacent to Anhlut'ukwsim

<sup>6</sup> The Nisga'a Final Agreement came into effect in 2000. The Nisga'a Final Agreement is a land claims agreement that recognizes Nisga'a Lands and the Nisga'a peoples' rights of self-government.

Laxmihl Angwinga'asanskwhl (Nisga'a Memorial Lava Bed Park). Gitlaxt'aamiks was officially known as New Aiyansh until spring 2010, at which point the Village Government voted to rename it (Nisga'a Lisims Government. Ndb). In 2011 Gitlaxt'aamiks had a registered population of 758 (Statistics Canada. 2012i)

**Infrastructure** -- The four Nisga'a Villages are accessible via Nisga'a Highway 113. This highway runs north from the intersection with Highway 16 at Terrace to the intersection with the Nass Road near New Aiyansh, and then continues west to Gingolx. A 28 kilometre extension connecting Gingolx with Nisga'a Highway 113 was completed in 2002, before that Gingolx was only accessible by boat or plane (Nisga'a Lisims Government. Ndc). Air service to and from Vancouver is available at the Terrace and District Regional Airport.

The majority of health care services in the Nass Valley are provided by the Nisga'a Valley Health Board out of the Nisga'a Valley Health and Dental Centre in Gitlaxt'aamiks. This centre has a full-time doctor and nurse and offers scheduled dental services, mental health services and scheduled optometrist's services. The Nisga'a Valley Health Board also runs a community health program, drug and alcohol prevention services, the Brighter Futures programs, and provides home care services (Village of Gitlaxt'aamiks. Nda).

The four Nisga'a villages are all part of Nisga'a School District #92. Each village has its own elementary school but students in grades 8 through 12 are bussed in to attend Nisga'a Elementary Secondary School in Gitlaxt'aamiks (School District 92. Nd). A group home is available for students from Gingolx and urban locations (Village of Gitlaxt'aamiks. Ndb).

**Economy and Labour Force** -- Fishing and forestry are the primary economic drivers in the Nass Valley. The Nisga'a Nation has set up businesses to market fish, manage forest resources, build telecommunications infrastructure, and promote tourism. These businesses are wholly owned by the Nisga'a Nation but are professionally managed by the Nisga'a Commercial Group of Companies (Nisga'a Lisims Government. Ndd).

Employment in the above industries is complemented by employment in government, healthcare and education sectors (Nisga'a Lisims Government. Nde; Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2012c). In 2006 the employment rate in Gingolx was 32.7%, in Gitwinksihlkw it was 58.1% and in Gitlaxt'aamiks it was 49.6% (Statistics Canada. 2007i; Statistics Canada 2007j; Statistics Canada. 2007k). Employment Statistics for Laxgalts'ap are not available.

### ***District of Stewart***

**Overview** – The District of Stewart is located at the headwaters of Portland Canal and is Canada's most northerly ice-free port. Stewart is located on the border with Alaska and is three kilometres east of the Alaskan town of Hyder, 62 kilometres southwest of Meziadin Junction, and 327 kilometres north of Terrace on Highway 37A. The District includes 53,087 hectares of land at the mouth of the Bear River on Portland Canal. The District of Stewart was incorporated in 1930 and in 2006 had a population of 496. This represents a decline from the 2001 population of 661 (BC Stats. Nd). During the mining boom prior to World War One, the District of Stewart had a population of 10,000 (Stewart and Hyder International Chamber of Commerce. Nd).

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community had 307 private dwellings, of which 224 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. The District has a small hospital/health centre that provides acute care, home support, public health, access to local physicians, counselling services, and a community pharmacy. Stewart has a recreation centre that houses the hockey and curling rinks and also has a meeting space for public use. The Stewart airport has a paved runway of 1,188 metres (3,900 feet) and provides air access for private charters. The community has a yacht club with its own wharf. Stewart Bulk Terminals Ltd., which historically provided loading for concentrate from the Granduc/Newmont copper mine, has been upgraded and now provides full service to freighters transporting bulk goods (Stewart and Hyder International Chamber of Commerce. Nd).

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 305, with 26% of the labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. The goods-producing labour force is concentrated in logging, mining, and construction, with the construction labour force primarily associated with road construction. Historically, the area has been dependent on mining. Mining ceased in 1956, with the exception of the Granduc Copper Mine which operated until 1984. Currently there are many mine exploration projects under way in the Stewart area.

Collectively in 2006, the service sector made up the remaining 74% of the experienced labour force. Public administration, including government administration, health care, social assistance, and educational services had a labour force of 80. This was followed by accommodation and food services with an associated labour force of 55. Transportation and warehousing followed with a labour force of 40, primarily associated with general trucking and marine transportation support (BC Stats. Nd). The largest employers in this sector include Arrow Transportation Systems and Stewart Bulk Terminal.

### Terrace-Klemtu Area

The Terrace-Klemtu Area includes Electoral Area C of the Kitimat-Stikine Regional District and all the communities within this southern portion of the Regional District.

Specifically, this includes the two largest incorporated communities in the Regional District, Terrace and Kitimat, along with communities associated with four First Nations, the unincorporated community of Thornhill and several smaller unincorporated communities stretching from Lakelse Lake to Rosswood.

### ***District of Kitimat***

**Overview** – The District of Kitimat is situated at the head of Douglas Channel, a fjord that reaches 90 kilometres inland from the Pacific Ocean. The townsite is situated on the east side of the Kitimat River and is approximately 60 kilometres south of Terrace along Highway 37. The District of Kitimat was incorporated in 1953 and in 2006 had a population of 8,987, a decline from the 2001 population of 10,285 (BC Stats. Nd).

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community had 4,256 private dwellings, of which 3,627 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. Local health services include the Kitimat General Hospital and Health Centre, with the community also having two senior and assisted living facilities. Kitimat has a range of educational services locally with five elementary schools, one high school, and post-secondary education provided in the community by Northwest Community College and Kitimat Valley Institute Corporation. Kitimat has a full range of recreational facilities: two indoor ice rinks, an indoor swimming pool, and a recreation centre (including 3 tennis courts, and racquetball court) (District of Kitimat. 2009).

Kitimat has three marinas that provide a range of services and moorage to visitors and resident commercial and recreational boaters. The Kitimat Port consists of the Alcan deep sea wharf (229.5 metres long), Eurocan deep sea wharf and barge loading facility (South Berth and North Berth are both 137 metres long), and Methanex deep sea wharf (430 metres long). There is also a federal wharf at the neighbouring Kitimaat Village that is primarily used by commercial fishing boats. Canadian National provides rail service to Kitimat and connects the community by rail to the rest of North America. The Northwest Regional Airport provides commercial air services to the Kitimat and Terrace area. The airport has two paved runways and has regular passenger service to Vancouver, Smithers, and Prince George.

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 4,740 with 49% of the labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. Manufacturing was by far the largest component of the goods-producing sector, with employment at the Rio Tinto Alcan's aluminum smelter (1,500 workers) and West Fraser Mills Ltd Eurocan pulp mill (535 workers) making up the largest two manufacturing employers. The pulp mill permanently closed in early 2010, resulting in significant job loss in the community. In 2006, the total experienced labour force in forestry, agriculture and fishing was 40 people or 0.8% its total labour force.

The public service sector, which includes employment in education, health care, social assistance, and public administration, is a key employer in Kitimat. In 2006, this sector made up approximately 18% of the total experienced labour force residing in Kitimat (BC Stats. Nd).

Retail and wholesale sectors, and accommodation and food services sectors made up 15% of the experienced labour force in 2006. Transportation and warehousing made up a further 3% (a labour force of 145) of the experienced labour force in 2006, with a labour force of approximately 30 associated with support services to water transportation.

### ***City of Terrace***

***Overview*** – The City of Terrace is situated beside the Skeena River and is located at the junction of Highway 16 and Highway 37. Terrace is 60 kilometres north of Kitimat, 205 kilometres southwest of Smithers, and 150 kilometres east of Prince Rupert. The City of Terrace was incorporated in 1927 and in 2006 had a population of 11,320, down from the 2001 population of 12,109 (BC Stats. Nd).

***Infrastructure*** – In 2006, the community had 4,682 private dwellings of which 4,321 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. Terrace is serviced by Mills Memorial Hospital which has 39 medical/surgical beds, 3 intensive care beds and 10 psychiatric beds (Hospitals Worldwide. 2013). The community has a full range of medical services including long-term care provided at Terraceview Lodge. Terrace has a range of educational services including post-secondary education provided by Northwest Community College. Recreation facilities in the community include an indoor pool and an ice rink.

Canadian National Railway mainline runs freight between Prince Rupert and Edmonton with a branch line providing freight service between Terrace and Kitimat. The CN mainline also provides Terrace with VIA Rail service and provides passenger service between Edmonton and Prince Rupert. Terrace is also connected to the Nass Valley by the Nisga'a Highway, a public secondary highway. The Northwest Regional Airport provides commercial air services to the Kitimat and Terrace area. The airport has two paved runways and has regular passenger service to Vancouver, Smithers, and Prince George.

***Economy and Labour Force*** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 5,995 with 19% (1,140) of the labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. The forest sector (logging and forestry services, wood processing and pulp and paper manufacturing) made up the largest share of the goods-producing sector with an experienced labour force of 440. Construction, with a labour force of 335, was a key

goods-producing sector employer. The commercial fishing industry had an experienced labour force of 10 people.

Terrace draws residents from the surrounding communities for retail services, and as such the retail and wholesale sector, and accommodation and food services sector made up 25% of the experienced labour force in 2006. The public service sector which includes employment in education, health care, social assistance, and public administration was also a key employer making up 31% of Terrace's total experienced labour force in 2006. Transportation and warehousing made up a further 5% of the experienced labour force (BC Stats. Nd).

### ***Thornhill (Kitimat-Stikine Electoral Area E)***

**Overview** – The unincorporated community of Thornhill lies on the east side of the Skeena River immediately across from the City of Terrace. In 2006, Thornhill had a population of 4,005, which represents a decline from the 2001 population of 4,475 and 1996 population of 4,720 (BC Stats. Nd).

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community had 1,737 private dwellings, of which 1,629 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. There are two elementary schools and a junior secondary school in Thornhill, providing students with kindergarten to Grade 10 locally. Thornhill primarily draws on the City of Terrace for most of its other goods and services requirements.

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 2,230 with 24% (505) of the labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. The largest goods-producing sectors include construction (labour force of 175), logging and forestry services (125), and manufacturing (115). The commercial fishing industry had an experienced labour force of 15.

The service sector is an important component of employment for Thornhill residents, with an experienced labour force of 495 (22%) involved in retail, wholesale, accommodation and food service sectors in 2006. The public service sector, including education, health care, social assistance, and public administration made up 21% (475) of the 2006 experienced labour force. Transportation and warehousing made up over 7% of the experienced labour force in 2006 (BC Stats. Nd).

### ***Lakelse Lake to Rosswood Area (Kitimat-Stikine Electoral Area C (Part 1))***

**Overview** – The area around the City of Terrace is characterized by several small unincorporated communities including: Rosswood, Gossen Creek, Copperside, Usk, Brauns Island, Old Remo, New Remo, Jackpine Flats, and Lakelse Lake. Collectively,



this area makes up the majority of population in Kitimat-Stikine Electoral Area C (Part 1). In 2006, these unincorporated communities had a year round population of 2,820. This represents a decline from a population of 3,000 in 2001 and 3,090 in 1996 (BC Stats. Nd).

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, communities in the Lakelse Lake to Rosswood Area had 1,322 private dwellings, of which 1,086 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. The area is primarily dependent on the City of Terrace for services. The largest portion of the area's population is situated in the Lakelse Lake and Jackpine Flats area, which is characterized by rural properties on small acreages and lake front homes on Lakelse Lake. Lakelse is also a popular recreation area with numerous summer cottages and recreational properties surrounding the lake.

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 1,395 with 23% (315) of the labour force associated with the goods-producing sector. Construction with an experienced labour force of 155, made up the largest share of the goods-producing sector. The service sector, with an experienced labour force of 305 (22%), was involved in retail, whole sale and accommodation and food services sectors. The public service sector, including education, health care, social assistance, and public administration, had an experienced labour force of 285 (20%), while transportation and warehousing made up over 11% of the experienced labour force (BC Stats. Nd).

### First Nation Communities

#### **Kitasoo/ Xai'xais First Nation**

**Overview** -- The community of Klemtu is home to the Kitasoo/ Xai'xais First Nation. The Kitasoo people originate from Kitasu Bay and the Xai'xais are from Kynoch Inlet (Spirit Bear Lodge. Nda). Klemtu is located on Swindle Island, approximately 15 kilometres south of Princess Royal Island on BC's Inside Passage. Between 2006 and 2011 the registered population in Klemtu increased by 14.2%, from 282 people to 322 (Statistics Canada. 2012ab).

**Infrastructure** – Klemtu is not accessible by road but is accessible by air and water. Pacific Coastal Airlines offers daily scheduled floatplane service and BC Ferries provides service once a week (Tourism BC. Nda). A new ferry terminal opened in August 2011 and is located two kilometres north of the old terminal. The new terminal accommodates BC Ferries' largest vessel in the north, the *Northern Expedition*, and includes an award-winning terminal building, a vehicle and passenger ramp and a vehicle compound (Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. 2012).

In 2011, there were 101 private dwellings in Klemtu (Statistics Canada. 2012ab). Other infrastructure includes a Big House, the Klemtu Nursing Station, a post office, a



community sports facility, and the Kitasoo Child Care Centre. Approximately 90 students attend the Kitasoo Community School which provides education for students enrolled in preschool through grade 12 and includes a small library, home economics and crafts facilities, a ¾ size gym and a computer lab (Kitasoo Education Authority. 2012).

Klemtu also has a Tourism Office, a café, two general stores, a post office, shower and laundry facilities, and a fuelling station that supplies diesel, propane, marine gas and water (Spirit Bear Adventures Ltd. Nd; Tourism BC. Ndb).

***Economy and Labour Force*** – Spirit Bear Lodge is an ecotourism operation owned and operated by the Kitasoo/ Xai'xais First Nation. The Lodge provides accommodation and also arranges wildlife tours in the Great Bear Rainforest with local Kitasoo guides (Spirit Bear Lodge. Ndb).

Marine Harvest Canada and Kitasoo Seafoods have been partners in a salmon aquaculture program for over 10 years. In 2012, approximately 11 million pounds of Atlantic salmon raised in Kitasoo/ Xai'xais-owned farm sites were processed and packaged in the local processing plant. This partnership employs more than fifty Kitasoo/Xai-xais members that work at the farms, in the processing plant and on the Kitasoo-owned harvest boat (Roberts, I. 2012).

In 2006, the last year for which census data are available, the employment rate in Klemtu was 35.7% (Statistics Canada. 2007m). A study published by Kitasoo Seafoods LP in 2010 attributes 52% of local employment to aquaculture, 34% to public service, 7% to wild fisheries, 4% to forestry and 3% to tourism/other (Kitasoo Seafoods LP. 2010).

### ***Haisla First Nation***

***Overview*** -- The primary residence of the Haisla people is Kitamaat Village, or Tsee-Motsa (Haisla First Nation. Nd.a). Kitamaat Village is located at the head of Douglas Channel, approximately 10 km south of Kitimat and 70 km south of Terrace. In 2011, Kitamaat Village had a registered population of 514 (Statistics Canada 2012a).

***Infrastructure*** -- Kitamaat Village is accessible by road and is served by the Terrace District Regional Airport, which provides daily service to and from Vancouver. The community consists of 190 private dwellings (Statistics Canada 2012a) and has a large recreation centre, health centre, elementary school, fire hall, dock and campground.

***Economy and Labour Force*** -- There has been a recent increase in economic opportunities for the Haisla, in part because of opportunities that have arisen from their relative proximity to the Western Canadian energy reserves and shipping routes to Asia (Haisla First Nation. Nd.b).

Haisla Business Operations Inc. (HBO Inc.) is the business arm for the Haisla Nation. HBO Inc. operates under the authority of the elected Haisla Nation Council and manages all Haisla for-profit business ventures and employment and training matters related to industrial projects and other opportunities in Haisla Traditional Territory.

Projects include various joint venture opportunities, Haisla Nation's Forestry Operations, marina and hotel development, and various commercial property development activities (Kitimat Chamber of Commerce. Nd). There are more than 20 Haisla commercial fish boats, which are used for both commercial fishing as well as food fishing (Haisla Nation. 2010).

### ***Kitselas First Nation***

**Overview** -- The community of Gitaus, which is located within Kitselas Reserve #1, is the present home for the majority of Kitselas First Nation residents. Located 20 km northeast of the City of Terrace, Gitaus is situated off of Highway 16 just upriver from the confluence of Kleanza Creek and the Skeena River (Kitselas First Nation. 2012a). Between 2006 and 2011 the registered population at Gitaus increased approximately 182%, from 78 people to 220 (Statistics Canada 2012b).

The Kitselas community of Kulspai is located approximately three km south of Terrace on the left shore of the Skeena River. In 2011 Kulspai had a registered population of 95 (Statistics Canada 2012c).

Kshish, or Endudoon, is located approximately 10 km from Terrace by road. It is on the right shore of the Skeena River directly opposite the mouth of the Zymoetz River. In 2006 it had a population of 10 but presently it is only occupied during the summer months (Kitselas First Nation. 2012a; Statistics Canada 2012d).

**Infrastructure** -- Gitaus, Kulspai and Endudoon are all accessible by road and are serviced by the Terrace District Regional Airport. Endudoon is also accessible by train (Kitselas First Nation. 2012a). Gitaus has 81 private dwellings (Statistics Canada 2012b) and Kulspai has 27 (Statistics Canada 2012c).

The Kitselas Administration Office is located in Gitaus and houses Kitselas' Finance, Health, Education and Housing departments and services. Gitaus also has a fire hall. Kitselas' Treaty, Lands and Resource departments operate out of offices in the community of Kulspai. Kitselas Community Hall is located in Kulapsi (Kitselas First Nation 2012b).

Kitselas Canyon National Historic Site is located within Kitselas Reserve #1 adjacent to the community of Gitaus. The National Historic Site includes interpretive trails, crest

poles and four longhouses that house artefacts and can be visited through a guided tour (Kitselas First Nation. 2012c).

***Economy and Labour Force*** -- In 2006, Kitselas First Nation had an employment rate of 29.6%, a drop of approximately 11% from 2001. Individuals were employed in various sectors, including manufacturing and construction, wholesale and retail, health and education, management, government, sales and service, and trades (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2012a).

### ***Kitsumkalum First Nation***

***Overview*** -- The primary community of Kitsumkalum First Nation is Kitsumkaylum, which is located on the right bank of the Skeena River at the mouth of the Kitsumkalum River. The population at Kitsumkaylum increased from 251 people to 302, or by 20.3%, between 2006 and 2001 (Statistics Canada. 2012e).

***Infrastructure***-- Kitsumkaylum is situated on Highway 16, approximately five kilometres west of Terrace and 150 km east of Prince Rupert. Both of these centres are served by VIA Rail Canada's passenger line (City of Terrace. Nd). Both Terrace and Prince Rupert have airports that offer service to and from Vancouver. Prince Rupert is also served by BC Ferries.

There are 98 private dwellings in Kitsumkaylum (Statistics Canada 2012e). Health, social, recreational and education services for residents are provided from the Kitsumkalum Health Centre, which also houses the Kitsumkalum Band Office (HealthLink BC. Nda).

***Economy and Labour Force*** -- In 2006, Kitsumkalum First Nation had an employment rate of 40%. The majority of this employment came from management, sales and service, and primary industries, including logging, trapping and fishing (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2012b).

Kitsumkalum businesses include a gas bar, rock quarry, boat launch, RV park, and gift shop (Kitsumkalum First Nation. 2011a). Kalum Ventures Ltd. acts as the economic arm for Kitsumkalum Band and provides forestry-focussed services. Kalum Ventures Ltd. is fully owned by and operated for the benefit of Kitsumkalum band membership. (Kitsumkalum First Nation. 2011b).

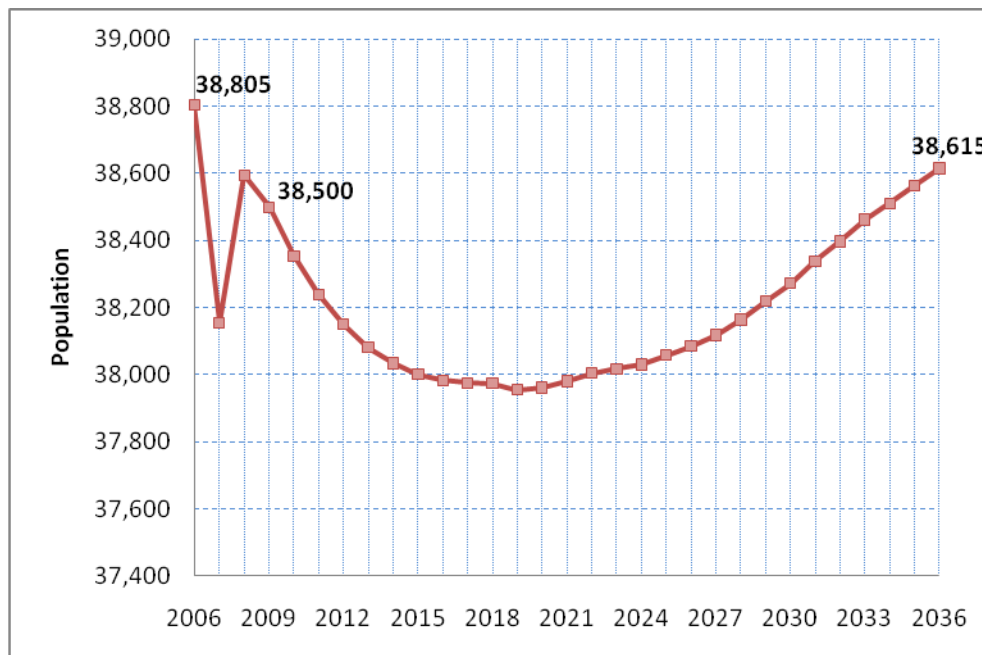
### **1.1.5 Trends**

As summarized in Figure 3, the population in the Kitimat-Stikine Regional District is anticipated to continue to decline over the next several years until approximately 2020. Then the population is forecast to grow slowly from that level but is not anticipated to re-

establish population levels seen in the mid-1990s when the Regional District had a population of 45,370.

There are several pipeline projects (Northern Gateway, Pacific Trails, Spirit Pipeline) proposed for the area. In addition, there is the potential for new mineral mines to open in the Regional District in the future but it is unclear how much local employment this will create. The forest sector continues to consolidate in the region. The closure of West Fraser's Eurocan pulp mill at Kitimat has resulted in the loss of 535 jobs in the Kitimat-Terrace area and will translate into more out-migration from the region in the short-term.

**Figure 3 Kitimat-Stikine RD Population Forecast, 2006 to 2036**



Source: BC Stats (2009d)

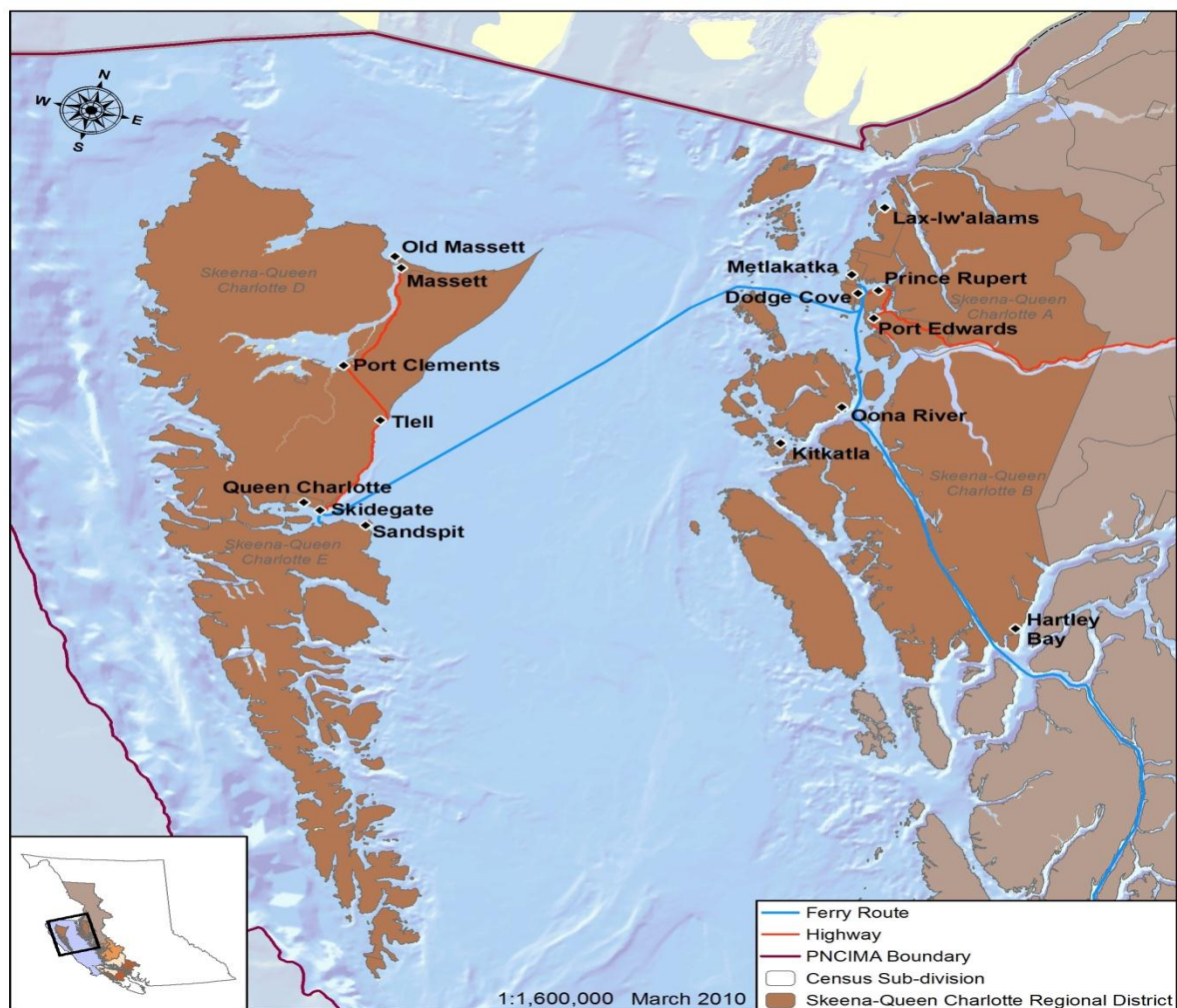
## 1.2 Skeena Queen Charlotte Regional District and Community Profiles

### 1.2.1 Overview of Regional District

The Skeena Queen Charlotte Regional District (SQCRD) is located in the northern portion of PNCIMA and forms part of the border with Alaska and the Kitimat-Stikine Regional District. The SQCRD includes Haida Gwaii (formerly the Queen Charlotte Islands) and the mainland portion of the BC north coast that is approximately centred on the Skeena River, extending from Portland Inlet in the north to Douglas Channel in the south.

The entire SQCRD is within PNCIMA. Map 2 shows the communities and area of the Regional District.

**Map 2 Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District, 2009**



## 1.2.2 Socio-Economic

### Population Change

Table 8 highlights the 2001, 2006 and 2011 population for incorporated communities, First Nation communities and unincorporated areas in the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District. Overall, the population decreased by 17.77% between 2001 and 2011.

**Table 8 Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD Population by Community: 2001, 2006 and 2011**

	Population			Change 2001-2011	
	2001	2006	2011	Number	%
<b>Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands)</b>					
<b>Incorporated Communities</b>					
Village of Masset	926	940	884	-42	-4.54%
Village of Port Clements	516	440	378	-138	-26.74%
Village of Queen Charlotte	1,045	948	944	-101	-9.67%
<b>First Nation Communities</b>					
Old Massett (Haida)	707	694	614	-93	-13.15%
Skidegate (Haida)	743	781	709	-34	-4.58%
<b>Unincorporated Communities</b>					
Tlell	223	187	179	-44	-19.73%
Sandspit	435	387	297	-138	-31.72%
<b>Mainland Portion</b>					
<b>Incorporated Communities</b>					
Village of Port Edward	659	577	544	-115	-17.45%
City of Prince Rupert	14, 643	12, 815	12,508	-2135	-14.58%
<b>First Nation Communities</b>					
Hartley Bay (Gitga'at)	162	157	132 <sup>7</sup>	-30	-18.52%
Lax Kw'alaams (Lax Kw'alaams)	667	679	678	11	1.65%
Metlakatla (Metlakatla)	118	118	83	-35	-29.66%
Kitkatla (Gitxaa'la)	368	417	405	37	-10.05%
<b>Unincorporated Communities</b>					
Dodge Cove	65	42	29	-36	-55.38%
Oona River	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Total</b>	<b>21, 277</b>	<b>19, 182</b>	<b>18,384</b>	<b>-2, 893</b>	<b>-17.77%</b>

Source: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (2012n), BC Stats (2006), and BC Stats (2011).

### Population Migration

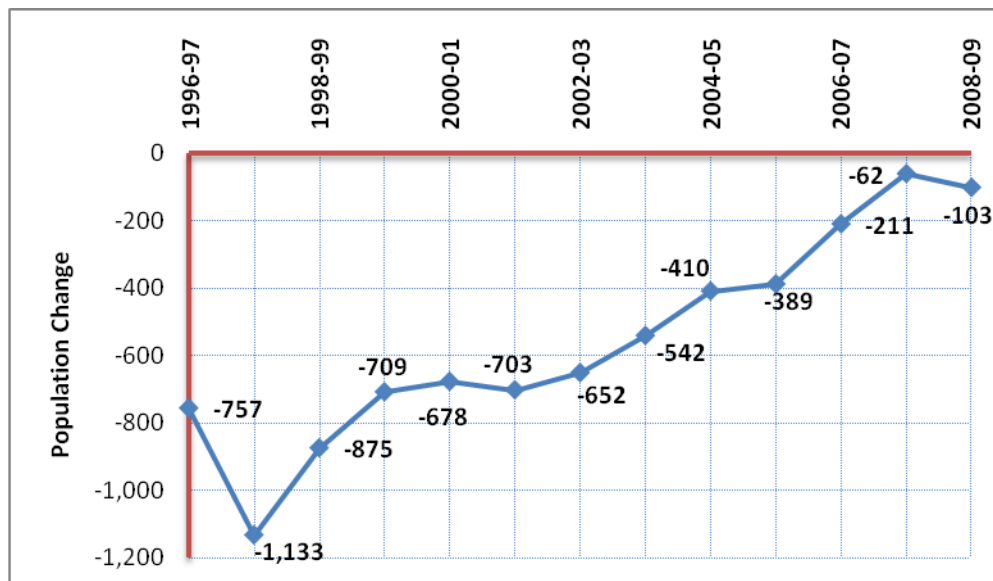
Figure 4 highlights the migration in the SQCRD in recent years. As illustrated there has been a steady out-migration of population from the SQCRD. The outflow of residents has been the major driver of the population decline highlighted in the population table

<sup>7</sup> Derived from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (2012n).



above. It appears that the outflow of residents has been slowing in recent years after peaking in 1997-98 when there was net out-migration of 1,100 residents from the area.

**Figure 4 Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD Population Migration, 1996 to 2009**



BC Stats (2009b)

### Age Characteristics

Table 9 highlights the age characteristics for the SQCRD population and compares this to the BC average. Overall, SQCRD has a younger population with a larger percentage of residents under 19 years of age and a smaller percentage over 65 years of age when compared to the province. The median age in the SQCRD is 38.4 years, while for BC it is 40.8 years.

**Table 9 Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD and BC Age Characteristics, 2006**

Age Class	Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD		BC
Age 0 to 19	5,680	28.9%	23.2%
Age 20 to 44	6,185	31.4%	33.8%
Age 45 to 64	5,860	29.8%	28.4%
Age 65+	1,940	9.9%	14.6%
Total	19,665	100.0%	100.0%
Median Age	38.4 years		40.8 years

Source: Statistics Canada (2006b)

### Education Characteristics

Table 10 outlines the educational attainment for the SQCRD and compares this to the BC averages. Overall, a much larger percentage of SQCRD residents between 25 and 64 do not have grade 12, a smaller percentage have university degrees, and a higher percentage of people have trades certificates when compared to the BC average.

**Table 10 SQCRD Education Attainment, Ages 25 to 64 years in 2006**

Highest Level Attained	Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD		BC
No certificate; diploma or degree	4,410	32.4%	17.1%
High school certificate or equivalent	3,725	27.4%	28.8%
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	1,640	12.0%	10.4%
College; CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	1,865	13.7%	17.4%
University certificate or diploma below the bachelor level	425	3.1%	5.5%
University certificate, diploma or degree	1,550	11.4%	20.8%
Total	13,615	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Statistics Canada (2006b)

### Incomes

As shown in Table 11, median incomes for both men and women in the SQCRD are noticeably lower than the provincial levels. However, this has not always been the case for men. In 2000, median income for men was comparable to the provincial median income; however, while provincial median income for men grew by almost 26%, median income did not increase in the SQCRD.



**Table 11 Median Income for Male and Females in SQCRD and BC, 2000 to 2007**

Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD			BC	
Year	Male	Female	Male	Female
2007	\$28,850	\$18,280	\$36,350	\$23,005
2006	\$27,690	\$17,895	\$34,585	\$21,030
2005	\$26,205	\$16,955	\$32,430	\$19,980
2004	\$26,200	\$16,935	\$30,995	\$18,845
2003	\$25,850	\$16,725	\$29,990	\$18,195
2002	\$25,530	\$16,590	\$29,480	\$17,850
2001	\$28,680	\$16,520	\$29,395	\$17,765
2000	\$28,770	\$15,860	\$28,880	\$17,315
% Change	+0.2%	+15.3%	+25.9%	+32.9%

Source: BC Stats, Neighbourhood Income and Demographics (2002-2009d).

### 1.2.3 Economic Base Analysis

#### Labour Force

The experienced labour force for the SQCRD is outlined in Table 12. As illustrated, manufacturing is the largest goods-producing sector with manufacturing employment being led by seafood product preparation and packaging. The second largest goods-producing sector is fishing. Both fishing and seafood processing in the SQCRD make up a significantly larger share of the experienced labour force than generally observed at the provincial level, with 11.7% of the local experienced labour force involved in fishing and seafood processing. This highlights the region's dependence on the marine sector.

In the services-producing sector, accommodation, transportation and warehousing are the largest employers. Public administration, health care, social assistance, and education services are also larger employers in SQCRD, with public administration having a higher share than seen at the provincial level. Health care, social assistance and education have experienced labour force shares that are more in line with shares observed at the provincial level.

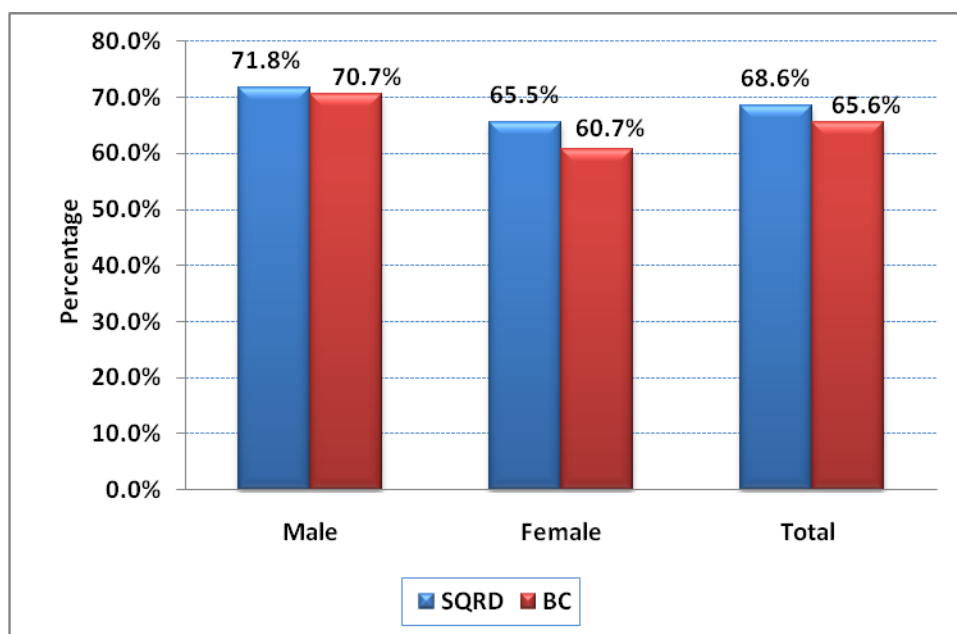
**Table 12 Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD Labour Force by Industry, 2006**

Experienced Labour Force by Industry	2006		
	SQCRD	SQCRD	BC
Agriculture	65	0.6%	1.7%
Logging & Forestry	360	3.4%	1.0%
Fishing, hunting and trapping	645	6.0%	0.1%
Supporting serv. agric. & forestry	80	0.8%	0.3%
Mining/Oil and gas	20	0.2%	0.9%
Utilities	45	0.4%	0.5%
Construction	520	4.9%	7.5%
Manufacturing (incl. seafood man., wood, and metal)	955	9.0%	8.5%
• Seafood Products prep. And packaging	605	5.7%	0.2%
• Wood products manufacturing	70	0.7%	1.7%
• Fabrication metal products	70	0.7%	0.6%
<b>Total Goods Producing</b>	<b>2,690</b>	<b>25.3%</b>	<b>20.5%</b>
Wholesale	180	1.7%	4.1%
Retail	1,065	10.0%	11.2%
Transportation & Warehousing	975	9.1%	5.2%
• Water Transportation	230	2.4%	0.3%
• Scenic & Sightseeing Transportation	20	0.2%	0.0%
• Support Activities for Water Transportation	150	1.4%	0.2%
Info & cultural industries	95	0.9%	2.6%
Finance & Insurance	255	2.4%	3.8%
Real Estate & Rental/Leasing	85	0.8%	2.3%
Prof., Scientific & Technical Serv.	240	2.3%	7.3%
Admin & Support, Waste Mang./Manag companies	375	3.5%	4.5%
Education Services	810	7.6%	6.9%
Health care & social assistance	900	8.4%	9.6%
Arts, entertainment & recreation	325	3.0%	2.3%
Accommodation	980	9.2%	8.1%
Other Services	440	4.1%	4.9%
Public Administration	920	8.6%	5.0%
<b>Total Services Sector</b>	<b>7,645</b>	<b>71.7%</b>	<b>77.8%</b>
Unclassified	330	3.0%	1.7%
<b>Total Labour Force</b>	<b>10,665</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Statistics Canada (2006a)

Note: Manufacturing number includes seafood processing, ship building and wood processing which is a subgroup of manufacturing.

As illustrated in Figure 5, the labour force participation rate in the SQCRD is higher for both men and women compared to the provincial level. While the participation rate is marginally higher in the SQCRD when compared to provincial level, participation rates among women in the SQCRD are noticeably higher than the provincial level.

**Figure 5 SQCRD and BC Labour Force Participation Rates<sup>8</sup>, 2006**

Source: Statistics Canada (2006b)

### Economic Dependencies

Within the SQCRD there are two local areas, including the mainland portion of the Regional District and the Haida Gwaii portion of the Regional District.<sup>9</sup> Table 13 highlights the income dependency for both of these local areas in the SQCRD. The local area income dependency data highlights the importance of the basic sectors within the local economy. In general, basic sectors are those activities that result in income flowing into the area from the outside world. Basic sectors are generally viewed as those sectors that drive the local economy, creating the community wealth.

In 2006, the two local areas were both largely dependent on the public sector and transfer payments which collectively represented 49% of income on Haida Gwaii and 50% on the mainland portion of the SQCRD. Over the period from 1996 to 2006, the main change was the steady decline of forestry.

<sup>8</sup> Labour force 2006 participation rate is the ratio of the labour force (employed and unemployed) as a percent of the non-institutional population. % full-time, full-year is a percent of the labour force.

<sup>9</sup> Queen Charlotte Islands Local Area consists of Village of Masset, Village of Queen Charlotte, Skeena Queen Charlotte Electoral Areas D and E, Village of Port Clements, Masset IR 1, and Skidegate IR 1. Prince Rupert Local Area consists of District Municipality of Port Edward, City of Prince Rupert, Skeena Queen Charlotte Electoral Areas A and C, Kulkayu (Hartley Bay) IR 4, Dolphin Island IR 1, Lax Kw'alaams IR 1, and S1/2 Tsimpsan IR 2.

**Table 13 SQCRD Local Areas Income Dependencies, 1996, 2001 & 2006**

	FOR	MIN	Fishing	AGF & Food	TOU	PUB	CONST	OTHER	Trans	ONEI
<b>Haida Gwaii</b>										
2006	14	0	7	1	11	31	4	3	17	12
2001	32	0	4	1	7	30	5	4	11	6
1996	35	0	6	0	8	32	2	2	9	6
<b>Prince Rupert</b>										
2006	5	1	16	1	8	32	3	7	18	9
2001	23	0	12	0	6	30	3	3	18	5
1996	23	0	15	0	8	27	4	4	14	5

Source: BC Stats (2009c, 2004, 1999).

Notes:

Transfer Payments (Trans) includes income from senior governments including: welfare payments, OAS, CPP, employment insurance, federal child tax credit, guaranteed income supplements and others.

Other Non-Employment Income (ONEI) includes investment income, such as dividends and interest; retirement pensions, superannuation, annuities, alimony, etc.

It is generally thought that communities with a diversified economic base will be more stable during challenging economic times. To address this issue and quantify it in the BC context, BC Stats produces the diversity index for each of its local areas. At the extremes, a value of zero would indicate that the community was entirely dependent on one sector, while at the other extreme the diversity index would be 100 if a local area were equally dependent on each of the defined sectors. Table 14 highlights the diversity index for the SQCRD local areas and compares it to the mean value for all local areas in BC. (BC Stats. 2009c)

**Table 14 SQCRD Local Areas Diversity Indices, 1996, 2001, 2006**

	1996	2001	2006
Haida Gwaii	69	62	59
Prince Rupert	69	66	69
Mean Values in BC	67	67	69

Source: BC Stats (2009c)

Overall, the diversity index has been declining in the Haida Gwaii local area in recent years, and in 2006 the value was 59. The Haida Gwaii local area has gone from having greater diversity than the mean local area in 1996 to being one of the least diversified local areas in BC. This shift has been primarily driven by the significant decline of the forest sector in the local economy over the period. Meanwhile, in the Prince Rupert local area the diversity has remained relatively stable and in 2006 was comparable to the mean diversity for all local areas in British Columbia.

## 1.2.4 Community Summary

### Haida Gwaii

The communities on Haida Gwaii include three incorporated communities on Graham Island, two (predominantly) Haida communities, and two unincorporated communities. Community descriptions are listed in order of north to south.

#### ***Old Massett***

**Overview** – The Haida community of Old Massett is located on reserve lands on the northern shore of Graham Island adjacent to the incorporated Village of Masset. Old Massett is an ancient Haida village and is the current residence of many of the northern Haida clans that migrated to the area in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries (Haida Oceans Technical Team. 2008). Between 2006 and 2011 the on-reserve population of Old Massett dropped from 694 to 614 (BC Stats. 2011).

**Infrastructure** – A variety of government facilities are located within the community of Old Massett including Band administration offices, a daycare and family centre, a primary school, a health centre, a youth centre and an elders building. There is a community hall that also serves as recreation facility. A privately-owned longhouse occasionally serves as a community meeting and social gathering space (Haida Oceans Technical Team 2008). Given the close proximity to the Village of Masset, there are a limited number of commercial services in the community, as many services are shared between the two communities.

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of approximately 470. This is a slight increase from the 1996 labour force of 455. In 2006, the goods-producing sector made up approximately 34% of the total labour force, 11% of which came from the fishing and forestry sectors.

The service sector represented most of the remaining 66% of the community labour force, of which 32% was associated with public services including education, health care, social assistance, and public administration (BC Stats. Nd).

#### ***Village of Masset***

**Overview** – The Village of Masset is located at the northern end of Graham Island on Haida Gwaii. The Village of Masset is the northern gateway to Naikoon Park and Mile 0 of Highway 16 (Village of Masset. Nd.). The Village was incorporated in 1961 and in 2006 had a population of 940, up slightly from the 2001 population of 926 (BC Stats. Nd).

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community had 503 private dwellings, of which 430 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. The community has an eight bed hospital and clinic, seniors housing and community hall. The community also maintains recreation facilities including tennis courts, a covered roller rink, and a small fitness centre (Village of Masset. Nd).

Transportation infrastructure includes the Masset Municipal Airport that supports regular commercial air services to Vancouver. The community is approximately 110 kilometres from the BC Ferries landing that connects Graham Island to Prince Rupert. The community also has a government wharf that services the busy marine industry in the area.

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 540, with 25% or 135 of the labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. Logging and fishing are the main goods-producing industries in Masset, with tourism increasing in importance in recent years. A Canadian Forces Base was established in Masset in 1971, and was an important local employer until its downsizing in 1997, when the base houses were sold off to the public.

Collectively in 2006, the service sector made up the remaining 75% of the experienced labour force. Within the service sector, retail, accommodation and food services made up 18% of the total labour force in the community with an experienced labour force of 95. Public services, including education, health care, social assistance, and public administration, were collectively the largest employer in the community, making up 34% of the total labour force in 2006 (BC Stats. Nd).

### ***Village of Port Clements***

**Overview** – The Village of Port Clements is located on Graham Island on the southeast of Masset Inlet near the mouth of the Yakoun River. The Village is located just off of Highway 16 south of Masset and is a 15 minute drive northwest of Tlell. The Village of Port Clements was incorporated in 1975 and in 2009 had a population of 455. This represents a slight decline from the 2006 population of 445. Longer term, the population has declined noticeably with the community having a population of 525 in 2001 and 585 in 1996 (BC Stats. Nd).

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community had 238 private dwellings, of which 195 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. The community is serviced by ferry at the BC Ferries dock at Skidegate Landing (55 km south of the community) and by air from the airport at the Village of Masset.

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 255, of which 85 (33%) were involved in the goods-producing sector. The goods-

producing sector in Port Clements is dominated by logging with a small amount of wood processing. In 2006 the forest sector had an experienced labour force of 65 and accounted for 77% of the total goods-producing sector. This labour force, however, is much smaller than historically; during World War I upwards of 800 loggers and mill workers lived in the area.

Collectively in 2006, the service sector made up the remaining 67% of the experienced labour force. Within the service sector, retail, and accommodation and food services sector made up 16% of the total labour force in the community with an experienced labour force of 40. Meanwhile, public services (education, health care, social assistance, and public administration) were also important with a labour force of 55 or 22% of the total service sector (BC Stats. Nd).

### **Tlell**

**Overview** – The unincorporated community of Tlell is 40 kilometres north of the ferry terminal at Skidegate. Tlell is situated on the east side of Graham Island at the mouth of the Tlell River, just south of the boundary of Naikoon Provincial Park along Highway 16. The community had a 2006 population of 185. This represents a decline from the 2001 population of 225 but the same population as in 1996 (BC Stats. Nd).

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community had 115 private dwellings, of which 89 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. The community is serviced by ferry at the BC Ferries dock at Skidegate Landing and by air from the airport at the Village of Masset and/or the airport in Sandspit on Moresby Island.

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 140, with 20 (14%) of this labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. The small goods-producing sector is concentrated in construction and manufacturing. Residents of the area are also involved in agriculture and the forest sector.

Collectively in 2006, the service sector made up the remaining 86% of the experienced labour force. Within the service sector, retail, accommodation and food services made up 25% of the total labour force with an experienced labour force of 35. In addition, there was a small workforce in arts, entertainment and recreation, highlighting the overall importance of tourism in the area. Public services, including education, health care, social assistance, and public administration accounted for a labour force of 35 or 25% of the total service sector (BC Stats Nd).

### **Skidegate**

**Overview** – The Haida community of Skidegate is located on reserve lands at the south-eastern corner of Graham Island on Haida Gwaii, in relatively close proximity to the Village of Queen Charlotte. Skidegate is an ancient Haida village and is the current

residence of many of the southern Haida clans that migrated to the area in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries (Haida Oceans Technical Team. 2008). The population of Skidegate in 2006 was 885. This represents an increase from the population of 815 in 2000 and 855 in 1996 (Skeena Native Development Society. Nd).

**Infrastructure** – A variety of government facilities are located within the community of Skidegate including Band administration offices, a daycare and family centre, a primary school, a health centre, a youth centre and an elders facility. There are also two community halls, one of which has recreation facilities (Haida Oceans Technical Team 2008b). A gas station and grocery store are located in a small complex in the centre of the community. The Haida Heritage Centre at Kay Llnagaay in Skidegate is home to the Haida Gwaii Museum, Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve, National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site offices, and other program facilities. It is currently one of the premier tourist destinations on Haida Gwaii.

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of approximately 375. This is a slight increase from the 1996 labour force of 340. Within the goods-producing sector, the fishing and forestry sector made up approximately 29% of the total labour force (BC Stats. Nd). In the community, commercial fishing and logging, once a much larger portion of local employment, are now being augmented by ecotourism and culture-related work activities.

The largest portion of the service sector locally is the public administration sector. Public services (including education, health care, social assistance, and public administration) collectively made up 41% of the total labour force in 2006 (BC Stats. Nd).

### ***Village of Queen Charlotte***

**Overview** – The Village of Queen Charlotte is located on Skidegate Inlet on the southern shore of Graham Island. The Village was established as Queen Charlotte City in 1891 and is built on the site of the Haida village of Daajing.giids. The community was incorporated in 2005 as the “Village of Queen Charlotte” and in 2006 had a population of 950, which was slightly lower than the 2001 population of 1,045 (BC Stats. Nd).

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community had 497 private dwellings, of which 439 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. The community has a pharmacy, medical clinic, dental clinic and hospital. In April 2012 plans to build a replacement hospital were announced, with construction expected to be completed by the summer of 2015. The replacement hospital will include eight acute-care beds, plus one labour, delivery and recovery suite. Mental health and addictions programs and home and community services will also be delivered out of the new facility (Northern Health. 2013).



The community's recreational assets include community parks, a community centre and library. There is a BC Ferries landing four kilometres east of the town that provides ferry service to Moresby Island and Prince Rupert. The community also has a boat launch area and two wharfs (Village of Queen Charlotte. 2011).

***Economy and Labour Force*** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 605, with 12% of the labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. Included in the goods-producing sector are logging and fishing which were once the dominant economic drivers in the community but are now much smaller. Today the service sector, small business, artisans, tourism, sport fishing and other diverse activities are playing a more important role in the local economy (Village of Queen Charlotte. 2011).

Collectively in 2006, the service sector made up the remaining 88% of the experienced labour force. Wholesale trade, retail services, accommodation and food services made up 29% of the total labour force in the community. Public services, including education, health care, social assistance, and public administration had an experienced labour force of 200, or 33% of the total labour force (BC Stats. Nd).

### ***Sandspit***

***Overview*** – The unincorporated community of Sandspit is located on the northern tip of Moresby Island and is the only settlement on Moresby Island. Sandspit lines both sides of a low lying spit of land that protrudes into Hecate Strait. In 2006 the community had a population of 385, down from the 2001 population of 435 and significantly reduced from the 1996 population of 570 (BC Stats. Nd).

***Infrastructure*** – In 2006, the community had 232 private dwellings, of which 176 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. The community is 14 kilometres east of Alliford Bay, the location of the BC Ferries terminal. A 25 minute ferry crossing connects Alliford Bay on Moresby Island with Skidegate Landing on Graham Island, the terminal for ferries to/from Prince Rupert. Sandspit has an airport operated by Transport Canada that provides charter service and regular air service to Vancouver. There is an 80-berth small craft harbour and boat ramp at Haans Creek, 4 kilometres west of Sandspit.

***Economy and Labour Force*** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 260, with 35% of the labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. The largest component of the goods-producing sector is the forestry sector, with logging and a small amount of wood processing having an experienced labour force of 50. At one time, seafood processing and commercial fishing played an important role in the economy, but this is no longer the case.

Collectively in 2006, the service sector made up the remaining 65% of the experienced labour force. Included in the service sector were wholesale trade, retail, accommodation and food services which had an experienced labour force of 45 (17%). An additional labour force of 20 (8%) was also associated with arts, entertainment and recreation; the recent growth of the recreational fishing industry and other tourism activities highlights the increasing importance of the sector for local economic development in Sandspit. Public services, including education, health care, social assistance, and public administration, represented an experienced labour force of 60 (23%), while the transportation and warehousing sector with 30 (12%) rounds out the key employment sectors locally (BC Stats. Nd).

### Lower North Coast of Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District

The communities on the mainland portion of the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District include the two incorporated communities of Port Edward and Prince Rupert and the First Nation communities of Metlakatla, Lax Kw'alaams, and Hartley Bay. In close proximity to the mainland are the unincorporated communities on Digby Island and Porcher Island and the First Nation community of Lach Klan/ Kitkatla on Dolphin Island.

#### ***District of Port Edward***

***Overview*** – The District of Port Edward is located 15 kilometres south of Prince Rupert. The District includes 18,387 hectares of primarily undeveloped West Coast rain forest. The town site itself lies along Inverness Passage (District of Port Edward. 2010). The District of Port Edward was incorporated in 1966 and in 2006 had a population of 580, down from the 2001 population of 660 and the 1996 population of 730 (BC Stats. Nd).

***Infrastructure*** – In 2006, the community had 247 private dwellings, of which 221 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. This includes a small apartment complex and mobile homes. Port Edward has a community centre that is used as a meeting hall and for other social functions. The District also maintains a boat launch for public use. The close proximity of Prince Rupert allows residents to access medical and government services in Prince Rupert. Education for children from Kindergarten to grade 7 is provided at the local elementary school, while grade 8 to 12 students commute to high schools in Prince Rupert (District of Port Edward. 2010).

Commercial air transportation for the community is accessed through the airport on Digby Island in Prince Rupert. Two airlines also offer sea plane service to surrounding smaller communities through the sea plane base located at Seal Cove. Passenger train and ferry transportation can be accessed in Prince Rupert through VIA Rail, BC Ferries and the Alaska State Ferries system. BC Transit provides bus service between Port

Edward and Prince Rupert six times daily except holidays and Sundays (District of Port Edward. 2010).

***Economy and Labour Force*** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 280, with 75 people or 27% of the labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. Tenerife Packing Co Ltd and Aero Trading Company both run fish processing facilities in Port Edward. Aero Trading Co. Ltd also has an offload facility (District of Port Edward. 2010). Collectively, commercial fishing (with a labour force of 15) and seafood processing (with a labour force of 30) represented 16% of the total experienced labour force. Tourism also provides some employment through fishing charters and the North Pacific Cannery Village Museum.

Collectively in 2006, the services sector made up the remaining 73% of the experienced labour force. Retail services, and accommodation and food services made up 9% of the total labour force, with an experienced labour force of 25. However, the largest sector collectively was public service sector which includes education, health care, social assistance, and public administration. It made up 32% of the total experienced labour force residing in Port Edward, with an experienced labour force of 90 (BC Stats. Nd).

### ***City of Prince Rupert***

***Overview*** – The City of Prince Rupert is situated on Kaien Island just north of the mouth of the Skeena River, and is linked by a short bridge to the mainland. The city is located along the island's northwestern shore, fronting on Prince Rupert Harbour, and is the western mainland terminus of Trans-Canada Highway 16 (the Yellowhead Highway). Prince Rupert is approximately 140 km west of Terrace, and 715 km west of Prince George. The City of Prince Rupert was incorporated in 1910. In 2006 Prince Rupert had a population of 12,815, down from the 2001 population of 14,643 (BC Stats. Nd).

***Infrastructure*** – In 2006, Prince Rupert had 5,954 private dwellings, of which 5,068 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. The community has a full range of health services including the Prince Rupert Regional Hospital, a 50-bed hospital that provides service to Prince Rupert and the surrounding area. Northwest Community College has a campus in Prince Rupert and provides post-secondary education opportunities for residents in Prince Rupert, Port Edward and the North Coast villages. The community also has a full range of recreational facilities.

Prince Rupert is home to the following five terminals: the Northland Cruise Terminal; the Atlin Cruise Terminal; Fairview Container Terminal; Ridley Terminals; and Prince Rupert Grain (Prince Rupert Port Authority. Nd).

The Northland Cruise Terminal has a berth of 330 metres and was built in 2004. It is located in Cow Bay near downtown Prince Rupert and serves as a gathering point for

passengers participating in shore excursions offered through cruise programs, including bus, boat and seaplane sightseeing tours, saltwater fishing, kayaking and cultural experiences. The Atlin Cruise Terminal, also in Cow Bay, provides berthing facilities for explorer-class cruise ships and large yachts (Prince Rupert Port Authority. Nd).

Fairview Container Terminal is a 24 hectare ship to rail facility that has the operational capacity to move 750,000 Twenty foot Equivalent Units per year. A Phase 2 expansion project would increase capacity to two million Twenty foot Equivalent Units per year, making it the second largest handling facility on the West Coast (Prince Rupert Port Authority. Nd). An Environmental Assessment of the Phase 2 expansion is currently being conducted by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency.

Prince Rupert is the western terminus of the Canadian National Railway. The railway is part of the key transportation infrastructure that supports the Ridley Island terminal complex. Ridley Terminals Inc. owns and operates the terminal and focuses on loading coal and other bulk commodities from unit trains onto ships. The terminal has an annual shipping capacity of 12 million tonnes, which can be expanded to 24 million tonnes. Also on Ridley Island is Prince Rupert Grain Ltd's terminal, which can ship in excess of seven million tonnes per year and has the highest throughput of any grain-cleaning elevator in Canada (City of Prince Rupert. 2007).

Commercial air transportation is accessed through the airport on Digby Island. The airport has a 1,829 metre long runway and is accompanied by an instrument landing system. In 2009, the Prince Rupert airport accommodated 58,076 passengers with regular commercial service to Vancouver, and private and charter service to the region. Sea planes operate from the Seal Cove seaplane base out of Prince Rupert, although some passengers arriving on Digby Island access seaplanes from the Digby Island docks. Both BC Ferries and Alaska State Ferries systems operate from Prince Rupert, providing service to communities throughout the coastal region.

***Economy and Labour Force*** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 6,950, with 1,685 or 24% of the labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. Fishing provides most of the employment opportunities in the goods-producing sector with the larger employers concentrated among seafood processing firms including the Canadian Fish Company, Ocean Fisheries Ltd., and J.S. McMillian (City of Prince Rupert. 2007). In 2006 the experienced labour force in commercial fishing was 470 and seafood processing was 410, making up 13% of the total labour force. Other key employers in the goods-producing sector were in construction which represented an experienced labour force of 295, logging with 125, and a further 30 in wood processing.

In 2006, the service sector made up 73% of the labour force. The remaining 3% of the experienced labour force was unclassified. Within the service sector, wholesale trade, retail services, accommodation, and food services made up 22% of the total labour force, with an experienced labour force of 1,550. This highlights the importance of Prince Rupert as a regional service commercial centre. Transportation and warehousing made up 12% of the experienced labour force with an experienced labour force of 810, over twice the percentage share typically seen at the provincial level. This highlights the role of the Port, rail, ferry, and air services in the community's employment base, with water transportation (experienced labour force of 180) and support services to water transportation (140) playing a key employment role.

The public service sector, which includes employment in education, health care, social assistance, and public administration, creates considerable employment wealth locally. In 2006, this sector had an experienced labour force of 1,560 or 22% of the total labour force residing in Prince Rupert (BC Stats. Nd). The larger employers in the public service sector include the City of Prince Rupert, Northern Health, School District 52, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canadian Coast Guard, and Northwest Community College (City of Prince Rupert. 2007).

### ***Oona River***

Oona River is a small unincorporated community located on the eastern site of Porcher Island along the Oona River estuary and is home to approximately 25 residents (Menzies, Mattson and Butler. 2003). The community is located just south of Prince Rupert and within close proximity to the First Nation community of Kitkatla located on neighbouring Dolphin Island. Oona River has a government dock, community centre, and a salmon hatchery resource centre. Fishing and forestry are the main employers and there are two sawmills in the community, Group Mills being the oldest working sawmill in British Columbia.

### ***Dodge Cove***

***Overview*** – Dodge Cove is a small unincorporated community located on Digby Island, and is a 5 kilometre ferry ride from Prince Rupert. In 2006, Dodge Cove had a population of 42, down from 65 in 2001 (BC Stats. Nd).

***Infrastructure*** – In 2006, the community had 34 private dwellings, of which 20 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. Digby Island is home to the airport that services Prince Rupert and has regular commercial service to Vancouver, and private and charter service to the region. There is a government wharf on the Island that is primarily used to move air passengers from Digby Island to downtown Prince Rupert.

***Economy and Labour Force*** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 30, with 33% of the labour force identified as being involved in the transportation and warehousing sector (BC Stats. Nd). The community is also home to a number of artisans and hand crafters who have formed the Dodge Cove Arts Guild. The community was once known for the Wahl Boatyard which built more than 1,100 fishing vessels in the community from World War I until 1981 when it closed (Dodge Cove Arts Guild. Nd).

### First Nation Communities

#### ***Gitga’at First Nation***

***Overview*** –Gitga’at First Nation’s main community, Hartley Bay, is located at the confluence of Greenville and Douglas Channels, approximately 145 kilometres southeast of Prince Rupert (Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation. Ndd). In 2010, Hartley Bay had a population of 175 (First Peoples’ Heritage, Language & Culture Council. 2010).

***Infrastructure*** – Hartley Bay is accessible by boat, float plane and ferry (Gitga’at Nation. 2004a). Daily scheduled float plane service to and from Prince Rupert is provided by North Pacific Seaplanes (North Pacific Seaplanes. 2012). Ferry service between Hartley Bay and Prince Rupert is provided twice a week by North Co-Corp, a cooperative owned by Gitga’at, Metlakatla and Gitxaala First Nations (Metlakatla First Nation. 2012d).

There are 49 private dwellings in Hartley Bay (Statistics Canada. 2007l). These dwellings and other buildings are linked by a network of boardwalks and there are no roads. Other infrastructure includes the Waaps Wahmoodmx Cultural Centre, the Gitga’at Band Office, a Nursing Station staffed by two full-time nurses, a Salmon Enhancement Hatchery, and Hartley Bay Fuels and Marina which sells marine gas and diesel and contains moorage for about 40 boats (Gitga’at Nation 2004b).

The Hartley Bay Elementary-Secondary School serves children in kindergarten through grade 12 and also provides adult education programs. Community recreation facilities include a playground, sports court, and the Harley Bay Memorial Centre which consists of a gymnasium, stage and kitchen (Gitga’at Nation. 2012b).

Electricity is provided through a diesel generator electricity system though plans are underway to construct a 948 kilowatt small storage, run-of-river hydroelectric facility that will reduce Hartley Bay’s dependency on diesel (Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation. 2012).

***Economy and Labour Force***– The Gitga’at Development Corporation was established in 2002 to undertake and coordinate economic development initiatives for Gitga’at First Nation. Key initiatives include establishment of Gitga’at Forestry, exploration and development of a shellfish aquaculture business, and development of a Tourism Sector Access Strategy (Gitga’at Nation. 2004c). This Strategy has led to the establishment of protocols with several Tourism Operators in the area, including King Pacific Lodge. Approximately 1/3 of the staff at King Pacific Lodge are Gitga’at, and the Lodge supports several Gitga’at owned businesses, including those that run guided tours in the Great Bear Rainforest (Coastal First Nations. 2008).

In 2006, the employment rate in Hartley Bay was 36.4% (Statistics Canada. 2007l). Employment came from a variety of sectors, including administration, public works and safety, social and health services, housing, treaty negotiations, education services, salmon enhancement, forestry, commercial fishing, tourism and ecological research (Gitga’at Nation. 2004c).

### ***Gitxaala First Nation***

***Overview*** -- Gitxaala’s main community, Lach Klan (Kitkatla), is located on Dolphin Island which is a small island on BC’s Northwest Coast. Dolphin Island is approximately 50 kilometres south of Prince Rupert, just south of Porcher Island. In 2011 Lach Klan had a registered population of 405 (Statistics Canada. 2012j).

***Infrastructure:*** There are 149 private dwellings in Lach Klan (Statistics Canada. 2012j). Ferry and float plane service to and from Prince Rupert are provided by North Co-Corp and Inland Air, respectively. There is a nursing station in Lach Klan where drug and alcohol counselling, walk-in services, and patient travel services are provided (HealthLink BC. Nda), and there is an ambulance centre for the First Responders program. Lach Klan school is an independent school for children in kindergarten through grade 12 (Gitxaala Nation. Nd), and there is an adult education centre next to the school. The community centre provides cultural programs for children and adults. The Gitxaala Community Hall houses a basketball court, stage, and kitchen, and is used for large public events. The Gitxaala Band Office and Economic Development buildings house the Nation’s government and administration.

***Economy and Labour Force:*** In 2006 the employment rate in Lach Klan was 16.7%, with the majority of employment coming from management, healthcare, and primary industry, including commercial fishing (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada 2012d).

### ***Lax Kw’alaams First Nation***



**Overview:** The main community of Lax Kw'alaams First Nation is Lax Kw'alaams (Port Simpson), located approximately 30 kilometres northwest of Prince Rupert (Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation. Nda). In 2011, the community of Lax Kw'alaams had a registered population of 678 (Statistics Canada. 2012k).

**Infrastructure:** Lax Kw'alaams is not accessible by road. It is accessible by ferry, float plane and by boat. Ferry service is provided by the Spirit of Lax Kw'alaams and scheduled float plane service is provided by Harbour Air (Lax Kw'alaams Band. Nda).

There are 311 private dwellings in Lax Kw'alaams (Statistics Canada. 2012k). Services for residents include the Lax Kw'alaams Leisure Centre and a Health Centre with a Community Health Nurse, Diabetes Clinic, Mental Health Worker, National Native Drug and Alcohol Abuse Program and patient travel services (HealthLink BC, Ndc). Kindergarten through grade 10 are taught at the independently run Coast Tsimshian Academy (Ministry of Education. Nd).

**Economy and Labour Force:** Lax Kw'alaams owns Lax Kw'alaams Fishery, which produces canned fish and frozen seafood in Lax Kw'alaams and has been operational since 2005. Products are sold to overseas customers in China and the United States under several brands (Lax Kw'alaams Band. 2009a).

Lax Kw'alaams also owns Coast Tsimshian Resources LP, a forestry company that owns three forest tenures in the Terrace area with a combined Annual Allowable Cut of 550,000 m<sup>3</sup> (Lax Kw'alaams Band. 2009b). Employment Statistics for Lax Kw'alaams are not available from Statistics Canada.

### **Metlakatla First Nation**

**Overview:** The community of Metlakatla (S1/2 Tsimpsean 2) is located on the Tsimshian Peninsula, approximately five kilometres west of Prince Rupert. Between 2006 and 2011 the registered population at Metlakatla dropped by 29.7%, from 118 to 83 (Statistics Canada. 2012l).

**Infrastructure:** There are 48 private dwellings in Metlakatla (Statistics Canada. 2012l). Although Metlakatla is on the mainland, it is only accessible by boat. Scheduled ferry service to and from Prince Rupert is provided by Metlakatla Ferry Service and North Co-Corp. North Co-Corp also provides ferry service between Metlakatla and Hartley Bay, Oona River and Kitkatla (Metlakatla First Nation. 2012a).

Metlakatla has a Community Hall with a large gymnasium and industrial kitchen designed for large gatherings (Bedell. 2009). Residents travel to Prince Rupert to access



most health and education services, though Metlakatla receives funding for on-reserve programs such as Aboriginal Head Start, Canada Prenatal Nutrition, Brighter Futures, Communicable Disease and Injury Prevention, Drinking Water Safety, a Community Health Nurse and Community Health Representative (Metlakatla First Nation. 2010).

***Economy and Labour Force:*** Metlakatla Development Corporation is the independent business arm of the Metlakatla Governing Council and provides employment opportunities for Band members. It was established in 1989 and is responsible for overseeing the community's economic initiatives (Metlakatla First Nation. 2012b).

Metlakatla Development Corporation owns and operates Metlakatla Ferry Services Ltd., North Co-Corp Ferry Services Ltd., the First Nations Training and Development Centre, Grassy Bay Services Ltd., Metlakatla Forestry Corporation, Seashore Charters Ltd., and Northland Marine Sales and Service Ltd. (Metlakatla First Nation. 2012c).

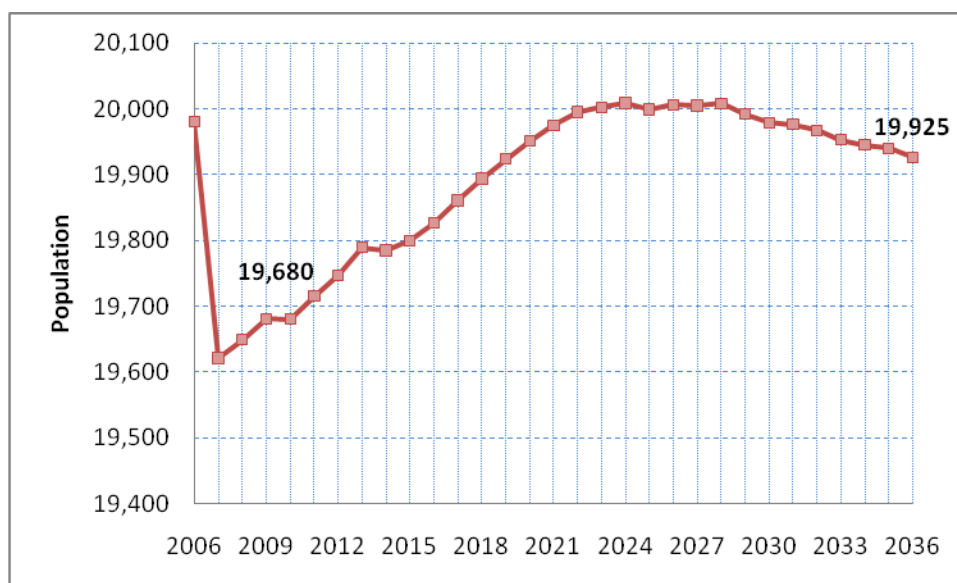
In 2006 the employment rate in Metlakatla was 35%, with a relatively even split of employment coming from the trades, management, natural science, government, and primary industry, including commercial fishing (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2012e).

### 1.2.5 Trends

The population in the Regional District has been slowly declining over the past two decades, with a number of transitions in key economic sectors driving the population decline. In 2001, the Skeena Cellulose pulp mill in Port Edward closed, resulting in 300 jobs being lost. On Haida Gwaii, the significant downsizing in 1997 of CFB Masset resulted in the loss of an important employer. These serve as only two noticeable examples of the decline in key employment sectors over the years. In 1981 the paper manufacturing labour force was 830 and by 2006 it had declined to zero. In 1981, the seafood processing labour force included over 1,900 people, by 2006 it had been reduced to 605. Even areas of traditional growth in the province have declined as is the case of public administration which had a labour force of 1,220 in 1981, compared to a 2006 labour force of 920.

As shown in Figure 6, after an extended period of negative impacts in the regional economy, it appears that the population within the Regional District may be stabilizing and be in a position to begin small, but positive growth moving forward. There are numerous wind power projects proposed for the area, which will create construction jobs and some new local employment in the new and emerging renewable energy sector.

**Figure 6**      **Population Forecast for the SQCRD, 2006 to 2036**



Source: BC Stats (2009d)

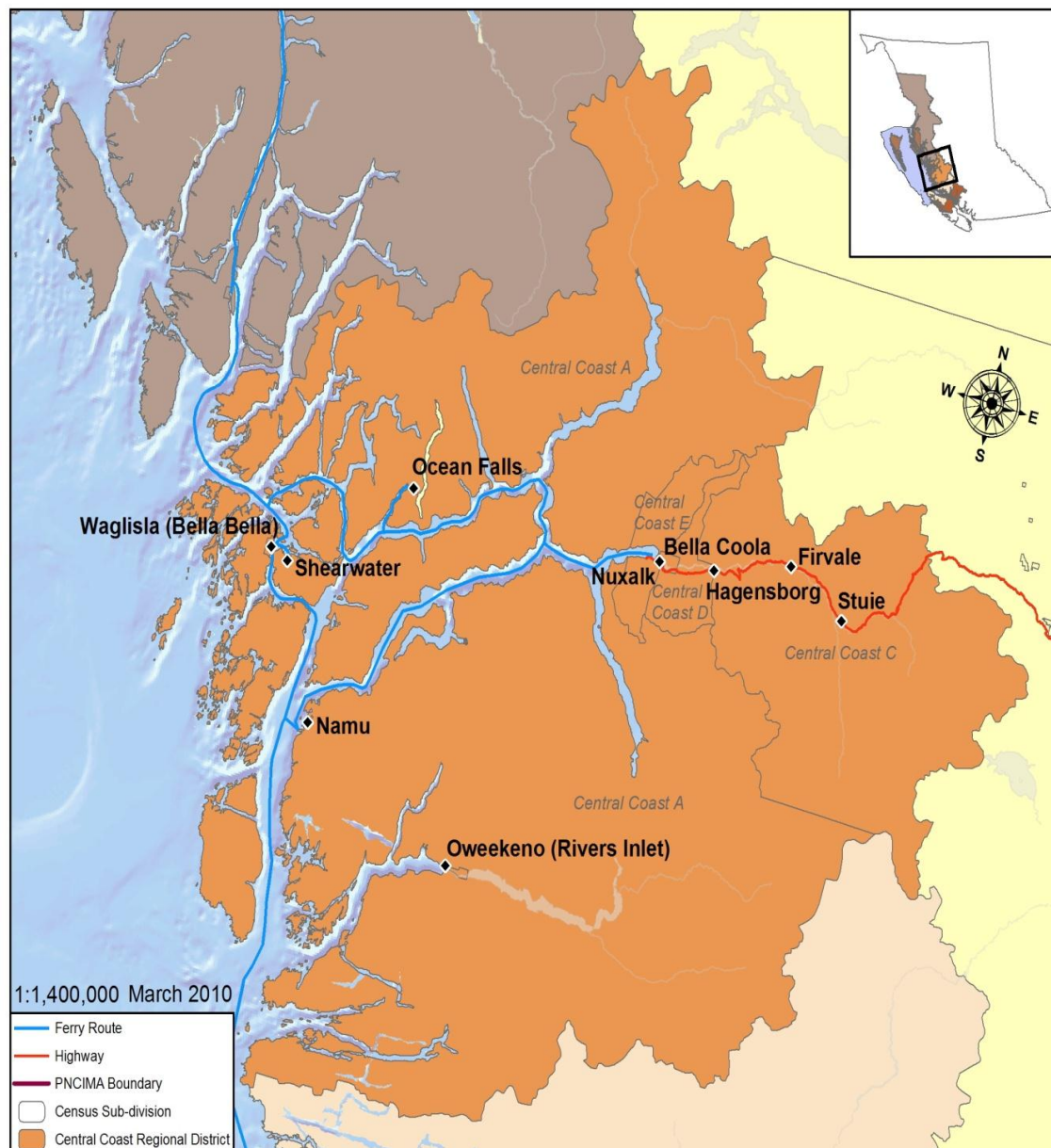
## 1.3 Central Coast Regional District and Community Profiles

### 1.3.1 Overview of Regional District

The Central Coast Regional District (CCRD) is situated entirely on the British Columbia mainland and islands in close proximity to the mainland. The CCRD is characterized by small unincorporated communities and First Nation communities in a rural setting.

The entire CCRD is within PNCIMA. Map 3 shows the communities and area of the Regional District.

**Map 3 Central Coast Regional District, 2009**



### 1.3.2 Socio-Economic

#### Population Change

Table 15 summarizes the 2001, 2006 and 2011 populations of communities in the Central Coast Regional District. Overall, the population decreased by 15.25% between 2001 and 2011.

**Table 15 Central Coast RD Population by Community: 2001, 2006 and 2011**

	Population			Change 2001-2011	
	2001	2006	2011	Number	%
<b>Unincorporated Community</b>					
Bella Coola Townsite	165	135	95	-70	-42.42%
Hagensborg, Firvale, Stuie <sup>10</sup>	1,215	975	972	-243	-20.00%
Ocean Falls, Shearwater <sup>11</sup>	143	138	129	-14	-9.79%
<b>First Nation Communities</b>					
Q'umk'uts' (Nuxalk)	910	790	852	-58	-6.37%
Walisle/ Bella Bella (Heiltsuk)	1,255	1,065	1,095	-160	-12.75%
Oweekeno (Wuikinuxv)	95	85	63	-32	-33.68%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,783</b>	<b>3,188</b>	<b>3,206</b>	<b>-577</b>	<b>-15.25%</b>

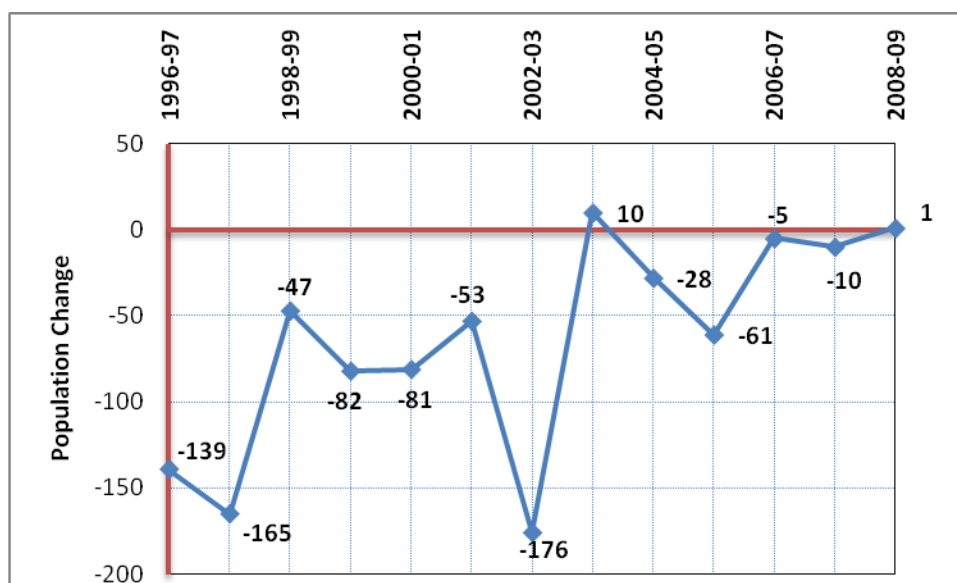
Source: Statistics Canada (2006b); INAC (2010); and BC Stats (2011).

#### Population Migration

Figure 7 shows that in recent years there has been a steady out-migration of population from the CCRD. The outflow of residents has been the major driver of the population decline highlighted in the table above. It appears that the outflow of residents may be subsiding as the out-migration has been near zero the past two years.

<sup>10</sup> Central Coast Regional District Electoral Areas D and C used to represent Hagensborg, Firvale and Stuie

<sup>11</sup> Central Coast Regional District Electoral Area A used to represent Ocean Falls and Shearwater

**Figure 7 Central Coast RD Population Migration, 1996 to 2009**

BC Stats (2009b)

### Age Characteristics

Table 16 highlights the age characteristics for the CCRD population and compares this to the BC average. Overall, the CCRD has a younger population with a larger percentage of residents under 19 years of age and a smaller percentage over 65 years of age. The median age in the CCRD is 37.5 years, while for BC it is 40.8 years.

**Table 16 Central Coast RD and BC Age Characteristics, 2006**

Age Class	Central Coast RD		BC
Age 0 to 19	915	28.7%	23.2%
Age 20 to 44	1,040	32.6%	33.8%
Age 45 to 64	910	28.5%	28.4%
Age 65+	325	10.2%	14.6%
Total	3,190	100.0%	100.0%
Median Age	37.5 years		40.8 years

Source: Statistics Canada (2006b)

### Education Characteristics

Table 17 outlines the educational attainment for the CCRD and compares this to the BC averages. Overall, a larger percentage of CCRD residents between 25 and 64 do not have

grade 12, and a smaller percentage have university degrees when compared to BC average.

**Table 17 Central Coast RD Education Attainment for Ages 25 to 64 years, 2006**

By Highest Education Level Attained	Central Coast RD		BC
No certificate; diploma or degree	585	33.6%	17.1%
High school certificate or equivalent	490	27.9%	28.8%
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	180	10.3%	10.4%
College; CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	230	13.3%	17.4%
University certificate or diploma below the bachelor level	55	3.2%	5.5%
University certificate, diploma or degree	205	11.7%	20.8%
Total	1,745	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Statistics Canada (2006b)

### Incomes

As illustrated in Table 18, median incomes for both men and women in the CCRD are noticeably lower than the provincial levels. Overall, the median income for men in the CCRD is only 40% of that of the provincial level, and the median income for women is only 48% of their provincial counterparts.

**Table 18 Median Income for Males and Females in CCRD and BC, 2000 to 2007**

Year	Central Coast		BC	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
2007	\$14,595	\$11,115	\$36,350	\$23,005
2006	\$13,390	\$9,805	\$34,585	\$21,030
2005	\$10,780	\$10,115	\$32,430	\$19,980
2004	\$11,380	\$9,295	\$30,995	\$18,845
2003	\$12,905	\$9,495	\$29,990	\$18,195
2002	\$12,440	\$9,470	\$29,480	\$17,850
2001	\$14,480	\$10,055	\$29,395	\$17,765
2000	\$12,315	\$9,195	\$28,880	\$17,315
% Change (2000- 2007)	+18.5%	+20.9%	+25.9%	+32.9%

Source: BC Stats. Neighbourhood Income and Demographics (2002-2009d).

## 1.3.3 Economic Base Analysis

### Labour Force

The experienced labour force for the CCRD is outlined in Table 19. As illustrated, fishing is the largest goods-producing sector in the CCRD economy and is much larger than is generally observed at the provincial level. In addition, within the manufacturing

sector, the seafood processing sector is the largest locally, followed by ship and boat building. This again is unusual in the provincial context and further reflects the CCRD's connection to ocean-related activities.

In the services sector, educational services and public administration are the larger employers and both have employment shares that are much higher than typically seen in the province. Health care, social services, and accommodation are also important industries but are more in line with shares observed at the provincial level.

**Table 19 Central Coast RD Experienced Labour Force by Industry, 2006**

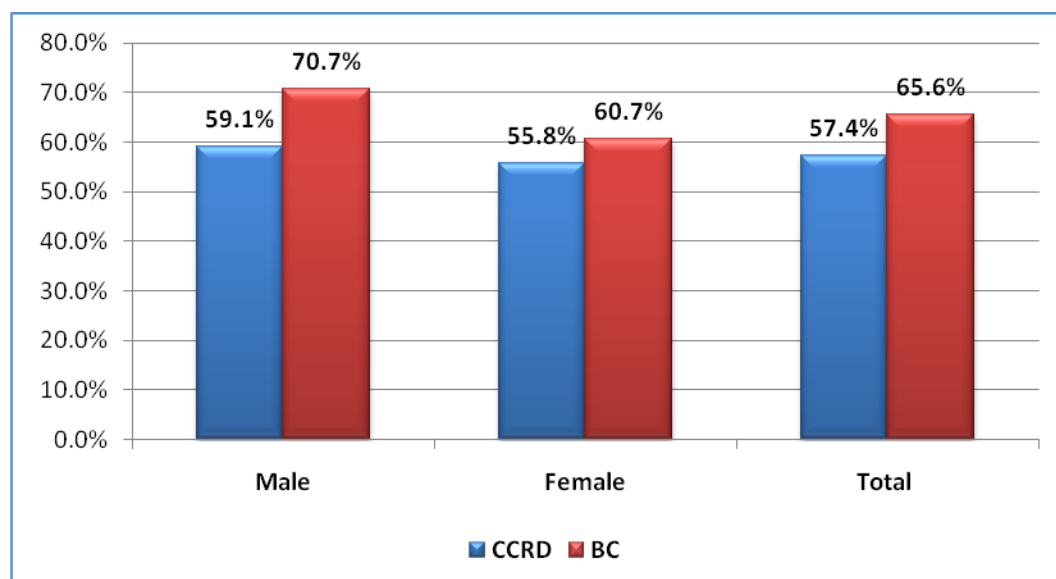
Experienced Labour Force By Industry	2006	% Distribution 2006	
	Central Coast	Central Coast	BC
Agriculture	40	2.8%	1.7%
Logging & Forestry	35	2.4%	1.0%
Fishing, hunting and trapping	105	7.3%	0.1%
Supporting serv. agric. & forestry	10	0.7%	0.3%
Mining/Oil and gas	0	0	0.9%
Utilities	10	0.7%	0.5%
Construction	70	4.9%	7.5%
Manufacturing (incl. wood & seafood man.)	55	3.8%	8.5%
• Seafood Products prep. and packaging	30	2.1%	0.2%
• Wood products manufacturing	10	0.7%	1.7%
• Ship and boat building	10	0.7%	0.2%
<b>Total Goods Producing</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>22.6%</b>	<b>20.5%</b>
Wholesale	10	0.7%	4.1%
Retail	135	9.3%	11.2%
Transportation & Warehousing	35	2.4%	5.2%
• Water Transportation	0	0%	0.3%
Info & cultural industries	25	1.7%	2.6%
Finance & Insurance	10	0.7%	3.8%
Real Estate & Rental/Leasing	10	0.7%	2.3%
Prof., Scientific & Technical Serv.	20	1.4%	7.3%
Admin & Support, Waste Manag. & Mang. companies	65	4.5%	4.5%
Education Services	195	13.5%	6.9%
Health care & social assistance	155	10.8%	9.6%
Arts, entertainment & recreation	10	0.7%	2.3%
Accommodation	120	8.4%	8.1%
Other Services	40	2.8%	4.9%
Public Administration	245	16.7%	5.0%
<b>Total Services Sector</b>	<b>1,065</b>	<b>74.3%</b>	<b>77.8%</b>
Unclassified	45	3.1%	1.7%
<b>Total Labour Force</b>	<b>1,435</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Statistics Canada (2006a). Note: Manufacturing number includes seafood processing, ship building and wood processing which is a subgroup of manufacturing.



As shown in Figure 8, the labour force participation rate in the CCRD is significantly lower for men and somewhat lower for women when compared to the provincial level.

**Figure 8 Central Coast RD and BC Labour Force Participation Rates<sup>12</sup>, 2006**



Source: Statistics Canada (2006b)

### Economic Dependencies

Table 20 highlights the income dependency of various basic sectors in the Central Coast Local Area. Basic sectors are those activities that result in income flowing into the area from the outside world. Basic sectors are generally viewed as those sectors that drive the local economy, creating the community wealth. For the Central Coast area in 2006, public sector and transfer payments represent 67% of this income. This has changed dramatically since 1996 when forestry was a much stronger contributor.

**Table 20 Central Coast Local Area Income Dependencies, 1996, 2001 and 2006<sup>13</sup>**

	FOR	MIN	F & T	AGF	TOU	PUB	CONST	OTHER	Trans <sup>1</sup>	ONEI <sup>2</sup>
2006	4	0	8	1	7	50	3	2	17	8
2001	13	0	7	1	6	40	5	1	22	5
1996	26	0	8	1	10	37	5	1	8	4

Source: BC Stats (2009c, 2004, 1999)

<sup>12</sup> Labour force 2006 participation rate is the ratio of the labour force (employed and unemployed) as a percent of the non-institutional population. % full-time, full-year is a percent of the labour force.

<sup>13</sup> Central Coast Local Area consists of Central Coast RD Electoral Areas A, C, D, and E, Bella Bella IR 1, Bella Coola IR 1, and Katit IR 1.

## Notes:

1. Transfer Payments (Trans) includes income from senior governments including: welfare payments, OAS, CPP, employment insurance, federal child tax credit, guaranteed income supplements and others.
2. Other Non-Employment Income (ONEI) includes investment income, such as dividends and interest, retirement pensions, superannuation, annuities, alimony, etc.

It is generally thought that communities with a diversified economic base will be more stable during challenging economic times. To address this issue and quantify it in the BC context, BC Stats produces the diversity index for each of its local areas. At the extremes, a value of zero would indicate that the community was entirely dependent on one sector, while at the other extreme the diversity index would be 100 if a local area were equally dependent on each of the defined sectors. Table 21 highlights the diversity index for the Central Coast Local Area and compares it to the mean value for all local areas in BC. (BC Stats. 2009)

**Table 21 Central Coast Diversity Index, 1996, 2001, 2006**

	1996	2001	2006
Central Coast	60	60	52
Mean Values in BC	67	67	69

Source: BC Stats (2009c, 2004, 1999)

Overall, the diversity index has been declining in the Central Coast in recent years, and in 2006 the value of 52 made it one of the least diversified local areas in BC.

### 1.3.4 Community Summary

#### Inner Central Coast (Bella Coola Valley)

The five communities of the Bella Coola Valley are situated along the Bella Coola River and Highway 20, extending from North Bentick Arm to Tweedsmuir Park at the east end of the valley, over a distance of approximately 80 kilometres.

#### ***Bella Coola Townsite***

**Overview** – The unincorporated community of Bella Coola is located at the east end of the North Bentick Arm, at the mouth of the Bella Coola River, and is the western terminus of Highway 20. In 2006 the community of Bella Coola had approximately 135 residents. Overall, the population has been trending downwards in recent years. In 2001, the population was 167 and in 1996 the population was 205 (BC Stats. Nd).

**Infrastructure** – Bella Coola is the location of a BC Ferries wharf that can handle pocket cruise ships and is serviced several times per week by BC Ferries between June and September as part of Ferry Route 40. The ferry has become an important source of tourists arriving in the Valley during the summer months (Chisholm and Associates.

2009). Bella Coola Harbour has large and small concrete wharves that can accommodate upwards of 200 vessels.

Food and most other supplies to the Bella Coola Valley arrive via Highway 20. The Bella Coola townsite has a post-office, Service BC Centre, RCMP station, grocery store and retail stores. The area is a popular recreational fishing area and benefits from goods and services that visitors purchase. Bella Coola has a General Hospital with 15 beds, two extended care and three long term care units. The hospital is staffed by two full-time and two part-time doctors (Central Coast Area Technical Team. 2007).

***Economy and Labour Force*** –Bella Coola was once heavily dependent on forestry and fishery industries, but this is no longer the case. In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 85, with the majority of labour associated with the service sectors. The main employers in the community include retail trades, accommodation and food services, and public administration (BC Stats. Nd). In addition, arts, entertainment and recreation now create employment in the community.

### ***Hagensborg, Firvale and Stuie***

***Overview*** – Hagensborg, Firvale and Stuie are located along Highway 20 in the Bella Coola Valley. Hagensborg is situated 19 kilometres east of the townsite of Bella Coola at the junction of the Salloomt River and the Bella Coola River. The community of Firvale is located further east, just outside of Tweedsmuir Park on the Atnarko River and Stuie is located just inside the Park. The population of Hagensborg, Firvale, and Stuie was approximately 980 in 2006, down from 1,215 in 2001 and 1,320 in 1996 (BC Stats. Nd).

***Infrastructure*** – In 2006, the community had 503 private dwellings of which 430 were occupied by local residents as their main residents. Regular commercial air service between the Bella Coola Valley, Vancouver and Anahim is available through the Bella Coola Airport, located 4 kilometres outside of Hagensborg. Several small airlines use the airport including Eagle Air Service Inc., which is owned by the Heiltsuk Nation, and Bella Coola Air (Central Coast Area Technical Team. 2007).

***Economy and Labour Force*** – In 2006, Hagensborg, Firvale and Stuie had an experienced labour force of 525 with 100 or 19% of the labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. Within the goods-producing sector forestry, fisheries and agriculture make up a labour force of 65 with the construction sector representing an experienced labour force of 35.

The service sector made up the remaining 81% or 425 participants in the labour force in 2006. The wholesale, trade, retail services and accommodation and food services sector made up 17% of the total service sector labour force with an experienced labour force of 90 people. The public sector, including education, health care, social assistance, and

public administration, made up the largest share (36%) of the service sector with an experienced labour force with 190 or 36% (BC Stats. Nd).

### Outer Central Coast

#### ***Ocean Falls***

**Overview** – The community of Ocean Falls is located at the head of Cousins Inlet and is 18 kilometres from Link Lake. Ocean Falls has an estimated core population of approximately 35 to 60 full time residents. Some of these residents are former pulp mill workers from the Crown Zellerbach operation that closed in 1980, while others are new residents looking for an alternative life style. In summer months the population increases to approximately 150 (CCRD 2009).

**Infrastructure** – The community has a deep sea port and is accessible by float plane, boat or ferry. BC Ferries' Discovery Coast Passage Route 40 provides passenger and vehicular passenger access to and from Port Hardy and Prince Rupert (Central Coast Regional District. 2012). Services include a post office, laundromat, coin showers, general store, café and pub.

**Economy and Labour Force** –. The tourism sector is a significant source of employment, with job opportunities arising from accommodations, boat rentals, fishing lodges, and the local artisan gift shop. The Ocean Falls Power Company provides power to Ocean Falls, Denny Island and Bella Bella, and creates additional local employment (CCRD 2009).

#### ***Shearwater***

**Overview** – Shearwater is located on Denny Island approximately 185 kilometres north of Port Hardy on Vancouver Island and approximately 160 kilometres west of Bella Coola. It lies within close proximity to Bella Bella which is 3.5 kilometres away on neighbouring Campbell Island. There are approximately 70 year-round residents in Shearwater (CCRD 2009).

**Infrastructure** – Shearwater was a Canadian Air Force reconnaissance base during World War II. Transportation to Shearwater is by boat and airplane. The community has a BC Ferries terminal and is serviced by BC Ferries' Routes 40 and 10. In addition, there is a 915 metre paved airstrip on Denny Island and a protected float base that is used by private and charter aircraft. The Shearwater Marine Group also operates two water taxis from the community.

Shearwater functions as a full service marine hub on the Central Coast and has 460 metres of concrete floats which are fully booked in July and August (Chisholm Consulting 2009).

***Economy and Labour Force*** – Business services on Denny Island include a grocery store, liquor store, post office, laundromat, public showers, cappuccino bar and art gallery/gift shop, hair salon, marina, shipyard, marine/hardware store, fuel dock, restaurant, pub, campground and RV park, rental cabins, bed and breakfasts, and a resort and hotel. For marine repair there is a 70-ton travel lift, a 100-ton haul-out and a facility for all marine repairs (CCRD 2009). In addition, a Canadian Coast Guard station and Fisheries Management office employ approximately 8 staff. Overall, during the summer months, Shearwater has employment for approximately 65 workers (Chisholm Consulting 2009).

### First Nation Communities:

#### ***Heiltsuk First Nation***

***Overview*** – The Heiltsuk First Nation community of Waglisla (Bella Bella) is located on Campbell Island on the Seaforth Channel and is approximately 180 kilometres north of Port Hardy and 145 kilometres west of Bella Coola. The population in the community was 1,066 in 2006, down 15% from the 2001 population of 1,255 (Statistics Canada 2006).

***Infrastructure*** – The community is strategically located on the Inside Passage, making it a major transportation hub for the Central Coast region. The community has four docks including the BC Ferries dock at McLoughlin Bay that is serviced by Ferry Routes 10 and 40, and an airstrip with a 1,065 metre runway and terminal that has regularly scheduled flight service (Chisholm Consulting 2009). The community is serviced by a regional hospital, RCMP detachment, post office, Canadian Coast Guard Search and Rescue facility, three schools (college, elementary, secondary), and a day care.

***Economy and Labour Force*** – Businesses in the community include a grocery store, fuel station, fish plant, a forestry company, a freight company, a number of Bed and Breakfast accommodations, restaurants and small shops (CCRD 2009). In 2006, a sizeable portion of the local labour force was involved in forestry and fisheries, making this the largest economic activity in the community.

In 2004, the Heiltsuk established a joint venture to manage a Forest and Range agreement with Haisla, Wuikinuxv, and Kitasoo/Xai'xais Nations. In the fishery sector, there is seasonal employment in the salmon, herring, spawn-on-kelp, and clam fisheries. Band members are also becoming involved in specialized dive fisheries such as the sea cucumber and urchin fisheries. The Heiltsuk own and operate Bella Bella Fisheries Ltd, which is a fish processing facility and the largest employer in the community (Central Coast Area Technical Team July 2007). Collectively, forestry and fishing, public

administration, and education sectors made up almost 65% of the total labour force opportunities in the community in 2006.

### ***Nuxalk First Nation***

**Overview** – The Nuxalk First Nation community of Q’umk’uts’ lies in close proximity to the unincorporated community of Bella Coola and is 16 kilometres east of Hagensborg (Nuxalk Nation. 2008). The population in the community was approximately 790 in 2006, down from the 2001 population of 910 (Statistics Canada 2006b).

**Infrastructure** – The community has a Band Administration office, a Health Care Centre and the Nuxalk Education Society runs a private grade school, Acwsalcta First Nation School (kindergarten to grade 12) at the four-mile subdivision (Central Coast Area Technical Team. 2007). The Nuxalk Education Society also runs Nuxalk College and provides a range of advanced adult education and business training opportunities.

**Economy and Labour Force** – The public sector, including health services, educational services and public administration, is an important employment source for the community with the Band Administration office, Health Centre and a school all located at Q’umk’uts’. The resource sectors have historically been important employment sources, with the fisheries sector still an important activity within the community. The Nuxalk Nation has a community forest license with a 20,000 m<sup>3</sup> allowable annual cut.

In addition, in 2007 the Nuxalk established a Forest and Range agreement that established access to 311,000 m<sup>3</sup> and paid \$662,129 over a five year period (BC Ministry of Forests 2007). The Nuxalk commercial fishing fleet has been drastically reduced in recent years (Central Coast Area Technical Team. 2007). There are several Nuxalk businesses in the Bella Coola Valley including convenience stores, art galleries, gas stations and clothing outlets (Nuxalk Nation. 2008).

### ***Wuikinuxv First Nation***

**Overview** – The Wuikinuxv community of Oweekeno is located at the headwaters of Rivers Inlet and is on the banks of the Wannock River at the entrance to Owikeno Lake. The community had a registered population of 85 in 2006, down from the 2001 population of 95 (Statistics Canada 2006).

**Infrastructure** – Oweekeno is accessible by air and water, and maintains an airstrip that is serviced by scheduled flights from Port Hardy. In addition, there is a helicopter landing used for emergency evacuations. A barge from the Lower Mainland or Campbell River provides supplies to the community. The community has a government dock and the Wuikinuxv First Nation have recently constructed their own dock (Chisholm Consulting 2009). Infrastructure in the community also includes the Band Administration office, a health centre, kindergarten to grade 7 school, and a fire hall. The

community has recently constructed a ceremonial big house that is used for cultural and meeting purposes for special functions.

***Economy and Labour Force*** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of approximately 45, with the goods-producing sector making up approximately half the total labour force. The key economic activities of the Wuikinuxv First Nation include logging, salmon enhancement, commercial fishing and roe-on-kelp, and management of a tree farm licence focused on harvesting, silviculture, and watershed restoration (CCRD 2009). The service sector, with employment in retail trade and public administration, made up the remaining 50% of the labour force in 2006.

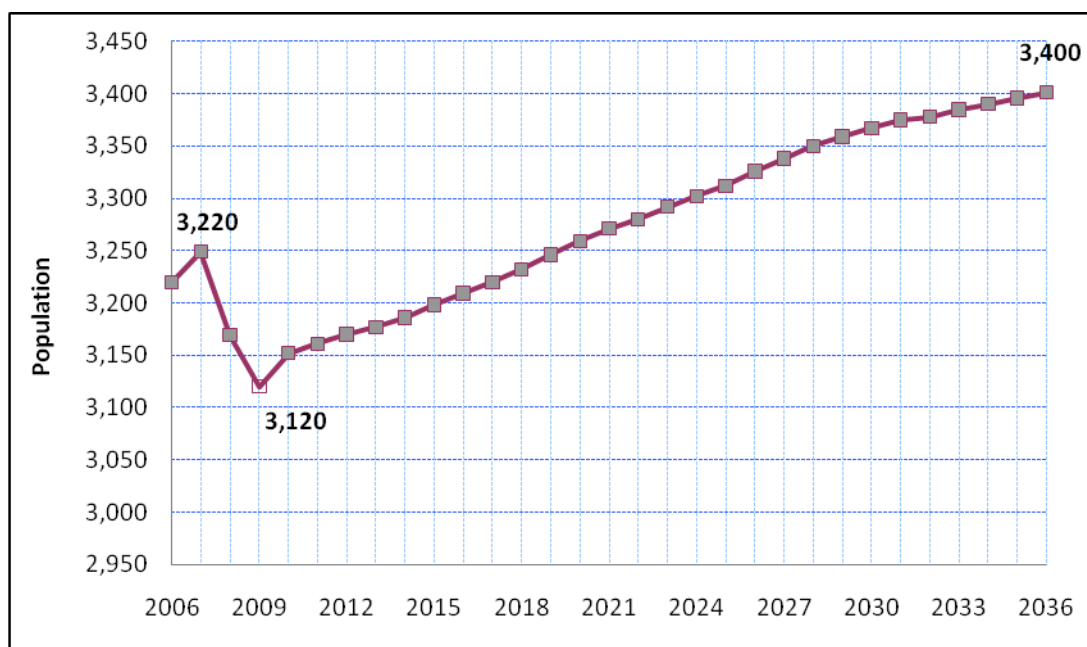
### 1.3.5 Trends

Since the mid-1990s the communities in the Central Coast Regional District have experienced a continual decline in employment, primarily driven by considerable decreases in employment in the forest sector over this period. This has resulted in a steady outflow of population from the region since 1996. This out-migration appears to be continuing as the 2009 population represents the lowest population levels for the regional district since 1982. This is not the first significant economic impact for the Central Coast Regional District, as the 1980 closure of the Crown Zellerbach pulpmill in Ocean Falls resulted in an outflow of a large portion of the region's population between 1981 and 1983.

However, it appears that the current downward cycle may be coming to an end. As illustrated in Table 15 the population in the Central Coast is anticipated to recover from a low point in 2009 of 3,120 to approximately 3,400 by 2036. This represents a growth of only 280 residents, or a growth rate of approximately 0.3% per annum over the next 28 year period. Conversely, at the provincial level the growth is forecast to increase at a rate of approximately 1.3% per annum over the same period.

While BC Stats has estimated modest growth for the region, it should be cautioned that the Central Coast Regional District has a very small population and any single negative or positive economic event could significantly alter the forecasts for this region.

**Figure 9 Central Coast RD Population Forecast, 2006 to 2036**



Source: BC Stats (2009d)

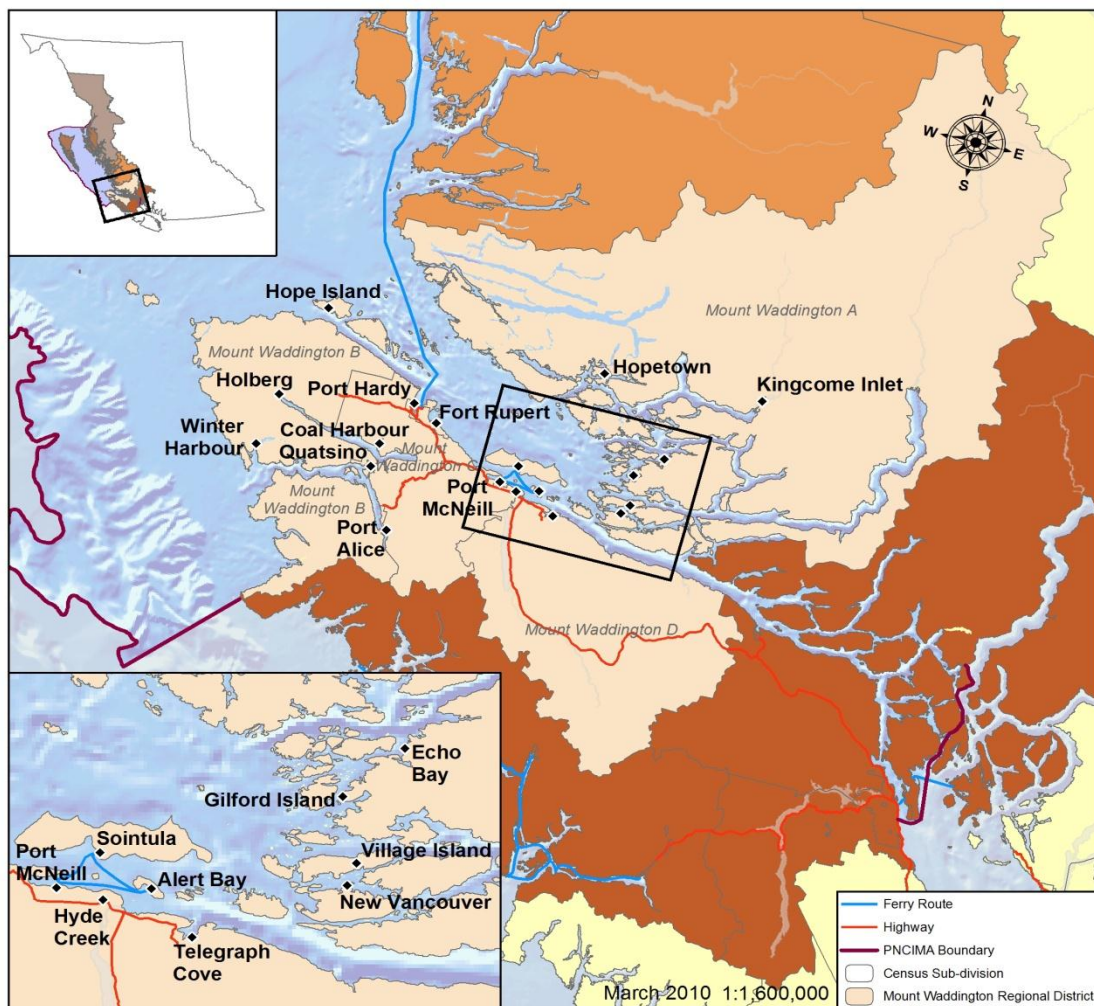


## 1.4 Mount Waddington Regional District and Community Profiles

### 1.4.1 Overview of Regional District

The Mount Waddington Regional District (MWRD) makes up the northern portion of Vancouver Island and the mainland portion of British Columbia, extending south from the CCRD to just south of Knight Inlet. The entire MWRD is within PNCIMA. Map 4 shows the communities and area of the Regional District.

**Map 4 Mount Waddington Regional District, 2009**



## 1.4.2 Socio-Economic

### Population Characteristics

Table 22 summarizes the 2001, 2006 and 2011 populations of communities in the Mount Waddington Regional District.. Overall, the population in the Mount Waddington Regional District decreased by 17.9% between 2001 and 2011.

**Table 22 Mount Waddington RD Population by Community: 2001, 2006 and 2011**

	Population			Change 2001-2011	
	2001	2006	2011	Number	%
<b>Incorporated Communities</b>					
Village of Alert Bay	585	475	445	-140	-23.93%
Village of Port Alice	1,560	830	805	-755	-48.40%
District Municipality of Port Hardy	4,810	3,975	4,008	-802	-16.67%
Town of Port McNeill	2,905	2,680	2,505	-400	-13.77%
<b>First Nation Communities</b>					
Tsatsisnukwomi/ New Vancouver (Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala)	0	0	10	10	1000%
Gway'yi/ Kingcome Village (Dzawada'enuxw)	95	148	91	-4	-4.21%
Tsulquate (Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw)	387	432	491	104	26.87%
Fort Rupert <sup>14</sup> (Kwakiutl)	305	276	257	-48	-15.74%
Gwa-yas-dums (Kwik'wastutinuxw Haxwamis)	35	40	38	3	8.57%
Alert Bay <sup>15</sup> (Namgis)	692	n/a	579	-113	-16.33%
Quatsino Reserve (Quatsino)	198	234	214	16	8.08%
Bull Harbour (Tlatlasikwala)	5	5	15	10	200.00%
<b>Unincorporated Communities</b>					
Coal Harbour	215	176	180	-35	-16.28%
Hyde Creek	515	474	524	9	1.75%
Sointula	645	595	576	-69	-10.70%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,952</b>	<b>10,340</b>	<b>10,738</b>	<b>-2,214</b>	<b>-17.09%</b>

Source: Statistics Canada (2006b); and BC Stats (2011)

### Population Migration

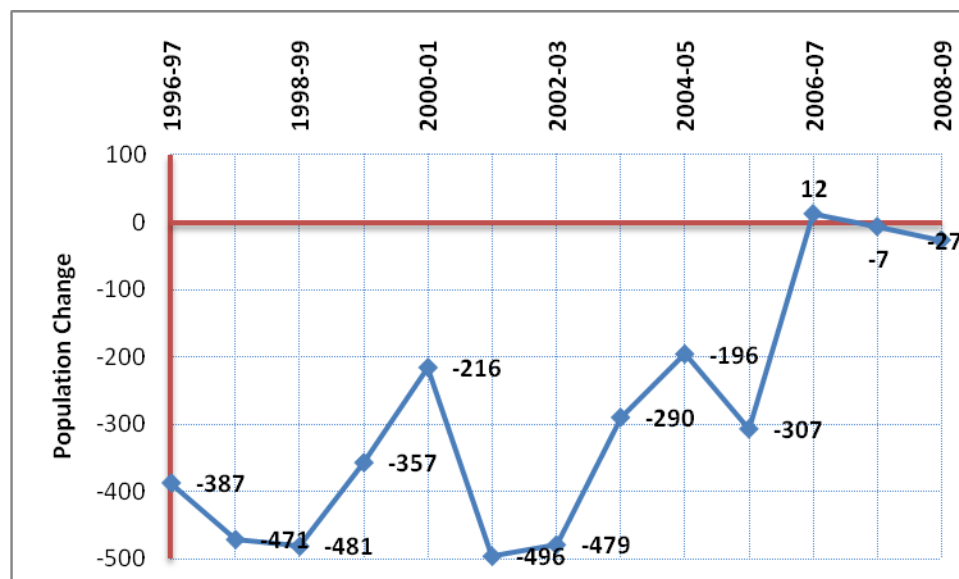
In Figure 10 it is highlighted that over the past twelve years there has been a steady out-migration of population from the MWRD. 2006-07 was the only year in which more new residents arrived than left the regional district. However, it appears that the outflow of

<sup>14</sup> Includes Census data from Fort Rupert 1 and Kippase 2

<sup>15</sup> Includes Census data from Alert Bay 1 and Alert Bay 1A

residents may be subsiding, as the out-migration hovered near zero between 2006 and 2009 (BC Stats. 2009b).

**Figure 10 Mount Waddington RD Population Migration, 1996 to 2009**



BC Stats (2009b)

### Age Characteristics

Table 23 highlights the age characteristics for the Mount Waddington population and compares this to the BC average. Overall, Mount Waddington has a younger population with a larger percentage of residents under 19 years of age and a smaller percentage over 65 years of age. The median age in the Mount Waddington Regional District is 40.0 years, while for BC it is 40.8 years.

**Table 23 Mount Waddington and BC Age Characteristics, 2006**

Age Class	Mount Waddington RD		BC
Age 0 to 19	3,245	27.9%	23.2%
Age 20 to 44	3,590	30.8%	33.8%
Age 45 to 64	3,815	32.7%	28.4%
Age 65+	1,000	8.6%	14.6%
Total	11,650	100.0%	100.0%
Median Age	40.0 years		40.8 years

Source: Statistics Canada (2006b)

## Education Characteristics

Table 24 outlines the educational attainment for the MWRD and compares this to the BC averages. Overall, a larger percentage of MWRD residents between 25 and 64 do not have grade 12, and a small percentage have university degrees when compared to the BC average.

**Table 24 Mount Waddington RD Education Attainment for Age 25 to 64, 2006**

Highest Level of Educational Attainment	Mount Waddington RD		BC
No certificate; diploma or degree	2,650	31.9%	12.4%
High school certificate or equivalent	2,150	25.9%	25.8%
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	1,055	12.7%	12.0%
College; CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	1,450	17.5%	19.6%
University certificate or diploma below the bachelor level	220	2.7%	6.1%
University certificate, diploma or degree	775	9.3%	24.1%
Total	8,300	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Statistics Canada (2006b)

## Incomes

As illustrated in Table 25, median incomes for men in the MWRD in 2007 were slightly higher than the median income for men at the provincial level. However, the median income for men in the MWRD has not changed over the past seven years, while median male income in BC has risen by almost 26%. Median income for women in the MWRD is below the provincial median income level, but has been tracking increases at a similar level as those observed provincially.

**Table 25 Median Income for Male and Females in MWRD and BC, 2000 to 2007**

Year	Mount Waddington RD		BC	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
2007	\$37,205	\$19,170	\$36,350	\$23,005
2006	\$35,060	\$17,790	\$34,585	\$21,030
2005	\$32,070	\$16,585	\$32,430	\$19,980
2004	\$36,085	\$15,905	\$30,995	\$18,845
2003	\$35,950	\$16,270	\$29,990	\$18,195
2002	\$36,345	\$15,280	\$29,480	\$17,850
2001	\$36,400	\$15,940	\$29,395	\$17,765
2000	\$37,405	\$14,815	\$28,880	\$17,315
% Change (2000- 2007)	-0.5%	+29.4	+25.9%	+32.9%

Source: BC Stats. Neighbourhood Income and Demographics (2002-2009d)

### 1.4.3 Economic Base Analysis

#### Labour Force

The experienced labour force for MWRD is outlined in Table 26. As illustrated, logging and forestry is the largest goods-producing sector in the MWRD economy and is much larger than is generally observed at the provincial level. In addition, within the manufacturing sector, the wood products and paper manufacturing sectors contribute an additional labour force of 305. Overall the forest sector (harvesting and wood processing) makes up approximately 18.1% of the total experienced labour force. Fishing and seafood processing makes up an additional 8.4% of the experienced labour force, again a share that is much higher than the provincial level.

**Table 26 Mount Waddington RD Experienced Labour Force by Industry, 2006**

Experienced Labour Force By Industry	2006	% Distribution 2006	
	MWRD	MWRD	BC
Agriculture	120	1.8%	1.7%
Logging & Forestry	895	13.5%	1.0%
Fishing, hunting and trapping	275	4.2%	0.1%
Supporting serv. agric. & forestry	85	1.3%	0.3%
Mining/Oil and gas	25	0.4%	0.9%
Utilities	20	0.3%	0.5%
Construction	300	4.5%	7.5%
Manufacturing (incl. wood & seafood man.)	690	10.4%	8.5%
• Seafood Products prep. And packaging	280	4.2%	0.2%
• Wood products manufacturing	105	1.6%	1.7%
• Paper manufacturing	200	3.0%	0.2%
<b>Total Goods Producing</b>	<b>2,410</b>	<b>36.4%</b>	<b>20.5%</b>
Wholesale	195	3.0%	4.1%
Retail	640	9.7%	11.2%
Transportation & Warehousing	400	6.1%	5.2%
• Water Transportation	60	0.9%	0.3%
• Scenic & Sightseeing Transportation	20	0.3%	0.0%
• Support Activities for Water Transportation	20	0.3%	0.2%
Info & cultural industries	50	0.8%	2.6%
Finance & Insurance	100	1.5%	3.8%
Real Estate & Rental/Leasing	70	1.1%	2.3%
Prof., Scientific & Technical Serv.	300	4.5%	7.3%
Admin & Support, Waste Mang./Manag companies	180	2.7%	4.5%
Education Services	390	5.9%	6.9%
Health care & social assistance	450	6.8%	9.6%
Arts, entertainment & recreation	145	2.2%	2.3%
Accommodation	470	7.1%	8.1%
Other Services	215	3.3%	4.9%
Public Administration	445	6.7%	5.0%
<b>Total Services Sector</b>	<b>4,050</b>	<b>61.4%</b>	<b>77.8%</b>

Unclassified	150	2.2%	1.7%
<b>Total Labour Force</b>	<b>6,610</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

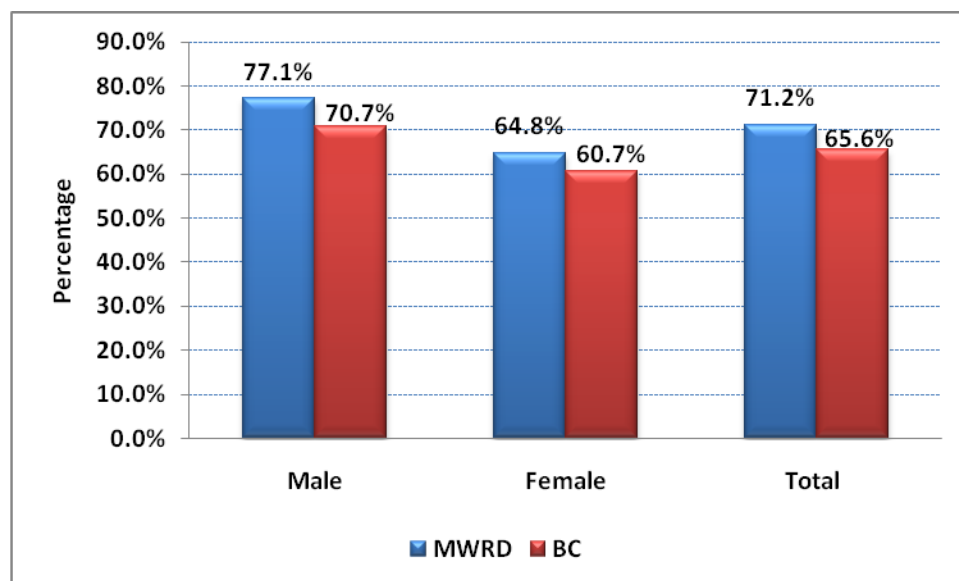
Source: Statistics Canada (2006a)

Note: Manufacturing number includes seafood processing, ship building and wood processing which is a subgroup of manufacturing.

In the service sector, retail, health care and social assistance, and accommodation are the larger employers and all three sectors have labour force shares that are lower than typically seen in the province. Public administration and education are also important sectors, with public administration having a higher share than the provincial average and education having a lower share.

As shown in Figure 11, the labour force participation rate in the MWRD is significantly higher for men and women compared to the provincial level.

**Figure 11 Mount Waddington RD and BC Labour Force Participation Rates<sup>16</sup>, 2006**



Source: Statistics Canada (2006b)

### Economic Dependencies

Table 27 highlights the income dependency of various basic sectors for Alert Bay and Port Hardy local areas.<sup>17</sup> Basic sectors are those activities that result in income flowing into the area from the outside world. Basic sectors are generally viewed as those sectors

<sup>16</sup> Labour force 2006 participation rate is the ratio of the labour force (employed and unemployed) as a percent of the non-institutional population. % full-time, full-year is a percent of the labour force.

<sup>17</sup> Alert Bay Local Area consists of Gwayadums IR 1, Hopetown IR 10A, Karlukwees IR 1, Quaae IR 7, Apsagayu IR 1A, Compton Island IR 6, and Mahmlilikullah IR 1.

Port Hardy Local Area consists of Town of Port McNeill, Village of Port Alice, District Municipality of Port Hardy, Mount Waddington RD Electoral Area B, C, and D, Fort Rupert IR 1, Quattishe IR 1, Tsulquate IR 4, Kippase IR 2, Quatsino Subdivision IR 18, Thomas Point IR 5, Glen-Gla-Ouch IR 5, and Hope Island IR 1.

that drive the local economy, creating the community wealth. For the Alert Bay Local Area in 2006, public sector and transfer payments represent 51% of this income. In the Port Hardy Local Area in 2006, public sector and forestry made up 54% of the community income. Since 1996, Alert Bay has seen fishing decline significantly, while forestry has led the sector declines in the Port Hardy local area.

**Table 27 MWRD Local Area Income Dependencies, 1996, 2001 & 2006**

	FOR	MIN	Fishing	AGF & Food	TOU	PUB	CONST	OTHER	Trans <sup>1</sup>	ONEI <sup>2</sup>
<b>Alert Bay</b>										
2006	13	0	9	1	5	32	4	6	19	11
2001	8	0	15	1	8	32	4	2	24	6
1996	18	0	19	0	3	31	5	4	12	8
<b>Port Hardy</b>										
2006	32	2	7	2	5	22	4	3	14	9
2001	49	1	4	2	8	20	1	0	10	5
1996	51	5	5	1	7	16	3	2	7	3

Source: BC Stats (2009c, 2004, 1999)

Notes:

1. Transfer Payments (Trans) includes income from senior governments including: welfare payments, OAS, CPP, employment insurance, federal child tax credit, guaranteed income supplements and others.
2. Other Non-Employment Income (ONEI) includes investment income, such as dividends and interest, retirement pensions, superannuation, annuities, alimony, etc.

It is generally thought that communities with a diversified economic base will be more stable during challenging economic times. To address this issue and quantify it in the BC context, BC Stats produces the diversity index for each of its local areas. At the extremes, a value of zero would indicate that the community was entirely dependent on one sector, while at the other extreme the diversity index would be 100 if a local area were equally dependent on each of the defined sectors. Table 28 highlights the diversity index for the Mount Waddington area and compares it to the mean value for all local areas in BC. (BC Stats. 2009)

**Table 28 Mount Waddington Local Area Diversity Indices, 1996, 2001, 2006**

	1996	2001	2006
Alert Bay	68	65	67
Port Hardy	67	52	52
Mean Values in BC	67	67	69

Source: BC Stats (2009c)



Overall, the diversity index for the Alert Bay area has remained relatively stable, while the Port Hardy Local Area has been declining, and in 2006 the diversity value of 52 made Port Hardy one of the least diversified local areas in BC.

#### 1.4.4 Community Summary

##### Upper Mid Coast (Island Portion)

The Upper Mid-Coast or North Island portion of the Mount Waddington Regional District consists of four incorporated communities, communities associated with eight First Nations, and three unincorporated communities (identified as designated places).

##### ***Port McNeill***

***Overview*** – The Town of Port McNeill is located 192 kilometres north of Campbell River and 41 kilometres south of Port Hardy on the northeast coast of Vancouver Island along the Broughton Strait. The Town was incorporated in 1966 and in 2006 had a population of 2,680, down from the 2001 population of 2,905 (BC Stats. Nd).

***Infrastructure*** – In 2006, the community had approximately 1,102 private dwellings, of which 1,026 were occupied by full-time local residents. The community has a full range of recreation facilities including a community hall, recreation centre, ice arena, and outdoor swimming pool. Port McNeill also has its own marina with 7,000 feet of moorage, and a local airport with a 732 metre paved runway.

***Economy and Labour Force*** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 1,660 with 38% or 625 in the labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. The largest portion of the goods-producing sector was involved in the logging sector, with an experienced labour force of 365 (BC Stats. Nd). Port McNeill is the administration centre for the surrounding Forest District, which makes up approximately 8% of the province's timber harvest. In the forest industry, larger employers include Western Forest Products and LeMare Lake Logging. There are also numerous smaller logging contractors that collectively make the forest sector an important employer locally. The manufacturing sector also created key employment with seafood processing and packaging having a labour force of 90 and sawmilling 35. Port McNeil is considered to be the centre of aquaculture activity on northern Vancouver Island (Island Coastal Economic Trust. 2013).

The service sector made up the remaining 62% of the labour force. Within the service sector, retail, and accommodation, food services represented 20% of the total labour force, with an experienced labour force of 330. The public services sector was represented by education services, health care and social assistance, and public administration and had a labour force of 325 or 20% of the total in 2006. This was followed by transportation and warehousing which made up 6% of the local labour force



with an experienced labour force of 95 (BC Stats. Nd). Most of the transportation and warehousing labour force was associated with trucking and air services.

### **Hyde Creek**

**Overview** – The unincorporated community of Hyde Creek is roughly bound by Port McNeill to the west and the Nimpkish River to the east. The Spring Hill portion of the community is found just east of the Nimpkish River. In 2006, Hyde Creek had a population of 474. This represents a decline from a population of 515 in 2001, but is higher than the 1996 population of 365 (BC Stats. Nd).

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community had 204 private dwellings of which 193 were occupied by full-time local residents. Access to Hyde Creek is by Highway 19 and is only minutes from Port McNeill. The community is dependent on Port McNeill for services, with the nearest hospital and schools being located in Port McNeill. There is a light industrial area in the community at Twin Peaks.

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 325 with 45% (145) of this labour force being involved in the goods-producing sector. Manufacturing with a labour force of 55 (17%) was the largest single component of the goods-producing labour force. Forestry, agriculture and fishing collectively had a labour force of approximately 70 or 22%.

In 2006, the service sector made up 52% of the remaining experienced labour force. Within the service sector, retail, accommodation, and food services represented 17% of the total labour force, with an experienced labour force of 55. This was followed by transportation and warehousing, which made up 14% of the local labour force with an experienced labour force of 45. Public services, including health care and social assistance, and had a labour force of 30 or 9% of the total labour force (BC Stats. Nd).

### **Village of Alert Bay**

**Overview** – The Village of Alert Bay is located on Cormorant Island off the northeast coast of Vancouver Island. Cormorant Island is also the home of the Namgis First Nation community and the community of Whe-La-La-U. Cormorant Island is approximately 285 kilometres by water from Vancouver, and a short ferry ride from Port McNeill. The Village of Alert Bay was incorporated in 1946 and in 2006 had a population of 475. This represents a decline from the population of 585 the Village had in 2001 (BC Stats. Nd).

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community had 310 private dwellings, of which 259 were occupied by full-time local residents. The community has a small airstrip used by private aircraft on the island and is serviced by a car and passenger ferry to the Town of Port McNeill. Recreational facilities in the community include a bowling alley and recreation centre with a gymnasium. There is one public school providing classes up to Grade 8,

with students attending high school in Port McNeill. In addition, there is a range of services in the community, including a dentist and public library.

***Economy and Labour Force*** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 340, with 10% or 35 involved in the goods-producing sector, including 25 people employed in occupations unique to primary industry. Tourism is also an important economic driver locally, with its proximity to Robson Bight and Broughton Archipelago. Outdoor activities such as salt-water fishing, kayaking, bird watching, boating, scuba diving, whale watching, and beachcombing are popular tourism and recreation activities.

The remaining 90% of the experienced labour force is associated with the service sector. Within the service sector, retail, accommodation, and food services, with an experienced labour force of 70, represented 21% of the total labour force. The public services sector was represented by education services, health care, social assistance, and public administration and had a labour force of 105 or 32% of the total in 2006. This was followed by transportation and warehousing which made up 15% of the local labour force, with an experienced labour force of 50. (BC Stats. Nd).

### ***Sointula***

***Overview*** – The unincorporated community of Sointula is located on Malcolm Island, a 20 minute ferry ride from Port McNeill. Malcolm Island is 24 kilometres long and 3 kilometres wide at its widest point. The community of Sointula was originally established by a group of Finnish socialists in 1901 who had grown tired of Vancouver Island's coal mines (Sointula Resource Centre Society. Nd). In 2006, Sointula had a population of 595. This represents a decline from the 2001 population of 645 (BC Stats. Nd).

***Infrastructure*** – In 2006, the community had 324 private dwellings, of which 279 were occupied by full-time local residents. Sointula is connected to Port McNeill by BC Ferries, with a BC Ferries wharf located in Sointula. There is a community hall, an elementary school and a library in the community. The community has a medical clinic that provides access to a public health nurse and visiting doctors. Sointula is also home to a museum that documents the history of the Finnish socialist commune. Sointula Harbour provides a range of marine services and has moorage for visiting boats.

***Economy and Labour Force*** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 300, with 40% (120) of this labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. Historically, the fishing industry and logging industry have been important employers. This remains the case today with fishing, forestry, manufacturing and construction all making important contributions to the goods-producing labour force.

In 2006, the service sector made up the remaining 60% of the experienced labour force. Within the service sector, retail, accommodation and food services made up 25% of the total labour force in the community with an experienced labour force of 75. Considered within the retail sector is the co-op store, which is the oldest co-op in the province. Public services, including education, health care, social assistance, and public administration had a labour force of 40 or 13% of the total in 2006 (BC Stats. Nd).

### ***Village of Port Alice***

**Overview** – The Village of Port Alice is located at the head of Neroutsos Inlet and is approximately 80 kilometres from Port McNeill. The Village was incorporated in 1965. In 2006 Port Alice had a population of 830, which represents a sharp decline from the population 2001 population of 1,560 (BC Stats. Nd).

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community had approximately 560 private dwellings, of which 392 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. The community is served by a health clinic and has a community centre with a weight room, gymnasium and meeting rooms. In addition, there is a public boat launch and private yacht club (Village of Port Alice. Nd).

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 450, with 240 or 53% of the labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. In 1916, a pulp mill began operating in Port Alice, and today the forestry sector remains the largest employer with the Neucel Speciality Cellulose pulp mill being the single largest employer, and the Jeune Landing Division of Western Forest Products Ltd. being the other major forest sector employer locally. Pulp and paper manufacturing had a 2006 experienced labour force of 155, and a logging labour force of 35, representing 42% of the total labour force.

In 2006, the service sector made up the remaining 47% of the experienced labour force. Within the service sector, retail, accommodation, and food services made up 16% of the total labour force in the community, with an experienced labour force of 70. Public services, including education, health care, social assistance, and public administration, had a labour force of 50 or 11% of the total (BC Stats. Nd).

### ***District of Port Hardy***

**Overview** – The District of Port Hardy is located on Hardy Bay 233 kilometres north of Campbell River and 1,465 kilometres south of Bella Coola. The District was incorporated in 1966 and in 2006 had a population of 3,975. This represents a sharp decline from the population level of 5,500 the District had in 1996 when the Island Copper Mine was in operation. BHP's Island Copper Mine was located 16 kilometres

south of Port Hardy and operated from 1970 to 1995, employing upwards of 900 workers at its peak (University of Victoria. 2000).

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community had 2,007 private dwellings, of which 1,594 were occupied by full-time local residents. The community has a hospital that provides emergency service to the region, two medical clinics, and two dental clinics. The District of Port Hardy operates an indoor aquatic centre and an ice arena.

The community is also the southern terminal for the Port Hardy to Prince Rupert ferry, and the Discovery Passage Ferry, which services communities in the Central Coast Regional District. There are several wharfs in Port Hardy, including the Seagate Wharf located in downtown Port Hardy that includes a municipal float. The private wharf of the Keltic Fish plant has two small craft harbour public floats managed by the District of Port Hardy and is used primarily by the seine boats. Fisherman's Wharf has a launching ramp and repair facility and offers year-round moorage. Quarterdeck Marina, a large private marina offering a full range of services with room for 195 boats, is also within the Port Hardy boundaries (District of Port Hardy. Nd).

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 2,240, with 700 or 31% of the labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. Several key industries and companies contribute to the community's goods-producing sector, including Marine Harvest Canada and Keltic Seafood Limited's seafood processing plants. Polaris Minerals operates Orca Quarry which ships sand and gravel to markets to the United States. In addition, the forest sector continues to create local employment opportunities, with 50 independent license holders and another 20 who work directly with major forest companies in the cedar salvage and shake block/shingle industry in the North Island, generating an estimated \$40 million in revenue annually (District of Port Hardy. Nd).

In 2006, the service sector made up 67% of the experienced labour force. Port Hardy is the main services centre in the North Island. The wholesale, retail, and accommodation and food services sector, with an experienced labour force of 530, made up 24% of the total labour force in the community. The public services including education, health care, social assistance, and public administration had a labour force of 415 or 19%. The transportation and warehousing sector had an experienced labour force of 140 or 6% (BC Stats. Nd).

### **Coal Harbour**

**Overview** – The unincorporated community of Coal Harbour is located 14 kilometres southwest of Highway 19 near the mouth of Holberg Inlet. Coal Harbour was once a thriving whaling station, the last one on the North American coast when it closed in 1967.

In 2006, Coal Harbour had a population of 176. This represents a decline from a population level of 215 in 2001 (BC Stats. Nd).

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community had 94 private dwellings, of which 77 were occupied by full-time local residents. Coal Harbour is within close proximity to Port Hardy and the community relies on Port Hardy for services. There is a public wharf in Coal Harbour and the community is often busy with the float plane traffic that services more remote locations in the Quatsino Sound area.

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 105, with 43% (a labour force of 45) of this labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. The goods-producing labour force was distributed between fishing, logging, construction and manufacturing. Coal Harbour is in close proximity to the Island Copper Mine, which operated from 1970 to 1996 and at its peak employed 900 workers.

In 2006, the service sector made up 57% of the experienced labour force. Within the service sector, retail, accommodation and food services represented 24% of the total labour force, with an experienced labour force of 25. This was followed by transportation and warehousing, which made up 9% of the local labour force with an experienced labour force of 10. The public services sector was represented by health care and social assistance, and also had a labour force of 10, or 9% of the total (BC Stats. Nd).

### First Nation Communities

#### ***Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala First Nation***

**Overview** -- The Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala First Nation is an amalgamation of the Da'naxda'xw and Awaetlala tribes of Knight Inlet. The Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala First Nation's Traditional Territory encompasses all of Knight Inlet and a portion of the surrounding islands near the mouth of Knight Inlet (Da'naxda'xw/ Awaetlala First Nation. Nd).

The Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala have four separate Reserves throughout their Traditional Territory. The main village, Tsatsisnukwomi (also known as New Vancouver), is located at Dead Point on Harbledown Island in Indian Channel (Da'naxda'xw/ Awaetlala First Nation. Nd). It is approximately 25 kilometres east of Alert Bay and is actually more in the neighbouring Mamalilikulla First Nation's territory.

In 2010, the Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala First Nation had 196 registered members, 140 of whom lived off-reserve (Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, 2010). The Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala are in the process of rebuilding and repopulating their community at Tsatsisnukwomi. Between 2006 and 2011 the registered population increased from 0 to 10 (Statistics Canada. 2012m).

**Infrastructure** -- Infrastructure at Tsatsisnukwomi includes six private dwellings, four of which were built after 2001 (Statistics Canada 2012m), the Nation's Band Office, a community Big House, a government wharf, and an upgraded diesel generator.

**Economy and Labour Force** -- Historically the Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala First Nation's employment was based in the dominant logging and fishing sectors of the region. The major downsizing of these sectors in the region had significant impacts on the Nation's community, resulting in members moving out in search of employment. With the membership so disbursed it is difficult to identify any concentrations of employment in any sector. There is a noteworthy level of members from the community employed in the Band administration though.

### ***Dzawada'enuxw First Nation (Tsawataineuk Indian Band)***

**Overview** -- The Dzawada'enuxw village of Gwa'yi (Kingcome Village) is situated beside Kingcome River on mainland BC. It is approximately three kilometres upstream of where Kingcome River meets Kingcome Inlet. By air, it is roughly 75 kilometres northeast of Port McNeill.

Between 2006 and 2011 the registered population at Gwa'yi decreased by 38.5%, from 148 to 91 (Statistics Canada. 2012n). The population increases during the summer months when older school-aged youth and seasonal workers return home (Sasamans Society. 2012).

**Infrastructure** -- Gwa'yi is only accessible by float plane and boat (Dzawada'enuxw Community Planning Team. 2009). Pacific Coastal Airlines and Vancouver Island Air provide scheduled float plane service to a dock in Kingcome Inlet (Pacific Coastal Airlines, Nd; Vancouver Island Air, Nd.). From there, passengers, food, gas and other supplies are taken up the river to the village by boat (Dzawada'enuxw Community Planning Team. 2009).

There are 49 private dwellings in Gwa'yi (Statistics Canada. 2012n). Other infrastructure includes the Band Office/ finance building, post office, Lilawagela School and Community Health Centre (Sasamans Society. 2012).

Lilawagela School in Gwa'yi offers the Little Wolf Headstart program for children ages two to five, a primary classroom for kindergarten to grade four, and an intermediate classroom for grades five through seven (Sasamans Society. 2012). Youth that continue their education after grade seven are either home-schooled or move elsewhere (Dzawada'enuxw Community Planning Team, 2009). Some post-secondary and adult education programs are provided through Lilawagela School (Dzawada'enuxw Community Planning Team. 2009).

Gwa'yí has a Health Team comprised of a doctor and nurses who visit the community twice a month. Other services provided through the Community Health Centre include a Community Kitchen Nutrition program for Elders and chronic patients, a Diabetes Wellness program and Alcohol and Drug Counselling (Sasamans Society. 2012).

***Economy and Labour Force*** -- Band administration is the largest employer in Gwa'yí (Dzawada'enuxw Community Planning Team. 2009), employing 20 full-time and six to ten part-time and casual employees (Sasamans Society. 2012). In 2001, the last year for which data are available, the employment rate in Gwa'yí was 46.2% (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2012f.)

### ***Gwa'sala 'Naxwaxda'xw First Nation***

***Overview*** -- The Gwa'sala and 'Naxwaxda'xw tribes were amalgamated in 1964 and relocated off their Traditional Territory to the Tsulquate Reserve (Gwa'sala-'Naxwaxda'xw Nations. 2012a). Tsulquate is 1.5 kilometres north of Port Hardy and 235 kilometres northwest of Campbell River via Highway 19.

Prior to 1964, the Gwa'sala people mostly lived in and around Smith Inlet, which is on the mainland coast of BC between Cape Caution and Rivers Inlet (Gwa'sala-'Naxwaxda'xw Nations. 2012a).

The 'Naxwaxda'xw people mostly lived further south of the Gwa'sala, also on the mainland coast of BC. They lived around Seymour Inlet, the Deserter's Group, and Blunden Harbour and surrounding islands (Gwa'sala-'Naxwaxda'xw Nations. 2012a).

Between 2006 and 2011 the registered population at Tsulquate grew by 13.5%, increasing from 432 people to 491 (Statistics Canada. 2012o).

***Infrastructure*** – There are 113 private dwellings in Tsulquate (Statistics Canada. 2012o). The community is accessible by road as well as by air and ferry services available through the adjacent District of Port Hardy.

A number of community programs and services for residents are offered through the Health and Family Services building. Programs include a Maternal Health program, Post Natal program, Diabetes Prevention program, and Healthy Children program (Sasamans Society. 2012b).

The Band Office in Tsulquate includes departments for economic development, education, housing, finance, natural resource management, communications, and social development, a Treaty Library and Treaty Office (Sasamans Society. 2012b).



There are two schools in Tsuquate. The Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw School provides education for pre-school aged children to those in grade seven, and the Eke-Me-Xi School provides education for students in grades eight through ten (Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations. 2012b).

***Economy and Labour Force*** – Historically, Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw First Nation members have been employed predominantly in the major resource sectors of their region, logging, fishing. The major downsizing of these industries has had significant impacts on the Nation, resulting in large scale unemployment. In 2006 the employment rate in Tsuquate was 28.6% (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, 2012g).

A significant portion of the membership continues to be employed in industries connected to the marine sector, including finfish aquaculture harvesting and processing, and participation in various commercial fisheries. There are also a substantial amount of members that are employed through the Band administration; this includes members employed on project specific initiatives such as the community housing renovations program.

### ***Kwakiutl First Nation***

***Overview*** – Kwakiutl First Nation is a First Nations Band within the larger Kwakwaka'wakw Nation. Kwakiutl Traditional Territory includes the northeastern shores of Vancouver Island (Kwakiutl Indian Band. Nda).

The majority of Kwakiutl Reserves are clustered in and around the Beaver Harbour/Fort Rupert (Tsakis Village) area south of Port Hardy (Kwakiutl Indian Band. Ndb). In 2011 the two populated Reserves in this area (Fort Rupert 1 and Kippase 2) had a combined registered population of 257 (Statistics Canada. 2012p; Statistics Canada 2012q).

***Infrastructure*** – Fort Rupert is approximately four kilometres east of Highway 19. It is 35 kilometres north of Port McNeill and 10 kilometres south of Port Hardy. Air and ferry services are available through the District of Port Hardy. There are a total of 96 private dwellings on the Fort Rupert Reserves (Statistics Canada. 2012p; Statistics Canada 2012q).

Kwakiutl District Council operates a health centre in Fort Rupert that provides a broad range of health services including community health nursing, communicable disease control, pre and post natal care, diabetes prevention, addictions prevention and support, and mental health crisis counselling (Kwakiutl District Council. 2011).

The Education department of Kwakiutl First Nation administers Kwigwis Daycare and Wagalus School (Kwakiutl Indian Band. Ndc). Wagalus School offers a preschool



program and kindergarten through grade five (Wagalus School. 2007). Additional infrastructure includes the Kwakiutl Band office, recreation hall, and Kwakiutl Big House.

***Economy and Labour Force*** — Historically Kwakiutl First Nation members have been employed predominantly in the major resource sectors of the region, logging, fishing, and even mining. The major downsizing of these industries has made significant impacts on the Nation, resulting in large scale unemployment. In 2006 the employment rate amongst on-reserve Kwakiutl First Nation members was 42.5% (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2012g).

Much of the labour force of the Kwakiutl continues to make efforts at livelihoods in the commercial fishing sector, there is also a noteworthy level of employment at the local fish processing plants in Port Hardy; these are Keltic Seafoods, and the Marine Harvest Plant. Some members are employed at the Orca Sand and Gravel aggregate extraction site near Port McNeill. Other sectors that members are employed in include: participating in the finfish aquaculture industry, the public administration of the Nation, and self employment through the arts, e.g. carvers, painters and cultural spokespeople.

### ***Kwik'wastutinuxw Haxwamis First Nations***

***Overview*** – The members of the Kwik'wastutinuxw Haxwamis First Nations are part of the traditional tribal grouping of the Musgamagw Tsawataineuk and the Kwakwaka'wakw people. At the time of European contact they were organized as two tribes known as the Kwicksutaineuk and the Ah-kwa-Mish. The two tribes were amalgamated in 1947 (*Kwicksutaineuk/Ah-Kwa-Mish First Nation v. Canada [Attorney General]*, 2010) and are now collectively known as the Kwik'wastutinuxw Haxwamis First Nations (Kwik'wastutinuxw Haxwamis First Nations. Nda).

Their Traditional Territory extends from Wakeman Sound to the waters between Gilford Island and Village Island and their main community is Gwa-yas-dums (Kwik'wastutinuxw Haxwamis First Nations. Nda). In 2011 Gwa-yas-dums had a registered population of 38 (Statistics Canada. 2012r).

***Infrastructure*** – Gwa-yas-dums is located on the west shore of Gilford Island in the Broughton Archipelago. It is approximately 60 kilometres east of Port Hardy and is accessible by float plane or boat. Pacific Coastal Airlines and Vancouver Island Air provide scheduled float plane service (Pacific Coastal Airlines, Nd; Vancouver Island Air, Nd).

In 2011 there were 17 private dwellings in Gwa-yas-dums (Statistics Canada. 2012r). Residents of Gwa-yas-dums have been subject to problems related to mouldy houses and a lack of potable water (Woodward, J. and Hume M, 2005, November 1). A

Comprehensive Community Plan which will guide rebuilding of village housing and infrastructure has been developed and is in the process of being implemented in order to address these problems. Improvements to date include a new water purification plant and three new diesel generators (Kwik'wastutinuxw Haxwamis First Nations. Ndb).

***Economy and Labour Force*** – Band Administration is split between Alert Bay and Gwayas-dums. In total there are six full-time employees and five part-time employees. Positions based out of Gwayasdums include a Community Health Representative and Social Development Worker, a Home and Community Care Worker, a Home and Community Care Cook, a Power Plant and Water Treatment Plant Operator, and Operations and Maintenance Worker (Kwik'wastutinuxw Haxwamis First Nations. Ndb).

### ***Mamalilikulla-Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Em First Nation***

***Overview*** – The Mamalilikulla-Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Em First Nation's Traditional Territory is centered on the inlets, waterways and islands between Vancouver Island and the mainland near Knight Inlet, and in and around the Broughton Archipelago. The main larger size islands in their territory include Village Island, Harbledown Island, and Gilford Island.

The Mamalilikulla-Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Em have three Reserves totalling 232.4 hectares (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2012h). The main Reserve is on Village Island and was last inhabited in the 1950s. There is a small Reserve is on Gilford Island, and a larger Reserve that encompasses all of Compton Island. As of October 2012, Mamalilikulla-Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Em had a registered population of 407, including 6 individuals living on Mamalilikulla-Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Em Reserves and 346 individuals living off-reserve (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2012i).

***Infrastructure*** – There is currently no working infrastructure at any of the Mamalilikulla-Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Em First Nations' Reserve communities. The Nation's Band office is located on the Wei Wai Kum First Nation's Reserve.

***Economy and Labour Force*** – Historically the Nation's employment was based in the dominant logging and fishing sectors of the region. The major downsizing of these sectors in the region had significant impacts on the Nation's community, resulting in outflow migration from their traditional communities.

The Mamalilikulla-Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Em First Nation has some members employed in the aquaculture sector through a family owned business from within the Nation. The business is focused on service contracts in the aquaculture and more generally marine transport sectors. Members of the Nation also continue to participate in various commercial fisheries such as Salmon seine and gillnet and herring seine and gillnet.

### ***‘Namgis First Nation***

**Overview** – The ‘Namgis First Nation’s Traditional Territory is centered around the Nimpkish River and Valley, and includes the numerous small islands and waterways between Port McNeill and the adjacent mainland coast.

Their main community, Alert Bay, is located on Cormorant Island approximately 200 kilometres north of Campbell River. Alert Bay is most commonly accessed by following the Island Highway to Port McNeill and taking a 45 minute ferry ride from there to Cormorant Island.

Cormorant Island has a number of separate communities that are all commonly collectively referred to as Alert Bay. These communities include the Village of Alert Bay, two populated reserves belonging to the ‘Namgis First Nation (Alert Bay 1 and Alert Bay 1A), and Whe-La-La-U, which is a 12 acre federal Crown village set aside as a home for people from surrounding Kwakwaka’wakw First Nations (Vodden. 2006). This section refers only to the two ‘Namgis Reserves.

The registered population at the ‘Namgis Reserves in 2011 was 537, which represents at 10.7% increase from the 2006 registered population of 485 (Statistics Canada. 2012s).

**Infrastructure** – ‘Namgis First Nation residents have access to services described in the profile for the Village of Alert Bay. Additional on-reserve facilities include the Cormorant Island Community Health Centre, ‘Namgis Health Centre, a dental clinic, treatment centre, Lawrence Ambers Recreation Centre, and T’lusalagi’lakw School for students in nursery through grade eight (‘Namgis First Nation 2011). Other infrastructure includes the U’mista Cultural Centre/ Museum, Big House, Band Office, a decommissioned residential school building, community owned gas station, a run down community net-loft, and a community marina with breakwater.

**Economy and Labour Force** – ‘Namgis First Nation members have been employed predominantly in the major resource sectors of their region, logging and fishing. The major downsizing of these industries has made significant impacts on the Nation, resulting in large scale unemployment. In 2009, the unemployment rate for the ‘Namgis Nation was 22% (‘Namgis First Nation Community Profile. 2009).

The ‘Namgis have members that remain active participants in the various commercial fishing activities of the region, with a handful of individuals owning commercial licenses (salmon seine and gillnet, Herring seine and gillnet, and clam harvesting licences) as well as some individuals owning boats, nets and fishing gear. There is a significant level of employment of members with the Band administration performing a broad spectrum of services for the community.

### ***Quatsino First Nation:***

**Overview** – The Quatsino First Nation is an amalgamation of five Kwakwaka'wakw tribes; the T'latsinuxw, Huyalas, Gushgimukw, Gob'inuxw, and Qwat'sinuxw. In 1972, Quatsino First Nation was relocated from Xwatis (Quattishe) in Quatsino Sound to the Quatsino Reserve near Coal Harbour (Sasamans Society 2012c). This remains their main community. In 2011 Quatsino Reserve had a population of 214 (Statistics Canada. 2012t).

**Infrastructure** – Quatsino Reserve is just off of Coal Harbour Road approximately 15 kilometres south of Port Hardy and two kilometres north of the town of Coal Harbour. Both Port Hardy and Coal Harbour are accessible by air and ferry. In 2011 Quatsino Reserve had 85 private dwellings (Statistics Canada 2012t).

Quatsino First Nation runs K'ak'otlats'i Elementary School. The school has three teachers, three assistant teachers, one cultural teacher, one speech and language teacher and one principal (Sasamans Society. 2012c). Quatsino Reserve also has a Band Office, local store, community hall, and a Health Clinic with a Social Worker, Health Director, Community Health Nurse, Community Health Representative, Diabetic/ Foot Care worker, Elders' Coordinator, Infant Development Program worker, and a National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program worker. Doctors, Dentists, Optometrists and Hygienists make monthly visits to the Health Clinic (Sasamans Society. 2012c).

**Economy and Labour Force** – Quatsino First Nation is involved in a number of economic development opportunities including the Quatsino Marina, Quantem (a joint venture between Quatsino First Nation and Western Forest Products), and Three Nations Construction LP (a limited partnership with Quatsino, Kwakiutl and Tlatlasikwala First Nations and Lemare Lake Logging Ltd) (Quatsino First Nation. 2012). In 2006, the employment rate on Quatsino Reserve was 43.8% (Statistics Canada. 2007b)

### ***Tlatlasikwala First Nation***

**Overview** – The members of Tlatlasikwala First Nation are descendants of the Tlatlasikwala, Nakumgilisala and Yutlinuk peoples. Their Traditional Territory includes the lands and waters of northern Vancouver Island (Tlatlasikwala First Nation. Nda).

In 2010 the Tlatlasikwala had a membership of 62 people, 42 of whom lived on reserve and on Crown land (Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2012). Some members live at the Kwakwaka'wakw federal Crown village of Whe-La-La-U on Cormorant Island (Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation. Ndb), but their home village is at Bull Harbour on Hope Island (Tlatlasikwala First Nation. Nda). Between 2006 and 2011 the population at Hope Island increased from 5 to 15 (Statistics Canada. 2012u).

**Infrastructure** – Hope Island is located approximately 40 kilometres northwest of Port Hardy and is accessible by boat. There are 7 private dwellings on Hope Island (Statistics Canada, 2012u). Infrastructure at Bull Harbour includes sheltered anchorage, dockside moorage, and walking trails. Communication via VHF channel 6 and 16 is available. There are no waste disposal facilities (Tlatsikwala First Nation, Ndb).

**Economy and Labour Force** – The Tlatlasikwala First Nation is a member of the Kwakiutl District Council and the Whe-la-la-U Area Council and has an administrative office in Port Hardy. They are a signatory to the North Island Protocol Agreement along with ten other local Governments and First Nations.

## 1.4.5 Trends

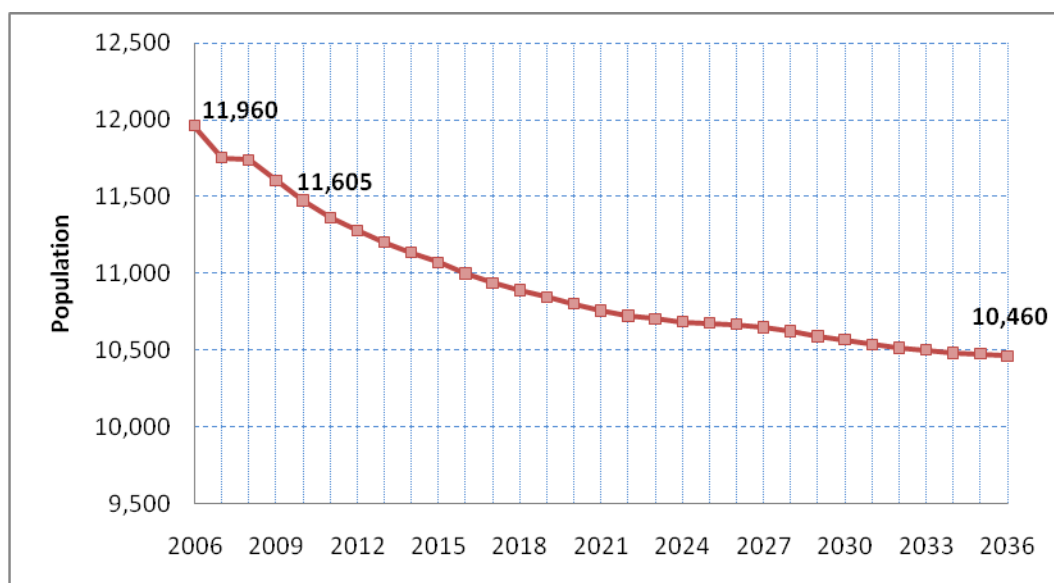
### Population Trends

As illustrated in Figure 12 the population in the Mount Waddington Regional District is anticipated to continue to lose population for the foreseeable future. The population in the regional district peaked around 1986 at 15,570 and has declined steadily to 2006. The population is forecast by BC Stats to move to 10,460 in 2036, a further decline of 10%. From 2009 to 2036 the provincial population is anticipated to increase by 36%.

While there is investment in new energy projects like the Nahwitti Wind Farm and the Songhees Creek Hydro Project, both near Port Hardy, these will not create enough long-term local employment to shift the current transition in the local economy. The long-term trend has seen key sectors lose employment over a long period of time. For example, in 1981, forestry and logging made up a labour force in the Mount Waddington Regional District of 1,455; however, by 2006 this had declined to 895. In addition, the mining labour force in 1981 stood at 935 and by 2006 it had declined to 25.

On the other hand, the seafood processing labour force was approximately 145 in 1981, and by 2006 this had almost doubled to 280. Overall, not enough new opportunities have emerged to offset the employment that was once created from the mining and forest sectors.

**Figure 12** Mount Waddington RD Population Forecast, 2006 to 2036



Source: BC Stats (2009d)

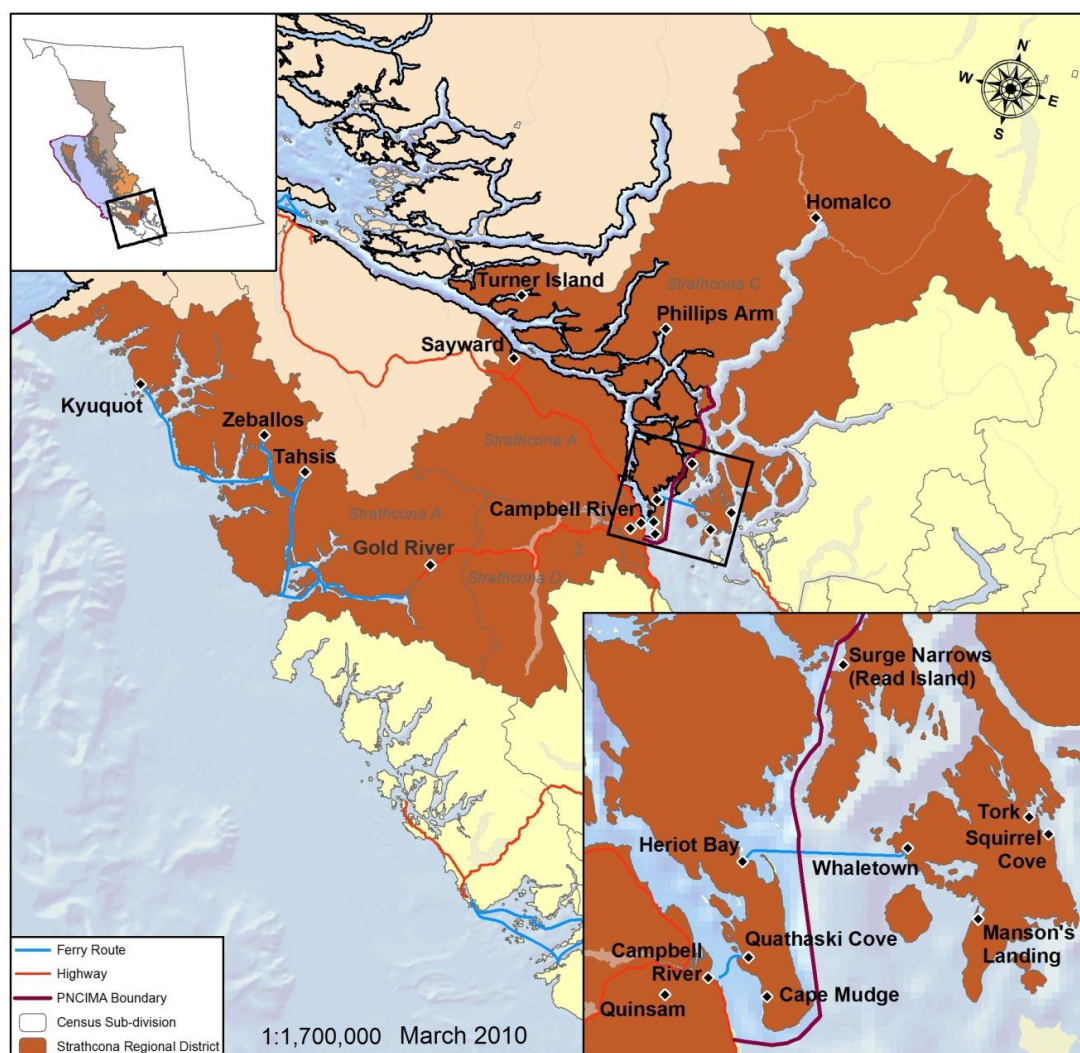
## 1.5 Strathcona Regional District and Community Profiles

### 1.5.1 Overview of Regional District

The southern portion of PNCIMA is partly within the Strathcona Regional District (SRD). Specifically, the communities on the east coast portion of Vancouver Island and the mainland portion of the Regional District fall within PNCIMA area. In 2008, the Comox-Strathcona Regional District (CSRD) was divided into the SRD and the Comox Regional District (CRD). While some data is available for the SRD, not all data is available for the new regional district; therefore, some indicators in this section are for the Comox-Strathcona Regional District.

Map 5 outlines the Strathcona Regional District and the communities within the Regional District.



**Map 5 Strathcona Regional District, 2009**

## 1.5.2 Socio-Economic

### Population Characteristics

Table 29 summarizes the 2001, 2006 and 2011 populations of communities in the Strathcona Regional District. Overall, the population increased by 6.41% between 2001 and 2011.

**Table 29 Strathcona RD Population by Community: 2001, 2006 and 2011**

	Population			Change 2001-2011	
	2001	2006	2011	Number	%
<b>Incorporated Communities</b>					
Village of Sayward	385	340	317	-68	-17.66%
City of Campbell River	29,180	30,055	31,186	2,006	6.87%

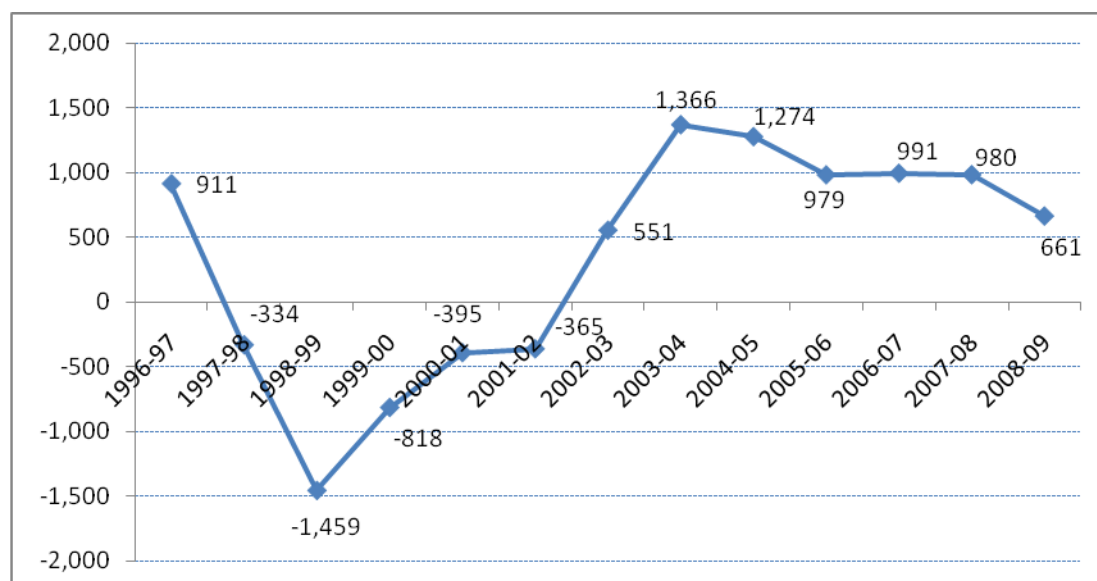


<b>First Nations Communities</b>					
Squirrel Cove (Klahoose)	62	74	47	-15	-24.19%
Campbell River Reserve (Wei Wai Kum)	284	381	424	140	49.30%
Cape Mudge (We Wai Kai)	181	175	143	-38	-20.99%
Quinsam (We Wai Kai)	212	208	246	34	16.04%
Homalco (Xwémalhkwu)	180	220	203	23	12.78%
<b>Unincorporated Communities</b>					
Heriot Bay	625	575	527	-98	-15.68%
Quathiaski Cove	410	380	430	20	4.88%
Read Island	65	65	81	16	24.62%
Manson's Landing	135	200	149	14	10.37%
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,719</b>	<b>32,673</b>	<b>33,753</b>	<b>2,034</b>	<b>6.41%</b>

Source: Statistics Canada (2006b); and BC Stats (2011).

### Population Migration

Migration data is only available for the Comox-Strathcona Regional District and is highlighted here to illustrate the general population trend in the region. As illustrated in Figure 13, over the six year period from 1997 to 2002 there was a steady out-migration of population from the CSRD. However, between 2002 and 2009, strong population in-migration took place.

**Figure 13 Comox-Strathcona RD Population Migration, 1996 to 2009**

Source: BC Stats (2009b)

### Age Characteristics

Table 30 highlights the age characteristics for the Strathcona Regional District (SRD) and compares this to the BC average. Overall, the SRD is slightly older than the population generally seen at the provincial level. However, the Regional District has a larger percentage share of residents under 19 years of age. The median age for the City of Campbell River is used to represent the new regional district and is 42.2 years, while for BC it is 40.8 years.

**Table 30 Strathcona Regional District and BC Age Characteristics, 2006**

Age Class	Strathcona RD		BC
Age 0 to 19	10,405	24.2%	23.2%
Age 20 to 44	12,200	28.6%	33.8%
Age 45 to 64	14,530	34.0%	28.4%
Age 65+	5,590	13.1%	14.6%
Total	42,730	100.0%	100.0%
Median Age (Campbell River)	42.2 years		40.8 years

Source: BC Stats (2010)

### Education Characteristics

Table 31 outlines the educational attainment for the SRD and compares this to the BC averages. Overall, a larger percentage of Strathcona residents between 25 and 64 do not have a grade 12 diploma, while a smaller percentage have a university degree when

compared to the BC averages. However, a higher percentage of Strathcona residents have college or non-university certificates and diplomas than generally observed at the provincial level.

**Table 31      Stathcona RD Education Attainment for Ages 25 to 64, 2006**

By Highest Level of Educational Attainment	Strathcona RD		BC
No certificate; diploma or degree	4,300	16.3%	12.4%
High school certificate or equivalent	7,640	28.9%	25.8%
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	4,285	16.2%	12.0%
College; CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	5,935	22.4%	19.6%
University certificate or diploma below the bachelor level	1,055	4.0%	6.1%
University certificate, diploma or degree	3,240	12.2%	24.1%
Total	26,455	100.0%	100.0%

Source: BC Stats (2010)

### Incomes

As illustrated in Table 31, median income data is available for the Comox-Strathcona Regional District (CSRD). Median income for men in the CSRD in 2007 was higher than the median income for men at the provincial level. Over the previous seven year period, median income for men in CSRD had increased by 22.2%, a rate similar to the provincial level. Median income for women in the CSRD is below the provincial median income level, but has been increasing at a slightly faster rate than generally observed provincially.

**Table 32      Median Income for Males and Females in CSRD and BC**

Year	Comox-Strathcona RD		BC	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
2007	\$38,380	\$21,810	\$36,350	\$23,005
2006	\$36,500	\$19,515	\$34,585	\$21,030
2005	\$34,700	\$18,105	\$32,430	\$19,980
2004	\$33,835	\$17,320	\$30,995	\$18,845
2003	\$32,560	\$16,650	\$29,990	\$18,195
2002	\$31,615	\$16,330	\$29,480	\$17,850
2001	\$31,550	\$16,015	\$29,395	\$17,765
2000	\$31,410	\$15,575	\$28,880	\$17,315
% Change (2000- 2007)	+22.2%	+40.0%	+25.9%	+32.9%

Source: BC Stats. Neighbourhood Income and Demographics (2002-2009d)

### 1.5.3 Economic Base Analysis

#### Labour Force

The experienced labour force for the Strathcona Regional District (SRD) is outlined in Table 33. As illustrated, manufacturing is the largest goods-producing sector in the Strathcona economy; however, it enjoys only a marginally higher percentage share than observed at the provincial level. Within manufacturing, seafood processing, wood processing and pulp and paper made up the majority of the labour force in 2006. The dependence on forest sector manufacturing has changed noticeably since 2006, with the 2008 closure of Catalyst Paper's pulp mill in Campbell River. Fishing and seafood processing made up 2.8% of the experienced labour force in 2006. Construction, and logging and forestry, with an experienced labour force of 1,500 each, are also important goods-producing sectors. In 2006, the mining labour force was 530, the largest in PNCIMA.

In the services-producing sector, retail and accommodation are the larger employment sectors, with both sectors having labour force shares that are higher than typically seen in the province. Public administration and education area are also important sectors; however, both sectors have a smaller percentage share than the provincial average.

**Table 33      Strathcona RD Experienced Labour Force by Industry, 2006**

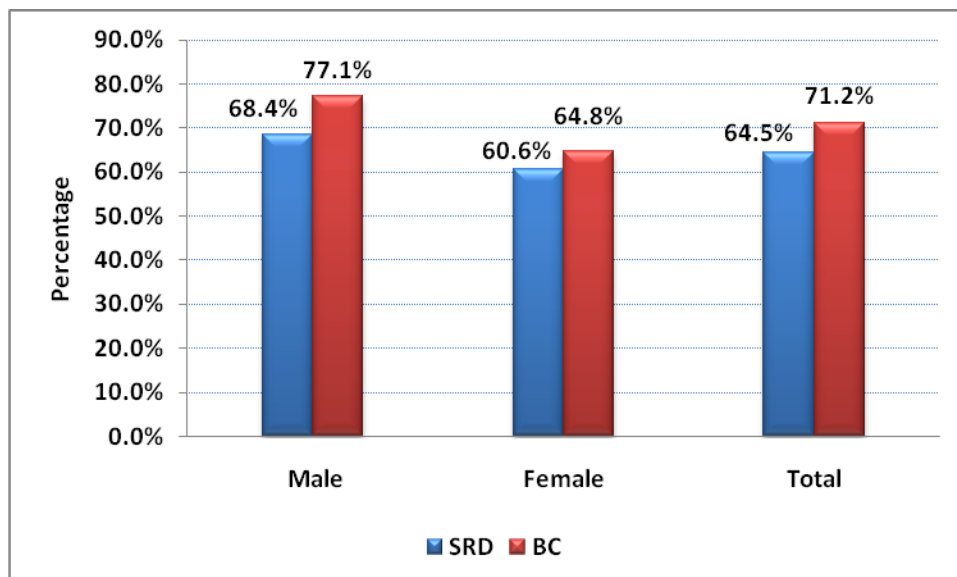
Experienced Labour Force By Industry	2006	% Distribution 2006	
	SRD	SRD	BC
Agriculture	585	2.6%	1.7%
Logging & Forestry	1,530	6.8%	1.0%
Fishing, hunting and trapping	330	1.5%	0.1%
Supporting serv. agric. & forestry	155	0.7%	0.3%
Mining/Oil and gas	530	2.3%	0.9%
Utilities	115	0.5%	0.5%
Construction	1,565	6.9%	7.5%
Manufacturing (incl. wood & seafood man.)	2,085	9.2%	8.5%
• Seafood Products prep. And packaging	295	1.3%	0.2%
• Wood products manufacturing	310	1.4%	1.7%
• Paper manufacturing	865	3.8%	0.2%
• Ship and boat building	75	0.3%	0.1%
<b>Total Goods Producing</b>	<b>6,895</b>	<b>30.5%</b>	<b>20.5%</b>
Wholesale	440	1.9%	4.1%
Retail	2,825	12.5%	11.2%
Transportation & Warehousing	890	3.9%	5.2%
• Water Transportation	185	0.8%	0.3%
• Scenic & Sightseeing Transportation	15	0.1%	0.0%
• Support Activities for Water Transportation	75	0.3%	0.2%
Info & cultural industries	315	1.4%	2.6%
Finance & Insurance	425	1.9%	3.8%
Real Estate & Rental/Leasing	430	1.9%	2.3%
Prof., Scientific & Technical Serv.	855	3.8%	7.3%
Admin & Support, Waste Mang./Manag companies	950	4.1%	4.5%
Education Services	1,495	6.6%	6.9%
Health care & social assistance	1,940	8.6%	9.6%
Arts, entertainment & recreation	375	1.7%	2.3%
Accommodation	2,250	9.9%	8.1%
Other Services	1,000	4.4%	4.9%
Public Administration	1,010	4.5%	5.0%
<b>Total Services Sector</b>	<b>30,810</b>	<b>15,200</b>	<b>67.1%</b>
Unclassified	545	2.4%	1.7%
<b>Total Labour Force</b>	<b>20,065</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Statistics Canada (2006a)

Note: Manufacturing number includes seafood processing, ship building and wood processing which is a subgroup of manufacturing.

As illustrated in Figure 14, the labour force participation rate in the SRD is lower for men and women than the provincial labour force participation rate.

**Figure 14 Strathcona RD and BC Labour Force Participation Rates<sup>18</sup>, 2006**



Source: BC Stats (2010)

### Economic Dependencies

Table 34 highlights the income dependencies for the basic sectors of the Campbell River and Bute Inlet local areas.<sup>19</sup> Basic sectors are those activities that result in income flowing into the area from the outside world. Basic sectors are generally viewed as those sectors that drive the local economy, creating the community wealth. For the Campbell River Local Area in 2006, the public sector and forestry represented 44% of this income. In the Bute Inlet Local Area in 2006, the public sector and other non-employment income sources made up 42% of the community income. Since 1996, both Campbell River and Bute Inlet have seen the share of income from forestry decline significantly.

<sup>18</sup> Labour force 2006 participation rate is the ratio of the labour force (employed and unemployed) as a percent of the non-institutional population. % full-time, full-year is a percent of the labour force.

<sup>19</sup> Campbell River Local Area consists of Village of Gold River, Village of Sayward, Village of Tahsis, City of Campbell River, Village of Sayward, Village of Zeballos, Electoral Areas D, H and G of the Comox-Strathcona Regional District, Ahaminaquus IR 12, Campbell River IR 11, Chenahkint IR 12, Houpsitas IR 6, Nuchatl IR 2, Nuchatl IR 1, Quinsam IR 12, Village Island IR 1, Yuquot IR 1, Oclucje IR 7, Tsa Xana IR 18, Ehatis IR 11, Homalco IR 9. The Bute Inlet Local Area consists of Comox Strathcona Electoral Areas I and J, Aupe IR 6, Aupe IR 6A, Cape Mudge IR 10, Squirrel Cove IR 8, Tatpo-oose IR 10, Tork IR 7, Matsayno IR 5, and Saaiyouck IR 6.

**Table 34 Strathcona Local Areas Income Dependencies, 1996, 2001, & 2006**

	FOR	MIN	Fishing	AGF & Food	TOU	PUB	CONST	OTHER	Trans <sup>1</sup>	ONEI <sup>2</sup>
<b>Campbell River</b>										
2006	23	5	2	2	7	21	6	3	17	14
2001	29	4	2	2	7	20	5	2	16	11
1996	36	6	3	1	7	17	7	2	13	7
<b>Bute Inlet</b>										
2006	5	0	12	2	10	20	7	5	16	22
2001	5	3	12	3	11	22	7	2	18	17
1996	18	0	19	0	3	31	5	4	12	8

Source: BC Stats (2009c, 2004, 1999).

Notes:

1. Transfer Payments (Trans) includes income from senior governments including: welfare payments, OAS, CPP, employment insurance, federal child tax credit, guaranteed income supplements and others.
2. Other Non-Employment Income (ONEI) includes investment income, such as dividends and interest; retirement pensions, superannuation, annuities, alimony, etc.

It is generally thought that communities with a diversified economic base will be more stable during challenging economic times. To address this issue and quantify it in the BC context, BC Stats produces the diversity index for each of its local areas. At the extremes, a value of zero would indicate that the community was entirely dependent on one sector, while at the other extreme the diversity index would be 100 if a local area were equally dependent on each of the defined sectors. Table 35 highlights the diversity index for the Strathcona Local Area and compares it to the mean value for all local areas in BC. (BC Stats 2009c)

**Table 35 Strathcona Local Area Diversity Indices**

	1996	2001	2006
Campbell River	73	70	66
Bute Inlet	75	75	76
Mean Values (All Local Areas)	67	67	69

Source: BC Stats (2009c)

Overall, the diversity index for the Bute Inlet area has remained relatively stable, while the Campbell River Local Area has been declining. In 2006, the diversity value of 66 made Campbell River less diversified than the BC mean diversity value.

## 1.5.4 Community Summary

### Lower Mid-Coast (Vancouver Island Portion)

The Lower Mid-Coast, or Vancouver Island portion of the Strathcona Regional District, consists of two incorporated communities, four unincorporated communities, and five First Nation communities.

#### ***Village of Sayward***

**Overview** – The Village of Sayward is located on Johnstone Strait, on the east coast of Vancouver Island and is 75 kilometres north of Campbell River and 155 kilometres south of Port Hardy. The Village was incorporated in 1968 and had a 2006 population of 340. This represents a decline from the 2001 population of 385 (BC Stats. Nd).

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community had 176 private dwellings, of which 152 were occupied by full-time local residents. There is a community and recreation centre in the Sayward. The community is home to a federal wharf and small craft harbour that provide access to the Johnstone Strait. The Port of Kelsey Bay Wharf is located just west of the small craft harbour and offers moorage in fair weather (Village of Sayward. Nd).

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 140, with 36% (a labour force of 50) of this labour force being involved in the goods-producing sector. The goods-producing labour force is primarily distributed between fishing, logging, and manufacturing.

In 2006, the service sector made up the remaining 64% of the experienced labour force. Within the service sector, retail, accommodation and food services represented 18% of the total labour force, with an experienced labour force of 25. The remaining experienced labour force was shared between public administration, education, and transportation (BC Stats. Nd).

#### ***City of Campbell River***

**Overview** – The City of Campbell River is located on the 50<sup>th</sup> parallel on the east coast of Vancouver Island, midway between Victoria (265 km to the south) and Cape Scott to the North. In the latter half of the 19th century, the community began to take shape as loggers were attracted to the area's massive stands of timber, settlers began to farm, and sportsmen came to fish for salmon and trout. The City boundaries encompass an area of 13,746 hectares with 22.5 km of waterfront facing Discovery Passage (Rivercorp. Nd). The City of Campbell River was incorporated in 1947 and in 2006 had a population of 30,055, up from the 2001 population of 29,180 (BC Stats. Nd).

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community had approximately 12,817 private dwellings, of which 12,226 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. As the largest



regional centre in the Strathcona Regional District, Campbell River has a full range of services. The community is served by the new 80 bed Campbell River Hospital, and also has a 54 unit senior-oriented assisted living building and a 94 bed facility for mental health and complex care clients. The community has a full range of recreation facilities with 21 regional parks, regional district recreation complex (two indoor pools, two indoor ice rinks), an outdoor pool, skatepark, community centre, and municipal sportsplex.

There is full range of private and public schools in Campbell River, including the Campbell River campus of North Island College. In addition, Campbell River has several local marinas including the Discovery Harbour Marina, Coast Discovery Marina, Government Wharf, Salmon Point Marina and the Fresh Water Marina.

***Economy and Labour Force*** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 15,625, with 4,535 or 29% of the labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. The community has many major employers in the goods-producing sector including TimberWest, International Forest Products and Western Forest Products in the forest sector; and Marine Harvest Canada, Grieg Seafood BC Ltd., and Mainstream Canada in the salmon farming sector. In 2006, logging, sawmilling, pulp and paper manufacturing, fishing and seafood processing accounted for an experienced labour force of 2,300 in Campbell River and made up approximately 15% of the total labour force. However, the closure of Catalysts Paper's paper and pulp mill in 2008 has since reduced the workforce in the forest sector.

In 2006, the service sector made up 10,725 of experienced labour force or 69% of the total labour force. Within the service sector, retail, accommodation and food services made up 26% of the total labour force in the community, with an experienced labour force of 4,185. Public services, including education, health care, social assistance, and public administration, had a labour force of 2,995 or 19% of the total in 2006 (BC Stats. Nd). The major public sector employers in Campbell River include Vancouver Health Authority, School District 72, North Island College, City of Campbell River, and Canada Post (Rivercorp. Nd).

### Quadra Island and Cortes Island Area

The Quadra Island and Cortes Island Areas encompass four unincorporated communities.

#### ***Heriot Bay***

***Overview*** – Heriot Bay is an unincorporated community on the east side of Quadra Island, facing the mainland coast and approximately 200 kilometres north of Vancouver. The community is a short distance north of Quathiaski Cove and the BC Ferries terminal connecting Quadra Island to Campbell River. The 2006 population for Heriot Bay was 575. This is down from the 2001 population of 625 (BC Stats. Nd).

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community had approximately 313 private dwellings, of which 255 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. Heriot Bay is the port of departure for the regular ferry service to Cortes Island, 45 minutes away. Heriot Bay offers many services for locals and visitors alike including grocery stores, a post office, library, craft shop, art gallery, a Government Wharf, boat & kayak rentals, accommodation in resorts, B&Bs and campgrounds, and some camping and boating supplies.

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 320, with approximately 70 or 22% of the labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. The goods-producing labour force was concentrated in construction, fishing and forestry. The service sector made up the remaining 78% or 250 of the labour force. Public services, including education, health care, social assistance, and public administration, had a labour force of 115 or 36% of the total in 2006 and was the largest component of the service sector (BC Stats. Nd).

### **Quathiaski Cove**

**Overview** – Quathiaski Cove is an unincorporated community on the south west part of the island, across Discovery Passage from Campbell River. Quathiaski Cove is the main commercial and residential centre on Quadra Island. It is the location of the hourly BC Ferries service to and from Campbell River. The 2006 population for Quathiaski Cove was 380. This is down from the 2001 population of 410; however, it is up from the 1996 population of 320.

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community had 235 private dwellings, of which 166 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. Quathiaski Cove, as the main service centre on Quadra Island, has a range of commercial services including groceries, liquor, gas, propane, pharmacy, banking, office and art supplies, art galleries, marine and auto mechanics, hair stylists and hardware store. Public services include an elementary school, Community Centre, and a post office. In addition, there is the BC Ferries dock in the community.

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 210, with approximately 80 or 38% of the labour force involved in the goods-producing sector. The goods-producing labour force was concentrated in construction, fishing, forestry and manufacturing. The service sector made up the remaining 62% or 130 in the labour force in 2006. The retail, accommodation and food services, and transportation with a labour force of 50, made up 24% of the total labour force in the community. (BC Stats. Nd).

### **Read Island**

**Overview** – Read Island is located just east of Quadra Island and immediately north of Cortes Island. The unincorporated community of Read Island is centred on Surge Narrows, which is the location of the main services and government dock. The 2006 population for Read Island was 65 (BC Stats. Nd). This is similar to the 2001 population and the 1996 population.

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community had 78 private dwellings, of which 27 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. This highlights the seasonal nature of the population, which is higher during the summer months. Around Surge Narrows there are several services including the government dock, school and community hall, post office and store.

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 35, primarily involved in logging and aquaculture.

### ***Manson's Landing***

**Overview** – The unincorporated community of Manson's Landing is located on west side of Cortes Island. Cortes Island is located immediately east of Quadra Island at the entrance to Desolation Sound. Cortes Island is 25 kilometres long and 13 kilometres wide, and the Island is connected to Quadra Island by a 45 minute BC Ferry ride. Manson's Landing had a 2006 population of 200. This is up from 135 in 2001 and 95 in 1996.

**Infrastructure** – In 2006, the community of Manson's Landing had 118 private dwellings, of which 95 were occupied by local residents as their main residence. There is a BC Ferries dock at the small settlement of Whaletown on the west side of Cortes Island. In addition, there is a well-equipped marina in Gorge Harbour, and government wharves at Cortes Bay, Whaletown, Squirrel Cove, Manson's Landing and Gorge Harbour.

**Economy and Labour Force** – In 2006, the community had an experienced labour force of 155, with approximately 32% of this associated with the goods-producing sector. The service sector labour force was approximately 105, making up the remaining 68% of experienced labour force (BC Stats. Nd).

### ***First Nations***

#### ***Klahoose First Nation***

**Overview** – The Klahoose First Nation's largest populated community is located on the eastern shore of Cortes Island at Squirrel Cove (Tork 7). Cortes Island is at the entrance to Desolation Sound, approximately 40 kilometres northeast of Campbell River via a combination of road and ferry, and is immediately east of Quadra Island. Between 2006

and 2011 the registered population at Squirrel Cove dropped from 74 to 47 individuals (Statistics Canada. 2012v).

**Infrastructure** – There are 33 private dwellings in Squirrel Cove (Statistics Canada. 2012v). Other infrastructure includes a government dock, the Squirrel Cove General Store which contains a hardware department and fuel depot for gasoline and propane, a laundromat with showers, restaurant, garden centre, high water dock for float plane and boat tie up, boat launch ramp, and the Cortes Island Craft Store (Squirrel Cove Trading Co. Ltd. Nd).

**Economy and Labour Force** – Qathen Xwegus Management Corporation (QXMC) develops, operates and participates in economic development operations, activities and business endeavours on behalf of the Klahoose First Nation (Qathen Xwegus Management Corporation. Nda). Their office is located in Powell River, BC.

QXMC's mission is to develop independence for the Klahoose First Nation through economic opportunities. Businesses managed under QXMC include Klahoose Forestry Limited Partnership and Klahoose Shellfish (Qathen Xwegus Management Corporation. Ndb). QXMC also has a collaborative research and development agreement with the University of British Columbia in Geoduck Aquaculture (Qathen Xwegus Management Corporation. 2013).

Klahoose First Nation's Band Administration Office is in Squirrel Cove. In 2006 the employment rate in Squirrel Cove was 45.5% (Statistics Canada 2007c).

### ***K'ómoks First Nation***

**Overview** – The people called K'ómoks today once referred to themselves as Sathloot, Sasitla, Ieeksun, Puntledge, Cha'chae, and Tat'poos. In the past, they occupied sites in Kelsey Bay, Quinsum, Campbell River, Quadra Island, Kye Bay, and along the Puntledge estuary (K'ómoks First Nation. Nda).

Today, the K'ómoks First Nation has four separate reserves. Their main Reserve community (Comox 1) is located approximately 2 kilometres west of the town of Comox. In 2011, the registered population at this Reserve was 251 (Statistics Canada. 2012w). The Comox Reserve is located outside of the PNCIMA plan area but the K'ómoks First Nation has significant Traditional Territory within the plan area.

**Infrastructure** – In 2011, there were 117 private dwellings in the Comox Reserve (Statistics Canada. 2012w). Infrastructure in this community includes a recreation hall, Band office, community Big House, First Nations Art Gallery, and Band owned Campground.

***Economy and Labour Force*** – Historically K’ómoks First Nation members have been employed predominantly in the major resource sectors of the region, logging, fishing, and even mining. The major downsizing of these industries has made significant impacts on the Nation, resulting in large scale unemployment. Many community members continue to make a livelihood in the commercial fishing sector through participation in fisheries such as salmon and herring.

The K’ómoks have a Band-owned shellfish aquaculture business called Pentlatch Seafoods. This enterprise continues to be a significant employer of local residents, both members and non-members. Pentlatch Seafoods possesses seven intertidal tenures totalling 64.3 ha. All sites are located in Comox Harbour, Royston and Baynes Sound (K’ómoks First Nation. 2007a).

The K’ómoks First Nation also owns K’ómoks Forestry Company, Puntledge RV Campground, and the I-Hos Gallery, which is a retailer of high quality West Coast First Nations art (K’ómoks First Nation 2007b).

The fact that the Comox Reserve is located near one of the larger urban centres of the region translates into community members being employed in most of the various economic sectors of the region quite evenly. In 2006, the employment rate in this community was 54.5% (Statistics Canada. 2007d).

### ***Kwiahkah First Nation***

***Overview*** – The core of Kwiahkah Traditional Territory is located in the Phillips and Frederick Arm region between Vancouver Island and mainland BC (Kwiahkah First Nation. 2009a). The Kwiahkah First Nation has two Reserves which are both remotely located and only accessible by boat. Matsayno is located at the head and east side of the Phillips Arm of Cardero Channel, north of Johnstone Strait and Saaiyouck is on mainland BC, two kilometres north of Stuart Island (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2012k).

***Infrastructure*** – Kwiahkah was once a large First Nation but suffered dramatic losses of its people during the early contact period. There is currently no infrastructure on either of their Reserves and the entire membership lives off their own reserves. As of October 2012, Kwiahkah First Nation had a registered population of 20, of whom 6 live on other First Nations reserves and 14 live off reserve (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2012l). Today, most Kwiahkah First Nations members live in Campbell River (Kwiahkah First Nation, 2009a). Some members reside on the Wei Wai Kum First Nation’s Campbell River Reserve, which is where the Kwiahkah Band office is located.

***Economy and Labour Force*** – In 2007 Kwiakah First Nation launched a tourism operation in the Phillips River Valley. They built state-of-the-art grizzly bear viewing platforms and partnered with Sonora Resort and Conference Centre on Sonora Island to provide tourists with a guided experience for learning about local wildlife, culture and history (Kwiakah First Nation. 2009b).

### ***Tlowitsis First Nation***

***Overview*** – Tlowitsis Traditional Territory is centered on north-central Johnstone Strait and includes lands on Vancouver Island and the mainland, encompassing the many small inlets, waterways and islands between. Tlowitsis' primary winter residence was on Qalagwis, now known as Turnour Island (Tlowitsis Nation. Nd).

Qalagwis was also Tlowitsis First Nation's main reserve community until the 1960s, at which point the hospital and school were closed and most residents left (Tlowitsis Nation. Nd). As of October 2012, the Tlowitsis First Nation had a registered population of 392, none of whom lived on their own Reserves (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2012). Tlowitsis membership is dispersed over Vancouver Island and throughout the Province of BC. Their Band office is located in Campbell River on the Homalco First Nation's Reserve.

***Economy and Labour Force*** – Historically, employment of the Tlowitsis First Nation's members was concentrated in the resource sectors of logging and fishing. However, with the departure from their main community on Qalagwis, the employment of the Nation's membership is now quite distributed across all mainstream industries and sectors.

The Tlowitsis First Nation owns Chief's Pride Aquaculture Corporation, which manages the growth of pacific oysters on rafts situated in the Cortes Island Shellfish Grower's Co-Op lease in Desolation Sound (Chief's Pride Aquaculture Corporation. 2011). This Corporation consistently employs 5-8 community members.

### ***Wei Wai Kum First Nation***

***Overview*** – The Wei Wai Kum First Nation's main community, Campbell River 11, is located within Campbell River, approximately two kilometres east of the junction of Highway 19 and Highway 28. In 2011 the registered population at Wei Wai Kum's Campbell River Reserve was 424, an 11.3% increase from the registered population in 2006 (Statistics Canada. 2012x).

***Infrastructure*** – In 2011 there were 153 private dwellings on the Campbell River Reserve (Statistics Canada. 2012x). Other infrastructure includes Thunderbird Hall, Kwanwatsi Big House, Weiwaikum Computer Lab, Kwanwatsi Preschool, and Gengenlilas Kindergarten (Wei Wai Kum First Nation. 2009a).

Health care services are provided through the Kwakiutl District Council Health Centre and include community health nursing, communicable disease control, pre and post natal care, diabetes prevention and health promotion programs, tobacco cessation strategies, a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder mentoring program, crystal methamphetamine prevention, mental health crisis counselling, addictions prevention and health promotion, and home support programs (Kwakiutl District Council. 2011).

***Economy and Labour Force*** –Wei Wai Kum First Nation is involved in a number of economic development projects, including the Wei Wai Kum Cruise Ship Terminal, Discovery Harbour Marina, and Discovery Harbour Shopping Centre, Wei Wai Kum House of Treasures and the Thunderbird RV Park and Campground (Wei Wai Kum First Nation. 2009b). In 2006, the employment rate on Campbell River Reserve was 55.9% (Statistics Canada. 2007e).

### ***We Wai Kai First Nation***

***Overview*** – Members of We Wai Kai First Nation have two main communities, Cape Mudge Village and Quinsam Reserve (We Wai Kai Nation. Nda). Cape Mudge Village is located on south-western Quadra Island, approximately 10 kilometres from Campbell River through a combination of ferry and road.

Quinsam Reserve is located within Campbell River, along Highway 19 approximately 2.5 kilometres south of the junction with Highway 28. See the community profiles for Quadra Island and Campbell River for more detailed information regarding services available in these centres.

Between 2006 and 2011, the registered population at Cape Mudge Village decreased by 18.3%, from 175 individuals to 143 (Statistics Canada. 2012y). During the same period, the registered population at Quinsam Reserve increased by 18.3%, from 208 to 246 (Statistics Canada. 2012z).

***Infrastructure*** – There are 67 private dwellings in Cape Mudge Village (Statistics Canada. 2012y). Other infrastructure includes Tsa-Kwa-Luten Oceanfront Resort, Cape Mudge Boatworks, the Nuyumbalees Culture Centre (formerly the Kwaguith Museum), a Band Administration Office, and a pre-school/daycare (We Wai Kai Nation. Nda).

There are 88 private dwellings in Quinsam Reserve (Statistics Canada. 2012z). A 42 house residential sub-division has been planned out and is ready for development (We Wai Kum Nation. Nda). Other infrastructure includes the Band Administration Office, Quinsam Crossing Gas Station, and the Quinsam Liquor Store (We Wai Kum Nation. Nda). Quinsam residents have access to an Aboriginal Headstart Program and the Quinsam Wellness Centre, which houses a gymnasium, kitchen, board room, and office spaces (Sasamans Society. 2012d)



Both Cape Mudge and Quinsam Reserves are served by Kwakiutl District Council Health. Services are provided to both communities through Community Health Representatives, Community Health & Homecare Nurses, a Home & Community Care Coordinator, Arthritis Coordinator, Critical Incident Stress Response Coordinator and Community Wellness Workers (Sasamans Society. 2012d).

***Economy and Labour Force*** – The We Wai Kai First Nation is in the process of developing their 60-acre Quinsam Crossing commercial site on Willis Road into a destination retail and recreation gateway to Campbell River. Future development plans include a broad mix of retail, commercial and recreational uses (We Wai Kai Nation. Ndb).

Businesses owned by We Wai Kai First Nation members include Lee's Famous Chicken, Quinsam Hotel, Middle Point Terminal, We Wai Kai Campground, and We Wai Kai Seafood Corporation (We Wai Kai Nation. Ndc). The latter two businesses operate out of We Wai Kai First Nation's Drew Harbour Reserve located on the east side of Quadra Island (We Wai Kum First Nation. Nda).

In 2006, the employment rates in Cape Mudge Village and Quinsam Reserve were 48.3% and 54.5%, respectively (Statistics Canada. 2007f; Statistics Canada. 2007g).

### ***Xwémalhkwa (Homalco) First Nation***

***Overview*** – The Xwémalhkwa First Nation has a registered membership of 475 people, with 253 members living on-reserve (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2012m). Historically, most Xwémalhkwa villages were located in Calm Channel which is near Bute Inlet and about 35 kilometres northeast of Campbell River between Maurelle Island and mainland BC (Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation. Ndc).

The main Xwémalhkwa community is now on Vancouver Island at Homalco (Homalco 9), which is approximately 10 kilometres south of downtown Campbell River. Homalco is three kilometres from the Campbell River Airport on the opposite side of Highway 19.

Between 2006 and 2011 the registered population at Homalco dropped by 7.7%, from 220 to 203 (Statistics Canada. 2012aa).

***Infrastructure*** – There are 76 private dwellings in Homalco (Statistics Canada. 2012aa). The community is also home to the Homalco Band Office and the new Homalco Health Centre. The Homalco Health Centre opened in July 2011 and provides medical and dentals programs including Community Health Nursing, the Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative, and Home and Community Care services (Health Canada. 2011).



***Economy and Labour Force*** – Xwémalhkwu First Nation owns and operates Homalco Wildlife Tours, a company that provides guided Grizzly Bear viewing experiences in Bute Inlet and employs 10 people (Homalco Wildlife Tours. 2012a; Klahowya. 2012).

Xwémalhkwu First Nation also operates the Taggares-Homalco Hatchery on Orford River, located halfway between the entrance to Bute Inlet and its headwaters. The hatchery produces Chinook, Chum and Coho salmon that are used to enhance natural stock. It has capacity to incubate up to four million Coho eggs, six million Chum eggs and over 150,000 Chinook eggs each year (Homalco Wildlife Tours 2012b).

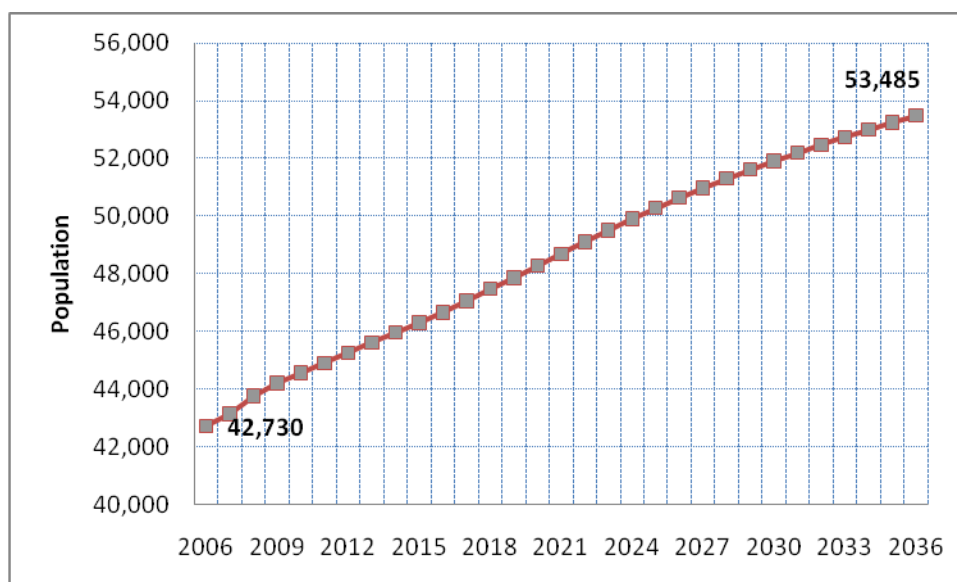
Other economic development initiatives include the acquisition of Port Neville Logging in the summer of 2012 and initial agreement with Alterra Power for an array of run-of-river hydro stations throughout Bute Inlet (Klahowya. 2012). In 2006, the employment rate in Homalco was 31.2% (Statistics Canada. 2007h).

### 1.5.5 Trends

As illustrated in Figure 15, the population in the Strathcona Regional District (SRD) is anticipated to rise steadily over the next two decades. Between 2009 and 2036 the SRD population is forecast to increase by 21%. Conversely, the provincial population is anticipated to increase by 36% over the same period. Overall, the SRD is anticipated to exhibit the strongest growth of all the regional districts in PNCIMA over the period.

Current major projects underway in the SRD area are centred around Campbell River and include retail and residential developments. Moving forward, the Campbell River area is likely well positioned to capitalize on the amenity migration that has been an important growth component for the Comox and Courtenay area for the past decade. However, it is likely Campbell River will continue to lead growth in the SRD, and smaller communities in the region will lag.

**Figure 15 Strathcona Region District Population Forecast, 2006 to 2036**



Source: BC Stats (2009d)

## 1.6 References

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## 2 Appendix B: Socio-Economic Index Development

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### 2.1 Background

BC Stats, in cooperation with the social ministries, has developed a comprehensive set of over 80 indicators describing socio-economic conditions across various regions within British Columbia. However, in an effort to effectively synthesize large volumes of data across many regions, BC Stats has developed a method to summarize the various indicators into a digestible package for policy makers.

This has resulted in the development of four basic indicators of regional hardships, each being a composite of three or four variables. These four indicators have been labelled:

- Index of Human Economic Hardship;
- Index of Crime;
- Index of Health Problems; and,
- Index of Education Concerns.

Two additional indicators that highlight the “target groups” of children and youth were also developed, bringing the overall total to six indicators. (BC Stats. 2009ai) The socio-economic indicators have been prepared by BC Stats at the Local Health Area and Regional District geographic levels. The data for the Local Health Areas in the PNCIMA have been used to provide insight into this analysis for the communities in the various areas. In total PNCIMA includes 10 Local Health Areas (See Map 1 below).

### 2.2 Socio-Economic Indices Composites

Table 36 highlights the key variables that make up each of the six socio-economic indices and the purpose that index is designed to address.

**Table 36 Variables Associated with Composite Indices**

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**Composite Index of Human Economic Hardship**

- **Purpose:** to measure economic hardship by region.
- **Included Variables:**
  - Percentage of population age 0-64 on income assistance >1 year
  - Percentage of population age 0-64 on income assistance <1 year
  - Percentage of seniors receiving maximum Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS)

**Composite Index of Crime**

- 
- **Purpose:** to measure the extent criminal offences committed in a region and use this as a proxy measure of the attitude of the resident population towards personal safety. The incidence of crime (or the probability that an individual will be a victim of crime), the recent increase or decrease in this incidence of crime and police strength are used to measure the perception of relative personal safety between regions.
  - **Included Variables:**
    - Serious violent crime rates
    - Serious property crime rates
    - Number of serious crimes per police officer
- 

**Composite Index on Health**

- 
- **Purpose:** to measure the comparative and mental health of the BC population by region.
  - **Included Variables:**
    - Potential years of life lost due to natural causes
    - Potential years of life lost due to accidental causes
    - Potential years of life lost due to suicide/homicide

**Composite Index of Education**

- 
- **Purpose:** to measure the educational well-being of the population in a particular region.
  - **Included Variables:**
    - Percentage of population age 25-54 without post-secondary credentials, 2006
    - Percentage of 18 year olds who did not graduate
    - Grade 12 provincial Math exam non-completion rate
    - Percentage of students below standard in Grade 4 Reading, Writing, and Math

**Composite Index of Children at Risk**

- 
- **Purpose:** to provide additional indicators on the relative well-being of the children at the regional level.
  - **Included Variables:**
    - Percentage of population 0-18 on Income Assistance > 1 year
    - Percentage of population 0-18 on Income Assistance < 1 year
    - Children in care per 1,000 population 0 – 18
    - Infant mortality rate
    - Percentage of students below standard in Reading - Grade 4 and 7
    - Serious juvenile crime rates

**Composite Index of Youth at Risk**

- 
- **Purpose:** to provide additional indicators on the relative well-being of the children at the regional level.
  - **Included Variables:**
    - Percentage of population 19-24 on Income Assistance > 1 year
    - Percentage of population 19-24 on Income Assistance < 1 year
    - Percentage of 18 year olds who did not Graduate
    - Total serious crime
- 

**Source:** BC Stats. (2009ai).

## 2.3 Overall Socio-Economic Index

The socio-economic composite indices identified above are combined to derive an overall socio-economic index. BC Stats applies a weighting to the overall socio-economic index that includes:

- Economic Hardship (30%);
- Crime (20%);
- Health (20%);
- Education (20%);
- Children at Risk (5%); and,
- Youth at Risk (5%).

For a complete discussion of the socio-economic indicators and the index development please see *British Columbia Regional Socio-Economic Indicators* prepared by BC Stats and located at [www.bcstats.gov.ca](http://www.bcstats.gov.ca).

**Map 6 Local Health Areas in PNCIMA, 2009**

