

APPENDIX 22-A
2012 SOCIAL BASELINE REPORT

Seabridge Gold Inc.

KSM PROJECT 2012 Social Baseline Report

SEABRIDGE GOLD



Executive Summary

Seabridge Gold Inc. is proposing to develop the KSM Project (the Project), a gold, copper, silver, and molybdenum mine located in northwestern British Columbia. The proposed Project is approximately 950 km northwest of Vancouver and 65 km northwest of Stewart, within 30 km of the British Columbia–Alaska border (Figure 1.2-1). The estimated initial capital cost of the Project is US\$5.3 billion.

The Project is split between two geographical areas: the Mine Site and Processing and Tailing Management Area (PTMA), connected by twin 23-km tunnels (Mitchell-Treaty Twinned Tunnels; Figure 1.2-2). The Mine Site will be located south of the closed Eskay Creek Mine, within the Mitchell Creek, McTagg Creek, and Sulphurets Creek valleys. Sulphurets Creek is a main tributary of the Unuk River, which flows to the Pacific Ocean. The PTMA will be located in the upper tributaries of Teigen and Treaty creeks. Both creeks are tributaries of the Bell-Irving River, which flows into the Nass River and Pacific Ocean. The PTMA is located about 19 km southwest of Bell II on Highway 37.

This social baseline report presents a comprehensive overview of the past and present social environment and context of the proposed Project, including patterns, trends, and changes over time. It outlines relevant social factors for which data on communities in the Project area are available, such as society and governance; population and demographics; education, skills and training (level of achievement, elementary, secondary, post-secondary, and adult education); health and social services (facilities, services, trends, and issues); recreation; protection services (crime index, police, fire, and ambulance); and infrastructure (utilities, communications, transportation, and housing).

Social conditions were assessed within a defined regional study area (RSA) and local study area (LSA) to anticipate the Project's broad and local effects. This report will inform the identification and assessment of potential economic effects for the development of the Application for an Environmental Assessment (EA) Certificate / Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the British Columbia and federal EA processes. It will also inform the identification of measures to mitigate potential effects. Economic baseline information will provide a reference point against which future changes can be monitored.

Data was collected through desk-based research and by telephone and face-to-face interviews. Statistical data relied heavily on Statistics Canada's 2001, 2006 and 2011 censuses and other government data, which tend to lack detail on the small communities in the Project area. Where possible, data were supplemented and contextualized through interviews with key professionals, Aboriginal leadership, community political leaders and residents, and service providers. Although the economic and social aspects of this research have been separated to ensure consistency with the Application Information Requirements, this social baseline report should be read in conjunction with the *KSM Project: 2012 Economic Baseline Report*.

Northwestern British Columbia is a more remote part of British Columbia relative to other regions in the province. Most communities within this region are isolated from major population and government centres, as well as from one another. Road infrastructure is limited, with

Highway 16 and highways 37 and 37A acting as primary corridors. Highway 37 is the only road between Gitwagak (Kitwanga, at the junction with Highway 16) and the Yukon Territory. Terrace and Smithers have major airports capable of handling jets, while Stewart, Bob Quinn, Dease Lake, Iskut, and Telegraph Creek have smaller airstrips. The Canadian National Rail line runs eastward from the Port of Prince Rupert through the communities of Terrace, New Hazelton and Smithers, adjacent to Highway 16.

Populations of communities in the region have generally declined over the past 15 years or more, largely due to the loss of jobs (e.g., mine closures). This decline is most evident in Stewart, although the trend appears to be stabilizing and, in some cases such as Terrace, potentially be reversing. Most of the smaller communities consist predominantly of Aboriginal people, including but not limited to Nisga'a, Tahltan, Skii km Lax Ha, Gitanyow, and Gitxsan.

Economically, the region and local communities have been dependent upon timber and minerals for well over 100 years. The majority of the non-Aboriginal communities throughout the region were initially established due to natural resource activity, including mine operations near Cassiar, Stewart, Smithers, and Bob Quinn Lake. To date, the region's economic and social diversity has been constrained by limited access and infrastructure, lengthy distances, remote and small communities providing some degree of labour or services, and long winters.

Within northwestern BC, there are communities established by the *Local Government Act* (1996a; e.g., municipalities, unincorporated areas, regional districts), Indian reserves established under the federal *Indian Act* (1985), and Nisga'a Lands areas defined under the Nisga'a Final Agreement. Municipalities include Stewart, Terrace, Hazelton, New Hazelton, and Smithers. Unincorporated areas include Dease Lake, Two Mile and South Hazelton. Services vary considerably based on the size of the community, with smaller communities providing fewer services, facilities and accommodations. Smithers, Terrace, and to a lesser extent Stewart, provide a wider range of services, including services for mining and forestry, facilities and accommodation. The number of recreation, health, social, and educational services within communities has dropped in parallel with the population. Regional hospitals are located in Terrace, Hazelton and Smithers, and there are well-equipped health clinics in both Dease Lake and Stewart.

Primary and secondary education facilities exist in many communities, while educational facilities within certain Aboriginal communities do not extend beyond elementary school. The Northwest Community College and Northern Lights College also offer facilities and programs for residents in the region. Communities in general and Aboriginal communities in particular, exhibit lower levels of education and skills training compared to provincial figures. The region's isolation contributes to this situation, as opportunities for education and training are generally limited, and it is difficult for residents to leave the support network of their families and community. Limited trades' apprenticeship positions, in particular, prevent residents from obtaining trades certificates, which are often needed for employment.

Based on an aggregate of income, education, employment, and housing indicators, the Community Well-being score for most communities was comparable to or above the provincial scores of 62 and 80 respectively for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities.

KSM Project 2012 Social Baseline Report

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary	i
Table of Contents.....	iii
List of Figures	v
List of Tables	v
Acronyms and Abbreviations.....	ix
1 Introduction	1-1
1.1 Project Proponent.....	1-1
1.2 KSM Project Location	1-1
1.3 KSM Project Description.....	1-1
2 Objectives	2-1
3 Methods	3-1
3.1 Study Areas.....	3-1
3.1.1 Regional Study Area.....	3-1
3.1.2 Local Study Area.....	3-1
3.2 Approach.....	3-5
3.2.1 Data Collection.....	3-6
3.2.2 Data Limitations	3-8
3.2.2.1 Quantitative.....	3-8
3.2.2.2 Qualitative.....	3-8
3.2.3 Assumptions	3-9
4 Results	4-1
4.1 Provincial Overview	4-1
4.2 Regional Study Area.....	4-1
4.2.1 Overview	4-1
4.2.2 Population.....	4-1
4.2.2.1 Aboriginal Population.....	4-2
4.2.2.2 Vulnerable Groups	4-4
4.2.3 Governance.....	4-4
4.2.4 Education.....	4-6
4.2.5 Transportation.....	4-6
4.2.5.1 Roads and Highways.....	4-6
4.2.5.2 Highway 37 Services	4-7
4.2.5.3 Historical Traffic.....	4-9

	4.2.5.4	Air Transport Services	4-13
	4.2.5.5	Railways.....	4-13
	4.2.5.6	Sea Ports.....	4-14
4.3		Local Study Area Community Profiles.....	4-14
4.3.1		Nisga’a Nation and Communities.....	4-14
	4.3.1.1	Population and Demographics	4-15
	4.3.1.2	Governance	4-17
	4.3.1.3	Education	4-18
	4.3.1.4	Community Well-being.....	4-19
	4.3.1.5	Culture.....	4-23
4.3.2		Tahltan Communities	4-24
	4.3.2.1	Population and Demographics	4-26
	4.3.2.2	Governance	4-27
	4.3.2.3	Education	4-27
	4.3.2.4	Community Well-being.....	4-29
	4.3.2.5	Culture.....	4-32
4.3.3		Dease Lake (Unincorporated).....	4-33
	4.3.3.1	Population and Demographics	4-33
	4.3.3.2	Governance	4-34
	4.3.3.3	Education	4-34
	4.3.3.4	Community Well-being.....	4-35
4.3.4		Stewart.....	4-38
	4.3.4.1	Population and Demographics	4-38
	4.3.4.2	Governance	4-38
	4.3.4.3	Education	4-38
	4.3.4.4	Community Well-being.....	4-39
4.3.5		Gitanyow	4-42
	4.3.5.1	Population and Demographics	4-42
	4.3.5.2	Governance	4-44
	4.3.5.3	Education	4-44
	4.3.5.4	Community Well-being.....	4-45
	4.3.5.5	Culture.....	4-48
4.3.6		Village of Hazelton and District of New Hazelton.....	4-49
	4.3.6.1	Population and Demographics	4-49
	4.3.6.2	Governance	4-50
	4.3.6.3	Education	4-50
	4.3.6.4	Community Well-being.....	4-51
	4.3.6.5	Culture.....	4-56
4.3.7		Smithers.....	4-56
	4.3.7.1	Population and Demographics	4-56
	4.3.7.2	Governance	4-57
	4.3.7.3	Education	4-57
	4.3.7.4	Community Well-being.....	4-59
4.3.8		Terrace.....	4-63
	4.3.8.1	Population and Demographics	4-63
	4.3.8.2	Governance	4-64
	4.3.8.3	Education	4-64
	4.3.8.4	Community Well-being.....	4-66
4.3.9		Highway 37/37A Unincorporated Settlements.....	4-69

4.3.9.1	Bell II	4-70
4.3.9.2	Meziadin Junction	4-70
4.3.9.3	Bob Quinn Lake	4-70
5	Conclusions	5-1
	References	R-1

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
Figure 1.2-1. KSM Project Location.....	1-2
Figure 1.3-1. KSM Project Layout	1-3
Figure 3.1-1. Social and Economic Regional Study Area	3-2
Figure 3.1-2. Social and Economic Local Study Area Communities	3-4
Figure 4.2-1. Transportation Infrastructure in the Regional Study Area	4-8
Figure 4.2-2. Summer and Annual Average Daily Traffic on Highway 37, 2000 to 2011	4-11
Figure 4.2-3. No Figure Supplied	4-12
Figure 4.3-1. Nisga'a Lands and Nisga'a Villages	4-16
Figure 4.3-2. Tahltan Indian Band and Iskut First Nation Reserve Locations	4-25
Figure 4.3-3. Gitanyow First Nation Indian Reserve Locations	4-43

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
Table 3.1-1. Rationale for Regional and Local Study Areas	3-3
Table 3.2-1. Social Components of the Baseline Report	3-5
Table 3.2-2. Social Indicators.....	3-6
Table 4.2-1. Regional Study Area Population (1996 to 2011).....	4-2
Table 4.2-2. Regional Study Area Select ¹ Aboriginal Population (2001 to 2011)	4-3
Table 4.2-3. Governance and Responsibilities	4-5

Table 4.2-4. Highway 37 Services.....	4-9
Table 4.2-5. Highway 37 Annual and Summer Average Daily Traffic by Year (2000 to 2011).....	4-10
Table 4.2-6. Public Airports within the Regional Study Area.....	4-13
Table 4.2-7. Flight Services within the Regional Study Area	4-13
Table 4.3-1. Nisga'a Nation Community Populations, July 2012	4-15
Table 4.3-2. Population of Nisga'a Villages and Nisga'a Lands: Statistics Canada Census (1996 to 2011)	4-17
Table 4.3-3. Total Private Dwellings in Nisga'a Villages (2001 to 2011)	4-20
Table 4.3-4. Occupied Private Dwellings in Nisga'a Villages 2006	4-20
Table 4.3-5. Country Food Consumption of Nisga'a Citizens	4-24
Table 4.3-6. Tahltan Population, July 2012	4-26
Table 4.3-7. Tahltan Nation Population: Statistics Canada Census (1996 to 2011).....	4-27
Table 4.3-8. Private Dwelling Counts in the Tahltan Nation Communities (2001 to 2011)	4-29
Table 4.3-9. Housing Characteristics in the Tahltan Communities (2006)	4-30
Table 4.3-10. Dease Lake (UNI) Population (1996 to 2011)	4-34
Table 4.3-11. Private Dwellings in Dease Lake (UNI; 2001-2011).....	4-35
Table 4.3-12. British Columbia Police Record of Criminal Activity in the Dease Lake Area (Provincial Force Jurisdiction), 2001-2010	4-37
Table 4.3-13. District of Stewart Population (1996 to 2011).....	4-38
Table 4.3-14. Private Dwellings in Stewart (2001 to 2011)	4-39
Table 4.3-15. British Columbia Police Record of Criminal Activity in the Stewart Area (Provincial Force Jurisdiction), 2001 to 2010	4-42
Table 4.3-16. Gitanyow First Nation Population, July 2012	4-42
Table 4.3-17. Gitanyow On-reserve Population: Statistics Canada Census (1996 to 2011)	4-44
Table 4.3-18. Gitanyow Total Private Dwellings 2001, 2006, and 2011	4-45

Table 4.3-19. Population in Hazelton and New Hazelton: Statistics Canada Census (1996 to 2011)4-49

Table 4.3-20. Total Private Dwellings in Hazelton and New Hazelton (2001, 2006, and 2011).....4-52

Table 4.3-21. Occupied Private Dwelling Characteristics in Hazelton, New Hazelton, RD Kitimat-Stikine, and the Province of British Columbia (2006)4-52

Table 4.3-22. British Columbia Police Record of Criminal Activity in the New Hazelton Area (Provincial Force Jurisdiction), 2001 to 2010.....4-55

Table 4.3-23. Smithers Population: Statistics Canada Census (1996 to 2011).....4-57

Table 4.3-24. Private Dwellings in Smithers (2001-2011).....4-59

Table 4.3-25. British Columbia Police Record of Criminal Activity in the Town of Smithers (Provincial Force Jurisdiction), 2001 to 20104-62

Table 4.3-26. British Columbia Police Record of Criminal Activity in the Smithers Area (Provincial Force Jurisdiction), 2001 to 20104-63

Table 4.3-27. Terrace Population (1996 to 2011).....4-64

Table 4.3-28. Private Dwellings in Terrace (2001 to 2011).....4-66

Table 4.3-29. British Columbia Police Record of Criminal Activity in the City of Terrace (Provincial Force Jurisdiction), 2001 to 20104-69

Acronyms and Abbreviations

Acronyms and abbreviations used in this document are defined where they are first used. The following list of abbreviations will assist readers who may choose to review only portions of the document.

AADT	Annual average daily traffic
AANDC	Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
AMS	Arrow Mining Services Inc.
BC	British Columbia
BC EAO	British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office
BC MARR	British Columbia Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation
BC MOTI	British Columbia Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
BVLC	Bulkley Valley Learning Centre
CWB	Community Well-being
EA	Environmental Assessment
ELL	English Language Learners
GDP	Gross domestic product
GFA	Gitanyow Fisheries Authority
GHCO	Gitanyow Hereditary Chiefs Office
GHS	Gitanyow Human Services
GWES	Gitksan Wet'suwet'en Education Society
ha	Hectares
ICABC	Institute of Chartered Accountants of British Columbia
ICMM	International Council on Mining and Metals
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IR	Indian reserve
IVHS	Iskut Valley Health Services
LHA	Local health area
LSA	Local study area
NCDES	North Coast Distance Education School
NCFS	Nisga'a Child and Family Services
NLC	Northern Lights College

Acronyms and Abbreviations

NLG	Nisga'a Lisims Government
NNADAP	National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program
NNKN	Nisga'a Nation Knowledge Network
NT Air	Northern Thunderbird Air
NVHA	Nisga'a Valley Health Authority
NWCC	Northwest Community College
PTMA	Processing and Tailing Management Area
PYLL	potential years of life lost
RCMP	Royal Canadian Mounted Police
RDBN	Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
RDKS	Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine
Rescan	Rescan Environmental Services Ltd.
RSA	Regional study area
SADT	summer average daily traffic
SCSA	Smithers Community Services Association
SD	School district
Seabridge	Seabridge Gold Inc.
SERC	Social, Economic, Resource Use, and Cultural (survey)
SEM	School of Exploration and Mining
SNDS	Skeena Native Development Society
TCC	Tahltan Central Council
TDCSS	Terrace and District Community Services Society
THSSA	Tahltan Health and Social Services Authority
UNBC	University of Northern British Columbia
US	Unites States
WWNI	Wilp Wixo'xskwhl Nisga'a ("Nisga'a House of Wisdom") Institute

1 Introduction

1.1 Project Proponent

Seabridge Gold Inc. (Seabridge) is the proponent for the proposed KSM Project (the Project), a gold, copper, silver, molybdenum mine.

1.2 KSM Project Location

The Project is located in the coastal mountains of northwestern British Columbia (BC). It is approximately 950 km northwest of Vancouver and 65 km northwest of Stewart, within 30 km of the British Columbia–Alaska border (Figure 1.2-1).

1.3 KSM Project Description

The Project is located in two geographical areas: the Mine Site and Processing and Tailing Management Area (PTMA), connected by twin 23-km tunnels, the Mitchell-Treaty Twinned Tunnels (Figure 1.3-1). The Mine Site is located south of the closed Eskay Creek Mine, within the Mitchell, McTagg, and Sulphurets Creek valleys. Sulphurets Creek is a main tributary of the Unuk River, which flows to the Pacific Ocean. The PTMA is located in the upper tributaries of Teigen and Treaty creeks. Both creeks are tributaries of the Bell-Irving River, which flows to the Nass River and into the Pacific Ocean. The PTMA is located about 19 km southwest of Bell II on Highway 37.

The Mine Site will be accessed by a new road, the Coulter Creek access road, which will be built from km 70 on the Eskay Creek Mine Road. This road will follow Coulter and Sulphurets creeks to the Mine Site. The PTMA will also be accessed by a new road, the Treaty Creek access road, the first 3-km segment of which is a forest service road off of Highway 37. The Treaty Creek access road will parallel Treaty Creek.

Four deposits will be mined at the KSM Project—Kerr, Sulphurets, Mitchell, and Iron Cap—using a combination of open pit and underground mining methods. Waste rock will be stored in engineered rock storage facilities located in the Mitchell and McTagg valleys at the Mine Site. Ore will be crushed and transported through one of the Mitchell-Treaty Twinned Tunnels to the PTMA. This tunnel will also be used to route the electrical power transmission lines. The second tunnel will be used to transport personnel and bulk materials. The Process Plant will process an average of 130,000 tpd of ore to produce a daily average of 1,200 t of concentrate. Tailing will be pumped to the Tailing Management Facility from the Process Plant. Copper concentrate will be trucked from the PTMA along highways 37 and 37A to the Port of Stewart, which is approximately 170 km away via road.

The mine operating life is estimated at 51.5 years. Approximately 1,800 people will be employed annually during the operation phase. Project construction will take about five years, and the capital cost of the Project is approximately US\$5.3 billion.



Figure 1.2-1

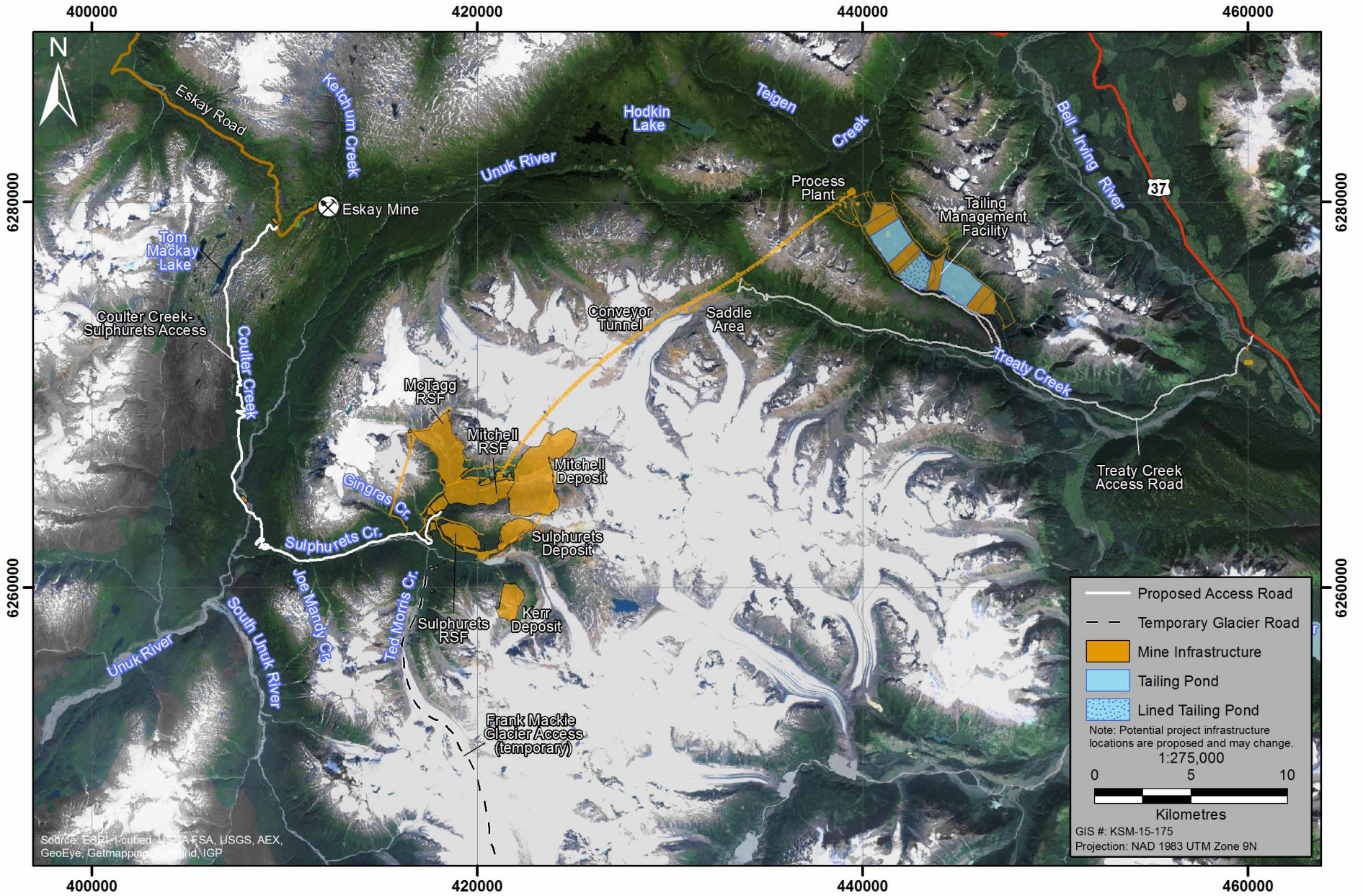


Figure 1.3-1

Figure 1.3-1

2 Objectives

The objectives of this social baseline report are to:

- provide a comprehensive understanding of the past and present social environment and context within which the Project is proposed; with knowledge of current regional and community dynamics and trends, predictions of future effects can be better predicted; and
- incorporate community considerations, interests, values, and concerns.

This report will be used to inform the federal and British Columbia EA processes for the Project, including the identification and assessment of potential economic effects on local communities, the region, and province; the development of measures to mitigate potential effects; and inform the development of management plans.

In recognition that economic and social considerations are inter-related, this report should be considered in conjunction with the *KSM Project: 2012 Economic Baseline Report* (Rescan 2012b).

3 Methods

3.1 Study Areas

A provincial overview focused on BC's economic and labour profile is provided in the *KSM Project: 2012 Economic Baseline Report (Rescan 2012b)*.

3.1.1 Regional Study Area

The regional study area (RSA) incorporates two administrative regions: the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine (RDKS), and Electoral Area A of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN; see Figure 3.1-1). A regional analysis is included because of the RSA's dependency on natural resources for economic opportunities and employment. A reliance on mining and forestry activities, in particular, distinguishes the RSA from other areas of the province. The Project is anticipated to rely largely on the RSA for human resources, supplies, services, and other requirements. The Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District is not included within the RSA, because it is not a key centre for mining services and direct use by the Project is minimal (i.e., limited to shipment of molybdenum concentrate to Prince Rupert).

The RDKS provides local government services to rural and unincorporated settlements within an area of 100,000 km² in northwestern BC. The Regional District administers over 40 "functions" or services ranging from rural land use planning, to a community water system, to fire protection, to library services, to a public marina. Its members include Kitimat, Terrace, Stewart, Hazelton, and New Hazelton (RDKS 2012b). The RDKS Board of Directors is comprised of six municipal councillors or mayors, appointed annually from their respective municipal councils, and six Directors, elected from the rural Electoral Areas for three year terms (RDKS 2012a).

Electoral Area A of the RDBN comprises 3,688 km², including the Town of Smithers and the rural areas surrounding the municipality (NDIT 2010e). The RSA includes Nisga'a Lands as defined in the Nisga'a Final Agreement (NFA) as well as Indian reserves (IRs) for the Tahltan Nation, Gitksan Nation (including Wilp Skii km Lax Ha), Gitanyow First Nation, Tsimshian First Nations, Haisla Nation, and Wet'suwet'en First Nations.

The RSA, proposed Project location, as well as the location of other industrial developments are illustrated in Figure 3.1-1.

3.1.2 Local Study Area

The local study area (LSA) consists of select discrete communities located within the RSA. It includes Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities that are expected to play a role in Project construction, operation, and closure (e.g., labour and supplies) due to their proximity to the Project and its transportation routes (Table 3.1-1). Communities include municipal communities (incorporated and unincorporated) and IRs.¹

¹ The selection of LSA communities was completed in conjunction with the *KSM Project: 2012 Economic Baseline Report*.

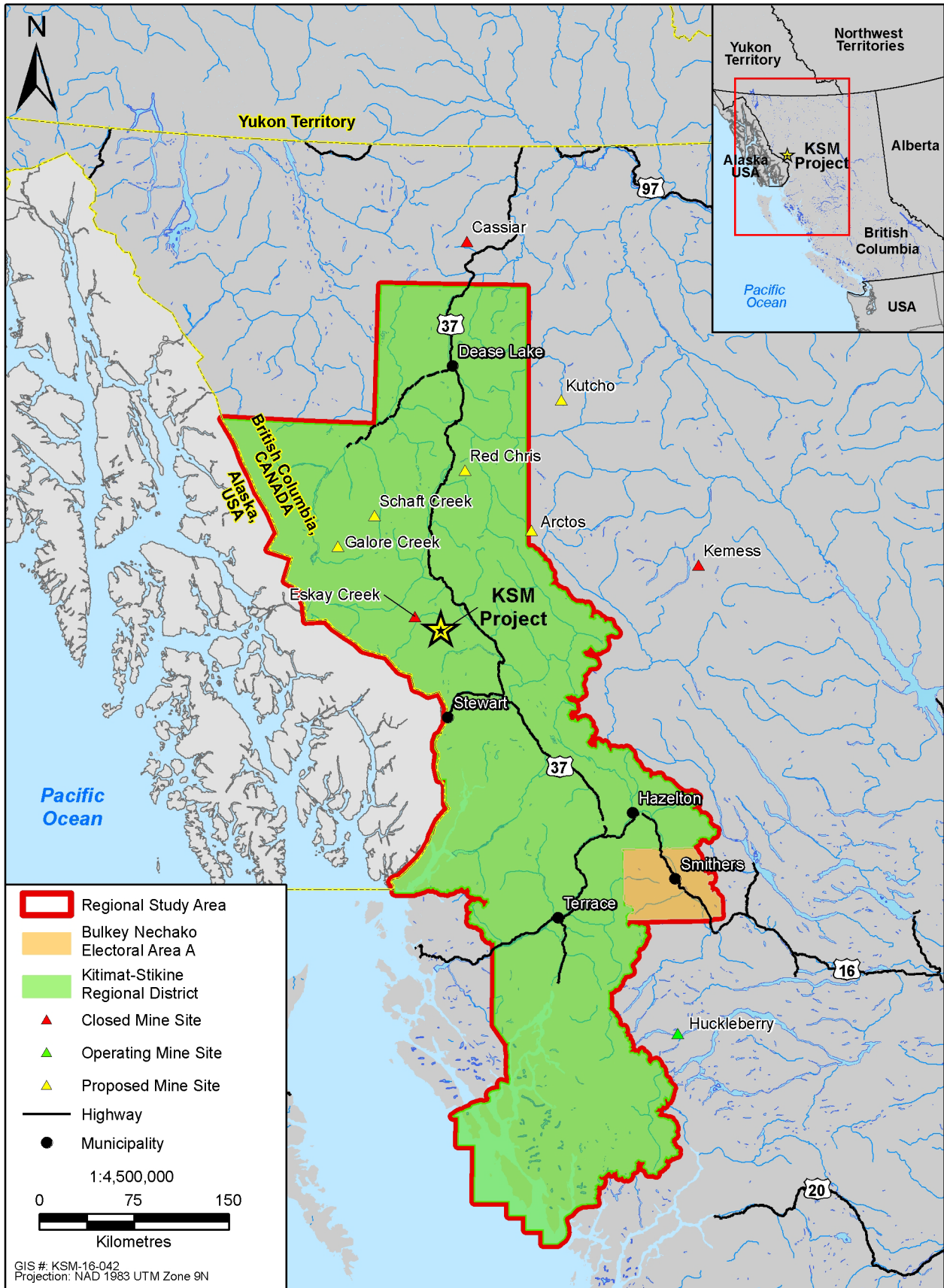


Figure 3.1-1

Table 3.1-1 provides the rationale for including each community for this study. Figure 3.1-2 identifies the communities that comprise the LSA, as well as proposed mining and hydroelectric projects.

Table 3.1-1. Rationale for Regional and Local Study Areas

Study Area	Rationale
Regional Study Area	
Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine (RDKS), and Electoral Area A of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN)	The Project will rely largely on this area of northwestern BC for human resources, supplies, services, and other requirements. Employment, income, and gross domestic product (GDP) impacts from the Project are expected across this region.
Local Study Area Communities	
Nisga'a villages (Gitlaxt'aamiks [New Aiyansh], Gitwinksihlkw, Laxgalts'ap, and Gingolx)	The Nisga'a Nation may provide labour, goods, and services to the Project. Certain Project components fall within the Nass Area as defined by the NFA.
Tahltan communities (Telegraph Creek ¹ , Dease Lake 9 ² , and Iskut 6)	The Tahltan communities are the closest communities to the Project. The Tahltan may provide labour, goods and services for the Project (as they did for the recently closed Eskay Creek mine). Certain Project components fall within the traditional territory of the Tahltan Nation.
Dease Lake (unincorporated)	Dease Lake may provide labour, goods, and services for the Project. Many Tahltan Nation members also live in the community.
District of Stewart	Concentrate from the KSM Project will be transported to the Port of Stewart by highways 37 and 37A road and then shipped overseas. Proposed hauling activities may affect traffic levels and patterns, as well as local businesses and economic activity. Stewart may provide labour and services for the Project.
Village of Gitanyow Gitanyow 1	The Gitanyow may provide labour and services for the Project. The proposed concentrate haul route along Highway 37A as well as the transportation of construction and operation materials along Highway 37 from Gitwangak (Kitwanga) traverses Gitanyow territory. Increased traffic may affect residents' traplines and other economic as well as subsistence activities.
Village of Hazelton and District of New Hazelton	These communities may provide labour, supplies, and services contracts for the Project. The Skii km Lax Ha and Gitxsan ³ members reside in communities in the Hazelton area. Certain Project components fall within or adjacent to an area claimed by the Skii km Lax Ha. The Highway 37 haul route traverses Skii km Lax Ha territory. Increased traffic may affect residents' traplines and other economic as well as subsistence activities.
Smithers and Terrace	Smithers and Terrace are primary service centres for the region. As two of the largest municipalities in northwestern BC, these communities will likely provide some of the Project's labour, supplies, and service contracts. Smithers will also serve as a transportation hub for the Project.
Highway 37 unincorporated settlements: Bell II, Meziadin Junction, and Bob Quinn Lake	Project related vehicles, including concentrate trucks and equipment supplies, will be using highways 37/37A for hauling. Increased traffic may affect settlements along the highways. Bob Quinn is included because of potential impacts during construction, transport of materials during production, and airstrip use for personnel transport.

¹ The community of Telegraph Creek consists of several reserves, three of which are populated: Telegraph Creek 6 and 6A as well as Guhthe Tah 12.

² Dease Lake 9 and the unincorporated community of Dease Lake are both LSA communities and are discussed separately in this report.

³ Additional Gitxsan wilp or communities are not included due to proximity to the Hazelton area for economic livelihoods, and lack of overlap with proposed Project components or activities.

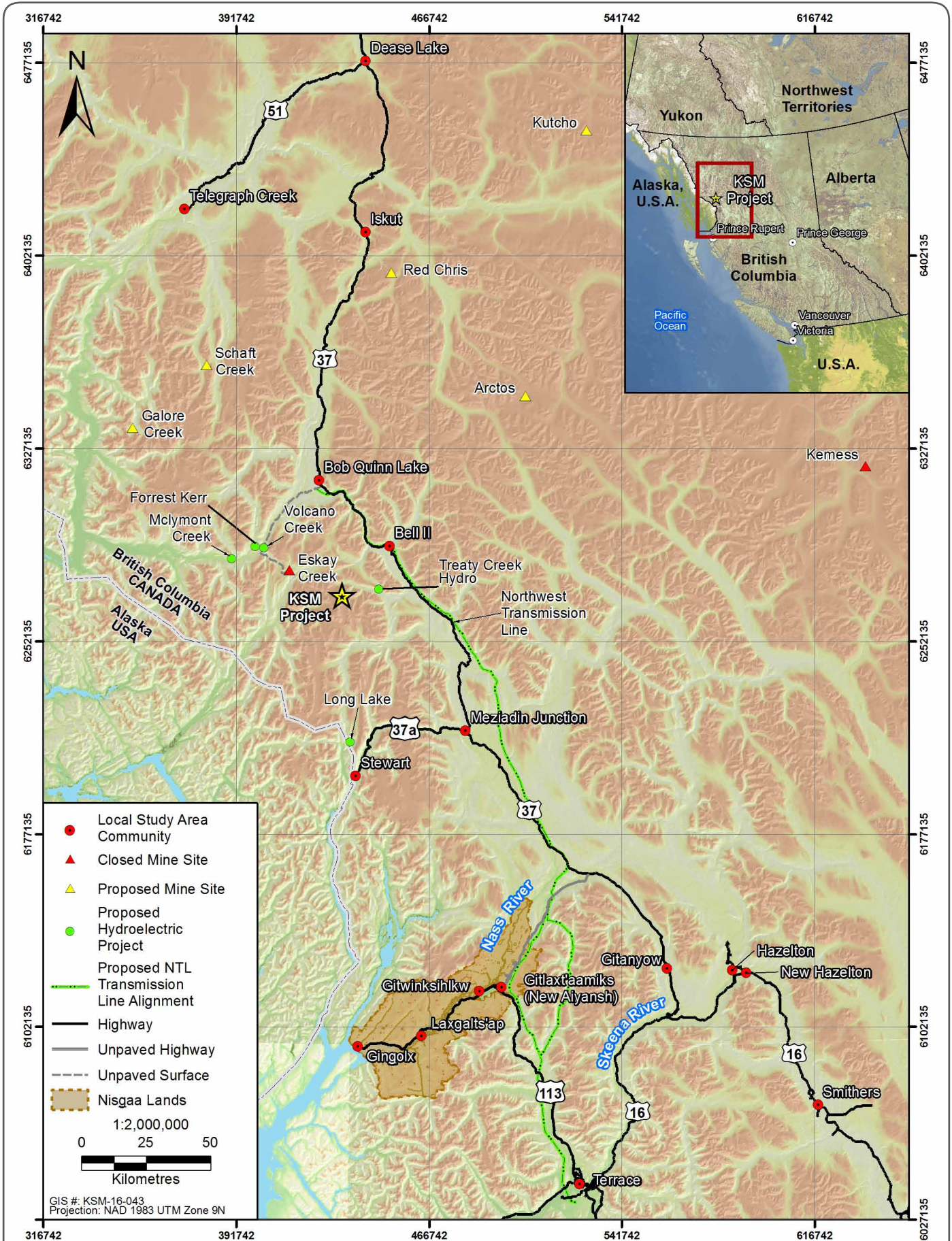


Figure 3.1-2

Information relating to unincorporated communities, such as South Hazelton, and smaller settlements is aggregated within the statistical data provided for the RDKS. Although Dease Lake remains unincorporated, it is discussed in more detail in this report due to the presence of government and business services and its role as a service centre for local Tahltan communities. Prince Rupert is not included as an LSA community as it is not a mining service centre and the resulting truck traffic from the shipment of molybdenum concentrate to the port is anticipated to be negligible.

3.2 Approach

The social baseline study aims to present a detailed summary of the social environment and context of the proposed KSM Project. Data were collected with consideration of Health Canada’s guide for health impact assessments, which promotes a holistic approach to health and well-being. It recognizes the interconnected relationships between communities and the physical environment (Health Canada 2004). The guide’s determinants of health include: employment and working conditions, income and social status, education, physical environment, healthy child development, biology and genetic endowment, health services, personal health practices and coping skills, and social support networks.

Although the social and economic aspects of this research have been separated to ensure consistency with the KSM Project Application Information Requirements issued by the BC Environmental Assessment Office on January 31, 2011, this report acknowledges the complexity of human well-being and adopts a holistic approach wherever possible. This baseline is to be used in conjunction with the *KSM Project: 2012 Economic Baseline Report* (Rescan 2012b). Table 3.2-1 provides a summary of the social components considered in this report.

Table 3.2-1. Social Components of the Baseline Report

Component	Description/Summary
Context	Location, history, and other relevant information pertaining to study Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities.
Population	Characteristics of the relevant population including demographics patterns, rates of growth and/or change, median age, gender ratio, and Aboriginal population.
Culture	Heritage context of communities, including history, traditions, and values, as it relates to social aspects of those communities.
Governance	Political context and structure of governance within and between communities. Municipal/regional operating budgets.
Education	Formal education, training, and skills development.
Health	Health indicators and recorded occurrences of various illnesses/diseases. Overview of health issues and services within the community.
Social	Social indicators including substance abuse and crime. Overview of social facilities, issues, and services within the community.
Services	Health, education, and social and municipal facilities, services and programs.
Protection	Police, fire, ambulance, and other protective services available to the communities.
Infrastructure	Utilities, transportation, communications, and housing.

3.2.1 Data Collection

This study is based on desk-based research and field interviews undertaken between May 2008 and August 2012. The desk-based research relied on publicly available information, including statistics, and other data from provincial, regional, local, and Aboriginal governments and organizations. Other data included published and unpublished reports, media analyses, and information from public involvement activities during the EA pre-application phase. Indicators were determined by both scope of the analysis. Availability and reliability of information and data were also considered. The identification of indicators was influenced by the availability and reliability of information and data. Table 3.2-2 provides a list of indicators used for this report and their sources.

Table 3.2-2. Social Indicators

Topic	Indicators*	Sources
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community population • Community demographics (age, sex, language, and Aboriginal identity) • Migration rates, patterns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada census (2001, 2006, 2011) • Statistics Canada Aboriginal Population Profile (2001, 2006)*** • Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) • BC Stats • Tahltan census (2007) • Skeena Native Development Society Labour Market Census (2006) • Gitanyow Wilp-based Socio-cultural Needs Assessment • Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine • Municipal websites (Terrace, Smithers, etc.)
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levels of attainment • Facilities • Availability of adult education and training programs • Availability of special needs programs • Availability of early childhood education programs • Availability of trades/technical programs and workshops • Availability of heritage education programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada census (2001, 2006, 2011) • Statistics Canada Aboriginal Population Profile (2001, 2006)*** • Tahltan census (2007) • Skeena Native Development Society Labour Market Census (2006) • Post-secondary facility websites (Northwest Community College, Northern Lights College, etc.) • School districts • Gitanyow Wilp-based Socio-Cultural Needs Assessment • Primary qualitative research or interviews
Social and Community Services**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program types • Program availability • Community service providers • Recreational facilities and services • Policing capacity • Emergency services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC Stats • Ministry of Health Services • Municipal websites (Terrace, Smithers, etc.) • Primary qualitative research or interviews

(continued)

Table 3.2-2. Social Indicators (completed)

Topic	Indicators*	Sources
Social Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime rates and types • Available community and support services and networks • Prevalence of substance misuse • Single-parent households 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC Stats • Ministry of Health Services • Tahltan census (2007) • Gitanyow Wilp-based Socio-Cultural Needs Assessment • Primary qualitative research or interviews
Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number and type of facilities • Number and type of health care providers • Program types 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC Stats • Ministry of Health Services
Health Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of common illness, disease, and injury • Prevalence of substance misuse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC Stats • Ministry of Health Services • Primary qualitative research or interviews
Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsistence harvesting levels • Availability of traditional activities and programs • Percent of population with some knowledge and use of traditional languages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary qualitative research or interviews • Tahltan census (2007) • Gitanyow Wilp-based Socio-cultural Needs Assessment • Ministry of Environment • Canada census (2001, 2006, 2011) • Statistics Canada Aboriginal Population Profile (2001, 2006)*** • BC Stats • Recent environmental assessment submissions posted by the BC EAO.
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing availability and conditions • Total households • Occupied private dwellings (detached, semi-detached, and row houses, duplexes, and apartments) • Constructed before or after 1986 • Utilities (power, water, and communications) • Vehicle traffic (industrial, daily traffic volumes, direction of traffic) • Transportation services (gas stations, accommodations) • Air service facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada census (2001, 2006, 2011) • Statistics Canada Aboriginal Population Profile (2001, 2006)*** • BC Stats • Tahltan census (2007) • Gitanyow Wilp-based Socio-Cultural Needs Assessment • Municipal websites (Terrace, Smithers, etc.) • Primary qualitative research or interviews • Ministry of Transportation • Air Broker Centre

* The availability of information varies significantly between the communities and may not be available for all communities.

** Social services are designed to address issues relating to children, youth, the elderly, women, families, substance abuse, crime, life skills, etc.

*** 2011 Aboriginal Population Profiles had not been released at the time of writing this report.

Primary research was conducted to fill data gaps that remained after the collation and analysis of existing information and data. Data were gathered through telephone and face-to-face interviews and focus groups with municipal, regional, provincial, and Aboriginal service providers; community organizations; individuals; and community economic development officers.

3.2.2 Data Limitations

Statistical information, particularly for the smaller communities, is often limited. This is in part due to confidentiality concerns regarding published data in small communities and because information sources typically available for larger centres simply do not exist. In the absence of pre-existing quantitative and qualitative studies, some sections rely on the contextual information for the wider region and anecdotal evidence from community professionals and authorities with first-hand knowledge of the communities. In these cases, attempts have been made to verify opinions and anecdotes through triangulation with other sources and interviews. Remaining contrasting evidence is noted in the text.

3.2.2.1 Quantitative

A variety of local, regional, provincial, and federal data were used to develop this report. These data generally relied on Statistics Canada census data from 2001, 2006 and 2011 (Statistics Canada 2002b, 2007b, 2012a) as a common source. For example, BC Stats employs Statistics Canada census data for analysis and projects, as do other provincial, municipal, and private sources of data. Much of the socio-economic data in this report have been aggregated because the communities in the LSA are small. The aggregation may mask differences between the communities. In these cases, it is difficult to cross-check data.

Out-dated data are another concern. Data from the 2011 census focused on a narrower range of topics. As such, 2011 socio-economic-related data are not available, particularly at the community level. As local and regional changes have likely occurred since 2006 census data were compiled as a result of global and national economic forces, caution must be employed when drawing conclusions about the RSA and LSA communities' current characteristics and outlooks in particular.

Data inconsistencies also show up with respect to the regional subdivisions of the province, including areas defined by regional districts, local governments, health areas, economic development zones, and land management planning. These various administrative and legal boundaries rarely coincide with one another and have also changed over time.

Finally, the availability of specific indicator information varies from one community to the next and may not be available for all locations. For instance, data in smaller and remote communities relating to house prices, the Community Well-being (CWB) Index ratings and potential years of life lost (PYLL) is sometimes missing or inadequate. Municipalities such as Terrace, Smithers, and Stewart are organized by municipal governments, and have relatively abundant information. Information on the unincorporated community of Dease Lake, on the other hand, is lacking, because there are no local governing bodies mandated to collect data.

3.2.2.2 Qualitative

To address data gaps and limitations, statistical data were supplemented with information gathered from interviews with key professionals, leadership, residents, and service providers in the communities. Wherever possible, information from interviews was cross-checked for validity and reliability. Efforts have been made to consolidate and verify data from a variety of sources, on a variety of scales, and with a variety of focuses.

As previously noted, there are limitations to statistical data, particularly in smaller communities; these data were typically complemented with qualitative data derived from community-based collaborative research involving local community members. All potentially affected Aboriginal groups (Table 3.1-1) were invited to participate in the social baseline study and were provided opportunities to review desk-based research. Aboriginal groups elected to participate to varying degrees. Information on the Tahltan Nation and the Skii km Lax Ha is limited to what was available and/or accessible at the time of writing due to the lack of participation in community interviews.

3.2.3 Assumptions

Assumptions guiding baseline work include:

- The Project will derive a portion of its workforce from the communities of Iskut, Dease Lake, Telegraph Creek, the Village of Gitanyow; Gitlaxt'aamiks (New Aiyansh), Gitwinksihlkw, Laxgalts'ap, and Gingolx; as well as Hazelton, New Hazelton, Stewart, Terrace and Smithers.
- Concentrate will be hauled by truck along the Treaty Creek Access Road, south along Highway 37 to Meziadin Junction, and west along Highway 37A to the Port of Stewart. Molybdenum concentrate will be hauled via highways 37 and 16 to the port in Prince Rupert.
- Materials required for Project construction and operation will be hauled to site via Highway 37.
- On a general level, Nisga'a Nation, as well as the Aboriginal groups of northwestern BC (including the Tahltan, Skii km Lax Ha, Gitksan, and Gitanyow) exhibit characteristics typical of other First Nations in BC, including socio-economic traits and patterns.
- Census and other statistical information, with consideration to relevant temporal constraints, accurately reflect the characteristics of each community's social context.

4 Results

4.1 Provincial Overview

Each region of BC is socially distinct due to a variety of factors including geography, population density, demographics, infrastructure, and level of service provision. Moreover, the Project is relatively isolated geographically, and social effects from the Project are not expected to occur beyond the regional level. The economic conditions of BC will be discussed separately and are provided in the *KSM Project: 2012 Economic Baseline Report* (Rescan 2012b).

4.2 Regional Study Area

4.2.1 Overview

The RSA is more remote than most regions of the province and includes the RDKS, as well as Electoral Area A of the RDBN (Figure 3.1-1). The RDKS provides local government services to rural and unincorporated settlements within a 100,000 km² area in northwestern BC. Member municipalities located within the RDKS, but with their own municipal government, include Kitimat, Terrace, Stewart, Hazelton, and New Hazelton (RDKS 2012b). Similarly, the RDBN covers almost 78,000 km² and includes eight municipalities, seven Electoral Areas, and 13 First Nation bands (NDIT 2010e). Electoral Area A of the RDBN is included in the RSA and comprises 3,688 km², including Smithers and the rural areas surrounding the municipality.

Communities within the RSA are removed from major population and government centres and are located far apart from one another. Settlements include a number of small, predominantly First Nations communities, most of which are located north-south along Highway 37 and east-west near Highway 16. The larger centres of Smithers and Terrace provide services and supplies to much of the region. Transportation and communication options north of Highway 16 are limited, and long travel distances are required to reach service centres.

The RSA and its communities have historically relied on primary resource industries, including mining and forestry, for economic and employment opportunities. The downturn in the forest industry, as well as the closure of two mines in recent years—Kemess and Eskay Creek—resulted in a larger economic downturn and regional job losses (Imperial Metals 2010; Northgate Minerals Corp. 2010). In turn, this has affected populations and services within the region and communities.

The following section presents an overview of the RSA's social characteristics. Community profiles for LSA communities are provided in Section 4.3.

4.2.2 Population

The RSA's population in 2011 was 42,752 (Statistics Canada 2012a). The population has generally declined over the past decade or more, largely due to the loss of jobs, particularly among non-Aboriginal communities. Stewart, for instance, has experienced the greatest decrease in size with its population dropping over 42% between 1996 and 2011 (Statistics Canada 2002b,

2012a). The populations of Smithers and Terrace, the RSA’s largest centres, have also been declining, albeit at lower rates of 3.9 and 10.1%, respectively.²

Overall, the RSA experienced an average drop in population of 13% between 1996 and 2011 (Table 4.2-1), with the rate of decline lessening between 2006 and 2011 (Statistics Canada 2002b; BC Stats 2012; Statistics Canada 2012a). By contrast, the North Coast Development Region’s³ 2011 population, which includes Prince Rupert but not Smithers, increased by 57 persons or approximately 0.1% (ICABC 2012). The reduced rate and potential reversal of population loss in the region may be due to the level of economic activity in the RSA over the last five years as well as the anticipated near and mid-term growth due to recent private and government investments in natural resources and utilities. This is discussed in more detail in the *KSM Project: 2012 Economic Baseline Report (Rescan 2012b)*.

Table 4.2-1. Regional Study Area Population (1996 to 2011)

	1996	2001 (% change from previous census)	2006 (% change from previous census)	2011 (% change from previous census)	Aboriginal Identity, 2006 (% of population)
RDKS	43,618	40,876 (-6.3%)	38,476 (-7.0%)	37,361 (-2.9%)	12,275 (32%)
Electoral Area A (RDBN)	5,573	5,696 (+2.2%)	5,290 (-7.1%)	5,391 (+1.9%)	470 (9%)
Total Regional	49,191	46,572 (-5.4%)	43,766 (-6.1%)	42,752 (-2.4%)	12,745 (29.1%)
British Columbia	3,724,500	3,907,738	4,113,487	4,400,055	196,070 (4.8%)

Sources: Statistics Canada (Statistics Canada 1997, 2002b, 2007b, 2012a); BC Stats (2011a).

Note: Geographic area boundaries for both the RDKS and Electoral Area A of the RDBN changed between 1996 and 2011. In order to facilitate comparison, Statistics Canada adjusted the Census population counts as needed.

The proportion of males and females has remained relatively unchanged in the last 10 years, with males (51%) slightly outnumbering females (49%) in 2011. Almost 65% of the population is between ages 18 to 64 years, with 23% of the population aged 17 years and under (BC Stats 2011a). The median age ranges from 40.3 to 42.3 and is on par with the provincial median of 41.9 (Statistics Canada 2002b, 2007b, 2012a). Almost 5.2% of the population were visible minorities in 2006 (BC Stats 2011a).

4.2.2.1 Aboriginal Population

Aboriginal peoples have a physical, cultural, and historical presence throughout the RSA. The RSA is further typified by a high proportion of Aboriginal (Treaty Nation and First Nations) residents in comparison with the rest of the province. The RSA includes Nisga’a Lands as well as IRs for the Tahltan Nation, Gitxsan Nation, Gitanyow First Nation, Tsimshian First Nations, Haisla Nation, and Wet’suwet’en First Nations. Most of the RSA’s smaller communities, as well as those located along the north-south corridor of Highway 37 and east-west near Highway 16, are predominantly Aboriginal (Figure 3.1-2).

² Both communities, however, saw slight increases in their population between 2006 and 2011, which could indicate a change in the trend. See Section 4.2 for more details.

³ The North Coast Development Region overlaps to a large degree with the Project’s RSA and includes the RDKS and Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District. The North Coast Development Region includes the City of Prince Rupert but excludes Smithers and RDBN’s Electoral Area A.

In 2006, over 29% of the RSA’s population identified as Aboriginal, including people living both on and off-reserve (Table 4.2-1). A total of 12,745 people, approximately 32% of the RDKS’s population and 9% of RDBN’s Electoral Area A, identified as Aboriginal compared with 4.8% provincially (Statistics Canada 2007b; BC Stats 2010, 2011a).

In 2006, the cumulative population of the select Aboriginal reserve communities included in the LSA amounted to 5,711, almost 45% of the RSA’s overall Aboriginal population (Table 4.2-2; Statistics Canada 2007a; Statistics Canada 2012a). According to the 2011 census, the cumulative population of these communities dropped to 5,052. Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) population data from July 2012 was generally comparable with the 2011 census, with the exception of Nisga’a Lands, where an additional 100 residents were reported (AANDC 2012a).

Table 4.2-2. Regional Study Area Select¹ Aboriginal Population (2001 to 2011)

Aboriginal Group	Statistics Canada Census				AANDC
	2001	2006	2011	% Change (2001 – 2011)	2012
<i>Nisga’a Nation</i> Nisga’a Lands ² Total membership (On and off Nisga’a Lands)	1,919	1,919	1,909	-0.5%	2,014 5,904
<i>Tahltan Nation</i> Tahltan communities ³ Total membership (On- and off-reserve)	595	654	427	-28.2	n/a 2,487 (est.) ⁶
<i>Gitanyow First Nation</i> Gitanyow Village Total membership (On- and off-reserve)	369	387	383	+3.8%	382 802
<i>Gitxsan Nation⁴</i> Gitxsan communities ⁵ Total membership (On- and off-reserve)	2,422	2,751	2,333	-3.7%	2,299 6,453
Total	5,305	5,711	5,052	-4.8%	15,646 (total membership)

Source: Statistics Canada (2002b, 2007b, 2012a); AANDC (2012a).

Notes:

¹ The table focuses on the Aboriginal groups and communities included in the Project’s Section 11 Order, issued under the BC *Environmental Assessment Act* (1996) by the BC EAO, which are also included as part of the Project LSA. The RSA includes other First Nation communities not discussed in this report.

² Nisga’a Lands include four Nisga’a villages: Gitlaxt’aamiks (New Aiyansh), Gitwinksihlkw (Canyon City), Laxgalts’ap (Greenville), and Gingolx (Kincolith).

³ The Tahltan Nation consists of the Tahltan Indian Band and Iskut First Nation. Tahltan Nation reserve communities include Telegraph Creek (consisting of Telegraph Creek 6 and 6A, and Guhthe Tah 12), Iskut 6, and Dease Lake 9.

⁴ Population numbers for the Gitxsan Nation include members of the Skii km Lax Ha, who are considered a Gitxsan wilp by the Government of BC as per the Project’s Section 11 Order (BC EAO 2009).

⁵ Gitxsan Nation reserve communities include Gitwangak 1, Gitsegukla 1, Gitanmaax 1, Glen Vowell (Sik-e-Dakh 2), and Kispiox 1.

⁶ The Iskut First Nation discontinued providing membership information to AANDC in December 2010. Total membership is estimated based on reported 2012 Tahltan Indian Band membership (1,782) and the Iskut population as last reported in December 2010 (705).

“-” = Data not available.

Notably, a large proportion of the registered population from Aboriginal groups noted in Table 4.2-2 live off reserve, including elsewhere in the RSA, the province, or further afield. The total number of members of these Aboriginal groups, including both off- and on-reserve, is 15,646.

In contrast to the overall population decline within the RSA, populations in Aboriginal communities grew at a rate of 1.5% annually between 1994 and 2006 (SNDS 2007a). Since 2006, however, Nisga'a Nation and Gitanyow populations have remained relatively stable, whereas Tahltan and Gitksan populations have declined (Statistics Canada 2012a). Table 4.2-2 provides an overview of population figures and recent trends for these Aboriginal groups. An economic overview of Nisga'a Nation, Tahltan Nation, and Gitanyow First Nation communities is provided in Sections 4.3.1, 4.3.2, and 4.3.5, respectively. Economic information pertaining to the Skii km Lax Ha is included in Section 4.3.6 (Village of Hazelton and District of New Hazelton) as many Skii km Lax Ha members reside in the Hazelton area and do not have a distinct reserve community.

4.2.2.2 Vulnerable Groups

The identification of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups within a Project's area of influence is important, as these groups may experience more severe adverse effects from the Project than others (IFC 2012). Identification can also ensure that individuals and groups within potentially affected communities benefit from Project opportunities equally.

Research on the resource sector has highlighted women and indigenous peoples, in particular, as marginalized groups who experience the benefits of resource development differently than other groups (Oxfam 2002; CCSG Associates 2004; World Bank 2004; ICMM and Render 2005; IFC 2006). Evidence from northwestern BC indicates that women, Treaty Nations, and First Nations are considered potentially vulnerable groups and may face additional challenges or barriers in terms of employment, income, and social development (TCC 2006).

Other potentially vulnerable individuals in the RSA include those who currently experience social, health, or economic challenges. For example, many reserve communities have been negatively affected by health facility closures (A. Webber, pers. comm.). Available data on social assistance, poverty, health status, social issues, and other evidence suggests that these issues and challenges are significant for some residents (see Section 4.3).

4.2.3 Governance

The communities in the RSA include municipalities governed under the BC *Local Government Act* (1996a) as well as Indian reserves governed under the federal *Indian Act* (1985). Municipalities include Stewart, Village of Hazelton, New Hazelton, Smithers, Terrace, and Kitimat. IRs in the RSA include reserves for the Tahltan Nation, Gitksan Nation, Gitanyow First Nation, Tsimshian First Nation, Haisla Nation, and Wet'suwet'en First Nation. The Nisga'a Lands Regulatory jurisdiction and administration of Nisga'a Lisims Government, as defined in the Nisga'a Final Agreement (NLG, Province of BC, and Government of Canada 1998), and each of the four Nisga'a villages (Gitlaxt'aamiks (New Aiyansh), Gitwinksihlkw, Laxgalts'ap, and Gingolx) are also governed locally by their respective village government (Table 4.2-3).

Unincorporated areas include Thornhill, South Hazelton, Two Mile, Kispiox, Lake Else, Bell II, Bob Quinn, Iskut, Telegraph Creek, and Dease Lake. Unincorporated communities, such as South Hazelton, are governed under regional authorities (i.e., RDKS).

Table 4.2-3. Governance and Responsibilities

Jurisdiction	Parties	Responsibilities
Federal	AANDC and Health Canada	Provide programs and funding to First Nation reserve communities
Provincial	Government of British Columbia	Based in Victoria, with ministry offices in Smithers, Terrace, and Dease Lake. Ministries represented in Smithers include: Environment; Forests; Energy, Mines, and Natural Gas; Agriculture; Transportation and Infrastructure; Children and Family Development; Labour and Citizens' Services; and Justice. Ministries represented in Dease Lake include: Transportation and Infrastructure, and Children and Family Development. Service BC provides a variety of provincial government services to small and/or remote communities, including Stewart, Village of Hazelton, and Dease Lake.
Regional	Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako	Regional governance, including rural land use planning, and services. Includes communities of Thornhill, South Hazelton, Two Mile, Lake Else, Iskut, Telegraph Creek, and Dease Lake. Regional governance and services; includes Town of Smithers (as well as other communities outside of the RSA).
Municipal	Stewart, Village of Hazelton, New Hazelton, Smithers, Terrace, Kitimat	Local governance and services
Nisga'a Lands	Nisga'a Lisims Government* Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government Gitwinksihlkw Village Government Laxgalts'ap Village Government Gingolx Village Government	Administration of government operations Regulatory jurisdiction and administration of government programs and services; financial, land and resource, and fisheries management Local governance, programs, and services Local governance, programs, and services Local governance, programs, and services Local governance, programs, and services
Indian reserves	Tahltan Indian Band Iskut First Nation Tahltan Central Council	Local governance (Telegraph Creek 6, 6A, Guhte Tah 12 and Dease Lake 9) Band governance and services. Local governance (Iskut 6) Band governance and services Registered under the Society Act (1996), the TCC represents the Tahltan Indian Band and Iskut First Nation on issues of joint concern (e.g., Aboriginal rights and title, land use planning)

(continued)

Table 4.2-3. Governance and Responsibilities (completed)

Jurisdiction	Bands	Responsibilities
Indian reserves (cont'd)	Gitanyow Hereditary Chiefs Office	Treaty negotiations, land use planning
	Gitanyow Band Council	Band governance and services
	Gitanmaax Band Council	Band governance and services
	Gitsegukla Indian Band	
	Gitwangak Band Council	
	Glen Vowell Indian Band	
	Kispiox Band Council	
	Gitxsan Treaty Society	Treaty negotiations, land use planning

* As defined by the Nisga'a Final Agreement.

4.2.4 Education

The RSA has a number of post-secondary institutions, including Northwest Community College (NWCC) with campuses or facilities in Gitwinksihlkw, the Village of Hazelton, Smithers, Stewart, and Terrace (main campus; NDIT 2010d). The northwest campus of the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) is also located in Terrace. The facilities and their services, as well as primary and secondary school facilities, are discussed in more detail within the LSA community profiles in Section 4.3.

4.2.5 Transportation

4.2.5.1 Roads and Highways

4.2.5.1.1 Highway 16 (the Yellowhead Highway)

Highway 16 (the Yellowhead Highway) generally runs east to west and is the main transportation route for communities in the RSA. The highway travels westward from Manitoba to the Pacific Ocean passing through northwest BC, including the communities of Prince George, Smithers, New Hazelton, Terrace, and Prince Rupert (BC MOTI 2012). This highway is paved and well-maintained.

4.2.5.1.2 Highway 37 (the Kitimat-Cassiar Highway)

Highway 37 (the Kitimat-Cassiar Highway) runs north to south through northwestern BC. This 725-km long highway is one of two overland routes to Alaska and connects a number of small settlements in the RSA. The highway was initially a combination of logging and mining roads. Logging and other large trucks use the road 24 hours a day (BC MOTI 2011a).

Highway 37 begins at Nalabila Boulevard in Kitimat and travels north to Terrace where it joins with Highway 16 to Kitwanga. The route then travels north from the Kitwanga Junction at Highway 16 through Meziadin Junction, Bell II, Bob Quinn Lake, Iskut, Dease Lake, and Good Hope Lake and terminates at Junction 37 near Watson Lake, where it meets the Alaska Highway. The Bob Quinn area is a noted avalanche zone along the highway.

Highway 37 is suitable for a range of vehicle types. Most of the road is hard-surfaced (either paved or seal-coated), although there are some gravelled sections north of Iskut. The speed limit is 80 to 100 km/hour. Most of the highway is double-lane, although lane markings may not be present and single-lane bridges are present. Maintenance and construction activities occur year-round (BC MOTI 2011a).

4.2.5.1.3 Highway 37A (the Stewart Highway)

At Meziadin Junction, Highway 37A (the Stewart Highway) branches westward from Highway 37, terminating at Stewart, BC (and neighbouring Hyder, Alaska). The highway is paved and well-maintained, though it is occasionally closed for brief periods in winter due to avalanches. Highway 37A crosses approximately 42 avalanche zones over its 61 km length.

4.2.5.1.4 Highway 51 (the Telegraph Creek Road)

Highway 51 is a 119-km gravel road that travels southwest from Dease Lake to Telegraph Creek. This road is generally known as the Telegraph Creek Road and is not suitable for large vehicles or trailers due to steep grades up to 20% and the untreated gravel surface (BC MOTI 2011a). There are no facilities along this road until Telegraph Creek, which provides basic services.

4.2.5.1.5 Highway 113 (the Nisga'a Highway)

The Nisga'a Highway travels north from the Highway 16 intersection at Terrace to Gitlaxt'aamiks and west to Gingolx (BC MOTI 2012). This route was designated as Highway 113 in 2006. The road surface is paved and travels past Rosswood and through the Nisga'a Memorial Lava Bed Provincial Park before turning west to Gingolx.

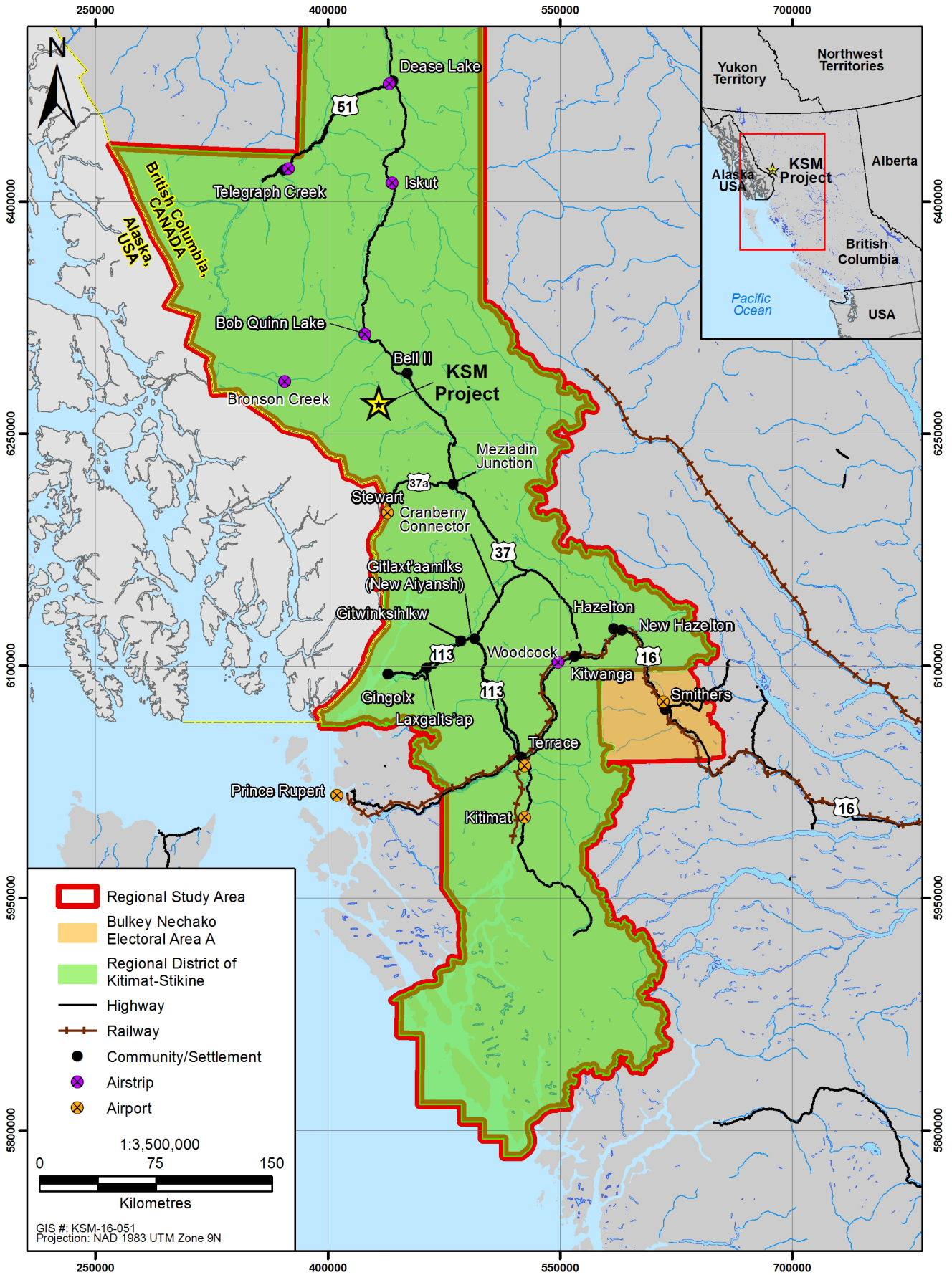
In addition, an unpaved forest service road, known as the Cranberry Connector, joins Highway 113 with Highway 37 at Cranberry Junction. The Cranberry Connector is approximately 51 km in length and is maintained by the BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and industrial users. In the event that Highway 16 is closed between Kitwanga and Terrace, the connector serves as an alternate route (Robinson Consulting and Associates 2009).

Figure 4.2-1 shows the location of the aforementioned highways in proximity to the Project.

4.2.5.2 Highway 37 Services

There are limited services along Highway 37 (Table 4.2-4). There are no services along highways 37A, 51, and 113.

Fuel, basic supplies, and restaurant facilities are available at the Kitwanga Junction and in Gitanyow. Meziadin Junction used to offer fuel, food, and a camp ground; however, these facilities have been closed for the past few years. Bell II has accommodation, a restaurant, and a gas bar. Heading north, the next services are in Iskut, Tatogga, and Dease Lake.



Transportation Infrastructure in the Regional Study Area

Figure 4.2-1

Table 4.2-4. Highway 37 Services

Location	Distance (South to North)	Facilities
Kitwanga	0 km	Gas, diesel, minor repairs, and restaurant
Gitanyow	24 km	Gas, diesel, and groceries
Meziadin Junction	156 km	Facilities closed
Bell II	249 km	Gas, diesel, minor repairs, and restaurant
Tatogga	392 km	Gas, diesel, and restaurant (summer only)
Iskut	405 km	Gas, diesel, and groceries
Dease Lake	480 km	Gas, diesel, repairs, groceries, and propane
Jade City	595 km	Gas and diesel
Good Hope Lake	629 km	Gas, diesel, and store
Junction 37 and Alaska Highway	727 km	Gas, diesel, minor repairs, and restaurant

Source: BC MOTI (2011a).

4.2.5.3 Historical Traffic

Traffic data were collected between Kitwanga and Meziadin Junction (southern segment) and for the northern segment between Meziadin Junction and the Stikine River bridge. Traffic counts indicate that the highest traffic levels occurred in the southern section of Highway 37 during the 1980s. However, these data were not collected along the entire highway, north of the Stikine River bridge for instance, nor were they collected every year. Between 1990 and 1999, traffic volume along Highway 37 remained high, continuing the steady increase that began in the 1980s. Traffic along the northern sections steadily increased from 1990 to 1995. Traffic volume along the entire stretch of the highway rose in the mid-1990s and then dropped from 1996 to 1999 (BC MOTI 2011b).

Summary statistics of average annual daily traffic (AADT) and summer average daily traffic (SADT) reveal that overall traffic levels were lower in the 2000s than in the previous decades (Figures 4.2-2 and 4.2-3). Traffic patterns were very similar, with more vehicles recorded between Kitwanga and Meziadin Junction than elsewhere (southern segment; Table 4.2-5).

4.2.5.3.1 Industrial Mining Traffic

Recently, mining haul traffic along highways 37 and 37A has been from the Eskay Creek Mine (north of Meziadin Junction) and the Huckleberry Mine (south of Meziadin Junction). Both mines hauled product to the Port of Stewart. Until the spring of 2008, four or five haul trucks from the Eskay Creek Mine and about ten trucks from the Huckleberry Mine travelled the highway each day (AMS 2010). The Eskay Creek Mine ceased production in the spring of 2008.

Mining haul traffic between 2000 and 2009 was concentrated along the Kitwanga to Meziadin Junction segment of Highway 37. Mining traffic generally peaked between 2001 and 2005, while both Eskay Creek and Huckleberry mines were in full operation. By 2006, the Eskay Creek Mine had slowed production and the mine closed in 2009. During these periods, mine haul traffic accounted for between 1 and 5% of total traffic along the Kitwanga to Meziadin Junction segment of Highway 37 and between 1 and 6% of the overall AADT from the Bob Quinn Lake

area to Meziadin Junction. Huckleberry Mine traffic is expected to continue as the life of the mine is being extended from 2014 to 2021. Additional mining-related traffic in 2010 included Yukon Zinc’s Wolverine Mine in the Yukon, which began hauling to the Port of Stewart along highways 37 and 37A at an estimated rate of 26 one-way trips per day.

Table 4.2-5. Highway 37 Annual and Summer Average Daily Traffic by Year (2000 to 2011)

Year	Southern Segment		Northern Segment	
	AADT Count	SADT Count	AADT Count	SADT Count
2000	698	851	469	593
2001	707	854	405	510
2002	-	-	-	-
2003	-	-	-	-
2004	918	1,182	-	-
2005	816	1,111	238	356
2006	795	1,171	-	-
2007	838	-	-	-
2008	740	1,011	224	378
2009	760	-	-	-
2010	709	977	210	-
2011	828	1,104	-	-

“-” : No data
 Source: BC MOTI (2011b).

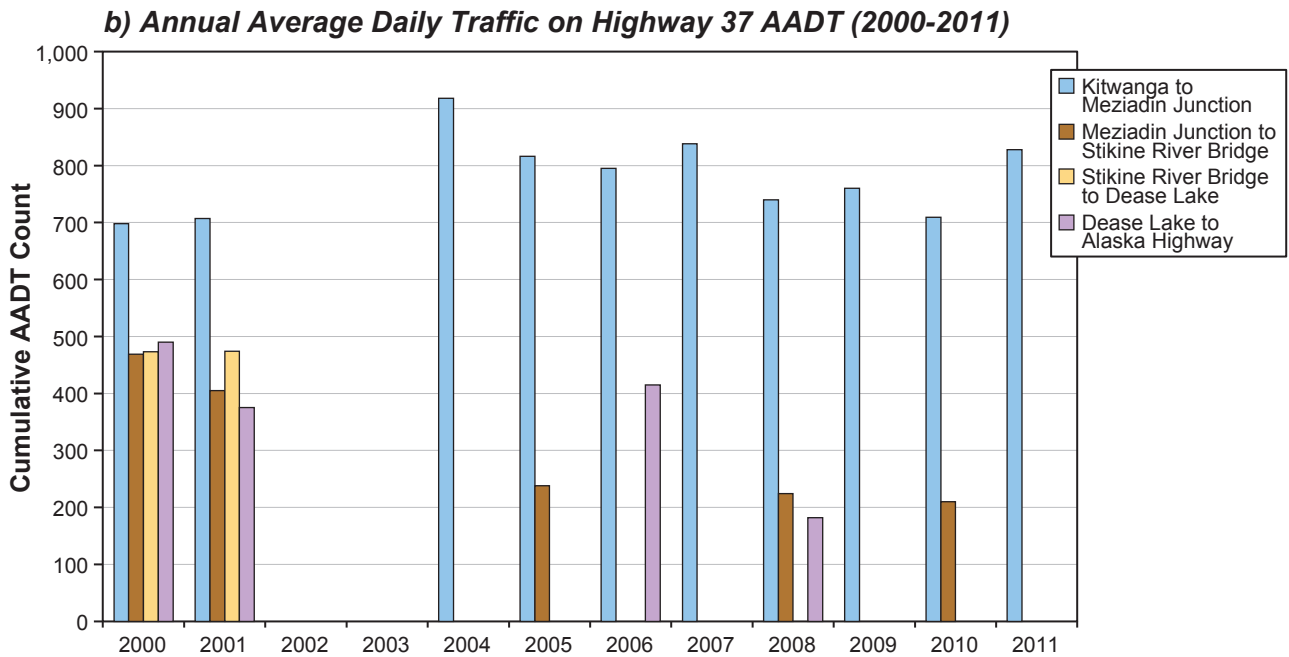
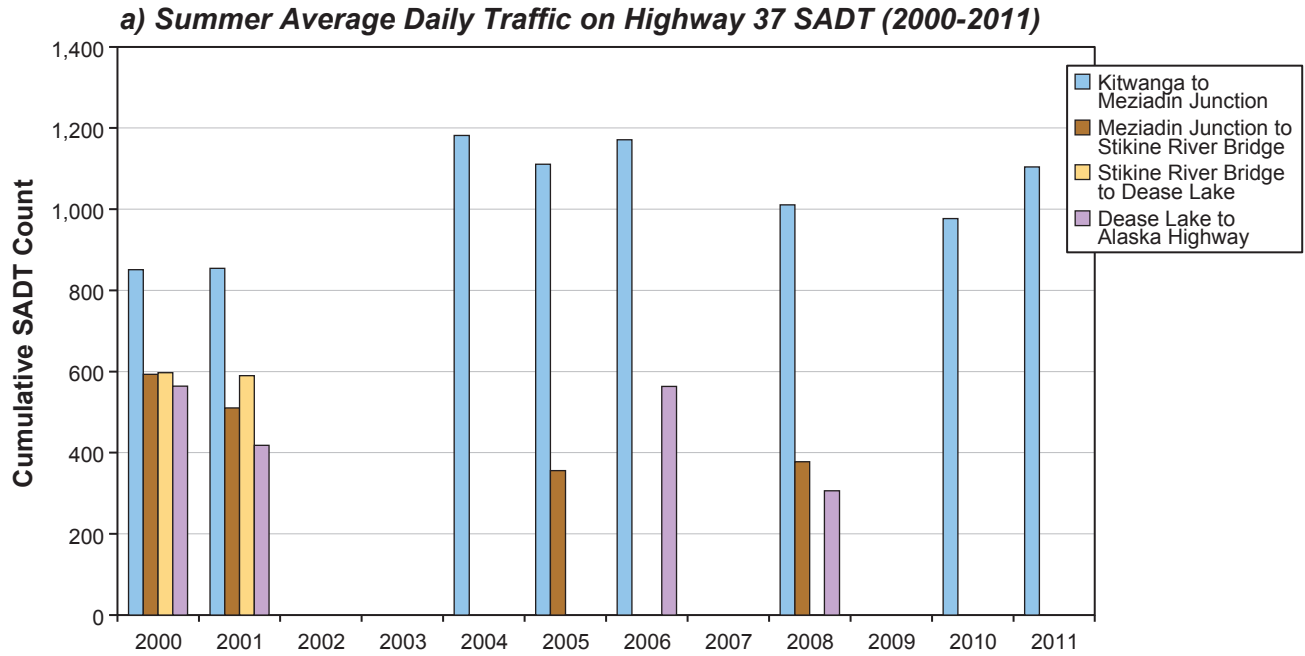
4.2.5.3.2 Forestry Traffic

Through the 1990s, raw log transport between the Brown Bear Forest Service Road and Stewart was a significant contributor to highway traffic. Harvesting in the region typically occurs between late-November through mid-March and from late-June to mid-October. During peak years, forestry traffic was approximately 16 and 38% of overall AADT and less than 10% during slow forestry years. Forestry haul traffic ranged from a high of 132 trucks per day in 1994 to a low of four trucks per day in 2009.

4.2.5.3.3 Commercial Traffic

A number of commercial carriers have operated in northwestern BC over the past 30 years, including Lindsay’s Cartage and Storage, Canadian Freightways, and Bandstra Transportation Systems. Commercial haul traffic includes goods, heavy equipment, container shipping, and mining services; however, Bandstra has not hauled industrial mining shipments since the 1990s (Van Essen, pers. comm.). Currently, Canadian Freightways and Bandstra are most active along the Highway 37 corridor.

Over the past 10 years, Bandstra has averaged two regularly scheduled trips to Stewart and two trips to Dease Lake per week. Peak years during this period were 2007 and 2008, which averaged one round trip per day along Highway 37, with a maximum of six round trips per day. Increased traffic during these two years was primarily associated with development related to the Galore Creek mining project (Van Essen pers. comm.).



Note: Where gaps are present, data is unavailable for those years.
 Source: BC MOTI 2011d.

Summer and Annual Average Daily Traffic on Highway 37, 2000 to 2011

Figure 4.2-2

Figure 4.2-3. No Figure Supplied

4.2.5.4 Air Transport Services

4.2.5.4.1 Airstrips

Dease Lake provides the closest public airport to the Project. Larger public facilities are located in Terrace and Smithers, as well as Prince Rupert outside of the RSA. Stewart, Bob Quinn Lake, Iskut (Eddontenajon), and Telegraph Creek also have smaller public airports (Figure 4.2-1). Table 4.2-6 provides details of airport characteristics.

Table 4.2-6. Public Airports within the Regional Study Area

	Runway	Length	Usage	IFR	IATA
Dease Lake	Paved	6,000 ft	Civilian	Yes	YDL
Iskut (Eddontenajon)	Unpaved	3,600 ft	Civilian	No	CBU2
Telegraph Creek	Unpaved	5,000 ft	Civilian	No	YTX
Bob Quinn Lake	Unpaved	4,270 ft	Civilian	Yes	YBO
Stewart	Paved	3,900 ft	Civilian	No	ZST
Terrace	Paved	7,500 ft and 5,373 ft	Civilian	Yes	YXT
Smithers	Paved	7,544 ft	Civilian	Yes	YYD

Source: Air Broker Centre (2009).

IFR = Indicates if the airport has an officially published instrument approach procedure. If not, the airport is not suitable for traffic during bad weather or darkness.

IATA code = International Air Transport Association (IATA), a three-letter identifier for the relevant airport.

4.2.5.4.2 Flight Services

Northern Thunderbird Air, based in Prince George with branches in Smithers and Vancouver, has scheduled flights on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between Smithers, Bob Quinn, and Dease Lake, as well as “flag stops” at Iskut (NT Air 2010). Northern Thunderbird Air’s sister airlines include both Central Mountain Air and Hawkair. Central Mountain Air operates flights to Smithers and Terrace via Prince George. Hawkair currently runs daily service from Terrace-Kitimat, Smithers, and Prince Rupert to and from Vancouver (Hawkair 2010). All three airlines also provide local and regional charter services.

Air Canada provides daily flights to Terrace, Smithers, and Prince Rupert. Table 4.2-7 summarizes flight services to and within the RSA.

Table 4.2-7. Flight Services within the Regional Study Area

Airline	Route
Northern Thunderbird Air	Smithers to Dease Lake and Bob Quinn Lake; also flag stops at Iskut and other locations
Air Canada	Vancouver to Terrace, Smithers, and Prince Rupert
Coast Mountain Air	Prince George to Terrace and Smithers
Hawk Air	Vancouver to Terrace, Smithers, and Prince Rupert

4.2.5.5 Railways

The Canadian National Rail line connects the Port of Prince Rupert to the rest of North America at Prince George, running through the communities of Terrace, Hazelton, New Hazelton, and Smithers, adjacent to Highway 16. From Prince George, rail shipments may travel eastward to or

westward from eastern Canada and the United States. Rail shipments from Prince George may also be transported southward to or northward from Vancouver and the United States. West-bound traffic through the Highway 16 communities is dominated by bulk shipments of grain and raw materials. VIA Rail passenger service stops at many of the LSA communities (NDIT 2010a; VIA Rail Canada 2012).

4.2.5.6 Sea Ports

4.2.5.6.1 Port of Stewart

The Port of Stewart is the most northerly ice-free port in North America. It supports a barge terminal and bulk commodity loader. Two deep sea facilities are in operation, Stewart Bulk Terminals and the District of Stewart log storage and handling facility. Ore and log ships from all over the world make use of the port. Space for considerable expansion exists at both facilities (NDIT 2012).

4.2.5.6.2 Port of Kitimat

Kitimat is the third largest port in BC. A private, commercial port, it is located in an ice-free, deep-water harbour with existing port facilities and potential for expansion. The port currently serves a variety of marine transportation sectors and is regulated by Transport Canada and other federal agencies (District of Kitimat 2012).

4.2.5.6.3 Port of Prince Rupert

The Port of Prince Rupert is located outside of the RSA to the west of Terrace. However, as the second largest port in BC and the port that provides the shortest trade route to Asia, it plays an important role for the region. The port is equipped with five “world-class” terminals, including container terminals. The port is has recently gone through an expansion project and has additional industrial land available for further expansion and development (Prince Rupert Port Authority n.d.). The Prince Rupert Port Authority operates the port under the *Canada Marine Act* (1998).

4.3 Local Study Area Community Profiles

The following section considers the social profile and characteristics of communities that comprise the LSA. Community profiles include qualitative and quantitative descriptions of their geographic locations, demographics, education, services (e.g., health, social, recreation, and emergency), and infrastructure (e.g., utilities, transportation, and housing). Depending on the availability of data, community profiles include both current information and past trends. Information on economy, employment, and income for each community is provided in Section 4.3 of the *KSM Project: 2012 Economic Baseline Report* (Appendix 20-A).

4.3.1 Nisga’a Nation and Communities

The Nisga’a Final Agreement is BC’s first modern-day treaty. It was signed by Nisga’a Nation and the governments of Canada and BC and came into effect in May 2000 (NLG, Province of BC, and Government of Canada 1998; AANDC 2010a). The Treaty established three areas: Nisga’a Lands, Nass Wildlife Area, and Nass Area.

The following section provides an overview of social information related to Nisga’a Nation. Information is based largely on secondary sources and desk-based research supplemented by primary community-based research carried out from September 2011 to March 2012 as part of the environmental assessment for the Project.

4.3.1.1 Population and Demographics

A large proportion of Nisga’a citizens reside in four villages within Nisga’a Lands, along the Nass River, approximately 230 km south of the proposed Project: Gitlaxt’aamiks (New Aiyansh), Gitwinksihlkw, Laxgalts’ap, and Gingolx (Figure 4.3-1). Nisga’a citizens also live in Terrace, Prince Rupert, Vancouver, and elsewhere.

Nisga’a Nation consists of approximately 5,900 members, over 2,000 of whom reside in one of the four Nisga’a villages (Statistics Canada 2007b; AANDC 2012a). Table 4.3-1 summarizes the populations of the four Nisga’a villages and the number of Nisga’a Nation members living outside of Nisga’a Lands.

Table 4.3-1. Nisga’a Nation Community Populations, July 2012

Community	Community Population 2012	Population on other reserves	Population off Nisga’a Lands	Total Registered Population
Gitlaxt’aamiks	858	51	906	1,815
Gitwinksihlkw	182	28	182	392
Laxgalts’ap	566	54	1,110	1,731
Gingolx	408	68	1,491	1,966
Total	2,014	201	3,689	5,904

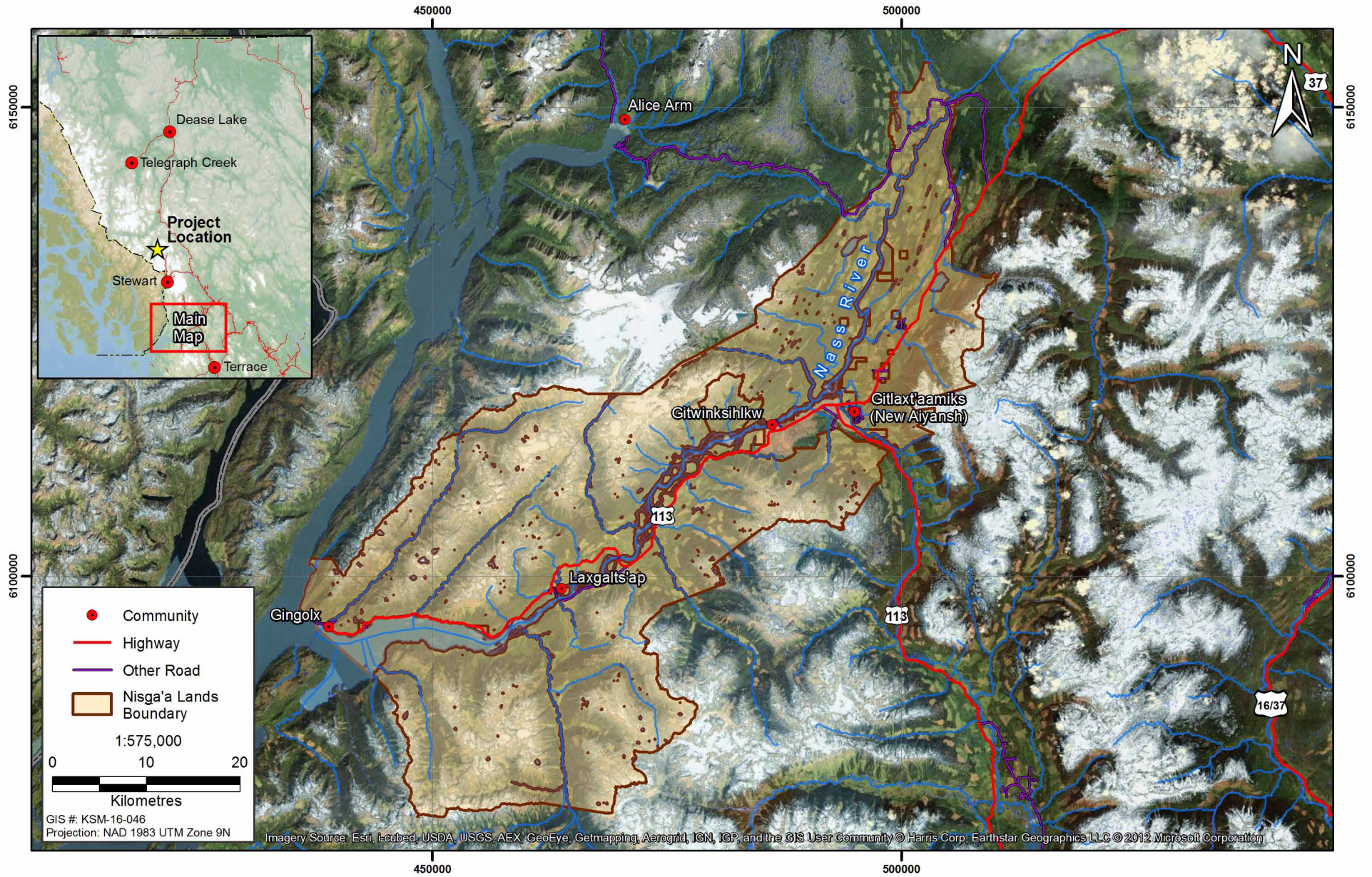
Source: Statistics Canada (2002b); AANDC (2012a).

Note: AANDC population data are provided by an administrator from each community each month and is based on total membership on and off Nisga’a Lands.

By comparison, figures reported from the 2011 census are slightly below AANDC (2012a) figures. For instance, Statistics Canada reports 1,728 residents in the four Nisga’a villages and 1,909 residents on Nisga’a Lands (Statistics Canada 2012a). Table 4.3-2 compares the total and individual village populations between 1996 and 2011.

Village populations have fluctuated over this 15-year period, though decreased collectively by over 8% since 1996 (or 5.2% since 2006). Two of the four communities have seen their populations decrease by between 20% and 37% since 1996 (Statistics Canada 2002b; AANDC 2012a; Statistics Canada 2012a). Gitlaxt’aamiks and Gingolx have both seen an increase in population relative to 1996, although since 2006 the population of Gitlaxt’aamiks has declined by 6% to a total of 758 residents. Notably, the population of Gingolx increased over 28% relative to 1996 figures, which may be partly attributed to the 2003 completion of a 28-km road connecting the community to the other three Nisga’a villages for the first time (Village of Gingolx 2012). When considering the total population on Nisga’a Lands,⁴ however, the population remained stable between 2001 and 2011.

⁴ Nisga’a Lands include residents who do not reside in one of the four Nisga’a villages, such as those in Nass Camp.



GIS # KSM-16-046
 Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 9N

Imagery Source: Esri, iSat, USDA, USGS, AEX, GeoEye, Getmapping, AeroGrid, IGN, IGP, and the GIS User Community © Harris Corp, Earthstar Geographics LLC © 2012 Microsoft Corporation

Figure 4.3-1

Figure 4.3-1

**Table 4.3-2. Population of Nisga'a Villages and Nisga'a Lands:
Statistics Canada Census (1996 to 2011)**

Community	1996 ¹	2001	2006	2011	% Change (1996 – 2011)
Gitlaxt'aamiks	739	716	806 ²	758	+2.6%
Gitwinksihlkw	231	212	201	184	-20.3%
Laxgalts'ap	598	467	474	378	-36.8%
Gingolx	318	339	341	408	+28.3%
Total	1,886	1,734	1,822	1,728	-8.4%
Total Nisga'a Lands	n/a	1,919	1,919	1,909	-

Source: Statistics Canada (2002a, 2007a, 2012a); AANDC (2012a).

Notes:

¹ Statistics Canada notes adjusted 1996 census data, as a boundary change that occurred between 1996 and 2001 needed to be taken into account.

² Statistics Canada has adjusted 2006 census data as needed to take into account a boundary change that occurred between 2006 and 2011.

n/a = data unavailable.

The median age of residents on Nisga'a Lands in 2011 was 35.6 years, an increase of almost three years since 2006 (Statistics Canada 2007a, 2012a). Approximately 55% of residents were male and 45% female.

Nearly 68% of all Nisga'a Village residents⁵ in 2006 had lived in the same place for the previous five years. Only 0.8% of residents had migrated to (or back to) Nisga'a villages from out of province between 2001 and 2006 (Statistics Canada 2007a).

4.3.1.2 Governance

Nisga'a Nation government consists of Nisga'a Lisims Government (NLG) and the four Nisga'a Village governments. NLG consists of executive and legislative branches, as well as a Council of Elders. NLG President, Chairperson, Secretary-Treasurer, and Chairperson of the Council of Elders are elected at-large by Nisga'a Nation citizens. Village government members are elected by village residents. The remaining members of the Council of Elders are appointed by NLG. The executive also includes one representative of each Nisga'a Urban Local (Terrace, Prince Rupert and Vancouver), to represent Nisga'a citizens who do not live in the Nass Valley. The government's legislative assembly, Wilp Si'ayuukhl Nisga'a, is responsible for enacting laws within its jurisdiction (NLG 2002, n.d.-a).

Nisga'a people are governed by their traditional laws and practices known as *Ayuukhl Nisga'a*, with guidance and interpretation by the Council of Elders (NLG 2002). NLG also operates within the *Constitution Act* (1982) and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

⁵ Data was suppressed for the Village of Laxgalts'ap in 2006.

4.3.1.3 Education

4.3.1.3.1 Educational Attainment

The percentage of individuals in Nisga'a villages with no certificates, diplomas, or degrees in 2006 was higher than the provincial average (19.9%), ranging from 31.3% in Gitwinksihlkw, to 35.2% in Gitlaxt'aamiks, and 40.8% in Gingolx. The higher non-completion rate in Gingolx may be related to the community not having a high school and not being accessible by road until 2003 (Nathan Barton School n.d.). However, the proportion of individuals with an apprenticeship trades certificate or diploma was slightly higher in Gitlaxt'aamiks (11.5%) and was notably higher in Gitwinksihlkw (15.6%) and Gingolx (14.3%) as compared to the provincial average (10.9%). Similarly, the percentage of individuals with a university certificate, diploma, or degree was approaching the provincial rate (19.3%) in Gitwinksihlkw (15.6%), but was somewhat less in Gitlaxt'aamiks (8.2%) and Gingolx (4.1%). Statistics Canada has suppressed the 2006 census data for the Nisga'a Village of Laxgalts'ap.

The Social, Economic, Resource Use, and Cultural (SERC) survey (Appendix 29-A) asked some general questions about educational attainment, which suggest things may have improved since the 2006 census, as only 22% of respondents reported less than a high school diploma—better than the census data even with the +/-5% margin of error taken into account. Rates of attainment of different forms of post-secondary training and/or education reported in the SERC survey vary from the census data. For example, apprenticeships were reported at a rate of 9.3% (somewhat below the rate reported in the 2006 census), versus college or university certificates or diplomas reported by 25.6% of respondents, and 15.2% for bachelor degrees or higher. The categories are slightly different so a direct comparison is difficult, but in general it would appear that educational attainment is generally improving across all categories.

4.3.1.3.2 Facilities and Services

Nisga'a village schools fall within School District (SD) 92 (Nisga'a), the office of which is located in Gitlaxt'aamiks. SD 92 administers Nisga'a Elementary Secondary School (K to 12) in Gitlaxt'aamiks; Gitwinksihlkw Elementary School (K to 7); Alvin A. McKay Elementary School (K to 7) in Laxgalts'ap; and Nathan Barton Elementary School (K to 7) and the Gingolx Adult Learning Centre (adult education) in Gingolx. The village schools strongly reflect Nisga'a culture, as almost all students and staff are Nisga'a or First Nations, and Nisga'a language is taught in the schools with an established curriculum (SD 92 N.d.-a). SD 92 employed 32 teachers and had 392 students on their nominal roll for the 2011/2012 school year.

In 2011/2012, the percentage of students with special needs was approximately 11.5%, and the percentage of students who were English Language Learners (ELL) was approximately 57%. The six-year completion graduation rate for secondary school students was only 20.6% (BC Ministry of Education 2012).

Nisga'a Village schools have experienced a decline in enrolment over the past five years. In response to declining enrolment, but also due to concerns about student achievement, multi-grade classes and other issues, SD 92 launched an initiative to restructure and improve the Nisga'a education system. As of September 2012, the SD and Nisga'a villages have launched a

pilot project to improve education outcomes (e.g., literacy, numeracy, and graduation rates) and increase the focus on trades and Nisga'a culture (SD 92 n.d.-b).

Wilp Wixo'xskwhl Nisga'a ("Nisga'a House of Wisdom") Institute (WWNI), in partnership with public institutions, offers post-secondary programs with a Nisga'a focus. In partnership with the UNBC, WWNI offers a Bachelor of Arts degree in (Nisga'a) First Nations studies, a university preparation course (Northern Advancement Program), and a Master's Degree in Nisga'a language and culture. NLG provides funding for Nisga'a students to pursue post-secondary education in BC or elsewhere in North America (NLG n.d.-b).

4.3.1.3.3 Programs and Training

In partnership with the Northwest Community College (NWCC), WWNI offers vocational and technical training, Grade 12 achievement, post-secondary preparatory courses, trades education, and continuing education (NLG n.d.-b).

Additional training opportunities available to Nisga'a residents are limited. These include opportunities through the Nisga'a Women – Introduction to Mineral Resource Industry, which offers three days of job shadowing during the months of July, August, September, and October and can lead to immediate employment for those interested. Furthermore, job shadowing is being offered by Castle Resources, a Toronto-based junior mining company focused on the redevelopment of the past producing Granduc Copper Mine. Job shadowing includes field administration, introduction to industry contractors, overview of portal camp, mining safety and first aid, food, and camp services (NNKN 2012c).

Nearby options for adult education and training include the NWCC and the Gitksan Wet'suwet'en Education Society (GWES) in Hazelton.

4.3.1.4 Community Well-being

4.3.1.4.1 Housing and Infrastructure

The Nisga'a villages and village-based housing committees are responsible for daily operations and delivery of management, financing, renovations, and new construction of housing in Nisga'a villages. The average housing values for single family homes on Nisga'a Lands ranged from \$130,000 to \$150,000 (NLG et al. 2010).

The villages of Gitlaxt'aamiks, Gitwinksihlkw, and Laxgalts'ap have developed housing subdivisions with serviced lots available for purchase. In Gingolx the amount of viable land for housing is limited as the community is surrounded by marshlands. Instead Gingolx has focused on redeveloping its current housing stock. Only four new homes have been built in Gingolx over the past 10 years, bringing the total number of homes to 113 in the spring of 2012. In 2012, the Gitlaxt'aamiks housing authority reported 310 homes in the community and eight people on a waiting list for housing. The Village of Gitwinksihlkw reported a total of 50 homes in the spring of 2012 (Rescan 2012d; Appendix 29-A). Total private dwellings in all Nisga'a villages decreased by 2.9% between 2001 and 2006, but then increased 8.4% between 2006 and 2011 (see Table 4.3-3; Statistics Canada 2012a).

Table 4.3-3. Total Private Dwellings in Nisga'a Villages (2001 to 2011)

	2001	2006	2011
Gitlaxt'aamiks	233	254	269
Gitwinksihlkw	57	58	59
Laxgalts'ap	151	132	134
Gingolx	134	114	143
Total	575	558	605

Source: Statistics Canada (2002b, 2007b, 2012a).

Note: Statistics Canada uses the term "private dwellings" to refer to a set of living quarters designed for or converted for human habitation in which a person or group of persons reside or could reside. In addition, a private dwelling must have a source of heat or power and must be an enclosed space that provides shelter from the elements, as evidenced by complete and enclosed walls and roof and by doors and windows that provide protections from wind, rain, and snow.

According to the 2006 census, the number of people per household in Nisga'a villages ranged between 3.2 and 3.7 that year. This is notably higher than the provincial figure of 2.5 (see Table 4.3-4; Statistics Canada 2012a). In 2006, the villages of Gingolx, Gitwinksihlkw, and Gitlaxt'aamiks had a total of 400 occupied private dwellings, approximately 40% of which were constructed prior to 1986. The rate of housing in need of major repairs was notably higher in Nisga'a villages (33.3% to 45.5%) compared to the provincial rate (7.4%; Statistics Canada 2007b).

Table 4.3-4. Occupied Private Dwellings in Nisga'a Villages 2006

	Gitlaxt'aamiks	Gitwinksihlkw	Laxgalts'ap ¹	Gingolx	British Columbia
Private dwellings occupied by usual residents ²	240	55	131	105	1,643,150
Dwellings constructed prior to 1986	100	35	X	30	1,017,335
Dwellings constructed 1986-2006	130	25	X	70	625,815
Dwellings requiring major repair (%)	41.7	45.5	X	33.3	7.4
People per household ³ (%)	3.4	3.7	3.6	3.2	2.5

Source: Statistics Canada (2007b, 2007a)

Notes:

¹ Statistics Canada did not provide a community profile of census data for Laxgalts'ap in 2006.

² Statistics Canada uses the term "private dwellings occupied by the usual residents" to refer to a separate set of living quarters that has a private entrance either directly from outside or from a common hall, lobby, vestibule, or stairway leading to the outside and in which a person or a group of persons live permanently.

³ Calculated by Rescan using 2006 Statistics Canada data of the 2006 population and number of private dwellings occupied by usual residents.

NLG and the individual Nisga'a villages are responsible for the provision of community utilities, infrastructure, and related services such as water, sewer, and garbage collection/landfill within Nisga'a Lands. All forms of water, including domestic, industrial, and agricultural, are sourced from their water reservoir. The community landfill is located near Gitlaxt'aamiks and provides services to Nisga'a villages and surrounding areas. All Nisga'a villages are connected to the

provincial electricity grid. Internet services in Nisga'a villages are provided by Telus through Nisga'a owned enTel Communications Inc. (NLG n.d.-a).

4.3.1.4.2 Emergency Services

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) Lisims/Nass Valley police detachment provides services to Nisga'a villages and is based in Gitlaxt'aamiks. The detachment includes six RCMP officers as well as victims' assistance and public services. Laxgalts'ap Fire & Rescue is a community-run volunteer emergency service; it provides road rescue services, with a number of volunteers certified in vehicle rescue. Fire services in Gitlaxt'aamiks are provided by the Gitlaxt'aamiks Volunteer Fire Department. Ambulance services are provided by the BC Ambulance Service for the northern region, and the Nisga'a Valley Health Authority operates an emergency phone service (Rescan 2012a).

4.3.1.4.3 Health and Social Services

The Nisga'a Valley Health Authority (NVHA) manages healthcare services and delivery in Nisga'a villages via the main centre in Gitlaxt'aamiks and satellite clinics. For more complex, long-term care the nearest full-service health facility is Mill Memorial Hospital in Terrace. The NVHA manages the delivery of physician services, public health, dental, and mental health services. There are six doctors on staff, typically three of whom are on duty at any one time. The shift rotation is six weeks. In addition, there are eight nurses responsible for a number of services ranging from community and public health to home care and treatment. Other local health services include X-ray provision, dental clinics, home support, and residence care, cultural and community health, mental health and wellness (including alcohol and drug counselling, family therapy, and psychological services), and youth enrichment. The programs and services are offered at three health centres: James Samuel Gosnell Health Centre in Gitlaxt'aamiks, wilp LuuLiMootkw (House of Healing) in Laxgalts'ap, and wilp Haldaawks (House of Medicine) in Gitwinksihlkw (NLG 2009; NNKN n.d.).

Nisga'a village governments each have a social services or development department intended to provide or manage a range of programs including basic and special needs, home care for seniors and/or disabled, training and education support, domestic violence prevention, and support services (NLG 2011; Rescan 2010). Nisga'a Child and Family Services (NCFS) has offices in Gitlaxt'aamiks, Terrace, and Prince Rupert. It has a mandate to support a range of services to help ensure protection and well-being of Nisga'a children and youth. NCFS coordinates and provides services in compliance with the child welfare statutes as well as broader, non-statutory services delivered through community volunteers (NLG et al. 2009).

NCFS is in transition to obtaining child protection status and also plans to obtain the right to provide input into the planning of care for Nisga'a children during court proceedings related to child and family services (NLG 2012). NCFS, which is funded by both Canada and BC, also provides resources for the following programs: family support services, youth worker program, community workshops, speech therapy, drug awareness resistance education, psychologist services, family support services, and a recreation program (NLG 2011).

Daycare and pre-school facilities in Nisga'a villages include the New Aiyansh Nursery School (HealthSpace 2012b), Ksi xyans Daycare Headstart in Laxgalts'ap (Healthspace 2012a), and Gingolx Headstart Daycare Centre (BC Ministry of Child and Family Development 2010).

Each of the Nisga'a villages has a recreation centre with a gymnasium and various activity rooms that house community based recreation programs organized and funded by NCFS (NLG 2009).

Health and Social Programs

The NVHA holds an annual health fair to provide health information and screening for Nisga'a members of all ages. Last year, topics discussed at the 2011 Health Fair included diabetes, cancer, women's health, men's health, children health, and Elders health. NVHA participates in International Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Day by providing information to each of the village clinics and encouraging women to avoid alcohol during their nine months of pregnancy. NVHA also holds an annual youth conference; in 2012 the two day conference was held in Gingolx. In the summer of 2012, the NVHA held a 10-km run, 4-km walk, and salmon barbecue to promote "healthy body, healthy mind, healthy spirit." The event also included canoe races, performances, prize draws, and health surveying (NNKN 2012a).

A number of youth programs operate within Nisga'a communities. These programs include the Nisga'a Youth Advisory Council, Youth Council, and the Youth Organizing Youth programs with the goals of providing leadership, capacity building, and development of Nisga'a youth between the ages of 15 and 29 (NNKN n.d.). The Youth Organizing Youth Program encourages participation in decision-making and leadership within the youth community of the four Nisga'a villages, while creating employment opportunities.

4.3.1.4.4 Community Well-being Issues

According to an aggregated index of community well-being used by AANDC, Nisga'a communities⁶ had an average CWB Index⁷ rating of 65 in 2006 (Gitlaxt'aamiks [New Aiyansh] 67, Gitwinksihlkw 70, and Gingolx 58; AANDC 2011a). This was slightly above the average provincial First Nations score of 62, though lower than the non-First Nations CWB Index average of 80. This implies a lower than average level of well-being in Nisga'a villages as compared to the rest of the province.

Crime

Between 2008 and 2010, the total serious crime rate in the Nisga'a Local Health Area (LHA) 92, which consists mostly of residents of the four Nisga'a villages, was a reported 18.6/1,000 population, nearly 50% above the provincial rate of 11.1/1,000 population (BC Stats 2011c). The number of serious crimes per police officer in the Nisga'a LHA (9.1) was slightly

⁶ Except for Laxgalts'ap, which did not register a CWB Index rating in 2006.

⁷ The CWB Index was developed by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (currently AANDC) as a means of examining the relative well-being of individual Canadian communities. Socio-economic well-being indicators used include education, labour force activity, income, and housing. These indicators were derived from Statistics Canada's Census of Population and combined to give each community a well-being "score," which is used to compare well-being across Aboriginal communities with well-being in other Canadian communities over time. A community's CWB Index score is a single number that can range from a low of 0 to a high of 100.

higher than the BC average (7.7). Out of all LHAs in BC, the rates of violent crime were highest in the Nisga'a LHA. The percentage of serious crime by juveniles was higher in the Nisga'a LHA (20.9%) compared to the province (3.8%).

Health and Social Issues

In 2011, LHA 92 reported life expectancy in its area to be 75.2 years, compared to 82.0 years provincially. The PYLL due to death from natural causes in the LHA was slightly higher than the provincial rate. PYLL due to suicide/homicide however, was considerably higher than the provincial average (BC Stats 2011c).

The infant mortality rate for the Nisga'a LHA was 0.0; this is likely because there are no hospitals in the Nisga'a LHA and women likely travel to Terrace to give birth. The rate of children in care for the Nisga'a LHA (19.8/1,000 children) was more than double the provincial rate (9.1/1,000 children); the percentage of lone parents in the Nisga'a LHA was 32.9%, compared to the Provincial rate of 25.7% (BC Stats 2011c).

Data for the percentage of young adults receiving income assistance was not available for the Nisga'a LHA. The percentage of young adults who did not graduate from high school was substantially higher in the Nisga'a LHA (72.1%) compared to the province (27.9%). The Nisga'a LHA had the highest number of teenage pregnancies⁸ in the province at 138.7 per 1,000, more than double, and in a few cases triple, the number of teenage pregnancies in other LHAs (BC Stats 2011c).

4.3.1.5 Culture

4.3.1.5.1 Subsistence Harvesting

Subsistence activities are actively pursued as important elements of traditional Nisga'a culture and are protected within the Nisga'a Final Agreement. According to the SERC survey carried out in 2011 as part of the EA application, wild or country food is an important aspect of Nisga'a household livelihood for both Nisga'a living on Nisga'a Lands and those living outside of the Nass Valley (Table 4.3-5). In addition to traditional cultural practices, country foods supplement incomes as well as contemporary food options for many Nisga'a citizens. More than two thirds of Nisga'a citizens, both on and off Nisga'a Lands, reported weekly consumption of wild fish. Slightly less than half of respondents on Nisga'a Lands reported eating meat and/or wild berries and plants on a weekly basis.

4.3.1.5.2 Programs

Through the Nisga'a Fisheries and Wildlife division, the Nisga'a Youth Marine Stewardship Program has the goal of promoting cultural values and stewardship of Nisga'a marine resources. In 2010, the program received partial start-up funding from NLG, with additional funding requested from Environment Canada. The program intends to work with SD 92 and Nisga'a

⁸ Average 2008-2010 for women aged 15-19.

youth initiatives to provide aquatic conservation, restoration, and preservation education by implementing a youth camp and summer field trips to conservation centres (NNKN 2012b).

Table 4.3-5. Country Food Consumption of Nisga’a Citizens

Nisga’a Citizens	Wild Meat	Wild Berries / Plants	Wild Fish
Residing on Nisga’a Lands (% at least once a week)	46.2%	47.2%	88.9%
Residing off Nisga’a Lands (% at least once a week)	23.4%	33.9%	72.8%

Source: Nisga’a SERC Survey (Appendix 29-A).

The Soaring Spirits Rediscovery Camp (administered by Rediscovery International Foundation) was held in August 2012 along the Skeena River. It lasted 11 days and trained students in camp skills, sustainable living, natural history interpretation, and immersion education in four distinct cultures, including Nisga’a culture (Rediscovery.org n.d.).

4.3.1.5.3 Language

Nisga’a language is known as *nisga’amk*. The Nisga’a SERC survey (Appendix 29-A), conducted in 2011, noted that of the 405 respondents, 72 (17.8%) understood *nisga’amk* completely with 42 (10.4%) able to speak *nisga’amk* completely; 28 respondents (6.9%) could write and read the language completely. The survey results indicate that the majority of respondents (65%) have limited ability to understand, speak, read, or write *nisga’amk*. Nisga’a citizens living on Nisga’a Lands have a comparatively higher comprehension of *nisga’amk* compared to those living off Nisga’a Lands. Revitalization efforts, however, are occurring through the teaching of *nisga’amk* in schools administered by SD 92 and by the production of language materials and dictionaries (WWNI n.d.).

4.3.2 Tahltan Communities

The Tahltan Nation includes two individual bands (Tahltan Indian Band and Iskut First Nation), with members living on reserves in three distinct communities: Iskut, Telegraph Creek,⁹ and Dease Lake 9 (Figure 4.3-2).

The Iskut First Nation members live in Iskut 6, approximately 80 km south of Dease Lake, and the nation has three reserves totalling 107.9 ha (BC MARR 2011). The two other reserves are not populated and include Kluachon Lake 1 and Stikine River 7 (Figure 4.3-2).

The Tahltan Indian Band has 12 registered reserves, totalling 1,338.5 ha, four of which are populated and eight unoccupied (BC MARR 2011). Tahltan Indian Band members reside on one of three reserves in Telegraph Creek (Telegraph Creek 6, Telegraph Creek 6A, and Guhthe Tah 12), 120 km southwest of Dease Lake (Figure 4.3-2). Band members also reside in Dease Lake 9, as well as in other communities throughout the province and elsewhere.

⁹ The community of Telegraph Creek includes Telegraph Creek 6, Telegraph Creek 6A, and Guhthe Tah 12

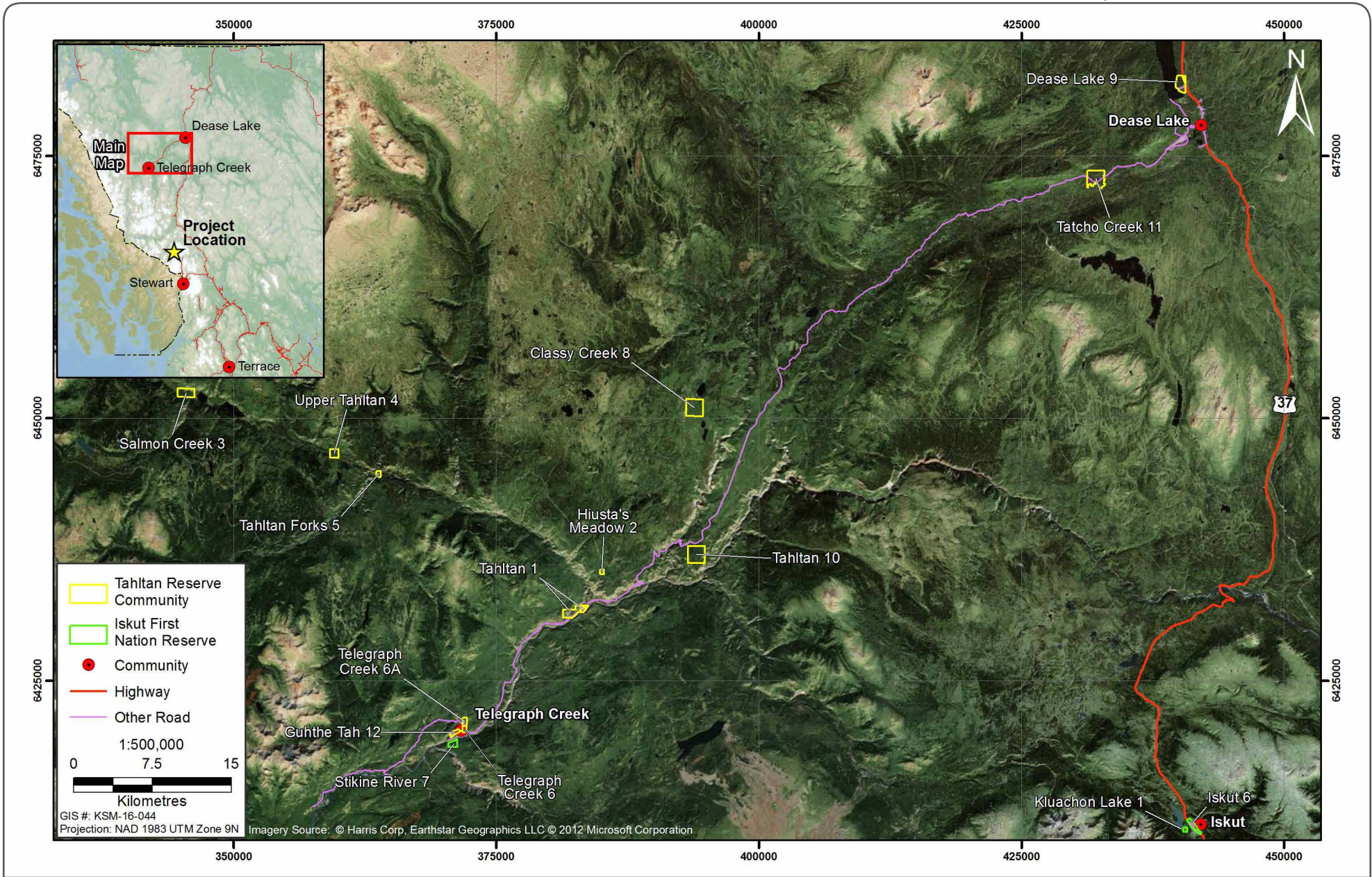


Figure 4.3-2

Figure 4.3-2

This section provides an overview of social information related to three Tahltan communities, including Dease Lake 9. The unincorporated town of Dease Lake comprises both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal residents and is discussed separately in Section 4.3.3.

4.3.2.1 Population and Demographics

The Tahltan Indian Band is more populous than the Iskut First Nation and had a total registered population in July 2012 of 1,782 (Table 4.3-6). Only 290 individuals (16%) were living on Tahltan Indian Band reserves, with 1,444 (81%) living off reserve, and 45 on other reserves (AANDC 2012a). The Iskut First Nation discontinued the provision of information to AANDC in December 2010. On- and off-reserve population for the Iskut First Nation at that time was 705 members (AANDC 2010b).

Table 4.3-6. Tahltan Population, July 2012

Community	Population on Reserve	Population on other Reserves	Population on Own Crown Land	Population on No Band Crown Land	Population off Reserve	Total Registered Population
Tahltan Indian Band	290	45	3	0	1,444	1,782
Iskut First Nation	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	705 ¹

Source: AANDC (2010b, 2012b).

Notes:

¹ December 2010 data.

n/a = not available

In terms of on-reserve population, the 2007 Tahltan Nation census (Tahltan census) reported a total of 651 Tahltan members living on-reserve in Telegraph Creek, Dease Lake, and Iskut (GMG Consulting 2009). This figure aligns with 2006 national census data for the three communities (Statistics Canada 2007a).

According to Statistics Canada, the population in each Tahltan community has decreased since 1996, with the most significant decrease occurring between 2006 and 2011 in all communities (Table 4.3-7). The 2011 census reports a total population of 427 persons residing on reserves compared to 654 residents in 2006, a cumulative decline of almost 30%. This result is difficult to explain given the level of economic activity and mineral exploration in Tahltan traditional territory over the last few years (see *KSM Project: 2012 Economic Baseline Report (Rescan 2012b)*). In spite of efforts to collect community-based research to help clarify this trend, primary data gathering had not occurred at the time of writing.

The median age in Tahltan communities increased over the last 10 years, most notably in Iskut where the median age was 35.8 in 2011, followed by 33.5 in Guhthe Tah (Telegraph Creek). Dease Lake reported the lowest median age at 27.5. This trend contrasts with the national trend in Aboriginal communities, which has indicated an overall decrease in the median age (Statistics Canada 2007b). However, the median age in all Tahltan communities where data were available remains below the provincial figure of 41.9 (Statistics Canada 2012a).

Table 4.3-7. Tahltan Nation Population: Statistics Canada Census (1996 to 2011)

Community ¹	1996	2001	2006	2011	% Change (1996-2011)
Dease Lake 9	104	66	68	58	-44.2%
Iskut 6	271	238	335	207	-23.6%
Telegraph Creek 6	96	63	62 ²	5 ¹	-94.8%
Telegraph Creek 6A	138	20	16 ²	0 ¹	-100.0% ⁴
Guhthe Tah 12 (Telegraph Creek)	0 ³	140	173	157	100.0% ⁴
Total	609	527	654	427	-29.9%

Source: Statistics Canada (1997, 2002b, 2007b, 2012a)

Notes:

¹ Statistics Canada notes that small populations are further rounded to protect the privacy and confidentiality of individuals.

² To enable comparison between census years, Statistics Canada has adjusted 2006 census data as needed to take into account boundary changes that occurred between 2006 and 2011.

³ Statistics Canada notes an adjusted population count for this figure.

⁴ A percentage change from zero to any number represents an increase of 100% or infinity.

Overall, there were slightly more male residents (52%) than females (48%) reported in Dease Lake, Guhthe Tah (Telegraph Creek), and Iskut (Statistics Canada 2012a). In comparison, AANDC reported 154 (53%) male and 136 (47%) female Tahltan Indian Band members; information specific to the community of Iskut was unavailable (AANDC 2012a). These figures are consistent with the 2007 Tahltan census (GMG Consulting 2009).

4.3.2.2 Governance

The Tahltan Indian Band and Iskut First Nation are each governed by a Band Council consisting of a chief and five-members, elected every two years.

The Tahltan Central Council (TCC) was established in 1975 as an umbrella organization to collectively represent the joint interests of the Tahltan Nation's two bands. The TCC, based in Dease Lake, is the central administrative governing body for the Tahltan Indian Band and the Iskut First Nation (TCC 2010). It is a registered society under the BC *Society Act* (1996b) and consists of an elected executive (President, Vice President, and Secretary Treasurer) for two-year terms and representatives from 10 families (Quock, Carlick, Shoe-kawk/Howd-a-gette, Thud ga, Good-za-ma, Stikine Claw and Thick, Simgaltdakta, Cawtooma, Etzenlee, and Ootheny). Family representatives are nominated and ratified at the Annual General Meeting held every summer.

4.3.2.3 Education

4.3.2.3.1 Education Attainment

High school non-completion rates were higher in each of the Tahltan communities compared to the provincial average. Rates of high school non-completion in 2006 were more than three times higher in Dease Lake (66.7%) and Iskut (60.9%) as compared to the provincial rate of 19.9%. The percentage of individuals with college and other non-university diplomas was higher in Dease Lake (22.3%) compared to the provincial rate of 16.7%, while the other Tahltan communities were below the provincial rate (Statistics Canada 2007). According to the 2007

Tahltan Census, 4% of Tahltan members have graduated from college or university, while 5% have completed trades or apprenticeship training (GMG 2009).

Education levels in the Telegraph Creek community are notably below the provincial average, as more than half (56%; n = 75) of adults have not completed high school. However, college programs have been completed by approximately 15% of residents, which is comparable to the provincial average of 17% (SNDS 2007b). More than half (53%) of Iskut residents over 15 years of age have not achieved a high school graduation certificate, more than double the provincial average of 20% (Statistics Canada 2007b).

Comparison of the 2006 and 2003 Labour Market Census (SNDS 2005, 2007b) seems to indicate a broad shift to higher skill levels. The number of people classified as labourers has declined significantly, while those in vocational, technical, and professional categories have seen notable increases. This pattern may reflect continued work experience and training among residents since Skeena Native Development Society (SNDS) skill level categories consider both institutional and on-the-job training.

4.3.2.3.2 Facilities and Services

The Tahltan Elementary-Secondary School at Telegraph Creek provides K to 12 education to Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal residents. The school is part of Stikine School District SD 87 and had a total enrolment of 37 students on September 30, 2011 (kto12.ca 2012). The school is run by the Tahltan Indian Band with funding from AANDC. The school employs four teachers and five support staff. Teaching staff have been cut in recent years as more students have left the community to pursue education in other centres.

The Klappan Independent Day School is a K-9 school, administered by the Education Department of the Iskut First Nation. As an independent school, it is not part of the provincial school district system. Enrolment in the school has remained fairly steady over the past three years with 39 students enrolled as of September 30, 2011. After Grade 9, students are bussed to Dease Lake, which is an hour's drive.

In 2011/2012, the percentage of students with special needs in the Tahltan School was approximately 12%, and the percentage of students who were ELL was 44.1%. Graduation rates for the Tahltan School were unavailable (BC Ministry of Education 2012).

Many high school students from Iskut and Telegraph Creek choose to attend school in Dease Lake; it is also not uncommon for students to leave the community to pursue high school in larger centres, including Whitehorse, Smithers, Terrace, and Prince George, where a wider array of programs and extra-curricular activities are available (Rescan 2009b).

4.3.2.3.3 Programs and Training

Two regional colleges, NWCC and Northern Lights College (NLC), offer services in Dease Lake. Post-secondary education is not readily available in Telegraph Creek or Iskut. Tuition costs are often a barrier for individuals from participating in short-term courses, including safety certifications (Simpson and Simpson 2006). AANDC funding is provided to pursue post-secondary education; however, programs must last at least a year. With additional resources, the

Tahltan would like to offer adult education, literacy, and trades programs or apprenticeships, as well as additional funding for students to pursue post-secondary education (Simpson and Simpson 2006).

4.3.2.4 Community Well-being

4.3.2.4.1 Housing and Infrastructure

Statistics Canada census data provides an overview of private dwellings in Tahltan communities. Between 2001 and 2006, the number of private dwellings increased slightly in all communities except Dease Lake from a total of 212 to 220. Between 2006 and 2011, however, the total number of private dwellings decreased in all communities, totalling 155 (Table 4.3-8). Further research would be required to better understand these trends.

Table 4.3-8. Private Dwelling Counts in the Tahltan Nation Communities (2001 to 2011)

Community	2001	2006	2011
Dease Lake 9	23	21	17
Iskut 6	99	101	82
Telegraph Creek 6	27	31	1
Telegraph Creek 6A	7	9	0
Guhthe Tah 12	56	58	55
Total	212	220	155

Source: Statistics Canada (2007b, 2007a); AANDC (2011c).

¹ Data gathered from Statistics Canada 2006 Aboriginal Population Profile – Tahltan Indian Band Area.

In all communities, more than half of the housing stock has been constructed between 1986 and 2006, indicating homes are relatively new (Table 4.3-9). However, the rates of dwelling requiring major repairs in both Iskut and Tahltan Indian Band communities were notably higher than the provincial rate. The Tahltan communities also experience higher rates of crowding as compared to the provincial average. In Dease Lake, for example, the rate of people per household is almost double (4.5) than in the province (2.5).

According to the 2007 Tahltan Census, 67% of all Tahltan houses were between 10 and 30 years old. Only 4% of the houses were less than 10 years old, while 19% were over 30 years old. Twenty-eight percent of reserve members own their homes while 24% rent. The Tahltan Nation owns 15% of reserve housing, and 9% is social housing administered by Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (GMG Consulting 2009).

In Telegraph Creek, electricity is provided by six BC Hydro diesel power-generators (Rescan 2006). Water is provided by two community wells, which are pumped to a central reservoir and piped to approximately 300 users. The current solid-waste landfill site is owned by the RDKS and maintained by the Tahltan Indian Band. A new landfill site was recently identified, which may be jointly owned and/or managed by the band and RDKS (Rescan 2006).

Table 4.3-9. Housing Characteristics in the Tahltan Communities (2006)

	Dease Lake 9	Iskut 6	Guhthe Tah 12	Tahltan ¹	Telegraph Creek 6 and 6A ²	British Columbia
Private dwellings occupied by usual residents	15	85	50	95	x	1,643,150
Dwellings constructed prior to 1986	0	25	15	35	x	1,017,335
Dwellings constructed 1986-2006	20	65	35	65	x	625,815
Dwellings requiring major repair (%)	0.0	35.3	0.0	21.1 ³	x	7.4
People per household ⁴ (%)	4.5	3.9	3.5	3.6	x	2.5

Source: Statistics Canada (2007b, 2007a).

Notes:

¹ Data reported in this table for Tahltan are provided by Statistics Canada 2006 Aboriginal Population Profiles for the Tahltan Indian Band Area.

² Statistics Canada has suppressed the 2006 census data for Telegraph Creek 6 and 6A.

³ Data were reported as a total number of dwellings requiring major repairs as opposed to a percentage. Percentage calculated by Rescan using the number total number of private dwellings occupied by the usual residents and the total number of dwelling requiring major repair.

⁴ Calculated by Rescan using 2006 Statistics Canada using the 2006 population and number of private dwellings occupied by the usual residents.

Homes in Iskut receive piped, treated water from a community reservoir fed by Zetu Creek. Electricity is provided to the community by BC Hydro diesel power generators. Solid waste management is provided by the RDKS through a permitted landfill facility. The Iskut Band makes financial contributions to the regional district for use of the landfill service. Sewage is disposed through individual household septic systems.

Telephone service in Telegraph Creek and Iskut is provided by NorthwesTel and television service is provided by individual subscription to StarChoice satellite service. Wireless internet service is available in Iskut through NorthwesTel. In early 2012, high speed internet was made available in Telegraph Creek, Dease Lake, and Iskut (including Eddontenajon; Kerr 2012).

4.3.2.4.2 Emergency Services

The RCMP detachment in Dease Lake is responsible for the largest service area in BC, stretching from Iskut to the Yukon border. This detachment is also responsible for local policing at Telegraph Creek and Iskut. Seven officers are employed by the detachment, including two stationed at Telegraph Creek. Tahltan community-policing positions have also been established.

Dease Lake has a volunteer fire department. Key services include fire suppression and extinguishment, investigation, auto fires, and community education and safety awareness programs. The department employs approximately 12 to 15 volunteer fire fighters, a 650 gallon pump truck, a 500 gallon water haul truck, portable pumps, and other equipment (Rescan 2009b).

Ambulance service for all communities is provided by the BC Ambulance Service, based from the Stikine Health Centre in Dease Lake.

Telegraph Creek has a volunteer fire department, which is equipped with a new fire truck (which can pump water from the river) and vehicle extrication equipment. Fire services in Iskut are provided by the volunteer Fire Department out of Dease Lake.

4.3.2.4.3 Health and Social Services

Iskut and Telegraph Creek are located in the Telegraph Creek LHA (94), while Dease Lake is a part of the Stikine LHA (87). First Nations residents are also covered under the federal First Nations, Inuit, and Aboriginal Health program, which provides direct health care (and/or funding) for on-reserve communities.

The Stikine Health Centre in Dease Lake is the primary health centre for the region and services Highway 37 from Bell II to the Yukon Border. Iskut and Telegraph Creek also have local health services providing primary care and rely on the Stikine Health Centre for more serious cases. Services focus on diagnostics and general treatment. Patients are transferred to larger centres when required, including Smithers, Terrace, Whitehorse, and Vancouver.

The Tahltan Indian Band runs a health and nursing program for its members, based in Telegraph Creek, which operates under Health Canada's federally funded First Nations and Inuit Health Branch. Iskut Valley Health Services (IVHS) is the first "stand-alone" First Nations nursing station in Canada, whereby the Iskut First Nation is responsible for all health and nursing services in the community. IVHS also provides first-response service for traffic accidents on Highway 37, as needed. IVHS includes an emergency holding room, treatment room, and examination rooms. There are no beds for overnight treatment although it is open 24 hours. X-rays and various other hospital services are provided by the Stikine Health Centre in Dease Lake; patients may also be transported to Terrace, Smithers, Prince Rupert, or Vancouver.

Health services and programs in Telegraph Creek are provided and administered by the federal government through the Tahltan Health and Social Services Authority (THSSA). The Telegraph Creek Nursing Station provides a community health nurse as well as community health programs, a National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program (NNADAP), and home care support. The Iskut Nursing Station provides a home care program, mental health workers, a NNADAP worker, patient travel, the safer sex harm reduction supply distribution program, and walk-in services (HealthLinkBC 2011).

Social services in Telegraph Creek are provided by the THSSA, a non-profit organization that provides NNADAP services, mental health services, and shelter services for women involved in domestic violence. They also organize patient travel, provide victims services and access to home and community care, and provide the Ku We Gahan justice program and access to a crisis line (Province of BC 2011).

Both the Iskut and Tahltan bands also provide social and mental health services to their memberships. In Iskut, these are also coordinated through IVHS, while the THSSA is responsible for programs and services targeted at members of the Tahltan Indian Band in Dease Lake and Telegraph Creek.

Recreation facilities in the Tahltan communities are limited. The Tahltan recreation hall at Telegraph Creek is used to host community meetings. At present, the community lacks the infrastructure and funding to offer sufficient recreational opportunities and programs, particularly for youth. The Iskut school gymnasium is the only recreation facility in Iskut and includes a new addition used as the community hall. A new arena is currently under construction. A new arena was also recently built on Dease Lake 6.

4.3.2.4.4 Community Well-being Issues

In 2006, the on-reserve communities in Telegraph Creek and Dease Lake had an average CWB Index score of 67 and 61 respectively (AANDC 2011a). This was on par with the average First Nations score in the province (62) and lower than the non-First Nations CWB score of 80. This implies a lower than average level of well-being in comparison to the rest of the province, based on an aggregate of income, education, employment, and housing indicators.

Crime

The Tahltan communities are within the Dease Lake province of the RCMP. Crime statistics in the Dease Lake province are addressed in Section 4.3.3.4.

Health and Social Issues

Socio-economic profiles for the LHAs of Telegraph Creek (94) and Stikine (87), in which the Tahltan Nation communities reside, are not available. As such, data on PYLL and infant mortality rates could not be presented.

As with many Aboriginal communities, diabetes is an issue of rising concern among the population. Within Iskut, the number of people diagnosed with diabetes continues to increase. IVHS provides counselling and nutrition education to diabetes patients, with regular visits to the community by a nutritionist. Sexually transmitted infection prevalence has seen a notable decrease in the past few years (with zero incidences in 2005/06). Suicide is a noted concern in the community, and the nursing staff report threats or attempts on a regular basis (IVHS 2006).

In an exercise conducted by the Tahltan Socio-Cultural Working Group, social issues prevalent in the Tahltan Nation were considered to have resulted from a combination of resource development, colonization, residential school syndrome, racism, and insufficient social, health, and education services. A high proportion of social issues within the Tahltan communities are related to drug and alcohol misuse. There is much concern that current programs and support systems are not adequate to deal with the existing issues (TCC 2006).

4.3.2.5 Culture

4.3.2.5.1 Subsistence Harvesting

Subsistence activities—including hunting, fishing, trapping, and plant harvesting—are important to the daily life and heritage of many Tahltan members. The 2007 Tahltan Census noted that 83% of Tahltan respondents participated in traditional harvesting activities (GMG Consulting 2009). Plant harvesting and fishing were the most popular activities. Hunting was also common; however, 24% of the population did not hunt at all. Traditional foods, particularly protein, supplements local diets and incomes and is consumed by 75% of residents at least once a week.

While the economic significance of these activities varies with the individual, the Tahltan census notes that the health and heritage aspects of these land uses are highly valued. Further information on subsistence activities can be found in the *Tahltan Nation Traditional Use Desk Based Research Report* (Appendix 30-A).

4.3.2.5.2 Programs

The THSSA has hosted a Tahltan Culture Camp with funding from the Canadian Cancer Society through their Community Capacity Building Strategy. In 2010 it had been running successfully for four years. It allows knowledge sharing between Elders and youth about food gathering and preservation, as well as traditional trail systems and territory. It fosters knowledge and pride in Tahltan culture (BCHLA 2010). Traditional fishing and other activities are also widely pursued in the summer at Tahltan fishing camps on the Stikine River.

4.3.2.5.3 Language

Members of the Tahltan Nation speak an Athapaskan language related to the Kaska Dena peoples of the Liard and Dease river drainages and the Tagish peoples of Yukon River drainage (Krauss and Golla 1981). Language needs assessments conducted in 2010 stated that of the 2,212 Tahltan people surveyed, only 99 (4.4%) were fluent speakers; 188 (8.4%) understood or spoke the language somewhat, while 252 (11.3%) were considered “learning speakers” (FPHLCC 2012). In other words, less than 25% of Tahltan people had any understanding of the Tahltan language. While it is considered endangered, efforts are ongoing to revitalize its use (TCC 2010).

4.3.3 Dease Lake (Unincorporated)

Dease Lake, located on Highway 37 almost 500 km north of Highway 16 and 230 km south of the Alaska Highway, is the primary service centre for the region (Figures 3.1-2 and 4.3-2). The community of Dease Lake includes both Dease Lake 9 (Tahltan Indian Band), 4 km north of town, as well as a large non-reserve settlement with both non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal residents. The settlement is unincorporated and officially classified as a “designated place.” In 2007, the community was amalgamated into the RDKS; prior to this time, it was a part of the Stikine Region.¹⁰ The information that follows relates to the unincorporated community. Data related to Dease Lake 9 are included above in Section 4.3.2 (Tahltan Nation Communities).

4.3.3.1 Population and Demographics

Dease Lake served as the centre for government services in the region until the 1990s. Since the relocation of most services to Smithers, the population of this community has declined significantly (Bridges and Robinson 2005).

The community’s population was 303 in 2011, a 21.1% decline from 2006 and 4.7% decline over the 10-year period between 2001 and 2011 (Table 4.3-10). Data prior to this period are unavailable. The notable decline since 2006 may be the result of the Eskay Creek Mine closure in 2008 as well as the global economic downturn in 2008/2009, which slowed down economic activity in the region.

¹⁰ The Stikine Region is the only region in BC not represented by a regional district government. As such, there are no planning and administrative services.

Table 4.3-10. Dease Lake (UNI) Population (1996 to 2011)

Community	1996	2001	2006	2011	% Change (2001 – 2011)
Dease Lake (UNI)	n/a	318	384	303	-4.7%

Source: Statistics Canada (2002c, 2008, 2012a); BC Stats (BC Stats 2007).

Notes: n/a = not available.

Males in 2011 comprised almost 53% of the population versus 47% females, a change from 2006 when females slightly outnumbered males. The median age for the community in 2011 was 34.6, much younger than the 41.9 years reported for the province (Statistics Canada 2012a). Almost 39% of the population in 2006 identified as Aboriginal and 61% as non-Aboriginal, compared to 4.8% of the province and 32% of the RDKS (Statistics Canada 2008).

4.3.3.2 Governance

As an unincorporated settlement, the community is administered by the Ministry of Community Services, with help from the Dease Lake Advisory Planning Commission, an appointed board of seven community residents. The Advisory Planning Commission is primarily concerned with land planning for the community, including zoning changes. The community is identified as Community Planning Area No. 28 (Government of British Columbia 1981). Dease Lake was included in the RDKS effective December 1, 2007, and received representation on the RDKS's Board of Directors under Electoral Area F (RDKS 2012a).

4.3.3.3 Education

4.3.3.3.1 Education Attainment

According to the 2006 census, 16.9% of Dease Lake residents (aged 15 years and over) had less than a Grade 12 education, which is slightly lower than the provincial average of 20%. Levels of higher academic achievement in Dease Lake were high: the percentage of individuals with trades certificates (20.3%) was approximately double the provincial figure (10.9%); the rate of individuals with college or other non-university degrees (23.7%) was notably higher than the provincial figure (16.7%); and those with university certificates, diplomas, or degrees (16.9%) were slightly lower as compared to the provincial figure (19.3%). Trades, college, or university education was attained by approximately 61% of individuals in Dease Lake (Statistics Canada 2007b).

4.3.3.3.2 Facilities and Services

The Dease Lake School is located in in the Stikine SD 87 and provides K-12 programming. Attendance at the Dease Lake School has remained constant over the past two school years with 106 students, approximately 85% of whom are Aboriginal. In 2011/2012, the percentage of students with special needs was approximately 7% and the percentage of students who were ELL was approximately 28%. Graduation data for the Dease Lake School is unavailable (BC Ministry of Education 2012).

4.3.3.3.3 Programs and Training

In May of 2010, NLC removed its programming services from Dease Lake and Atlin due to provincial budget cuts. It reopened in Dease Lake in January 2012. NLC offered the

Environmental Monitoring Coordinator Program from January 2012 to June 2012 and a Health Care Assistant Program, which finished in December 2012. The college will be offering Mining Fundamentals and Heavy Equipment Operator programs beginning in the fall of 2012 (Anonymous, pers. comm.).

The NWCC has previously offered a mining trades course in Dease Lake. The course was well-received, although there are no immediate plans to revitalize the program. The NWCC, in collaboration with the Stikine SD, has also offered programs specific to regional opportunities, including welding, food safety, and teacher assistant certifications (Bridges and Robinson 2005).

4.3.3.4 Community Well-being

4.3.3.4.1 Housing and Infrastructure

According to the 2011 census, there are 160 private dwellings in Dease Lake. As shown in Table 4.3-11, the number of private dwellings in Dease Lake has increased by 23% since 2001.

Table 4.3-11. Private Dwellings in Dease Lake (UNI; 2001-2011)

Total Private Dwellings	2001	2006	2011
Dease Lake	130 ¹	150 ¹	160

Source: Statistics Canada (2002c, 2008, 2012b).

Notes:

Statistics Canada uses the term “private dwellings” to refer to a set of living quarters designed for or converted for human habitation in which a person or group of persons reside or could reside. In addition, a private dwelling must have a source of heat or power and must be an enclosed space that provides shelter from the elements, as evidenced by complete and enclosed walls and roof and by doors and window that provide protection from wind, rain, and snow.

¹ Statistics Canada reports a data quality note for Dease Lake, meaning there was a global non-response rate higher than or equal to 10% but lower than 25%.

Nearly 94% (150) of homes in Dease Lake were occupied by usual residents. Only 60 of the homes (40%) were owned rather than rented. In 2006, one-third of all dwellings in Dease Lake were constructed prior to 1986; however, only 6.7% of homes were considered to be in need of major repair. The average number of people per household (2.5) was exactly on par with the provincial average. The average value of an owned dwelling in Dease Lake in 2006 was \$120,417 (Statistics Canada 2007b).

Most homes in Dease Lake receive water from individual wells, although some have water trucked to household cisterns. Most households have individual septic tanks. The Dease Lake community has a dump approximately 1 km north of town, which is used by both on- and off-reserve populations. Pick-up services are not available, and residents are responsible for their own trash. No fee is charged for using the dump. Recycling is not available in Dease Lake. Electricity for the on- and off-reserve community is provided by a micro-hydro development on Hluey Lake.

Telephone services are provided by NorthwesTel. There is no cellular phone service in Dease Lake. No cable service is available in Dease Lake; however, StarChoice and Bell Expressvu both offer satellite TV service. High speed internet services are provided through the Dease Lake Internet Society. Alternatively, dial-up internet service is available through Netscape (DeaseLake.net 2006).

4.3.3.4.2 Emergency Services

The RCMP detachment based in Dease Lake covers the largest area of any detachment in BC. It extends north to the Yukon Territory border and south to Iskut. Between the four communities in the area (Dease Lake, Telegraph Creek, Iskut, and Good Hope Lake), the RCMP deal with approximately 1,200 files a year. The detachment employs one full-time sergeant, one corporal, five constables, and one administrator. Two of the five constables are based at an associated detachment in Telegraph Creek.

Dease Lake has a volunteer fire department headed by a part-time fire chief. This operation was previously run under the BC Fire Commissioner and BC Ministry of Forests and Range, but has now passed to the RDKS. Key services of this department include fire suppression and extinguishment, investigation, auto fires, and community education and safety awareness programs. The fire department was primarily set up to protect the community of Dease Lake. As such, it does not have the wide service area boundaries exhibited by the RCMP detachment (Webber, pers. comm.).

Ambulance services are available in the community of Dease Lake through the Stikine Health Centre. Dease Lake is one of two ambulance service providers in the region that covers the northern sections of the Highway 37 corridor; the other is based out of Stewart.

4.3.3.4.3 Health and Social Services

The Stikine Health Centre, established in 1994, is located in Dease Lake and is the primary health centre for the region as well as the most northern, rural, isolated health care centre in the province.

While Iskut and Telegraph Creek have their own health stations, the centre's services are also used by members of these communities for cases requiring more than basic primary care. The Stikine Health Centre does not have acute care or long-term beds but provides emergency services and averages about 1,200 emergency room visits per year. The official service area includes Highway 37 communities from Bell II in the south to the Yukon border in the north. The service area population is approximately 2,000 people (Northern Health 2012).

When necessary, patients are transferred to larger facilities for care, including Smithers, Terrace, Whitehorse, and Vancouver. Air ambulance service is employed on average two to three times per month (approximately 30 times per year) and may come from Prince George, Victoria, or Whitehorse. The reliability of the air ambulance service is an issue, as poor weather, darkness, and inexperience often prevents pilots from landing in Dease Lake (BCNU 2005; Rescan 2006).

Public health programs are also offered through the Stikine Health Centre, as well as in schools and throughout the community. These programs have covered a variety of topics, including: anti-smoking; teenage pregnancy; sexual health, HIV/AIDS, and sexually transmitted infections; cancer screenings; chronic disease management; and pre- and post-natal programs for mothers and infants (BCNU 2005).

Organized recreation facilities and opportunities in Dease Lake are limited. Community recreational facilities and activities include the school gymnasium, an outdoor ice rink, a curling rink, indoor ice rink, and a community hall.

The Dease Lake Recreation Centre Society was formed in 1993 as a registered non-profit society. In 1998, the society built the Dease Lake Recreation Society Arena, which was upgraded in 2009 to include a concrete floor that would extend the length of time the arena ice could be used (NDIT 2011).

4.3.3.4.4 Community Well-being Issues

Dease Lake exhibits social characteristics that are similar to those of many other small and remote towns; for example, lower levels of service provision and available community resources, but high levels of social capital. This is compounded by the fact that the community is unincorporated, having only recently been included within the RDKS, and that much of the population is seasonally employed. In spite of this, the community is considered well-integrated, with low crime rates and high levels of community safety and support. A CWB score for Dease Lake was unavailable.

Crime

The Dease Lake Province of the RCMP experienced a decrease in the crime rate by almost half (-43.4%) between 2001 and 2010 (see Table 4.3-12).

Table 4.3-12. British Columbia Police Record of Criminal Activity in the Dease Lake Area (Provincial Force Jurisdiction), 2001-2010

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Population ^{1,2}	1,528	1,474	1,483	1,448	1,537	1,531	1,543	1,581	1,584	1,571
Police strength ³	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Total Criminal Code offences ⁴	281	406	363	322	304	281	250	219	230	164
Crime rate ⁵	184	275	245	222	212	184	162	139	145	104

Source: Police Services Division (2011b).

¹ Population figures are based on the Statistics Canada Census of Canada, which is conducted every five years. Population figures for non-census years are estimates prepared annually by BC Statistics. Population data for 2006 to 2010 are based on local government boundaries as of July 1, 2010. Population data prior to 2006 are not comparable to population data from 2006 onward (as municipal boundaries have changed).

² Population figures reflect only the permanent or resident population of a jurisdiction. Where a jurisdiction serves as a business and/or entertainment centre, it may have substantial “part-time” and “resident non-resident” population relative to its resident or “late night” population, i.e., tourists, cabin owners, commuters, students, and seasonal staff. These temporary populations, whose permanent residence is within another jurisdiction, are excluded from a jurisdiction’s population figures.

³ Police strengths represent a jurisdictions authorized police strength as of December 31 of each calendar year and do not include civilian support staff, bylaw enforcement officers, RCMP auxiliary police, or independent municipal police department reserve police officers.

⁴ Total Criminal Code offences includes property, violent, and other crimes.

⁵ The crime rate is the number of Criminal Code offences or crimes (excluding drugs and traffic) reported for every 1,000 permanent residents.

Health and Social Issues

Socio-economic profiles, including PYLL and infant mortality data, for the Stikine LHA (87), in which Dease Lake resides, are not available.

4.3.4 Stewart

The District of Stewart is located on the west coast of BC, opposite Alaska’s Misty Fjords Park, at the end of the Portland Canal and Highway 37A (Figure 3.1-2). It was established in 1898 as a mining town, when prospectors arrived in search of placer gold, and over the years has served as a regional centre for gold and silver mining. Economically, it is an important regional and provincial port and the proposed transit point for mineral products from various projects in northwestern BC and the Yukon.

4.3.4.1 Population and Demographics

Stewart’s population has fallen dramatically in the past twenty years, coinciding with the closure of the Granduc and Premier mines (Bridges and Robinson 2005) and exacerbated by the downturn in forestry. The population declined by approximately 42%, or 362 residents, between 1996 and 2006—the largest drop amongst LSA communities. Notably, the trend appears to have stabilized between 2006 and 2011 (Statistics Canada 2012a). Table 4.3-13 provides an overview of the population over the last 15 years.

Table 4.3-13. District of Stewart Population (1996 to 2011)

Community	1996	2001	2006	2011	% Change (1996–2011)
Stewart	858	661	496	494	-42.4%

Source: Statistics Canada (Statistics Canada 2002b, 2007b, 2012a).

The median age of the community has increased as the population declined, indicating that younger residents may have moved out of the community over this period. The median age in 2001 was 36.2 years, increasing to 43.0 years in 2011, higher than the provincial figure of 41.9 years (Statistics Canada 2012a). Stewart’s population was 53% male and 47% female in 2011 and comprised the lowest proportion of Aboriginal residents (10%) in the RDKS.

4.3.4.2 Governance

Stewart is governed by the District of Stewart, which consists of six councillors and a mayor, last elected in 2011, with a three-year appointment (Invest BC n.d.). In 2012, the District of Stewart’s operating expenses amounted to slightly over \$1.8 million (M. Tarrant, pers. comm.). The community also lies within the boundaries of the RDKS and has a close relationship with its American neighbour, the town of Hyder, which is directly across the border in Alaska. The Stewart-Hyder International Chamber of Commerce addresses joint community interests primarily regarding the local tourist economy.

4.3.4.3 Education

4.3.4.3.1 Education Attainment

There is a lower rate of high school completion relative to the rest of the province. Nearly a quarter of residents (23%) had not completed high school in 2006 (Statistics Canada 2007b). Trades certificates were held by 11% of the population (n = 45), down from 16.5% (n = 80) in 2001. This is comparable with the provincial average of 11%. However, only 31% of residents (120 people) held university or college education (of varying degrees), compared with 41% provincially.

4.3.4.3.2 Facilities and Services

Education in Stewart falls under the Coast Mountain SD 82. The Bear Valley School is located in Stewart and provides K-12 programs. Total student enrolment was 70 for the 2011/2012 school year. Approximately 40% of students are Aboriginal, approximately 7% have special needs, and although data for ELL students was not available for the 2011/2012 school year, there were three ELL students (4.1%) for the 2010/2011 school year (BC Ministry of Education 2012).

Like all schools in the Coast Mountains SD, Stewart’s education system has suffered from the impacts of a decreasing population. In 2009, the school (along with all other schools in the district) returned to a five-day week after a period of several years with a four-day school week (due to low enrolment rates).

4.3.4.3.3 Programs and Training

The North Coast Distance Education School (NCDES) offers some options for students wishing to pursue independent study programs, and it also offers distance adult education classes (NCDES 2008).

Post-secondary programming is not available in Stewart. The NWCC provides select programs at campuses in the Nass Valley and in Terrace (NWCC 2012a). The community hopes to eventually develop a trade school (A. Danuser and S. McFee, pers. comm.)

4.3.4.4 Community Well-being

4.3.4.4.1 Housing and Infrastructure

The District of Stewart reported a total of 217 occupied private dwellings in 2011; 86% of these were single detached houses, the remainder being classified as “movable dwellings” or “other dwellings” (the latter of which includes apartment-style housing). The average number of people per household (2.3) is slightly less than the provincial average (2.5; Statistics Canada 2012a).

The number of private dwellings in Stewart has decreased by 19.8% between 2001 and 2011 (Table 4.3-14). Total private dwellings amount to 379, indicating that many dwellings in Stewart remain vacant.

Table 4.3-14. Private Dwellings in Stewart (2001 to 2011)

Stewart	2001	2006	2011
Total Private Dwellings	473	307	379
Private dwellings occupied by usual residents	265	224	217

Source: Statistics Canada (2002b, 2007b, 2012a).

Note: Statistics Canada uses the term “private dwellings” to refer to a set of living quarters designed for or converted for human habitation in which a person or group of persons reside or could reside. In addition, a private dwelling must have a source of heat or power and must be an enclosed space that provides shelter from the elements, as evidence by complete and enclosed walls and roof and by doors and window that provide protection from wind, rain, and snow.

According to the 2006 census, the vast majority of dwellings in Stewart (89%) were constructed prior to 1986, yet none of the houses were reported as requiring major repair. The majority of

these (80%) were owned by their occupants, with average monthly payments of around \$382. The remainder were rented, with average payments of \$466 per month.

Stewart's housing stock, constructed mostly in 1960s and 1970s, is considered to be in fair condition. Few houses are for sale (A. Danuser and S. McFee, pers. comm.). The average value of houses in Stewart dropped from \$99,000 in 2001 to \$60,000 in 2006 (Statistics Canada 2002b, 2007b; NDIT 2010c) due to the area's continuing economic struggles.

Local utilities are provided by BC Hydro, Pacific Northern Gas, and Telus (NDIT 2010c).

Stewart is responsible for municipal services, including road maintenance, water supply, snow clearing, wastewater, and solid waste disposal. Residents receive treated water from the community well-water system. Daily water capacity is 3,000 L per minute and an average daily demand of 1,200 m³ (NDIT 2010d). Wastewater is treated with a local sewage lagoon system, which has the capacity to treat wastewater for up to 6,000 residents (Stewart-Hyder ICC. 2008). The District of Stewart solid waste site is located in Stewart. This landfill has been in operation for 15 years and plans for new capacity are in progress (NDIT 2010c).

Aging infrastructure is one of the key issues confronting the district. Much of the existing infrastructure was installed in the 1960s and is beginning to degrade. Grants for improving existing infrastructure are available, but there is a lack of funds to maintain existing infrastructure or to cover operating costs (A. Danuser and S. McFee, pers. comm.).

Communications services in Stewart include the following: telephone services provided by Telus Communications Inc.; television services provided by Monarch Cable Systems Ltd.; radio includes CJFW FM – Terrace and CFPR AM – Prince Rupert; and a local newspaper (Stewart/Hyder International Chamber of Commerce n.d.).

4.3.4.4.2 Emergency Services

The service area for both the Stewart RCMP and fire departments covers approximately 44,000 km². This includes all of Highway 37A, plus Highway 37 from Cranberry Junction to Bell II. The RCMP detachment employs three officers. The District of Stewart Volunteer Fire Department is well-equipped and has 12 volunteers who receive compensation for their participation in training and fire control.

A BC Ambulance Services detachment is also present in the community, serving Highway 37A and Highway 37, from Cranberry Junction to Bell II, including the camps at Bob Quinn and Eskay Creek and across the United States border in Hyder. The needs for ambulance services have changed in recent years. Previously, most calls were for motor vehicle accidents, but currently transferring patients from Stewart to larger hospitals is more common.

4.3.4.4.3 Health and Social Services

The Stewart Health Centre provides clinic, emergency, and trauma services on an outpatient basis. Four physicians are on staff (NDIT 2010c). The health centre emergency room received 977 visits in 2009/2010; all patients requiring major medical care are transferred to Prince George. Air ambulance and lab services are available at the Stewart Health Centre (Rural Coordination Centre of BC 2012). Prescriptions are ordered from Terrace as needed (Northern

Health delivers the medications to the hospital). A public health nurse visits the community for one week each month. Mental health services are available through Stewart Mental Health and Addictions (Rural Coordination Centre of BC 2012).

The facility does not offer overnight services, except when needed during road closure. Several years ago the centre lost three inpatient beds (A. Danuser and S. McFee, pers. comm.). There are no seniors' services and no day care, although visiting nurses from Northern Health provide some services (A. Danuser and S. McFee, pers. comm.). While the amount of health services provided have decreased in the last several years, the current service capacity is adequate for the community's needs (S. Clark, pers. comm.).

The provision of social services is generally limited to community health and awareness programs offered by the health centre, RCMP, and other groups. Due to the small size of the community, detailed information regarding the types of services in the community was not available.

The recreation amenities in the Stewart area are numerous. There are several lakes and rivers in the area for fishing, boating, and water skiing. The Ripley Creek Inn provides 11 weeks of heli-skiing opportunities during the winter. Snowmobiling starts in November and can continue through to July; events are held by the Stewart Bordertown Snowmobile Club. Stewart has a variety of well-maintained hiking trails as well as access to the fifth largest glacier in North America (NDIT 2010c).

The Stewart Community Library is shared with the high school and has internet access. The Stewart Museum is only open during certain times of the year. The Town of Stewart also has a Winter Club and a Yacht Club. The Winter Club manages the arena and coordinates the use of related facilities (Stewart/Hyder International Chamber of Commerce n.d.).

4.3.4.4 Community Well-being Issues

In spite of the challenges the community has faced with declining populations, Stewart had a CWB score of 83 in 2006 (AANDC 2011a). This is slightly higher than the provincial CWB score for non-Aboriginal populations (80).

Crime

The crime rates in Stewart rose and fell over the decade, but overall there was no notable increase or decrease in the crime rate (see Table 4.3-15).

Health and Social Issues

Stewart is located in the Snow Country LHA, where there were two teenage pregnancies (aged 15 to 19) between 2005 and 2009 (which is equivalent to the rate of 2.8 per 1,000 population) and one suicide in 2010 (a rate of 1.4 per 1,000 population). The life expectancy¹¹ of the Snow Country LHA in 2010 was 80.2 (BC Vital Statistics Agency 2010).

¹¹ Average from 2006 to 2010.

Table 4.3-15. British Columbia Police Record of Criminal Activity in the Stewart Area (Provincial Force Jurisdiction), 2001 to 2010

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Population ^{1,2}	690	938	923	903	852	496	481	510	491	495
Police strength ³	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Total <i>Criminal Code</i> offences ⁴	77	80	58	50	53	57	55	50	31	40
Crime rate ⁵	80	85	63	55	62	115	114	98	63	81

Source: Police Services Division (2011b).

Notes:

¹ Population figures are based on the Statistics Canada, Census of Canada, which is conducted every five years.

Population figures for non-census years are estimates prepared annually by BC Statistics. Population data for 2006 to 2010 are based on local government boundaries as of July 1, 2010. Population data prior to 2006 are not comparable to population data from 2006 onward (as municipal boundaries have changed).

² Population figures reflect only the permanent or resident population of a jurisdiction. Where a jurisdiction serves as a business and/or entertainment centre, it may have a substantial "part-time" and "resident non-resident" population relative to its resident or "late night" population, i.e., tourists, cabin owners, commuters, students, and seasonal staff. These temporary populations, whose permanent residence is within another jurisdiction, are excluded from a jurisdiction's population figures.

³ Police strengths represent a jurisdictions authorized police strength as of December 31 of each calendar year and does not include civilian support staff, bylaw enforcement officers, RCMP auxiliary police, or independent municipal police department reserve police officers.

⁴ Total Criminal Code offences includes property, violent, and other crimes.

⁵ The crime rate is the number of Criminal Code offences or crimes (excluding drugs and traffic) reported for every 1,000 permanent residents.

Health problems associated with an aging population are also present in Stewart, including heart attacks, angina, and chronic illnesses. Preventative health programs are lacking, although information is often available through the clinic. The small size of Stewart's population affects all services and facilities because they are underused (A. Danuser and S. McFee, pers. comm.).

4.3.5 Gitanyow

The Gitanyow Nation has three reserves along the Kitwanga River (Figure 4.3-3). The Village of Gitanyow is located on Gitanyow 1 along the Highway 37 corridor and approximately 20 km north of Kitwanga (Gitwangak). Gitanyow 2 is north of Gitwangak, and 3A is at the south end of Kitwanga Lake, neither reserve is populated.

4.3.5.1 Population and Demographics

A total of 382 members were residing on Gitanyow 1 in July 2012 according to AANDC, compared to 383 as reported by Statistics Canada in 2011 (AANDC 2012b; Statistics Canada 2012a). Total Gitanyow membership is over twice this size and comprises 802 individuals, including 386 members residing off reserve and 34 members residing on other reserves (Table 4.3-16).

Table 4.3-16. Gitanyow First Nation Population, July 2012

Community	Population on Reserve	Population on other Reserves	Population on Own Crown Land	Population on No Band Crown Land	Population off Reserve	Total Registered Population
Gitanyow	382	34	0	0	386	802

Source: AANDC (2012b).

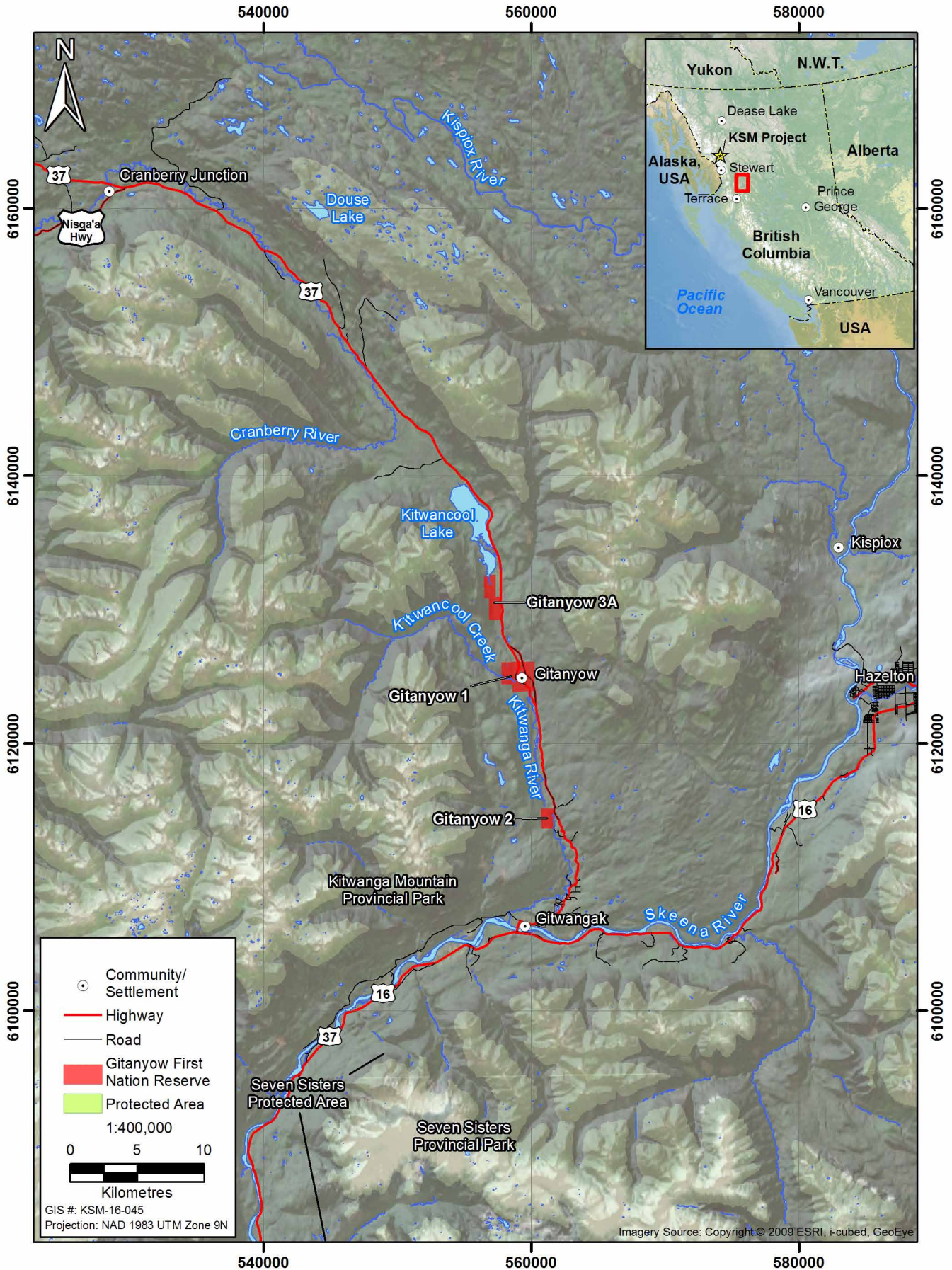


Figure 4.3-3

The on-reserve population decreased by 6% between 1996 and 2011 but appears to have stabilized between 2006 and 2011. Table 4.3-17 provides census population data for Gitanyow for this period.

Table 4.3-17. Gitanyow On-reserve Population: Statistics Canada Census (1996 to 2011)

Population	1996	2001	2006	2011	% Change (1996 – 2011)
Gitanyow	408	369	387	383	-6.1%

Source: Statistics Canada (2002b, 2007b, 2012a).

The median age of the community has increased by approximately two years over each census period to reach 28.1 in 2011 (Statistics Canada 2012a). This local trend contrasts with national Aboriginal communities, which have indicated an overall decrease in the median age (Statistics Canada 2007a), but is similar to neighbouring Gitxsan as well as Tahltan communities. However, the median age in Gitanyow remains notably below the provincial figure of 41.9. The male to female ratio in the community was 0.9, with 53% of residents being male and 47% female.

Over 74% of all Gitanyow residents in 2006 had lived in the same place for the previous five years. None of residents had migrated to the area from out of province between 2001 and 2006 (Statistics Canada 2007b).

4.3.5.2 Governance

Gitanyow social organization is based on the *wilp* system. There are eight houses under two clans. Each Gitanyow member belongs to a *wilp* that has a traditional territory within the broader Gitanyow territory. The *wilp* is responsible for managing lands and resources within the *wilp* territory. Gitanyow *huwilp* include the Luuxhon, Malii, Haizimsque, Wii'litsxw, Watahayetsxw, Gamlaxyeltxw, Gwass Hlaam, and Gwinuu. Each *wilp* is led by a hereditary chief (GHCO 2007).

The Gitanyow Hereditary Chiefs Office (GHCO) is the Gitanyow's governing body and is based in Gitanyow 1. The GHCO uphold Gitanyow *ayookxw* (laws) and promote the involvement of *huwilp* in conservation, management and sustainable development of natural resources within their territories (GHCO 2007). The GHCO has eight chiefs representing each Gitanyow *wilp*.

The residential community at Gitanyow is governed by a chief councillor and seven councillors who are elected every two years (AANDC 2012c). The Gitanyow Band, as opposed to the GHCO, is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Indian reserve, including the provision of services, and acts as an agent of the federal Crown (BC MARR n.d.) .

4.3.5.3 Education

4.3.5.3.1 Education Attainment

In 2006, 20% of the Gitanyow population aged 15 years and over had completed a high school certificate. High school completion rates were similar for males and females. The Gitanyow high

school incompleteness rate (54%) was more than twice the provincial rate (20%). A higher proportion of the Gitanyow population obtained trades certificates (14%) than the province overall (11%). In 2006, 9% of the population had a college diploma and 4% had a university certificate or diploma below the bachelor level. None of the population had obtained a university degree. College and university education was much less prevalent than in the province (Statistics Canada 2007b).

Marsden (2010) records a number of barriers to education identified by the Gitanyow. Lack of funding topped the list, followed by lack of child care, and distance to post-secondary educational institutions. Many Gitanyow respondents admitted they did not know where to look for funding for education beyond that provided by the band.

4.3.5.3.2 Facilities and Services

The Gitanyow Independent School is located in the Village of Gitanyow and offers schooling from pre-school through to Grade 7. In addition to following the BC curriculum, the school incorporates local cultural and linguistic education. Hazelton is the nearest town offering grades 8 to 12, and most Gitanyow of secondary school age attend Hazelton Secondary, which is administered by Coast Mountain SD 82.

The school is federally funded and has the capacity to meet the community’s demands. However, additional funding is needed for maintenance and upgrades. Despite the contribution of First Nation education funds and grants awarded to the band office for extra activities, a sufficient array of programs to meet students’ needs still does not exist (A. Derrick, pers. comm.).

4.3.5.3.3 Programs and Training

The GWES, located in Hazelton, offers training, educational, and cultural programs for people in the Gitksan-Wet’suwet’en region. Members of the Gitanyow community have access to programs administered by GWES. Further details on these programs are provided in Section 4.3.7.

4.3.5.4 Community Well-being

4.3.5.4.1 Housing and Infrastructure

Table 4.3-18 shows the number private dwellings in Gitanyow in 2001, 2006, and 2011. Overall, Gitanyow has experienced an increase in the number of private dwellings over the past decade.

Table 4.3-18. Gitanyow Total Private Dwellings 2001, 2006, and 2011

Community	2001	2006	2011
Gitanyow	93	104	112

Source: Statistics Canada (2002b, 2007b, 2012a).

Note: Statistics Canada uses the term “private dwellings” to refer to a set of living quarters designed for or converted for human habitation in which a person or group of persons reside or could reside. In addition, a private dwelling must have a source of heat or power and must be an enclosed space that provides shelter from the elements, as evidenced by complete and enclosed walls and roof and by doors and windows that provide protections from wind, rain, and snow.

In 2006, more than half of all private dwellings in Gitanyow were built prior to 1985. The proportion of dwellings requiring major repair in Gitanyow was 31.6%, approximately

four times that of the province. Further, the average number of people per household in Gitanyow (4.1) was nearly double that of the province (2.5).

The community currently consists of 125 buildings, including five business and two sixplex rental buildings, fully serviced with untreated water from a local reservoir and sewer facilities (L. Martin, pers. comm.). Most buildings on-reserve are detached three-bedroom homes, half of which are owned and maintained by the Band office. Some 98 families, both on and off-reserve, are currently on the waiting list for new homes. Marsden (2010) notes that 64% of Gitanyow wulp members were not satisfied with their current housing situation. Issues with housing were primarily overcrowding and need for renovations. Mould was cited as a major problem.

The community has a fully-functioning water supply and distribution system, as well as sewage and wastewater collection and treatment (AANDC 2011b, 2011d).

Heat and hydro utilities as well as a garbage facility are located within the community (AANDC 2003). Telephone services are available within the community through Telus. There is no cell phone coverage within the village. A high speed internet connection was established in July 2006 and is available through a local internet services provider (Gitanyow Human Services 2007a).

4.3.5.4.2 Emergency Services

Policing in Gitanyow is provided by the RCMP detachment in New Hazelton, located 67 km away (see Section 4.3.8).

Fire services for Gitanyow are provided by the volunteer Gitanyow Fire Department, consisting of six people. The department is equipped with one large new fire truck and a smaller fire truck; it can respond to house fires as well as wildfires, albeit to a limited degree. Additional fire services can be provided by the Gitsegukla Fire Hall in Kitwanga.

Ambulance services are primarily provided by BC Ambulance from their location in Kitwanga. Residents in need of medical attention are transported to the Wrinch Memorial Hospital in Hazelton, which also provides additional ambulance services for the community if needed (L. Martin, pers. comm.; S. Robertson, pers. comm.).

4.3.5.4.3 Health and Social Services

Health services in Gitanyow are provided by the Gitanyow Health Centre, which is managed by Gitanyow Human Services (GHS). The community relies upon Wrinch Memorial Hospital in Hazelton for major services, including ambulance, doctor, dentist, and pharmacy services. GHS services include a visiting doctor once a week (provided by Wrinch Memorial Hospital), a dentist one morning per week, and a registered nurse at the health centre four days a week (L. Martin, pers. comm.).

Specific programs provided by GHS include National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program (NNADAP), Brighter Futures, Community Health Prevention and Promotion, Youth Solvent Abuse Reduction, Mental Health Services, Prenatal Nutrition, and HIV & AIDS Strategy.

Additional services organized through GHS include visiting physicians, medical transportation, and home care services, and participation in Aboriginal diabetes initiatives. Support from a community health nurse is provided for the community of Gitanyow (Gitanyow Human Services 2007b).

The Gitxsan Child and Family Services Society serves the four Gitxsan communities of Glen Vowell, Kispiox, Gitwangak, and Gitsegukla, as well as Gitanyow. The society has four key areas of operations: social work (guardianship services, counselling, foster home recruiting and placement, and advocacy), family support worker programs, wilp-based programs, and planning and administration.

Other social programs are provided through GWES. The Gitanyow Band participates in the GWES and has a representative on the GWES Board. The GWES provides the following programs and services:

- First Nations High School/Adult Learning Centre – college preparation and adult basic education;
- Youth Helping Youth – two master carvers promoting Gitxsan art by teaching youth;
- Hazelton Youth Health Lodge – culturally sensitive health and education environment;
- Licensed Practice Nurse Program – a certificate program to obtain nursing certification;
- Trades and Technology Bridging Program – provides academic upgrading for those interested in trades and technology careers;
- SMILES Headstart – for three to five year olds, from September to June; and
- Multi-media Lab – CD-ROM program and multimedia services for GWES and the community.

The Gitanyow Child Care Centre is owned by the Gitanyow Independent School Society and provides group child care services (Health Space 2012).

Recreational facilities in the community of Gitanyow are limited to a ball diamond and soccer field adjacent to the Gitanyow Independent School, as well as a few playgrounds.

4.3.5.4.4 Community Well-being Issues

The community of Gitanyow 1 had a CWB score of 54 in 2006 (AANDC 2011a). This score was eight points lower than First Nations' average score in BC and 26 points lower than the CWB score non-First Nations. This signifies a lower than average level of well-being based on an aggregate of income, education, employment, and housing indicators.

Crime

Gitanyow is covered by the Upper Skeena LHA and the New Hazelton province of the RCMP. Details surrounding crime rates in these administrative boundaries are discussed in Section 4.3.6.

Health and Social Services

Over 40% of all Gitanyow huwilp identified themselves as being in poor health (Marsden 2010). Only 22% of those surveyed rated themselves as “healthy” or “very healthy”. Reported chronic illnesses in the community include arthritis, diabetes, cancer, and high blood pressure. Despite these statistics, however, the majority of respondents were satisfied overall with their current health services being provided either in Gitanyow or in their community of residence.

Social services and programs were noted as lacking in the 2010 Socio-Cultural Needs Assessment. Respondents identified the need for more sports programs, parenting support programs, suicide and drug and alcohol prevention, youth activities, mentoring/life skills programs, and computer resources and activities (Marsden 2010).

4.3.5.5 Culture

4.3.5.5.1 Subsistence Harvesting

Traditional subsistence activities such as hunting, fishing, trapping, and plant gathering are strongly evident. Each Gitanyow wilp also utilizes traditional hunting territories within their house territories. Fisheries located along the Kitwanga and Nass rivers, as well as the Gitanyow and Meziadin lakes areas, are monitored by the Gitanyow Fisheries Authority (GFA) and are important for seasonal salmon harvests (GFA 2010; SFC – Skeena Fisheries Commission n.d.). A Comprehensive Fisheries Agreement was signed between the Gitanyow and the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans on May 21, 1999 (GFA 2010). The Agreement outlines the provisions and process for a Food, Social and Ceremonial Fishery each season. The GFA is run by the GHCO as a non-profit society that administers and implements the Food, Social and Ceremonial Fishery as stipulated under the Agreement.

All respondents in the Gitanyow Wilp-based Socio-Cultural Needs Assessment reported consuming country foods gathered from their territories, including fish, moose meat, berries, and other foods (Marsden 2010). For more information regarding Gitanyow subsistence activities, refer to the *Gitanyow Nation Traditional Use Desk Based Research Report* (Appendix 30-C).

4.3.5.5.2 Programs

According to Marsden (2010), 90% of Gitanyow adult wilp members possess traditional skills. These include fishing, preserving, and preparing fish; hunting, preparing, and preserving moose; trapping and preserving beaver and bear; berry picking and preserving berries; gathering cedar bark and medicines; and mushroom picking. Nevertheless, the Socio-Cultural Needs Assessment conducted by Marsden showed a general dissatisfaction with the amount of cultural programs and training in the community. Respondents identified the need for more cultural outdoor activities to teach youth traditional skills such as hunting, fishing, and cedar bark weaving. They also identified the need for traditional dance, language, and culture programs.

4.3.5.5.3 Language

The traditional language of the Gitanyow is the Gitwagak dialect of the *Gitxsanimaax* language in the Tsimshianic language family. *Gitxsanimaax* is also spoken by the Gitxsan Nation (Gitxsan Chiefs’ Office 2010).

According to the Gitanyow Wilp-based Socio-Cultural Needs Assessment (Marsden 2010), 25% of all Gitanyow wilp members speak the *Gitxsanimaax* language fluently. Just over half of them (52%) have a partial speaking ability or only understand the language, and 23% have no working knowledge. Approximately 45% of Gitanyow youth do not speak the language, but many of them (55%) know some words and phrases, and 25% are taught *Gitxsanimaax* in school. Some of the children are learning parts of the language through songs, drumming, singing, and dancing groups. Eighty percent of youth surveyed said they would like to learn their language.

4.3.6 Village of Hazelton and District of New Hazelton

The Village of Hazelton and the District of New Hazelton¹² are located approximately 140 km northeast of Terrace and 60 km northwest of Smithers on the Yellowhead Highway 16 where the Skeena River meets the Bulkley River (Figure 3.1-2). The greater Hazelton area consists of these two municipalities, as well as three unincorporated settlements (South Hazelton, Two Mile, and the Kispiox Valley), three Gitxsan reserves (Gitanmaax, Glen Vowell, and Kispiox), and the Wet’suwet’en community of Hagwilget. The Hazelton area has been home to Gitxsan, Skii km Lax Ha, and Wet’suwet’en First Nations for more than 7,000 years (Village of Hazelton 2008). This section focuses on the Village of Hazelton and the District of New Hazelton as these are the primary economic and service centres for the smaller communities and broader area.

4.3.6.1 Population and Demographics

The populations in both Hazelton and New Hazelton have declined over the last 15 years, consistent with the general trend in the broader RSA (Table 4.3-19). Collectively, the 2011 population in the Hazelton and New Hazelton was 936, a decrease of over 20% since 1996 (Statistics Canada 2002b, 2007b, 2012a). This trend may have stabilized or reversed in New Hazelton, as the community showed a population increase of almost 6% between 2006 and 2011.

Table 4.3-19. Population in Hazelton and New Hazelton: Statistics Canada Census (1996 to 2011)

Community	1996	2001	2006	2011	% Change (1996 – 2011)
Hazelton	347	345	293	270	-22.2%
New Hazelton	822	750	627	666	-19.0%
Total	1,169	1,095	920	936	-20.0

Source: Statistics Canada (2002b, 2007b, 2012a).

Note: Statistics Canada employs a method called random rounding to ensure confidentiality in which values, including totals are randomly rounded either up or down to a multiple of “5” or “10.”

Importantly, although not formally part of the LSA communities, the greater Hazelton area comprises an additional population base of over 2,400 people who reside in the neighbouring Gitxsan reserves (Gitwangak 1, Gitsegukla 1, Gitanmaax 1, Glen Vowell [Sik-e-Dakh 2], and Kispiox 1; AANDC 2012a; Statistics Canada 2012a). Further, residents in the neighbouring unincorporated settlements of South Hazelton, Two Mile, and the Kispiox Valley also rely on

¹² Data specific to the unincorporated settlement of South Hazelton is aggregated within the data for the RDKS and is not specifically included as part of the LSA communities.

Hazelton and New Hazelton for services. Populations for these communities are aggregated within the statistics for the RDKS.

The Skii km Lax Ha also reside in the Hazelton area (including Gitanmaax, Figure 3.1-2). The Skii km Lax Ha includes approximately 25 members (Rescan 2009b). Another branch of the Skii km Lax Ha lineage (approximately 15 people) is established in the western United States and maintains regular contact with those in northwestern BC. There is limited statistical or economic information available on the Skii km Lax Ha due to their small size, lack of reserve, and recent efforts at establishing themselves as a distinct Aboriginal group.

According to Statistics Canada, the median age increased by approximately ten years and seven years in Hazelton and New Hazelton, respectively, since 1996. The median age in Hazelton (47.0) is higher than for both New Hazelton (40.4) and the Province (41.9) and the highest for all LSA communities (Statistics Canada 2012a). This result may be partially related to closure of three local saw mills in recent years, thereby causing younger individuals to seek employment elsewhere.

In terms of gender, the Village of Hazelton reported more females (56%) than males (44%), whereas New Hazelton comprised more males (51%) than females (49%) in the most recent census (Statistics Canada 2012a). The proportion of the population identifying as Aboriginal ranged from over 49% in Hazelton to 37% in New Hazelton (Statistics Canada 2007b).

Only 60% of all residents of the Hazelton and New Hazelton had lived in the same place for the previous five years. However, only 2.3% of residents had migrated to the area from out of province, the remainder coming from the same census area or within the province (Statistics Canada 2007b).

4.3.6.2 Governance

The Village of Hazelton is governed by a mayor and four councillors (A. Maitland and B. Smith, pers. comm.). A municipal administrator implements the decisions of the council. The District of New Hazelton is governed by six councillors and a mayor (P. Weeber and B. Faasnidge, pers. comm.). New Hazelton's operating expenses for the year 2012 amounted to \$1.7 million (D. Dyk, pers. comm.).

4.3.6.3 Education

4.3.6.3.1 Educational Attainment

Levels of academic achievement in the Hazelton communities are lower than the provincial average, which is particularly evident when comparing high school incompleteness rates. In 2006, approximately one-fifth (20%) of BC residents aged 15 years and over had failed to complete high school, whereas incompleteness rates in New Hazelton and Hazelton were estimated at 34% and 32%, respectively.

Residents from the Hazelton communities aged 15 years and over held fewer apprenticeships and trade certificates than is typical in BC. Holders of college certificates from an institution below university level were relatively few in number in most of the Hazelton communities, yet comparatively more than the population of BC. College certificates were obtained by 20% of the population versus 17% of the provincial population.

All communities demonstrated lower levels of university achievement than is average among the provincial population (24.7%). The proportion of people 15 years and over in both Hazelton and New Hazelton with university achievements was respectively estimated at 23.2% and 19.6%, which was only slightly below levels for BC.

4.3.6.3.2 Facilities and Services

All schools in the Hazelton and New Hazelton are administered by Coast Mountain SD 82. Elementary school aged students in Hazelton attend the John Field School (K-7), which had 151 students for the 2011/2012 school year. Approximately 80% of students who attend the school are Aboriginal, approximately 5% of students have special needs, and approximately 37% of students are ELLs. The Hazelton Secondary School (8-12) had 356 students for the 2011/2012 school year. Approximately 84% of students are Aboriginal, approximately 10% of students have special needs, and the percentage of ELL students has varied over the past two years; with 9.3% during the 2011/2012 school year and 23.3% during the 2010/2011 school year. Only 30% of all eligible Grade 12 students graduated in the 2010/11 school year (BC Ministry of Education 2012).

Elementary students residing in New Hazelton attend the New Hazelton Elementary School (K-7), which had a total enrolment of 176 students in 2011/2012. Approximately 85% of students are Aboriginal, the percentage of students with special needs has ranged over the past two years, from 2.3% for the 2011/2012 school year and 5.3% for the 2010/2011 school year, and the percentage of ELL students is approximately 10%.

4.3.6.3.3 Programs and Training

The NWCC has a campus in Hazelton that serves the three Hazelton communities¹³, the Kispiox Valley, Two Mile, and eight communities from Highway 37 through to Highway 15. The NWCC is affiliated with the mineral exploration school in Smithers. Adult education upgrading programs are the most frequently accessed in Hazelton. Other popular programs are specific employment training courses with a focus on the mining industry and heavy equipment operation (A. Maitland, pers. comm.), safety, and the trades (A. Maitland and B. Smith, pers. comm.). The college does not offer grants to students and needs more staff for counselling and to do outreach with the local high schools (A. Maitland, pers. comm.).

4.3.6.4 Community Well-being

4.3.6.4.1 Housing and Infrastructure

Table 4.3-20 shows the number of private dwellings in Hazelton and New Hazelton in 2001, 2006 and 2011. Both experienced a decrease in the number of private dwellings between 2001 and 2006, which continued for Hazelton into 2011. However, the number of private dwellings increased between 2006 and 2011 in New Hazelton.

¹³ Village of Hazelton, District of New Hazelton, and South Hazelton (unincorporated).

Table 4.3-20. Total Private Dwellings in Hazelton and New Hazelton (2001, 2006, and 2011)

Community	2001	2006	2011
Hazelton	155	154	135
New Hazelton	323	309	313

Source: Statistics Canada (2002b, 2007b, 2012a).

Note: Statistics Canada uses the term “private dwellings” to refer to a set of living quarters designed for or converted for human habitation in which a person or group of persons reside or could reside. In addition, a private dwelling must have a source of heat or power and must be an enclosed space that provides shelter from the elements, as evidenced by complete and enclosed walls and roof and by doors and windows that provide protections from wind, rain, and snow.

The percentage of dwellings constructed prior to 1986 was highest in Hazelton (80.6%) as compared to New Hazelton (69.2%), RDKS (76.1%), and the province (61.9%). The number of dwellings requiring major repair in New Hazelton (19.2%), and Hazelton (25.8%) are higher than in the RDKS (17.5%) and significantly higher than the provincial average (7.4%). The average number of people per household in New Hazelton was about equal to the provincial median, whereas Hazelton’s average was notably lower (see Table 4.3-21).

Table 4.3-21. Occupied Private Dwelling Characteristics in Hazelton, New Hazelton, RD Kitimat-Stikine, and the Province of British Columbia (2006)

Characteristic	Hazelton	New Hazelton	RDKS ¹	British Columbia
Total Private Dwellings Occupied by Usual Residents ²	155	260	14,370	1,643,150
Number of Dwellings Constructed Prior to 1986	80.6% (125)	69.2% (180)	76.1% (10,935)	61.9% (1,017,335)
Number of Dwellings Constructed 1986-2006	16.1% (25)	30.8% (80)	23.9% (3,440)	38.1% (625,815)
Dwellings Requiring Major Repair (%)	25.8	19.2	17.5	7.4
Number of People per Household ³	1.8	2.4	2.6	2.5

Source: Statistics Canada (2007b, 2007a).

Notes:

¹ RDKS Electoral Area B includes the Hazeltons (rural), Kispiox, and Moricetown through Cedarvale.

² Statistics Canada uses the term “private dwellings occupied by the usual residents to refer to a separate set of living quarters that has a private entrance either directly from outside or from a common hall, lobby, vestibule or stairway leading to the outside, and in which a person or a group of persons live permanently.

³ Calculated by Rescan using 2006 Statistics Canada population data and number of private dwellings occupied by the usual residents.

In 2006, the average single-family home in both the Village of Hazelton and District of New Hazelton was \$103,675 (NDIT 2010b, 2010g). The percentage of owned versus rented dwellings was approximately equal (Statistics Canada 2007b). New Hazelton has serviced lots available for purchase and has capacity to expand (Anonymous, 2012). The community also has rental accommodations, including apartment buildings and duplexes. Typical rental payments were \$600 to 800 per month in the summer of 2012 (Anonymous, 2012).

The Village of Hazelton is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the water system and waste water systems. Residents of the Village of Hazelton receive water sourced directly from Two Mile Creek in the RDKS. Provision of treated water is a joint arrangement between Hazelton and Gitanmaax, the latter of whom maintains the water quantity and quality for both jurisdictions. Daily water capacity is 1,700 m³ and an average daily demand of 1,200 m³ (NDIT 2010d). The waste water system in the Village of Hazelton includes a community sewer treatment plant system, which also services the Gitanmaax community (NDIT 2010g).

The District of New Hazelton Public Works Department is responsible for the operation of the water supply system and the sewage treatment facility. New Hazelton owns the water system that provides water for New Hazelton and Hagwilget (Anonymous 2, 2012). Water in the District of New Hazelton is sourced from surface water at Station Creek (NDIT 2010b). Daily water capacity is 2,000 m³ and an average daily demand of 400 L per household (NDIT 2010d).

Residents of Hazelton and New Hazelton use a landfill located 1 km east of New Hazelton (NDIT 2010b)

The quality of infrastructure is considered to be improving and capable of accommodating a growing population. However, municipal services are under-resourced as unincorporated communities and band governments are requesting for more of the municipal services (A. Maitland and B. Smith, pers. comm.).

Local utilities are provided by BC Hydro, Pacific Northern Gas, and Telus (NDIT 2010g). Landlines (BCTel, Rogers, and Telus), cable television (StarChoice, Bell Express Vu, and Citi TV), and high-speed internet (Cybernet) are all available in the Hazeltons. Cellular service is available from Telus and Rogers.

BC Transit runs the Hazeltons' Regional Transit System, which offers limited bus service throughout the Hazeltons, as well as service between the Hazeltons and Smithers (BC Transit 2009).

4.3.6.4.2 Emergency Services

An RCMP detachment of 16 officers in New Hazelton serves the Hazeltons,¹⁴ and highway patrol is provided by the Terrace detachment. The RCMP cover a large geographic area and conduct road rescues (P. Weeber and B. Faasnidge, pers. comm.). Twenty-four hour 911 emergency response is available.

New Hazelton has a volunteer fire protection force consisting of one chief and 20 volunteers. The force is well-equipped with updated technology (P. Weeber and B. Faasnidge, pers. comm.). Hazelton also has a volunteer fire department (A. Maitland and B. Smith, pers. comm.).

An ambulance station in Hazelton provides 24-hour ambulance service. There has been an increase in training for emergency services in the Hazeltons in recent years (A. Maitland and B. Smith, pers. comm.). One ambulance crew is full-time and another is on standby (S. Robertson, pers. comm.).

¹⁴ Village of Hazelton, District of New Hazelton, and South Hazelton (unincorporated).

4.3.6.4.3 Health and Social Services

Wrinch Memorial Hospital is located in Hazelton. It is owned and operated by the United Church Health Services in conjunction with Northern Health (UCHS n.d.). It employs 160 full-time and casual employees in the hospital, clinic, pharmacy, and dental clinic. The hospital provides acute, complex, and palliative care, psychiatric services, obstetrics and paediatrics, and medical imaging. Optometrist services are available two days a month (P. Weeber and B. Faasnidge, pers. comm.). For services that are lacking, patients travel to Terrace for care (S. Robertson, pers. comm.).

The hospital serves an area with a population of 7,000, stretching west to Gitanyow, east to Moricetown, and through the Kispiox Valley. Hospital physicians also do outreach clinics in local First Nation communities (S. Robertson, pers. comm.). As the hospital does not have an intensive care unit, patients must travel to Terrace or be airlifted to Vancouver after being stabilized. The hospital receives visiting specialists and has been a teaching hospital linked with the University of British Columbia for the past 60 years.

Skeena Place, a senior's development located in Hazelton, provides affordable housing for seniors and those living with disabilities. These assisted living units are funded through the Independent Living BC program. The facility provides residence with personal care, hot meals, housekeeping, laundry services, recreational opportunities and 24-hour emergency response. Skeena Place was developed by the Wrinch Memorial Foundation in partnership with the federal and provincial governments, the Village of Hazelton, District of New Hazelton, and the Gitksan Health Society (CMHC 2007b).

Lack of public transit in the community has an effect on access to health services. The hospital does, however, provide some outreach services to increase accessibility (S. Robertson, pers. comm.). Northern Health Connections offers transportation services to health centres outside of the Hazeltons once a physician refers a patient to another community (Northern Health 2008).

Northern Health Mental Health and Addictions Services offers clinical services (assessment and treatment), life skills training, recreational therapy, perinatal depression support, supportive recovery, and a community response unit. The Hazelton Health Unit also provides community health services to residents, including HIV/AIDS education and support, immunizations, mother and infant care, nursing support services, pregnancy evaluation, and nutrition counselling (HealthLinkBC 2012).

There are four childcare or pre-school facilities in the Hazeltons: S.M.I.L.E.S. Daycare, Gitanmaax Nursery, Gitanmaax Daycare, and Building Blocks Daycare. There are two "parent and child" services serving the Hazeltons: Bulkley Valley Make Children First and the Gitksan Wet'suwet'en Headstart Program. Other social services include speech pathology and pregnancy support and outreach (Northern Child Community Directory 2010).

The Hazeltons have a new fitness centre, a tennis court, a soccer field, a new skateboard park, a youth drop-in centre, a library, a baseball diamond, and a public park. However, the mayor and administrator of New Hazelton believe there are insufficient recreation opportunities for children (P. Weeber and B. Faasnidge, pers. comm.). Within the Hazelton area there are also four golf courses,

five areas for camping and water sports, one ski resort, one publicly accessible lake (canoeing), two outdoor skating rinks, and one trail designated for cross country skiing (NDIT 2010g, 2010b).

4.3.6.4.4 Community Well-being Issues

CWB scores for New Hazelton and Hazelton in 2006 were 75 and 74 respectively (AANDC 2011a), slightly lower than the provincial CWB average (80) for non-Aboriginal communities.

Crime

Between 2001 and 2010 the New Hazelton province experienced a 54.6% increase in its crime rate (see Table 4.3-22). However, local residents indicate there are no crime concerns in New Hazelton (P. Weeber and B. Faasnidge, pers. comm.), and Hazelton is considered “safe” (A. Maitland and B. Smith, pers. comm.). The reason for this discrepancy would need to be researched further.

Table 4.3-22. British Columbia Police Record of Criminal Activity in the New Hazelton Area (Provincial Force Jurisdiction), 2001 to 2010

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Population ^{1,2}	6,263	6,213	6,183	6,159	6,102	6,010	5,964	5,924	5,976	5,967
Police strength ³	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Total <i>Criminal Code</i> offences ⁴	950	1,028	1,286	1,309	1,126	1,010	1,019	1,189	1,367	1,400
Crime rate ⁵	152	165	208	213	185	168	171	201	229	235

Source: Police Services Division (2011b).

Notes:

¹ Population figures are based on the Statistics Canada, Census of Canada which is conducted every five years. Population figures for non-census years are estimates prepared annually by BC Statistics. Population data for 2006 to 2010 are based on local government boundaries as of July 1, 2010. Population data prior to 2006 are not comparable to population data from 2006 onward (as municipal boundaries have changed).

² Population figures reflect only the permanent or resident population of a jurisdiction. Where a jurisdiction serves as a business and/or entertainment centre, it may have a substantial “part-time” and “resident non-resident” population relative to its resident or “late night” population, i.e., tourists, cabin owners, commuters, students, and seasonal staff. These temporary populations, whose permanent residence is within another jurisdiction, are excluded from a jurisdiction’s population figures.

³ Police strengths represent a jurisdictions authorized police strength as of December 31 of each calendar year and does not include civilian support staff, bylaw enforcement officers, RCMP auxiliary police, or independent municipal police department reserve police officers.

⁴ Total Criminal Code offences includes property, violent, and other crimes.

⁵ The crime rate is the number of Criminal Code offences or crimes (excluding drugs and traffic) reported for every 1,000 permanent residents.

Health and Social Issues

The following section describes these indicators for the Upper Skeena LHA, which includes Hazelton, New Hazelton, and surrounding areas.

Life expectancy at birth and PYLL from natural and accidental causes, suicides and homicide are used as an indicators of the health of a population (BC Stats 2010). Life expectancy in the Upper Skeena LHA is 81.6 years, compared to 82 years provincially. The PYLL from natural causes averaged 43.0 years/1,000, which is slightly higher than the provincial rate of 31.4 years. The rate of PYLL from accidental causes averaged 8.9 years/1,000, which is slightly higher than the provincial rate of 6.9 years/1,000. PYLL from suicide/homicide in the Upper Skeena LHA

(13.9 years/1,000 population) was also higher than the provincial average (3.9 years). The Upper Skeena LHA was ranked second highest in the province for PYLL due to suicide/homicide as compared to other LSA's in the province (BC Stats 2011b).

The infant mortality rate was 6.3 per 1,000 live births for Upper Skeena LHA, almost double the provincial rate of 3.7/1,000 live births. Amongst youth (0 to 14 years of age), hospitalization rates for respiratory disease, injury, and poisoning were higher than in the provincial figures in the Upper Skeena LHA. The Upper Skeena LHA has one of the higher rates of teenage pregnancies in the province with 67.0/1,000, which is almost three times the provincial teenage pregnancy rate of 23.3/1,000.

Between 2009 and 2010, 8,600 visits were made to the emergency room at Wrinch Memorial Hospital. The most common reasons for hospital visits were linked to obesity, diabetes, heart disease, and mental health issues (S. Robertson, pers. comm.).

4.3.6.5 Culture

4.3.6.5.1 Subsistence Harvesting

Hunting, fishing, trapping, and gathering are key components of Gitksan and Skii km Lax Ha traditions and are considered important to the community. Salmon and wildlife harvests are important contributors to the traditional subsistence economy. For more information regarding Gitksan and Skii km Lax Ha subsistence activities, refer to the Skii km Lax Ha Traditional Use Desk Based Research Report (Rescan 2012e) and Gitksan Nation Traditional Use Desk Based Research Report (Rescan 2012c).

4.3.6.5.2 Language

The Skii km Lax Ha have indicated that previous generations spoke Tsetsaut, an Athapaskan dialect (Yinka Déné Language Institute 2006; Rescan 2009a). The Yinka Déné Language Institute reports that the Tsetsaut language was spoken in the Portland Canal area, but that this language has been extinct since the early twentieth century. Reasons given for the loss of the language are displacement and assimilation of the Tsetsaut people during the late nineteenth century (Gillespie 2012). Skii km Lax Ha members have indicated that several Elders speak either the Tsetsaut or Gitksan language (Rescan 2009a).

4.3.7 Smithers

Smithers is located within the Bulkley Valley Regional District along Highway 16, approximately halfway between Prince Rupert and Prince George (Figure 3.1-2). Smithers is the regional service centre for the Bulkley Valley given its strategic location along the routes of Highway 16 and the Canadian National Railway.

4.3.7.1 Population and Demographics

Smithers experienced the smallest overall population decrease amongst the LSA communities, dropping in 2006 but essentially returning to 2001 population levels by 2011 (Table 4.3-23). The population of Smithers in 2011 was 5,404, a decrease of less than 4% since 1996.

Table 4.3-23. Smithers Population: Statistics Canada Census (1996 to 2011)

	1996	2001	2006	2011	% Change (1996 – 2011)
Population	5,624	5,414	5,217	5,404	-3.9%

Source: Statistics Canada (2002b, 2007b, 2012a).

As with other LSA communities, the median age has increased since 2001 from 33.3 to 37.2, though it is the second lowest amongst LSA communities and remains below the provincial average of 41.9 (Statistics Canada 2012a). The male to female ratio in the community was similar to the province, with almost 49% male and 51% female residents. In 2006, almost 15% of the Smithers population identified as Aboriginal, as compared to 29% for the RSA (Statistics Canada 2007b).

The population of Smithers remained relatively stable between 2001 and 2006. Over 81% of all Smithers residents had lived in the same place for the previous five years. Only 2.1% of residents had migrated to the area from out of province, the remainder coming from the same census area or within the province (Statistics Canada 2007b).

4.3.7.2 Governance

Smithers is governed by a municipal council consisting of a mayor and six councillors elected every three years (Town of Smithers 2010). Operations expenses to year end (Dec 31, 2011) for the town amounted to \$11.9 million (Town of Smithers 2011).

4.3.7.3 Education

4.3.7.3.1 Education Attainment

The 2006 census reports that nearly a quarter (24.5%) of Smithers' population (aged 15 years and over) had less than a Grade 12 education; slightly higher than the provincial rate of 20% (Statistics Canada 2007b). Trades, college, or university education was attained by approximately 40% of the population, relative to 52% provincially.

4.3.7.3.2 Facilities and Services

Schools in Smithers are administered by Bulkley Valley SD 54. Enrolment in SD 54 has declined slightly over the past five years, from approximately 2,500 to 2,300 students (Anonymous, 2012).

Smithers has three public elementary schools (Lake Kathlyn, Walnut Park, and Muheim Memorial, a French immersion school) that provide K-7 programming, while the Smithers Secondary School provides a grades 8 to 12 curriculum. Four private schools operate in the community.

Lake Kathlyn Elementary had a total enrolment of 66 students in 2011/2012. Approximately 59% of students are Aboriginal, the percentage of students with special needs was nearly 20%,

and there were no ELL students (BC Ministry of Education 2012). Walnut Park Elementary had a total enrolment of 354 students in 2011/2012. Approximately 21% of students are Aboriginal, 6.8% of students had special needs, and there were no ELL students. Muheim Memorial had a total enrolment of 255 students in 2011/2012. Nearly 24% of the students were Aboriginal, 3.1% of the students were ELL, 64.3% were French Immersion, and 6.8% had special needs.

During the 2011/2012 school year, there were 823 students enrolled in Smithers Secondary School. More than a quarter of the students (26%) were Aboriginal, 9.2% had special needs, and there were no ELL students. Notably, 95% of all eligible Grade 12 students graduated in 2010/2011 (BC Ministry of Education 2012).

The Bulkley Valley Learning Centre (BVLC) provides an alternative setting for students that struggle in a classroom setting. Aboriginal students are highly represented at the BVLC. In recent years, the staff at the BVLC employed a variety of strategies and structures at the school to increase course completion. In the 2007/08 school year, BVLC had 12 graduates, followed by 11 in 2008/09, and 25 in 2009/10 (SD 54 2010).

4.3.7.3.3 Programs and Training

The NWCC is based in Terrace and operates campuses in nine communities in the northwest, including Smithers. In 2010, a new NWCC facility was developed at Smithers, which included a gathering area, expanded learning facilities, and improved video conferencing and distance education capabilities (NWCC 2010b).

The NWCC partners with SD 54 for training and postsecondary initiatives through which high school students can obtain dual high school/college credits. In recent years, related initiatives have been more focused on providing access to trades training in preparation for available and upcoming employment in the regional economy.

Training programs in Smithers are offered through the NWCC School of Exploration and Mining, which was developed in response to the training needs of the mining industry. The SEM was established in 2004 and provides training for the minerals industry workforce in northern BC communities. It is a result of a partnership between the NWCC, the Smithers Exploration Group, and the Province of BC, and equips students with job ready skills (NWCC 2010b). The school has graduated 850 students to date, and 83% of graduates have either found jobs or returned to school (NWCC 2012b).

SEM courses include Drill Core Technician Basic Training, Surface Diamond Driller's Helper, Prospector Basic Training, Mining Exploration Field Assistant, and Introduction to Metal Leaching and Acid Rock Drainage. Internship programs are also available through the SEM, including exploration skills training, environmental monitoring courses, and camp operations building courses. Students also participate in a variety of safety training courses (NWCC 2010b).

4.3.7.4 Community Well-being

4.3.7.4.1 Housing and Infrastructure

The town of Smithers had 2,192 occupied private dwellings in 2011 (Statistics Canada 2012a). Approximately 64% of these dwellings were single detached houses, with 7.5% being “movable dwellings,” and 27.8% being “other dwellings” (which includes semi-detached houses, row houses, apartments, and duplexes). The average number of persons per household (2.4) is about equal to the provincial median (2.5).

As shown in Table 4.3-24, the number of private dwellings in Smithers has increased by 3.2% between 2001 and 2011.

Table 4.3-24. Private Dwellings in Smithers (2001-2011)

Community	2001	2006	2011
Smithers	2,195	2,172	2,265

Source: Statistics Canada (2002b, 2007b, 2012a).

Note: Statistics Canada uses the term “private dwellings” to refer to a set of living quarters designed for or converted for human habitation in which a person or group of persons reside or could reside. In addition, a private dwelling must have a source of heat or power and must be an enclosed space that provides shelter from the elements, as evidenced by complete and enclosed walls and roof and by doors and windows that provide protection from wind, rain, and snow.

According to the 2006 census, 68.3% of private dwellings in Smithers were owned rather than rented. Seventy percent of dwellings were constructed prior to 1986, yet only 5.3% of all houses in Smithers were reported to be in need of major repair (Statistics Canada 2007b). In 2010, the average cost of a single-family home in Smithers was \$188,588 (NDIT 2010f).

Local utilities are provided by BC Hydro, Pacific Northern Gas, and Telus (Smithers District Chamber of Commerce 2011).

The Works and Operations Department of the Town of Smithers is responsible for the operation of the water supply and distribution system as well as the wastewater system. The Knockholt Regional Landfill is located in Smithers and has 30 to 50 years capacity left at the current site (NDIT 2010f).

The water supply is designed to serve a population of 7,500 before additional water sources or system upgrades will be required (Town of Smithers n.d.). Daily water capacity is 6,400 m³, and the average daily demand is 2,760 m³ (NDIT 2010d). The sanitary sewage collection and treatment system has the capacity to accommodate the demands of a population of 8,000 people. Land associated with the treatment plant can accommodate a doubling of the system’s capacity if needed (Town of Smithers n.d.).

Residential and business telecommunications services in the Town of Smithers are provided by Telus. Rogers Wireless provides cellular phone service via its global system for mobile communications wireless voice and data network (NDIT 2010f).

The community has three radio stations (CBC, the Peak, and CJFW) with the Peak providing local coverage. CJFW (based in Terrace) and CBC/CBC-FM are available throughout the Bulkley Valley. Television stations (CBC, BCTV, and the Knowledge Network) are broadcast locally, while cablevision is available from Monarch Cablesystems, Shaw, and satellite (Smithers District Chamber of Commerce 2010). The *Interior News* is the local weekly newspaper.

Smithers Transit is sponsored by the Town of Smithers, in partnership with the Village of Telkwa, the regional district, and BC Transit. The cost of the service is shared between Smithers and all of the other sponsors (SCSA 2008).

4.3.7.4.2 Emergency Services

Law enforcement in Smithers is provided by the Smithers RCMP detachment. The detachment has 15 general duty police, three staff in traffic services, one First Nations policing staff, and six support staff (A. Hunter, pers. comm.). The detachment serves a population of 35,000 people. The Town of Smithers and the RCMP have also partnered to establish the Smithers Community Police, who work to lower crime by improving social conditions and emphasizing the public's role in crime prevention and safety (Town of Smithers 2009).

The Smithers Volunteer Fire Department has 40 volunteer fire fighters who train regularly. They report to a fire chief and deputy fire chief. Besides structural fire-fighting, services include first response care, highway rescues, aircraft fire fighting, fire prevention, public fire safety education, and volunteer fire fighting education. The department is equipped with eight vehicles (Town of Smithers 2009).

The BC Ambulance Service provides support for Smithers as well as surrounding communities from Houston to Hazelton. The service employs two full-time and more than 10 part-time paramedics, using three ambulances (Town of Smithers 2009).

4.3.7.4.3 Health and Social Services

Smithers and the surrounding area are serviced by the Bulkley Valley District Hospital, which is operated by Northern Health. The hospital provides a full range of services including emergency, medical, surgical, maternity, and palliative services. The hospital employs family physicians, anaesthetists, a paediatrician, visiting surgeons, and other specialists (Smithers Social Planning Council 2011a). There are 24 physicians, seven dentists, and three optometrists in Smithers (NDIT 2010f).

The Smithers Health Unit offers public health nursing services including family health, post-partum support, parent-baby drop-in, immunization clinics, school health, options for sexual health, communicable diseases services, harm reduction and needle exchange services, injury prevention, quit smoking services, and community development (Smithers social Planning Council 2011f).

The Meadows, a 14-unit supportive housing development located in Smithers, opened in 2007 and provides assisted living to seniors and people with disabilities. The units are self-contained, wheel chair accessible apartments with a 24-hour response system. Residents receive home care

such as assistance with medications, meals, and laundry services, and also have access to recreation opportunities (CMHC 2007a).

The Bulkley Lodge is a long-term geriatric care facility administered through Home and Community Care. The facility has 14 designated mental health and addictions beds, and offers 24-hour staffing (Northern Health 2011a).

The Bulkley Valley Hospice Society staff and volunteers provide a Hospice/Palliative Program, a Bereavement Program, and equipment loans (Smithers Social Planning Council 2011b). Companion services are also available to those residing in Bulkley Lodge through the Caring Companions – Northern Society for Domestic Peace (Smithers Social Planning Council 2011d).

The Smithers Community Services Association (SCSA) has a volunteer centre and hosts a wide array of programs and services for Smithers residents (SCSA 2008). The Bulkley Valley Social Planning Society is a non-for-profit organization designated to provide an inclusive community perspective on social issues and to advocate for the resolution of those issues (Smithers Social Planning Council 2011b).

Social services available in Smithers include programs for the treatment of drug and alcohol addictions, emergency housing and shelter, programs related to child protection, programs for learning (youth, literacy, seniors, and disabled individuals), the Dze L’Kant Friendship Centre, family support programs, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder services, programs for seniors, the Good Food Box Program, a Relationship Violence Treatment Program, risk reduction services, pregnancy outreach, and victims services (Smithers Social Planning Council 2011e).

In Smithers, Northern Health administers the Mental Health and Addictions Community Program. The program provides youth addictions counselling and referral, elderly services counselling, and treatment of eating disorders. The Bulkley Valley General Hospital offers a Methadone Program for individuals 19 years of age and over with drug dependency (Northern Health 2011a).

The Aboriginal Health Improvement Committee in Smithers is a venue for Aboriginal people to voice their health concerns and provide information about events or opportunities. Committee members include representatives from First Nations communities, Aboriginal organizations (i.e., Friendship Centres), Métis organizations, and local Northern Health leadership (Northern Health 2011a).

The Town of Smithers has two golf courses, four areas for camping and water sports, one RV park, and facilities for downhill and cross-country skiing (NDIT 2010f). The Bulkley Valley Regional Pool and Recreation Centre provides swimming and fitness facilities, as well as a gym, climbing wall, skating and curling club (Smithers Social Planning Council 2011c).

4.3.7.4.4 Community Well-being Issues

The CWB score for Smithers in 2006 was 81 (AANDC 2011a). This is on par with the provincial CWB average (80) for non-Aboriginal communities.

Crime

The overall occurrence of serious crimes (including violent and property offences) for the Smithers LHA (including Houston and Telkwa) is lower than the provincial average (BC Stats 2009b). However, between the periods of 2003-05 and 2006-08 the incidence of serious violent crime experienced a 43% increase, while over the same period the occurrence of serious property crime decreased by 27% (BC Stats 2009b). Rates of serious juvenile property crimes are about five times those of the province, although violent juvenile crimes rates are below provincial rates (BC Stats 2009b).

Rates of spousal assault crimes were 63% higher than that of the province. Child abuse was also slightly more common, and approximately 1% of children (18 years and under) were in care in December 2009, which is marginally higher than the provincial percentage (BC Stats 2009b).

Crime rates in the Town of Smithers decreased by 22% between 2001 and 2010 (Table 4.3-25). Similar crime reductions were noted for the Smithers area (23.3%) in the same time period (Table 4.3-26).

Table 4.3-25. British Columbia Police Record of Criminal Activity in the Town of Smithers (Provincial Force Jurisdiction), 2001 to 2010

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Population ^{1,2}	5,651	5,658	5,556	5,602	5,444	5,292	5,207	5,288	5,328	5,408
Police strength ³	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Total <i>Criminal Code</i> offences ⁴	1,142	1,465	1,613	1,576	1,677	1,317	1,320	1,177	1,086	847
Crime Rate ⁵	202	259	290	281	308	249	254	223	204	157

Source: Police Service Division (2011a).

Notes:

¹ Population figures are based on the Statistics Canada, Census of Canada, which is conducted every five years.

Population figures for non-census years are estimates prepared annually by BC Statistics. Population data for 2006 to 2010 are based on local government boundaries as of July 1, 2010. Population data prior to 2006 are not comparable to population data from 2006 onward (as municipal boundaries have changed).

² Population figures reflect only the permanent or resident population of a jurisdiction. Where a jurisdiction serves as a business and/or entertainment centre, it may have a substantial “part-time” and “resident non-resident” population relative to its resident or “late night” population, i.e., tourists, cabin owners, commuters, students, and seasonal staff. These temporary populations, whose permanent residence is within another jurisdiction, are excluded from a jurisdiction’s population figures.

³ Police strengths represent a jurisdictions authorized police strength as of December 31 of each calendar year and does not include civilian support staff, bylaw enforcement officers, RCMP auxiliary police, or independent municipal police department reserve police officers.

⁴ Total Criminal Code offences includes property, violent, and other crimes.

⁵ The crime rate is the number of Criminal Code offences or crimes (excluding drugs and traffic) reported for every 1,000 permanent residents.

Health and Social Issues

The following section describes health and social indicators for the Smithers LHA, which covers a larger area including Smithers, Telkwa, Houston, and the surrounding areas to the southwest near Nanika Lake and Morice Lake.

Table 4.3-26. British Columbia Police Record of Criminal Activity in the Smithers Area (Provincial Force Jurisdiction), 2001 to 2010

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Population ^{1,2}	7,648	7,544	7,458	7,487	7,461	7,419	7,367	7,477	7,523	7,612
Police Strength ³	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Total <i>Criminal Code</i> Offences ⁴	459	495	667	576	553	454	442	390	458	349
Crime Rate ⁵	60	66	89	77	74	61	60	52	61	46

Source: Police Service Division (2011a).

¹ Population figures are based on the Statistics Canada, Census of Canada, which is conducted every five years.

Population figures for non-census years are estimates prepared annually by BC Statistics. Population data for 2006 to 2010 are based on local government boundaries as of July 1, 2010. Population data prior to 2006 are not comparable to population data from 2006 onward (as municipal boundaries have changed).

² Population figures reflect only the permanent or resident population of a jurisdiction. Where a jurisdiction serves as a business and/or entertainment centre, it may have a substantial "part-time" and "resident non-resident" population relative to its resident or "late night" population, i.e., tourists, cabin owners, commuters, students, and seasonal staff. These temporary populations, whose permanent residence is within another jurisdiction, are excluded from a jurisdiction's population figures.

³ Police strengths represent a jurisdictions authorized police strength as of December 31 of each calendar year and does not include civilian support staff, bylaw enforcement officers, RCMP auxiliary police, or independent municipal police department reserve police officers.

⁴ Total Criminal Code offences includes property, violent, and other crimes.

⁵ The crime rate is the number of Criminal Code offences or crimes (excluding drugs and traffic) reported for every 1,000 permanent residents.

Life expectancy in the Smithers LHA is 80.2 years, compared to 82 years provincially. The PYLL from natural causes averaged 32.6 years/1,000, which is similar to the provincial rate of 31.4 years. The rate of PYLL from accidental causes (9.9 years/ 1,000) is slightly higher than the provincial rate (6.9 years/1,000). PYLL from suicide/homicide in the Smithers LHA (5.3 years/1,000 population) is just slightly higher than the provincial average of 3.9 years/1,000. Overall, life expectancy at birth, PYLL due to natural causes, accidental causes, and suicides/homicides in the Smithers LHA is similar to the province (BC Stats 2011b).

The infant mortality rate for the Smithers LHA was 0.9 per 1,000 live births, less than one-third the provincial rate (3.7/1,000 live births). Among youth (0 to 14 years of age), hospitalization rates for respiratory disease in the Smithers LHA was 15.5 per 1,000 population, approximately one-third higher than the provincial figure of 9.2 per 1,000 population. Hospitalization due to injury in the Smithers LHA was 13.3 per 1,000, three times the provincial figure of 4.4 per 1,000. The rate of teenage pregnancies in the Smithers LHA was 30.6/1,000, higher than the Provincial teenage pregnancy rate of 23.3/1,000 (BC Stats 2011d).

4.3.8 Terrace

Incorporated in 1927, Terrace is situated on a key freight corridor at the junction of highways 16 and 37 (Figure 3.1-2). Neighbouring communities include Kitimat (64 km to the south), Prince Rupert (140 km west), and Smithers (210 km east; BC Stats 2009a). Terrace is located within the RDKS.

4.3.8.1 Population and Demographics

With an estimated reported population of 11,486 in 2011 (Statistics Canada 2012a), Terrace is the largest of the LSA communities and an important service centre for trade and public

administration in BC’s northwest region. By contrast, the 2010 population of Terrace and the surrounding region comprised over 19,700 people (TEDA 2011).

According to Statistics Canada, since 1996 the community’s population declined by over 10%; however, this trend appears to have stabilized, as Terrace experienced a population increase of 166 persons between 2006 and 2011 (Table 4.3-27; M. Kwiatowski, pers. comm.). The slight increase is potentially due to an economic turnaround, due in part to the level of investment in infrastructure projects and mineral exploration throughout the RSA in recent years (see Section 4.2).

Table 4.3-27. Terrace Population (1996 to 2011)

Community	1996	2001	2006	2011	% Change (1996 – 2011)
Terrace	12,783 ¹	12,109	11,320	11,486	-10.1%

Source: Statistics Canada (1997, 2002b, 2007b, 2012a, 2012b).

¹To facilitate comparison between census years, population counts for Terrace have been adjusted by Statistics Canada to account for boundary changes between the 1996 and 2001 Censuses.

Terrace’s median age increased between 2001 and 2011, consistent with the regional trend, to attain 38.8. In spite of this increase, the median age remains below the provincial median of 41.9 (Statistics Canada 2012a). The community’s gender ratio, with 49% males and 51% female residents, is comparable to the province. At the time of the previous census (2006) over 21% of Terrace’s population identified as Aboriginal, notably higher than both Smithers and Stewart though lower than the 29% figure for the RSA (Statistics Canada 2007b).

4.3.8.2 Governance

Terrace is governed by a municipal council consisting of a mayor and six councillors. Elections are held every three years (Terrace n.d.). Operating expenses to December 31, 2011 for the city were \$19.4 million (City of Terrace 2011a).

4.3.8.3 Education

4.3.8.3.1 Education Attainment

One-quarter of the population of Terrace (15 years of age and over) had not completed high school in 2006, compared to 19.9% in the province. The amount of people with apprenticeship trades certificate or diplomas (10.5%) was about equal to the provincial average. The rate of those with a university degree or diploma (12.1%), however, was notably below the provincial average (19.3%; Statistics Canada 2007b).

4.3.8.3.2 Facilities and Services

Terrace has five elementary schools, one K to 3 school, one middle school, and one secondary school. Cassie Hall Elementary School provides K to 6 programming and had 260 students in the 2011/2012 school year; 70% (183) of students were Aboriginal. The Ecole Mountainview provides K to 6 programming and had 159 students in the 2011/2012 school year; 26 (16.4%) students were

Aboriginal. The Suwilaawks Community School provides K to 6 programming and had 268 students for the 2011/2012 school year; three-quarters of the student body (78.0% or 209 students) were Aboriginal. Thornhill Elementary School provides K to 6 programming and had 108 students in the 2011/2012 school year; over one-third (36.5% or 76 students) were Aboriginal. The Uplands Elementary School provides K to 6 programming and had 356 students in the 2011/2012 school year; 12.6% (45 students) were Aboriginal. The Thornhill Primary School provides K to 3 programming and had 213 students in the 2011/2012 school year; over one-third of the study body (33.6% or 78 students) were Aboriginal (BC Ministry of Education 2012).

The Caledonia Secondary School provides a grades 10 to 12 curriculum and had 515 students in the 2011/2012 school year. About one-third of students (33.6% or 173 students) at the Caledonia Secondary School are Aboriginal. Parkside Secondary is an alternative school that had 155 students in the 2011/2012 school year. Two-thirds (66.5%) of students attending Parkside Secondary are Aboriginal (BC Ministry of Education 2012).

Graduation rates at the Caledonia Secondary School have both increased and decreased over the past five years. Overall, the graduation rate for all students has decreased by -3.3% between 2006 and 2010. The graduation rate for Aboriginal students decreased by -18.3% over the same time period. The number of students enrolled in Grade 12 has decreased by approximately one-fifth over the specified time period (BC Ministry of Education 2012).

4.3.8.3.3 Programs and Training

The NWCC was first established in Terrace and now operates campuses in ten communities in the northwest (NWCC 2010a). UNBC also has its Northwest satellite campus in Terrace.

The NWCC has a strong vocational, trades, and technical focus. Regular NWCC programming includes special education assistant training, workplace skills training, career and college preparation, continuing education, university credit, practical nursing, and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (NWCC 2012a). Many other part-time courses are available and are based on local needs. The campus provides both on-line and in-class courses.

UNBC's northwest campus in Terrace offers university transfer courses at both the first and second year levels in Natural Resources, Business Administration, Applied Computer Technology, and Integrated Human Services. The campus also offers part-time graduate programs and undergraduate courses towards a general Bachelor of Arts and a minor in resource recreation and tourism (UNBC 2010).

Training services available in Terrace include St. John Ambulance, which provides First Aid Services; Northwest Training Ltd., which provides Management Training & Development; On-site Computer Training & Development, which provides basic computer training; and the Cat Rental Store, which provides equipment and operator training (City of Terrace 2010a).

4.3.8.4 Community Well-being

4.3.8.4.1 Housing and Infrastructure

Of the total number of private dwellings in Terrace in 2011 (4,861), 72.1% are owned, while the remainder are rented. Nearly 80% of dwellings were constructed prior to 1986, with 12.6% of total dwellings requiring major repair (Statistics Canada 2007b). The average monthly payment in 2006 for owned units was \$757, and the average value for single-family homes in 2011 was \$178,244 (Statistics Canada 2007b (NDIT 2010a)).

In Terrace, the availability of rental accommodations decreased between April 2011 and April 2012, from 9.4% to 3.9% for private apartments and from 5.7% to 3.2% for townhouses. Average rents for townhouses and apartments in Terrace increased slightly between April 2011 and April 2012, from \$630 to \$645 per month, respectively (CMHC 2012).

Between 2001 and 2011, the total number of private dwellings in Terrace increased by 5.4%, despite the fact that the population of the city decreased in the same time period (Table 4.3-28).

Table 4.3-28. Private Dwellings in Terrace (2001 to 2011)

Total Private Dwellings	2001	2006	2011
Terrace	4,611	4,682	4,861

Source: Statistics Canada (2002b, 2007b, 2012a).

Note: Statistics Canada uses the term “private dwellings” to refer to a set of living quarters designed for or converted for human habitation in which a person or group of persons reside or could reside. In addition, a private dwelling must have a source of heat or power and must be an enclosed space that provides shelter from the elements, as evidenced by complete and enclosed walls and roof and by doors and window that provide protection from wind, rain, and snow.

Local utilities are provided by BC Hydro, Pacific Northern Gas, and Telus (City of Terrace 2010a).

The Environmental Health Division for the City of Terrace Public Works Department is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the water supply system and waste water system. Daily water capacity is almost 19,000 m³ and an average demand of roughly 10,000 m³ per day (NDIT 2010d). The Sewage Treatment Plant for the City of Terrace was constructed in 1987 and has had numerous upgrades (City of Terrace 2010a).

Terrace residents use the regional district Thornhill Landfill located in Terrace, which has a 50-year capacity at the current site. The City of Terrace has plans for new capacity (City of Terrace 2010a).

The Terrace transit system, operated by Coast Bus Lines Ltd., has seven routes. All buses are equipped with bike racks, and there is also access for wheelchairs and HandyDart vehicles (BC Transit 2008).

The City of Terrace has two main residential and business telecommunications providers: Telus and City West. While both are able to provide digital switch technology, only City West has Fiber service (City of Terrace 2010a).

CJFW and CFTK radio stations are broadcast from Terrace. Other stations available in Terrace are CFNR, CBTH (CBC Radio One), and CBUF-3 (a French language station). CFTK-TV,

formally known as NTV, is the only television station in the Pacific Northwest. The CBC, BCTV, and Knowledge Network television stations are broadcast locally, while cablevision is available from Skeena Broadcasting.

The *Terrace Standard* and the *Terrace Times* are local weekly publications. The *Northern Connector*, owned by Black Press, along with the *Terrace Standard*, are distributed throughout northwestern BC once a week.

4.3.8.4.2 Emergency Services

Police services in Terrace are provided by the Terrace RCMP, which had 60 personnel in 2010. The detachment area extends north on the Nass Road, 24 km south towards Kitimat, 70 km east towards Cedarvale and 70 km west towards Prince Rupert (City of Terrace 2010b). The Terrace detachment provides 24-hour police services, forensic examination, drug cases, crime prevention and victims' services, crime reduction, and First Nations policing. The detachment handled over 12,000 complaints in 2007 (City of Terrace 2010c).

The City of Terrace fire department has a voluntary team of 25 individuals that respond to highway traffic accidents, medical emergencies, hazardous materials spills, and fires. The team offers in-house training programs and practice sessions as well as regional fire school courses. After three to four years of training, an individual will meet the professional qualification for basic fire-fighter, as set out of the Province of BC and the National Fire Protection Association (City of Terrace 2011b).

The department also provides programs in fire prevention, first response, highway and technical rescues, hazardous material situation response, and public fire safety education. It also ensures ongoing training of volunteer fire fighters, as well as the continued education and upgrading for career staff (City of Terrace Fire Department 2010).

The BC Ambulance Service in Terrace is designated as an urban service. While there are no full time (24-hour) ambulances, the community has one daytime ambulance and two part-time call-out ambulances (Save our Paramedics 2010). BC Ambulance Services cooperates with the Terrace Fire Department in providing the First Responder Program (City of Terrace Fire Department 2010).

4.3.8.4.3 Health and Social Services

The primary health care facility in northwestern BC is Mills Memorial Hospital in Terrace. Patients from Stewart, Dease Lake, Iskut, and Telegraph Creek with moderate to serious health issues are often transported to Mills Memorial Hospital in Terrace for further care. Mills Memorial is a teaching hospital with 52 beds and an outpatient clinic. There are also nine dentists on staff at the hospital (City of Terrace 2010a).

Terrace has the largest concentration of physicians and services north of Prince George. There are 16 family physicians and 21 specialists. Specialty physicians include: obstetrics/gynaecology, psychiatry, general surgery, urology, ophthalmology, otolaryngology, paediatrics, anaesthetics, radiology, nuclear medicine, pathology, and internal medicine (TEDA 2010).

The Terrace View Lodge is a long-term care facility that provides assisted living for seniors and an adult day program. The facility also offers a recreation program (Northern Health 2011b).

The Terrace and District Community Services Society (TDCSS) provides community living services, youth and family services, employment services, and counselling and support services.

- *Community living services* include: life skills support services, community access supports, employment and volunteer support services, and residential options for adults with developmental disabilities.
- *Youth and family services* include: life skills, youth outreach, support for parents of children with special needs, a boys and girls youth group, a social skills group for children, a Terrace respite home, and the Haliwell group home.
- *Employment services* include: quality training and employment services in the northwest.
- *Counselling and support services* include: counselling and prevention individuals who struggle with alcohol and/or drug addictions and their families. Family, group, and couples counselling if offered when related to addiction issues (TDCSS 2012).

The TDCSS Youth and Family Services also facilitates the Big Brothers Big Sisters Program and provides mentoring for children referred to the program by their school. The TDCSS is committed to the social, economic, and environmental well-being of all citizens of northwestern BC and was established in 1970 as a resource board. It employs 150 people in the various programs that are offered (TDCSS 2012).

Recreation options are wide-ranging in the Terrace area. There are snowmobiling and hiking trails, as well as camping and fishing opportunities in the local wilderness. There are also two golf courses, the Terrace Aquatic Centre, the Shames Mountain ski hill, and the Sportsplex multi-purpose arena (City of Terrace 2010a).

4.3.8.4.4 Community Well-being Issues

Terrace scored 80 on the CWB index in 2006, which is on par with the provincial average score for non-Aboriginal communities (AANDC 2011a).

Crime

BC Stats' crime indicators include consideration of the number and type of crimes in a region. With an index of 0.4, the Terrace LHA ranks below the provincial average (BC Stats 2009b).

The overall occurrence of serious crimes (including violent and property offences) in Terrace (41.8) is significantly higher than the provincial average (13.5). Rates for serious juvenile crime (18.3) are also over four times those of the province (4.2). However, rate of serious crime in Terrace decreased by 21.3% between 2003 and 2008 (BC Stats 2009b). Drug-related offences and motor vehicle theft were both more common than the BC average. The rate of child abuse (10.5 per 1,000) and children in care (16.4 per 1,000) were higher than the provincial rates (7.0 and 9.4; BC Stats 2009b).

The crime rate in the City of Terrace has risen and fallen in the years between 2001 and 2010. Overall, the crime rate has dropped 3.7% in that time period (Table 4.3-29).

Table 4.3-29. British Columbia Police Record of Criminal Activity in the City of Terrace (Provincial Force Jurisdiction), 2001 to 2010

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Population ^{1,2}	12,639	12,379	12,251	12,164	11,979	11,475	11,358	11,553	11,690	11,931
Police strength ³	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
Total Criminal Code offences ⁴	2,359	2,145	2,354	2,486	2,594	2,459	2,462	2,537	2,261	2,148
Crime rate ⁵	187	173	192	204	217	214	217	220	224	180

Source: Police Services Division (2011b).

Notes:

¹ Population figures are based on the Statistics Canada, Census of Canada which is conducted every five years. Population figures for non-census years are estimates prepared annually by BC Statistics. Population data for 2006 to 2010 are based on local government boundaries as of July 1, 2010. Population data prior to 2006 are not comparable to population data from 2006 onward (as municipal boundaries have changed).

² Population figures reflect only the permanent or resident population of a jurisdiction. Where a jurisdiction serves as a business and/or entertainment centre, it may have a substantial “part-time” and “resident non-resident” population relative to its resident or “late night” population, i.e., tourists, cabin owners, commuters, students, and seasonal staff. These temporary populations, whose permanent residence is within another jurisdiction, are excluded from a jurisdiction’s population figures.

³ Police strengths represent a jurisdictions authorized police strength as of December 31 of each calendar year and does not include civilian support staff, bylaw enforcement officers, RCMP auxiliary police, or independent municipal police department reserve police officers.

⁴ Total Criminal Code offences includes property, violent, and other crimes.

⁵ The crime rate is the number of Criminal Code offences or crimes (excluding drugs and traffic) reported for every 1,000 permanent residents.

Health and Social Issues

The following section describes the Terrace LHA which includes the City of Terrace and rural Terrace.

Life expectancy in the Terrace LHA is 77.1 years, compared to 82 years provincially. In the Terrace LHA, the PYLL from natural causes averaged 55.7 years per 1,000, which is notably higher than the provincial rate (31.4 years per 1,000). The rate of PYLL from accidental causes (12.6 years per 1,000) is approximately twice as high as the provincial rate (6.9 years per 1,000). The PYLL from suicide or /homicide in the Terrace LHA (8.3 years per 1,000 population) is double the provincial average of 3.9 years per 1,000 (BC Stats 2011b).

The infant mortality rate in the Terrace LHA was 5.7 per 1,000 live births, 2% higher than the provincial rate of 3.7 per 1,000 live births. Among youth (0 to 14 years of age), hospitalization rates for respiratory disease in the Terrace LHA was 20.9 per 1,000 persons, more than double the provincial figure (9.2 per 1,000). Hospitalization due to injury, such as poisoning, in the Terrace LHA was 11.9 per 1,000, again more than double the provincial figure of 4.4 per 1,000. The rate of teenage pregnancies in the Terrace LHA was 50.6 per 1,000, more than double the provincial teenage pregnancy rate of 23.3 per 1,000.

4.3.9 Highway 37/37A Unincorporated Settlements

The Project proposes to use highway 37 and 37A as a transportation route north from Bell II to Stewart during operations. Existing settlements along the highway are typically classified as

tourist destinations, and facilities and are notably smaller than the communities previously discussed. Most businesses are based on seasonal outdoor activities including fishing, hiking, heli-skiing, snowmobiling, and hunting. The following section summarizes the locations included along highways 37 and 37A, with details of their characteristics and activities.

4.3.9.1 Bell II

Bell II was established in 1979 as a service station for travellers along Highway 37. Additional facilities and services developed over the years and the site is now a modern wilderness destination. Today, the Bell 2 Lodge attracts visitors from around the world on a seasonal basis. In the fall, international tourists and recreationists pursue steelhead fishing on the Bell-Irving, Nass, and other rivers, while heli-skiing dominates the winter months. The lodge offers guiding services for both activities through Last Frontier Heli-skiing and Bell 2 Lodge Steelhead Fishing. Other activities include helicopter and small-plane tours and heli-hiking expeditions (Bell 2 Lodge 2008).

The Bell 2 Lodge includes a central lodge, restaurant, and five chalets. Other services include fuel (gas, diesel, and propane), camping and RV hook-ups, helicopter landing and fuelling facilities, and a garage for minor automotive repairs (Bell 2 Lodge 2008). The helicopter facilities are also used for mining exploration.

4.3.9.2 Meziadin Junction

Meziadin Junction is located 65 km from Stewart, BC at the junction of highways 37 and 37A. Gas and diesel services were formerly available, as well as a café, repair shop, and campground/RV park. However, facilities closed in 2006, have been decommissioned, and the property has been for sale for several years.

4.3.9.3 Bob Quinn Lake

Bob Quinn Lake is located at the junction of the Eskay Creek Mine Road and Highway 37. A small airstrip was used to service the Eskay Creek Mine. It is currently used as a logistical centre for other projects in the region, including Galore Creek. Lakelse Air provides fuel, charter, and logistical support to Bob Quinn. Hawkair ran its Miner's Express in 2007 to Bob Quinn from Smithers and Terrace, although this service was indefinitely suspended in 2008 (Hawkair 2010; pers. comm.).

A bed and breakfast is located 3 km south of Bob Quinn, while the Bob Quinn Lodge, with accommodations for 49 people, is located 2 km north. The lodge supports industry activities such as forestry and mining and employs 15 people annually.

5 Conclusions

The following conclusions are derived based on the secondary and primary data gathered within the RSA and LSA as part of the social and economic baseline studies:

Distance. The RSA consists of remote communities, with limited infrastructure. Most communities within the RSA are dependent on the extraction of primary natural resources and demonstrate limited economic diversity. Mining and forestry are the predominant industries in the region.

Population. In general, the populations of communities have declined between 1996 and 2011. This decline is most evident in Stewart, where the loss of population has been associated with the loss of jobs (e.g., mine closures). The RSA experienced an average drop in population of 13% in this 15-year period, with the rate of decline lessening, and in some cases stabilizing, between 2006 and 2011. The reduced rate and potential reversal of population loss in the region may be due to the level of primary natural resources-based economic activity in the RSA (see the *KSM Project: 2012 Economic Baseline Report* (Rescan 2012b)).

Aboriginal. First Nations and Treaty Nation peoples have a physical and historical presence within the RSA. Residents of most of the smaller communities are predominantly Treaty Nation and First Nations people. As such, Aboriginal residents comprise a larger proportion of the broader RSA population relative to other regions in the province. Many First Nations and Treaty Nation members continue to pursue subsistence activities, the economic, health and heritage value of which remain important.

Transportation Infrastructure. Communities are largely small in population and dispersed, and transportation infrastructure is often limited. There is only one main road between Kitwanga and the Yukon Territory (Highway 37/37A) with limited services. Isolation can also be exacerbated by the weather as road closures can restrict access to and from communities. Rail lines and commercial airports are also limited. However, the area is well served with respect to available airstrips and port infrastructure.

Community Infrastructure. Most communities are well serviced in terms of utilities and roads, with room for a growing population. Lots are available for residential construction, though there is limited housing stock available, with the exception of Stewart. Many homes on Aboriginal reserves and in Nisga'a villages are currently crowded.

Education. Levels of educational attainment in Aboriginal communities ranges from low to intermediate; between 30 to 67% of the population have no high-school diploma. Education in non-Aboriginal communities varied, with levels slightly lower than provincial figures and more community residents with trades certificates as compared to the province. The region's isolation contributes to this situation, as opportunities for education and training in situ are generally limited. The lack of trades apprenticeship positions, in particular, prevents residents from obtaining trades certificates, which are often needed for employment.

Services. Health and social services within Aboriginal communities are often limited, with residents relying on larger neighbouring communities for many services. Health services in non-Aboriginal communities are generally well developed, with Terrace and Hazelton being important regional service providers. Health and social services along the Highway 37/37A corridor are more limited.

Wellbeing. Based on an aggregate of income, education, employment, and housing indicators, most LSA communities' CWB score was on par or above the provincial figure for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities. Scores for Hazelton and New Hazelton were slightly below provincial averages, whereas Gitanyow scored a notable eight points below the provincial average for Aboriginal communities. Rates of crime varied among communities, with higher rates exhibited in Terrace and Nisga'a Lands, and lower rates in Dease Lake, Stewart, and the Hazelton area.

References

Definitions of the acronyms and abbreviations used in this reference list can be found in the Glossary and Abbreviations section.

1982. *Constitution Act*, Schedule B to the *Canada Act 1982* (UK). C. 11.

1985. *Indian Act*, RSC. C. I-5.

1996a. *Local Government Act*, RSBC. C. 323.

1996b. *Society Act*, RSBC. C. 433

1998. *Canada Marine Act*, SC. C. 10.

AANDC. 2003. First Nation Connectivity Profile: 2003 - Gitanyow IR 1. http://www.aboriginalcanada.gc.ca/abdt/apps/connectivitysurvey.nsf/vAllCProfile_en/932.html (accessed November 2012).

AANDC. 2010a. Fact Sheet: The Nisga'a Treaty. <http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100016428/1100100016429> (accessed August 2012).

AANDC. 2010b. First Nation Profiles. <http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Index.aspx?lang=eng> (accessed December 2010).

AANDC. 2011a. British Columbia - 2006 Community Well-Being Database. <http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1298468006542/1298468720580> (accessed November 2012).

AANDC. 2011b. National Assessment of First Nations Water and Wastewater Systems - British Columbia Regional Roll-Up Report. http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1315616544441#ann_d1 (accessed June 2012).

AANDC. 2011c. Tahltan Population Census Statistics. http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/FNP/Main/Search/FNPopulation.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=682&lang=eng (accessed May 2012).

AANDC. 2011d. Water and Wastewater Infrastructure - Investment Report April 2006 - March 2010. <http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1314039137100/1314039295756> (accessed June 2012).

AANDC. 2012a. First Nation Profiles. <http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Index.aspx?lang=eng> (accessed July 2012).

AANDC. 2012b. Gitanyow - Registered Population. http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/FNP/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=537&lang=eng (accessed May 2012).

AANDC. 2012c. Gitanyow Governance. http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNGovernance.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=537&lang=eng (accessed May 2012).

- Air Broker Centre. 2009. Airports in British Columbia, BC. <http://www.aircraft-charter-world.com/airports/northamerica/britishcolumbia.htm> (accessed December 2010).
- BC EAO. 2009. KSM Project Order Under Section 11. http://a100.gov.bc.ca/appsdata/epic/documents/p322/1257796259252_b3c694e8ee92d0986cbf7f48ce30e0397a51016740863ba532367361d6fc1338.pdf (accessed March 2010).
- BC MARR. 2011. Tahltan Nation. http://www.gov.bc.ca/arr/firstnation/tahltan_nation/default.html#background (accessed May 2012).
- BC MARR. n.d. Gitanyow First Nation. <http://www.gov.bc.ca/arr/firstnation/gitanyow/default.html> (accessed September 2012).
- BC Ministry of Child and Family Development. 2010. Gingolx Village Celebrates New Child-Care Centre. http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2009-2013/2010CFD0030-001585.htm (accessed July 2012).
- BC Ministry of Education. 2012. Public School Reports - Reporting K to 12. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/reporting/school_data_summary.php (accessed July 2012).
- BC MOTI. 2011a. Highway 37 North: Route information. http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/popular-topics/driver_info/route-info/hwy37/hwy37.htm (accessed December 2011).
- BC MOTI. 2011b. Traffic Data Program. <http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/trafficData/index.asp> (accessed December 2011).
- BC MOTI. 2012. Official Numbered Routes in British Columbia http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/publications/planning/numbered_routes.htm (accessed August 2012).
- BC Stats. 2007. 2006 Census: Profiles (A) - Unincorporated Places (Designated Places) - Dease Lake. <http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/StatisticsBySubject/Census/2006Census/ProfilesA/UnincorporatedPlaces.aspx> (accessed May 2012).
- BC Stats. 2009a. 2006 Census Profile - Terrace, C. Government of British Columbia: n.p.
- BC Stats. 2009b. Indicators of crime, 2009. http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/sep/i_lha/data/lcrim.pdf (accessed April 2010).
- BC Stats. 2010. British Columbia Quarterly Population Estimates 1971-2009. April 2010. Government of British Columbia. <http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/pop/pop/BCQrtPop.asp> (accessed April 2010).
- BC Stats. 2011a. College Region 12 - Northwest: Statistical Profile. <http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/statisticsbysubject/geography/referencemaps/CollegeRegions.aspx> (accessed August 2012).
- BC Stats. 2011b. Socio-Economic Profile 2011 Local Health Area 92. <http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/StatisticsBySubject/SocialStatistics/SocioEconomicProfilesIndices/Profiles.aspx> (accessed July 2012).

- BC Stats. 2011c. Socio-Economic Profile: Local Health Area 92 - Nisga'a. <http://www.bestats.gov.bc.ca/StatisticsBySubject/SocialStatistics/SocioEconomicProfilesIndices/Profiles.aspx> (accessed July 2012).
- BC Stats. 2011d. Statistical Profile: LOCAL HEALTH AREA 54 - Smithers. <http://www.bestats.gov.bc.ca/StatisticsBySubject/SocialStatistics/SocioEconomicProfilesIndices/Profiles.aspx> (accessed June 2012).
- BC Stats. 2012. Population Estimates. <http://www.bestats.gov.bc.ca/StatisticsBySubject/Demography/PopulationEstimates.aspx> (accessed May 2012).
- BC Transit. 2008. Terrace regional transit system. <http://www.busonline.ca/regions/ter/> (accessed December 2008).
- BC Transit. 2009. Hazelton's regional transit system. <http://www.transitbc.com/regions/haz/> (accessed August 2010).
- BC Vital Statistics Agency. 2010. Selected Vital Statistics and Health Status Indicators: One Hundred and Thirty-Ninth Annual Report 2010. <http://www.vs.gov.bc.ca/stats/annual/2010/pdf/ann2010.pdf> (accessed July 2012).
- BCHLA. 2010. Community Building in Action- Summary of Community-Based Projects. <http://www.bchealthyiving.ca/sites/all/files/file/CapacityBuildingInAction.pdf> (accessed November 2012).
- BCNU. 2005. Rural Nursing. BC Nurses' Union Update, 24 (5): 11-13. http://www.bcnu.org/publications_forms/update_magazine/2005/default05.htm (accessed December 2008).
- Bell 2 Lodge. 2008. Welcome to Bell 2 Lodge. <http://www.bell2lodge.com> (accessed June 2008).
- Bridges and Robinson. 2005. Northwest BC Mining Projects: Socio Economic Impact Assessment. Prepared for the Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development, Economic Analysis Branch by G.E. Bridges & Associates and Robinson Consulting & Associates.: N.p.
- CCSG Associates. 2004. Overburdened: Understanding the Impacts of Mineral Extraction on Women's Health in Mining Communities. Prepared for MiningWatch Canada by CCSG Associates: n.p.
- City of Terrace. 2010a. Invest Ready Community Profiles. Terrace, BC.
- City of Terrace. 2010b. RCMP. http://www.terrace.ca/city_hall/departments/rcmp/ (accessed July 2012).
- City of Terrace. 2010c. RCMP Terrace - Organization Structure. http://www.terrace.ca/city_hall/departments/rcmp/ (accessed July 2012).
- City of Terrace. 2011a. City of Terrace: 2011 Annual Report. http://www.terrace.ca/documents/finance-taxation/2011_ANNUAL_REPORT.pdf (accessed January 2013).

References

- City of Terrace. 2011b. Volunteer Fire Department. http://www.terrace.ca/residents/faqs/faqs_-_volunteer_fire_dept/ (accessed July 2012).
- City of Terrace Fire Department. 2010. http://www.terrace.ca/city_hall/departments/fire_department (accessed May 2010).
- CMHC. 2007a. \$4.3 Million Supportive Housing Development Open in Smithers. <http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/corp/nero/nere/2007/2007-06-22-1700.cfm> (accessed July 2012).
- CMHC. 2007b. New Subsidized Assisted Living Units Open in Hazelton. <http://www.cmhc.ca/en/corp/nero/nere/2007/2007-04-21-1700.cfm> (accessed July 2012).
- CMHC. 2012. Rental Market Report: British Columbia Highlights Spring 2012. http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/odpub/esub/64487/64487_2012_B01.pdf?lang=en (accessed July 2012).
- DeaseLake.net. 2006. General Dease Lake Information. <http://www.deaselake.net/information.php> (accessed July 2012).
- District of Kitimat. 2012. Port of Kitimat. <http://www.kitimat.ca/EN/main/business/invest-in-kitimat/port-of-kitimat.html> (accessed December 2012).
- FPHLCC. 2012. First Peoples' Language Map of British Columbia. First Peoples Heritage, Language, and Cultural Council
<http://maps.fphlcc.ca/tahltn> (accessed June 2012).
- GFA. 2010. Gitanyow Fisheries Authority. <http://www.gitanyowfisheries.com/> (accessed March 2011).
- GHCO. 2007. The Gitanyow Ayookxw: The Constitution of the Gitanyow Huwilp. Gitanyow Hereditary Chiefs Office: Gitanyow, BC.
- Gillespie, B. 2012. Tsetsaut. <http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/articles/tsetsaut> (accessed June 2012).
- Gitanyow Human Services. 2007a. Annual Report 2006/2007. <http://www.health.gitanyow.com/Files/2006-2007%20Gitanyow%20Annual%20Report.pdf> (accessed June 2012).
- Gitanyow Human Services. 2007b. Gitanyow Human Services Annual Report 2006/2007. <http://www.health.gitanyow.com/Files/2006-2007%20Gitanyow%20Annual%20Report.pdf> (accessed June 2011).
- Gitxsan Chiefs' Office. 2010. Homepage. www.gitxsan.com (accessed April 2010).
- GMG Consulting. 2009. Report on the Baseline Data Collection for Social and Cultural Measures and Indicators for the Tahltan Nation. Report prepared for the Tahltan Central Council by GMG Consulting Services Inc.: n.p.

References

- Government of British Columbia. 1981. Local Services Act: Community Planning Area No. 28 Regulations. BC Reg. 70/81. http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/reg/L/LocalServices/70_81.htm (accessed October 2008).
- Hawkair. 2010. Schedules Information. <http://www.hawkair.ca/index.php?p=schedules> (accessed April 2010).
- Health Canada. 2004. Volume 1: The Basics. In Canadian Handbook on Health Impact Assessment. Government of Canada: Ottawa, ON.
- Health Space. 2012. Gitanyow Child Care Centre. http://www.healthspace.ca/Clients/NHA/NHA_Website.nsf/CCFL-FacilityHistory?OpenView&RestrictToCategory=8F0C5243085AE6D288256DC8007FA28A (accessed June 2012).
- HealthLinkBC. 2011. Iskut Nursing Station. <http://find.healthlinkbc.ca/search.aspx?d=LC054263&ds=SL068479> (accessed June 2012).
- HealthLinkBC. 2012. Hazelton Health Unit. <http://find.healthlinkbc.ca/search.aspx?d=LC000124&p=4> (accessed July 2012).
- Healthspace. 2012a. Ksi xyans Daycare Head Start. http://www.healthspace.ca/Clients/NHA/NHA_Website.nsf/CCFL-FacilityHistory?OpenView&RestrictToCategory=118FFA9DCE1157D588256D50007C927C (accessed July 2012).
- HealthSpace. 2012b. New Aiyansh Nursery School. http://www.healthspace.ca/Clients/NHA/NHA_Website.nsf/CCFL-FacilityHistory?OpenView&RestrictToCategory=7655E7D96EDB98B588256D50007D4501 (accessed July 2012).
- ICABC. 2012. BC Check-Up 2012- North Coast Development Region. <http://www.bccheckup.com/bccheckup.php?cat=86> (accessed June 2012).
- ICMM and J. Render. 2005. Mining and Indigenous Peoples Issues Review. London, UK: International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM). www.icmm.com/document/6 (accessed June 2011).
- IFC. 2006. Performance Standards on Social and Environmental Sustainability. International Finance Corporation: Washington, DC.
- IFC. 2012. IFC Performance Standards on Environmental and Social Sustainability. International Finance Corporation. http://www1.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/topics_ext_content/ifc_external_corporate_site/ifc+sustainability/publications/publications_handbook_pps (accessed July 2012).
- Imperial Metals. 2010. 2010 Annual Information Form: Hucklebery Mine. http://www.imperialmetals.com/i/pdf/2010_AIF.pdf (accessed April 2010).

- Invest BC. n.d. District of Stewart- Investment-Ready Community Profile. [http://districtofstewart.com/District/Stewart%20-%20Investment-Ready%20Community%20Profile%20\(web\).pdf](http://districtofstewart.com/District/Stewart%20-%20Investment-Ready%20Community%20Profile%20(web).pdf) (accessed November 2012).
- IVHS. 2006. Iskut Valley Health Services Annual Report: 2005/06. Iskut First Nation: n.p.
- Kerr, J. 2012. High-speed internet finally arrives in remote B.C. Yukon News, January 6, 2012. <http://www.yukon-news.com/news/26560/> (accessed June 2012).
- Krauss, M. E. and V. Golla. 1981. Northern Athapaskan languages. In Handbook of North American Indians Vol 6: Subarctic. Ed. J. Helm. 67-85. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution.
- kto12.ca. 2012. List of Schools Within British Columbia. K to 12 Education by Numbers. http://www.kto12.ca/School_list_all.html (accessed June 2012).
- Marsden, T. 2010. Gitanyow Wilp-based Socio-Cultural Needs Assessment: Final Report. Gitanyow Hereditary Chiefs Office: Gitanyow, BC.
- Nathan Barton School. n.d. Events: Road Opening. http://gingolx.ca/education/NBES/events_roadopening.html (accessed May 2012).
- NCDES. 2008. North Coast Distance Education School Home Page. <http://www.ncdes.ca> (accessed October 2008).
- NDIT. 2010a. City of Terrace: Investment Ready Community Profile. Terrace Economic Development Authority, City of Terrace, Invest BC and Northern Development Initiative Trust. http://www.teda.ca/files/2113/2682/7307/Terrace_-_Investment-Ready_Community_Profile.pdf (accessed August 2012).
- NDIT. 2010b. District of New Hazelton: Investment Ready Community Profile. District of New Hazelton, Invest BC and Northern Development Initiative Trust. <http://investnorthwestbc.ca/site-selector-community-profiles> (accessed January 2013).
- NDIT. 2010c. District of Stewart: Investment Ready Community Profile. District of Stewart, Invest BC, and Northern Development Initiative Trust. <http://investnorthwestbc.ca/site-selector-community-profiles> (accessed January 2013).
- NDIT. 2010d. Northwest Region Investment Ready Community Profile. <http://investnorthwestbc.ca/uploads/Northwest%20BC%20Region%20-%20Investment-Ready%20Community%20Profile.pdf> (accessed December 2012).
- NDIT. 2010e. Regional District of Bulkley Nechako: Investment Ready Community Profile. Regional District of Bulkley Nechako, Invest BC and Northern Development Initiative Trust. http://www.rdbn.bc.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=158&Itemid=6 (accessed December 2012).
- NDIT. 2010f. Town of Smithers: Investment Ready Community Profile. Town of Smithers, Invest BC and Northern Development Initiative Trust. <http://investnorthwestbc.ca/site-selector-community-profiles> (accessed January 2013).

- NDIT. 2010g. Village of Hazelton: Investment Ready Community Profile. Village of Hazelton, Invest BC, and Northern Development Initiative Trust. <http://investnorthwestbc.ca/site-selector-community-profiles> (accessed January 2013).
- NDIT. 2011. Dease Lake Residents Develop the Stikine Region's First Indoor Arena. <http://www.northerndevlopment.bc.ca/explore-our-region/success-stories/dease-lake-residents-develop-the-stikine-regions-first-indoor-arena/> (accessed July 2012).
- NDIT. 2012. Port of Stewart. <http://investnorthwestbc.ca/major-projects-and-investment-opportunities/map-view/stewart/port-of-stewart> (accessed November 2012).
- NLG. 2002. Nisga'a Final Agreement: 2001 Annual Report. <http://www.nisgaalisims.ca/files/nlg/u3/nfaap-eng.pdf> (accessed October 2012).
- NLG. 2009. Nisga'a Final Agreement Implementation Report: 2008-2009. <http://www.nisgaalisims.ca/files/nlg/u3/NLG-AR08-09SinglePages.pdf> (accessed October 2012).
- NLG. 2011. Access to Justice. <http://www.nisgaalisims.ca/access-justice> (accessed July 2012).
- NLG. 2012. Nisga'a Lisims Government Special Assembly 2012. http://nnkn.ca/files/Special%20Assembly%202012_0.pdf (accessed July 2012).
- NLG. n.d.-a. About Nisga'a Lisims Government. <http://www.nisgaalisims.ca/about-nisgaa-lisims-government> (accessed October 2012).
- NLG. n.d.-b. Education. <http://www.nisgaalisims.ca/education> (accessed June 2010).
- NLG, Province of BC, and Government of Canada. 1998. Nisga'a Final Agreement. Nisga'a Lisims Government, Province of British Columbia, and Government of Canada New Aiyansh, BC.
- NLG, RDKS, NDIT, and Invest BC. 2010. Nisga'a Nation and the Nass Region: Investment Ready Community Profile. Nisga'a Lisims Government, Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine, Northern Development Initiative Trust, and Invest British Columbia: Terrace, BC. [http://www.nisgaalisims.ca/files/nlg/u3/Nass%20Region%20-%20Investment-Ready%20Community%20Profile%20\(web\).pdf](http://www.nisgaalisims.ca/files/nlg/u3/Nass%20Region%20-%20Investment-Ready%20Community%20Profile%20(web).pdf) (accessed July 2012).
- NNKN. 2012a. Canoe races, 10 km run, 4 km walk, and Salmon Barbecue. <http://nnkn.ca/content/canoe-races-10km-run-4km-walk-and-salmon-barbecue> (accessed July 2012).
- NNKN. 2012b. Nisga'a Fisheries Program Stock Assessment Updates. <http://nnkn.ca/content/nisga%E2%80%99-fisheries-program-stock-assessment-updates> (accessed July 17, 2012).
- NNKN. 2012c. Nisga'a Women - Introduction to Mineral Resource Industry Opportunity. <http://nnkn.ca/content/nisgaa-women-introduction-mineral-resource-industry-opportunity> (accessed July 2012).
- NNKN. n.d. Nisga'a Valley Health Authority. <http://www.nnkn.ca/NVHA> (accessed October 2012).

- Northern Child Community Directory. 2010. Hazelton Community Directory. <http://www.northernchild.ca/hazelton.htm> (accessed August 2010).
- Northern Health. 2008. Northern Health connections. http://www2.northernhealth.ca/Your_Health/Programs/NH_Connections/default.asp (accessed August 2010).
- Northern Health. 2011a. Smithers. <http://www.northernhealth.ca/YourHealth/MentalHealthAddictions/CommunityContacts/Northwest/Smithers.aspx> (accessed July 2012).
- Northern Health. 2011b. Terraceview Lodge. http://www.northernhealth.ca/Portals/0/Your_Health/HCC/Residential%20Facilities/Terraceview%20Lodge%20Residential%20Care.pdf (accessed July 2012).
- Northern Health. 2012. Dease Lake, British Columbia: Stikine Health Centre. <http://careers.northernhealth.ca/Communities/NorthwestRegion/DeaseLake.aspx> (accessed July 2012).
- Northgate Minerals Corp. 2010. Northgate Minerals Corporation: Kemess South – Mining & Milling. <http://www.northgateminerals.com/OperationsProjects/KemessSouth/KemessSouthMiningMilling/default.aspx> (accessed April 2010).
- NT Air. 2010. Schedules. <http://www.ntair.ca> (accessed September 2008).
- NWCC. 2010a. About Northwest Community College. <http://www.nwcc.bc.ca/About/index.cfm> (accessed May 2010).
- NWCC. 2010b. Welcome to the Smithers Campus. <http://www.nwcc.bc.ca/Campuses/Smithers.cfm> (accessed July 2012).
- NWCC. 2012a. Campus Locations. <http://www.nwcc.bc.ca/Campuses/Index.cfm> (accessed July 2012).
- NWCC. 2012b. NWCC promotes First Nations and industry partnerships in Yukon. NWCC press release. March 21, 2012. <http://sem.nwcc.bc.ca/News/ViewRelease.cfm?Story=350> (accessed July 2012).
- Oxfam. 2002. Tunnel Visions: Women, Mining and Communities. Victoria, Australia: Oxfam World Aid Abroad.
- Police Services Division. 2011a. Regional Profile 2010: Bulkley Nechako Region - Regional Policing. Police Services Division, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, British Columbia. <http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/policeservices/statistics/docs/bulkleynechako.pdf> (accessed November 2012).
- Police Services Division. 2011b. Regional Profile 2010: Kitimat Stikine Region - Regional Policing. Police Services Division, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, British Columbia. <http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/policeservices/statistics/docs/kitimatstikine.pdf> (accessed July 2012).
- Prince Rupert Port Authority. n.d. Canada's Leading Edge Port. <http://www.rupertport.com/> (accessed December 2012).

References

- Province of BC. 2011. HealthLinkBC: Tahltan Health and Social Services Authority. <http://find.healthlinkbc.ca/search.aspx?d=RG052899> (accessed May 2012).
- RDKS. 2012a. Board. <http://www.rdks.bc.ca/content/board> (accessed May 2012).
- RDKS. 2012b. Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine: Welcome. <http://www.rdks.bc.ca/> (accessed December 2012).
- Rediscovery.org. n.d. Soaring Spirits Training 2012. http://rediscovery.org/?page_id=84 (accessed November 2012).
- Rescan. 2006. Galore Creek Project: Socio-economic Assessment. Prepared for NovaGold Resources Inc. by Rescan Environmental Services Ltd. and Rescan-Tahltan Environmental Consultants: Vancouver, BC.
- Rescan. 2009a. Northwest Transmission Line Project: Skii km Lax Ha Traditional Knowledge and Use Study. Prepared for BC Transmission Corporation by Rescan Environmental Services Ltd.: Vancouver, British Columbia:
- Rescan. 2009b. Northwest Transmission Line Project: Socio-economic Baseline Study Report. Prepared for the British Columbia Transmission Corporation by Rescan Environmental Services Ltd.: Vancouver, BC.
- Rescan. 2012a. Kitsault Mine Project: Nisga'a Economic, Social, and Cultural Impacts Assessment Report. Prepared for Avanti Mining Corp. by Rescan Environmental Services Ltd.: Vancouver, BC.
- Rescan. 2012b. KSM Project: 2012 Economic Baseline Report. Prepared for Seabridge Gold Inc. by Rescan Environmental Services Ltd.: Vancouver, BC.
- Rescan. 2012c. KSM Project: Gitxsan Nation Traditional Knowledge and Use Desk-based Research Report. Prepared for Seabridge Gold Inc. by Rescan Environmental Services Ltd.: Vancouver, BC.
- Rescan. 2012d. KSM Project: Nisga'a Economic, Social, and Cultural Impacts Assessment Report. Prepared for Seabridge Gold Inc. by Rescan Environmental Services Ltd.: Vancouver, BC.
- Rescan. 2012e. KSM Project: Skii km Lax Ha Traditional Knowledge and Use Desk-based Research Report. Prepared for Seabridge Gold Inc. by Rescan Environmental Services Ltd.: Vancouver, BC.
- Robinson Consulting and Associates. 2009. Cranberry Road Business Case Assessment. Prepared for the Cranberry Connector Task Force by Robinson Consulting and Associates: n.p.
- Rural Coordination Centre of BC. 2012. Stewart Health Centre. <http://www.rcbc.ca/Stewart/hospital-and-healthcare-centre-information> (accessed July 2012).
- Save our Paramedics. 2010. Your Community's Ambulance Coverage. <http://www.saveourparamedics.com/aboutus.php> (accessed May 2010).

- SCSA. 2008. Smithers Community Services Association: Programs, Transit Services. <http://www.scsa.ca/programs/transit/transit-services/> (accessed May 2010).
- SD 54. 2010. District Literacy Plan 2010-2011. http://www.sd54.bc.ca/images/stories/administration/DLP_2010-2011_FINAL.pdf (accessed July 2012).
- SD 92. N.d.-a. 2002-2010. School District 92, Nisga'a: Schools. http://www.nisgaa.bc.ca/viewpage.php?page_id=5 (accessed June 2010).
- SD 92. n.d.-b. Schools. http://www.nisgaa.bc.ca/viewpage.php?page_id=5 (accessed June 2010).
- SFC – Skeena Fisheries Commission. n.d. Gitanyow Fisheries Authority. <http://www.skeenafisheries.ca/resources.htm#gitanyow> (accessed October 2010).
- Simpson, D. and J. Simpson. 2006. Community Consultations: Northern British Columbia. Report prepared for Western Keltic Mines, Inc.: n.p.
- Smithers District Chamber of Commerce. 2010. Community Profile. <http://www.smitherschamber.com//community/profile.html> (accessed May 2010).
- Smithers District Chamber of Commerce. 2011. Smithers Community Profile. <http://www.smitherschamber.com/community.html> (accessed July 2012).
- Smithers Social Planning Council. 2011a. Bulkley Valley District Hospital - Northern Health. <http://www.smitherscommunitydirectory.com/directory/bulkley-valley-district-hospital-northern-health> (accessed July 2012).
- Smithers Social Planning Council. 2011b. Bulkley Valley Hospice Society. <http://www.smitherscommunitydirectory.com/directory/bv-hospice> (accessed July 2012).
- Smithers Social Planning Council. 2011c. Bulkley Valley Pool and Recreational Centre. <http://www.smitherscommunitydirectory.com/directory/bulkley-valley-regional-pool-and-recreation-centre> (accessed July 2012).
- Smithers Social Planning Council. 2011d. Caring Companions - Northern Society for Domestic Peace. <http://www.smitherscommunitydirectory.com/directory/caring-companions-northern-society-for-domestic-peace> (accessed July 2012).
- Smithers Social Planning Council. 2011e. Smithers Community Directory. <http://www.smitherscommunitydirectory.com/directory/www.moricetown.ca> (accessed July 2012).
- Smithers social Planning Council. 2011f. Smithers Health Unit - Northern Health. <http://www.smitherscommunitydirectory.com/directory/smithers-health-unit-public-health-nurses-northern-health> (accessed July 2012).
- SNDS. 2005. 2003 Labour Market Census. Skeena Native Development Society: N.p.
- SNDS. 2007a. 2006 Labour Market Census. <http://www.snds.bc.ca/lmc06.htm> (accessed June 2010).

- SNDS. 2007b. Skeena Native Development Society: 2006 Labour Market Census. <http://www.snds.bc.ca/lmc06.htm> (accessed June 2010).
- Statistics Canada. 1997. 1996 Community Profiles. <http://www12.statcan.ca/english/Profil/PlaceSearchForm1.cfm> (accessed June 2010).
- Statistics Canada. 2002a. 2001 Aboriginal Population Profile. <http://www12.statcan.ca/english/Profil01ab/PlaceSearchForm1.cfm> (accessed April 2010).
- Statistics Canada. 2002b. 2001 Community Profiles. <http://www12.statcan.ca/english/Profil01/CP01/Index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed June 2010).
- Statistics Canada. 2002c. Dease Lake Designated Place (2001). <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/hlt/97-550/Index.cfm?TPL=P1C&Page=RETR&LANG=Eng&T=1302&SR=1&S=0&O=D&RPP=9999&PR=59&CMA=0> (accessed August 2012).
- Statistics Canada. 2007a. 2006 Aboriginal Population Profile. <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-594/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=BAND&Code1=59630463&Geo2=PR&Code2=59&Data=Count&SearchText=tahltan&SearchType=Begins&SearchPR=01&B1=All&Custom=> (accessed May 2012).
- Statistics Canada. 2007b. 2006 Community Profiles. http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/search-recherche/frm_res.cfm?Lang=E&SearchType=Begins&SearchPR=01 (accessed May 2012).
- Statistics Canada. 2008. 2006 Census: Profile of Designated Places, Catalogue number 94-581-XCB2006008. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/rel/Rp-eng.cfm?LANG=E&APATH=3&DETAIL=0&DIM=0&FL=A&FREE=0&GC=0&GID=0&GK=0&GRP=1&PID=94540&PRID=0&PTYPE=89103&S=0&SHOWALL=0&SUB=0&Temporal=2006&THEME=81&VID=0&VNAMEE=&VNAMEF> (accessed July 2012).
- Statistics Canada. 2012a. 2011 Census Profiles. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed May 2012).
- Statistics Canada. 2012b. Population and dwelling counts, for designated places, 2011 and 2006 censuses. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/hlt-fst/pd-pl/Table-Tableau.cfm?LANG=Eng&T=1301&SR=1251&S=51&O=A&RPP=25&PR=0&CMA=0> (accessed August 2012).
- Stewart-Hyder ICC. 2008. Stewart, BC & Hyder, AK International Chamber of Commerce. <http://www.stewart-hyder.com> (accessed June 2008).
- Stewart/Hyder International Chamber of Commerce. n.d. Community Services. <http://www.stewart-hyder.com/community.html> (accessed July 2012).
- TCC. 2006. Decision Request (Draft). Socio-Cultural impacts Assessment for Development in Tahltan Territory. Tahltan Central Council: n.p.

References

- TCC. 2010. Who we are: History of the Tahltan Central Council. <http://www.tahltan.org/s/WhoWeAre.asp> (accessed June 2012).
- TDCSS. 2012. Terrace and District Community Services Society. http://tdcss.ca/nwads/about_us (accessed July 2012).
- TEDA. 2010. Terrace Economic Development Authority Homepage. <http://www.teda.ca/> (accessed May 2010).
- TEDA. 2011. Economic Profile. <http://www.teda.ca/invest/stats-and-facts/economic-profile> (accessed August 2012).
- Terrace. n.d. City of Terrace. <http://www.terrace.ca/city/> (accessed November 2012).
- Town of Smithers. 2009. Fire Department & Emergency Services. <http://www.smithers.ca/index.php/municipal-hall/departments-services/fire-department-emergency-services/> (accessed July 2012).
- Town of Smithers. 2010. Town of Smithers Homepage. <http://www.town.smithers.bc.ca> (accessed April 2010).
- Town of Smithers. 2011. 2011 Annual Report: Town of Smithers. http://www.smithers.ca/uploads/town/pdfs-general/publications-directories-newsletters/public_notices/2012/2011_Annual_Report.pdf (accessed January 2013).
- Town of Smithers. n.d. Official Community Plan. http://www.smithers.ca/uploads/town/pdfs-general/ocp-zoning/ocp-review-2008/Official_Community_Plan_Bylaw_No._1614.pdf (accessed August 2012).
- UCHS. n.d. United Church Health Services. <http://www.unitedchurchhealth.ca/index.php> (accessed November 2012).
- UNBC. 2010. University of Northern British Columbia: Northwest Region. <http://www.unbc.ca/regops/nw/> (accessed May 2010).
- VIA Rail Canada. 2012. Smithers Train Station. <http://www.viarail.ca/en/stations/rockies-and-pacific/smithers/> (accessed July 2012).
- Village of Gingolx. 2012. Gingolx Village Government Administration. <http://www.gingolx.ca/villagegov/villagegovt.html> (accessed May 2012).
- World Bank. 2004. Striking a Better Balance: the World Bank Group and Extractive Industries - A Final Report of the Extractive Industries Review. World Bank Group: Washington, DC.
- WWNI. n.d. Nisga'a Language Dictionary. <http://wwni.bc.ca/language.htm> (accessed October 2012).
- Yinka Déné Language Institute. 2006. The Yinka Déné Language Institute. <http://www.ydli.org/ydindex.htm> (accessed March 2010).

Personal Communications

- Anonymous. 2012. KSM Community-based Research Program: June 2012. Interviews by Heather Henley and Robin SidneySmith.
- Clark, S. 2010. Stewart Health Centre. Personal Communication: May 26, 2010.
- Danuser, A. and S. McFee. 2009. Mayor and Administrative Officer, Stewart, BC. Interview by Andrew Robinson, Voice Recording: August 26, 2009.
- Derrick, A. 2010. Principal, Gitanyow Independent School, Gitanyow, BC. Interview by Andrew Robinson: May 26, 2010.
- Dyk, D. 2013. Chief Administrative Officer, District of New Hazelton. Personal communication: January 8, 2013.
- Hawkair. 2010. Customer Service Representative at Hawkair. Personal Communication: April 08, 2010.
- Hunter, A. 2010. Corporal, Smithers RCMP Detachment, Smithers, BC. Personal Communication: May 26, 2010.
- Kwiatowski, M. Director of Development Services, City of Terrace, BC. Interview by Andrew Robinson: April 14, 2011.
- Maitland, A. and B. Smith. 2009. Mayor and Councillor, Hazelton, BC. Interview by Andrew Robinson: August 24, 2009.
- Maitland, A. 2010. Director, Northwest Community College Hazelton Campus, Hazelton, BC. Interview by Andrew Robinson, Tape Recording: May 10, 2009..
- Martin, L. 2011. Housing Manager, Gitanyow Band Council. Personal Communication: April 13, 2011.
- Robertson, S. Chief Operations Officer, Wrinch Memorial Hospital, Hazelton, BC. Interview by Andrew Robinson, Voice Recording: April 29, 2010.
- Simpson, D. 2008. Chief, Skii km Lax Ha. Personal Communication: May 2008.
- Tarrant, M. 2013. Finance Officer, District of Stewart. Personal communication: January 8, 2013.
- Webber, A. 2009. Manager, Planning & Development Services, RDKS. Terrace, BC. Interview by Andrew Robinson, Tape Recording: August 28, 2009.
- Weeber, P. and B. Faasnidge. 2009. Mayor and Administrator, New Hazelton, BC. Interview by Andrew Robinson, Voice Recording: August 24, 2009.
- Weeber, 2009. City of Terrace Fire Department, Terrace, BC. Personal Communication.
- Van Essen. 2010. Bandstra Transportation Systems Ltd. Personal Communication: November 2010.