

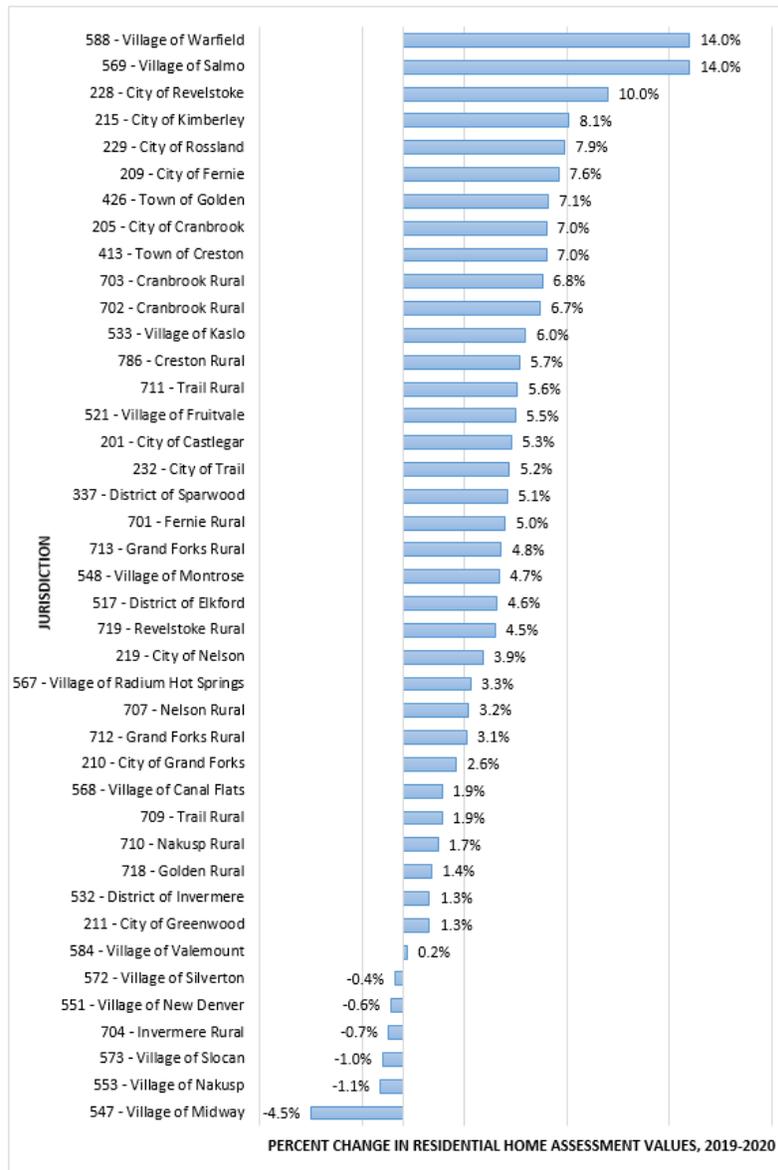


Property Assessments and Addressing Regional Housing Needs

Property assessments were released by BC Assessment on January 2, 2020. These property values reflect housing costs and are an important indicator of socio-economic factors, such as desirability of an area and availability and condition of housing stock. They also indicate the affordability of an area. The newly released assessments show the market value of properties as of July 1, 2019. Market value changes over the last year range between -5% and +15% across the [Kootenay-Columbia Region](#) for residential single detached homes. The total increase in Kootenay Columbia's assessments between 2019 and 2020 was \$3.1 billion.

The graph below shows the percent change in residential assessed market values between 2019 and 2020 assessments for jurisdictions within the Columbia Basin-Boundary. Please note, some jurisdiction names are not accurately tied to their location (for example, Robson is categorized as 709 Trail Rural).

See BC Assessment's [Market Movement by Property Class Interactive Map](#) for more information.



Residents who feel their homes were inaccurately assessed, or see incorrect information on their notice, should contact BC Assessment right away (as indicated on assessment notice). Residents can submit a Notice of Complaint (appeal) by **January 31, 2020** for an independent review. Visit BC Assessment's ['about appeals'](#) page to learn more about how to submit a Notice of Complaint.

Limitations in housing availability and affordability have sparked legislative momentum across the province. It is getting harder to find affordable accommodations, and local governments and organizations are beginning to address these concerns. Collecting data to understand housing needs,

including affordability, is an important step to address housing issues.

On April 16th, 2019, the province released a [template](#) outlining new mandated requirements for local governments to collect data and report on housing needs. The RDI was one of the first to support this process in the region, completing the [2019 Teck Serv Housing Report](#) for some communities within the West Kootenay region. Each community covered in this report received additional detailed data files following the data requirements outlined in the new provincial template. Housing Needs Reports help planners to identify existing and projected gaps in the housing supply. For more information on the province's Housing Needs Reports requirements, visit the BC government's [summary of legislative and regulatory requirements for housing needs reports](#).

To learn more about the RDI's Market Housing Study, see <http://www.cbrdi.ca/Projects/MarketHousingStudy>

To learn more about other important indicators of well-being in the Columbia Basin-Boundary, see full [State of the Basin report](#) and [2019 Snapshot Report](#).

The Art of Participatory Leadership: Hosting Meaningful Conversations that Matter - Kootenay Training Opportunity

A partnership between Selkirk College and the Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network is bringing a globally recognized facilitation training to the Kootenays. Participants will dive deep into three days of hands-on learning and skill building in the [Art of Hosting](#). They will come away with new understanding of theories, methods, tools and practices that leaders and change-makers can use to co-create solutions to complex challenges, such as climate change. The retreat will build capacity for incorporating collaborative solutions, conflict resolution, and collective wisdom building into personal and organizational leadership practice, with a focus on community action.

For more information and to register, visit <https://cbeen.ca/art-of-hosting/>. Also see Selkirk College Community Education Course info [here](#).

Space is limited, so register early.

Questions? Please contact jjones1@selkirk.ca.

The Applied Research and Innovation Center is Continuing to Increase Opportunities for Student Engagement with Research – Invitation for Partnership Ideas

The Applied Research and Innovation Center continues to support student related research projects in the social sciences, sciences, GIS, and trades. The Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute has recently hired another cohort of students to join the existing team and support community-based projects. The Selkirk Geospatial Research Centre continues to employ co-op students and supports thesis projects and term projects directly linked to term courses and community needs. As community projects, research, and faculty-student partnerships continue to evolve, we invite local governments and local organizations to reach out to the RDI (akincaid@selkirk.ca) with potential partnership ideas.

Columbia Basin Transboundary Conference: One River, One Future - Conference Proceedings are Released

The Columbia Basin Transboundary Conference: One River, One Future took place in Kimberley, BC September 12 – 14, 2019. It brought together leaders, researchers, policy makers, government representatives, Indigenous peoples, industry, stakeholders, and scientists to connect and collaborate over a range a topics related to the Columbia River. The topics included climate change, invasive species, Columbia River Treaty, salmon restoration, Indigenous voices, future of energy, and transboundary water governance. The highlight for many participants was the horse ceremony and storytelling at the headwaters of the Columbia River.

The conference proceedings are now available and can be found [here](#).

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