State of the Basin
Snapshot Report 2019

A region-wide check-up on life in the Columbia Basin-Boundary Region

Photo: Louis Brockner

Region-Wide Check-Up Now Available

The Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute at Selkirk College has just released the 2019 Snapshot Report. This region-wide check-up investigates economic, social, environmental and cultural indicators for the Columbia-Basin Boundary.

The 2019 Snapshot Report can answer…

What will the demographic proportions of our region look like in 25 years?

What is the living wage in my region?

What is the status on water quality advisories in the basin?

How did the 2017 and 2018 forest fires affect our air quality?

What are the recent trends in post-secondary enrollments?

What was the average voter turnout for local government elections in my community?

How much are our municipal and regional governments investing into parks, recreation and culture?

This regional check-up is important to residents, organizations, businesses, and local governments to understand present conditions and trends. This data informs decision-making that shapes our future. As an example, population projections to 2041 show a decrease in population for those under 64 years, while the population 65 and over is projected to grow by 40%. There were 729 business starts in the region in 2018 and a 3.4% job vacancy rate. The 2018 forest fire season resulted in 151 fires that burned 72,856 hectares within our region. There are over 180 annual festivals or special events within the Columbia-Basin Boundary.

This Snapshot Report is part of the State of the Basin program that monitors and reports on indicators of social, economic, cultural, and environmental well-being in the Columbia-Basin Boundary. The State of the Basin helps **inform** citizens and organizations through access to accurate, credible, and timely information; **encourage** understanding of complex issues; **signal** areas to celebrate achievements or identify challenges; and **motivate** discussion, information sharing, and collaborative actions.

To find out more on the State of the Basin check out our website at: http://cbrdi.ca/Research/State-of-the-Basin

Your Feedback is Requested to Improve State of the Basin Research

We would like to hear from you about your experience using the State of the Basin research and data provision services. Your feedback is valuable to us so we can ensure our research continues to be a useful tool for your planning and decision-making. Please take a few minutes to fill out our survey.

Click here for State of the Basin feedback form

Economic Disaster Resilience Planning

As part of the *Local Government Economic Development Research and Capacity Building Program*, the Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute is working with Central Kootenay Community Futures and the Community Economic Resilience team at Simon Fraser University to deliver economic disaster resilience planning to communities throughout the Columbia Basin-Boundary. This work includes an analysis of existing community plans for elements important to economic disaster resilience, community engagement to build understanding and participate in disaster resilience activities, and asset mapping to identify local economic assets that need to be considered in a disaster response. A key component of this work is training Selkirk co-op students to conduct this planning with the communities, thus building capacity within the emerging work force. Castlegar, Nelson, and Slocan are the first communities working through this planning process. Trail, Grand Forks, and three communities in the East Kootenay will get this planning completed in early 2020.

Selkirk College RDI Focus is a monthly e-blast highlighting stories of well-being in our region. You are receiving this email because you have attended an RDI event or have subscribed to receive updates on the RDI.

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