



Who is in My Community?

One of the first steps to understanding your community is to learn about who lives and works there. A good way to begin is to seek out information about your community that already exists.

Community Planning

Check with your local government's Community Planning department for statistical information about the community. Sometimes, complete community profiles may be available for download from your local government's website. Check for key words such as: policy planning, community planning or social planning. You may also want to search for: planning documents and demographic information.

Health Authority

Health authorities compile statistical information on the health of your community. Check out the Population Health section on their website for downloadable annual reports or phone them and ask to speak with someone involved with Population Health. To find contact information for your local Health Authority you'll find the following website helpful:

www.health.gov.bc.ca/socsec/contacts.html

BC Stats

The provincial government also compiles statistical information on communities across BC at www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca. Information is broken down by geographic area, such as local health areas and school districts. Information is also classified by topic area, such as social statistics, socio-economic profiles and contains an increasing availability of Aboriginal statistics.

- Do you live in a small community? You may find that information is combined with larger communities of the same region.

Statistics Canada

Statistics Canada has launched a user friendly community profile website. Visit www.statcan.gc.ca and click "Community Profiles" in the left-hand menu bar. Search for communities by name or by province/territory. This community profile generates a report on social and economic statistics in the community and provides a provincial comparison.



A joint initiative of
BC Recreation and Parks
Association and the Heart
and Stroke Foundation of
BC & Yukon.



ActNowBC.ca

An initiative of these
BC Healthy Living Alliance
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First Nations Health Council

The First Nations Health Council is working towards addressing the gap between the amount of research conducted on First Nation communities and the quality of the results being reported. You can review Regional Health Surveys that were conducted, analyzed and reported in a culturally sensitive manner.

www.fnhc.ca/index.php/initiatives/research_and_data/regional_health_survey

Informal Community Information

Check with local organizations in your community for statistics or reports they may have compiled. Information sharing can be an effective way to build relationships with organizations, learn about their clients' needs and determine gaps in services. If their clients are unable to participate in physical activity opportunities, provide information about your programs and offer to meet with clients to listen to their needs and perspectives.

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